

## YOUTH SAFETY FORUM

# Teenagers Suggest Two Police Forces

Fifty Torrance teenagers came up with more than a dozen ideas on how to improve auto safety at the city's first Youth Safety Forum at the YWCA last week.

Co-sponsors of the all-day event were the Torrance Unified School District, the Torrance PTA Council, the Torrance Police Department, the Torrance Traffic Department, the Automobile Club of Southern California, and the Torrance Lions Club.

After hearing a series of experts discuss various traffic safety problems, student caucuses met to discuss possible improvements in the areas of vehicles, roadways, drivers, and law enforcement.

AMONG their proposed solutions was a suggestion that the Torrance Police Department be separated into two separate and distinct bodies—one for traffic enforcement and one for criminal enforcement—with a separate administrative head for each division.

They also endorsed a proposal to have state-sponsored regular safety inspection of cars once a year at the time of registration in addition to the random checks already in effect.

The students went on record as favoring a suggestion that a statute of limitations on the height a vehicle may be raised be set by the state legislature.

OTHER proposals included:

- Labeling drugs which affect the ability to drive.
- Offering driver training classes every two years for persons between the ages of 16 and 24, every four years for persons between the ages of 24 and 54, and every two years for persons over the age of 54.
- Stiffening of physical requirements for persons who wish to obtain a driver's license.
- Setting a special classification of license for motorcyclists.
- Placing roadside utility lines underground and moving fixed objects away from roadways to minimize hazards to motorists.
- Requiring street signs to be more distinctly marked and placed where motorists could see them more easily.
- Scheduling meetings between the California Highway Patrol and the Torrance Police Department with drivers' education classes to help prevent violations.

IDEAS which were sent to committees for further study included: the possibility of a law prohibiting use of wide-angle mirrors on motor vehicles, standards for allowable modifications of the vehicle, and review of traffic signal usage at intersections.

Student recommendations were turned over to the Torrance Safety Commission by Mayor Albert Isen for further study. The commission will send them together with their recommendations to the city council.

Keynote speaker was Walter R. Koenig, Torrance chief of police.

PANELISTS included: Officer Al Jackson of the Torrance Police Department; Ron Root, director of the Car Clubs National Hot Rod Association; Art Horkay, Torrance city traffic engineer; Paul Fowler, Auto Club of Southern California; Calvin Lee, district traffic engineer for the California Division of Highways; Dr. John Douglass, M.D., of the University of California; Herbert Furth, supervisor, driver improvement, Department of Motor Vehicles; Officer Ted Bradley of the California Highway Patrol; Ed Cunningham, supervisor traffic division, Superior Court; and Sgt. Bruce Bishop, traffic division, Torrance Police Department.

Coordinator of the event was Dr. Donald Duncan, curriculum consultant for Torrance schools. Forum chairman was Rich Schwanbeck, student at West High School.



BLAYNE L. ASHER  
Files Papers

## Insurance Counselor Seeks Seat

Blayne L. Asher, an insurance and investment counselor, has filed papers to run for the Torrance City Council.

Asher, 43, said he will campaign on a platform to make a capable, effective City Council responsible for the progress and development of the city "without the need of federal subsidies."

"We can and should control our own civic destiny," he said. "I love my city and want to work for you and my family as your councilman, giving you the truth about airport expansion, the possible sale of our municipal bus system, and the proposed salary increase for councilmen."

ASHER, who has lived in Torrance for 14 years, is the owner of his own insurance firm, located in the Riviera Village.

He is former chairman of the 46th Assembly District Republican Central Committee and has served on both the Los Angeles County and State Republican Central Committees. He is past president of the Kiwanis Club and in 1962 served as president of the Independent Insurance Agents' Association of the South Bay.

ASHER ALSO is active in Boy and Girl Scout fund raising campaigns. He is currently a Scoutmaster, a member of the FOE, and a two-gallon blood donor to the American Red Cross.

He is a graduate of the University of California at Los Angeles and holds a bachelor's degree in accounting. Asher has lived in Los Angeles County for more than 40 years.

Asher and his wife, Jean, are parents of seven children. The family lives at 4608 Pacific Coast Hwy.



ERIC RAFTER  
Candidate for Judge

## Attorney To Seek Judgeship

Hermosa Beach Attorney Eric Rafter has announced he will be a candidate for Judge of the South Bay Municipal Court in the June 4 primary election.

Rafter, who maintains law offices at 1409 Monterey Blvd., Hermosa Beach, has lived in Hermosa Beach since 1946.

He is a graduate of Dartmouth College and earned his law degree in 1940 at the Harvard Law School. He was admitted to the California bar in 1940 and admitted to practice before the Federal District Court in 1952.

RAFTER IS a partner in the law firm of Rafter and Fredericks and for several years was president of the South Bay Legal Aid Foundation.

A veteran of World War II, Rafter served as a glider pilot. He earned the Air Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the Bronze Arrowhead, seven Battle Stars, and a Presidential Citation, and the Croix de Guerre.

A FORMER president of the South Bay Bar Association and the Hermosa Beach Kiwanis Club, he also served as president of the Ground Observer Corps. Rafter is a member of the Redondo Beach Elks Lodge, Post 184 of the American Legion, and the Air Force Association. He is a director of the Los Angeles Visiting Nurse Association.

Rafter and his second wife, the former Elsie Heikkila, have raised his two daughters by a previous marriage from the ages of 5 and 7. Both are now married.

## Meeting on Recreation Scheduled

A meeting to discuss recreation problems in the North Torrance area has been scheduled for 7:30 p.m. tomorrow at the Madison Elementary School.

Mrs. Edward Doty, of 413 W. 173rd St., made arrangements for the meeting, which is open to all interested parents in the area. Primary concern, Mrs. Doty said, is to find some way to provide recreational activities for youngsters in the seventh and eighth grade age group.

Speakers for the session will include representatives from the Torrance Police Department, the Torrance Recreation Department, and the Redondo Beach Youth Coordinating Council.

## Mixer Planned

The Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce will hold a membership mixer this afternoon from 5 to 7 o'clock at the Chamber offices, 1510 Cravens Ave.

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## Seminar Set for Doctors

Dr. Paul H. Lorhan, chief of anesthesiology at Los Angeles County Harbor General Hospital, has been named chairman of a seven-member team of outstanding American anesthesiologists to lecture on recent advances in their field of Medical Science at the University of Madrid, Spain.

Each member of the team will present lectures in his particular specialty to doctors from worldwide medical centers attending the sixth International Course on Recent Advances in Anesthesiology at the University's Escuela Nacional de Enfermeria del Torax (National School of Thoracic Surgery) for a week beginning June 8. Dr. Lorhan is also a professor at UCLA.

Appointment of the Palos Verdes Estates resident to head the team and coordinate its program was requested by Dr. Luis Agosti, head of the University of Madrid's Department of Anesthesiology.

In accepting the appointment, Dr. Lorhan said: "During the past few years a great number of advances have been made in anesthesiology relative to patient care, especially as related to the aged, a number of new drugs have been investigated which have shown great application in the management of patients, and these will be focal points in the lecture series."

## Canteen Opens At Harbor Basin

Opening of the Redondo Beach Youth Center has taken place in Basin 3 near the Redondo Beach pier. The canteen is designed for teenagers (14-20) and includes ping-pong, billiards, chess, checkers, dancing and other social activities.

The hearing, to be held in the Torrance City Council Chambers at 10 a.m. Friday and Saturday, will be the first of several meetings by the committee to discuss solid waste management throughout California. The meetings will be devoted to a broad, preliminary review of the general subject.

## Report Suggests Elimination of Huge Oil Reservoirs in County

The surest way to eliminate fires in oil reservoirs is to eliminate the reservoirs, according to a report by County Fire Chief Keith Klinger and Air Pollution Control Officer Louis Fuller.

The report is the result of a study requested by Supervisor Kenneth Hahn on methods of preventing such fires last December following the refinery blaze in El Segundo which blackened Southern California skies for nearly two weeks.

Klinger and Fuller pointed out the oil industry has been urged — and will continue to be urged — to discontinue the storage of oils and fuels in reservoirs.

IN RECENT years, 17 oil reservoirs have been phased out in Los Angeles County but a total of 22 still are active.

They range in capacity from 500,000 barrels to 4,032,000 barrels, and cover from 4 to 15½ acres. Eleven are in unincorporated county territory; six in El Segundo; three in Manhattan Beach; and two in Torrance.

"The reservoirs are dangerous not only from a fire standpoint, but should a major fire occur, particularly during a sustained low inversion period, the resultant products of combustion might constitute a serious health hazard," Hahn noted.

THE ONLY two reservoir fires in the last 50 years have

had unusual causes. A falling Sepulveda ablaze in 1950, and engine from a disabled airplane on the December, 1967, El Segundo fire was ignited by lightning.

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## Chamber To Host Committee

The Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce will host the state of California Assembly Committee on Natural Resources, Planning and Public Works at an informal reception and dinner at Sam's Cafe, 3210 Sepulveda Blvd., at 5:30 Friday.

Members of the committee will be in Torrance for a public hearing on solid waste management Friday and Saturday. The committee is comprised of nine members of the Assembly and includes Assemblyman L. E. (Larry) Townsend (D-Torrance).

The hearing, to be held in the Torrance City Council Chambers at 10 a.m. Friday and Saturday, will be the first of several meetings by the committee to discuss solid waste management throughout California. The meetings will be devoted to a broad, preliminary review of the general subject.

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