

Trio Jailed as Police Crack Down on Juvenile Gangs

'Not the Man' Say Victims In Rape Suspect Show-up

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CANINE-UPLETS . . . Twins Pat and Mike Derouin, of 1625 Beech Ave., find they have more than double trouble on their hands with their pet, Cocker "Blonde." She gave birth to nine (count 'em) pups. "Dinner time poses a problem," says the twins, "because there is only silverware setting for eight!" (Herald photo).

Kids' Day Sales Net Club \$1500

Sponsors of the Kids' Day celebration last Saturday, the Torrance Kiwanis Club, netted a \$1500 profit to be used to finance youth activities within the city, Joe Doss, chairman of the event, reported yesterday.

Ticket sales brought in approximately \$1600 while another \$320 came into the club treasury through the sale of soft drinks and hot dogs which added to a donation of \$125, brought to gross receipts to \$2045. Expenses amounted to \$583, Doss said. The money will be used to underwrite the cost of transporting Torrance children to Alondra Park pool where the city reservation department sponsors a least-swim campaign each summer.

Climaxing the day's activities Saturday afternoon was the awarding of three major prizes. Top prize winner was Mrs. Anthony C. Perry, 1403 Madrid Ave., who won a \$200 diamond ring donated by Lawson's Jewellers. Miss Sandra Constance, Miss Torrance of 1953, who assisted Kiwanis Club president Chuck Ragsdale with the awarding of the ring picked three "ducks" before Mrs. Perry came forward to claim her prize. Had the holders of these numbers, 1808, 2012, or 2630 attended the afternoon affair they would have won the ring.

Other prize winners were Jack Eardley, 911 Cota Ave., who has a new car radio donated by

Stepfather of Former B of E President Dies

Funeral arrangements were still pending yesterday for Willie T. Taylor, 81, 2810 Sierra St., wife Dr. Howard A. Wood, former president of the Torrance Board of Education, vacationing with his wife in Honolulu, remained unaware of his stepfather's death.

Wood and his wife left here Monday last week with Attorney and Mrs. C. T. Rippey to attend the Kiwanis Convention in Honolulu and are expected to sail from the islands next Thursday. "I have not notified my son of the death because I didn't want to spoil his trip," Mrs. Taylor wife of the deceased, said.

Taylor, a resident of Torrance for the past six years, died Sunday at Redondo Beach. Funeral arrangements had not been made at deadline time yesterday.

Ditches Rouse Parents' Ire

In an attempt to remove what they term an "attractive nuisance," members of the Pacific Hills Homeowners Association will meet with the Torrance City Council a week from tomorrow and ask councilmen to take steps to have two deep ditches in their vicinity filled or cleaned up.

The homeowners say that water in the ditches becomes a breeding ground for mosquitoes and poses a year-round health hazard for their children. One of the ditches in question runs parallel to the Rolling Hills Road, in the Weston Hills tract; the other leads from the Dicalite plant to the Pacific Hills tract.

Will Rogers Jr. To MC Rally For Cecil King

Will Rogers Jr., former publisher of the Beverly Hills Citizen and a prominent Democrat, will be master of ceremonies at the "Welcome Home" rally here Oct. 10 for Congressman Cecil R. King, it was announced yesterday.

The dinner in the Civic Auditorium, at which Attorney General Pat Brown will be the principal speaker, has been arranged by Torrance Democrats to honor the Congressman who was returned to office from the 17th Congressional District last November.

An important member of the House Ways and Means committee, Congressman King is expected to give his "Report from Washington" to the more than 600 persons who will be attending the dinner.

Tonight is the deadline for making reservations for the minute, according to Mrs. Irene Fraser, secretary of the Torrance Democrats. She may be telephoned at FAIRfax 8-0291.

The dinner committee, composed of Mrs. Ella Schwartz, Mrs. Rose Sarukian, and Mrs. Fraser, is busy completing arrangements for the dinner. The meeting will begin at 7:45 p.m.

Watchman Falls Into Pool, Dies

An elderly night watchman was killed Saturday when he tumbled into a partially finished swimming pool at No. 12 Crest Road, Rolling Hills.

His body was discovered the next morning lying in a pool of blood on the concrete bottom, at the 14 foot depth.

The man, Albert L. Crowthers, 82, of Los Angeles, was working as night watchman for a building contractor. Funeral services were held Tuesday at Chapel of the Chimes, Stone and Myers were in charge of arrangements.

Survivors include his widow, Elda Crowthers; a daughter, Doris Ethel Kerber, of North Hollywood; a son, Dr. Hearl Crowthers, of Oakland; a brother, Alonzo, of Arcadia, and two granddaughters.

Patriotic Thief Steals Church's American Flag

Someone, apparently more patriotic than honest, has stolen the American flag from the entrance hall of the St. Andrew's Church.

The flag, given to the church by Mrs. Sam Neeley, is hoisted by the Boy Scouts of the parish on Sundays and on all national holidays.

Rev. Arthur Bello says there is a sentimental value attached to the flag, and is offering a reward for the return of the emblem.

Burglar Pokes Hole in Wall To Loot Store

A burglar who pried open a rear door to an adjoining doctor's office and broke through a plaster wall to get in the building took about \$1000 from the Walteria Store early Sunday morning, the owner told Torrance police.

Detective Sergeant Percy Bennett said the burglar apparently used an oversized screwdriver found on the premises to pry open the rear door to the doctor's office. He then pounded a hole through the wall to enter the drug store via the men's rest room there. His entry did not set off the burglar alarm.

Stolen from the safe after the dial was pried off was the cash and checks on hand, owner Frank Vajo told police. He had no record of how much of the loot was in cash and how much in checks. Opening of the safe set off the store's burglar alarm and the thief fled.

Vajo told police that there was no evidence that any drugs or narcotics had been taken.

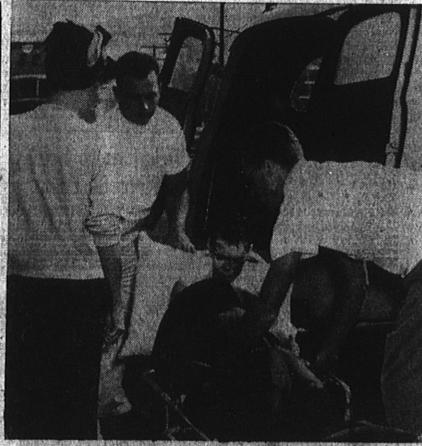
The store was entered about two years ago, but the sounding of the alarm frightened off the burglars before anything was taken, police were told at the time.

Police are checking out several clues left at the scene of the Sunday crime, Bennett said.

Named Fair Dairy Maid

Miss Lena Verburg, 18, representing Verburg Dairy at the County Fair last Saturday, was named Miss Dairy Maid at the fair in competition with girls from all over the area.

Miss Verburg, a native of Holland, has been in America about one year.



INJURED PASSENGER . . . South Bay Ambulance attendants Dick Sanders and Robert Aguilar prepare to load Virginia Jones, of Hermosa Beach, into the ambulance following an accident at Pacific Coast Hwy. and Hawthorne Tuesday afternoon. Standing by is Barbara Mary Arnett, 22, driver of the auto in which the injured woman was riding. (Herald photo)

Three Hurt In Walteria Auto Crash

Three women were injured, none critically, Tuesday afternoon when two autos collided at Pacific Coast Hwy. and Hawthorne Ave.

Taken to Harbor General Hospital were Lucille Ann Geary, 63, and Doris Geary, 32, both of 5132 Zakon Rd., and Virginia Jones, 23, of Hermosa Beach.

Lucille Geary, suffering from contused knees, was referred to a private physician; Doris Geary admitted with head injuries and her condition was described by hospital attendants as good. She was transferred to St. Francis Hospital in Lynwood yesterday.

Virginia Jones was held overnight at Harbor General Hospital for observation for possible head injuries, but was released yesterday. She was a passenger in a car driven by Barbara Mary Arnett, 22, of 1022 W. 225th St., who was not injured. The Arnett auto collided with one driven by Lucille Geary. The Geary auto, eastbound on Pacific Coast Hwy., was attempting to make a left turn onto Hawthorne Ave. at the time of the collision, according to Officer Don Nash, who investigated the accident.

Damage to both autos was extensive.

Torrance School Confabs Slated

Group conferences for parents will be held at Torrance Elementary school on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of next week, according to D. Boone Kirks, school principal.

All parents are urged to attend the meeting covering their child's grade, Kirks said. Meetings will be held from 7:30 to 8 p.m. on each night.

The schedule is as follows: Monday: First and fourth grades, plus the morning classes of the second and third grades. Tuesday: Afternoon classes of the second and third grades, as well as Room three. Wednesday: Fourth and fifth grade combination room and all other fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth grade classes.

Fire Prevention Bureau Set Up

Establishment of a Fire Prevention Bureau in the Torrance Fire Department was completed this week with the naming of Capt. Robert Lucas to head up the bureau as the city's fire marshal.

The bureau, under consideration for some time here, will be charged with the city's fire prevention work.

His first job, Fire Chief J. J. Benner said, will be to get some of the weed-grown lots in the city cleaned up. Other complaints which have been made to the department recently have been turned over to the new bureau, Benner said.

Members of the Fire Department will be rotated to the bureau for duty; Chief Benner said. Mrs. Joe Stahl, 2476 W. 251st St., who called police after hearing the girl sob out her story.

Pimple-Faced Man Hunted as Rapist

The police search for a pimple-faced man who kidnapped and raped an 8-year-old Torrance Elementary School girl last Friday morning moved into its sixth day yesterday after police brought two recent rape victims to the jail for a show-up of suspects which included a child molester arrested Tuesday night.

Neither of the little victims was able to identify the man as the fiend who kidnapped a girl and criminally attacked them.

Police identified the suspect as Albert Leidecker, 25, of 2806 Onrado, who entered a guilty plea in South Bay Municipal Court yesterday afternoon to charges that he violated a section of the Penal Code referring to annoying school children and loitering about a school.

He was arrested Tuesday after parents of a Fern Ave. elementary school student complained to Sgt. D. C. Cook that he had molested their eight-year-old daughter about three weeks ago.

Judge Otto B. Willett accepted his guilty plea and ordered him to return Oct. 21 to hear a probation report and for sentencing. He was remanded to county jail in lieu of \$500 bail.

Both crimes took place at almost the exact same hour in the morning.

Sgt. Cook brought to the Torrance jail yesterday morning the latest victim and showed her a group of six men and asked her to point out the man that attacked her if he was among the group. She could not identify any of the men as the one who kidnapped and raped her in an oil field last Friday morning.

In the showup was Leidecker, who was arrested Tuesday for molesting an 8-year-old girl in his home about three weeks ago. Later in the afternoon on Wednesday Sgt. Cook also brought to the jail the girl who was kidnapped last January. Her attacker was not among the men, she said. Her family has since moved to Downey.

Meanwhile, police throughout the area have been alerted to look for a youth driving a green coupe with a cut-down top. The rapist drove the girl to a lonely spot on Maple Ave. north of Sepulveda Blvd., raped her, then drove her to 251st St. and Crenshaw Blvd. where he let her go. She ran to the home of Mrs. Joe Stahl, 2476 W. 251st St., who called police after hearing the girl sob out her story.

A fourth member of the gang had told officers that he was 19 years old at the time of arrest, but admitted that he was only 17 later on. He was certified to juvenile court.

Sheriff's officers said that the four youths had chased two other boys, Lester G. Hinsley, 15, of 17008 Delia Ave., and Don F. Perea, 16534 Chanera Ave., in their car and had thrown rocks at and dented the two younger boys' automobiles.

The four chased Hinsley and Perea to Jack's Drive-In, 15421 Crenshaw Blvd., left their car and were advancing toward the two "in a menacing manner" when Sheriff's Deputies T. F. Hishop and E. J. Pia arrested them.

Deputies said that a search of the assailants' car uncovered three cans of beer, an ax handle, two bricks, several rocks, which were being used as missiles, four pieces of broken tile, and a 2x4 piece of lumber.

FLYING SAUCERITES? . . . When City Hall workers returned by their desks after lunch Tuesday they found evidence of having been visited by an unusual caller—maybe a space ship operator. Tiny footprints, small enough to be covered by a postage stamp, wandered across maps, charts, phone pads, and maps. The minute footprints are being investigated by people who investigate such things. (Herald photo)