

CITY COUNCIL BRIEFS

Torrance City Council
Aug. 31, 1954

Councilmen present: Mayor Nicholas O. Dralle, Victor E. Benstead Jr., Willys G. Blount, Albert Isen, and Marvin M. Schwab. Officers present: City Manager George Stevens, City Attorney James M. Hall, City Clerk A. H. Bartlett, City Treasurer Harriett V. Leach, City Engineer Ronald W. Bishop, Fire Chief J. J. Benner, Police Chief Willard Haslam.

Joseph Freedland led the pledge of allegiance and Councilman Schwab offered the invocation to open the meeting.

Bids for the improvement of Ashley Ave. were received and referred to the City Manager for study and recommendation.

A hearing on the city's intention to abandon lot P-5 of Torrance Tract, which had been granted for park purposes, was closed without protest. City ordered property sold on bid.

Architect Marion J. Varner presented a color rendering of the front elevation and sketches of floor plans for the proposed new central fire station at Carson St. and Crenshaw Blvd. The new building will contain about 10,000 square feet, he reported.

Contract for auditing services for year 1954-55 awarded the firm of Cotton and Francisco of Redondo Beach, which has done the city's auditing for 12 years, on recommendation of City Manager George Stevens.

Realty firm of Coldwell-Banker given six months option to 84 acres set aside for commercial development at Torrance airport. Option given subject to terms agreeable to city and realty firm.

Petition from homeowners near Martina and 220th St. about stagnant water at that intersection read. City Engineer Bishop reported his office had been apprised of the matter—he was authorized to remedy the situation of standing water.

Water Superintendent Angus McVicar reported to the council by letter that he could see nothing in the West Basin Interim agreement which would affect the city's water rights. The agreement would curtail pumping from the basin on a voluntary basis. Council agreed to ratify agreement on recommendation of Water Superintendent McVicar.

City Attorney James Hall submitted a legal opinion on the validity of Ord. 291 which regulates the hours of dancing in which he said it was his belief that the law was subject to challenge. He said it did not clearly define public dancing as opposed to dancing in residences. He was authorized to rectify the ordinance following a discussion of the advisability of allowing dancing on Sunday.

Metropolitan Water District Resolution 4477 levying taxes for the fiscal year at 23 cents a hundred submitted to Council and accepted as a matter of record. Last year's rate was 20 cents, City Clerk Bartlett reported.

Request of Seventh Day Adventist Church for permission to erect signs indicating location of church at Acacia and Sonoma Aves. referred to Planning Commission with recommendation that the Torrance Mini-terial Assn. be asked to check into the matter and suggest a solution to the problem of such signs. Chief Haslam reported

that he had requests from four other churches and that two such requests were on file with the Planning Commission.

Whitney Insurance Agency granted permission to operate a used car lot at 2000 Torrance Blvd, which is the corner of Encina and Torrance Blvd.

Recommendations of City Manager George Stevens on personnel appointments approved.

Recommendation of City Manager that Roland J. Struve be given the contract to install sidewalks, curbs, and gutters on 174th St. on his low bid of \$2210 approved by Council Resolution No. 2023 later adopted awarding contract.

Council Resolution No. 2619 authorizing agreement between Torrance Chamber of Commerce and the City of Torrance approved. Contract is for advertising purposes during fiscal year.

Council Resolution No. 2620 approving election precincts and appointment of election officers for special election to be held Oct. 19, 1954, adopted.

Council Resolution No. 2621 determining that public interest and necessity demand the acquisition and construction of certain municipal improvements (divic center and swimming pool) adopted.

Councilman Mervin M. Schwab named by Mayor Dralle to serve as the Council's representative on the Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. Councilman Isen named as alternate.

Ordinance 705 pertaining to \$100 fee to subdividers for parks and playgrounds adopted at second and final reading.

Letter from O'Melvary and Myers read offering their services in the coming bond election at their standard fee of one fifth of one per cent of total value of those bond issues which carry and one tenth of one per cent of those which do not with the maximum for any one issue to be \$750. City authorized employment of the firm because their approval of the bonds is required by most bond buyers.

Ordinance 706, calling for the special election Oct. 19, adopted at first reading.

A recommendation of George Stevens for a minor change at the Airport entrance approved.

Council authorized transfer of \$100,000 from the funds of Torrance Municipal Water District to city's general fund until tax monies become available.

Council authorized purchase of adding machine for recreation department.

Councilman Benstead complained of numerous signs on Crenshaw Blvd. between Torrance and Carson directing attention to a new subdivision. An investigation was ordered with a report due to Councilmen next week.

Councilman Isen referred five matters to the Council.

(1)—Regarding the Santa Fe Railways right-of-way cleanup, he said it was his observation that the area has as many weeds as ever. City Manager Stevens said he had written to Santa Fe and that he had ordered city crews to clean up that part over which the city has responsibility.

(2)—A traffic hazard exists at the northwest corner of Carson and Cabrillo at the culvert. Council approved Isen's motion to send the matter to City Engineer for study and a report.

(3)—Asked about clean up of Torrance Waste Products plant at 213th and Cabrillo. He pointed out that the place was fenced but that a large amount of scrap was still in the area. The Health Department will be asked for a report on the health haz-

ard and the City Manager and City Attorney instructed to investigate the condition.

(4)—Isen suggested that the city investigate the possibility of entering into a contract with the State Board of Equalization in an effort to gain access to sales tax audit information from the state for use by the City in collection of city sales taxes. City Attorney authorized to look into matter.

(5)—Isen asked for further study on Braff parking system whereby two cars are parked together in 20-foot stalls with 8-foot red zones on either end. He asked that a newspaper clipping from a Los Angeles paper be made part of record on the matter.

Mayor Dralle proclaimed week of Sept. 3 to Sept. 9 Registration Week. He proclaimed Saturday, Sept. 25 Kiwanis Kids' Day.

City Clerk A. H. Bartlett reminded Councilmen that Thursday, Sept. 9, would be the last day to register for the Nov. 2 election.

City Manager Stevens reported that the paving of Crenshaw south of Pacific Coast Hwy. would be pushed ahead as fast as was legally possible and that it would be about two months before the paving contract could be awarded.

The City Manager also reported that paving of Crenshaw between Carson St. and Sepulveda would be started as soon as the money from gas tax funds was available and the second priority project, paving of Torrance Blvd. from Crenshaw to Madrona would be done next.

Anthony J. Biloti, of 18528 Ashley Ave., asked to know why the city did not plan to install sidewalks on the short strip of Ashley Ave. to be improved. Mayor Dralle explained that the city did not install sidewalks, that the policy of the city was for the property owner to do this. He was backed up by City Manager Stevens, who said this had been a long-standing city policy. Biloti then asked if the subdivider of the area could be forced to install sidewalks on the property and the City Attorney said no, as the subdivision was put in several years ago.

Gil Simons, 16718 Patronella Ave., reported that contractors came out and did some work in his area—part of the homes re-examined by state officials on charges that they were improperly constructed—but that not all of the repairs had been made. City Attorney Hall said the Council should ask for a report from those involved in the matter. Such was ordered. Norman Smith of 16719 Cerise said his home had not been properly repaired. The report was ordered for next week.

City Attorney James Hall reported that, was his opinion that the payment by the City of prepaid hospitalization costs for city employees was legal.

Mayor Dralle requested that stop signs be returned to the intersection of Torrance Blvd and Crenshaw. City Manager said they would be installed.

Council adjourned until 8 p.m., Sept. 7.

Obituaries

Harriette Gibson

Funeral services were held Monday in Manhattan Beach for Harriette Evangeline Gibson, 45, of 5225 Doris Way, who died Thursday at St. John's Hospital in Santa Monica.

Survivors are her husband, Carl; a daughter, Carol Kathryn Gibson; three sisters, Mrs. Kathryn E. Jones, of Palos Verdes; Mrs. Margaret A. Ritzean, San Diego and Mrs. Shirley E. Dray, Los Angeles; a brother Rodney Edwards; her mother, May Ellen Shay and father, Victor Edwards.

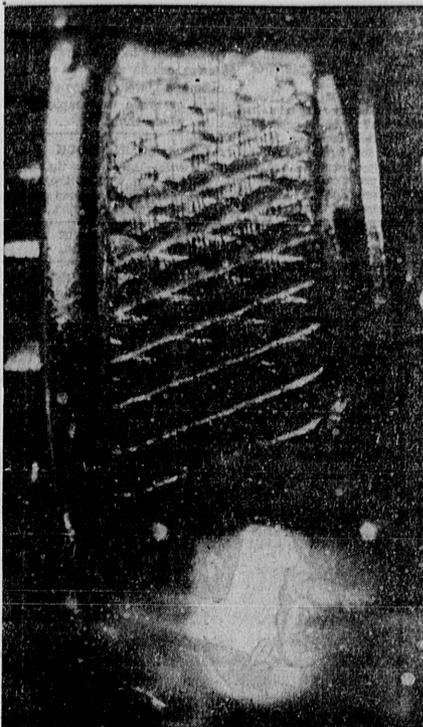
Rose Marie Pupkoff

Rose Marie Pupkoff, 29, resident of Torrance for 26 years, died Tuesday at Los Angeles General Hospital of a kidney ailment following the birth of her son, Gerald. She had been hospitalized for about three weeks.

Funeral services will be held Saturday at 10 a.m. in the Stone and Myers Chapel and cremation will follow at Inglewood Crematory. Services will be conducted by the Rev. Andrew Bello of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church.

Born in Cleveland, Ohio, Mrs. Pupkoff came to Torrance at the age of three. She resided at 2748 Gramercy Ave. with her husband, Henry Pupkoff, Jr. and son.

Other survivors her mother, Angelina Disario, 1020 Beech Ave.; three brothers, John and Joe, of the Beech Ave. address and William, of the US Air Force, stationed in Minnesota; and her mother and father-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Pupkoff, Sr., of 2019 Cabrillo Ave. Her husband is employed by National Supply Co.



WHAT IS IT . . . This is not a truck tire, a flour mill, or rock crusher. Do you know what it is? The answer is printed on today's Editorial Page.

TRUCK AGE

Detroit—The average truck in 1941 was 5.6 years old. Today the average is about seven years.

PARKING CODE

Denver's new building code regulates multi-level parking garages.

Coming Events

Saturday, Sept. 11 — luncheon, Southern California Association of De Molay Mothers Circles, YWCA, 12 o'clock.

Monday, Sept. 13 — Orientation week, teachers in Torrance Unified School District.

Tuesday, Sept. 14 — Woman's Auxiliary of Torrance Memorial Hospital, Dr. Howard Wood, speaker on building plans, 12:30, Fish Shanty.

Friday, Sept. 17—Dance, Los Fiestadores, Portuguese Bend Club, 9:30.

Friday, Sept. 17—Clock dance, Los Fiestadores, Portuguese Bend Club, 9:30.

Saturday, Sept. 18—Dance, Sobada Club, Western Club, 9 p.m.

Monday, Sept. 26—School begins, Torrance High School, Torrance Elementary schools.

Thursday, Sept. 23.—Garden Party (including luncheon, fashion show and card party), Catholic Daughters, Court St., Catherine, 1010 Beech Ave., 12:30.

Thursday, Sept. 23 — Dolphins, coffee hour, home of Mrs. M. A. Bauman.

Saturday, Sept. 25 — Torrance High School Varsity football, first game, Chula Vista at Torrance.

Friday, Oct. 1—Torrance High School Varsity football, Lynnwood there.

Mother To Visit Hull Family

Visiting at the new home of her son and daughter-in-law, the journey were visits with her parents, the Rollo Shalkles, and Superintendent of Torrance Schools and Mrs. J. H. Hull of her brother and sister-in-law, Delbert Shalkles, in Keenesburg. The pair also visited his brother, Dr. Angus Hull Jr., at Pasadena. The Torrance couple returned recently from a two-week vacation and relatives in Denver.

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A 25th Anniversary Message

FROM EDWIN M. BLAKESLEE, PRESIDENT
GENERAL TELEPHONE COMPANY OF CALIFORNIA



and where it is wanted and in sufficient quantities.

Where else but in America could a company such as ours, born of many small companies—consolidate—grow steadily and soundly through the years? From 600 employees to 6,000; from 70,000 telephones to 600,000; from an investment under 10 million dollars to 180 million dollars is the story of General Telephone Company of California. This is our story but it is not an unusual one. Our progress report, no matter how gratifying it may be, could not have been possible but for one all important fact—the fact that the seed of free enterprise from which is grown the bountiful fruits for the customer, employee and the investor is so firmly implanted in our land.

As more people discover the advantages of living and working in this "Golden State," we shall be eager to provide them with our service. By the end of 1964, we believe that the territory now served will require more than one million telephones. This doubling in size in the next decade means larger payrolls to be spent in California and greater financial investment for the economic security of the communities we serve.

California has been good to the General Telephone Company of California. On behalf of the Company's stockholders, board of directors, officers and employees, it is with great pleasure on the occasion of our 25th Anniversary that I thank our customers for the privilege and opportunity of serving them. We are looking forward with great enthusiasm to our continuing responsibilities of helping build a greater and stronger community, state and nation.

Sincerely yours,

Edwin M. Blakeslee
EDWIN M. BLAKESLEE, President

General Telephone Company
of California



"we have learned to look ahead"

On September 1, 1954, General Telephone Company of California began its second quarter century of service to California homes, businesses and industries. For the past twenty-five years we have had the unusual opportunity of providing telephone service to one of the most interesting, progressive and challenging areas in the United States. We of General Telephones look at California as a land of opportunity—opportunity within the easy grasp of establishments capable of fulfilling a basic need for the many publics in its growing communities.

There is little virtue in serving long and faithfully—for twenty-five years—unless the experience gained from this serving can help us make future improvements of a substantial nature for our customers, employees and the investors in our business. We have learned many things during the past quarter century—many the hard way. We have learned the ways and means of weathering critical times when national economy reached levels where the utility business came within a whisper of suffering irreparable damage. We have learned how to cope with situations brought about by a nation in conflict when our services were stretched to the limit to meet military and civilian communication needs. We have learned that thousands of people waiting for telephone service wait patiently providing the company is employing every expedient to build and add the missing links to provide these much needed services.

We have learned to look ahead—far ahead—with long range instruments which assist us immeasurably in providing telephone service when

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BORROW

With the opening of its Lomita Branch this week, First Federal Savings brings its savings and home financing services closer to thousands of residents of the greater harbor area. When you are ready to save or finance your home, First Federal Savings can serve you as it has served thousands of investors and home owners in the past.

OPEN HOUSE, Fri., Sept. 17

You are invited to visit First Federal Savings on Friday, September 17th . . . to inspect our new offices and to meet our friendly, courteous staff.

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