

# Two Quakes Jolt Torrance Area

Your Complete Community Newspaper  
Every Sunday and Thursday

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## Torrance Herald

North High Seeks  
New Grid Title  
(Sports, Page 6)

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# MAN KILLED BY HIT-RUN CAR

A Penny  
for  
your  
Thoughts

The Pennies photographer was out to find something unusual this week, so he asked several Torrance residents: "What is your hobby and why did you pick it?"

**Don Pollard, 1062 E. Jay St.:**  
"My hobby is working in professional racing. I don't drive, but I've been in racing for almost 18 years. It is a fraternity of unapproachable people and every one in racing would give you the shirt off his back. It's the only sport that hasn't been bribed."



**Mrs. Herbert Coe, 4717 Maricopa:**  
"I just started a hobby of mosaic work. I am now taking classes at the Torrance Recreation Department. I started because I want to do some decorating in my home and I thought I would have more fun doing my own mosaic work."



**Mrs. Richard Shively, 4730 Maricopa:**  
"My hobby is cooking—I love to try all sorts of new things. I have about 50 cook books now and I am looking for more. I'll try anything, from gourmet foods to the simplest dish. I think cooking is a lot of fun and it is a good way to discover new foods."



**John Sulkowski, 1601 Cabrillo Ave.:**  
"Preparing recipes for new drinks is my hobby. I started approximately 15 years ago inventing new drinks and adding to existing cocktails. I have never entered any competition along this line."



**Teri Cairns, 1553 W. 118th St.:**  
"Dancing and ice skating are my hobbies. I began dancing about 12 years ago because it is challenging and good exercise. Ice skating is a fairly new hobby with me. Someday I hope to turn my dancing hobby into a profession."



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## City Shaken By Temblors, Rated at 4.5

A pair of rumbling earthquakes about half an hour apart shook Torrance and much of the Southwest and Harbor areas Friday, rattling dishes and bringing on the almost instantaneous lighting of police switchboards throughout the area.

### City Issues \$3 Million In Permits

Building permits valued at \$3,005,657 were issued in Torrance during August, bringing the eight-months total to \$34,042,648. A total of 171 permits were issued.

Eight of the permits, with a total valuation of \$1,030,780 were issued for construction of apartments in the city. The eight construction jobs, when completed, will provide an additional 92 dwelling units.

Eleven permits were issued for single family residences, providing for 28 new homes. Also issued were 13 permits for new commercial firms in the city.

ONE OF THE largest permits of the month was issued to Arthur Gilbert for construction of the Gold's Furniture Store at Artesia Boulevard and Hawthorne Avenue. It was valued at \$316,300. A permit for \$327,950 was issued to builder R. A. Watt for construction of 13 new homes.

Also issued were two permits valued at \$235,000 each for apartments to be built by Ocean View Development Co., and a permit in the amount of \$198,640 for a new Safeway Market at Torrance Boulevard near Anza Avenue.

Radion Mfg. Co., Inc., took out a permit for construction of a factory building at 22625 Western Ave., and the city jail will build a test pit and drill tower on the airport property valued at \$67,887.

OTHER PERMITS include: Van Buren Building Assn., \$266,150 for apartments at 20606 Anza Ave. Dominguez Estate Co., \$34,000 for construction of shell buildings for four stores; four permits valued at \$50,280 each for construction of apartment units on Redondo Beach Boulevard, issued to the Moreau Construction Co.; and permits for Sunnylen Construction Co., Inc., to build six residences on 185th Street, \$143,880. The new dwelling units brought the total number of new homes built in Torrance since January to 408, while 1767 new apartment units have been built since the first of the year.

### 'Moral Issues' Offered Locally

"Contemporary Moral Issues," University of California Extension liberal arts discussion program, has been scheduled at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Pritzkat, Redondo Beach, beginning Sept. 26.

Further information regarding discussion group courses in the Southwest area may be obtained at BR 2-8911, ext. 3721.

Among the heaviest of quakes in recent years, the first at 8:51 p.m. was rated on the Richter scale at a magnitude of 4.5. The second one following at 9:17 p.m., was rated at a magnitude of 3.5.

Dr. Charles S. Richter, Pasadena seismologist, said the first quake was centered at sea approximately 200 miles south and west of the recording equipment at Pasadena.

The second and lighter of the two quakes was nearer, the noted scientist said, probably about 80 miles away in the same general direction.

The first shock had a duration of about 15 seconds and could have been damaging in the area had it not been at sea, it was indicated.

## Academy Graduates Officers

Four local men have completed an intensive 16 week basic law enforcement training program at the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Academy, according to Sheriff Peter J. Pithchess.

Graduates are: Harold J. Maestri, member of the Torrance Police Department, attended Torrance High School and El Camino College; Ronald C. Kellogg, member of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, attended Gardena High School; Gary W. Stephens, member of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Dept., attended Narbonne High School and Harbor College; James Farrar, member of the Torrance Police Dept., attended El Camino College and Santa Ana Junior College.

The cadet program presented at the Sheriff's Academy includes academic instruction in criminal law, physical fitness, self-defense, marksmanship, communications, and human relations.

Other fields covered are modern identification systems, investigation of traffic accidents, narcotics, robbery, pursuit driving, burglary, vice, auto theft, bunco, explosives, forgery, civil procedure, and emergency childbirth.

## Trustees Meet At West High

The Torrance Board of Education will hold its regular meeting tomorrow night at West High School. The board will convene at 7:30 in the school's cafeteria.

This is the first of several meetings to be held in several city schools. The moving trustees adopted the policy in order to give Torrance residents an opportunity to attend the meetings.



NEW SURFING RIG . . . Patrick Grozier, 21, of Redondo Beach thought he was going for his first airplane ride Thursday afternoon and wound up on Torrance beach instead when the light craft piloted by Rock Swanson, 19, of Long Beach was forced to set it down with a dead engine. Swanson yelled out of the plane's window, warning beach crowds to clear the way for the landing. After a checkout, the plane was flown from the beach. The plane had just left Torrance airport. (Herald Photo)

## Torrance Man Called Robbery Gang Bandit

Five members of an alleged robbery ring that equipped itself with two-way radios and a monitor for police broadcasts

## Man Held For Theft, Burglary

Arrest of a 28-year-old Lawdale man on charges of burglary, petty theft, and auto theft followed reports of a Los Angeles police officer that he saw the suspect opening a soft drink machine at 4:30 a.m. Saturday at Artesia and Prairie.

Taken into custody by the Los Angeles officer and turned over to Torrance police was Lester Leon Steffen, who police said had a ring of keys, one of which fit the lock on the soft drink dispenser, and a quantity of items reportedly stolen in a Redondo Beach burglary.

Officers said the temporary registration on the auto did not match the vehicle serial number, and believed the car had been stolen earlier in Gardena. Steffen told officers he had purchased the car in Nevada.

## Walter Boden Toastmasters Award Winner

Walter Boden's presentation, "Were You There?" brought in the best prepared speech award at the weekly meeting of the Torrance-Lomita Realtors Toastmasters Club 648.

Other awards at the breakfast session presided over by Don Mario were: "Table Topics," Charles Cederlof; best evaluator, Alden Andrew; general evaluator, Rodney Lewis, and toastburner, Alyce Keith.

The club meets each Thursday morning at 8 a.m. at the International House of Pancakes, Carson at Hawthorne. Guests are welcome.

have been turned over to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for prosecution.

Among those arrested follow an attempted robbery in San Fernando Valley Thursday was Clemeth G. Bender, 42, who has lived at 23305 Grant Ave. for two years, and Wheeler Taft Abbott, 40, of 16941 Merit Ave., east of Torrance.

ARREST OF THE five suspects followed a high-speed chase through the Canoga Park area in which Bender and Richard Parker, 35, of La Crescenta, were captured. Among the many banks and other firms allegedly robbed by the gang over a two-year period was the Cabrillo Savings and Loan in Torrance last February.

OTHERS ARRESTED include Leslie Bannister, 28, of Palm Springs, and Parker's wife, Doris, 25.

In reconstructing crimes attributed to the gang, police said one or two of the four men would be driven to the scene, usually by Parker's wife. Using walkie-talkie radios, the bandits kept in contact with the lookout who also monitored police calls.

Los Angeles police officers who investigated the case asserted that Mrs. Parker often took the couple's three chil-

dren with her on the cases, and was able to present a picture of a passing family when the alarm spread from the robbery scene.

The Bender family which includes six children had lived in the \$30,000 tract house on Grant Avenue for the past two years. Bender had explained his irregular hours by saying he was a salesman.

## Paul Diamond To Be Cited For Service

Paul Diamond, chairman of the Torrance, South Bay Committee on Employment for the Handicapped, will be presented with a special award for leadership in service to the handicapped by actress Janet Blair at a luncheon, Oct. 2, in the Biltmore Hotel, Los Angeles.

Murray W. Love, manager of the Torrance office of the California State Employment Service, announced the award and said officials from Sacramento and Washington, D.C., will participate in the program honoring Diamond.

Area residents are invited to attend and may make luncheon reservations through Melvin E. Sparks of the Torrance office of the California State Employment Office.

## Vice Principals Assigned To L.A. Schools of Area

Vice principal assignments for three Torrance area schools of the Los Angeles City School System have been announced by Robert J. Purdy, associate superintendent in charge of the elementary division.

LeRoy Christensen has been assigned to the Carson Street School at 185 E. Carson St.

Howard W. Nelson has been assigned to the 223rd Street School, 1123 W. 223rd St.

Mrs. Catherine E. Smith has been assigned to the Del Amo School, 1825 E. 213th St.

C. Van der Linden and Mrs. Evelyn L. Baker going to Catskill Avenue School at 23536 Catskill Ave., Wilmington; John Albert Calkins at Dolores Street School, 22526 Dolores St., Wilmington; and Lawrence A. Marquardt at Fries Avenue School, 1301 Fries Ave., Wilmington.

Assignment of two vice principals is done where a school has an unusually heavy administrative problem, Purdy said. Other assignments are made generally to schools with more than 1,000 enrolled, he said.

## Police Find Car, Search For Motorist

A 46-year-old Lomitan who had stepped from the vehicle in which he was riding following a minor traffic collision at 227th Street and Crenshaw Boulevard early Saturday was struck and killed by a speeding car which clipped the other vehicles and a third car traveling on Crenshaw.

Pronounced dead at the hospital after the accident was Vincent Ruelas, 25039 Walnut Ave., who was a passenger in a car driven by Olivia Castillo of Wilmington.

Police said the Castillo car and the one driven by William H. Badenius of Hawthorne had collided at the intersection, and that Badenius, the Castillo woman, and Ruelas had got out to survey the damage.

Harry Springer, passing the area moments later, was flagged down and requested to summon police. While the group was talking, Springer told police, the hit-run vehicle approached from the south on Crenshaw Boulevard at high speed. Those standing near the collision jumped for the side of the road, but Ruelas was struck by the auto.

ALSO HIT were the two cars involved in the earlier collision, and a vehicle being driven by Amelia Ann Boyer of Hawthorne. None of the others was injured.

The hit-run vehicle continued northbound on Crenshaw Boulevard and was found minutes after the crash on Sepulveda Boulevard just east of Crenshaw. Police said it is registered to a Long Beach man, but were told that he had sold it recently to a Torrance man.

A SEARCH for the driver was launched immediately. Police were given the name of the reported owner of the vehicle, but had little else to guide them in the search, traffic officers said yesterday.

Six other persons were injured in a series of traffic collisions in the city Friday and early Saturday, police reports show.

Taken to Kaiser Hospital in Harbor City for treatment following a crash at Cabrillo Avenue and Sepulveda at 6:47 p.m. Friday was Hugh Buchanan, 15, a Carson High School student living in Wilmington. He was involved in a collision with an auto driven by Gordon Louis Coates, 32, of 2145 W. 230th Place, officers said. He was treated for minor injuries and released.

THREE PERSONS were injured in a collision on Hawthorne Avenue between Carson Street and Sepulveda about 7:30 p.m. Lynn Gale Benharosh, 21, of Inglewood, driver of one of the vehicles, told in-

## 400 Hear Panel on 'Rights'

An audience of more than 400 persons at Torrance High School were told Friday night that "Segregation based on race, creed, or color can not withstand the bright light of reason."

The speaker was Kenneth Thomas, assistant counsel for the United Civil Rights Committee and one of three panelists who participated in a civil rights forum on Integration Problems in the South Bay.

Other speakers at the meeting, sponsored by the Centinela Bay Human Relations Committee, were Anthony Rios, vice president of the Community Services Organization, a Mexican-American group, and Kurt Moody, a representative of the American Friends Service Organization.

THREE OTHER announced panelists were not present. They were to have represented the attorney general's office, the real estate commission, and the Fair Employment Practices Commission. All three, said Robert L. Birgham of the Centinela-Bay Human Relations Commission, had been unable to attend. They had previously attended the forum on Aug. 17 and had been invited to return.

All speakers said the main concern in the area was in housing. State laws dealing with discrimination in housing were touched, and the groups which aid families were explained.

Rios, representing the Mexican-American groups, told the audience that the Bracero program had been the chief factor in the "deterioration of the Mexican-American economic status."

CHARLES F. Catterlin, president of the South Bay Bar Assn., served as moderator of the panel.

A question and answer period followed the formal presentation. The audience was orderly and attentive throughout the meeting, making the presence of about 10 police officers unnecessary.

## In The Herald Today

ARMED FORCES	7	COUNT MARCO	7
BIRTHS	11	CHARLES McCABE	6
ROYCE BRIER	4	MORNING REPORT	4
COMICS	7	PTA NEWS	10
CROSSWORD	2	PUBLIC NOTICES	11
DELAPLANE	4	QUOTES	4
EDITORIALS	4	SOCIETY	9-10
ANN LANDERS	9	SPORTS	6
LEGAL NOTICES	11	TALK OF THE TOWN	4
MAILBOX	4	TRAVEL	4
REG MANNING	4	WANT ADS	12-15