

Graduations Scheduled Tonight, Thursday

Almost 5,000 students will graduate from Torrance schools this week, according to Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools. This represents an increase of 300 graduates over last year.

Diplomas will be presented to 2,712 eighth graders, 2,063 high school seniors, and 205 adult school graduates. The Class of '68 includes 635 students from South High, 578 from North, 460 from Torrance High, and 390 from West.

Baccalaureate services at the four high schools were conducted Sunday.

Columbia School and the Torrance Adult Evening High School held ceremonies Monday. High school graduations will be tonight, and elementary graduations tomorrow evening.

Graduation services at North High School will be broadcast over Station KNHS, 89.7 megacycles.

Handing out sheepskins will be school board members, former members, district administrators, and a retired industrialist as follows:

Wednesday: North High

School, 8 p.m., Dr. Kaplan, board member Burt M. Lynn, and former board member Dr. Donald Wilson; South High School, 8 p.m. Dr. Hull, Dr. Griffith, and Dr. Robert Morton, assistant superintendent, personnel; Torrance High School, 8 p.m., board members William Hanson and Burton Belzer and Dr. Albert Posner, assistant superintendent, instructional media; and West High School, 8 p.m., board member Mrs. Kenneth Watts and Dr. Frank Mattox, assistant superintendent, business.

Thursday: Hickory, 5:30

p.m., Lynn; Crenshaw, 5:30 p.m., former board member Clinton B. Cooke; Parkway, 6 p.m., Robert Allen, curriculum consultant; Towers, 6 p.m., Dr. Morton; Wright, 6 p.m., former board member Mrs. Grace Wright.

Edison, 6 p.m., Belzer; Fern-Greenwood, 6 p.m., Hanson; Jefferson, 6 p.m., Dr. Posner; Arlington, 6:30 p.m., former board member Dr. Joseph Bay; Casimir, 6:30 p.m., Dr. Kaplan; Madison, 6:30 p.m., former board member Robert Ellis.

Madrona, 6:30 p.m., Dr.

Griffith; Newton, 6:30 p.m., Dr. Hull; Victor, 6:30 p.m., Dr. Wilson; Waleria, 6:30 p.m., Dr. Jones; Seaside, 6:45 p.m., Mrs. Watts; Sepulveda, 6:45 p.m., former board member Judge John Shidler.

Callie Mayor, 7 p.m., former board member Darwin Parrish; Hamilton, 7 p.m., former board member Walter Garrabrant; Levy, 7 p.m., Linn; Lincoln, 7 p.m., former board member William Tolson; Magruder, 7 p.m., retired industrialist Philip Magruder.

Steele, 7 p.m., former board member Albert Charles; Ad-

ams, 7:30 p.m., Hanson; Anza, 7:30 p.m., Belzer; Arnold, 7:30 p.m., Dr. Morton; Carr, 7:30 p.m., former board member Mrs. Evelyn Carr; Hillside, 7:30 p.m., Dr. Posner; Perry, 7:30 p.m., former board member Carlton Mewborn.

Torrance Elementary, 7:30 p.m., Dr. Bruce Magner, curriculum consultant; Wood, 7:30 p.m., Phillip Korman, curriculum consultant; Yukon, 7:30 p.m., former board member Dr. Rollin Smith; Meadow Park, 7:30 p.m., former board member William C. Boswell; Flavian, 8 p.m., Dr. Griffith;

and Riviera, 8 p.m., Mrs. Watts.

All ceremonies will take place at the home school with the following exceptions: Hickory exercises will be held at the Rolling Hills theater, Fern-Greenwood at Torrance High School auditorium, Madrona at Torrance Recreation Center, Seaside at South High School cafeteria, Carr at El Camino College, Wood at Torrance High School auditorium, and Riviera at South High School auditorium.

Adult education commencement exercises were at Torrance High School.

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Council Gets \$15,039,270 City Budget

A city budget of \$15,039,270 which would require no increase in the city's property tax rate will be taken under study by the City Council in a series of meetings scheduled to begin at 4 p.m. today.

Presented to councilmen by City Manager Edward J. Ferraro, the preliminary budget for the year beginning next July 1 represents an increase of \$1,235,233 or 9 per cent over the 1967-68 budget, Ferraro reported.

The budget anticipates no major new sources of revenue, the city manager said. Bringing in a balanced proposal was possible, he added, by planning "very limited staff additions and principally in selected public service areas," by cutbacks in current service levels where possible, and by increasing some fees.

RECOMMENDED among the increases is a 35-cent monthly hike in refuse collection fees; a 25 per cent hike in recreation fees, including the golf course and city plunge; and a \$15,000 increase in the utility enterprise contribution from water department revenue.

More than \$900,000 in departmental requests have been deleted to bring the proposed expenditures down to estimated revenues. Nearly every department in the city felt the cuts, ranging from a \$2,000 cut in the city clerk's proposals to the \$855,000 cuts in police department requests.

COUNCILMEN will get their chance at the budget in a work session to begin today at 4 p.m. in the city hall. Other sessions this week are scheduled for Thursday and Friday at 4 p.m. and on Saturday beginning at 9:30 a.m.

Official public hearings will begin next Tuesday and continue June 25 at regular meetings of the City Council. The amended budget probably will be adopted at the June 25 meeting. The tax rate is levied in August after official property assessment rolls have been released.

IN OTHER action, councilmen delayed a decision on the proposed north-south arterials, designed to alleviate traffic on Hawthorne Boulevard.

The council voted to take a bus tour of the three proposed extension routes on Monday, July 1, at 6:30 p.m. and return for a special meeting at 7:30 p.m. to review the proposals. The public has been invited to call for reservations for the bus trip.

The three proposals include extension of Madrona Avenue, Maple Avenue, or Garner Street. The controversial extensions have been delayed for months because of the council's lack of "full facts" on the alternatives.

Referring to the July 1 meeting, Councilman Jay Beasley said, "Any decision will be the wrong one!" commenting that full facts will still not be available.

COUNCILMEN also voted to extend 232nd Street westward from Arlington Avenue toward Pennsylvania Avenue. The street will not cut clear (See COUNCIL, A-2)

Bandit Suspect Shot Down In Shoot-Out With Police



LIBRARY PROPOSAL . . . An architect's rendering of his proposal for the new main branch city library was released here last evening by Russell J. West, the city's chief librarian. The civic center library plan is being developed by Earl Heitschmidt and Associates,

architects. This rendering includes the revisions in the plan which have been ordered. Ceremonies earlier this year marked the dedication of the library site on Torrance Boulevard between the city plunge and the County Probation Building.

Officer Takes Two Bullets; Isn't Injured

A face-to-face shoot-out between a Torrance policeman and a 20-year-old robbery suspect ended in death here Monday afternoon.

The bullet-riddled body of Floyd William Snedeker, 2135 Del Amo Blvd., Apt. 61, was pronounced dead on arrival at Harbor General Hospital after the youth was shot by Sgt. Robert Such. The gun-duel occurred about 3:45 p.m. when Sergeant Such responded to an armed robbery report at Hahn's market, 645 Sartori Ave.

Such miraculously escaped injury in the bullet exchange. Police said that Sgt. Such observed the suspect in the vicinity of the robbery and ordered him to stop.

Snedeker ran, disappearing around the rear of a house at Cota and Dominguez Streets. Such ran around the other side of the house and encountered the suspect, who met him with a volley of bullets. Such was struck twice, once on his cartridge belt and once through the pant leg. He escaped unharmed.

Snedeker was killed in the duel, however.

Torrance police picked up three other suspects a short time after the attempted hold-up. Terry William Gasset, 18, 2134 Del Amo Blvd., was arrested at 4:45 p.m. near his

home when patrolmen spotted him as fitting the description of one of the suspects.

Less than an hour later, police arrested Joe Vidal Rivera, 21, a cabinet assembler who lives at 1505 W. 224th St., and William Darrell Eden, 24, an unemployed truck driver, of 1558 W. 224th St. Patrolmen spotted them driving the alleged get-away car near the corner of 228th Street and Western Avenue.

Market owner Maurice K. Hahn, 65, of 617 Cota Ave., told police two Mexican youths entered his store at about 3:30 p.m., approaching the check stand as if to make a purchase. One of the youths pulled a rifle or shotgun and said, "This is a holdup."

Hahn said he lunged at the armed suspect, bopping him over the head with a bag of beans and wrestling him to the floor. A customer then joined in the fray, attempting to disarm the suspect. Both suspects then ran from the store without taking any cash.

Police said they are not yet sure which, if any, of the suspects were the two who actually entered the store. Authorities have confiscated the revolver Snedeker fired at up. Terry William Gasset, 18, Sgt. Such, but have not yet recovered the rifle or shotgun allegedly used in the holdup.

Busy Summer Schools Expected

Preliminary estimates indicate that more than 21,000 students will attend summer classes in Torrance schools, according to Dr. Lloyd Jones, curriculum consultant. Included in this figure are 11,899 elementary school youngsters and 9,589 high school students.

The six-week summer school session will take place Thursday, June 20, through Wednesday, July 31. Classes will be offered at all elementary and high schools in the district. Students may register up to and including the first day of school.

Offered as a continuation of the regular year-round program, summer school will emphasize the academics. Academically talented seventh graders will be given the opportunity to take two high school courses from a selection of 23 offerings. High school students will have 142 courses to choose from.

Elementary classes will offer students a chance to study the regular courses more fully. Top students will be able to delve deeper into various subjects, while slower

students will get help in subjects in which they need it, Dr. Jones said.

Special classes in remedial reading will be held at the remedial reading centers. Classes for handicapped youngsters are also scheduled. Enrollment in summer school is limited to students who live in Torrance. This includes students who attend private or parochial schools during the regular year.

In addition to regular summer classes, five preschool classes will open their doors to 75 Torrance children for an eight-week summer program. The classes will be com-

posed of youngsters who will be attending kindergarten in the fall. Opening Monday will be classes at Fern-Greenwood, Crenshaw, Waleria, and Torrance elementary schools.

Federal funds are provided to give selected children an early start so they will begin school with the same chance of success as their classmates, school officials report.

Among the goals is the establishment of positive attitudes about school, help the children form better self-images, and to improve their physical and mental health. This marks the third year that such preschool classes have been offered in Torrance, officials say.

STEPHEN SKROMEDA IS BUSY NEWSPAPER BOY

A native Torrance lad who will celebrate his 11th birthday next August has been selected as the "Carrier of the Month" for May by Press-Herald Circulation Manager Darrel Westcott.



STEPHEN SKROMEDA

The son of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Skromeda of 2344 W. 238th St., young Stephen has many things to keep him busy besides his growing Press-Herald route near home.

He is a Webelos Cub Scout, a member of Pack 211-C who will be graduated in Scout Troop 211 this fall; he is active in the Adams School choir; and keeps busy in model building, model railroad, and with his coin and stamp collections.

It is the business-like manner in which he conducts his newspaper route for the Press-Herald which has earned the carrier award for him, Westcott said.

Westcott said "Stephen combines the best of delivery service with consistent sales efforts. As a result, he has a growing newspaper route business."

22-Year-Old Youth Caught In Hit-Run

Hit-and-run driving charges have been lodged against 22-year-old Van Dean Hand, 715 Amapola Ave., after Torrance police arrested him Saturday afternoon in what they reported was a "highly intoxicated" condition.

Hand was also charged with driving under the influence of a narcotic drug or amphetamine and was taken to Harbor General Hospital to have his stomach pumped.

Police said Hand's vehicle struck several parked cars and ran off the road before he was apprehended at the corner of Sartori and El Prado Avenues.

Lomita Man Murdered In Home

A girl friend of a 25-year-old electrical supply company employe who was found shot to death Monday in his Lomita apartment is being sought for questioning by Sheriff's deputies.

Known as Paula Dyer or Paula Borkell, the woman is wanted in connection with the death of John C. Marler, 25, of 25338 Oak St. Marler's body was found by James L. Pendleton, of 25625 Reed Drive, Lomita, when he came by the apartment to take him to work.

Marler's auto was missing from the residence, deputies reported.

The Sheriff's homicide department reports that they have few clues, not knowing the time of death or the type of gun employed.

One Bottle of Milk Cost 'Pop' His Diamond Ring

C. O. "Pop" Leatherman made one too many trips to the store last week from his home at 912 Cota Ave.

He went for a bottle of milk and wound up paying for it with a keepsake diamond ring which friends and relatives had given him 15 years ago when he and Mrs. Leatherman celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

The 48-year resident of the city said he had been soldering and didn't want to damage the ring, so he had removed it from his finger and put it in a coin purse. A few minutes later he went to the market for milk. Minutes after leaving the market with his purchase, he missed the purse, he told the Press-Herald.

Nominee Deadline Near . . .

Deadline to submit nominations for this year's distinguished citizens award is Friday at 5 p.m., Chamber of Commerce President Larry Bowman warned this morning. Bowman said a number of persons had indicated their intention to submit nominations who have not completed the process. Announcement of the city's distinguished citizen will be a highlight of the annual Chamber of Commerce installation dinner-dance on Friday night, June 28. The winner will get custody of the huge Laughon-Whyte trophy which commemorates two Torrance pioneers, Dr. William I. Laughon and Grover C. Whyte, publisher of the Torrance Herald for many years.

Torrance Precinct 'Missing' . . .

Eleven county precincts, including the 66th in Torrance, are still being counted among the "missing" as the hunt goes on through stacks of election supply boxes in a county warehouse. The untallied precincts are preventing a final tally of the June 4 voting in several contests in the county although few elections are believed to be at stake. Records in the office of Ray E. Lee, voting registrar-recorder, indicate that all precincts checked in. Some of the punch-card ballots were placed in wrong containers and apparently were stored with supplies officials speculate. The search is continuing.