

# ESTIMATED 65,000 HERE FOR GALA CIVIC CENTER DEDICATION AFFAIR

The Only Paper Blanketing All Sections of Torrance plus Lomita, Harbor City and Adjacent City and County Areas

## Torrance Herald

Sunday

AND

Thursday

News & Adv. FA 8-4000

OFFICE AND PLANT AT 1619 GRAMERCY AVE., TORRANCE

Circulation FA 8-4004

12th Year—No. 66

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, AUGUST 16, 1956

10¢ Per Copy

36 PAGES

## Ask Hospital Bonds



**FIREHOUSE CELEBRATION** . . . Capt. Milton Langum, who completed his probation period in that rank last week, was surprised at lunch Friday with a huge cake, a replica of the central fire station at Carson St. and Crenshaw. The cake was baked and sent up to the firemen's dining room by Mrs. Langum.

### Local Couple, Companions Flee Ship On Treasure Hunting Trip

Accounts of explosions, major disasters, and other accounts of the missing skin-divers were ended Tuesday afternoon when Mr. and Mrs. Mel Fisher, 117 Via Pasqual, and others from the cabin cruiser Jade Sea swam ashore at Point Conception, north of Santa Barbara.

According to Fisher the excitement all started when the Jade Sea's radio conked out Monday evening while Norman Reams, owner of the vessel, was talking to his wife. Mrs. Reams notified Coast Guard officials who dispatched a patrol boat to the supposed location of the yacht, off San Miguel Island.

The Coast Guard failed to find any trace of the yacht, as heavy seas forced the 42 foot cruiser to head away from shore. From that time, until the group landed at Point Conception, the party's whereabouts was a mystery.

Fisher stated that he and his wife, accompanied by Pat and Jackie McConky swam ashore near Point Conception light

house, where the rest of the party was brought back to shore. From there the group motored south to Torrance, the Jade Sea temporarily left behind.

The Fishers, McConkys, Reams, and Harry Wham had gone to San Miguel in an effort to substantiate rumors concerning the location of a Spanish galleon sunk 200 years ago five miles north of the island. When asked what had been found, Fisher stated, "It's a big secret."

### Police Hot On Trail Of Tickets To Annual Show

In the excitement of moving to their new station, local police might have overlooked an item or two, but there's one thing they want all Torrance residents to know they are still hot on.

It's the ticket sales to the annual Torrance Police Show, set Aug. 24 in the Hollywood Palladium. A spokesman for the department said tickets were going like hotcakes, but that returns from local residents were lagging. Since all proceeds go for youth activities in the city, police urge all those who have tickets and haven't sent back their remittance to do so.

Tickets are \$3 apiece for the show, which features Jerry Gray and "His Band of Today," and other top attractions.

### Man Whose Car Hit Newsboys To Face Court

One boy still is in Harbor General Hospital with critical injuries as a result of Saturday's wild auto crash in Lomita when a car smashed into five newsboys standing in front of a liquor store at 2022 Pacific Coast Highway.

Eleven-year-old Henry Hudgins of 25205 Cypress Ave., Lomita, was said to be in critical condition, but better, by a hospital spokesman Tuesday. He was most seriously hurt of the quintet of newsboys, who had just finished their routes for a Los Angeles newspaper.

**Driver Faces Court**  
Calvin Baker, 22, of 1807 E. 106th St., Los Angeles, was the driver of the car which struck the boys around 7 a.m. Authorities said Baker's car failed to make a turn into a parking lot at the location, sped down the sidewalk and bowled over the boys and bashed in the front of the store. Baker was later booked at Lennox Sheriff's Station and sent to County Jail on felony drunk driving.

He faces arraignment tomorrow at 9 a.m. in South Bay Municipal Court on the count. He now is free on a writ of habeas corpus, authorities said.

**Others Hurt**  
Other boys who were hurt in the crash are Duffy McVay, 13, of 25338 Cypress; Eugene Gimenez, 15, 2032 W. 263rd St.; Jack Curtis, 13, of 25334 Cypress; and James Hunter, 13, of 26320 Fairview.

### Plaza Del Amo Trees Stay Put, Council Votes

Those trees will stay put on Plaza Del Amo.

City council members turned a routine meeting into a spirited verbal battle over the alleged nuisance of towering eucalyptus trees on the street at their first meeting in the new city hall's council chambers Tuesday evening.

For a short time councilmen bounced the subject around before a proposal to have the trees removed was defeated, 3-2. Mayor Al Isen cast the clincher, with Councilmen Nick Drake and Willys Blount for and Councilmen Vic Benstead and Bob Jahn against.

Led by Mrs. Cora B. Bohrer, of 2227 Plaza Del Amo, residents of the Plaza Del Amo sector had originally asked the council to cut the trees down two meetings ago. They claimed the trees were too thick, that their leaves caused a mess in that area and that school children were deprived of a sidewalk because of the presence of the trees. The council tabled the proposal twice.

Tuesday Drake accused the area of being a "lovers' lane." Benstead and Jahn quickly carried the fight for the tree lovers.

Jahn moved to top the trees and clean up the mess after the original proposal was vetoed. It passed unanimously.

In other actions the group tentatively okayed use of the old recreation office by the local Red Cross chapter for office space; moved to ask for bids for demolition of the old fire station on Cravens Ave.; gave a 15-day okay to Rev. Rollan Morgan to erect a tent at the Foursquare Gospel Church for evangelistic services.

### Issue May Be Decided At Election

County Manager Arthur J. Will Monday announced he will recommend to the Board of Supervisors placement on the Nov. 6 ballot a bond issue totalling more than \$15 million for replacing existing facilities at Harbor General Hospital.

The suggested bond issue is one of a number of proposals being studied by Supervisors for the November balloting. The main item of the estimated \$15,400,000 bond will be used to replace facilities with 700 beds.

**Special Report**  
In his special report to the Board of Supervisors, Will indicated that the local facility was considered only a temporary hospital when constructed by the federal government in 1942. At that time, the hospital was constructed for military use. It was turned over to the County following World War II.

Will pointed out that the wooden-type structure, with interconnecting corridors, is not up to modern hospital standards. He continued by adding that the wide-spread operation of the hospital causes extra expense. The institution is spread over 80 separate buildings, he stated.

**Action Scheduled**  
Harbor General has taken over a key spot in County health plans and is one of the top County hospitals in number of patients handled, another official said. But the growing pace of patient intake has long been by-passed by the old buildings.

The county manager continued his report by calling the hospital "inflexible." Action on the proposed bond issue is expected at a later date.



**GUARD CITATION** . . . Mayor Albert Isen smiles his appreciation on receiving this silver bowl from Maj. Gen. Homer O. Eaton, Jr., at Saturday's Civic Center dedication. Gen. Eaton presented bowl for Torrance's Company E, 132nd Engineer Bn., which gave heavily engraved plaque to city. Isen also received, a special citation for the city from Gen. Eaton, who commands the Southland's 40th Division of the California National Guard. Presentation of gifts was high point in the ceremonies.

### City Calms Down After Dedication

City employees at the new Civic Center settled down this week to the grind again after shaking paws with Mr. and Mrs. Torrance and a whole gang of outsiders who trekked to this area last week end for the dedication of the new city hall and police station, at Torrance Blvd. and Maple Ave.

Nearly 65,000 persons jammed the town for the Saturday parade, rodeo, official dedication ceremonies, aquacade and dance, and repeats of the rodeo and aquacade the next day. All the time the brand new police station and city hall were both open for visitors to inspect.

City officials estimated some 3000 persons signed the guest book at city hall during the two-day fete. Thousands of others sifted through without taking time to sign the book.

**Capacity Crowds**  
Lt. D. C. Cook said the rodeo romped to capacity crowds both Saturday and Sunday afternoons. It was the second annual Torrance RCA rodeo and featured the tops in 'cow-

### Long Beach Float Wins Parade Nod

Lt. D. C. Cook, chairman of the parade committee for last week end's Civic Center dedication, announced yesterday winners in various divisions of the parade.

Top award, for the best float, went to the City of Long Beach's entry. The parade was watched by thousands as it wound down Torrance Blvd. Saturday to the new center.

Pacific Hills' Homeowners Assn. took first in the club entries. The Torrance Business and Professional Women's Club was second, Beau Jardin Garden Club, third.

In the various units the following were winners in their classes: Clyde and Dee Goehring, Spanish pairs; Compton Riders, mounted groups; Harold and Thelma Essenberg, Western pairs; Bill Naprstek, fiesta class; Harold Dakon, best dressed Western man; John Dukin, silver single man; Jean Garcia, best dressed Western woman; Art Fiese, best parade horse; Rocky Aguilar and Frances Miller, Mexican class.

Karen Boyd, Indian class; Jean Kellett, all junior equestrian; Evelyn Nedwed, Spanish lady; Katherine Shubert, silver single lady.

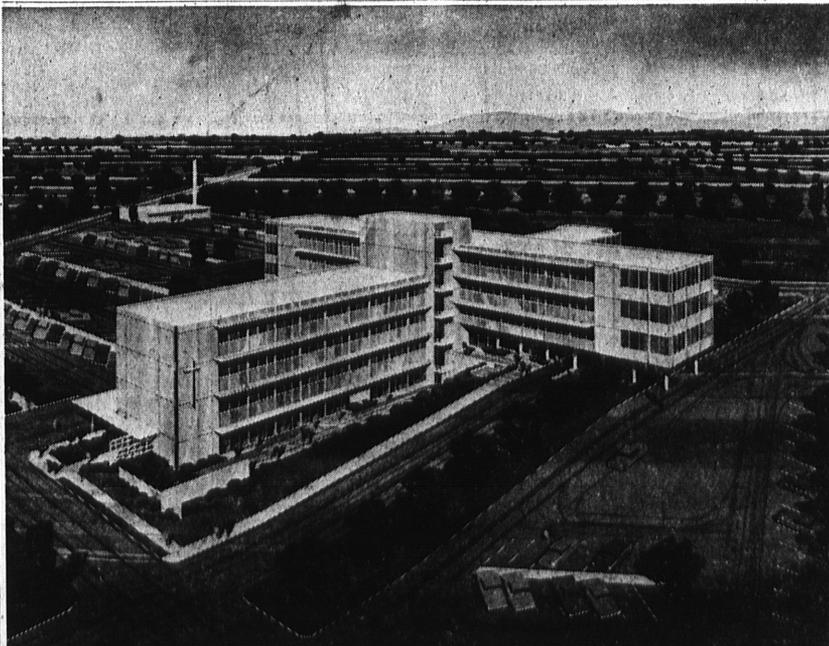
### Trial Delay For Youths

The trial of five youths charged with the rape of a 14-year-old Lomita girl on May 25 has been held over until Sept. 7 in Long Beach Superior Court, juvenile authorities have reported.

The five originally were scheduled to go on trial Tuesday.

Charged with forcible rape are Joseph L. Fernandez, 18, of 1812 Marshallfield Lane, Redondo; John Gomez, 18, of 23636 Pennsylvania Ave.; Jesus Grande, 20, of 2276 W. 203rd St.; Philip Perez, 18, of 2580 W. 235th St.; and Tomas Soto, 18, of 2562 W. 235th St.

They are accused of picking up the girl and taking her to the Standard Oil Lease at Lomita Blvd. and Crenshaw Blvd. The girl told authorities she was held for three hours and repeatedly attacked by the five and by about eight other boys. The others are juveniles and have been dealt with by juvenile authorities.



**CATHOLIC HOSPITAL** . . . Construction is slated to begin next year on this four-story, 125-bed facility which will go up at Torrance Blvd. and Earl St. A general hospital, the structure will contain surgical, medical, emergency and

obstetrical facilities. The Little Company of Mary, community of nursing sisters, will operate the hospital. Future plans include construction of a convent, chapel and other buildings.

### News Index

Church	14, 15
Editorials	20
Home & Garden	29
Society	9-13
Sports	24, 25
Want Ads	31-35