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IN THE GREATER TORRANCE AREA

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Torrance Herald

OFFICE AND PLANT AT 1619 GRAMERCY AVE., TORRANCE

IN THE HERALD TODAY

Ann. Leaders..... 6	Reynolds Knight 6
Comics..... 8	Society..... 9-12
Crossword..... 13	Sports..... 4
Editorials..... 6	Star Gazer..... 6
Obituaries..... 2	Want Ads..... 13-15

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RAID NETS \$5000 IN NARCOTICS

Fifth Victim Of Collision Dies

The traffic accident July 10, which claimed the lives of three children and one teenager — added a fifth victim to the list.

Driver of one of the cars — father of one of the youngsters killed — died Friday in Gardena Community Hospital.

Howard Oscar Smith, 42, of 22709 Nicole St., suffered a fractured pelvis, fractured right arm, and internal injuries. He had been in shock for eight days.

Others Killed

Others killed in the tragic accident included Smith's daughter, Jeanette, 9 years old; Pamela and Vicki Raekham, and Corrine Smith, 17, who was a passenger in the other car.

The three youngsters were in Smith's car when the accident occurred at 223rd St. and Vermont Ave.

Ironically, Smith was employed as a bus driver. He also operated a steam bath business.

Rites Tomorrow

Services will be conducted tomorrow, 1 p.m. at Halverson-Leavell Mortuary Chapel by the Rev. Charles Little. Services follow by one week, the final rites for his daughter, Jeanette. Interment will be in Roosevelt Cemetery, beside his daughter.

Survivors include his wife, Frances; a son, Tom; a brother, Arthur of Hawthorne; and a sister, Mrs. Virginia Ballentine.

Building Permits Up Again During First Half of July

The city's building totals zoomed back to normal during the first half of July, with \$963,303 in permits issued. June building totals were the slowest since December, 1951.

Biggest permits issued were for 23 homes valued at about \$350,000 to be located in the 3800 and 3900 blocks on 176th St. Permits were taken out by the Jan Investment Co., which also took out permits for four triplexes at 3802-20 W. 174th St., valued at \$110,000.

Permits also were taken out for an eight-unit apartment at 212 Palos Verdes Blvd. worth \$52,000.

A. E. Huggins took out a permit for a \$20,250 warehouse at 1762 W. Carson St.

Popular Comics, Crossword Start in Herald Today

Superman, Rivets, Red Ryder, Virgil — some of America's top comic strips begin new careers today in the HERALD.

Add to these a good crossword puzzle and a guide to what the stars hold for you, and you have the key to the extra dividends you receive each Sunday and Thursday in your TORRANCE HERALD.

You can start right in on the comics by turning to page 8 in today's HERALD. And by following the series each Thursday and Sunday, you won't miss a single episode.

For your crossword puzzle today, turn to page 13. To see what the stars hold for you, turn now to the editorial page, page 6.

Make these popular HERALD comics a twice-a-week habit — it's a HERALD dividend.

Burglars Get \$2300 Worth Of Valuables

Nearly \$2300 worth of valuables were taken from her home while she was out of town, Marie Phyllis Anderson, 25110 Pennsylvania Ave., told sheriff's deputies Thursday.

Missing, she said, were a platinum mink stole worth \$1000; costume jewelry worth \$250; diamond engagement ring worth \$800; diamond dinner ring worth \$300; transistor radio worth \$60; and phonograph valued at \$80.

The burglars apparently gained entrance to the house through a rear window and ransacked the bedrooms of the house for valuables.



(Herald Photo)

TO FACE CHARGES... Thomas J. Britt, 20, will face charges of narcotics possession in South Bay Municipal Court tomorrow, after some \$5000 worth of dope was found at this home and that of Robert Lemaster. Previously arrested on burglary charges, Britt hurled abusive language at newsmen at the police station.



(Herald Photo)

CHIEF AND DOPE SUSPECT... Police Chief Percy Bennett escorts Robert Lemaster, 20, into his office for questioning in connection with the \$5000 dope cache found in his home and that of Thomas J. Britt. Lemaster will face charges of narcotics possession in South Bay Municipal Court tomorrow.

Lomitan Shows Holy Hat, But Not Holy Head

A Lomita man's report that some men in a black sedan fired a shot at him near 247th and Moon Ave. while he was walking home Thursday has sheriff's deputies puzzled.

George Henry Hoffman, 70, 2342 W. 247th St., told deputies that a group of men in a passing car put a hole through his hat with the shot, and displayed the hole in his hat to prove it. What deputies can't figure out is why the bullet didn't go through Hoffman's head, since the hole in the hat is in the center of the hat. Hoffman also unveiled his head. Sure enough, no hole.

Anti-Smog Exhausts on Cars Urged

Detroit automobile manufacturers today were urged by County Supervisor Kenneth Hahn to speed up their efforts on air pollution control so that their 1958 production cars would be equipped with a good anti-smog device.

Hahn called on the auto manufacturers not to "unnecessarily drag or delay development of this badly needed device to eliminate air pollution from the automobile."

"The health and welfare of the nearly 6,000,000 people in Los Angeles County makes it imperative that a solution to the problem of the automobile exhaust be attained at the earliest possible date," he declared.

Ryan Named District Chaplain for Legion

C. J. "Paddy" Ryan, now serving his ninth term as chaplain of the Bert S. Crossland Post of the American Legion and completing a term as chaplain of the Los Angeles County Council American Legion, has been named chaplain for the Fourth Area, Department of California American Legion.

Announcement of Ryan's appointment as chaplain for the large area of California Legionnaires was made yesterday by Commander J. Vincent Walker of the Fourth Area.

Residents, Firm Exchange Claims at Hotel Hearing

Fireworks continued as the Planning Commission held a second hearing on the proposed rezoning of property originally billed as a "resort-type" hotel along Torrance Beach Wednesday night.

Residents presented a new petition opposing the Don-Ja-Ran Corp.'s new plans to put a motel on the location, while the firm presented documents claiming that residents signed

letters that they knew that the development could be either for hotel or apartment purposes. Planners are holding hearing on rezoning the property to single-family residence use.

Suit Threatened
The Don-Ja-Ran representative, Frank Stern, indicated that the firm was considering suit against a resident, Sol Mann, for statements he made

at the last Planning Commission meeting about them. The firm also offered to buy back, at purchase price, the homes of any residents who feel the motel would hurt their homes. "If the city wants the property, they should condemn it," Stern declared.

Zoning Cited
He claimed that the property had never been zoned for single-family residences, and that his firm would lose considerable money if they were unable to build multiple units on the property. He also introduced letters claiming that the proposed development would be no detriment to homes surrounding it.

E. Perry, 634 Camino de Encanto, presented a petition with signatures of 33 nearby
(Continued on Page Three)

Planners Consider Many Ordinances

Ordinances governing trailers, fences, off-street parking, apartment houses, and south Torrance home development, came under study at the Torrance Planning Commission meeting Wednesday night.

Planners indicated approval of an ordinance regulating fences, walls, and hedges. The ordinance provides for six-foot barriers in back yards and 36-inch high protection in front yards.

Favorable attention was given to a land use ordinance which would provide that no more than 50 per cent of business property could be used for buildings, to insure adequate parking facilities.

Approval also was indicated for changes in waiver procedure.

Planners studied a new trailer ordinance, which would prevent parking of trailers on front setbacks for more than 48 hours and on the side setbacks of corner lots.

Also under study was an

amendment to the zoning ordinance by which notices would be posted in the neighborhood of a proposed zone or variance request, instead of the present method of notifying my mail all residents within 300 feet.

Lot Splits Eyed
The first hearing on lot splits in the south Torrance oil fields, between Sepulveda and the south city boundary and between Crenshaw and Walnut St. will be held Aug. 7. The city is considering the split and street layouts for possible future home building.

Commissioner Dave Figueroa questioned the possibility of setting up a gas station ordinance to limit the number of stations in the Torrance area. He cited a new ordinance of the city of Monte Vista as a model, but City Attorney Stanley Remelmeier questioned its legality.

Planners agreed to study a proposal that special permits be required for gas stations, similar to those now issued for trailer courts.



(Herald Photo)

IN QUEEN RACE... Sixteen of the 17 entrants in the "Miss Torrance" beauty pageant which will be judged Saturday night are shown here as they posed for photographers yesterday afternoon. In the front row (left to right) are Georgia Sanford, Sally Rathbun, Diane Carr, Jude Ann

Simko, Marti Fowler, Janice Green, Tootie Hazel, Nancy Lee Foster, and Sharon Smith. In the back row (from the left) are Ila DeVore, Jean McNeil, Suzanne DeNevers, Sandra O'Green, Margie Thompson, Vera Roberson, and Anna Thomas. (Not pictured is Sharon Starns.)

Pair Will Face Judge Monday

Two 20-year-old men will be arraigned in South Bay Municipal Court tomorrow morning on charges of narcotics possession, after police and sheriff's deputies raided their homes and came up with some \$5000 worth of marijuana, benzidrene, heroin, and hypodermic equipment.

Charges will be filed against Robert C. Lemaster, 726 Portola Ave., and Thomas J. Britt, 23841 Eshelman Ave., Lomita.

Wives Questioned
Lemaster's bride of seven weeks, Barbara, 18, was released after questioning, but Britt's wife, Lani Marie, 15, also a recent bride, will be handled by juvenile court authorities. Both men denied that their wives were involved.

The arrests climaxed five weeks of investigation by Lt. D. C. Cook, of the Torrance Police and Sgt. Jay Stroh and Deputy Ray Hatfield of the sheriff's narcotics bureau. The officers said they believed that some of the dope was being supplied to teenagers in the area. Lemaster and Britt both were dope users, and Britt previously had been arrested on burglary charges, Stroh said.

Raids Made
In a raid early Thursday morning, officers had to force their way into both men's homes at the Lemaster home, they found 46 paper bags of loose marijuana and hypodermic equipment in dresser drawers while at the Britt residence, marijuana and hundreds of benzidrene tablets were found in every room.

Officers said the dope apparently had been smuggled in from Mexico. Lemaster is an apprentice pipe fitter, while Britt is a machinist.

1 Tract Gets O.K.; Second Under Study

15-Lot Tract Held Up To Settle Zoning Tiff

One tract received tentative approval by the Planning Commission Wednesday night, while another was tabled for further study.

Planners recommend tract 23871, along 180th Pl., west of Gramercy Pl., for approval providing there is adequate water pressure and that utility poles are placed on the rear of the property. Commissioner E. S. Schoonover was the sole dissenter, declaring he felt the 10-home tract would lower the already low water pressure. Petitioner was Thomas R. Dale.

A 15-lot project, tract 17150, southwest of Newton and Weston Rd., presented by Chris Sorenson, was tabled for further study. Planners questioned zoning of the land, now C-2. Sorenson felt the land should remain that way, but Planners thought that R-1 or R-3 might more accurately describe its use.

Zoning Cited
He claimed that the property had never been zoned for single-family residences, and that his firm would lose considerable money if they were unable to build multiple units on the property. He also introduced letters claiming that the proposed development would be no detriment to homes surrounding it.

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Rivets Reports

Clear and warmer weather is promised today by Rivets, the HERALD's new weather man — w o o p s, weather dog. There may be early morning clouds, but it'll be a nice day to take your pooch for a walk, according to our prognosticator.

Highs and lows in Torrance during the past week included Sunday (80-58); Monday (86-61); Tuesday (80-63); Wednesday (79-64); Thursday (78-62); and Friday (77-61).

