

Shop and Save During \$ Days--Friday and Saturday

GUNMAN ESCAPES WITH \$1400, MOVIE SHERIFF TAPED TO BED



(Herald Photo) THE EVIDENCE . . . Joe Greene, manager of the Harbor Drive-In Theater, shows the tape with which he was bound Monday when three bandits hit the theater for \$1368 and escaped. "When this stuff gets twisted, you could tow a truck with it," he commented.

Thieves Grab \$, Go 'That-a-Way'

Bound hand and foot, the sheriff watched three bandits escape with nearly \$1400 Monday morning—and Hopalong Cassidy was nowhere to be seen.

The movie-like drama was enacted very realistically Monday at the Harbor Drive-In Theater, 2344 S. Vermont Ave., where Manager Joe Greene, who has played the part of the Sheriff in numerous western movies, was stuck up by a nervous gunman and two accomplices who disappeared over the horizon with \$1368.07 and left Sheriff Greene bound with tape on the bed.

Greene, who talked the bandit out of gagging him by explaining that he has sinus trouble, chewed through the tape with his teeth and called for the law.

Ruse Gains Entry

He told police that the ornery varminths had entered his office-bedroom behind the drive-in at about 9:15 a.m. on a "lost wallet" ruse, rousing him from bed.

After pulling a green baby blanket out of the trunk of his car to cover the license plate, Greene said, one of the bandits entered the office—presumably to leave his name and address.

Once inside, he said "don't bother" and pulled a gun. The bandit then walked Greene up to the snack bar in the center of the drive-in, and forced him to open the safe. They then walked back to the office, and while a dowdy female accomplice held the gun, the bandit bound Greene with tape.

Waits in Car

The third member of the trio waited in their getaway car—a '51 or '52 light green Pontiac sedan.

Greene said that he wasn't worried except when the young

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Channelization Money Voted, Work Due by Fall

Board Nixes For Alondra New Name

A suggestion by Mayor Nicholas O. Drate that the name of Alondra Park be changed to Darby Park has been rejected by the Board of Supervisors.

Drate made the suggestion about a month ago, he said. He indicated he believed it would be a fitting tribute to the late Supervisor Raymond V. Darby, who died about a year ago. Darby was instrumental in obtaining the park for the area.

The Supervisors declined to change the name because a park in Darby's home town, Inglewood, already bears his name, and because Alondra Park designates a specific general area.

Drate said he was not aware of the Inglewood park at the time he made the suggestion. A plaque might be placed in the park to honor Darby, he suggested.

Supervisor Kenneth Hahn pointed out that the Supervisors are still considering a plan to change the name of a portion of La Cienega Blvd. to Darby Blvd., and that the change is expected in the near future.

Council Orders New Hearing On Trailers

Building Permits for 236th St. Trailer Court Ordered Withheld for Aug. 3 Public Hearings

Plans of J. L. Walker to construct an 80-unit trailer court on 236th St. between Arlington and Pennsylvania may have hit a snag in the City Council here this week when a large delegation of neighboring property owners visited the Council protesting the variance and causing the Council to order another public hearing on the matter for 8 p.m. Aug. 3.

Board Foresees Valuation Jump, Raises Budget

Estimating that the assessed valuation of Torrance will jump up another \$5 million before final figures are in, the Board of Education raised its tentative budget figure for '54-'55 by more than \$80,000 Tuesday night.

The school budget, previously approved tentatively by the Board, was \$3,602,936. The new figure is \$3,684,872—a rise of \$81,836.

The Board's estimate—which usually comes pretty close—puts the city's assessed valuation at \$32 million for next year—a rise of more than \$5 million from the preliminary figure released recently by the County Assessor—\$76,488,280.

This amount does not include public utility valuations, or deductions to be made by the Board of Supervisors in equalization hearings.

An assessed valuation of \$32 million would be a gigantic increase of more than \$20 million over last year's final total, which was \$61,313,410.

Merchants Fill Counters with Sale Bargains

A gigantic semi-annual Dollar Days bargain sale will get under way in Torrance stores tomorrow morning with the city's merchants cooperating in the display of bargains throughout the downtown area.

Leading merchants of the area have advertisements in today's 36-page TORRANCE HERALD calling attention to the bargains which they are offering at drastically reduced prices.

The bargain-conscious housewife will find offers of clothing, shoes, household goods, and other articles at prices which can be offered only during such sales as the one scheduled for this week-end.



(Herald Photo) PILOT DAVID VONDERAHE . . . Loses Life in Crash

Final Rites Held For Young Pilot

Friends and relatives paid final tribute yesterday to David Vonderahe, 20-year-old pilot who was killed Sunday when his light plane crashed on take-off from the Elsinore Glider Field in Elsinore.

A native of Torrance, the young pilot was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Vonderahe, of 1452 Engracia.

An enthusiastic pilot, Vonderahe had earned the respect of many veteran pilots with his soaring skills in gliders. He kept his glider aloft last October for 4 hours and 2 minutes at the annual glider competition at Elsinore to win a second place trophy and last February won fourth in national competition at Torrey Pines by staying aloft 4 hours and 10 minutes. He won this spot against the best soaring pilots in the nation.

Passenger Hurt

Vonderahe was pronounced dead on arrival at Riverside County General Hospital Sunday. His passenger, James Douglas Robb, 20, of 1307 Rolling Knolls Dr., Harbor City, was hospitalized with critical injuries. The two had attended an air show in Riverside earlier and had been talking to glider pilots about soaring contests to be held at Elsinore later. Vonderahe had indicated earlier in the week that he did not plan to enter the competition this year.

The death plane was one purchased by the young pilot earlier Sunday, and was flown by Al Trefethen, Lomita fireman and pilot, in the air show at Riverside that afternoon. Vonderahe had flown the plane to Riverside for the show and picked up Robb there to bring him home, friends of the pair report. They stopped off at Elsinore to chat with glider pilots and were taking off for the Torrance Municipal Airport when the plane winged over, stalled, and crashed.

Young Vonderahe was graduated from Mt. Carmel High (Continued on Page 3)

Survey Due on Walks

Channelization of Pacific Coast Hwy. and installation of protected left turn lanes in the portion of the highway from Hawthorne Ave. to the Redondo city limits was assured this week with the announcement that \$185,000 had been appropriated for the project.

In a letter to Assemblyman Vincent Thomas, P. O. Harding, assistant State highway engineer, said that plans for the construction are completed and in Sacramento headquarters, and that "we anticipate early advertising of this contract so that construction should start some time this fall."

The question of painting crosswalks, however, will have to wait until officials make a further study, Harding wrote. He told the Herald later, however, that it could be inferred from the State Highway Commission's action in appropriating the \$185,000 that the matter of a stop sign at Calle Mayor or other intersections would be carefully considered and would be put in if deemed necessary. This will also be the case of crosswalks, he said.

Survey Needed

City Manager George Stevens said that an official request from the city for a survey of pedestrian concentration in the area will be sent to the State, in answer to their suggestion along this line.

Speed limits of 45 miles per hour along the entire length of the highway in Torrance became effective this week with the posting of signs throughout the area. State officials have indicated that units of the California Highway Patrol may be put on the highway to assist local officers in enforcing the speed limit on the long, straight stretch of four-lane highway.

Herald Classifieds are Too Good!

. . . do you blame our classified manager for thinking so last weekend when he noted the score of cancellations of ads to appear two or more times . . . the merchandise was sold, house rented, situation filled, etc., the very FIRST DAY the ad appeared!

Actually, we're quite thrilled about it and know you are, too.

These rapid, low-cost results stem from THE HERALD'S new policy of full newspaper coverage for ALL of the growing GREATER TORRANCE AREA.

You can COUNT on THE HERALD for coverage!

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(Herald Photo) SNIPPING OPERATION . . . Assemblyman Vincent Thomas wields the snippers while Mayor Nicholas O. Drate, left, and P. O. Harding, center, assisting State highway engineer, give him an assist during official opening ceremonies on 174th St., Tuesday afternoon. (See additional photo, Page 3.)