

# Planners Approve New North-South Streets

Torrance

# Press-Herald

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## Municipal Court Judge Otto Willett Succumbs

### Routes Approved For Two Streets By Commission

Torrance city planners approved a precise plan for the extension of Madrona and Maple avenues between Sepulveda and Lomita boulevards during the Wednesday night Planning Commission meeting.

In effect, the measure would allow a building moratorium to be lifted in the area covered in the plan.

"It's another way of handling the problem," said Stan Swarts, planning associate.

ALTHOUGH the city council will not have to revise the master plan of the city, it will have to approve the precise plan, Swarts said.

The plan reserves the right-of-way for the city through the future industrial area between Crenshaw Boulevard on the east and Hawthorne Boulevard on the west. The northern boundary is 235th

Street while the southern boundary extends to Lomita Boulevard.

Completion of streets under the plan also would allow landowner Dan Butcher access to his presently landlocked acreage. The street extension would open the property on both Madrona and Maple avenues.

COMMISSIONER George Brewer objected to the plan because it was a substitution for a master plan change and due to the fact that the Hawthorne Freeway may be routed through the section.

The Planning Commission voted 4-2 in favor of the proposal after a vote of 4-2 against a motion to deny the plan.

Commissioner Gerald Alter opposed the plan with Brewer because of the commissioner's previous action on the matter July 7.

### Youngster Struck by Vehicle

A child, neighbors said was often running into the street near his home was struck down by a car Thursday as he wheeled a small scooter into the street on Fern Avenue near 228th Street.

Andre Philip Fortin, 4, of 22703 Fern Ave., was taken to Little Company of Mary Hospital after being hit by an auto driven by Jonathan Powers Boutin, 18, of 1327 Amapola Ave., but was reported recovering at home on Friday.

The child appeared in the path of the auto at 22703 Fern Ave. from behind a parked car and was hit after Boutin skidded 45 feet. Witnesses said the driver was traveling between 25 and 30 mph when the child entered the street.

Four-year-old Andre was hurled 24 feet on impact and suffered multiple abrasions to his back, knees and elbows. Attendees also suspected internal injuries.

Driver of the auto was not held by Torrance police.

### Four Men Arrested For Theft

Four Los Angeles men were arrested Thursday night on suspicion of burglary by Torrance police while the men were cruising in an auto near the Douglas Aircraft Co.

Officers Larry Bloise and David Hancock stopped the men after they observed them cruising through the Harvey Aluminum parking lot and then make a traffic violation on Western Avenue south of 190th Street.

Arrested were Calvin Lewis, 20, of 154 W. 65th St.; Gill Walner, 19, of 1531 E. 80th St.; Charles Roberts, 20, of 1744 W. 4th St.; and Wendell Robinson, 20, of 1787 W. 37th St.

The officers stopped the vehicle after it attempted to turn into the Douglas Aircraft service road about 2:30 a.m. A search of the auto and persons turned up a credit card and payroll check not owned by any of the four—some, gloves and tools.



OTTO B. WILLETT  
Veteran Judge Dies

### New Gains Reported By Library

Circulation figures from the five Torrance libraries showed an increase of about 700 during July over the July, 1966, period, according to William S. Geller, county librarian.

Geller, in a report on public use of the Los Angeles County Libraries, said an increase of about 5 1/2 per cent was noted throughout the county.

Total circulation for the five Torrance branches was reported to be 56,723, compared to 56,093 for July, 1966. The figures for individual branches are: El Retiro, 8,733; Isabel Henderson, 11,265; North Torrance, 8,809; Torrance, 20,734; and WALTERIA, 7,142.

Only the Torrance and North Torrance branches show increases compared to the same month last year. Slight decreases from July, 1966, were reported by the remaining branches in the city.

Circulation figures for the Lomita Library are 5,975 for last month, compared to 5,336 for July, 1966.

### At Institute

Anthony V. Carrillo, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Carrillo of 1645 W. 223rd St., has enrolled at Northrop Institute of Technology in Inglewood. He is a graduate of Torrance High School.

### Rites Held for Veteran Jurist

Otto B. Willett, presiding judge of the South Bay Municipal Court until earlier this month, died early Friday morning at Little Company of Mary Hospital.

Judge Willett, who was admitted to the hospital last July 31, succumbed at 6:45 a.m. His death was blamed on congestive heart failure and anemia.

The veteran jurist, who was elected to his third term as presiding judge of the South Bay Court last December, resigned that post Aug. 8 at the urging of his doctors. He had served as presiding judge in 1961 and 1964.

"His doctors believed the pressures of office were too much," Mrs. Glenna Rae Willett, his wife of nearly 30 years, explained.

A VETERAN of nearly 25 years on the bench, Judge Willett also had served as Torrance city attorney and for four years was engaged in private practice in this city.

"We have lost an outstanding jurist," Fred Benson, a Redondo Beach attorney and past president of the South Bay Bar Association, said. "One of unimpeachable honesty and integrity. His 25 years on the bench have been a tribute to the entire judicial system."

Today would have been the 25th anniversary of Judge Willett's first appointment to the bench. He was appointed Torrance City Judge Aug. 19, 1942.

JUDGE Willett was born Feb. 8, 1912, in Effingham, Ill. He attended the University of Illinois, where he received a bachelor's degree in journalism in 1929. He came to California and enrolled at the University of Southern California.

He earned his law degree in 1936 from USC and was admitted to the California State Bar the same year.

Judge Willett practiced law for four years with an un-

broken record in the Palos Verdes area and, in 1940, opened law offices in Torrance.

FROM 1942 until his election to the South Bay Municipal Court in 1952, Judge Willett served in courts throughout the county on assignment from the Chief Justice of the State Supreme Court.

In 1952, he was elected to the South Bay Municipal Court when the new judicial district was created. He was reelected in 1958 and 1964. His current term would have expired in 1970.

Judge Willett was a member of the Torrance Masonic Lodge, a past president of the Torrance Rotary Club, and the 35th exalted ruler of the Redondo Beach Elks Lodge. He was a member of the YMCA, the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, and the Hollywood Riviera Homeowners Association.

IN ADDITION to his widow, Judge Willett is survived by two sons, Steven, 26, is attending the University of Oregon, where he is studying for his master's degree. William, 23, recently was commissioned an ensign in the U. S. Navy.

Private memorial services were conducted at the White and Day Mortuary Chapel in Redondo Beach, with burial in Pacific Crest Cemetery.

### Meeting Slated On Property Tax

Property owners from throughout Torrance have been invited to attend an organizational meeting Wednesday to determine possible courses of action about "excessive tax assessments."

Walter Witanen said the meeting will be held at 1215 Crenshaw Blvd., at 8 p.m. All property owners are invited to attend, he said.



A ROYAL KISS ... Cy the Sea Lion gives Princess Caroline of Monaco a royal kiss during a tour of Marineland Thursday. Princess Caroline, accompanied by her brother, Andrew, 9, and sister, Stephanie, 2 1/2, and her father, Prince Ranier, spent most of the day touring the huge Marineland exhibits. (Press-Herald Photo)

### Opens Tomorrow

## Union Bank Moves Into Tower Office

Union Bank's South Bay Regional Office will open its doors for business tomorrow, head offices serving Southern California. Each regional Bank Tower building located in the Del Amo Financial Center, Hawthorne Boulevard and Carson Street.

Union Bank's new regional office is one of 10 regional head offices serving Southern California. Each regional head office carries on the

work hard as a team to "money engineer" the financial requirements of our customers to give them maximum flexibility."



JOHN M. HEIDT  
Heads Regional Office

The new office, staffed by 26 employees and headed by John M. Heidt, regional vice president, will occupy major portions of the plaza and garden levels of the building.

"We are a regional headquarters bank which has all of the customer service departments of a downtown metropolitan bank, including trust, international, escrow, commercial, real estate, installment, and accounts receivable loan departments," Heidt said.

"OUR EXPERIENCED personnel have major lending authority. This is an important benefit to growing, vibrant companies in the area since they can satisfy their financial requirements at the local level with our type of banking. Consumers, including housewives and professional people can also get expert counsel with regard to their financial needs."

tradition of providing complete banking services under one roof with special emphasis on personal service.

"We have a permanent staff of imaginative and creative bankers who have dedicated their careers to the South

HEIDT POINTED out that in spite of the bank's recent move into the area last May, it is not a newcomer to the area.

"We have many long-time customers in this area including landowners whose ancestors were the first Spaniards to settle here," he said.

The bank has actively demonstrated its confidence in the South Bay in providing the construction funds for many projects including the Del Amo Financial Center.

"We want to continue financing worthwhile projects that will contribute to the growth of this dynamic area," Heidt said.

### Meeting Slated

Members of the Torrance Board of Education will convene at 7:30 p.m. Monday for a regular meeting. The session will be held at the school district administrative offices, 2335 Plaza del Amo.

### Getting to Know You

## Familiar Bandit Gets \$632 in Area Robbery

The familiar face and note of a robber appeared over the counter at Tammy Thompson's teller window at South-west Savings Wednesday. This time, the bandit escaped with \$632 only two weeks after he had robbed the same teller at the savings and loan.

Employees told Torrance police the same man who walked into the savings and loan, 1603 Cravens Ave., and took \$1,561 Aug. 2 after threatening the teller with an unseen weapon, casually handed the same teller a similar note demanding money.

said, "You know what to do with it. Put the money in it." Although no weapon was seen, the teller complied by filling the bag with \$632.

As the familiar suspect left, hidden camera's were activated by bank employees. The film has been sent to the FBI in Long Beach for study.

The man was described as about 23 to 25 years of age and weighing 160 pounds.

As in the first robbery, the thief fled through a rear door into an automobile and drove down the alley at the rear of the savings and loan.

## Seibert Memorial Fund Mounts

By ED FREUDENBURG  
Press-Herald Staff Writer

The David N. Seibert Memorial Fund has reached \$1,023 in contributions for the slain Torrance police officer's widow, according to Johnny Johnson of the Torrance Kiwanis Club.

Of this amount, he said, \$750 has been contributed by two organizations, while the remainder has been donated by individuals in amounts of from \$1 to \$25.

"It's hard to see when funds will be turned over to his widow," Johnson said.

PLANS ARE for the Kiwanis Club to turn over the money after contributions

cease, Johnson said. A check for \$500 was presented to the fund during Tuesday's Torrance City Council meeting by Harvey Aluminum, Inc., and a check for \$250 has been contributed by Union Bank.

Meanwhile, police are still searching for the prime suspect in the murder, Jerry Lee O'Brien, while his mother has been arraigned in South Bay Municipal Court on charges of aiding the prison escape.

Mrs. Betty Lee O'Brien was arraigned Wednesday on charges of aiding an escapee and receiving stolen property in her North Hollywood home.

The 68-year-old woman awaits preliminary hearing Sept. 5, on charges which include aiding in the escape

from a Tulare County prison camp. Prison officials reported that the woman was seen in her auto a short time before her son was found missing near the camp in June.

O'BRIEN has been formally accused of the murder of Officer Seibert last Aug. 10 at the Foods Co. Market in Torrance as he was attempting to stop a robbery. The suspect escaped with \$15,000 and has been identified as the man who robbed a drug store in the San Fernando Valley last Sunday.

Also sought in the case is Bartholomew James Blackburn Jr. who has been charged of armed robbery in another case.

### Honor Police, Firemen ---

A salute to the Redondo Beach Police and Fire Departments will be the theme for a luau to be sponsored by the Redondo Beach Jaycees Friday at 6:30 p.m. at the Marine Park Swimming Lagoon. Glenn Johnston, president of the Jaycees, said the luau will give all residents of the city a chance to express their appreciation for the efforts of the two departments. Tickets are priced at \$3.50 per person and all profits will be donated to the South Bay Mental Health Clinic.

### Police Arrest Cab Driver ---

A cab driver was arrested by Torrance police vice officers for possession of marijuana for sale Friday in his home at 4702 Cathann St. Arrested was Roger Rupe, 23, after officers found three bags of what they believed was marijuana in a bedroom at his home. Officers contacted his parents prior to the actual arrest and asked if they could look through their son's belongings, discovering the three bags.

### City Files Nuisance Suit ---

The city of Torrance has filed suit against Hiebert, Inc., furniture manufacturers, to prevent the company from continuing manufacturing operations on residentially zoned property at 17001 Yukon Ave. The complaint charges the company's "operation and maintenance is a public nuisance," at the location, zoned for multi-family residential units. A permanent injunction from operating manufacturing opposed to city ordinance is contained in the suit filed Wednesday in Southwest Superior Court.