

New Trash Disposal Plan Voted

Your Complete Community Newspaper—Every Sunday and Thursday

Torrance Herald

OFFICE AND PLANT AT 1619 GRAMERCY AVE., TORRANCE

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OFFER OF COURT SITE RENEWED

City in Move For Superior Court Branch

An offer of civic center property for establishment of a branch superior court in Torrance made in 1959 was renewed this week by the city council with approval of a resolution formally tendering the site to the Board of Supervisors.

Such a court, now located temporarily in Inglewood, the northern edge of the district it serves, would become the superior court center for the southwest court district, one of nine such districts established recently by Los Angeles county, according to City Attorney Stanley Remelmeier.

TUESDAY'S action was recommended by Mayor Albert Isen who said it was time Torrance reassured the supervisors that the city was in a position to make the land available for the court should it be established on the civic center. Property on the civic center between the municipal plunge and the municipal court building has been reserved for superior court purposes.

At the same time, it was announced that the cities of Palos Verdes Estates and Rolling Hills Estates had voted to ask the supervisors to transfer them from the district now served by Long Beach courts to the southwest branch. Such a move, especially if joined by the city of Rolling Hills and unincorporated county areas on the peninsula, should shift the geographical and population center of the district much nearer to the Torrance civic center, officials said.

THE OFFER of land on which to erect a court building could be the move needed to assure establishment of the courts here, Mayor Isen said. The proposal to renew the land offer was opposed by Councilman George Vico, who said "you can't eat prestige." He commented on the value of land in Torrance, and was opposed to "giving it away."

ON THE other hand, Mayor Isen argued that establishment of a regional court in Torrance

would serve to identify Torrance as a "Capital City" of the county, and would bring additional traffic (and business) to the city.

"It will bring lots of employment, too," Mayor Isen said. He pointed out that the construction of a \$500,000 to \$700,000 building here would provide lots of jobs for Torrance area workers.

THE COURT would probably be a three-court branch, and would undoubtedly be built as a two or three-story building, Isen said.

County Supervisor Burton W. Chace had previously expressed a sympathy with Torrance's efforts to obtain the court.

Park Trees Damaged By Vandals

Damage estimated at approximately \$1000 to trees and shrubs recently acquired by the city from Del Amo Nurseries was reported over the week end by park department officials.

The destruction of several of the valuable trees was discovered during a tour of parks by city officials. Several boxed trees, and one valuable pine which had been planted were destroyed, apparently by vandals, officials said.

An immediate request for additional police patrols around the city parks was made by Mayor Albert Isen, who was among those touring city parks.

The officials found the destruction when they visited La Romeria Park in the Southwest Park area of the city. One tree, a 20-foot Canary Island pine, had been snapped about a third of the way up its trunk.

City to Drop Commercial Collections

A one-stop, combined pickup of all trash, rubbish, and garbage for the city's single family and duplex residences was approved by the city council this week, along with a decision to drop city collection of all other accounts — apartments, commercial, and industrial.

Effective date of the new system was set for March 1, and notification to all accounts now serviced by the city will be made with the January billing, the council decided.

PRIVATE collectors will be licensed to operate in the city for all but single and duplex residential accounts, according to the plan.

A proposal that tin cans be separated from the other trash because of a possible salvage value was discarded Tuesday on the recommendation of City Manager George Stevens, who said it would cost more to handle than the city would gain.

BEGINNING March 1, residents will put papers, cans, bottles, and wrapped garbage in the same barrel for the city trash crews.

Stores, shopping centers, apartments, and non-residential accounts will have to make arrangements for private collection.

At the same time, the council ordered a second look at plans to acquire three new packer trucks for the city operation. With the elimination of commercial accounts, councilmen said it was possible that the city would not need the three new trucks.

CITY MANAGER Stevens said the trucks were for replacement of 1953 equipment, and would not mean additional vehicles would be available.

Auto Slips, Pins Worker

A 63-year-old Torrance man was hospitalized yesterday afternoon after an auto on which he was working slipped and fell on him.

Albert Ely, of 2065 Middlebrook Road, was taken to Harbor General Hospital after police and others lifted the car from him shortly after noon.

Ely was in X-ray at the hospital yesterday afternoon, and physicians there were unable to determine yet the extent of his injuries.

Attendants said Ely's condition was "as well as could be expected," several hours after the accident.

Jaycees to Hear Education Report

Dr. William V. Lawlor, chairman of the Citizens Advisory Commission on Public Education in California will be guest speaker at the Torrance Junior Chamber of Commerce meeting tonight at the Palms at 8:30. Dr. Lawlor will discuss some of the recommendations prepared by the committee as the result of a two-year study.

A dinner meeting of the Jaycees will precede the lecture and begin at 6:30 p.m.

A Penny for your Thoughts

The Pennies photographer made a trip to a market in the area to ask the manager and four customers for their comments on the following question:

"Do you think people shop entirely in one market or go to different ones for sale items?"

Clarence Hart, 1126 W. 158th St., Gardena, Food Co. manager:

"I think there is a greater percentage of people that shop at one market because of convenience and knowing the location of items. A small percentage shop around. People pay quite a lot of attention to meat sales and look for a good buy on them."

Mrs. Linda Chaiken, 27116 Woodbrook Road, Rolling Hills, housewife:

"I used to go to other markets but I found that I spent more in time, energy and gasoline doing it. I go to the market which has the best variety and everything I need. This particular market, Food Co., gives shoppers an excellent variety of values."

Mrs. C. T. Michael, 25344 Pennsylvania Ave., Lomita, housewife:

"My husband is in the Navy so I do most of my shopping at the commissary. I save quite a bit on most items I buy there. But when it comes to frozen foods, we seem to save more buying them elsewhere when there is a sale. We buy these in large quantities for our freezer."

Mrs. Betty Higgins, 26730 Eastvale Road, Rolling Hills, housewife:

"My time is very valuable to me with the large family I have. I would rather go to one store if it is a good one, where they have everything rather than waste time driving around. I think this market is a good example of a place where you can find practically anything you have in mind."

Mrs. Erik Anderson, 2037 1/2 W. 19th St., Lomita, housewife:

"I usually shop at one market because it saves time. I like to buy good quality, and I don't mind shopping in case there might be a good deal. I am from Torrance and one thing I miss is fresh fish like we have at home. Frozen fish just doesn't begin to be any comparison."



HAPPY NEW YEAR . . . Tiny Diane Saba holds the title of the first Torrance baby born in 1961, and probably the first New Year baby in Los Angeles County. The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Saba, 1314 Fonthill Ave., arrived one second after midnight Sunday in the Little Company of Mary Hospital. The Sabas have a 21-month-old son, Joseph Scott. (Herald Photo)

Bandit Pair Take \$2000 From Restaurant Manager

A Torrance restaurant opened recently was held up by two masked gunmen who escaped with about \$2000 early Tuesday, according to Torrance police.

The bandits entered the International House of Pancakes about 12:55 a.m. and confronted Bernice Dismand, 36, assistant manager, who was counting the day's receipts in the dining room.

ONE OF THE bandits was

wearing a red bandana over his face and carried a .32-caliber revolver. The other had his head and face concealed in a brown paper bag. He carried a revolver described as a .38-caliber weapon.

After entering through the kitchen, the bandits forced two employees to lie on the floor, and then accosted Mrs. Dismand. She was told to "get on the floor or I'll blow your head off."

THE BANDIT with the bandana-covered face then grabbed one of the bank bags from the table which contained the \$2000 and fled with his accomplice.

Earlier, a gunman held up a service station in Waltham, forcing attendant Robert Flowers to surrender between \$40 and \$50. Flowers said the gunman forced him into the station's restroom, and then ransacked the cash box.

Accident Rate Drops In 1960

A reduction of traffic accidents and fatalities during the year just ended was reported yesterday by Police Chief Percy G. Bennett.

Citing 1960 figures just compiled, Chief Bennett reported 1312 traffic accidents in the city, 356 less than were reported in 1959.

Seven persons died in traffic during the year, three of them pedestrians, Bennett said.

A total of 11 died in traffic in 1959, he said.

NO COMPARABLE figures were available yet on injury accident totals.

Chief Bennett attributed the decline in accident rate within the city to four factors:

1. Use of radar throughout the city to check speeds, and establish realistic speed limits;
2. Strengthening of the motorcycle squad by addition of several mounted officers;

3. BETTER investigations of accidents and causes of accidents by officers;

4. Greatly improved traffic engineering under the direction of James O. Whitmer, who joined the city just over a year ago as a full-time traffic engineer.

Riviera Area Perils Cited

A letter describing the accident potential condition on the east end of Paseo De Gracia at Pacific Coast Highway was directed to the traffic engineer of Torrance by William J. Hanson, past president of Hollywood Riviera Homeowners association.

He stated that cars park close to the highway on Paseo De Gracia and create a one-lane situation. To alleviate this he suggested painting the curb red from the highway back to the apartment house driveway. He further suggested an inspection of other Riviera street intersections along Pacific Coast Highway for similar conditions.

Bomb Call Clears California Bank

A telephoned threat of a bomb emptied the California Bank at Sartori and Marcelina Ave. for nearly an hour Tuesday afternoon as bank officials, police, and fire department officers searched for an explosive device.

Telephone operator Shirley Frederickson received the call shortly after, 2 p.m. Tuesday, she said.

The caller, who identified himself as "Pedro," or "Pietro," told her a "bomb will go off there in exactly 10 minutes."

She notified Bank Manager George Post, who quickly began clearing the crowded bank.

Nearly a hundred persons gathered on the sidewalk outside the building while police and firemen searched for the reported bomb.

Nothing was found, Post reported later. After assuring that no bomb had been planted, the bank reopened and admitted customers.

The matter was put down as a possible prank.



GREETER . . . Linda Williams, Miss Welcome To Torrance for 1961, practices for her new job with the Chamber of Commerce by welcoming the New Year. The California Bank employee will replace Betty Baker, Miss Torrance, in her civic duties. (Herald Photo)



ANOTHER WINNER . . . Torrance's wise old owl, depicting the popular song, "Who?" in Monday's 72nd annual Tournament of Roses Parade, was given second place honors behind the city of Glendale entry for California cities over 100,000. It was a popular float along the line of march as it followed the high school all-star band. (Herald Photo by David Ranns)