

Chamber Begins Long-Range Expansion

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Torrance

Press-Herald

Published semi-weekly Wednesday and Sunday by King Williams Press, Inc. Entered as second class matter January 30, 1914, at Post Office, Torrance, California. Under act of March 3, 1979.

Series II, Vol. II, No. 12



3238 Sepulveda Blvd., Torrance, California — Wednesday, August 11, 1965

By Carrier 50c Per Month
By Mail \$12 Per Year

10c Per Copy 62 PAGES



AQUACADE REHEARSAL . . . The Torrance Recreation Department will stage its tenth annual aquacade Friday and Saturday evenings at the City Plunge. Rehearsals for the show, based on the theme "Wish Upon A Star" were in full swing when our photographer "stopped" Ken Crosby high above the pool, then turned to catch Linda Root relaxing. Crosby will perform some comedy antics during the show, while Miss Root will be seen in a water ballet. She is an instructor at the pool and Crosby is a life guard. (Press-Herald Photos)

'Wish Upon A Star'

City's Annual Aquacade Opens Friday Evening

"Wish Upon A Star," the tenth annual aquacade sponsored by the Torrance Recreation Department will be performed at 8:30 Friday and Saturday nights at the City Plunge, 3331 Torrance Blvd.

Eighty-five swimmers will perform synchronized swimming and comedy diving acts during the two-hour all-water fantasy.

There is no charge for the show.

"Sailors All at Sea," will be the opening number of the Aquacade, which will be narrated by Jim Armstrong.

The tale of the "Ugly Duckling," will be related when the little "duck," Jan Gregory, suddenly becomes "The Swan" choreographed and performed by Mary Funk.

The mood will change quickly when "The Cutthroats of the Spanish Main" invade the Plunge.

Later, the pool will become a "Winter Wonderland" during the finale.

BLEACHERS ARE being installed to seat 1,200 during each performance.

Choreographing and directing the water show are Tibby Bova and Jean Gregory, synchronized swim instructors. Props of octopi and snow-

Changes in Assessments Listed in Press-Herald

Continuing his policy of full disclosure to taxpayers of local assessment practices, County Assessor Phil Watson today publishes assessment changes for Los Angeles County.

Changes in this area will be listed on Pages C-10 and C-11 in this edition of the Press-Herald. A map to guide property owners in finding the listings is printed on page C-9.

All changes, both up and down, are reported in today's listings, Watson said. He also said no assessment is listed for those properties which did not change.

IN ADDITION to the changes, the full list of assessments for about one-fifth of the county is being published in newspapers serving those areas.

The policy of full disclosure, based on publication of the changes in assessments in community newspapers has received the unanimous backing from the County Board of Supervisors.

Watson urged all property owners to check the listing for their assessments. The value placed on property and improvements by the assessor represents 25 per cent of the market value, Watson said.



PHIL WATSON
Opens Records

Lists published in today's Press-Herald are arranged by map book areas. Property owners should use the key map to locate the map book in which their property is recorded, then consult the list to find the assessment.

Assessments are listed by street address in most cases. Property owners having questions may call the assessor's regional office or telephone MA 6-6311.

men are being constructed by the staff of the Joslyn Recreation Center.

The program is being coordinated by Jim Armstrong, Kathie Hoffman, and Jim Faulk.

Sniper Gets Windows on Sepulveda

A sniper left a trail of bullet holes along Sepulveda Boulevard Monday evening.

Police were called to the 2700 block of Sepulveda Boulevard Tuesday morning as businessmen in the block discovered bullet holes in their large plate glass windows. Five places, including the Automobile Club of Southern California, reported damage totaling more than \$900.

Police said the bullet holes, about one-half inch in diameter, apparently were made by a .22-calibre bullet. Stores damaged are located at 2744, 2746, 2750, and 2764 W. Sepulveda Blvd.

REPORT FROM EUROPE

French Seek to Give Leadership

(Editor's Note: Torrance Councilman Ross A. Sciarrotta Sr. is currently in Europe on vacation. From time to time in the next few weeks, Sciarrotta, a professor of political science at Long Beach City College, will report some of his observations to readers of the Press-Herald. Today's report is from Paris, France.)

By ROSS A. SCIARROTTA SR.
PARIS—This is my third day in Paris and all I hear is grumbling from the American tourist. They sure soak the American for all they can get. An average luncheon costs \$9, an average dinner \$15. I believe President Johnson was right when he encouraged Americans to tour America.

The French people as a whole bear no animosity against the Americans. They feel, however, that America has failed miserably as the leader of the Western World. They admit that foreign aid has helped England, Japan, and the nations of the Common Market, but it has failed in all other countries. They add, "The countries that knew what to do with the aid have progressed to unparalleled heights, but in countries known as the contested areas, the American aid has done very little."

I thoroughly enjoyed talking to some newspapermen and university students on the subject of de Gaulle and his attitude toward the United States. They point out that America did not heed France's warning on the Viet Nam situation when we took over from the French in 1954. They hope we will win

this fracas, but deep down in their hearts, they can only see failure for the U. S. They honestly feel we are not faring any better than they did in the eight years they struggled there.

THEY ACCUSE us of having meddled in the Suez Canal episode when the French, the English, and the Jews had Nasser on the run. Now, they claim, there exists some resentment on the part of France, England, and Israel against the U. S. on the Suez crisis, and yet we did not make a friend of Nasser and Egypt.

They accuse us of having precipitated the wholesale freedom of the colonial possessions of our Allied friends too prematurely, and everyone of these recently emerged countries is filled with (Continued on A-4)

Parking District Plan Approved by Council

Services Held for Peebles

Graveside funeral services for Wade E. Peebles, former Torrance city manager, were held this morning at 10:30 at Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery in San Diego.

Peebles, 44, died Saturday afternoon about 4:30 from a self-inflicted gunshot wound. His body was found by his two sons, Wade E. Jr., 15, and Henry, 11, in the garage of the Peebles home at 4512 Vista Largo.

The former city manager, who resigned in February, 1964, was under a six months jail sentence. The sentence stemmed from his conviction last April on two counts of perjury during hearings into alleged irregularities in the Torrance Police Department.

HE WAS FREE on an appeal bond when he ended his life Saturday.

Peebles was born in San Diego March 10, 1921, and attended San Diego State College where he founded the Kappa Sigma fraternity. He attended the graduate school at the University of Southern California and from 1949 to 1959 was an instructor in the USC night school.

He was a registered civil engineer in California and belonged to national and local engineering societies, as well as the national honorary engineering fraternity, Chi Epsilon. Peebles served as director of public works in Inglewood from 1951 to 1959 and became city manager in Torrance in 1959.

PEEBLES RESIGNED his post with the city last year after the City Council received the first of three reports from the State Attorney General's office. He subsequently was indicted by the County Grand Jury for perjury and convicted on two counts last April. He was sentenced to three years probation.



J. WALKER OWENS
General Manager



BRUCE JONES
Chamber President

Major Program Launched Here

Torrance Chamber of Commerce officials today began intensive work toward developing a long-range program for the business, industrial, and civic advancement of this city and its surrounding area.

Plans for the new expansion program were disclosed by Chamber President Bruce Jones and J. Walker Owens, general manager. Jones said the board of directors aided by special committees, will carry on the program for the next several weeks. He described the plan as a "major effort for the entire community."

Assignments for some of the special committees will be announced shortly, Jones said. Details of the work will be made known in progress reports, he said.

THE PROGRAM is designed to meet the needs of the years ahead both in Torrance and in surrounding areas, Jones said. An area-wide educational program has been mapped for the next few weeks to point out community needs, business and industrial opportunities, and to acquaint people with the work of the chamber.

Preliminary plans are being prepared to strengthen

the chamber and make the program a success, Owens said. One of the needs, it was pointed out, is regular participation by the entire business community in chamber activities and membership.

Because of the scope and importance of the program, Jones said, the board of directors has secured the assistance of Lloyd A. Wilson, president of The Lloyd A. Wilson Service of San Francisco. Wilson will serve the chamber as a consultant and program director for several weeks.

WILSON IS nationally known for his 38-year record of helping local communities build practical development programs, Jones said. Wilson has assisted more than 50 California cities in similar programs.

"Our board of directors believes this program of community effort is urgently needed," Jones said. "We are facing new and larger opportunities and challenges in business, industrial, and civic affairs. It is fortunate we were able to secure Mr. Wilson's assistance and we believe every civic-minded citizen will cooperate enthusiastically with us in this program."

Area Merchants Will Pay Costs Of Improvement

Final steps toward completion of two new parking lots and creation of an assessment district in downtown Torrance were taken by City Councilmen last night. Councilmen approved the assessment roll and in so doing completed paperwork in the formation of the district.

The two new lots are expected to be ready about the end of October, City Manager Edward Ferraro said. Costs of the district—about \$210,000—will be paid by downtown businessmen through assessments on their property.

The lots will be located on Post Avenue and on Sartori Street. They will add 68 parking spaces to the downtown parking area.

THE DISTRICT was formed after businessmen and property owners petitioned the City Council to provide additional parking. It includes most of the downtown area on Post, Sartori, Marcelina, and El Prado Streets, as well as business property on Cravens Avenue.

Ferraro said the lots represent a second important step toward the revitalization of the downtown area. The city already has spent \$170,000 to beautify the area, add street lights, and improve the traffic patterns in the downtown section.

APPROVAL of the assessment rolls will enable the city to collect a loan of \$180,000 advanced to the district when proceedings first began. The loan enabled the city to acquire property for the two lots and demolish buildings.

Protests of four downtown property owners against the proposed assessments were overruled by the council before unanimous passage of the required resolutions. Assessments, payable over a 20-year period, are based on benefits to be derived from the new lots.

(Continued on A-4)

Car Hits Hydrant, One Hurt

A Redondo Beach woman is in fair condition at Little Company of Mary Hospital today following an encounter with a fire hydrant on 190th Street in North Torrance.

Peggy Jean Buchler, 2708 Vanderbilt Lane, was treated in the hospital emergency room and admitted to the hospital after she was freed from her car about 5:30 a.m. She was pinned in the car after striking a fire hydrant in the 4300 block of 190th Street.

A spokesman for the hospital said she was suffering possible internal injuries in addition to a lacerated left leg.

SIX PERSONS were injured Tuesday afternoon in a crash at Torrance Boulevard and Hawthorne Avenue.

Torrance police said Netta Clara Plante, 33, of 1519 W. 207th St., stopped for a signal at the intersection, then started across the busy highway against the signal. She was struck by a car driven by Henry Edward Clark, 44, of 20550 S. Earl St.

Clark suffered scalp injuries and Mrs. Plante sustained minor leg injuries. Four children, all passengers in the Plante vehicle, sustained minor injuries and were taken to Little Company of Mary Hospital for treatment.

EARLIER Tuesday, a 4-year-old (Continued on A-2)

Cowboy Gets Ear Back

Rodeo cowboy Jim Matthews, of Idaho was reported in fair condition at Little Company of Mary Hospital following surgery to re-attach his left ear, Matthews had the ear kicked off during Sunday's rodeo performance here when his feet caught in the stirrup during a bronc riding contest. Doctors sewed the ear back Sunday and also treated Matthews for head injuries sustained in the accident. Police Lt. D. C. Cook, rodeo coordinator, said spectators collected more than \$1,300 for Matthews medical expenses.

Library Pact Reached

Torrance and Los Angeles have reached agreement on a new library program which will permit residents of the Los Angeles Strip area to continue using Torrance Libraries without charge. Both the Los Angeles and Torrance councils must approve the agreement, but plans are to put it into operation pending approval, Gibson said.

Lightning Seen Here

Mother Nature staged a spectacular show for Southland residents about 2:30 this morning, lighting the sky with lightning and tossing thunderbolts about. No damage was recorded in the city, the Torrance Fire Department said. Many residents were awakened by the flashing and noise. Some rain fell during the storm.