

Federal Agency Approves Hospital Funds

Torrance

Press-Herald

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INSIDE TODAY

Ann Landers C-1 Sports C-9
Editorials C-2 Television D-2
Hollywood E-3 Women's News B-1
Obituaries A-2 Want Ads D-3

TO CALL US

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\$13.8 Million Budget Handed to Councilmen

Schools Eye Tax Increase

A 20-cent tax increase was proposed in a revised preliminary budget submitted to the Torrance Board of Education Monday night by Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools.

Even with the 20-cent increase over last year's figure of \$3.0171, the district would still have a deficit of more than a million dollars after inclusion of proposed salary raises, it was indicated.

To eliminate this deficit entirely, an increase of 50 cents would be required. Last year's deficit was \$527,318 as compared to \$1,005,143 under the revised preliminary budget for this year, according to Dr. Frank L. Mattox, assistant superintendent of schools for business.



SALUTE INDUSTRY . . . Members of the Torrance Area Youth Band and South High School will join in a salute to South Bay Industry Week at Ballock's Fashion Square on Saturday. Leading the Torrance Youth Marching Band in its appearance will be flag twirlers (from left) Carol Ogren, Lynda Roberts, and Laurie Hogue. Saturday's events will run from 11:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. at La Casita.

Ask Hike In Trash Charges

The proposed general fund budget for the city of Torrance has been balanced without changing the overall tax rate of \$1.238, although it includes an increase in refuse collection fees, as well as other city fees.

The preliminary budget, submitted last night to the City Council by City Manager Edward J. Ferraro, totals \$13.8 million — an increase of \$1,147,000 over last year's tally.

Ferraro cited four reasons the overall tax rate was able to be maintained for the seventh straight year:

• \$59,764 was cut from the initial department requests.

• A 35-cent increase in the refuse collection fee was recommended to offset increasing costs.

• An increase has been proposed in the fees for building and plumbing permits, plan checking, zone variances, and for the use of recreation buildings and the swimming pool.

• \$7,634 from the general fund surplus has been added to the budget.

THE BUDGET includes \$400,571 for new programs and equipment of which \$180,961 is for some 24 new employees. Thirteen of the new positions are for the police and fire departments.

No new sources of revenue are proposed for the new budget. However, fee increases are proposed for certain services where, according to Ferraro, the present charges do not meet the costs of providing the service.

PROPERTY TAXES will be the largest source of revenue and are up 10 per cent. (See CITY FEES, Page A-3)

VACANCY FILLED

Engineer Selected For School Board

By TIM O'DONNELL
Press Herald Staff Writer

Dr. Owen H. Griffith of 3432 229th Place was appointed Monday night to the Torrance Board of Education. He fills the seat left vacant since May 9 by the death of Dr. Kurt T. Shery.

He was sworn in by Board President Bert M. Lynn after being selected from among 21 applicants. The names of the other applicants were not released.

In his first comment as a member of the board, Dr. Griffith said he would "do all in my power to represent the people of Torrance and their interests on this board."

He explained that he would abstain from voting on several of the upcoming motions until he had the opportunity to become familiar with the background of some of the subjects.

Dr. Griffith, 39, was born in Baltimore, Md., and attended the public schools there. He earned his B.M.E.

Thief Hits Two More Churches

One of two churches broken into by burglars last Thursday was robbed again last weekend — apparently by the same burglars.

Police said someone entered the South Bay Church of God, 17661 Yukon Ave., late Sunday or early Monday and took \$1.10 from a desk in the church office.

Some \$315 was taken from the church safe last week by someone who apparently used paper matches to provide light for his work. Police said they found more burned matches on the floor of the office Monday.

A second church, the Ascension Lutheran Church at 17910 S. Prairie Ave., also was entered about the same time. An electric typewriter worth \$475 was taken from the church office.

More burned matches were found on the floor, police said.

MS and PhD degrees with honors from Cornell University, specializing in engineering mechanics.

A member of the engineering staff of Nortronics Division of Northrop Corp. for six years, Dr. Griffith is presently on the senior technical staff of the Advanced Avionics Laboratory of the Navigation Department. Previously, he was Chief of Technical Engineering for the Deep Submergence Systems Program.

BEFORE JOINING Nortronics Division of Northrop

Street Work Ordered for Carson Area

Approval of an allocation of \$8,400 for a one-mile long highway resurfacing job in the Carson area was announced today by Supervisor Burton W. Chace.

The allocation is for the 1967-68 fiscal year and affects the following locations: Kinard Avenue and Main Street (Service Road) from 226th Place to a point north of 224th Place.

224th Place and 226th Street from Kinard Avenue to Main Street.

Building permits valued at more than \$5.6 million were issued here in May, nearly doubling the valuation of building permits issued in the previous four months.

For the first time in several months, construction of new homes and apartment units topped the monthly report issued by John J. McKinnon, superintendent of building and safety.

Eight permits, with a combined value of \$1,693,100, were issued for apartment units. They provide for 133 units. Another 13 permits, providing for 34 single-family homes, were valued at \$994,490.

A total of 56 new single-

Corp. Dr. Griffith was Supervisor of Flight Test Analysis on the Polaris Missile program at Lockheed Missile and Space Division.

As a member of the Technical Staff at Space Technology Laboratories, he was associated with the system analysis section, the Minuteman project office, and the inertial components laboratory.

Dr. Griffith's previous engineering experience also includes system design work on guided missile controls at the Sperry Gyroscope Co. and the development of the radio navigational aids to the Signal Corps Research Laboratories.

HE IS associated with Pi Tau Sigma, Tau Beta Pi, Phi Kappa Phi, and the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics. He has lived in Torrance for six years and has been active in Boy Scout activities and Nativity Church affairs.

Dr. Griffith is the first Roman Catholic ever to sit on the Torrance board. He and Mrs. Griffith are the parents of six children: Stephen, Mary, Lawrence, Nancy, Diane, and Owen Michael. They will attend Sam Levy Elementary School and Torrance High School.

THE NEW budget includes a total of \$1.9 million in salary raises and increments — a 10 per cent increase over last year's figure.

Bert Lynn, president of the board, said he wasn't "going to vote anyone a 10 percent raise."

Noel Marble, executive director of the Torrance Education Association, pointed out that the actual salary increase comprised only 4 per cent of this figure, and that the rest was due to increments.

AS THE discussion became more and more involved, Dr. Donald E. Wilson of the board noted that it might be better to devote an entire meeting to the subject of budget and salaries rather than crowd it into an already heavy agenda.

It was decided to defer action until June 19. The preliminary budget must be adopted by July 1, with the deadline for the final draft coming in the first week of August, according to Dr. Mattox.

THE SEEMINGLY routine attendance boundary changes for the 1967-68 school year were halted when a group of parents asked the board to consider letting a number of

HEW Action Clears Way For Detailed Planning

Approval of \$1.6 million as a few days after the state had approved its \$1.6 million share of financing for a new \$7.4 million Torrance Memorial Hospital facility has been granted by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. The Press-Herald learned Tuesday.

The approval, coming only

Contract Awarded For Drain

Supervisor Kenneth Hahn announces additional major storm drain facilities will be built in Torrance to give this area additional protection during heavy rains.

The work will involve installation of about four miles of reinforced concrete box and pipe conduits, Hahn said, providing a network of drains in key streets.

Bids will be opened June 30 and a contract will be awarded about 10 days later, Hahn said.

community will now be asked to help in financing the project. The medical facility will serve the combined staffs of Torrance Memorial Hospital and Riviera Community Hospital whose directors voted to merge the two facilities nearly a year ago.

Ten acres of land has been acquired on Lomita Boulevard near Hawthorne. A 25-acre medical complex is being planned adjacent to the new hospital by Torrance, a group of area doctors and professional men.

Construction of the hospital is nearly a year away and will require about two years to complete, it has been estimated.

PROPERTY TAXES will be the largest source of revenue and are up 10 per cent. (See CITY FEES, Page A-3)

Golf Plan Now Up to Developer

Hopes for a city-operated golf course were kept alive last night when the City Council voted to draft a counter-proposal and submit it to the developer of the proposed course.

Meeting last night, councilmen rejected a recommendation by City Manager Edward J. Ferraro and voted to make one more try to secure a golf course.

Developer Dan E. Butcher had offered to construct an "executive" golf course and lease it to the city for a term of not less than 20 years. The city would pay \$300,000 on the lease and an estimated \$38,000 per year in property taxes, Ferraro reported.

The city manager said revenues would not meet the lease and property tax payments.

Councilmen instructed Ferraro to contact Butcher, who set a June 7 deadline in his proposal, to determine if he is interested in continued negotiations.

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Publish Delinquent Tax List

A list of delinquent taxes for a major portion of Torrance is published in today's editions of the Press-Herald. Harold J. Ostly, county tax collector, said the list includes all property on which the 1966 taxes have not been paid. Ostly warned that property will be sold to the state for the taxes due if owners fail to make full payment on or before June 30. The list begins on Page E-6 in today's editions.

Knights Win CIF Title

Bishop Montgomery High School's baseball team capped the school's most successful year in sports last night by winning the CIF AA baseball championship with a 6-2 victory over Pomona. It marks the first CIF championship in the school's history and is the first major CIF championship won by a Torrance school. The Knights, competing in the Camline Real League, won league titles in football, basketball, baseball, track, and tennis this year. Details are in today's Press-Herald Sports section, beginning on Page C-9.

Dedication Speaker Assured

The Honorable Louis H. Burke, associate justice of the State Supreme Court, confirmed today that he will be principal speaker at the dedication of the new Superior Courts building here on June 23. Judge John A. Shidler, program chairman for the event, said Justice Burke's appearance was appropriate because of his active role in planning the District Court system and his part in selecting Torrance as the site of the Southwest District Court. Ceremonies are scheduled to begin at 3 p.m.

\$5.6 Million in Permits Issued

family homes and 192 apartment units have been started since the first of the year.

Largest of the May permits was issued to Torino Construction Co. for a 75-unit apartment complex at 23930 Ocean Ave. It was valued at \$1,113,250.

Two major automobile agencies began construction with the issuance of building permits. Facilities for Butler Buick and Ronald E. Moran Cadillac are under construction on adjoining parcels in the 18600 block of Hawthorne Boulevard. Each is valued at nearly \$500,000.

Other major permits were issued to Harpers of California for a manufacturing plant

at 2727 Maricopa Ave. (\$372,000), to the Goodyear Tire Co. for a store at 2475 Pacific Coast Hwy. (\$90,000), to Irwin Paris for construction of a new health spa at 23325 Hawthorne Blvd. (\$90,000), to C. B. Verburg for 42 apartment units at 2039 Artesia Blvd. (\$410,440), and to South Bay Realty for 26 homes in the 23000 block of Kent Avenue (\$795,735).

Total value of all building permits issued in the first five months of 1967 now stands at \$12.1 million, McKinnon reported. That is slightly more than the \$11.8 million recorded in the first five months of 1966, he added.