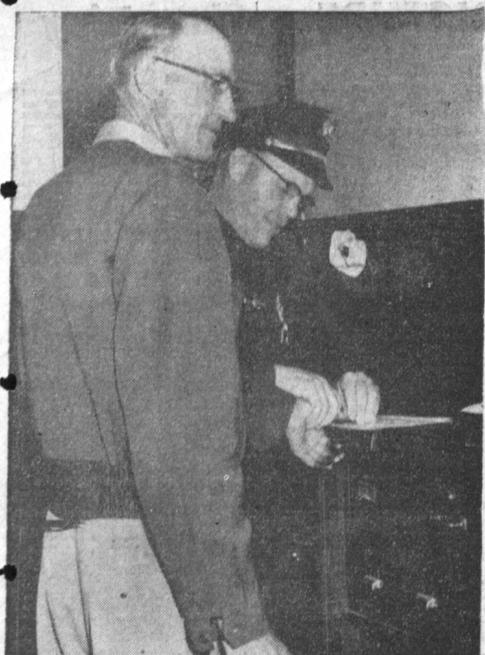


MAN SHOTS YOUTH, 17, CLAIMS SELF-DEFENSE

TORRANCE PRESS

Conveniently Located at 1406 Cravens Avenue — Phone FAirfax 8-2345

VOL. VII | 1 2 ■ THURSDAY, JUNE 2, 1955 — TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA NO. 8



LYLE STONER, 51, being fingerprinted by Lt. Karl Friberg.

Stoner's Help Sought By Kids

Claiming that he received a blow on the head causing his shotgun to discharge, a North Torrance man said he clambered to his feet firing another blast which struck a 19-year-old youth Monday night.

Booked on suspicion of assault with a deadly weapon was Lyle K. Stoner, 51, of 4244 W. 179th st., Torrance.

Stoner is out on \$1000 bail. Injuries

Taken to Harbor General Hospital with serious though not critical injuries were Marcelles Hart, 17, of 4100 Sepulveda Blvd., Torrance. The rifled shotgun slug traveled through the right hand, right thigh, groin, and out the left thigh. Hart was sitting in a car when he was struck, according to police.

Witnesses, including some friendly to Stoner, said they saw no one strike the man, according to police.

Course of Events

Incidents leading up to the shooting were as follows according to investigating officers: Sgt. D. C. Cook, Det. Sgt. Percy Bonnett, and Det. Capt. Ernie Ashton.

A North Torrance youngster and his girl friend, noticing that their car was being followed by another car, in which Hart and two other juveniles were riding, tried to get home because they were afraid of trouble.

When the Hart car blocked the driveway of their home, the youngsters drove into the neighboring Stoner driveway and appealed to Stoner for help.

Thereupon Stoner and his (Turn To Page 10)

Council To Hear Rabies Ordinance

The proposed rabies ordinance calling for the compulsory inoculation of all Torrance dogs against rabies will come before the city council this Tuesday, June 7, according to the city attorney's office.

Tuesday's council meeting will start at 5:30 p.m. The council chambers are located in the City Hall, Cravens corner of El Prado.

The council can do one of a number of things at that time. It can vote on the measure right there and then, it can postpone consideration of the matter till another night, it can call for a formal hearing on the issue.

The council can do one of a number of things at that time. It can vote on the measure right there and then, it can postpone consideration of the matter till another night, it can call for a formal hearing on the issue.

In Favor Of A Compulsory Rabies Law

The Torrance City Council will soon consider the possibility of enacting a compulsory rabies vaccination law for dogs. The best way of convincing the councilmen that Torrance residents want such a law is through as many individual endorsements of the measure as possible.

We urge all local residents favoring such a law to sign this coupon and send it to the Torrance Press as soon as possible. These endorsements will be turned over to the City Council.

"I WOULD LIKE TO URGE THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL TO ADOPT A COMPULSORY RABIES VACCINATION ORDINANCE FOR DOGS IN ORDER TO PROTECT TORRANCE RESIDENTS AND DOGS AGAINST OUTBREAKS OF THE DEADLY RABIES DISEASE IN THE FUTURE."

Name: (First) (Middle) (Last)

Address: (Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

Date: (Month) (Day) (Year)

(Return this coupon to: "Rabies," Torrance Press, 1406 Cravens Ave., Torrance)

Uranium Hunters Locate Missing Cyclist In Desert

Lomita Mailman Ends Life

Seemingly worried over financial obligations, a Lomita mailman apparently shot himself through the head in a wooded section in Palos Verdes Thursday morning.

Slumped beside a tree, the body of Joseph D. Bechthold, 42, of 25312 Narbonne avenue, was found by an 11-year-old boy on his way to school.

The man was wearing a mailman's light grey cotton uniform shirt and trousers and a dark blue wool jacket, according to Lennox police.

A .45-Caliber revolver was lying in front of the body with one expended cartridge.

Announcing Our Kiddie Column ...!

Attention all parents! Here's a chance to tell others the cute things that junior comes up with and which alternately leaves you amazed, agog, and amused.

Starting in two weeks, the Torrance Press will print a weekly column called "With Love and Kisses, Junior!" in which we will report the zany and brainy doings of our pre-adolescents.

To do this we need your cooperation. Whenever your youngster does something or says something which has you rolling in the aisles, tearing your hair, or leaves you speechless, give us a call so we can record the incident for future generations (and incidentally, for the amusement of our readers).

You'll also enjoy saving the clippings for your family and youngsters.

Though we will not start this column for another two weeks, you may already start calling or writing to us as of today. Call FA. 8-2345 and ask for the "Junior" editor or mail your little gems to: Junior Editor, Torrance Press, 1406 Cravens Ave., Torrance.

The highway frontage will be used for a commercial development and shopping center, while the south portion will be developed for residential use. The property was sold by the Southwestern Portland Cement company. Chandler operates a large sand and gravel firm at 26301 Narbonne avenue.

EDITORIAL The Parking Problem and Fair Play

Last week the City Council abruptly squelched a request to investigate the possibility of converting a section of El Prado park (from Cravens ave. back only as far as the present city parking lot) into additional parking area for the downtown shopping center.

This request submitted by the Retail Merchants division of the Chamber of Commerce was denied on the grounds that the request did not come through "proper channels."

We maintain that not only was the matter treated in a manner unbecoming of city officials, but the merchants were not even given the consideration of a thorough investigation into the matter.

Our downtown merchants certainly deserve as much consideration as the merchants who will soon be located on the airport triangle at Crenshaw Blvd. and Pacific Coast highway.

The City Council has bent over backwards to invite businesses into this new development and has created 4,000 parking spaces for the Triangle merchants.

This shows foresight on the part of our Council. However, it is not right to favor one part of the city and ignore another. The downtown merchants have been serving our community for many years. They have contributed to the growth of this community and have lent their efforts to the civic betterment of Torrance.

For years the city has been asked to help in the improvement of downtown parking and has promised aid in off-street parking, but it has been a slow and tedious process.

On the other hand, the Council has exerted every effort to create the Triangle shopping center overnight with more than ample parking. Why can't the Council display the same initiative and interest in solving our downtown parking problem now!

With better parking conditions, our merchants would be able to offer more in the way of goods and services, thereby giving Torrance residents a more complete and convenient shopping center.

OILMEN PLAN JOINT DISPOSAL SYSTEM

About 75 per cent of Torrance oilmen representing 40 firms appeared at a formal hearing of the Water Pollution Control Board No. 4 in Torrance last Thursday and indicated for the record what action they would take to change their brine disposal methods.

Eleven firms still ignored the summons to appear. The board will now go ahead and set certain standards for these firms which they will be told to comply with.

Among the commitments received from 18 of the oilmen present representing around 40 firms was that they intend to install a joint disposal unit in the area bordered by Sepulveda, Crenshaw, Walnut and 240th st., as well as along Pennsylvania ave. between 227th st. and 233rd st. to Eshelman on 233rd and south on Eshelman to 240th. In charge of the plans is Earl Robbitt.

It is anticipated that the main sewer line, skimming tanks, and tile will be installed within 120 days. The project will cost \$18,000, the expense to be borne (Turn To Page 18)

Or, GEIGER COUNTER ENCOUNTER

A couple of uranium hunters weren't too successful prospecting but they did come across one unexpected find — a missing Torrance motorcyclist.

Cyclist Herbert A. Sischo, 26, of 927 Arlington ave., Torrance, vanished Saturday from an 80-mile endurance run near Red Mountain, above the Mojave desert in San Bernardino county.

Unable to fix a broken primary chain on his motorbike, Sischo spent the night in the lonely desert spot.

Although he was able to light a fire, he was afraid to sleep for fear of starting a brush fire. He had no water or food along.

The following day, Sunday, two uranium hunters happened along in their truck. They told Sischo that they had no intention of making any side-trips on account of (Turn To Page 10)

IT'S TIME TO SEND IN PICTURES

June 16, two weeks from today, the Torrance Press will start its annual amateur photo contest, which will continue for six weeks.

A finalist will be chosen each week and at the end of the contest six prizes will be given away, the top prize being \$50 in cash.

Starting today, you may turn in your pictures for the first week's judging. The winning picture will be reproduced in the Torrance Press every week, starting with the first one June 16.

The following information should be submitted with the picture: Name, age, address, and telephone number of the individual taking the picture; identification of the scene or individuals in the picture; type of camera; speed and shutter (Turn To Page 10)

POLICEMAN'S SON SAVES COP'S LIFE

Jumping into a runaway car as it careened down a steep hill, the son of a Torrance police officer helped save the life of a Newfoundland policeman and received an Air Force commendation for his heroic action.

A/3C Joel Friberg, son of Police Lt. and Mrs. Karl Friberg of 1205 Greenwood avenue, saw a driverless car coming down a hill as he was walking along a street in St. John's, Newfoundland, May 3.

Friberg, seeing that the auto was heading straight for a policeman whose back was turned to the car, jumped into the vehicle and diverted its course just a few yards from the unsuspecting officer.

Col. W. H. Wise, USAF, commander of the Peppercell Air Force Base, sent a letter of commendation to Friberg's parents which read in part:

"The action performed by your son is indeed worthy of commendation and appreciation by both the military and civilian authorities in this area. We wish to convey to you this official recognition of his exemplary action."



JOEL FRIBERG cited for heroism

COUNCIL BRIEFS

PARK IMPROVEMENTS: Park Improvements, as recommended to the council by the recreation department, were dropped by the council with two exceptions. Walteria and Seaside parks are to receive cement walks rather than rock and oil gravel walks.

HODY'S RESTAURANT: The fate of Hody's restaurant as proposed for the corner of Crenshaw and Pacific Coast highway appeared in doubt this week. The city is having difficulty getting the recapture clause removed by the government, but will make one more attempt.

REZONING: An ordinance rezoning parts of North Torrance commercial but permitting the Food Co. development on the (Turn To Page 18)

IT'S GONE AND SHE'S SO HAPPY

"Golly, I had about 20 calls Thursday and people still kept calling the following day," Sue Chapman of 2323 246th street, Lomita, exclaimed.

Cause of her amazement were the terrific results she had when she placed a classified ad in the Torrance Press to sell her bicycle. This is how the ad read:

FOR SALE—Girl's bicycle. In excellent condition. Call DA. 6-2990.

Naturally she sold the bike right away. Place your ad in the Torrance Press classified section. You'll be tickled pink with the results.

Call FA. 8-2345 now. A friendly classified salesgirl will help you word your ad just right and keep it short and sweet. You pay so little and gain so much!

Here's Where To Vote This Coming Tues. Virtue Rewarded

Torrance voters will decide the fate of a \$10 million school bond needed to build 20 more schools by 1960, at an election to be held this coming Tuesday, June 7.

A total of 19,973 registered voters are eligible to vote. Polls will be open between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.

General election precincts have been consolidated into (Turn To Page 10)

Voters Urged To Support Local School Bond Issue

Torrance residents will decide the fate of a \$10 million school bond issue at an election to be held this coming Tuesday, June 7.

This money is urgently needed and it would be disastrous if the bond issue should fall, Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools, stated.

Torrance, which now has 20 schools, will need 20 more schools within the next five years to accommodate 15,000 more students who are expected to move into this area within that time.

That is the reason why local residents are asked to approve the \$10 million bond issue, Dr. J. H. Hull explained.

This means a tax increase of about 10 cents per \$100 assessed valuation. As it now stands, the city will have 18 elementary schools and two high schools in operation by 1955-56, housing over 15,000 students.

Previous Bond Issues This program, which started in 1947, was supported as follows: Four bond issues: 1947, \$1,504,000; 1950, \$2,090,000; 1952, \$3,000,000. 1954, \$3,000,000. Plus \$1,500,000 Federal funds; \$5,000,000 operating budget. Total \$11,504,000.

20 More Schools The proposed \$10 million bond issue would provide Torrance with the following: 18 more elementary schools, and one or possibly two high schools. The Torrance school district now has a student enrollment of 15,000. Another 15,000 students are expected by 1960. The proposed bond issue has been endorsed by the Torrance (Turn To Page 10)



DATE of 1955 Miss Torrance Contest is written on beach sands by Shirley White, 20, who was winner of the contest in 1952. The annual competition is sponsored by the Torrance Area Youth Bands, Inc. (Turn To Page 18)

Beauty Contest Opens

Opening of the 1955 Miss Torrance Contest was announced today by James Van Dyck, director of the Torrance Area Youth Bands, Inc., sponsors of the beauty competition.

Selection of the city's reigning beauty is slated for July 29. Entrants must be between 15½ and 30 years of age, unmarried and residents of Torrance, according to Van Dyck.

The winner will be chosen by a panel of judges on the basis of appearance and poise. Contestants appear in both bathing suits and formal gowns for judging, which event is open to the public.

This is the fourth year the contest has been sponsored by the Torrance Area Youth Band. (Turn To Page 18)

Vote 'Yes' on School Bonds This Tuesday