



PLANT TREES . . . Four Torrance youngsters get ready to plant a small tree at the South Coast Botanic Gardens in observance of Arbor Day. The garden will celebrate the annual event by giving some 350 youngsters seedling trees to plant. Shown here are (from left) Pete Laugharn, 8; Jody Potiker, 8; Sarah Bassler, 8; and Richard Laugharn, 9. The garden's Arbor Day program will begin at 10 a.m. (Press-Herald Photo)

Area Youngsters to Plant Trees at Botanic Garden

Arbor Day will be celebrated Saturday at the South Coast Botanic Gardens with a special tree planting program, beginning at 10 a.m.

The garden is located at 26701 Rolling Hills Road. Donald Woolley, superintendent of the garden, said each youngster attending the program in the company of an adult will receive a seedling tree to plant during the day.

MRS. FRANCES Young, president of the South Coast Botanic Garden Foundation, will be mistress of ceremonies for the Arbor Day program. The Peninsula 4-H Club and the Palos Verdes High School Band will participate in the formal program. Speakers will include Dr. William S. Stewart, director of the Department of Arboreta and Botanic Gardens for the county,

and Tako Niya, youth education director, who will receive specimen trees to be planted at the garden.

The South Bay Garden Club donated the specimen trees. Mrs. C. Carroll Stough, president of the Los Angeles Bay Harbor Garden Clubs and members of the youth classes, will participate in the planting ceremony.

HONORED guests will include A. E. Nielsen, regional representative for Gov. Ronald Reagan; Ralph C. Dills, state senator from the 32nd District; Robert G. Beverly, Assemblyman from the 46th District; and Supervisor Burton W. Chace.

Contributions for the seedling trees were received from the Hermosa Beach, San Pedro, Riviera, Centinela, and Silver Spur garden clubs and from Dr. Charles O. Gardener.

. . . Nollac

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ences of opinion over the years in regard to interpretation of the city's charter provisions on competitive bidding for public works contracts.

Knickerbocker testified that he told Nollac different attorneys have different opinions on bidding, but that in Torrance, "we take the conservative opinion to keep people out of trouble." Knickerbocker said he told the defendant that the city should go through bidding procedures even though "Nollac thinks it's a complete waste of time."

Nollac is accused, among other things, of failing to follow a directive from the city manager telling him to inform all contractors of the city's charter provisions about competitive bidding.

KNICKERBOCKER went on to testify that various individuals in Nollac's engineering department had misinterpreted opinions from the city attorney's office even though the opinions concerning competitive bidding were made over a long period of time.

Referring to an opinion he wrote in July, 1965, Knickerbocker said he had made his views "quite clear." The opinion stated that competitive bidding doesn't mean three persons must submit a bid, but it does mean that notices must appear in newspapers for a sufficient length of time before bids are opened.

Knickerbocker said that the subcontractor working for a contractor whose contract was with the city need not be hired on a competitive basis so long as the first contractor had been hired competitively. However, if a city contractor had not been hired competitively, then such subcontractor should be hired on a competitive basis, he said.

CROSS - EXAMING Knickerbocker, Nollac's attorney, Walter Young, pointed out that Knickerbocker's opinion of July, 1965, dealt with street work paid for from the city's general fund. Young said he felt this situation was not analogous to the drainage and sewer cases cited in the charges against Nollac, because drainage work is paid for from a fund created from subdividers' drainage fees.

Furthermore, Young said, Knickerbocker wrote his opinion based on a section of the code that applies to a contract between the city and another person. This opinion should not apply to cases involving contracts between a contractor and his subcontractor, Young stated.



W. A. FELKER Killed in Crash

Pioneer Resident Is Killed

Funeral services for Walton A. Felker, pioneer Torrance industrialist, were held Tuesday afternoon at the Green Hills Mortuary Chapel.

Mr. Felker, co-founder of Felker Manufacturing Co. of Torrance and a resident of the city for 51 years, was killed last Thursday in an automobile crash near North Fork, Ark.

The 87-year-old industrialist came to Torrance in 1918 and was active in civic affairs throughout his life. He worked for the Community Chest and with the Red Cross and Torrance Family YMCA. In addition, he had served on the city's Planning Commission and was active in the Chamber of Commerce.

He was honored at the Torrance Family YMCA's "Good Neighbor."

Mr. Felker was alone in his automobile at the time of the accident.

He is survived by two granddaughters, Mrs. Sharon Hayden of Dana Point and Andera Poynter of Ketchum, Idaho; a nephew, James Felker of Torrance; a niece, Mrs. Helen Hutson of Quincy, Ill.; and three great-grandsons.

The Rev. Walter Stanton, pastor of Central Evangelical United Methodist Church, officiated at the services. Burial was in Green Hills Memorial Park.

Man Robs Financial Institution

An armed robber tricked an official of Laurentide Financial Corp. into opening company doors after hours Monday, escaping with more than \$300.

Victim William W. Brown of Los Angeles told Torrance police he was working late at the lending institution, 21750 Hawthorne Blvd., when the phone rang at 6:40 p.m. A man on the line said he needed a loan and Brown agreed to let him in when he arrived, even though it was past closing time.

When the suspect arrived Brown let him in, only to find the suspect was holding a gun in his ribs.

After ordering Brown to pull the curtains, the man snapped up the folding money from two cash bags and then emptied Brown's wallet of \$19.

. . . Council

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mission hearings are taking too much time.

He emphasized that the hearings take unfair advantage of commissioners' time and also create a low state or morale among city employees who must witness at lengthy hearings.

To prevent such a situation from occurring in the future, Beasley had called for an ordinance to be drawn up permitting the city to hire an official hearing officer to arbitrate such cases. Such an officer would hear the attorneys' presentations in a matter of a few days and submit a recommendation to the Civil Service Commission for its approval. The Nollac case would have been settled in January if the city had been permitted to hire such an officer.

On Dean's List

Gary M. Anderson, 20, son of Mr. and Mrs. K. L. Anderson of 2749 Grand Summit Road, has been named to the dean's list at Berklee School of Music in Boston, Mass. Anderson, a senior, is majoring in composition.

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Boat Taken

A 17-foot boat valued at \$3,700 disappeared sometime Monday from its parking place near an alley at the rear of 623 Sartori Ave. The aqua and white "Power Cat" boat was reported missing by Gary Weiss, 34.

NEW SYSTEM

Twenty-five years ago Bell Laboratories filed for a patent on an oscillator circuit that was widely adopted for tele-typewriter systems and that was of great value to radar systems used during World War II.

THE START OF SOMETHING BIG FOR '69



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