

Neighbors Shocked at Murder of Four

Torrance

Press-Herald

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NEW CENTURY CLUBBER . . . Jim Becker (left), member of the YMCA's initial gifts campaign force, receives check from Jerry Scott, manager of the Torrance office of Home Savings and Loan Association, a gift which brought the YMCA campaign production to \$10,000 in the early phase of the area's largest annual fund drive. Scott in turn holds his new Century Club plaque in recognition of his efforts. Looking on are Lynn Poser, and Brian Bell, active YMCA youths. More than 600 volunteers will seek \$130,000 to operate the Torrance Family YMCA during 1967. (Press-Herald Photo)

Ownership of Land for Skills Center Debated

Ownership of a 10-acre parcel of land which is to be the site of a regional occupational skills center has become the central issue in a battle between the Torrance schools and the United States government.

The land, located near Sepulveda and Crenshaw boulevards, has been turned over to the Torrance schools with the provision that it be used for educational purposes.

In their bid for the land, Torrance school officials expressed hope that five or six other school districts in the area would join them in creating a regional training center — a plan which is about to become a reality.

AGREEMENTS between six districts for the formation and operation of the center, which is designed to provide job training for 11th and 12th grade students, will be signed next month.

Part of the agreement calls for the Torrance district to lease the land to the center — which will be governed by a "joint powers" board composed of one representative from each of the six districts. The lease means actual title to the land would remain with the Torrance schools, affording maximum protection in the event the center should prove a failure.

AND THE lease arrangement was approved by the San Francisco office of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (HEW), which administers the agreement under which Torrance schools obtained the land.

But in Washington, D. C., HEW officials ruled that actual ownership of the land must be in the hands of the joint powers board.

The alternative, according to Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools, is for the Tor-

rance schools to purchase the 10-acre parcel outright — at the going price it's worth about \$1 million — and then lease it to the joint powers board.

TRUSTEES refused last night to approve the papers which would transfer title to the land to the joint powers board, then authorized Dr. Hull to make a trip to Washington — if he feels it necessary.

In the meantime, local school officials intend to exert political pressure on HEW officials in an effort to win approval of the original lease agreement. Congressman Cecil R. King, who was instrumental in winning the land for the schools, will be asked to assist, as will other congressional representatives from California.

He Kills Family Of Four

An invitation to look at a new washing machine, a sort of Christmas surprise, proved an invitation to death Monday morning when a 34-year-old factory worker gunned down his young estranged wife and three small children, then fatally wounded himself.

The shooting occurred at 11:15 a.m. in the garage of the young mother's foster parents in a quiet Wilmington neighborhood where she had gone with the children — three months to four years of age — after marital problems had broken up their home in Dominguez.

WHEN THE gunplay had ended in the garage at 1306 W. "G" St., Carmen Saltares, 22, lay mortally wounded, her three-month-old infant, Rose, dead at her feet. Sprawled on the driveway outside were Anibal Jr., 4 years old, and Susan, 3. Laying beside his wife was Anibal Saltares Sr., 34, his pockets full of shells.

The first officer on the grisly scene, Harbor Division Patrolman Virgil Manning said he unlimbered his shotgun, fearing a shoot-out with bandits who had just robbed a San Pedro restaurant of \$11,000.

"WHEN I REALIZED what had happened, I cried," Officer Manning said. "I couldn't help it. I have children of my own about that age."

He and Officer Ron Baughman rushed the two older children to Harbor General Hospital where they died about 20 minutes later. Mrs. Saltares and the infant were rushed in another squad car to Wilmington Receiving Hospital, but they were already dead. Saltares Sr. was taken to Harbor General where he (See MURDER on A-2)

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CASH AWARD . . . Donation of \$100 to an area charity in the name of the "Citizen of the Month" winner will be a new feature of the Great Lakes Procrites, Inc., awards program in the future, according to D. Loring Marlett, vice president and general manager of the firm. The first such donation, made in the name of Ante (Tony) Perkov, is presented by the San Pedro Elks Club and Lady Lions of San Pedro, who aid cerebral palsy patients such as Diane Meacham. With Diane are (from left) Mrs. Robert Truman of the Lady Lions, Craig Ruth of Great Lakes Properties, Inc., and Dr. Theodore Bennell, Elks Club president.

(See MURDER on A-2)

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