

Thousands Jam Downtown for Santaland Opening

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LAD DROWNS TRYING TO SAVE DOG

Torrance Property Owner Commends City on Lease

Binder Says City Now Has Proper Lease and Believes Store Properties Will Put Over First Class Shopping Center

The City Council is to be commended on its decision to complete the lease arrangements with Store Properties, Inc., for the 35-acre airport site at Crenshaw and Pacific Coast Hwy., George Binder, major downtown property owner, told the HERALD Saturday. "Inasmuch as we are important taxpayers in the city of Torrance and are vitally interested in this source of revenue for the city, we wish to commend the City Council

Slogan Contest Deadline Falls Tomorrow Night

Tomorrow evening, Tuesday, Dec. 6, is the deadline for entries in the HERALD-sponsored slogan contest, Torrance students were reminded yesterday by HERALD Publisher King Williams.

Hundreds of slogans have been submitted and competition for the \$25 Savings Bond as first prize and the \$25 cash which will be distributed among the next nine winners. HERALD Publisher Williams is offering \$25 bond for the slogan chosen best among the entries while \$25 cash has been offered for slogans by chamber of Commerce President Paul Loranger.

Entries will be judged this week and the results published in Thursday's HERALD. Entries may be submitted to the HERALD at 1619 Gramercy Ave., until midnight tomorrow. Entries received after that time will not be considered. Eligibility for participation in the contest is limited to students in elementary schools in Torrance.

Winners slogans will be placed on the street trash receptacles in the downtown Torrance area. The slogans are being used in an effort to draw attention to the trash receptacles in the area and to encourage their use by visitors and shoppers in the downtown area.

Completion of Polio Shots Set This Wednesday

The second series of polio shots given to 2000 local school children will be completed this week, as children at Perry and El Nido Schools are inoculated, health officials indicated this week.

Second and third graders at the two schools will get their shots in both morning and afternoon sessions.

According to Warren Hamilton, director of special services for the schools, said that about 2000 local youngsters had completed the series of shots through the free program. About 400 received the complete series of shots last spring before the program was halted. The remainder got the shots this fall through the program, although they are now second and third graders.

Despite the long debate over the vaccine, only a very few parents refused to allow their children to continue the program, Hamilton said.

This will complete the free inoculations sponsored by the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. Private physicians have the vaccine available, however.

The number of polio cases in Torrance is running about the same this year as in 1954, although county-wide cases are running about half those of 1954.

Clothes Line Hit

Thieves made off with \$65 worth of clothing from her cash line Thursday, Joan C. Olson, of 231 Harbor Hills, Omnia, told sheriff's deputies. Missing were sheets, baby clothes, underclothes, jackets, shirts, sweaters, and a table cloth, she said.

for their action, even though we, ourselves, were interested parties," Binder said.

In a letter Binder said he was sending to the City Council, he cited the opinion of City Attorney James M. Hall last week that the Council must not only look to actual rental offered for the land, but also must look to the potential revenue from property and sales taxes which a major tenant can provide.

Has High Regard

"We feel with Mr. Ben Swig of San Francisco in the picture and in control of this development, that the city now has the proper lease as we know of Mr. Swig's accomplishments in San Francisco on many other places and have a very high regard for his ability to put over a first class shopping center," Binder said.

Binder was referring to the revelation last week that Swig was to assume principal control of Store Properties, Inc., following the death of Samuel Genis, former president of the group.

Some Final Details

The lease for the 35-acre triangle has been signed by all parties and now is in full force. Construction of the center is expected to start as soon as legal requirements for title insurance have been fulfilled. No difficulty in completing the details are expected by City Attorney Hall and attorneys for the developers.

'Inspector' Sought After Motel Theft

A man who claimed to be a health inspector apparently returned later to steal \$577 in cash and a gold ring worth \$135, at the Crystal Pool Motel, 2270 Pacific Coast Hwy., Mrs. Cornelia Fitzgerald told sheriff's deputies Wednesday.

Mrs. Fitzgerald said that Frank Christi, a caretaker, told her that a man who said he was a health inspector showed a badge and made a 10-minute tour of the premises. Christi thought he acted suspiciously. Later Wednesday night, Mrs. Fitzgerald said she returned home to find a pry bar in her living room and the cash box forced open. Inside the box were \$577 in cash and a gold ring containing a diamond worth \$135.



CHRISTMAS SCENE... A hearty round of applause followed this young Torrance pair Friday night as they re-enacted the famous Bible scene of Joseph and Mary seeking shelter before the birth of Jesus. A special award will be presented to these entrants, Sgt. D. C. Cook said.

Slowest Building Month in Three Years Reported

The rock and gravel strike continued to put a crimp in Torrance's building last month, as the city recorded its slowest month in building activity in the past three-and-a-half years. Only \$974,512 worth of building permits were taken out last month of which more than half—\$523,636—were taken out by the Torrance Unified School District. The monthly average so far this year has been \$4,146,715.

For the first time in several years, the city will not break the previous building record unless the strike ends almost immediately. Although the total to date is \$41,673,123, slightly ahead of the same period last year, it seems unlikely that the city can match last year's \$45,000,000 total.

Permits for an addition to school administrative offices, worth \$178,000, and Arlington School, at 178th and Arlington, worth \$350,638, were taken out by the Torrance Unified School District.

Permits for new houses, which have been booming all year, totaled only 22, worth \$272,731. Other permits included one apartment house, 121 fences, five patios, 12 signs, 26 home alterations.

Request Toys For Party

Residents of Torrance were urged by County Supervisor Burton W. Chace today to participate in the 17th annual Christmas party for children who are wards of Juvenile Hall.

"During the past year a great many little boys and girls have adopted dolls and toys brought or sent to Juvenile Hall by thoughtful residents of our county," Chace said. "Dolls and toys will be accepted with great appreciation at the Juvenile Hall Auditorium, 1605 Eastlake Ave., at any time prior to noon next Thursday."



WHERE BOY DIED... Although it looks like a placid scene now, the arrow indicates the point where Billy Bomersback jumped into the water to save his dog and drowned himself.

The dog swam to safety, but the boy drowned despite the efforts of his buddies to save him. In the foreground is an old pump, formerly used in digging operations.

Record Crowds Witness Parade

Thousands of spectators—estimated by police and veteran parade entrants as the largest ever to meet in Torrance—jammed the downtown section Friday evening to witness a parade ushering in the Christmas season.

Thongs jamming the line of march saw spectacular floats, equestrian units, and scores of marching bandmen, majorettes, and dignitaries.

Sgt. D. C. Cook, parade coordinator, said veteran riders who travel over the Southland throughout the year for parades, estimated the Friday night crowd in Torrance as exceeding 20,000 persons.

Santa Claus arrived in time to supervise the ceremonies in turning on the lights, and to participate in the parade. After the parade, he stopped off at Santaland at El Prado Park to meet the kiddies.

Parade winners were announced Saturday by Sergeant Cook as follows: Fiesta Class—1. Larry Saenz, 2. Marvin Moore, 3. Ardith Diemer.

Silver Singles—1. Clifford Gee, 2. Thelma Kert.

Best Dressed Western Woman—1. Lillian Stefanian, 2. Evelyn Schwartz.

Parade Horse—1. Scotty Clayton, 2. Daniel Grayboyes, 3. George Ryan.

Indian Class—1. Sandy "Little Fox" Cook.

Spanish Ladies—1. Evelyn Nedwed.

Club Entries—1. Huntington Park Elks Motorcycle Club, 2.

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Buddies' Rescue Try Fails

A dog's best friend is his boy.

A sad-eyed mixed cocker spaniel named "Rusty" learned that lesson Friday afternoon as his 11-year-old master, William "Billy" Bomersback, jumped into a 10-foot crater to save his pet from drowning. Ironically, the dog swam to safety. The boy could not swim.

Despite the heroic efforts of his two companions, Billy, the son of Mr. and Mrs. L. Bomersback, of 26348 Fairview Ave., Lomita, drowned in a crater on Chandler's Sand & Gravel Co. several blocks south of the firm's office at 26311 Narbonne Ave. His body was not found until about 30 minutes after he sank from sight.

Boys Climbed Fence Accompanied by two fellow sixth graders at St. Margaret Mary's School, Tony Carstens and Nicky Andrade, Billy followed "Rusty" under a fence on the gravel firm's property. The dog, Tony said, was chasing mud-hens and the boys wanted to throw rocks in the large crater there.

The dog either fell or jumped into the water while chasing the birds and the alarmed Billy, "who loved animals," jumped into the water to save him. The dog swam to safety.

Billy shouted for his companions and Tony climbed down and put his leg in the water for his chum to grab. Billy managed to grasp the leg for a minute, but couldn't hold on, drifted out into the crater, and soon sank from sight.

Tony Rescued Meanwhile, Nicky had re-climbed the fence and hailed a passing motorist. The pair rushed back to the scene in time to rescue Tony who was floundering in the water looking for his pal.

"I had a hold on his leg, but just couldn't get him out of the water," Tony sobbed. "I took lessons last summer, but Billy didn't know how to swim."

Tony was rushed to Hillside Clinic for treatment. Sheriff's Deputies L. Bernan and L. M. Fields were called to the scene, as were Capt. Bob Thomas, Ray Boyce, and Bill Whitecar, of the County Fire Dept. The firemen soon retrieved the body.

Respiration Given Although artificial respiration was given and the fire department resuscitator was used, the boy failed to respond. He was pronounced dead at Hillside Clinic at 5:40 p.m., by Dr. Don C. Moshos.

When notified of the tragedy, Mrs. Bomersback collapsed and also was treated at Hillside Clinic. The boy's father, a San Pedro postman, was away at Joshua Tree working on a new cabin the family was building. He rushed back when informed about the accident.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. Howard F. Carstens, of 26310 Delos Dr., Tony was treated for shock and chills and got a bad cold as the result of his attempt to save his friend, Nicky, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Manuel Andrade, of 1820 W. 245th St. (Continued on Page 3)

'Man of Year' Selection Set

A search is on for Torrance's outstanding young man of the year who will receive the Junior Chamber of Commerce Distinguished Service Award, it was announced recently by Harry L. Klingler Jr., local Jaycee chairman.

Mayor Albert Isen has proclaimed Jan. 14 through 21, 1956, as Jaycee Week in Torrance.

This award will be conferred for achievements, leadership, and service to community during the calendar year 1955. The award is for direct, outstanding service and has no relation to Junior Chamber of Commerce membership. A nominee need not be a member of the Torrance Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Additional pictures of the gala Torrance parade Friday night can be found on page 3 of today's HERALD.

Results of the cross-country and basketball competitions of Torrance's two high school teams can be found on page 4.

Other features are as follows: Sports 4 Editorials 6 News 7-8 Classified 10-11

Two gunmen walked casually into Fred's Liquor Store early Saturday morning and held up Olga N. Schwartzman, 39, owner of the store of an undetermined amount of cash.

The victim told police that the stick-up man walked into the store at about 1:15 a.m. One of the bandits advanced to her and asked for some beer. After she had picked up the brew from an ice box and returned to the counter, the second man, standing just inside the front door, said "this is a stick-up," as he drew a revolver.

She was taken to the rear of the store and made to sit, facing away from the cash register. One of the gunmen had trouble finding the "No Sale" button on the register, but finally opened it.

The Schwartzman woman told authorities the men fled on foot.

Two Gunmen Get Cash in Hold-Up Here

Four incumbent directors of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce have been re-elected to their offices, it was announced here Saturday by President Paul Loranger.

Returned to directorships following balloting of the Chamber membership were Attorney Donald Armstrong, John Elbinghouse, A. American Rock Wool; Darwin D. Parrish, Parish Stationers; and Dean L. Sears, Bank of America.

The four directors were selected from a nominating slate of nine which were chosen in balloting of the entire Chamber membership.

Five additional directors who will represent the geographical areas of the city will be selected by the board to serve one year terms as well as an additional director to serve a three-year term, Loranger reported.

Store Display Contest On

Junior Chamber of Commerce officials have announced that they will disclose the winners of the fifth annual Torrance Merchants Christmas Decoration Contest on Dec. 16.

Merchants have been advised as to rules and will present window displays in competition for the engraved plaques, which go annually to the winning store in each of four divisions.

In addition to the three divisions of store size, a separate class of animated window displays has been added this year. John's Paint Store, at 1413 Cravens Ave., holds the sweepstakes trophy from the 1954 judging.

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