

Council Defers Walteria Lake Tunnel for Study

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ONE DEAD IN CAR-TRAIN CRASH



DEATH CAR . . . Mrs. Juanita Buchanan, 27, mother of seven, of 21733 Barbara Ave., a passenger, was killed in the convertible pictured above when the vehicle, driven by Mrs. Susan A. Love, 26, of 25220 Loytan Ave., collided with a Santa Fe Railway freight Tuesday night at Torrance Blvd. and Madrid Ave. Police said the driver evidently failed to see the wig-wag signal. Mrs. Buchanan is Torrance's ninth traffic fatality thus far this year. Mrs. Love was in critical condition at Harbor General Hospital at press time. (Herald Photo)

Young Mother Killed

A 27-year-old mother of seven died here Tuesday night about two hours after a car in which she was riding collided with a train at Torrance Blvd. and Madrid Ave.

Mrs. Juanita Buchanan, 21733 Barbara Ave., died at Harbor General Hospital where she had been rushed after the spectacular crash.

Critically injured in the collision was Mrs. Susan A. Love, 26, of 25220 Loytan Ave., who suffered possible internal injuries. Mrs. Love was driving the light convertible.

POLICE SAID the victims were apparently returning home from a bowling match when the auto struck the right front of a diesel engine being operated by D. E. McClain, a fireman for the Santa Fe Railway. The woman apparently failed to see a wig-wag signal at Torrance Blvd. as the train approached.

Mrs. Buchanan is survived by her husband, Kenneth, and seven children and stepchildren ranging in age from 6 to 19 years. They include four boys, Kenneth, James, Robert, and Richard; and three girls, Carol Ann, Linda, and Donna. She is also survived by her father, Thomas Hyatt, of Ohio, and a sister, Mrs. Ralph Murphy of Kentucky.

MRS. BUCHANAN had been employed here by the Farmers Insurance Group, and had been a resident of the city for more than seven years.

Funeral services will be conducted at the Halverson-Leavell Mortuary Chapel tomorrow at 11 a.m. Burial will be in Green Hills Memorial Park. Mrs. Buchanan was the city's ninth traffic fatality of the year.

Linde Co. Commences New Plant

Groundbreaking ceremonies for a multi-million dollar liquid hydrogen plant here were held Tuesday marking commencement of a facility that will provide up to 3.3 million pounds of liquid hydrogen annually to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

Linde Co., a division of Union Carbide Corp., is constructing the plant on a five-acre site at Hawthorne Ave. and 190th St., adjacent to Union Carbide Chemicals Corp. Completion is scheduled for May, 1960.

Although most of the liquid hydrogen produced will go to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration as a source for fuel for rockets, missiles and space vehicles, additional quantities of the high energy, cryogenic fluid will also be available to other consumers in the West.

Mayor Albert Isen and J.H. Paget, president of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, together with Linde Co. officials, L. W. Jordan, T. F. O'Connell and Richard C. Barrett, gas products manager for the Los Angeles region, participated in the event.

A symbolic silver cylinder, similar to the containers utilized for storing and transporting cryogenic fluids, was presented to Mayor Isen by L. W. Jordan, vice president of Linde Co., during the ceremony.

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A Penny for your Thoughts

A poll by the HERALD this week showed that residents, most of them from other states, are glad to be living in Torrance because of its mild weather and the general friendliness of the place.

Miss Donna McHenry, 19, of 3407 W. 228th St., El Camino freshman, a teaching major, said: "Although I was born in Colorado, I came here with my parents a few years ago. I like Torrance, its weather and the nearness to the beaches."

Mrs. Helen Brewbaker, El Segundo, works for the Torrance branch of Pacific Electric Co. and has been at this post for about a year although she has been with the company several years. She said: "I think Torrance is pretty. The town is civic-minded. I own my home in El Segundo otherwise I'd live here."

Fred Austin, U.S. Steel employee, of 1920 Torrance Blvd., originally from Arkansas, stated: "I like the weather in Torrance and the friendliness of the people. It's a good place to live." He has been here 16 years.

Billy Sisco, 15, Wilmington, lived with his family in Torrance for six years up till last year when they moved to Wilmington. But he still likes Torrance and will transfer soon to Torrance High. He said: "We all like Torrance. We came here from Oklahoma when I was a few months old."

Girl Thrown From Horse, Head Cut

Patricia Ann Kimbell, 16, of 3653 Dalmead, suffered a two-inch cut on the back of her head when she fell off a horse while riding at the Double Bar H Riding Academy, Torrance Blvd. and Anza, Torrance police reported.

The accident occurred at 2:50 p.m. Saturday. She was listed in satisfactory condition later at Kaiser Foundation Hospital.

Phone Bandit Robs Station

Six burglaries, an armed robbery, a possible case of embezzlement, and a possible case of arson involving four juveniles highlighted incidents reported to Torrance police the past few days.

The armed robbery, police said, was done in a unique way, the robber telephoning his victim with instructions to bring the cash to a payphone from which he was phoning his instructions and not too distant from the service station he had chosen for his holdup.

Richard Oliveras, 3353 Karen, Long Beach, assistant manager of a service station, 18201 Hawthorne Blvd., said that about 8:55 p.m. Tuesday someone called on the phone and asked, "Is the manager there?"

HE REPLIED he was the assistant manager, whereupon the voice on the phone snapped, "Look, I'm a dope addict. I need money bad. Take all the money you have from the cash box and top of the safe — put it in your pocket and bring the money to the phone booth at

Flood Tunnel Studied

Torrance City Council again has taken under study an eight-year old plan to drill a tunnel to the sea to drain Walteria Lake.

Action came at a session Tuesday night. Haas Graham, member of an engineering company retained by the city to design flood control projects, revived the plans. He outlined the tunnel idea as an alternative to create a 28-acre 50-foot deep retention basin. The basin would collect flood waters and pump them into a drainage system to the east.

Graham stressed that although the tunnel to the west would be shorter, it would cost some \$2,500,000 more than the \$1,250,000 figured on for the basin plan.

The speaker added that the pipe in the tunnel plan would be 12 feet in diameter and would pump 2000 cubic feet per second and would be a 50-year storm drain. He said it would be better to have a pipe setup than a sump, which you can't empty for about 13 days. Councilmen said they couldn't see how to raise extra funds for the project. Cost of the basin system has been allotted from a county flood control bond issue okayed last year.

Building in the Walteria Lake area has been banned by the city due to winter floods. It is located generally north of Pacific Coast Hwy. and west of Hawthorne Ave.

Sav-Way and leave it on the floor. If you don't do it, something drastic will happen to you. Someone is watching you."

Oliveras added he took about \$30 to \$35 in bills and on his way to the phone booth, the robber reached his hand from around a rest room on the premises and took the money. Oliveras called police a few minutes later.

BIGGEST OF the burglaries was one reported by Russell G. Miller of Rolling Hills, contractor associated with the Property Management Corp. of Gardena. He said that built-in stoves, ovens, and stove parts valued at more than \$4100 were taken from a housing project near 187th St. and Arlington Ave. sometime Monday evening or Tuesday morning.

Entry was made through an unlocked window of a garage on the west side of the house. A truck was used to haul away the goods, as police found large tire tracks.

Clyde C. Wolfe, Apt. H, 509 Avenue G, Redondo Beach, told police that he left a davenport to be upholstered at a local upholstery and ordered drapes and gave a cash advance of \$250 but that the shop owner moved to parts unknown Sunday or Monday. Police listed the case as possible embezzlement and are continuing their investigation.

JUVENILE authorities also (Continued on Page 32)

State Increases Overpass Funds

Appropriation of additional funds for construction of the pedestrian overpass of Pacific Coast Hwy. at South High School has been approved by the state, and work on the project should start soon, the board of education was told Tuesday evening.

Allocation of \$15,500 had previously been approved and the new funds approved would add \$1670 to the project, the board was told. The state, city, and school district are sharing the cost of the overpass.

Fire Hits Home; 4 Firemen Injured

Fire of undetermined origin caused approximately \$2500 damage to the residence of Ted Hasegawa, 20631 Hawthorne Blvd., Sunday afternoon.

One fireman, Fred Bickar, was overcome by heat and smoke and was hospitalized through Monday morning at Riviera Hospital. Three other firemen suffered minor injuries—bruises and cuts—but remained on the job. They were E. K. Walker, battalion chief who was in charge of fighting the blaze; Engineer S. A. Martin and Fireman Lindsay Browning. Bickar has been with the department for two years.

WHEN ENGINE Companies No. 1 and 5 and a rescue salvage unit arrived from Torrance Fire Dept. headquarters at Crenshaw Blvd. and Carson St., heavy smoke was spiraling

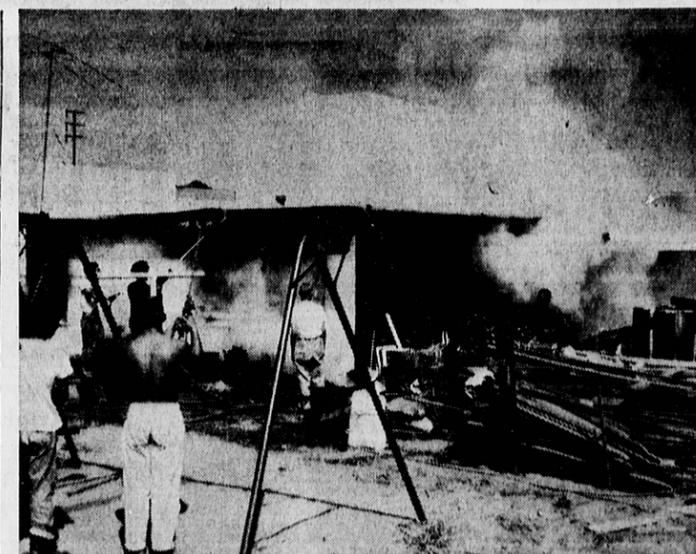
from the one-story wooden frame structure.

Fire Marshall R. R. Lucas, who inspected the site early Monday morning, said that one bedroom and hallway had extensive damage while moderate damage was done to a second bedroom and minor damage to a family room.

The "smokeeaters" brought the blaze under control within a few minutes after their arrival but stayed on the scene for some two and a half hours. Some insurance was carried according to authorities.

School Bid Taken

A bid of \$533,000 submitted by the Goldsworthy Co. was accepted by the board of education this week for the construction of the new Towers Elementary School at Towers St. near Beryl in the extreme west end of the city.



BADLY DAMAGED . . . Smoke is seen above billowing from the home of Ted Hasegawa, 20631 Hawthorne Blvd., which mysteriously caught afire at 2:25 p.m. Sunday. Quick action by Torrance Fire Dept. prevented the structure from being razed. Approximately \$2500 damage was done, according to Fire Marshal R. R. Lucas. (Herald Photo)

Record Crowd Attends Airport Day Festivities

For its second annual Airport Day, Torrance Municipal Airport Saturday had all the gaiety of a Mardi Gras.

There was something to suit the taste of virtually everyone. For the beauty conscious, there was lovely Movie Starlet Kathy Marlowe. She failed in her attempt to learn to solo a plane in one day, but officials of the Skyline Co. at the airport said she did a "wonderful job" in

the three and a half hours of instruction she had, adding that "she'll solo with only two more hours of instruction." Heavy airport traffic was given as a major factor in thwarting the curvaceous star's try to fly in one day.

NORMALLY, a person solos with eight to 10 hours of instruction. Her instructor was Dean Whistler of the Skyline Co.

Some 10,000 people thronged to view airport activities between 9:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. and reigned over by beauteous Sharon Smith, "Miss Airport Day."

One of the day's highlights, the Torrance airport to Warner Hot Springs Trophy Dash for private planes, was captured by Cecil R. McGee of San Bernardino, who flew his Cessna 182 "Skyline" at an average of 153.76 miles per hour. The jaunt covered 210 miles. Myrl C. Rupel, Torrance school district principal, won second place in his Cessna 140 for a 109.33 m.p.h. average. He finished third last year.

Joe Silvera, also of Torrance, was third in his Ercoupe with a 103.8 clocking. Chet Kohler, Torrance, also in a 140, hit a 102.87 average for fourth spot, followed by Jim Zerber of Los Angeles with 102.79 in his Bellanca.

RACE CHAIRMAN Emery Stromberg of the South Bay Exchange Club said heavy clouds severely handicapped the entrants. More than 20 aircraft companies and airlines engaged in the display, according to Display Chairman John Wallace. And about 18 new private planes added to the interest obtained through Committee Chairman "Slim" Kidwell.

A major setback occurred during the event when Chamber of Commerce officials, co-sponsors with the City of Torrance and the Airport Commission, received a telegram informing them that "due to urgent military airlift requirements, the Military Air Transport (Continued on Page 32)

To Cost Several Million

Dow Plans Major Expansion of Local Plant

A multi-million dollar expansion of the Dow Chemical Co. facilities here was announced this week by Leland A. Doan, general manager of Dow's Western Division.

Addressing a luncheon meeting here Monday, Doan said the plant at 305 Crenshaw Blvd. would be expanded with facilities for the production of polypropylene.

"The facilities — first of their type for the western United States—will cost several million dollars to construct," Doan said.

THE DECISION to build at the Torrance plant location was due partly to greater availability of raw materials in this area as well as to market conditions, he told com-

pany and civic officials at the luncheon.

"When the plant goes 'on steam' in 1961," Doan said, "I am confident that we will have adequate production to meet West Coast market requirements in the foreseeable future."

Torrance has been the main location of Dow's Western plastic production since 1953.

Styron (Dow polystyrene) and Styrofoam (Dow rigid plastic foam) are among the products currently produced at the Torrance plant.

CONSTRUCTION of the polypropylene plant will add one of the newest and fastest growing thermoplastic raw materials for molding, coating, film, and foam applica-

tions to Dow's West Coast production facilities, Doan said.

Attending the luncheon, at which Torrance Manager Dan Ryan was host, were members of the Dow organization from Torrance; Midland, Mich.; Seal Beach, and the Los Angeles sales office, in addition to city officials, Chamber of Commerce representatives,