

City May Settle on 15 Acres for Civic Center Park

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2800 AREA STUDENTS GRADUATE

City Vote Necessary For Funds

Negotiations to acquire 15 acres adjacent to the civic center in exchange for dropping a condemnation suit on about 50 acres of Santa Fe Railway land was authorized Tuesday night by the council.

The action of the council followed informal meetings between city officials and Santa Fe representatives recently at which time the offer of the negotiation was discussed.

Mayor Isen, initiated the move for the negotiations saying he had considered 21 acres adequate, but was willing to settle for 18 acres. Bob Jahn's substitute motion to reduce the figure to 15 acres was adopted.

To Discuss Price

In the agreement reached with Santa Fe, from whom the city acquired the present, 27-acre civic center, the city and the railway company would negotiate for a price and would let the matter go to court if an agreement on the price failed within a year.

Paying for the extra property will probably be put up to the voters in a special bond issue election later this year, it was indicated.

Opposition Strong

Opposition to the council's action in condemning the 50-acre site north of the civic center had apparently forced the Isen-Benstead-Jahn majority on the council to reconsider their action in seeking the entire property.

Councilmen Nick Drale and Willis G. Blount had opposed the condemnation action. Blount reiterated some of his objections this week when he pointed out that only 10 percent of the present civic center site is occupied.

Following agreement to seek settlement on the basis of 15 additional acres, the council unanimously adopted a motion on policy that it was the city's intent that the area was to be used for parks and recreation purposes.

This would include such and other cultural facilities, it uses as a library, auditorium, was explained.

Current market values of industrial land would make the 15 acres worth approximately \$300,000 today.

Final Rites for Crash Victim Held at Chapel

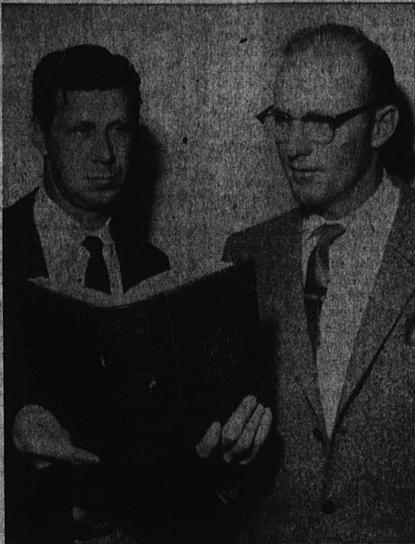
Funeral services were conducted yesterday morning for Mrs. Vivian Mae Johnson, 52, of 2075 Torrancia Blvd., who was killed in an automobile accident Sunday morning.

Also injured in the accident was Wilma Boyd of the same address, who police said was the driver of the car. Miss Boyd was reported in "good" condition yesterday at Harbor General Hospital.

Officers said Miss Boyd told them she fell asleep at the wheel and the car crashed into a utility pole in Wilmington.

Services for Mrs. Johnson were at Halverson-Leavell Mortuary Chapel with interment in Roosevelt Memorial Park.

Mrs. Johnson, who had resided in Torrance for nine months, is survived by two sons, Robert Johnson of the home address and John Johnson, 1737 W. Compton Blvd., Gardena; a daughter, Mrs. Shirley Ann De Wolfe, also of the Torrancia address; and two grandchildren.



RARE FIND . . . Y's Men's Club President Paul Burpham, (left) and Dick Brown, book sales chairman, look over copy of "The Museum of Antiquity," published in 1880 and catalogued now at about \$35 a copy. The book is among the hundreds which the YMCA has collected for its giant book sale this week end. Books will be sold for \$1 and 25 cents at the YMCA building, Plaza Del Amo and Arlington, tomorrow and Saturday.

City's Opposition to Lakewood Plan Made Official by Council

THS GRADS' ALL-NIGHT PARTY SET

Torrance High School graduation festivities will begin with the awarding of sheepskins on the school athletic field tonight at 8 and continue until 4 tomorrow morning.

Immediately following graduation, seniors and their guests will gather at the Pacific Coast Club, at 850 E. Ocean Blvd., in Long Beach, for their after-graduation all night and farewell party.

The evening will be crowded with entertainment including dinner to be served upon arrival followed by dancing, swimming, games, movies and then will set down for an early morning breakfast and bid adieu to their classmates. The High School PTA after graduation party committee headed by Mrs. John Hinds, thanked citizens for the checks received to date from Torrancia organizations who were most generous in their support, and to the senior class and their parents.

This all-night party immediately following graduation exercises has become one of the traditions of Torrancia.

Henry Montoya Takes Helm Of DAV for Second Time

Henry Montoya, a former prisoner of war in the South Pacific, was installed as commander of the South Bay Chapter No. 92 of the disabled American Veterans here Saturday night, June 1. Montoya was a past commander of the chapter, having served the 1951-52 term.

Installed to serve with the new commander were Earle Sumpter, senior vice commander; Tim Romero, junior vice commander; Jack Tinning, chaplain; Charles Portnoy (retiring commander), adjutant and treasurer; and William Tasker, sergeant of arms. Melvin Sparks and Clarence Keifer were installed as members of the executive committee.

Heading up the Auxiliary, and installed at the same time, is Ardath Montoya. Serving with her are Margaret Weber, senior vice commander; Bernice Niles, junior vice commander; Edna Caldwell, adjutant and treasurer; and Bertha Dury, chaplain.

Installation ceremonies were held at the Inglewood Veterans Memorial Building, Past National Commander Olsen was installing officer for all chapters in the 17th District, which includes Torrancia's chapter.

Firm Discloses Plan to Develop Airport Lease

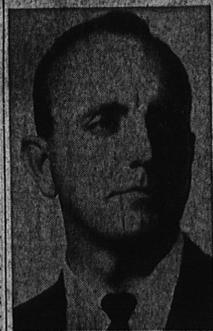
Development of the 36-acre property known as the Airport Triangle at Crenshaw Blvd. and Pacific Coast Twy. appeared certain again this week as officers of Jefferson, Inc., of Los Angeles disclosed that they had purchased the interest of Store Properties, Ins. in the 50-year lease from the city.

Appearing before the Council Tuesday night were Albert Levitt, president of the firm, and Jim Bower, who stated that they intended to have "doors swinging open" nine months from today.

Levitt told the HERALD later that his firm planned to follow the general plan developed by Store Properties before the death of its president last year.

Former City Attorney James Hall appeared before the council with a proposed lease amendment which would update the original lease to the present time to make it's value to finance officers more useful.

Proposals to develop the property east of the city's airport have been stalemated because the banks handling the estate of the late Sam Genis of Store Properties could not enter leases longer than 10 years.



ROBERT L. GOLD . . . Breakfast Speaker

Gold to Discuss Park Report at Chamber Meet

Robert Gold, principal associate, in charge of the Southern California office of Louis J. Kroeger and Associates, will be the guest speaker at the regular monthly membership breakfast of the Torrancia Chamber of Commerce next Tuesday, according to Co-Chairmen Milton Hunter and Jack Phillips.

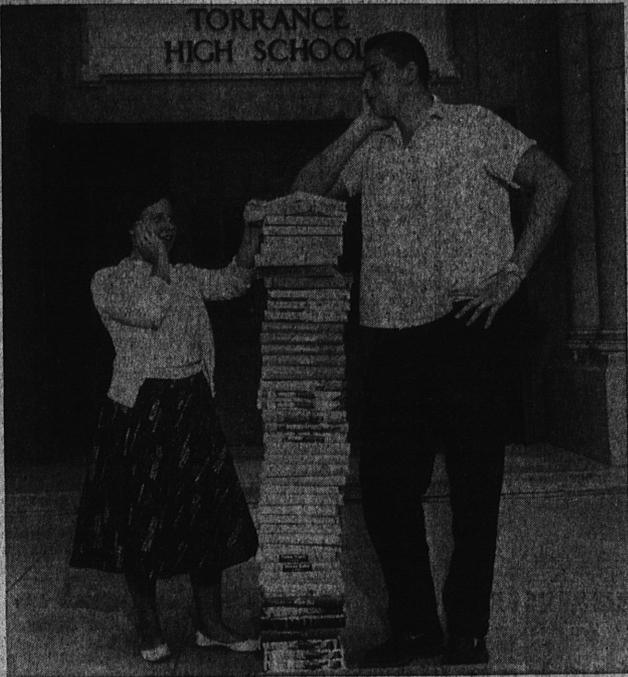
Gold will report on the park and recreational survey made by his firm for the city of Torrancia. Since the report has been under attack from some official sources it is anticipated a large turnout will be present to hear Gold's talk. There will be a question and answer period following, Chamber officials said.

Gold, formerly an instructor at Harvard and now teaching at Los Angeles State College, received his education at the University of California and Harvard University.

He has held a number of important positions in his 15 years public personnel and management experience, including staff work for Los Angeles and Placer County.

The meeting will start at 7:30 a.m. and reservations may be secured by calling the Torrancia Chamber of Commerce, FA 8-2814.

The meeting will be held at the Inglewood Veterans Memorial Building, Past National Commander Olsen was installing officer for all chapters in the 17th District, which includes Torrancia's chapter.



ROOM FOR GROWTH . . . "When you digest all the knowledge that's in these books, you may be as big as I am," Rick Haase, Torrancia High graduate, tells Linda Kidner, Torrancia Elementary School graduate. Rick is leaving THS in graduation ceremonies tonight, while Linda will enter for the first time next fall. Linda, who is four feet, seven inches tall, isn't sure that learning all the material in those high school books will ever make her six foot, five, like Rick, however.

Local Graduations Tonight

This is graduation week for some 1600 students in Torrancia schools, while graduates in schools in the Los Angeles school system will get 1140 sheepskins next week.

Students at Torrancia and North High Schools will get their diplomas tonight. Some 300 seniors will participate in ceremonies in the THS Stadium tonight at 8 p.m., while about 150 seniors will graduate in North High ceremonies, to be held in the gymnasium at the same time tonight. Afterward, the seniors at both schools will adjourn for all-night parties.

Narbonne Junior High ceremonies will be held next Wednesday, with 521 students slated to get diplomas. The 2 p.m. ceremonies will be held on the athletic field.

A total of 1201 eighth graders will graduate from Torrancia schools.

Merchants Will Give Away Free Trip to Hawaii

Tickets will be available starting June 16 for an all-expense trip for two to Hawaii, according to J. H. Paget, president of the downtown Torrancia Retail Merchants Assn.

They may be obtained from any member of the association, he said, with a drawing to be held on Monday, July 1, at the Chamber of Commerce.

The trip includes travel on Transocean Airlines four engine skyliner, a stay of eight days and seven nights, with lodging at the Reef or Edgewater Hotels at Waikiki Beach. The winner will receive transportation to the airport and back, a tour of Mt. Tantalus, lunch at the Waioli Tearoom, a luau at the Queen's Surf, a tour of a pineapple factory, outrigger canoe ride, visit to Eastman Kodak Hawaii show, and aloha dinner at the International Sky Room.

No purchase will be necessary to be eligible for the trip, and the winner's presence at the drawing will not be necessary.

A map of Hawaii is studied by J. M. Paget, president of the Downtown Torrancia Retail Merchants, and Dick Fitzgerald, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce. A free trip to Hawaii for two will be given away by the Retail Merchants in a drawing to be held on July 1. Tickets for the trip may be obtained at the store of any member of the association.

Lad Seeks Owner of Monkey

Pet Sought for Test For Possible Rabies

Unless the monkey that bit him is found, five-year-old Larry Weeks faces the painful Pasteur treatment for rabies.

Torrancia police yesterday began a thorough search of the neighborhood around the Weeks home at 5106 Carson St. in an effort to locate the animal.

The youngster told officers the monkey was a large brown one wearing a silver leash.

The boy was taken to Harbor Medical Center at Redondo Beach for treatment of the scratch on his right arm Monday.

All known owners of monkeys are being checked by police.

Anyone having further information regarding the animal is requested to phone the Health Department, Torrancia police or the boy's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Weeks, 5106 Carson St.

City Dad Seeks Man Searching For New Plunge

A request for \$218.40 for an identifying sign on the city's new swimming pool because "people have had difficulty in locating the plunge" brought a snicker to the council proceedings for a few moments here Tuesday.

Councilman Willis G. Blount stated he didn't know of anything on the civic center site that looked like a plunge except the plunge.

"It would certainly like to meet the guy who couldn't recognize the pool," he quipped.

The Council voted to approve the sign request "if and when" City Manager George Stevens could find the money.

Stevens didn't offer much hope on the matter when asked about funds.



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