

# Hams to Assist YMCA in Christmas Blitz

Torrance

## Press-Herald

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**BOUND FOR MEXICO** . . . Celeste Tolbert and Tava Hann, eighth grade students at Arlington Elementary School, will leave for Mexico when their Christmas vacation from school begins Friday. The two girls will be delivering clothing, food, and money to 20 families in a village in the Testarazo Valley. They have collected three truckloads of gifts for the families.

### For Mexican Village

## Christmas Dinner Planned by Girls

A couple of Torrance eighth-grade girls whose Christmas vacation begins at 3:30 Friday afternoon plan to head toward Mexico within hours after the school dismissal bell.

Their holiday jaunt will be no ordinary south-of-the-border excursion. They will be leaving on a gift-bearing expedition to a poverty-stricken Mexican village 30 miles south of Tecate.

Bringing food for the village Christmas dinner and three truckloads of used clothing collected from classmates and neighbors to residents of the Testarazo Valley will be 13-year-old Tava Hann and Celeste Tolbert, students at Arlington Elementary School.

They will take the gifts in a caravan driven by Tava's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Hann of 2602 W. 180th St., and brothers, Gary Hann of Lawndale and Gregory Hann of Hermosa Beach.

Tava and Celeste became acquainted with the 20 families in the isolated village

after Tava's parents struck up a friendship with one of the families, Senor and Senora Salvador de Chavez, during a trip to Ensenada. The Mexican couples are parents of a 6-year-old girl who was unable to walk until American tourists took her to Children's Hospital in Los Angeles to be fitted with an artificial leg.

BEFORE meeting the de Chavez family, the Hanns used to take old clothes down to San Felipe six or seven times a year when they would go down on fishing trips and would lay them on the beach for needy persons to help themselves. After seeing the plight of the residents of the Testarazo Valley, however, the Hanns decided to concentrate their efforts on helping the 20 families in the destitute village.

During the past six months they made several trips to the valley to help the families build the cardboard shacks which serve as home. They have taken along canned food and picked up fresh vegetables at Ensenada en

route. While the adults have worked on the houses, Tava and Celeste have taught the village children games. In addition to four de Chavez youngsters there are up to 12 children in every family in the village.

RESIDENTS OF the community have no electricity or running water, according to Tava and Celeste. "They cook over wood fires and use kerosene lamps for light," Tava said. "A lone well supplies water for the entire village. There is no source of income. What few pennies the residents eke out by carving wood or polishing quartz from a nearby mountain to sell to tourists pay for the few supplies they pick up at the town's solitary grocery store. Vegetables give up the struggle to grow in the dusty adobe soil."

No medical care or transportation is available in the village, the girls report. "When the time to have a baby draws near, the mother-to-be either walks or rides the community's only bicycle

(Continued on A-5)

## Catterlin Quits Post With City

Torrance will get a new City Prosecutor come Jan. 1. He is Thomas McNary, recently retired from a post as a deputy district attorney attached to the South Bay Municipal Court. McNary retired after 28 years with the District Attorney's Office.

He succeeds Charles F. "Monte" Catterlin, who has held the position under a part-time contract with the city for several years. Catterlin is leaving his position with the city to devote full time to his own law practice.

McNary will be appointed a deputy city attorney, a position authorized by the council last July. He will devote part of his time to prosecuting criminal cases on behalf of the city and also provide in-service training for the Police Department.

## Popular Local Teacher, Mrs. Maud Fraser, Dies

One of the most respected teachers of Torrance High School during the formative years of the Torrance Unified School District, Maud McKibben Fraser, died at her home here Saturday after a short illness. She joined that faculty in 1947 and taught Spanish, as well as English classes for adults seeking citizenship, until 1955. Upon her retirement she did substitute teaching in the languages at three of Torrance's high schools for eight years.

John K. Steinbaugh, then associate director of admissions at the University of Southern California, wrote of her educational contributions: "During my principalship at Torrance High School (1948 to 1953), I had the real

privilege of working with Mrs. Fraser, an outstanding teacher with many years of fine experience. A very successful foreign language teacher, she proved to be a balance-wheel for our predominantly young staff. Students and faculty alike love and respect her. She is a great morale-generator; and is thoroughly loyal and professional."

BORN IN Conway Springs, near Wichita, Kan. in 1881, she was the daughter of Robert McKibben and Leora Edwards, both members of pioneer Jayhawk families. After completing two years at Fairmont College of that state, Mrs. Fraser came in 1904 with her father and three sisters to southern

California where they spent a month at Catalina Island. Traveling to San Francisco, the young women on a trip to the then-young Stanford University were entranced with the Farm and begged to live in Palo Alto.

In 1906 Maud McKibben was granted an A.B. in history by the University and the same year married Frederick John Fraser, a Stanford law graduate of the previous year, from Rye Beach, N.H. Fraser had previously attended Phillips Exeter Academy and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Fraser's father, a Scotsman, had come from England to manage the American end of the transatlantic cable. His mother, Ella Parsons, was a

(Continued on A-5)

# City Aides, Advisors Clash About Policies

## Council Nearly Settles Ballot Terms on Raise

Torrance voters will be asked to approve a specific salary for City Councilmen when they get the chance to vote on a proposed pay hike next April.

Councilmen agreed last night to spell out the specific amount — \$300 for councilmen and an additional \$100 for the mayor — then asked City Attorney Remelmeier to re-draft the proposed Charter amendment.

As presented last night, the amendment omitted specific amounts and provided for compensation "as provided from time to time by the State Legislature for city councilmen of general law cities." That, Mayor Albert Isen noted, would tie Torrance salaries to future action of the legislature.

COUNCILMEN in general law cities the size of Torrance currently receive \$300 per month, provided the individual cities adopt an ordinance under provisions of the state law.

Isen said several individuals and organizations who had favored the proposed increase in councilmen's salaries had asked for a specific figure. "This thing should be completely spelled out," Isen said.

Still unsettled, however, is the question of whether that extra \$100 for the mayor will be included as a separate amendment to the Charter.

ISEN AND Councilman Ross A. Sciarrotta Sr., who heads the council's finance committee, want the mayor's added compensation to be presented as a second ballot measure.

Councilman David K. Lyman disagrees. "I'm not in favor of separating these items and I'm not going to support them that way," Lyman said. "Either this increase is justified or it is not," he added, "and it should be presented together."

The new amendment will be given to the council early in January for final action.

IN OTHER matters last night, the council:

• Waived off-street parking requirements for a proposed office building at 3503 Torrance Blvd. The plan called for 121 spaces, 97 less than presently required by city ordinance.

• Granted a variance to Thriftmart, Inc., to permit the construction of a 4,000-square-foot addition to a market at Palos Verdes and Sepulveda boulevards. The variance is necessary because of reduced parking area.

• Approved changes in the sidewalk design for the Carson Street frontage of the new Bullock's Fashion Square. The new design will eliminate a parkway between the sidewalk and the curb line. Similar changes along the Hawthorne Boulevard frontage

(Continued on A-5)



**LEGION WINNER** . . . Lee Pearce, South High School junior, accepts medal and certificate from William R. McKibben, second vice commander of the Bert S. Crossland Post of the American Legion, after winning the local leg of the national American Legion High School Oratorical Contest. Pearce, who spoke on the judicial aspects of the U.S. Constitution, will speak in District competition on Jan. 21 in Hawthorne. (Press-Herald Photo)

## Parley Set on Matter

Has one city council-appointed committee the right to infringe on the work of the other city commissions?

That has become the key issue in an apparent conflict between the Citizen's Advisory Committee for Community Improvement and the city's administrative officers, headed by City Manager Edward J. Ferraro.

The smoldering conflict was aired publicly last night when the City Council and the committee met during the hour-long pre-council session.

THE COMMITTEE was established nearly a year ago when Torrance first undertook the Meadow Park Urban Renewal project. It is required under provisions of the federal law governing the Meadow Park project.

The difficulty arises out of the resolution which created the committee. It gave the group broad duties and responsibilities which involve virtually every phase of community life.

And the committee's 25 members took those broad duties and responsibilities quite literally.

Committee Chairman William Uerkwitz reported on a number of projects last night. The projects range from specific problems in the urban renewal area to possible ways to prevent blight in downtown Torrance to major traffic problems throughout the city.

THE COMMITTEE has taken a look at Ferraro's six-year capital improvements program, considered the feasibility of developing a golf course on Torrance Municipal Airport property, and met with State highway officials to discuss proposed freeway routes throughout Torrance.

Uerkwitz ended his report (Continued on A-5)

## Radio Group, YMCA Plan Navajo Drive

Members of the Torrance Family YMCA today extended an invitation to all residents of Torrance and Lomita to participate in the YMCA's annual Christmas mercy program.

Thousands of Navajo Indians near Page, Ariz., will face a bleak Christmas and perhaps freezing or starvation unless local families take time this week to donate warm clothes, workable toys, and canned food to the YMCA's Needy Navajo Project, Joe Wilcox, executive secretary of the YMCA, said today.

Wilcox said 15 tons of gifts are needed to meet the needs of more than 2,000 destitute Navajos. Thus far, he added, only two tons of goods have been collected and less than a week is left to receive and sort the remainder.

THE PROJECT, now in its tenth year, got its start when a small group of youngsters began to collect food and

Team (REACT) have set aside Saturday as "Needy Navajo Day."

REACT members will in-stall radio stations at the YMCA building at 2090 Washington Ave. and at six other locations in the Southwest section of the county. The stations will be used to distribute cars and other volunteers to homes in order to pick up clothing, toys, and food for the Navajo project.

The radio stations will operate between 9 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Wilcox said.

LOCAL YMCA members will deliver the gifts to the Navajos at their reservation, 128 miles northeast of Flagstaff. The Navajo people are in desperate need, Wilcox said, in order to survive the harsh winter.

The project, now in its tenth year, got its start when a small group of youngsters began to collect food and

clothing for Navajo youngsters in 1955.

CALLS FOR a pick-up Saturday may be placed to FA 8-1272, FA 8-3410, or SPruce 5-1961.

All donors are asked to leave their gifts on their front porch Saturday so volunteers can collect the items as rapidly as possible. Further information may be secured from Alpha Rinz at any of the telephone numbers.

Volunteers to man telephones and to sort gifts also are needed, Wilcox said.

## Dairies to Leave City

Three of the four remaining dairies in Torrance apparently have given up their 10-year fight to stay. City Attorney Stanley Remelmeier said three owners have now stipulated to court agreements and given Feb. 1, 1966, as the date of departure. Only one of the dairies will remain in the city after that date, Remelmeier said.

## Chamber Endorses Bonds

The Board of Directors of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce voted yesterday to recommend passage of the \$12.5 million school bond issue at the Feb. 8 special election. Chamber Manager J. Walker Owens told the Press-Herald that the directors recommend a "No" vote on the \$1 million bond issue for swimming pools.

## City Passes Glendale

Estimates of the State Department of Finance that Torrance now has 139,000 residents placed this city ahead of Glendale for the first time in any official estimations, making Torrance the third largest city in Los Angeles County. The state figures, which are used as the basis for distribution of gasoline taxes and other in lieu assessments, are nearly 6,000 more than the official estimates of the County Regional Planning Commission, which announced last week that the city had 133,477 persons as of Oct. 1.

## Call Santa Lines Open at 320-1311

The eighth annual "Phone Santa" program began at 10 a.m. today and will continue Thursday and Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The number: 320-1311. Because of the thousands of calls pouring into the temporary "Phone Santa" exchange at Wright Anserfone, scores of city, school, business, and professional men have volunteered to take calls. Photos of some of the men who joined as Santa's helpers may be found today on Page D-7.

The "Phone Santa" number again:

320-1311