

City Gets Three Damage Claims

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Torrance Herald

A Scout Camp
Pictorial
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COP CHARGED WITH BURGLARY

Judge Issues Warrant Here For Sergeant

A Torrance police sergeant who would have completed 13 years of service next month, became the object of a citywide search Friday afternoon when a formal complaint charging him with burglary was issued at the request of department officials.

Sgt. Ralph E. Walker, the third member of the Torrance force to be implicated in two weeks, was named in a bench warrant charging one count of burglary issued Friday by Municipal Judge William B. Keene. Judge Keene set bail at \$1,050.

Walker talked to department officials early Thursday and was suspended pending the investigation, according to Lt. D. C. Cook, internal affairs officer for the department. He submitted a letter of resignation later, and told colleagues that he wouldn't run if they wanted him.

"I HAVE BEEN told by Chief Percy Bennett to handle this as we would any other burglary case," Lieutenant Cook said.

Walker was named in the complaint after two fellow officers reported the circumstances of a medical office break-in about 3:30 a.m. Thursday.

Officers Vince Davey and Bruce Randall, in a radio patrol vehicle, noted that the screen had been torn open and glass from a louvered window removed at the offices of Dr. Richard A. Sullivan at 22509 Kent.

CHECKING the building, one officer went to the front door and the other to the rear. When the officer left the back door without noticing any signs of an intruder, a man ran out and across a field.

Davey and Randall fired three shots each at the suspect, they told supervisors. The fleeing suspect dropped to the ground and the pursuing officers ran to the spot thinking he had been hit. They could not find anyone, however.

MOMENTS LATER a man approached them from the field and said:

"Don't shoot, it's me." He identified himself as Sergeant Walker. He said he lived nearby at 22322 Kent Ave., and had heard the shooting.

Walker, who has one son, has been separated from his wife. His record as a police officer has been outstanding and without a blemish, Lieutenant Cook said.

Sgt. Ralph E. Walker, sought to answer charges of burglary brought by Torrance police, surrendered to Lt. D. C. Cook, internal affairs officer, and Police Capt. John W. Maestri yesterday afternoon. Walker told officers he had been in Crestline and returned to the city where he saw newspaper reports of the charges filed against him. He will be arraigned in South Bay Municipal Court here at 9 a.m. Friday. He is free on \$1,050 bail.

South High To Present Three Plays

South High School will present three one-act plays Thursday, at 8 p.m., in the cafeteria. Tickets, on sale at the door, will be 75 cents for adults and 50 cents for students.

"Parted on Her Wedding Day or More to be Pitied Than Scorned," an old fashioned "meller dramer" by Leland Price, will feature the following cast: Robert Marich, hero; Mark Mendelsohn, villain; Katherine Walker, villainess; Patricia Montooth, heroine; Noreen Cork, Bowery Liz; and Gail Stuart, a neighbor. Kerry Smith directs.

The second drama, a play on words by Charles George is titled "When Shakespeare's Ladies Meet." Cast includes Celia Hawley, Karen Kennedy, Marilyn Castellano, Marie Stillwell, Kathleen Foley and Randall Cobabe. Director is Randy Adams.

"The Valiant," a drama by Holworthy Hall and Robert Middleman, to be presented by special arrangement with Longmans, Green and Co., New York, will complete the series. Actors are: Jay Stephenson, James Carney, John Gall, Edward Moss, Terri Leonard. Edward Moss will do directional chores.

George Wing Re-Elected Hi-Shear Boss

Stockholders of the Hi-Shear Corp. have re-elected George S. Wing as chairman of the board. The election was held at a meeting of the stockholders at the Torrance office of the firm this week.

The stockholders also approved a resolution to allow the board to adjust stock option prices in line with the current market value of the common shares.

Wing presented a report on the company's fiscal standing, and told the stockholders that the picture was very good. He said net earnings for the period ending June 30 were \$209,500, or 41 cents a share.

Driver Seeks \$100,250 for Crash Damage

Claims for damages totaling more than \$100,000 have been filed with City Clerk Vernon W. Coil, he revealed this week. The claims, filed by three persons, will be presented to the City Council at its 8 p.m. meeting Tuesday. Largest claim has been filed by Daniel Otto, Long Beach, who alleges that he was injured June 7 on 190th Street near Cerise Avenue when his car slammed through a street barricade and an object was hurled through the windshield of his automobile.

Otto claims medical expenses, vehicle damages, and

general damages totaling \$100,250.

IN SEEKING the damages, he alleges that the city had "negligently, recklessly, and carelessly left barricades in the traveled portion of the street without proper lighting."

In a separate claim, Shirley Sultan of 4541 Cadison St., asked for reimbursement from the city for damage allegedly resulting to her automobile when it struck a hole in the roadway on 190th Street west of Anza Avenue on July 11. Mrs. Sultan said two wheel rims had been damaged and needed to be replaced.

MR. AND MRS. David Rozas Jr., who said they had lived at 17032 Glenburn Ave. for four years, submitted claims for plumbing bills they had incurred during the period. A plumber called to the home again on June 25 told them he believed a sewer line was broken or that the house had not been connected to the trunk sewer by a lateral.

City crews found that no lateral had been installed, and it has since been corrected by the city, the couple claimed.

However, the plumbing bills, damage to plumbing fixtures, floors, and onset of dry-rot as a result of the missing lateral are being claimed by the couple.

All claims will be presented to the City Council Tuesday.



AFTER RANCHERO TITLE . . . Gaye Kirkland, 18-year-old West High grad, has entered the Rancho Queen contest under the sponsorship of the Torrance Junior Chamber of Commerce. Miss Kirkland, a trim 5-ft., 2-in. brunette with blue eyes, plans to enter El Camino this fall to pursue a liberal arts course. In the meantime, as this photo by Jaycee Bill Smith shows, she hopes to rope the Rancho Days queen title.

Free Concert Scheduled By Torrance Dance Band

The Imperials Dance Band, the newest charter club in the Torrance Recreation Department, will present a concert today at the Torrance Park

Bandshell. There will be no charge for the program which begins at 2 p.m.

Popular music will be featured and the entire band will participate, supplemented by smaller combo groups. The band was formed over a year ago by Jim Davidson as an outgrowth of the recreation department's "Fun Through Music" program.

RECENTLY, the club organized a parents' group, elected a board and was granted a charter.

Elected to serve on the board the first year were: Gordie Helgeson, president; Carl Childs, vice president; Mae Park, secretary; Fred Petry Sr., treasurer; and George Belcher, activities chairman.

Comprised of some 20 instrumentalists of high school age, the Imperials perform annually for several recreation department activities, some of

which are Aquacade, co-recreation teen club dances, area park dances and Sunday park concerts.

Band engagements during the year have included participation in the Los Angeles County Battle of the Bands contest, performance at the Good Teachers' Conference sponsored by the Torrance Education Assn., dedication of the Recreation Center, and Parnelli Jones Day.

Gordie Helgeson, president of the board, has stated "Playing for civic functions is one of the intended purposes of this group."

The Imperials offer 12-piece, eight-piece, and five-piece groups and are available for adult and teen-age dances. Booking agent is Carl Childs, FR 5-3247.

Golf Course Under Way at County Park

A new regulation 18-hole golf course with driving range will be built at Victoria County Park, 19101 Towne Ave., Supervisor Kenneth Hahn has announced. Preliminary plans for specifications were prepared by golf course architect William F. Bell.

Hahn pointed out the County Retirement Board will finance all construction. The board will then lease the facility to the county and the course will pay for itself through green fees.

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IN CONCERT TODAY . . . Mike Johnson (left) and Bob Girolamo check over score for one of the numbers to be presented by the Imperials Dance Band in a concert at the Torrance Park Bandshell at 2 p.m. today. The band, begun a year ago by Jim Davidson as part of the Torrance Recreation Department's "Fun Through Music" program, will concentrate on popular music during this afternoon's free concert.

A Penny for your Thoughts

While on a newsmen's trip to Lake Arrowhead Scout Camps this week, we asked several area Scouts: What is the Cedar Badge training program all about, and how do you expect to use your training?

Rick Laller, 2811 W. 170th St.: "This week of camping is for leadership training. We were elected by the troop to attend this camp and when we go back, all of us try to teach other members of the troop what we've learned here."



Gary Maupin, 17903 Doty Ave.: "Two boys from my troop came up, and when we go home we will train other boys in the same skills that we are learning now. We will probably be patrol leaders so that all members get the benefits of this week of training."



Larry Patrick, 20819 S. Dalton St.: "I plan to use my Cedar Badge training to teach other boys in my troop the skills and duties of leadership. I will help our scoutmaster and I hope to become a patrol leader in my troop."



Dave Stubbs, 4508 Toucon St.: "While up here, we get training for running patrols and helping the scoutmasters. We are taught different techniques for teaching, and it also is a lot of fun to spend a week at the camps up here."



Richard Roberts, 22720 Elm Ave.: "I've been assigned by my troop to learn the skills of teaching others. I will help to teach others in the troop the same skills which I have been taught this week. This week also helps me to learn new skills and to have some fun."



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