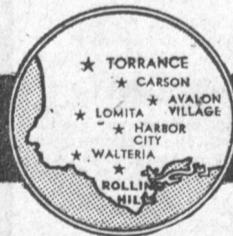


# Groundbreaking for New Phone Offices

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**EARLY BIRDS**—Margaret Ross, 4738 Bindewald St., Torrance, and Ruth Nitzen, 1217 Grand Via Altamira, Palos Verdes, were two of the earliest registrants for the coming Powder Puff Derby, scheduled for July 8. Two local women will fly

the transcontinental race as a pilot-co-pilot team. Race will begin in San Diego with the finish line located in Atlantic City. Both women are experienced pilots and are considered top contenders in the expected field of 90 aircraft in the race.

# Decision Due on Court Location

## Committee to Report Within Next Month

A final decision on the controversial Southwest District Superior Court site should be ready during the next month, according to information released Friday.

Judge Lloyd S. Nix announced that the committee appointed by the presiding judge of the Los Angeles County Superior Court to study proposed court sites would have its report and recommendations prepared within the next two weeks.

Judge Nix, and the other members of the special committee, Judges William P. Haughton and Ben Koenig, met at noon, Thursday, to consider evidence presented at the Wednesday night public hearing and the timing of the report.

### BRIEFED

Judge Nix stated that although the committee had been well briefed in advance of the meeting and have visited the proposed sites, evaluation of the mass of material presented at the public hearing would necessitate several days' study.

Parallel action by the Regional Planning Commission, which is also studying possible sites for a special report to the Board of Supervisors is not progressing as rapidly, reports state.

Study was requested by the

Board on February 21 in response to a suggestion from the city of Torrance that the possibility of changing the boundaries to include the Palos Verdes Peninsula be considered.

### POSSIBILITIES

Three major possibilities for the court's location are Torrance, Hawthorne and Inglewood. Reassigning boundaries of court district, in response to requests for inclusion, would place the geographical center in Torrance. If boundaries remain the same as previously assigned, and as earlier recommended by the Regional Planning Commission, center of the district would be in Inglewood.

Torrance attorneys, fighting to have the court located here, point out that the local civic center site would offer greater advantages in available land and parking facilities as well as easier access from all portions of the district.

### \$850,000 FACILITY ...

## Ceremonies Friday for New Telephone Offices

Pacific Telephone broke ground Friday at the site of its Torrance "113" information center on the southwest corner of Torrance Blvd. and Arlington Ave.

Prior to groundbreaking ceremonies, Pacific Telephone's Torrance manager, Dick Pyle, hosted various civic and company dignitaries at a luncheon in the Palms Restaurant.

On hand were Assemblyman Vincent Thomas, Torrance Mayor Albert Eisen, Torrance Chamber of Commerce Vice President Harold Frentz, representatives of Emil R. Whol Construction Co., Allison and Ribbe, Architects, and Pacific Telephone.

### TWO STORY

Pyle said the new two-story building, which will be framed for a third story should it be required by growth in the area, will contain nearly 20,300 square feet.

He said the "113" center will provide information service to Pacific Telephone subscribers in Torrance, Wilmington, San Pedro, Gardena, El Segundo, Inglewood, Hawthorne and Lomita.

Building, which will cost Pacific Telephone a total of \$850,000, will house 72 positions of the latest type information switchboard, a public business office, company employment offices and various employee facilities.

Pyle told those attending the ceremony that more than 200 telephone operators will be employed in the new building and emphasized that the payroll will bring more than \$1 million annually to Torrance.

"Torrance is the center of a very fast-growing area," Pyle said, "and is considered an excellent employment market."

He said the majority of the people working in the new facility will come from Torrance.

### PATIENT

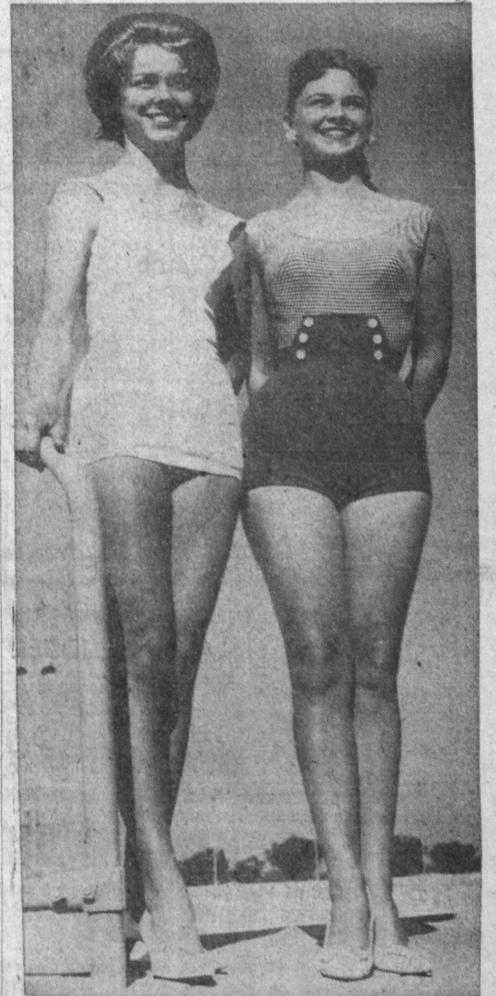
"Our customers in Torrance and the surrounding area have been patient in waiting for this new information center," he continued, "and I'm sure the new building will provide them with the services they deserve."

We intend to staff our information center around the clock in an effort to give local subscribers the fastest and most accurate information service possible."

Building will be constructed of reinforced concrete and will feature extensive use of glare-reducing and opaque glass in aluminum frame on both floors facing Torrance Blvd. Operators handling information calls on the second floor will be seen from the street.



DICK PYLE  
... Host



**CONTENTERS**—Janet Speaks, 16, (light suit) and Betty Baker, 20, will help represent Torrance in the forthcoming contest to select Miss Los Angeles County of 1961. Winner of the May 19 contest will represent the county at the State Fair beauty pageant and will be queen of the Park and Recreation Month observance in the Los Angeles area this summer.

### NEXT FRIDAY ...

## State Official Guest at El Camino's 'Press Day'

LT. Gov. Glenn M. Anderson will address student journalist and instructors from local high schools at El Camino College's Press Day Friday.

The eighth annual Warhoop-sponsored Press Day will host 200 high school delegates from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Former resident and mayor of Hawthorne, Gov. Anderson will highlight the morning session with his address on "High School to the Capitol."

Contests in news writing, sports writing, feature writing and editorials will highlight the afternoon's activities.

Trophies will be awarded to first place winners in each category with certificates being awarded to second and third place winners.



LT. GOV. GLENN ANDERSON  
... Warriors' guest

### BOARD MEETING

Board of Education of the Torrance Unified School District will hold their regular twice-a-month meeting Tuesday evening in the administrative office, 2335 Plaza del Amo. Meeting will begin at 8 p.m.

# Three Local Women Sign For 'Powderpuff Derby'

The coveted "Number One" position for take-off in the forthcoming all-women transcontinental air race was won this week by Mrs. Virginia "Ginny" Graham, of Sierra Madre.

More than 50 persons flew into Montgomery Field, San Diego, to witness the drawing for race numbers of the 38 women pilots who had their entries post-

marked on the opening date, April 20. All subsequent race numbers will be assigned by postmark as they are received in the race headquarters in Long Beach.

South Bay women who have submitted entries for the race include: Margaret Ross, 4738 Bindewald, Torrance; Ruth Nitzen, 1217 Grand Via Altamira, Palos

Verdes; and Iris Critchell, 1604 Via Montemar, Palos Verdes Estates. Mrs. Ross and Mrs. Nitzen will fly together as a copilot-pilot team.

David Bird, chairman of the San Diego County Board of Supervisors, officiated as each number was drawn. Fifteen states were represented in this first group of entries and the

women pilots ranged in age from 20 to 70 years with varying degrees of experience and background.

By the date entries close, June 15, more than 90 airplanes are expected to be entered in this national event. Each airplane must fly a designated route of 2709 miles across the United States ending at the National Aviation Facilities Experimental Center, Atlantic City, New Jersey. An over-the-water finish will highlight the terminus. Each crew will fly the airplane over a finish line off shore from the famous "Board Walk." All contestants will then land at NAFEC, where logbooks will be computed and scores for the entire race course determined.

Interested spectators will be watching the start of the "Powder Puff Derby" from Montgomery Field, San Diego, as the women pilots depart in rapid succession beginning at 9 p.m. Saturday morning, July 8.

## Bandit Holds Up Local Shopkeeper

An armed bandit robbed a Torrance woman shopkeeper of \$27 Friday night and then made his escape.

Mrs. Arita Fitzpatrick, 40, of 4150 Redondo Beach Blvd., clerk in a liquor store at 4153 Redondo Beach Blvd., said the suspect was about 20 years of age, 5' 7", 150 pounds, with a dark brown crew cut. Suspect was wearing beige pants and a dark grey jacket.



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**EAST MEETS WEST**—Anita Jeffers and Christine Saunders were named as queens by members of the East and West Torrance Little Leagues and will spearhead the annual Youth Baseball Parade on May 6. Judges for

the competition, held last weekend were Naomi McVey, of the Torrance Park and Recreation Commission, Bill Reichel, assistant governor of Toastmaster Area 5; and Norma Ferris, Torrance Press columnist.