

Pioneer Auto Dealer Buried Day Before Christmas

NEW ZONING, LICENSE LAWS PASSED

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POKEY FULL AS LOCAL POLICE ROUND UP HOLIDAY DRUNKS

Police Nab 7 Drunk Drivers On Xmas Day

Although more than 450 people died throughout the nation in Christmas holiday traffic, not a single fatality was recorded in the Torrance area, and only 10 minor accidents were listed during the past week.

In two of the crackups, seven persons suffered scratches and bruises. The lack of incidence of serious wrecks was attributed to the diligence of the Torrance police forces, who picked up potential victims before they became involved in accidents. Seven were arrested and charged with drunk driving, five of them in the wee hours of Christmas morning.

Four people were hurt Christmas afternoon when a car driven by Donald W. Sylvia, 21, 1818 Marshall Field Lane, Redondo Beach, went out of control and overturned on 190th St. near the KNX transmitting tower. Sylvia told police he had pulled out to pass a car, saw another vehicle coming toward him, and pulled back in. The front wheels of the car dug into a soft shoulder and spun the auto across the boulevard, where it flipped over.

Sylvia, Thelma Irene Sylvia, same address; Robert Earl Pearcey, 13, 2311 Marshall Field Lane, and Charles E. Block, USS St. Paul, Long Beach, were treated at Harbor General Hospital for minor injuries and released.

Three Injured
One hour later, three people were injured when two cars collided at the intersection of Carson and Figueroa Sts. Victims were Jay C. Tyler, 31, 1843 Marinette St.; Eugene V. Fogelman, 35, 21105 LaSalle St., and Norma Tyler, 28, same Marinette

Factory Blast Kills Former Torrance Man

An explosion at the Taylor Forge in Fontana Friday night claimed the life of Cecil F. Kennedy, 39, a former Torrance resident and employee of the National Supply Co.

Details of the accident were not available yesterday, but it was reported that the death was instant.

He leaves his wife, Syble, and three sons, William 17, Carl 15, and Jimmy 12, in Bloomington, the family home near Fontana.

Also surviving are his father, Silas Kennedy, an employee of the Torrance Plumbing Co., and two brothers, Silas B. and Alvin Kennedy, both residents of Texas.

Funeral arrangements are pending in Bloomington.

Broom Sale 'Best'

Paul Diamond, chairman of the Lions Club Brooms for the Blind sale, reported yesterday that "incomplete returns on our checks for the Blind Sale indicate that the club will show a profit of over \$700. This is the best sale we have held to date."

address. Tyler and Fogelman were listed as the drivers involved. They were treated and released at Harbor General Hospital.

Other accidents, of the fender-banging kind, included:

Tuesday, 8:02 a.m., at 182nd and Crenshaw, between cars driven by Marvin Bore, 2821 W. Carson, and Dorétn Mae O'Connor, 15239 Doty, Lawndale.

Tuesday, 8:10 p.m., at Acacia and Sonoma, when a car driven by Ino Iva More, 449 213th St., swerved to avoid hitting another automobile, jumped the curb and mowed down a section of fence surrounding the home of W. F. Bartholomew, 1524 Acacia Ave.

Hit-Run Charges

Wednesday, 12:03 a.m., at Carson and Border when a car driven by James M. Parker struck two vehicles parked at the curb, and then left the scene. Parker was picked up shortly after by Torrance police and booked in charges of hit-run driving.

Wednesday, at 2 p.m., at 178th and Hawthorne, three cars played carom when Louis K. Thresher, 5244 W. 119th Pl., Inglewood, slammed on his brakes to avoid striking an auto driven by Robert G. Heisler. Thresher's car was struck by one driven by Virginia L. Jones, 1619 W. 205th, whose vehicle was in turn struck by one driven by C. J. Gonzalez, 638 1st Pl., Hermosa Beach. Heisler was booked for being drunk in and around an automobile.

Wednesday, 4:09 p.m., at Hwy. 101 and Ward, between cars operated by Raymond W. Morgan, 24216 Adolph, and Herbert Albert Hofacker, 3864 Coldbrook, Long Beach. Morgan was booked for drunk driving.

Wednesday, 6:28 p.m., Luther R. Ruff of Escondido reported to police his car was struck by another at the corner of Carson and Western. The driver of the other vehicle kept going east on Carson Ruff said.

Wednesday, 8:05 p.m., at Cabrillo and Santa Fe, Kenneth L. Johnston, 2760 Gramercy, said he stopped at the sign and his car was struck from behind by one driven by John F. Jelma, 2130 Santa Fe, Jelma was cited for drunk driving.

Thursday, 6:10 p.m., at Torrance and Crenshaw Blvd. Three cars played "bumper, bumper, who's got the bumper" with minor damage to all vehicles. They were driven by John W. Soules, 704 Trolley Way, Venice; Wilbur L. Sanderson, 1003 Portola, and Robert G. Turner, 1125 N. Bufiley Blvd., Hermosa Beach.

Friday, 3 p.m., on Border Ave. just south of Carson, cars driven by Raymond A. Stanczak, 22413 Martella, Wilmington, and George P. Chaney, 9212 2nd Ave., Inglewood, collided in front of National Supply Co.



HUSTLERS... When members of Cub Scout Pack 241 asked M. L. "Shorty" Modeland if they could sell tickets in front of the Jim Dandy store here Saturday he said yes. And immediately he was besieged to buy the first ticket to the pancake breakfast to be held at the market Jan. 10. From left to right are Robert Jones, Phillip Nickol-Modeland, Eddie Dawes, and Grant Carner.

City Attorney To Head Bar Association

City Attorney James Hall will head the Inglewood-South Bay Bar Association for the year 1953.

A member of the Redondo Beach firm of MacFadden, Browne, and Hall, the city attorney was elected at last week's meeting of the association, held at the Potrero House in Inglewood.

Other officers for 1953 are James L. Potts of Inglewood and Robert Gooch of Hawthorne, vice presidents; James Townsell, Inglewood, secretary; and Jerry Fine, Westchester, treasurer.

John McCall of Torrance is included on the new Board of Governors. Other members of the Board are Eric Rafter, Hermosa Beach; Enrico Verga, Inglewood; John P. Barry, Her-

HERALD TO BE CLOSED ON NEW YEAR'S DAY

Offices of the Torrance Herald will be closed next Thursday, New Year's Day, it was announced yesterday by Publisher Grover C. Whyte.

Normal office hours for classified, editorial, and display advertising departments will be maintained Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, he said.

Whyte also announced that there would be no carrier delivery of the Thursday Torrance Herald because of the holiday. The twice weekly carrier delivery of the newspaper will be resumed on Sunday, Jan. 4, 1953, with the first publication of the Herald's 39th year in Torrance.

The staff of the Torrance Herald takes this occasion to renew its wish for a Happy New Year to all its readers.

City Gets New Land Use Law After Year Wait

City administrators have two new and up-to-date ordinances to guide them following action of the City Council Tuesday evening in adopting a new land use ordinance. Complete copies of each new city ordinance appear in today's Torrance Herald as legal advertisements.

No major changes were made in either ordinance, city officials point out. The two laws, on the books for 10 years, were streamlined to be more easily administered in the fast growing city.

The land use ordinance, down officially as City Ordinance No. 612, redefines the boundaries of the various zones of the city and puts a definition of the types of structures which may be erected in each zone.

The land use ordinance, under study for more than a year by the City Council, was adopted Tuesday after public hearings had been held by the planning commission and the Council.

The new license ordinance was adopted as an emergency measure in order to put it into effect Jan. 1—when all business and other city licenses become due. Otherwise, the ordinance would have been delayed for at least six months.

Business Leader Gives \$500 to Hospital Fund

A donation of \$500 to be added to the growing fund for the new Maternity Wing of the Torrance Memorial Hospital was presented to the Torrance Hospital Association last week by Jacob G. Koch, founder and co-owner of the Star Furniture Co.

Koch, an honorary member of the Torrance Rotary Club, routed the donation through the club, according to Donald Armstrong, president.

The check has been added to the \$1000 recently contributed to the fund by Lawrence Harvey of the Harvey Machine Co. Plans for the new wing will soon be on the drafting boards and an all out drive will be opened sometime next year, a spokesman for the hospital said yesterday.

Koch has been a liberal contributor to the hospital during his many years as a Torrance business leader.

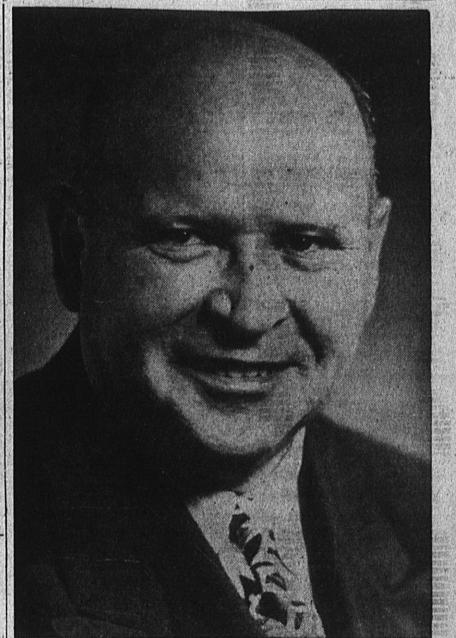
Torrance National Bank Acquires Big Parking Lot

To provide ample free parking for bank patrons, the Torrance National Bank at Marcellina and Sartori is acquiring three vacant lots opposite the Post Office on Marcellina Ave. in the block across from the bank property, it was announced yesterday by James W. Post, president.

The parking area, capable of accommodating up to 60 cars recently has been operated as Central Auto Park. However, as soon as the present lessee vacates the property, the three business lots will be surfaced

with black top macadam and the entire 90 by 140 foot area will be enclosed with an attractive chain fence and neatly landscaped.

An attendant will be placed in charge of the property and free parking for bank patrons will be available between 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. each legal banking day, Post stated. At other hours, the parking facilities will be made available to customers of local merchants. Entrances to the bank parking



GEORGE J. PECKHAM SR. ... Death of Pioneer Mourned

Final Tribute Paid To George Peckham

Friends and relatives paid final tribute last Wednesday to George J. Peckham Sr., one of the city's pioneer automobile dealers, who died suddenly Sunday after visiting friends in Palm Springs.

A member of the firm of Schultz and Peckham, Ford dealers, since the agency was opened on Sept. 9, 1921, Mr. Peckham was an active leader in the community. He was a past president of the Torrance Rotary Club, a past president of the Torrance Retail Merchants, and an active force in the organization of the present day Chamber of Commerce.

Services for the late Mr. Peckham were held at the Stone and Myers Chapel here Wednesday morning with Rev. Cecil J. England, pastor of the First Christian Church and a brother member of the Rotary Club, officiating. Interment followed in Inglewood Park Cemetery.

Coming to Torrance in 1921, Mr. Peckham and his brother-in-law, Charles Schultz Sr., established the city's first and only Ford agency, Charles C. Schultz, father-in-law to Mr. Peckham, and the father of Charles Schultz Jr., was associated with the firm during its early years in Torrance.

As the company broadened its field, the firm expanded to the \$1000 recently contributed to the fund by Lawrence Harvey of the Harvey Machine Co. Plans for the new wing will soon be on the drafting boards and an all out drive will be opened sometime next year, a spokesman for the hospital said yesterday.

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handle Mercury and Lincoln Zephyr autos as well as other Ford lines. Later the agency devoted its full time to handling Fords. The firm now features English-made Ford cars, called the Consul and the Zephyr, along with the Ford line.

Mr. Peckham was a past president of the South Bay Automobile Dealers' Assn., which was organized to administer to affairs of the association during the difficult days of the NRA. As a pioneer business man in Torrance, he took an active interest in supporting the Chamber of Commerce during the early days and later served several terms as a director. He also served two terms as president of the Retail Merchants Assn.

When the Torrance Rotary Club was founded in 1924, Mr. Peckham was one of the first to join the newly-organized service group and was active in Rotary committee work for many years. He was elected to the presidency of the club in 1940.

A native of Bowdle, S. D., where he was born on Dec. 26, 1894, Mr. Peckham worked in a Ford garage at Santa Ana from 1913 until he came to Torrance in 1921.

Death of the pioneer Torrance businessman came suddenly Sunday evening after he and Mrs. Peckham had spent the evening visiting friends. He collapsed as he was about to enter his car, according to his widow.

Besides Mrs. Peckham, he leaves three children, George A., Robert S., and Mrs. Mary Clara, all of Torrance. Five grandchildren also survive.

His son, Robert, recently assumed an active role in the management of the Schultz and Peckham agency, along with Charles Schultz Jr.

The Peckhams, who had been married for 38 years, lived at 1518 Post Ave.

Rev. Wheeler's Father Passes

The Rev. Paul Moore Wheeler, former rector of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church here, conducted funeral services Wednesday morning for his father, Fred Wheeler, 72, in his church, St. James Episcopal, at Newport Beach.

The deceased also leaves his widow, two daughters, Mrs. Elizabeth Bowden of Monrovia and Mrs. Natalie Shoehy of Pasadena, and two other sons, Richard of Honolulu, and William of San Francisco.