

# Detectives Nab Armed Teenager at Gunpoint

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## Torrance Herald

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A Penny  
for  
your  
Thoughts

"What did you do during Christmas vacation?"

That was the question the Herald's inquisitive reporter asked several students encountered on the campus of Torrance High Schools this week.

Derene Elliott, 2340 238th St., Senior:

"Inasmuch as I was laid up at home with a bad foot most of the time, my activities were quiet ones. I read fashion magazines, did some knitting, and watched quite a bit of television."

Meryle Korpi, 22809 Pennsylvania Ave., Freshman:

"My folks recently bought a new home. I spent most of my vacation helping them landscape it. I gathered rocks for the flower bed planted trees and bulbs. Also read 'Sherlock Holmes' which I enjoyed enormously."

Arthur Grant, 2041 Kathy Way, Freshman:

"I visited several friends who go to other schools. We played ball in the park and I learned to play gin rummy. Just before Christmas we had a Canadian houseguest and I enjoyed swapping yarns with him."

John Cagaanan, 2019 W. 238th St., Sophomore:

"During my vacation I worked on my driver's education notebook for school and played a lot of games like Scrabble with my friends. I had badminton set for Christmas; and I made good use of that while I was at home."

Carla Conklin, 1212 Cranbrook Ave., Junior:

"I spent a few days in San Diego where I visited my parents. One day my boyfriend drove me to Big Bear, where I did tobogganing. Also went horseback riding, did some baby-sitting, and was busy dating."

Janet Hoch, 1722 Greenwood Ave., Junior:

"I had fun driving around the different neighborhoods to view the decorations. Took a trip to the mountains and San Diego, and stopped off at San Juan Capistrano. Also swam in friend's pool, saw a show, and baby-sat."

### Arrest Clears Burglary List

A pistol-packing teenager who had been the object of a city-wide search for several days was arrested by detectives early this week after a tense conference at gunpoint in a North Torrance residence.

The 15-year old youth, whose capture is said to clear up a wave of house burglaries here and in Palos Verdes Estates, was arrested by Lt. D. C. Cook and Detective Sgt. Donald Hamilton after the two officers had stalked out a rarely used detached rumpus room of a home which the youth had apparently been using as a hideout.

HIDING INSIDE the building, the two officers met the youth with drawn guns when he slipped through a window of the building. The boy drew a .22-caliber pistol when he spotted Hamilton and Cook, and ordered them to drop their guns.

It was a battle of nerves for a few seconds before the lad finally dropped his weapon at the officers' insistence, they reported later. They discovered after taking the suspect into custody that his gun was not loaded, although he carried a loaded clip in his pocket.

DETECTIVES said the youth had admitted about a dozen burglaries, but that he has been implicated in others. Loot from several recent burglaries has been recovered.

A block-by-block search of the North Torrance area was launched Sunday when the 15-year-old was reported seen in the vicinity of 183rd St. and Falda Ave. Police were unable to find him at that time.

A 16-year-old companion reported to be an accomplice of the arrested suspect, was picked up by police later.

### Bullets Halt Stolen Car In Wild Chase

An auto chase that began when the driver of a stolen car refused to dim his headlights Saturday night ended when Torrance police shot three bullets into the rear of the speeding vehicle.

Officer Kenneth Halbert and Reserve Officer Dave Large are credited with capturing a 16-year-old Huntington Park youth who was driving a vehicle stolen from Gabriel Garcia of Huntington Park.

The high-speed pursuit of the late model Chevrolet began at Palos Verdes Blvd. and Calle Miramar, where police first signaled the driver to lower his bright lights, and ended at Lenor St. and Anza Ave. where the fleeing vehicle was brought to a halt by the three bullets.

With its siren screaming and its red light blazing, the police car tailed the speeding Chevy along a jagged path up Pacific Coast Highway, across Tulita Ave. and around Palos Verdes Blvd. at speeds up to 80 miles an hour. Three warning shots failed to stop the fleeing car.

When the bullets in the car's trunk failed to stop the suspect, he attempted to escape but was cut off by an officer at each door of the stolen car.

### City Manager Talks To Combined Classes

Which form of city government is best?

That was a question that Torrance City Manager George Stevens recently discussed for members of Al Phelps' seventh and eighth grade class at Steele School.

### Oil Workers Set Date For Strike Vote

A strike vote by local oil workers looms next week unless union demands for higher wages and additional fringe benefits are met by General Petroleum Corp. Torrance Refinery officials by Jan. 14.

In a statement made by Richard T. Baumann, secretary-treasurer of AFL-CIO Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers, International Union, Local 1-519, Torrance, the union indicated that oil workers, who currently average \$2.65 an hour, have not had a wage boost in two years.

Union members in the East and Gulf Coast states recently voted in favor of a strike by a 90 to 95 per cent margin.

ACCORDING TO BAUMANN, "Similar results will occur here since the oil industry has stated it can afford all the cost items requested, but sees no reason to do so at this time."

A proposed three-year contract submitted by the union to the oil companies would provide a yearly wage hike and cost of living allowance, company paid medical plan, an improved termination allowance to be paid in the event of a wide-scale layoff, and a shorter work week to be invoked in the event of severe layoffs. Cost of the package deal, according to Baumann, would run 40 to 45 cents an hour over the three year period.

An alternative plan of a straight 25-cent an hour wage boost for a one-year period, would be acceptable to the union in lieu of the contract, the union spokesman stated.

### PACIFIC SMELTING CO. FOUNDER DIES IN L.A.

Jack Schwartz, chairman of the board of directors of the Pacific Smelting Co. of Torrance, died in Los Angeles New Year's Day on his 69th birthday. Funeral services were held last Friday at Hillside Memorial Park, where the body of the deceased was interred in the mausoleum.

Born in New York City, Mr. Schwartz moved to the West Coast during his infancy when his family made its home in



JACK SCHWARTZ Industrialist Dies



HOMECOMING... Judge Otto B. Willett returned home this week, occupying a judicial bench in Torrance for the first time since the city court was abolished six years ago. Returning with him when he was assigned to sit here in the Torrance branch of the municipal court was Mrs. Robert Lewellen, his clerk for 16 years. Judge Willett will be the first judge to occupy Torrance's new court building when it is opened, probably next month.

### Noted Pianist to Appear In Concert Here Tonight

Concert Pianist Leonard Pennario hailed as the "Wizard of the Keyboard," will be featured soloist here tonight in the season's second joint concert sponsored by the Torrance Area Youth Band and the Artist Concert Series. The program will open at 8 p. m. in the Torrance High School auditorium.

Pennario is among the most popular young pianists of the present generation, and has

### California Bank Buys Bond Issue

California Bank was the successful bidder Tuesday when the County Board of supervisors sold \$1,650,000 in Torrance Unified School District bonds.

The bank offered an interest rate of 3 1/2 per cent and a \$26,281 premium which reduced the interest to a net of 3.59 per cent.

These funds will be used by the district to help retire State aid apportionments, the supervisors were told.

THE FIRST concert of the season featured Violinist Tossy Spivakovsky, and the third, scheduled for March 11, will feature the Hollywood Saxophone Quartet. The final concert of the season on May 23 will feature as soloists the four scholarship winners in violin, piano, voice, and wind instruments in the annual Youth Band competition.

Admission to tonight's concert is by season ticket, or by single admission which may be obtained at the door.

### Board to Ask For Bids On School Jobs

Bids for 21 classroom additions at four elementary schools and a cafeteria kitchen addition at another school will be let soon, the Torrance School Board decided Tuesday night. Estimated cost of the work will be about \$500,000.

Final plans and specifications were approved and bids will be sought as soon as final approval is received from the State Department of Finance.

Edison, Steele, and Madrona Schools will get four more classrooms. Madrona also will get a new music room. At Walteria School, plans call for six more classrooms, a kindergarten classroom, shop and homemaking unit, and an addition to the administration building.

### Second Storm Due Saturday

The season's first major storm which dumped more than an inch of rain in a heavy downpour here early Tuesday morning did considerable damage throughout the city, a survey of the area showed yesterday.

Broadway Department Store's new building on the Del Amo Shopping Center was damaged when the main electric service panel was knocked out by rainwater.

Officials said the water seeped through a ground-level planter into the basement electrical vault, knocking out nearly one-third of the panel. Work on the multi-million dollar structure was halted by the power loss.

A number of trees were felled by the storm, and the Riviera's infamous Paseo De Gracia sump had to be pumped out early in the morning.

A number of intersections were flooded, and power transformers in the Torrance-Redondo area blacked out several areas of the city.

The city council Tuesday night approved a motion by Councilman Victor E. Benstead that the city replace the trees damaged in the storm.

The weather bureau reported yesterday that a second storm is expected to hit the area this week end.

### Pharmacy Raided By Dope Seekers

Two pharmacists were forced into a closet at gunpoint Tuesday when a pair of armed youths made their way through an open rear door of the Kaiser Foundation Hospital pharmacy in Harbor City to seek narcotics.

Armed with a .45 automatic, the thugs, who are described as being between 17 and 20 years of age, filled a cloth sack with several boxes of the drugs after warning pharmacists Bill Hendrickson of Harbor City and Sadao Mochidame of Long Beach to remain in the closet when they left.

The sketchy description given of the hoodlums by the pharmacists indicate that one wore a tweed coat and that one of the pair supposedly wore a gauze mask which slipped from his face to his neck during the robbery.

### Honored By Supervisors

Deputy District Attorney Benon T. "Tom" McNary, of 5304 Reese Road, was honored Tuesday by the board of supervisors for 35 years of service to the county.

Supervisor Burton W. Chace cited McNary in ceremonies at the board's regular Tuesday meeting.

McNary is currently serving as Deputy D. A. for the South Bay Municipal Court District with offices in Redondo Beach.

### Hardware Man New President Of City's Retail Merchants

George Naylor, owner and operator of Torrance Hardware, 1513-15 Cabrillo Ave., has been elected president of the Downtown Retail Merchants Division of the Chamber of Commerce to succeed Del Nadeau, of Allen's Jewelers.

Named to serve with Naylor as officers of the group were Paul VaKay of VaKay Yardage, vice president, and Vern Lovelady of Lovelady Hardware, secretary-treasurer.

A resident of Torrance for the past four years, Naylor is a native of North Dakota. Prior to coming to California 16 years ago, he was employed at the Fisk Rubber Co., Chicopee Falls, Mass., from 1917 to 1929, and the B. F. Goodrich Co., Akron, Ohio, from 1929 to 1942.

DURING HIS 12-year employment with Fisk Rubber Co., he served for 1 1/2 years in their New York office and four years in Singapore. At the time of his retirement from the B.F. Goodrich Co. he was manager of the crude rubber division of the purchasing department.

In 1942 Naylor came to California where he spent two years in retirement at Lake Elsinore, before making his home in Pasadena. He came out of retirement in 1945 when he was hired by the U.S. government following the termination of the war to serve as a liaison

in the Dutch East Indies to expedite shipment of rubber to this country.

He returned briefly to Pasadena in May, 1946. Shortly thereafter he was sent to Singapore to reopen their purchasing office there. He returned to Pasadena in 1949 and purchased a home in the Linda Vista section, where he lived until coming here four years ago to take over the Torrance Hardware Store.

A MEMBER OF the Chamber's board of directors, Naylor lives with his wife, Violette, at 422 Palos Verdes Blvd. in Torrance.

Also serving on the board of directors for the coming year are Leonard Barron of Karl's Shoe Stores; Paul Diamond of The Gay Shop; Carl Duncan, Trend O'Fashion; Sam Levy, Levy Department Store; Nadeau; J. H. Paget; J. J. Newberry's; Darwin Parrish, Parrish Stationers; Abe Robinson, Lawson's Jewelers; James Squire, Squire Style Shoppe; and O. R. Trueblood, McMahon's Furniture Store.

### Konya Mayor Cites History Of His City

Torrance's sister city of Konya in Turkey is the home of the famed whirling dervishes, it was learned here this week through a letter to Mayor Albert Isen.

M. Sitki Bilgin, mayor of Konya, wrote to his Torrance counterpart to say that Konya was founded in about the 13th century B. C., and had lived under the rule of the Hittites, Romans, Lydians, and Medes in its more than 3000-year history.

The information about the whirling dervishes was one of several bits of information passed on to Torrance's mayor by the Konya official.

The city of Konya is currently undergoing a period of rapid growth and development, Mayor Bilgin wrote. Like Torrance's mayor, the Konya official professes a "great faith in the future of our city."

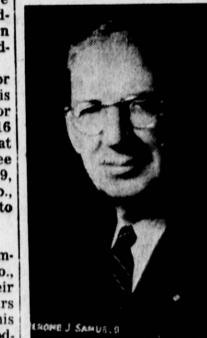
An invitation for local officials or residents of Torrance to visit Konya as guests of the city was extended by Mayor Bilgin.

Torrance and Konya are inaugurating an exchange of cultural information under the U. S. State Department "city-to-city" program.

### Dance Group to Get Under Way

A beginner's square dance class to be sponsored by the Businessmen's Assn. of Walteria will get underway at the Walteria Recreation Hall tomorrow at 7 p. m. The class will meet each Friday from 7 to 10 p. m.

At the conclusion of the series, the group will form a social square dance club open to the community at large.



GEORGE NAYLOR New Merchants' Leader