

DIAL-A-PRAYER
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COURTESY OF
HALVERSON-LEAVELL
MORTUARY - TORRANCE

Parrot Invasion Indicates Torrance 'for the Birds'

As if the city of Torrance isn't growing rapidly enough, its population has been further increased by a flock of wild parrots.

Where they came from or just how long they've been here has not been determined but a sizeable group of the green-plumaged birds has decided to call Torrance "home."

The parrots, perched high in the mop-like palm trees between Portola and Cota Ave. on Sierra St., can be heard squawking loudly and seen fluttering back and forth in the morning hours—usually before 10 a. m.—but are relatively quiet and hard to locate after the breakfast hour.

Clumsy Birds
Parrots are relatively clumsy birds when compared with some of their winged friends that soar gracefully through the air, but are nevertheless strong fliers.

Its native habitat is usually a tropical forest, where it lives on seeds and fruit, so the birds' decision to nest in Torrance is indeed strange.

The parrots were seen earlier in the year behind Torrance High School on the old tree road, but there was only speculation as to where they came from.

Rumors circulated that the birds might be of the yellow-headed variety from Mexico, but only the bright green plumage can be seen on the birds in their lofty perch.

Smuggled in
To coincide with the Mexican parrot theory, it has been further surmised that the birds were brought into the U. S. from across the border by tourists or smugglers but were released before reaching the border authorities for fear of being nailed with contraband birds.

Use classified: Call DA 5-1515



EXAMPLES OF HOSPITALITY surround Mrs. Emilio Jaramillo and baby Helen Rose, first child born at the Harbor Osteopathic Hospital. Dr. Fredric Strange (left), Torrance physician, delivered the child on opening day of the hospital. Gifts were donated by merchants of Lomita and Harbor City.

Dogs Must Be Licensed
Canine owners are reminded by the municipal license department that licenses are due by July 1 for dogs over four months. The licenses are issued for \$3. Certificates of recent rabies vaccination are to be presented before issuance.

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