

Ceremonies Open Recreation Center

HEROIC RESCUE SAVES WOMAN FROM DEATH



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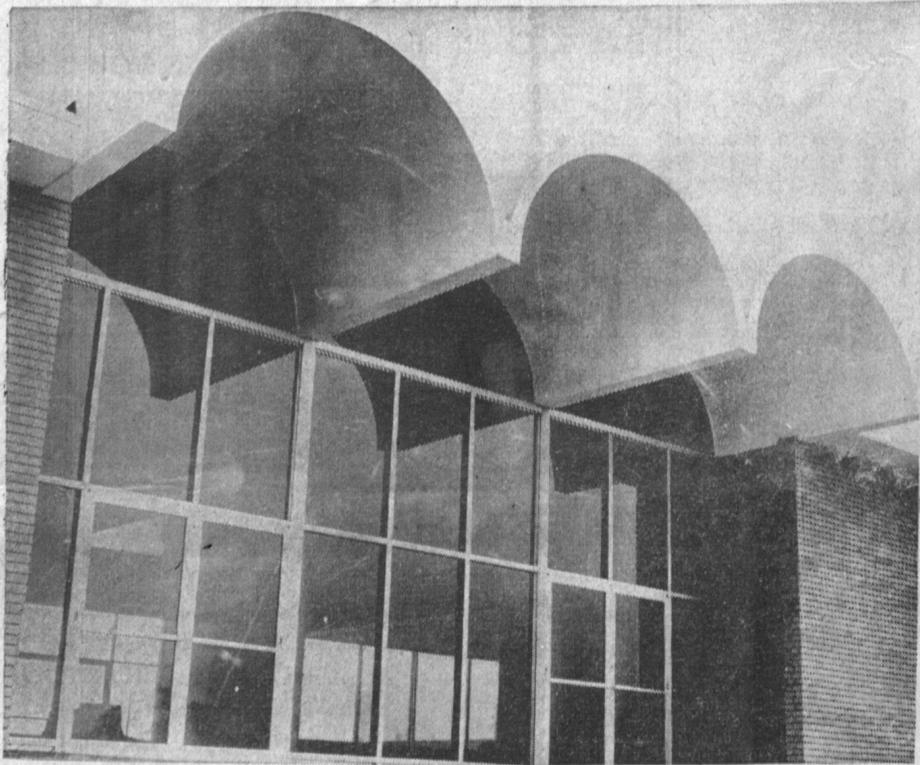
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RECREATION CENTER opens in Torrance Civic Center Tuesday following official dedication ceremonies. New \$175,000 facility is first building in planned recreational-cultural complex, which eventually will include civic auditorium, gymnasium, art gallery, senior citizen building and main library. —PRESS Photo

Neighbor Rescues Woman

By WILLIAM SCHELL
Staff Writer

TORRANCE — A heroic apartment manager braved a wall of smoke and flame early today to rescue his neighbor from her burning bedroom.

Police identified the man as Martin Beaudet, 32, of 3719 W. 174th St., apartment 1.

The woman, rushed to Little Company of Mary Hospital with apparent minor injuries, is identified as Elsie Crawford, 42.

Firemen said the blaze broke out shortly after 6:30 a.m., apparently from a cigarette which fell into the bed while Mrs. Crawford slept.

Beaudet, alerted by another neighbor that smoke was pouring from the bedroom, rushed into the burning apartment to find Mrs. Crawford.

"When I opened the door, all I could see was smoke and fire," said Beaudet. "I found her by the sound of her voice."

Damage to the apartment was estimated at \$5000.

Firemen controlled the blaze before it spread to 11 adjoining units in the same building.



LITTLEST TAKER of Sabin oral polio vaccine is three-year-old Mark Reid, son of Mr. and Mrs. Mark Reid, 907 W. 214th St., Torrance. Young Mark and dad were among Torrance-area residents giving city high participation record in second series clinics. Most other cities reported lower record. —PRESS Photo

Anza Ave. 'Death Trap' Prompts Council Probe

TORRANCE — A potential "death trap" along residential portions of Anza Ave. has prompted fast action by city councilmen.

The council agreed unanimously Tuesday to keep trucks off the street south of Sepulveda Blvd. and to launch an immediate probe into alleged speed violations in the same area.

Police claim speeding citations issued in violation of the street's 25-mile-an-hour zone are "thrown out of court" because the limit is unrealistic.

Residents say speeders are making a death trap of the street, and, through spokesman Richard Bowman, asked two point programs to correct the problem.

Bowman's crash program, he said, would bring better posting of the present 25 mile speed limit, and would provide more rigid enforcement.

City Manager Wade Peoples confirmed reports that a serious problem exists, and added:

"We have authenticated evidence showing the courts are throwing the speed tickets out."

COUNCIL OK'S 'SUMMIT' MEET

City councilmen Tuesday night authorized a "summit" conference in Chicago to help Torrance win location of the projected South Bay State College.

On unanimous vote, the group agreed to send Mayor Albert Isen and Councilman Nickolas Drale to Chicago to confer with officials of Santa Fe Railway.

FIND YOUR NAME AND WIN

It's "Find Your Name Time" again with today's issue of the Torrance Press. And you may be the lucky winner. Readers whose names appear anywhere throughout the paper in contest form will win a free classified ad, good any time up to 30 days. Simply clip the name and bring it with your ad to the Torrance Press, 3238 W. Sepulveda Blvd. Good hunting!

Fire Chief to Retire After 36 Years Service

TORRANCE — J. J. Benner, who for 35 years has watched a city grow, announced Monday he will retire next year as its fire chief.

Starting with the department in 1927 as an engineer, Benner rose through the ranks and, in January, 1950, was appointed chief.

Since his appointment, Benner has served as California Disaster Commission



CHIEF J. J. BENNER will retire

Area G fire chief, chairman of the South Bay Fire Chiefs Association, president of the California Fire Chiefs Association and member of the League of California Cities committee on fire underwriters grading.

"I've got a lot of unfinished business to take care of when I retire," said Benner, but added jokingly — "fishing, golfing, some shop-work."

Benner admits he'll loaf some, travel some and "live it up some" during retirement. "We're going to do some travelling," he says, "mainly in the good, old U.S.A."

And so, with Benner's retirement next year, another era of history will come to a close.

It's an era that the residents of Torrance can't easily forget.

O'MALLEY TO BE GUEST REDONDO BEACH — The Los Angeles Dodgers' Walter O'Malley will address members of the South Bay Bar Association Thursday at the Plush Horse Restaurant.

He will be guest of Fred Benson, South Bay attorney. A number of Torrance-area attorneys are represented in the association.



NEW OFFICE for Lomita Chamber of Commerce opens at 24834 Narbonne Ave. with ceremony by new chamber officers. They are (l-r) John C. Ryan, first vice-president; Ethan Haslage, secretary-manager; William H. Badenius, second vice-president; Ed Gregory, past president; and Vincent Bauchiero, president. —PRESS Photo

A Letter to You

Dear Fellow Citizens:

This year, as in past years, our Chamber of Commerce and our Junior Chamber of Commerce have volunteered to act as fund raising agencies so that our city will have a float in the famed Pasadena Tournament of Roses parade. Your help is needed.

With the parade theme of "Memorable Moments," our Torrance Tournament of Roses Association has had designed an equally memorable float titled "Apollo To The Moon." This is both a salute to the gallant men who will under take the voyage to the Moon and to the men and women of industry in our area who will make the trip possible.

The Torrance float has always been raised by popular subscription. This year a sum of \$3000 is needed to pay for the float. At this time we are almost \$1900 short of our goal. I urge each resident and business person of our community to mail a donation today to the Torrance Tournament of Roses Association, Post Office Box 512, Torrance. Won't you please help us publicize our great city to millions of persons who will watch this tremendous parade in person and on world-wide television?

Sincerely,
Albert Isen
Mayor of Torrance

Inside the Press

Classified C10-C16
Women C1
Sports A10

Traffic Scoreboard

Accidents	Last Week	This Year So Far	Last Year Total
Fatal	0	3	10
Injury	20	473	486
Non-Injury	25	616	692
TOTAL	45	1092	1188