

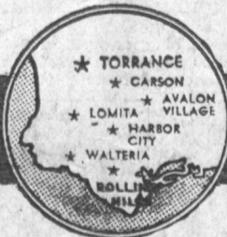
# ELDERLY COUPLE PAYS \$1200 'JUST TO DIE'



**CHRISTMAS DAY** arrives for Suzanne Gallion, 2, who expresses delighted surprise at jack-in-the-box left by Old St. Nick. Suzanne was typical of thou-

sands of Torrance youngsters who were visited Tuesday by the bearded gentleman and his reindeer. — PRESS photo by William Scheff Jr.

## Water Rate Hike Okayed



FIRST OUT—FIRST READ

## TORRANCE PRESS

3238 SEPULVEDA BLVD. — Phone DA 5-1515

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## Ill Couple Asks to Die In Hospital

TORRANCE — Ill and depressed, an elderly couple gave a neighbor \$1200 for funeral expenses Christmas Day and asked to be taken to a hospital to die.

Reported in satisfactory condition at Harbor General Hospital are John Johnson, 88, and his wife, Amanda, 86, both of 24412 Park St.

"Please call an ambulance and just let us die in the hospital," Johnson reportedly told a neighbor, Clarence F. Hoyt, 23009 Park St.

"We just don't want to live any longer."

Hoyt telephoned Torrance police, who had the couple taken to Harbor General Hospital for observation. They were suffering from malnutrition and dehydration, physicians said.

Johnson weighs only 80 pounds, is 5 feet 6 inches tall, his wife, Amanda, is 5 feet 5 inches and weight only 90 pounds.

According to Hoyt, the Johnsons contracted influenza two weeks ago and had not eaten since.

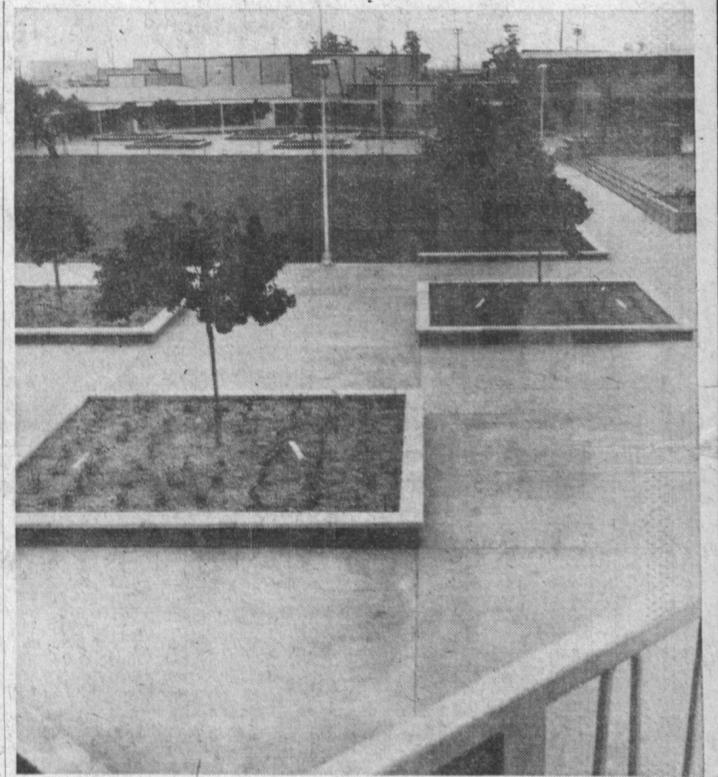
Hospital officials said today that both were progressing satisfactorily, and that they ate breakfast Wednesday morning.

## Okay Plans For Harbor Park Job

Preliminary plans for the development of a portion of Harbor Regional Park were approved today by the Los Angeles City Recreation and Park Commission.

The Commission directed Architect Warren D. Jones, La Habra, to proceed with the preparation of final plans for landscaping of an area beginning at a point on the southwestern edge of the existing landscaped area on Vermont Ave. and extending to the storm drain inlet at the intersection of Vermont and Normandie Aves.

The development will be in accordance with a Master Plan previously approved by the commission for the development of Harbor Regional Park, Wilmington, which is in the 15th District, represented by Councilman John S. Gibson Jr.



**INNER COURTYARD** at new Carson High School looks onto walkways adjacent classroom area. School, due for occupancy in February, is among most modern in area. Palm trees are scattered throughout campus, and wide use of color is made indoors and outdoors. School was built by Los Angeles City School District for youngsters in Carson area. —PRESS Photo

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## Water Rate Hike Wins PUC Okay

Domiguez Water Corp., which serves some 16,000 consumers in the southern part of Los Angeles County, was authorized by the California Public Utilities Commission today to increase its rates by approximately \$41,370 a year beginning Jan. 1 to offset the higher cost of purchased water.

The new rates will add four cents to the monthly bill of the per 100 cubic feet of water irrigation customers.

The higher rates result from the increased cost of water purchased from the West Basin Municipal Water District and a higher assessment levied by the Central and West Basin Water Replenishment District.

The Commission estimated that the company would earn a rate of return of 4.9 per cent under the new schedule, substantially less than the six per cent return found reasonable in a decision dated Jan. 24, 1961.

The company provides water service in a 35 square-mile area south of Los Angeles, north of Wilmington, east of Redondo Beach and west of the Los Angeles River. Portions of the cities of Torrance, Los Angeles and Long Beach are in the area.

## Early Bird Class Gets 'Em Awake

It's 7 a.m. All's quiet on North High School's campus. Soon students will bustle into view and school will begin. Now the quad is empty.

But room 110 is alive with activity. Inside are some of the 41 students enrolled in Joseph F. Reinhardt's Early-Bird Chemistry class.

These 41 students are divided in two groups. One group meets on Monday and Wednesday, and that other on Tuesday and Thursday. On Fridays both groups may do make-up work.

This special class is strictly voluntary for students who want extra time to do chemistry experiments. The class consists of lab work only. All students enrolled in this class also have Reinhardt for first period chemistry, in which their regular class work is done.

Two and one-half extra credits are given each semester to students satisfactorily completing the course.

"So far this experimental class is working very well," Reinhardt remarked.

The students enrolled in Early-Bird Chemistry are Richard Bonafedi, Sherman Bowen, Ruth Brown, Pat Calvey, Richard Carlson, Bruce Cole, Yvonne Colletti, Mary Coon, Bill Cunerty, Dominick De Luca, Stan Epstein, Bill Feierabend,

Stewart Goodgold, Mark Hansen, Pat Hart, Robert Hiromoto, Janet Hiroshima, Doug Jackson, Jack Jenkins, Alan Johnson, Phil King, Mary Knight, John Krone, Lawrence Low, Gene Meese, Mike Moore, Eugene Parenti, Roger Phillips, Tim Lamsey, Marvin Richards, Vickie Ropp, Bill Rutter, Dan Saks, Steve Stohlman, Ron Stoven, Darlene Usui, George Winchell, Jerry Huerta.

## Project Okayed

Allocation of \$5,000 by the Board of Supervisors for improvement of Knox Street near Normandie Ave. is reported by Supervisor Burton W. Chace.

## Torrance Tabbed For Top Honors

TORRANCE — The South Bay area, shooting for honors in three divisions, is expected to pick off at least one top prize in the third annual Auto and Boat Speed Show Thursday through Sunday in Shrine exposition Hall.

South Bay drivers are well represented in both the auto and boat divisions and there area girls should rate high in the estimates of the queen contest judges.

Among the cars from Torrance will be the 1925 Buick Touring Car entered by Jim Morris and W. H. Vincent's 1956 Ferrari. Morris' Buick is a real "sleeper," as he has installed a big V 8 Buick engine under the hood. Vincent's Ferrari is a special high powered coupe, the only one ever built.

Other area entries include Cliff Oaks, Manhattan

Beach, 1929 Cadillac roadster; Jerry Mack, El Segundo, 1958 Chevrolet custom, and Roland Hall, Harbor City, 1927 Ford custom.

One of the fastest boats in the country, the "Golden Thing," has been entered by Rudy Ramos of Gardena.

Also on display will be "Miss Bardahl" of gold Cup racing fame, and Challenger I, the car that show producer Micked Thompson drove at 406 mph over the Bonneville Salt Flats.



**INFORMATION GAL** thumbs quickly through directory while caller waits on line. New Torrance information office handles calls from Torrance,

Gardena and Lomita as well as other harbor area communities. Eighty operators are assigned. —PRESS Photo

## Information Facility Featured This Month

Torrance's plush telephone information quarters are featured in this month's issue of Pacific Telephone Magazine.

Local manager Dick Pyle said four photographs illustrate the modern, second-story office at 2154 Torrance Blvd. in the magazine's two-page layout.

Nearly 70,000 telephone employees and their families in California and Nevada receive the publication 10 times a year, the manager said.

"This means the word of Torrance's magnificent growth and development is being spread into two states," he pointed out.

Pyle said the Torrance information center was selected as the subject of an article because of its colorful and unusual aspects.

"For instance, the office color scheme incorporating turquoise switchboard, yellow walls and gray floor give the operators a cheerful atmosphere not ordinarily found in information quarters," he explained.

"Installation of equipment cabinets flush with the walls and placement of registers and pipes in walls and ceilings lend a touch which is both safe and decorative."

The office not only serves Torrance residents with "113" needs, but furnishes assistance to telephone users in Gardena, Wilmington, Lomita, San Pedro, Paramount and Compton.

Open every day between 6 a.m. and 11 p.m. The information center has a staff of 80 operators. A maximum of 36 are on duty at a time. Calls after 11 p.m. are automatically transferred to Hawthorne.

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**Carrier Boys Wanted**

**DA 5-1515**

## George Post Named to Bank Job

Election of G. W. Post to vict president of United California Bank in its Torrance office has been announced by Frank L. King, chairman of the board.

Well known in the Torrance area, Post was an employee of the old Torrance National Bank of which his father was president when that institution was merged with United California Bank in 1954.

A native of Long Beach and a graduate of Loyola University, Post entered the employ of the Torrance National Bank in 1949 and was appointed assistant cashier of United California Bank at the time of the merger five years later.

He was promoted to manager of the office in 1959. Mr. and Mrs. Post reside at 3439 Emerald, Torrance.

## Traffic Scoreboard

Accidents	Last Week	This Year So For	Last Year Total
Fatal	1	5	10
Injury	10	490	486
Non-Injury	15	664	692
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>1159</b>	<b>1188</b>