

Riviera Group Endorses Bonds

Endorsement of a \$2,350,000 city library bond issue has been announced by the Riviera Homeowners Association.

The endorsement, coming on the heels of the first public address by the city's newly appointed librarian, Russell West, was announced by Stanley Dunn, president of the homeowners group.

Increased demand for library services throughout the country was discussed by West, who urged the homeowners to approve the bond issue which will be on the April 18 ballot.

"BY APPROVING the bonds, Torrance residents can have their cake now and take 20 years to pay for it," Dunn said in announcing his group's action, "instead of buying that cake piece by piece as the price per piece keeps going up."

He cited immediate needs of books to stock the shelves

of the five existing branches which will be in operation on the day the city's current contract with Los Angeles County is terminated.

"IN ADDITION, Torrance needs a larger central library and additional branch facilities," Dunn said, "and the bond issue is the cheapest way to provide them." He also said books and library facilities would cost much more during the next 20 years if they must be purchased on a "pay-as-you-go" basis.

The Torrance Council PTA also joined the list of organizations endorsing the library bond issue. Previous endorsements have been announced by the Torrance Education Association, the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, the Torrance League of Women Voters, Friends of the Library, and the Torrance Family YMCA.

400 Expected For Speech Tournament

More than 400 students from 35 colleges and universities in California, Arizona and Utah will meet at El Camino College Saturday and Sunday for the Pacific Southwest Collegiate Forensic Association tournament.

Besides a Lincoln-Douglas type debate, there will be five competitive divisions in the tournament which include extemporaneous speaking, impromptu speaking, persuasive speaking, oral interpretation and expository speaking, according to Nathan Lilienthal, EC forensics coach.

Soil Tests Authorized

Soil tests have been authorized at the site of the new Southeast General Hospital, Supervisor Kenneth Hahn said today.

Actual construction of the hospital is scheduled to begin in 1968 under an \$8.4 million grant from the federal and state governments. Additional financing will be provided by the city and county of Los Angeles.

Car Thefts Blamed on Teenagers

Teenagers are responsible for 66 per cent of all auto thefts in the nation, Torrance Chief of Police Walter R. Koenig said today.

Chief Koenig said car theft is rapidly becoming a major crime in the United States and that many thieves are getting help from car owners themselves.

Of 626 stolen cars reported last year to the Torrance Police Department, some 90 per cent were unlocked, Koenig said. "Many keys are left in the ignition, making it easy for the professional thief and an almost irresistible temptation for the potential thief," he added.

"If motorists will be sure to remove the keys and lock their cars whenever they park, they not only will protect their autos, but, more important, assist in curbing growing juvenile crime," Koenig said.

Car theft is primarily a "crime of opportunity," Koenig said, and much of the opportunity can be eliminated.

Four Youths Win Awards For Driving

Four Torrance youths have won transistor radios in the Ford Motor Co. "Safe Driving Incentive Program for Young Americans."

Local winners include Glenda L. Briganti of 2435 W. 227th St., Julie Dettelsen of 3527 W. 167th St., Kathleen M. Garvey of 1219 Greenwood St., and Patrick J. Reynolds of 4127 W. 175th Place.

More than 3,200 national winners were selected. Awards were given to students who drove without an accident or moving violation for a three-month period last year.

Press-Herald

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