

PILOT UNINJURED IN HIGHWAY LANDING

ESTABLISHED 1914

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Another Collision Kills One

A Torrance pilot set his airplane down on busy Pacific Coast Hwy. during the fog last night and walked away after his plane struck an auto, bumped across the raised dividing strip in the roadway and crashed into a roadside tree.

Finding the Torrance Municipal Airport fogged in when he arrived from Fresno about 6:30 last night was Robert L. Mason, of 25223 Weston Rd.

"I didn't have enough fuel to get me to an alternate field," Mason told investigating officers Eugene Erbetta and J. E. Davis.

"The highway was the only clear spot in the area," he explained.

Wing Hits Car

Mason set his light plane down in the westbound lane of the highway just east of Newton Ave. The left wing of the plane clipped the back of an auto driven by Roland L. Runbold of Long Beach, who was waiting in the left-turn lane at Newton Ave. After clipping the auto, the plane bounced across the highway into the path of oncoming eastbound traffic, and continued onto the side of the road where it ended up after crashing into a tree. The pilot climbed out and called for a tow rig.

The forced landing occurred near the spot where a spectacular crash claimed the life of an 18-year-old Long Beach student during the rain Wednesday night.

Out of Control

David Gale Holden, who was driving east on the highway near the airport entrance, was pronounced dead on arrival at Harbor General Hospital after his auto went out of control, spun around in the roadway, rolled over the curb, and crashed against a tree.

It took rescuers several minutes to free Holden from his vehicle following the crash. Impact of the auto slamming into the tree forced the trunk of the machine into the front seat. Officers Don Nash and Joe Miles reported.

No other vehicles were involved.

Horse Killed

In a less spectacular accident Thursday noon, a young rider, was thrown unhurt from her horse when it was struck by an auto near Carson and Flower Sts. The horse was seriously injured and had to be destroyed.

Driver Norris Ormand Patterson, 70, of 1607 Post Ave., told police that he was driving east on Carson St. when the horse slipped and turned directly in front of his slow-moving vehicle. The rider, 13-year-old Linda Huffman, of 20567 Amie was thrown to the pavement but was not injured. The impact did considerable damage to the front of the Patterson auto.

WEATHER

Increasing cloudiness with light rain tonight or early tomorrow is predicted. High today near 68, with little change in temperature and clearing skies tomorrow. High yesterday was 77, with low at 47. Torrance had 1.36 inches of rain last week.

El Nido Group to Discuss Annexation Tonight

Chest Chairman Awarded Trophy

Three Community Chest awards, including the Valentine trophy for top residential production, went to the Harbor Area, Torrance, and Rolling Hills last week, when campaign leaders and volunteers from five areas in the Associated Cities division checked in with their first fund raising reports.

Landlord Made Responsible for Old Water Bills

Persons who move into Torrance and then move on without settling accounts with the Water Department will no longer stick the city for their water bill, according to a resolution adopted last week by the City Council.

Drawn on the recommendation of Water Superintendent Angus McVicar, the resolution transfers responsibility for payment of water bills to the property owners and makes it become a lien against the property.

The measure became necessary, McVicar reports, because a number of persons have moved in, run up a three or four month water bill, and then moved on without paying. That will now be chargeable to the owner of the property.

Torrance is not pioneering the procedure, the water superintendent said. Los Angeles County and other municipalities have been using the plan for some time.

McDONALD SERVICES SET TODAY

Funeral services for Howard Ernest McDonald, 68, a resident of Torrance for 22 years, will be held today at 2 p.m. in Stone and Myers Chapel. He died Wednesday in the Queen of Angels Hospital.

Mr. McDonald retired from work with the Shell Oil Co. July 1933, after 25 years of service. A veteran of World War I, he was born in Woodstock, Ontario, Can.

He was a member of the Masonic Lodge No. 51, AF&AM, at Williston, N. D., and belonged to the Torrance chapter of the American Legion. He was active in Boy Scout and youth work. Since his retirement, he had been a student at El Camino College.

He is survived by his widow, Mary; a daughter, Marian; a son, William, all of Torrance; and his mother, Mrs. R. A. McDonald, of Long Beach. Burial will be in Green Hills Memorial Cemetery.



READY FOR DEBUT . . . The 1955 De Soto, powered by the new Firefly 200-horsepower V-8, will go on display here at Whittlesley Motors, 1600 Cabrillo Ave., Wednesday. Shown here is the Firefly Sportsman hardtop, all new in every detail. Buyers will be offered almost unlimited colors, fabric, and trim combinations.



IN HIGHWAY CRASH . . . Pilot Robert L. Mason of Weston Hills was doing a good job of landing his light plane on Pacific Coast Hwy. last night until a wing tip snagged the rear of an automobile waiting to make a left turn onto Newton Ave. No one was injured. The airport landing strip, only a few hundred yards away, was invisible in the fog.

Fewer Kids Expected on Double Session in 1955

The number of students on double session in Torrance should be considerably less—possibly two-thirds—next year, Dr. J. H. Hull told the HERALD today.

He previously estimated that next year's school population would be about 16,700, compared with 11,800 this year.

Expected completion of North Torrance High School will take some 2000 high school students off double session, and a new grade school facilities will mean single sessions for about 2800 of 4200 elementary students now on double sessions, he explained.

He announced this week that 20 additional classrooms at Crenshaw School should be ready for use by February as will 12 classrooms at the new Hillside School, on Crenshaw Blvd., south of Pacific Coast Hwy.

Two Schools to Open Scheduled for completion by next September are Steele School in North Torrance, and Pacific School in Southeast Torrance. Plans for these facilities are now being checked by the state.

Twenty portable classrooms, of which six each will be located at North Torrance Elementary School and Ferry School, and eight at Seaside School, are expected to relieve crowded conditions at those schools, Hull said.

If these classrooms prove satisfactory, more portable classrooms may be built at other schools to accommodate more students, he said.

Fewer on Double Session With these new facilities for classes, some classes at three

or four schools will have to remain on double session, he said. The uncertainties of the number of children who will come from tracts now under construction make it hard to make an accurate estimate, Hull pointed out.

At the present time, the school board is making plans for five additional grade schools, in areas which are rapidly building. The board is considering plans for a South Torrance High School, to be located on Pacific Coast Hwy. in Walteria.

Five incumbents and three newcomers have been nominated for membership on the Torrance Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, Secretary Dale Isenberg said today.

The four men to be named to the board will be elected by ballot, with all ballots due back at the Chamber office before Nov. 25.

Nominated were: Henry W. Greger, incumbent, manager of the American Radiator and Standard Sanitary Corp.

Jack Dabbs, of the M and M Theatres Corp.
Dr. Gerald M. Eastham, M.D., incumbent, ear, eye, nose, and throat specialist.
Bob L. Haggard, incumbent, owner of Bob Haggard's Real Estate.

Paul D. Loranger, incumbent, owner and manager of Paul's Chevrolet.
Fay Parks, incumbent, owner and manager of Torrance Plumbing.
Abe Robinson, owner and manager of Lawson's Jewelry.
King Williams, publisher of the TORRANCE HERALD.

Besides the four men elected, the board itself will name a fifth member.

Better Schools Sought in Move

Two hot topics of discussion will come up at the El Nido Civic Assn. meeting tonight—the area's proposed annexation to Torrance and mail service in the area.

Members of the El Nido annexation committee have been conferring with City Attorney James Hall and Planning Commission Secretary George Powell during the last week, in an effort to find out what would be involved.

Residents of the area, bounded by Hawthorne Ave., 182nd St., and the Santa Fe right-of-way, indicated several weeks ago that they would like to annex to Torrance in order to insure better schools for their children. Adjoining territory in the Torrance Unified School District was recently annexed to Redondo Beach.

Commission Meet Planned Reports on progress will be given at the meeting. Members of the annexation committee will meet with Planning Commission Chairman Beverly Smith Tuesday, and will discuss the matter with the Planning Commission Wednesday night.

If the Planning Commission and the City Council approve the request, then residents of the area must vote a formal request for annexation. Proponents estimate that the procedure, if successful, would take six to nine months.

Annexation, Hall said, would not affect the status of a water company which serves the 300 residents in the territory. No Land Since 1931 Torrance has not annexed any land since 1931.

A representative of the Redondo Beach Post Office will appear at the meeting in an attempt to straighten out the mail situation protested by residents.

Irate citizens have complained that their mail was being mis-sent, and that mail is too frequently delivered to the wrong person.

Kiwians to Hear Talk on Indian Trip

Bob Jaffe, of the Ford Foundation, will tell the Kiwanis Club about his annual trips to India with 12 college students on good-will tours at their meeting tonight at 6:30 in American Legion Hall.

The Optimists will see a film, "The Natural Resources of Oregon," presented by member Clyde Anderson at their meeting tonight at 7 o'clock in the Ding How Cafe.

District Gov. Charles Roberts will pay an official visit to the Torrance Lions Club tomorrow noon as they meet in American Legion Hall.

Wednesday night will be Ladies' Night at the Elks dinner meeting at 6:30 in Alan Richards Hall. After the regular meeting, there will be entertainment, and a door prize for the ladies. Persons who want to enter the lodge before the charter is granted are still welcome, although the lodge has received enough members for the charter.

Anyone interested in siding with the Elks' Christmas charity program should call F. H. Fahnestock, FR 5-2640.

The Civitan Club will see an informative film at their meeting Thursday night at 7 in the Ding How Cafe. At their last meeting they were visited by Dr. Courtney Shropshire, of Pacific Palisades, founder of Civitan. Rotarians will hear Wallace J. Hoars, who will be new office manager of the Torrance Bethlehem Steel plant here, at their meeting Thursday in the Woman's Club at 6:30.



GARY GRAFFMAN . . . Opens Concert Series

New Concert Series Opens Here Tonight

Pianist Gary Graffman will open a new concert series here this evening when he appears with the Torrance Area Youth Band in the Civic Auditorium under the direction of James Van Dyck.

Graffman, who earned "rave" reviews when he made his debut in Los Angeles last Thursday evening, will present Mozart's Sonata in F Major, Chopin's Sonata in B-flat Major, and Rachmaninoff's "Elegy."

Tonight's concert will be the first of four to be presented this winter by the Torrance Area Youth Band. Also scheduled for appearances here are Violinist Camilla Wickes and Soprano Leontyne Price, both internationally-famous artists.

Admission to the concerts will be limited to season ticket holders. Band President W. E. Bowen and District President M. E. Bowen has announced.

Funeral services were held this morning at the Allen-Reed Mortuary, in East Los Angeles.

He is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis E. Cogar; his aunt; and a younger brother.

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Crippled Man Accidentally Dies in Tub

A 21-year-old Dominguez area man apparently died of drowning in a bathtub following a seizure, while visiting his aunt in Lomita, sheriff's deputies said Thursday.

Lewis Dwight Cogar, of 1846 E. 180th St., was found by his aunt, Mrs. Fay J. Denmark, of 118 Harbor Hills, Lomita, after she noticed water from the bathroom running down the stairs. His head was under water.

She said that he suffered occasional convulsions as the result of a head wound received as a child. His right arm was paralyzed, she said, and his right leg partially crippled.

He was pronounced dead by Dr. D. L. Brown, of Hillside Memorial Hospital, at 4 p.m. Thursday. His aunt said he was to have undergone an operation soon to correct the condition.

A native of El Monte, Cogar had been visiting his aunt for about a week.

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City 3rd in Building Race

Building activity in Torrance, about 60 per cent greater than last year, has catapulted into third place among Southern California cities for 1954, led only by Los Angeles and San Diego.

Figures released today indicate that Torrance is about \$1,041,593 ahead of Long Beach for the first ten months of the year. Torrance had \$36,694,458 in building permits, while Long Beach had \$35,654,865.

At the same time last year, Torrance had \$24,359,308, while Long Beach had \$44,516,515.



(Herald Photo) FIVE FINALISTS . . . Finalists in the search for Torrance High School Homecoming Queen have been announced, as these five lovelies. Left to right are Barbara Whitley, Frances Frisina, Vicki Hagan, Connie Ericson, and Mizzi Trivette. Selection of the queen will be announced Friday during homecoming activities.