



WHERE IT ALL BEGAN . . . Mrs. Francis Aleko of Los Angeles, granddaughter of Sisto Berryessa, who received a land grant from the King of Spain in 1843, for over 3,500 acres in Napa County, shows her daughter, Mrs. Jimmy L. Miller and her granddaughters, Pamela and Anthea, where the Berryessa rancho is located. The original land grant, which will be placed in the state capitol, was found recently in the walls of the old rancho. (Herald Photo)

Figure Prominently in California History

Pioneer Berryessa Descendants Make Torrance Their Home

The excitement that came with the finding of a 27 page parchment, the original land grant given by the King of Spain to Sisto Berryessa in 1843, in the walls of the Berryessa rancho in northern California recently, spread all the way to Torrance where members of the fourth and fifth generations of this family now live.

Local members of this pioneer California family are Mrs. Jimmy L. Miller and daughters, Pamela, 8, and Anthea, 3, 902 W. Javelin. A third generation representative is Mrs. Miller's mother, Mrs. Francis Aleko of Los Angeles, who visits here often.

Just four years ago the United States Bureau of Reclamation engineers completed a dam across Putah Creek in Napa County and a beautiful oak-studded valley in the foothills of the Vaca Range became one of the most popular bass-fishing spots in Northern California. Through the efforts of Senator Kuchel the lake was named Berryessa.

The seven sisters, granddaughters of Sisto Berryessa, will donate the original land grant papers to the state and they will be placed in the State Capitol in Sacramento. Efforts are also being made by family members and other early residents to urge the

site be made into a state historical landmark.

On Nov. 3, 1843, Gov. Manuel Micheltorena signed the document which turned over the 35,515 acres to the brothers, Sisto and Jose Berryessa. Actually the brothers came into possession of the valley in February 1842, when the Mexican commandant at the nearby Sonoma community gave the family the right to use the valley for cattle ranching and agriculture.

Sisto Berryessa was born March 28, 1818 and died Sept. 23, 1874. Like his brother, he was buried in an unknown gravesite on the family ranch in Berryessa Valley, now covered by the lake.



MRS. JIM PETER DE VOS
... To Live in Long Beach
(Dean's Studio)

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Edna Cloyd, Editor

YOUR PROBLEMS
by **Ann Landers**

'Four Children Can't Bury One Mother...'

Dear Ann Landers: Last October my mother-in-law died of cancer. She was sick for five years and there were heavy medical expenses. When she died my father-in-law announced that he didn't have enough money to pay for the funeral.

The four children felt it was their responsibility to help so we all took out loans and have been paying on these loans ever since.

Three months after his wife was buried my father-in-law bought a new car (there was nothing wrong with the car he had). Last month he took a pleasure trip.

Every one of the four children is married and has his own family obligations. We think it is wrong that we should be stuck with the funeral bill which, rightfully, the husband of the deceased should be paying.

No one has the courage to say a word to him and I am burned up. I wish you would print this letter in the paper and comment.—EDITH

Dear Edith: It's odd that one mother can raise four children, but that four children can't bury one mother. Five years of cancer can be mighty expensive. It may well be that since your father-in-law is free of those terrible medical bills he has a little extra money around for the first time in ages. In my book you're way out of line.

Dear Ann Landers: Maybe you will find this letter is too foolish to print but it is important to us kids, so please give it a second look.

There is one girl in our crowd (we are all 14 and 15) who is really a good kid. But she has a habit of laughing very loud at just about anything that is said. Some of the things she laughs at aren't the least bit funny.

When she talks, she laughs at the end of almost every sentence. Why does she do this? I mentioned it to my mother and she says one of her friends does the same thing. She can't figure it out either. Can you?

—THE QUESTIONER
(Continued on Page 10)

Stanley L. Gonta Claims Bride in La Jolla Service

Miss Carol Christine Pilla, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Joseph Pilla, 6625 Michael-John Dr., La Jolla, became the bride of Stanley Lewis Gonta on Saturday, Aug. 24, at the St. James-by-the-Sea Episcopal Church in La Jolla. The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Gonta, 2818 W. 182nd St., Torrance.

Rev. Robert Wolterstorff officiated at the marriage for which the bride wore a sheath gown of heavy imported silk with detachable train covered with embroidered flowers. A satin pillow held her illusion veil and she carried white orchids and stephanotis.

Attending the bride, in dark coral floor-length gowns, were Stephanie Thompson of Beverly Hills, maid of honor; Gail Hamman, Linda Griffiths, Gwen Wedgeworth, Kathie Baier, and Mrs. Curtis Harris. Michael Gonta stood as his brother's best man and ushers were Lynn Reade, Loren Hunt, Craig Fertig, Pete Beathard, and Stewart Gonta.

A reception followed the wedding. Mrs. Stewart Gonta was in charge of the guest book.

The bride is a graduate of La Jolla High School and is a student at USC preparing for a teaching career.

The bridegroom, a 1960 graduate of Torrance High, is a physical therapy major at USC. He is on the football team and is a member of the Sigma Chi fraternity.

Rebekahs Will Meet Wednesday

Torrance Rebekah Lodge 347 will meet Sept. 11 at 8 p.m. at the Masonic Temple, 2326 Cabrillo Ave. Juanita Stoneham will be in charge. The District Deputy President will make her official visit with the deputy marshal and her staff.

"School Days" will be the evening's theme with Rose Ashford as hostess.

Couple Plan To Wed In Summer '64

A wedding, to take place in the summer of 1964, is being planned by Marilyn Jane Swanson and Joseph Lawrence Riley.

Making the announcement of their daughter's engagement and marriage plans are Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Swanson, 1639 W. 215th St., Torrance.

Parents of the future bridegroom are Mr. and Mrs. Roy Davidson of San Pedro. The bride-elect was graduated from Narbonne High School in June 1961. She attended Harbor College and is now employed by the Interstate Restaurant Supply Co. in Los Angeles.

Her fiancé, a 1960 graduate of San Pedro High School, is studying mechanical engineering at Harbor College. He is an employee of the Felker Mfg. Co. in Torrance.

Bridge Party

Mrs. Charles Boxwell entertained at a dessert-bridge at her home, 21223 New Hampshire Ave., on Thursday afternoon. At the conclusion of the games, Mrs. Calvin Wilson won first prize and the traveling prize. Second high was held by Mrs. Jack Prince.

Mrs. Boxwell's guests were Meses. Donald Woodis, Loren Scheele, Maitland Alexander, Wayne Pearson, James Misel, Calvin Wilson and Jack Prince.

Guests To Tour Hospital Auxiliary Schedules 'Founders Day' Tea

Volunteers Auxiliary of the Harbor General Hospital will entertain at a Founders Day tea in the auditorium of the new Harbor General Hospital on Sept. 19 from 1 until 3 p.m. Mrs. Charles Grider is serving as chairman for the tea and is being assisted by Mrs. Robert March.

Entertains

Mrs. J. G. Louvier, president of the Torrance Woman's Club, entertained at a dessert bridge party on Tuesday at her home, 22606 Evelyn Ave., as one of a series of diminishing card parties which benefit the Woman's Club.

The hostess served a dessert which was followed by an afternoon of bridge. High score was held by Mrs. John Schwartz and second by Mrs. Frank Neff.

Mrs. Louvier's guests were Meses. V. B. Lehnberg, Frank Neff, John Schwartz, C. A. Perkins, Earl Miles, C. E. Moore, C. M. Crook and Clifford Trezise.



MARILYN SWANSON
... Troth Announced

South High Grads Enroll at UCLA

Registering this week at UCLA are four South High graduates, JoKay Louvier, daughter of the J. G. Louviers; Beatrice Alred, whose parents are the Merlin Alreds, and Stephanie and Pam Palmquist, twin daughters of the Nels Palmquists, 4906 Via El Sereno.

Laguna Holiday

Mr. and Mrs. Jack McKay, 4713 Konya Dr., spent a two weeks vacation recently in Laguna Beach where they joined old friends, Mr. and Mrs. John Shreeves and Mr. and Mrs. Russell Clifton of Tucson, Ariz.

Madrecitas To Welcome New Members

A sparkling welcome will be extended to prospective members of Las Madrecitas, South Bay Auxiliary of the Crippled Children's Guild, at a Champagne Tea to be held in their honor on Thursday, Sept. 12, at the Palos Verdes Estates home of Mrs. Glenn Kleinhesslink.

Mrs. Hans Hansen, past president, will outline the hospital needs and the club's volunteer aims for the coming year. Highlight of the afternoon will be a fashion show, featuring knits created by a Manhattan Beach shop. Club members will model these versatile costumes.

Mrs. Richard Egan is in charge of tea arrangements.

Into New Home

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Dean and children, Jill, Joey and Judy who have lived at 23034 Ladeene for the past six years, moved Friday into their new home at 2250 Gautho Dr., Rolling Hills.

Ohio Guest

Mr. and Mrs. M. M. Schwab, 1508 Acacia, have as their houseguest for ten days, Mrs. E. R. Meyers of Tiffin, Ohio.

Bonnie DeBra Exchanges Vows With Jim P. de Vos

Miss Bonnie Jean DeBra, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene F. DeBra of Rolling Hills Estates, was married to Jim Peter de Vos, son of Mr. and Mrs. Simon de Vos of Torrance in a ceremony at the First Baptist Church in Falos Verdes.

Rev. Vincent Coletta officiated at the wedding on Saturday afternoon, Aug. 31.

Given in marriage by her father, the bride wore a full length gown of embroidered lace and net. Her illusion veil was held by a crown of pearls. She carried a bridal bouquet of white roses and orchids.

Gowns of taffeta and chiffon in the rainbow hues were worn by Miss Marilyn DeBra, maid of honor, and the bridesmaids Misses Joan Elliott of San Bernardino, Judy Hillegger of Inglewood and Kathy McCartney of Gardena. Rillene Elliott of Costa Mesa was flower girl.

Ken Bosworth of Taft performed the duties of best man and ushers were Arthur and Chris de Vos of Torrance and Cameron Monk of Rialto. Candelighters were Mel and Mac Elliott, Mrs. T. Roberts, at the organ, played the nuptial music and accompanied Donald Tweeton, soloist.

A reception was held for the several hundred guests in the church gardens.

After a wedding trip to northern California, the newlyweds will live in Long Beach.

The bride was graduated from Morningside High School and Harbor College where she was a member of Alpha Gamma Sigma. She is presently a senior at Long Beach State College majoring in elementary education.

Mr. de Vos attended high school in The Netherlands. He was graduated from Harbor College where he affiliated with Kappa Sigma Phi. At Long Beach State College, he is now studying electrical engineering.



ALL WOMEN INVITED . . . Women of the area, interested in volunteer work, are invited to attend the Founders Day tea to be given by the Volunteers Auxiliary of Harbor General Hospital Sept. 19. To acquaint visitors with many activities performed by volunteers throughout the new hospital, tours have been planned. Here, Mrs. Charles Grider, tea chairman, discusses a map of the tours with from left, Miss Pamela Muaszew and Mrs. Edward Ball. (Herald Photo)



MRS. STANLEY LEWIS GONTA
... Former Carol Pilla
(O. D. Smith Photo)