

\$11,500 Salary Survey Okayed by Council

Torrance Press-Herald

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VACATION TOUR. . . . Members of the youth group at Hope Evangelical United Brethren Church of North Torrance toured New Mexico areas and visited a church mission after working a year to earn funds for the trip. Shown here as they prepared to leave on the last fling of the summer are (from left) Janelle Wilhite, Donna Stevens, Don and Jim Allison, and Douglas Rhodes. (Press-Herald Photo)

Wyoming Crash Fatal To Local Vacationer

Rainy Weather Blamed; Mate Hurt In Crash

A vacationing aerospace worker was killed Monday and his wife, a Registered Nurse, was injured when their car skidded out of control on a rain-slick Wyoming highway as the couple headed for a vacation visit with relatives. Killed was William V. Evans, 56, of 2801 Perkins Lane, Redondo Beach, a maintenance electrician for a Southland aerospace firm.

Hospitalized with injuries described as serious was his wife, Alice, night supervisor of nursing at Torrance Memorial Hospital.

Friends here said the couple had left on Saturday and planned to visit relatives in South Dakota and then go on to Iowa. Reports received here indicated the Evans vehicle was passing another when it skidded out of control on Interstate Highway 25, three miles east of Douglas, Wyo. The car overturned, landing on its top.

Evans died in a Douglas hospital a short time later and his wife was admitted with multiple fractures. The couple have five grown children.

Check of Insurance File Made

City Hall apparently has weathered the storm which erupted last week as city council, meeting in regular session, tackled the complicated problem of selecting a group insurance plan for city employees.

Storm clouds first appeared when Councilman George Vico suggested commissions might be involved in the selection of an insurance carrier, then questioned City Manager Edward J. Ferraro about a gag on insurance representatives.

Vico denied at the time that he was making a specific charge of wrongdoing, but his statements provoked a sharp debate until Ken Miller called for someone who "has proof and the guts to stand up and present it in public" to come forth.

MILLER'S call was met with silence, and the matter was dropped—but not the implication of wrongdoing.

The brief storm apparently was the product of a confusion and misunderstanding. Press-Herald examination of the city files on the insurance program has turned up no evidence of wrongdoing.

The city has been plagued in recent years by bad experience with group insurance, according to City Clerk Vernon Coil, who serves on the city's insurance committee.

COIL SAID abuses of the (Continued on A-4)

Population Estimated

Torrance Still Fourth Largest

Population estimates just released by the Regional Planning Commission continue to rank Torrance behind Glendale as the county's fourth largest city, despite claims to the contrary by Mayor Albert Isen.

The commission said Torrance had a population of 132,636 on July 1—compared to Glendale's 134,404. This city, however, is gaining at the rate of 648 new citizens per month, compared to a gain of 325 per month for Glendale.

At that rate, Torrance should become the county's third largest city about the first of the year. Isen claimed that honor for Torrance some three months ago.

TOTAL population of the county on July 1 was pegged at 6,885,794—a gain of 14 per cent since the federal census of April, 1960. The city of Los Angeles had a population of 2,738,375 on July 1 and is gaining at the rate of 4,500 per month, the commission said.

Population figures for surrounding communities gave Redondo Beach 55,696 residents on July 1, 18th largest among the 76 incorporated cities in the county. Hawthorne was ranked 24th with 45,917 residents, and Gardena, 44,024, was ranked 25th in the county.

Lomita, newest of the Southwest area cities, reached a population of 19,749 on July 1—the city's first anniversary of incorporation—and was given the 47th position in the county.

OTHER area communities include: Lawndale, 25,967;

Palos Verdes Estates, 12,220; Rolling Hills, 1,969; and Rolling Hills Estates, 5,192.

Population of the Wilmington-harbor City areas, including the Los Angeles Strip east of Torrance, was estimated at 59,557. Estimated population of the Carson-Dominguez area on July 1 was 73,301.

In its report, the commission noted a decline in home construction during the second quarter. The county gained a total of 12,892 new dwelling units during the second quarter, a decline of 17 per cent over figures for the first quarter of 1965. The commission said the downward trend was first noted in the last quarter of 1964 and added that it is largely due to a lessening pace in apartment construction.



WOUNDED . . . Marine PFC George L. Shook Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. George Shook Sr. of 23621 Anza Ave., has been transferred to the U.S. Naval Hospital in Oakland, Calif., from Clark Air Force Base in the Philippines. Shook was wounded by small arms during action against the Viet Cong near Wang Don Su on Aug. 11. He went to Viet Nam in June, following training on Okinawa. Shook attended North High School.

Riviera Tract Wins Restricted Approval

Approval of a 59-lot hillside subdivision was granted by the Torrance City Council last night after councilmen virtually wrapped the developer in a straightjacket of requirements and restrictions.

J. H. Barton Construction Co. received approval of a tentative tract map for 59 lots east of Calle Mayor and south of Newton Street in the Riviera section. Restrictions placed on the new development are designed to prevent slippage and erosion of the area insofar as it is humanly—and legally—possible.

The restrictions range from such normal requirements as storm drains and sidewalks which meet city specifications to a requirement for exhaustive geological tests in the area.

COUNCILMEN also required the developer to install all utilities under round, adding an estimated \$500 to \$600 on the purchase price of the homes. City officials also required developer Barton to acquire

insurance which will protect the city and adjacent homeowners against slides and erosion due to "errors and omissions" on the part of the developers. In all, 23 specific restrictions were noted on the tentative tract map.

Action by the council followed a committee meeting between Barton and homeowners in the area to reach agreement on several points of disagreement about the tract. Approval had been postponed from last week's council session.

Last week's postponement was responsible for a flood of telegrams and petitions which asked the council to approve the tract.

IN OTHER matters, the councilmen:

- Accepted a recommendation by the city's traffic and lighting department for the installation of temporary sidewalks on portions of Anza Avenue north of Torrance Boulevard. The walks will enable children walking to Victor School to stay out of the street.

- Approved the transfer of \$15,000 from funds for the development of Guenser Park to install lights on the ball diamond at La Romeria Park.

- Approved a resolution which will permit the purchase of slightly more than three acres at 186th Street and Illinois Court. The land, to be purchased from the state at a cost of \$92,700, will be used for a new park.

- Held for two weeks a proposed ordinance establishing standards and procedures for the granting of conditional use permits.

- Approved names for streets at Torrance Municipal Airport. Names include Terminal Way, Aero Way, Belandina Way, Curtiss Way, Douglas Way, Airport Drive, Fairchild Apron, and Earhart Apron.

Chicago Bidder To Make Salary Check for City

Plans for a comprehensive salary survey for the city advanced another step last night when the City Council awarded a contract for the three-part study to J. L. Jacobs and Co. of Chicago.

The firm submitted a low bid of \$11,500 for the survey. Earlier, city officials had earmarked \$19,000 for the study.

Councilmen called for the comprehensive study last January when they considered

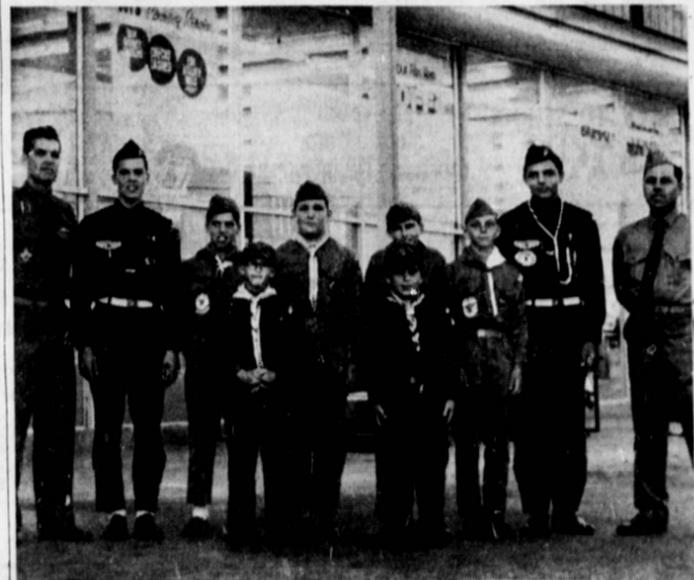
employ salaries. Arguments about the validity of some surveys made by employ groups and city officials led to the decision to hire an outside firm to conduct a thorough study of salaries and city employ classifications, as well as to establish a "comparable labor market."

FIRST PHASE of the survey calls for the Jacobs representatives to meet with councilmen, city management officials, and employ groups to establish the comparable labor market on which the remainder of the survey is to be based. If agreement cannot be reached, the contract will be terminated.

Once the survey area has been established, Jacobs and Co. will undertake a comprehensive study of job classifications, including job descriptions, and wage scales. The survey is expected to be ready in January, 1966, when the council once again considers the question of employ salaries.

ORIGINALLY, city officials intended to have employ groups participate in the selection of a firm for the survey, thereby binding those groups to the results of the survey. Employ groups, however, have since declared selection of the firm to be a "management prerogative" and indicated they do not want to give up their rights to question the survey, City Manager Edward J. Ferraro told councilmen.

Despite the switch, councilmen felt the survey was worthwhile. Mayor Albert Isen called it "quite a bargain" and said he felt the "money would be very well expended."



PLAN BREAKFAST . . . Scouts in charge of planning for the annual Scout Breakfast sponsored by Boy Scout Troop 242 of North Torrance discuss plans with Troop 203 Scoutmaster Marvin Stoutsenberger (left) and Troop 242 Scoutmaster Arthur Blanco (far right). Scouts are Darryl Stoutsenberger, Explorer Post 203X; Dennis Stoutsenberger, Troop 203; Doug Huey, Troop 725; Jack West, Troop 948; Glenn Kaiser, Troop 242, and Mike Lovecky, Explorer Post 725X. In front are Tim Moore, Cub Pack 310C, and Greg Magles, Cub Pack 733C. The breakfast will be held Saturday, Sept. 18, at the Boys Market, Redondo Beach Boulevard and Van Ness Avenue.

Taxpayers Get Word It Still Smarts

Most of the city's taxpayers may be breathing a sigh of relief today, now that the official tax rate has been set for 1965-66.

The new rate, slightly less than half a cent under last year's rate, has been approved by the Board of Supervisors.

Most Torrance taxpayers will pay a combined rate of \$9.4554 for each \$100 assessed valuation, compared to \$9.46 in 1964-65. The bulk of that money—\$5.0076—will go to the Torrance Unified School District and El Camino College. Los Angeles County will get \$2.4150 and the city of Torrance will collect \$1.2380 for each \$100 of assessed valuation.

The remainder will be split between the Metropolitan Water District (14.25 cents), the county flood control district (44.77 cents), and the county sanitation district (19.46 cents).

School taxes declined nearly 9 cents, but both the county and the flood control district added a total of 8.5 cents to their rates.

Two Held in Burglary - - -

Two Torrance area men were charged with burglary Tuesday and an accomplice is being sought after officers reportedly surprised the trio leaving a Lomita doctor's office. Arrested were Floyd Kirtley, 21, of 21400 New Hampshire Ave., an unemployed construction worker; and Carol O. Cunningham, 22, 23532 Dolores St., a laborer. Harbor Division police arrested the pair near the offices of Dr. Roger A. Thill, 25916 S. Western Ave., about 2:30 a.m. Tuesday. A third man reportedly fled with the loot.

Woman Faces Court - - -

Twenty-two-year-old Nancy Elizabeth Messer will be arraigned Friday in South Gate Municipal Court on a charge of attempted murder after her husband, Dixie Messer, 36, was shot in the couple's trailer home at 2031 Pacific Coast Hwy., late Sunday. The suspect is free on writ pending Friday's arraignment. The victim is reported in good condition at Harbor General Hospital.

Bandit Takes \$700 - - -

A huge bandit with a pockmarked face fled from the Redondo Beach Western Union office with more than \$700 after a 4 p.m. robbery yesterday, Redondo Beach police were told. The clerk on duty described the bandit as being more than 6-foot tall and weighing about 250 pounds. The man was armed with a small automatic weapon, officers were told.