



TWO DIE IN CRASHES

Phones Ring for Santa



"HELLO, THIS IS THE NORTH POLE"—Volunteers, working in shifts during the past three days, have been answering calls from youngsters convinced that they are talking to Santa Claus at the North Pole. Project, which is sponsored each year by a Torrance telephone answering service, attracted

more than 2,000 calls from local toddlers, plus a great number of callbacks from mothers wanting to say "thank you." Above: Al Long, of Al Long and Associates, and Roger Wright, owner of the answering service, accept two calls with the traditional "Have you been good during the past year?"

Torrance Float In Rose Tourney Fully Subscribed

Bob Vroman, chairman of the Torrance Tournament of Roses float committee, announced Friday that contributions from local organizations and individuals have exceeded expectations.

Vroman said that this parade will command the largest television audience of any event in history. Over 86,000,000 persons are expected to watch the parade which will be carried over local and coast-to-coast telecasts. The radio listening audience is estimated at 25,000,000 people.

News papers from local and foreign fields will cover the parade with news dispatches and pictures and, through the mediums of wire services and wire photos, reach 75,000,000 readers.

County Approves Sale of Torrance School Bonds

Sale of \$1,000,000 par value Torrance school bonds at the request of the Torrance School Board has been authorized by the Board of Supervisors, it was learned this week.

In approving the sale, the board authorized issuance of advertising for bids to be opened on January 23.

County officials said that the bonds will be known as series H of a \$15,000,000 bond issue approved by the voters of the Torrance Unified School District at an election on November 14, 1958.

In a second announcement, supervisors reported Friday that the Board of Supervisors will probably approve a joint powers agreement with the City of Torrance for the storage of the City's microfilm records in the County's underground storage vault at Biscailuz Center.

The agreement, which becomes effective on January 1, runs for a period of five years and will cost the City of Torrance a total of \$18 for the service over the life of the contract.

In reviewing the history of the hospital, Schneider pointed out that the hospital has been very well received by the area and become accepted as an institution providing excellent medical care. Evidence of the reception of the hospital by the 280 doctors on the staff and general public is the fact that the hospital, though less than two years old, is currently operating at 75 percent of capacity.

First of Season's Smashups Takes Lives Of Area Residents

Two Torrance area men died Friday as the result of two widely separated accidents, kicking off what is expected to be an unusually deadly holiday period.

Air Force Major Thomas Carl Webb, of 16707

Neighbor Saves Child As Dress Catches Fire

An eight year old Torrance girl whose clothing caught on fire Thursday, was saved when a neighbor heard screams and rushed in to extinguish the flames.

Rudolph Copeland, 35, said that he heard the girl's mother, Mrs. Mary Fine, 1217 Jay St., scream and that, when he ran into the home, he found the clothing of her daughter Marlene ablaze.

Copeland ripped the child's clothing off and smothered them with his coat.

Youngster was taken to Harbor General Hospital where her condition was listed as critical.

Fay Smith Ave. Torrance was killed in a head on collision near Cottage Grove, Oregon. His wife, Agnes, 46, is listed in fair condition in a Cottage Grove hospital with numerous broken ribs, cuts and bruises as the result of the accident. Their three children, Paula, 13, Greg, 15, and Gavin, 18, were treated for minor injuries and released.

Webb, who was on leave, was stationed in Inglewood.

A 71-year old area man died Friday night when he

lost control of the car and crashed over an embankment at Palos Verdes Drive East and Miraleste.

Relatives of Frederick German, of 6513 Palos Verdes Drive East, said that the elderly man had a cardiac history and may have suffered a heart attack before the accident.

Torrance police officials reported that, despite the heavy blanket of fog that has shrouded the area for several days, only minor accidents have occurred thus far in this city and that no major traffic injuries have been listed.

Schedule January 4 Dedication For New Airport Control Tower

Members of the Torrance Airport Commission Friday announced the official opening of the new control tower would be staged on January 4.

Joe M. Doss, president of the commission, reported that prominent federal, state and local officials would attend the ribbon cutting cere-

mony and the luncheon immediately after at the Jump 'N Jack Restaurant.

Cost of the structure, which will contain the latest of safety equipment, will be shared by federal agencies and by the city of Torrance. Federal Aeronautics Agency will pick up 54 percent of the cost while the city will carry the balance.

2,000 CALLS

Kids Burn Up Wires With Calls to Santa

Thousands of local youngsters have talked directly to Santa Claus at his North Pole headquarters during the past three days through the efforts of a Torrance answering service and teams of volunteers.

The opportunity to contact the good saint by dialing a local number was conceived three years ago by Roger Wright, owner of the service. Project has grown by leaps and bounds over the intervening years and now crowds out normal business during the three day period.

Wright estimated that volunteers, manning 15 phones, played the role of Santa Claus for more than 2,000 local toddlers. This does not include the great number of calls from mothers who called back to thank the pseudo-Santa.

TRY FOR HOURS

"Some of the mothers said that they had been trying for more than three hours to get a call through on our overcrowded lines," Wright said.

"One woman said that she had dialed so many times her finger was bleeding."

Volunteers particularly treasure the conversation with one six-year old girl who wanted, "a bike, a horse, a swimming pool, a baby sister, or a baby brother, . . . in that order"

Wright said that each year he is forced to double the number of extra lines installed each year to handle the calls.

"We put in four extra lines this year," he said. "Guess we'll have to put in eight next time."

Hollywood Riviera Man Elected to Head Little Company of Mary Board

George W. Schneider was elected president of the Little Company of Mary Hospital advisory board at a recent meeting. Schneider succeeds Sam Levy as president. Also named to office were: G. L. Revell, first vice president, Francis X. McCormick, second vice president, Charles Czuleger, Sr., secretary, and Fred W. Mill as treasurer.

Schneider has been active in various offices of the advisory board since its inception in 1956. He is the fourth man to head the board.

Wednesday, January 31, was set as the date of the second annual Founders' Day Dinner to celebrate the anniversary of the opening of the hospital. Dinner will



GEORGE SCHNEIDER . . . Board President

be held at the Plush Horse Restaurant.

Bandit Forces Girl To Disrobe

A 23-year old local woman, alone in a laundromat, was forced to strip last week by a young bandit who shut her in a back room and made his escape.

Mrs. Sharon L. Rajock, 22618 Denker Ave., reported to police that the bandit took her clothes and purse containing \$17, and fled.



AWARDS TO OFFICERS—Nearly 200 persons were on hand Friday night for the annual Police Association awards dinner at the Palms Restaurant. Citations were presented to outstanding officers for their contributions to the community. Shown are Jim

Doyle, A. L. Jackson, outgoing president, Monte Catterlin, honorary member, Mayor Albert Isen, who accepted an award in the name of the citizens of Torrance, Tom Woldridge, new association president, and Cliff Smith.

Merry Christmas to all

- ... from
- All the Torrance Press Staff
- AL BAIRD
- MYRON BAKER
- SHIRLEY BEAUCHAMP
- ARCHIE CAMERON
- TONY CONTE
- JAY DE LANY
- JIMMIE DESOMES
- BILL EDMOND
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- AL FRAZIER
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- CHARLENE MEYER
- MEL NOLEN
- CAROLYN PERKIO
- RUTH PETERSON
- DOROTHY RICHARD
- BILL SCHELL
- DENNIS SHIELDS
- TERRY WEHR
- WALT WEHR
- BILL ZAPPAS
- and from
- Our Carrier Boys, Too!