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Have Cool Yule, Firemen Urge Torrance Residents

Have a cool Yule. That's the word from Fire Chief J. J. Benner, who cautioned local residents to be careful with fire this Christmas, especially with highly flammable Christmas trees and Christmas wrappings around the house.

The gay Christmas papers and bright Christmas trees should be kept away from heaters, particularly those with open flames.

Avoid Open Flame - When there is an open flame—from Christmas candle or heater—in the room, utmost

caution should be taken to make sure it does not come in contact with decorations, wrappings, clothing, drapes, furniture, or other flammable materials, Benner said.

Unvented heaters are particularly dangerous in cold, damp weather when the temperature drops below 45 degrees, he noted.

"Whenever an unvented heater is in use, windows should be opened to assure ventilation and heaters should be kept out of the foot traffic pattern of the rooms," he said.

Check Heaters - Gas heaters should be checked periodically by the gas company or other reputable service agency, or better yet, replaced with a vented heater which carries the combustion product out of the house through a vent pipe and has an enclosed gas burner, the chief said.

Fire Marshal Robert Lucas reported that his office had found no local merchants selling unsafe decorations, but cautioned residents to look for the Underwriter's Laboratory label or make sure that the decorations are marked non-flammable.

Danger Seen - One extremely dangerous string of Christmas lights—a string of 24 to 35 multi-colored, candle-shaped lights—has been reported in other nearby cities, Lucas said.

MILITARY ITEMS - U. S. armed forces buy 3,567,000 different items.

CIVIC SYMPHONY PLANS 'NUTCRACKER PRINCE'

The Torrance-South Bay Civic Symphony will present to the community the Christmas pantomime, "Nutcracker Prince" at Redondo Union High School on Dec. 29 and 30.

The production on Sunday, Dec. 29, will be at 3 p.m.



ARMAND LAPOINTE
... Narrator

while the Monday, Dec. 30, show will be at 8 p.m.

The orchestra will present the Tchaikovsky music from the Nutcracker Suite, Swan Lake, and Troika from "The Seasons" orchestrated by Eugene Schoebinger, composer and director who plays horn in the Civic Symphony.

Local Residents - Armand LaPointe, Torrance resident, will be the narrator. He is a veteran of 18 years in radio and TV as an announcer, newscaster, master-of-ceremonies, and actor. He has appeared on five Lux Video Theater productions and was chief announcer and movie host on Channel 13.

In 1951, he returned to New York to announce the Phil Regan and Faye Emerson Shows on NBC and CBS-TV. He is currently an executive on KLAC. Lee Brooks and his crew are preparing the scenery and planning the decoration of a huge white Christmas tree donated by the American Savings and Loan of Redondo.

Kiddies Rehearse - At St. Cross church, the children's choir of 45 is doubling rehearsal time for the song and dance of the "Children of the Snow" under the direction of Dorothy Lespina, prima ballerina, and their mothers, led by their costume committee Mmes. James L. Cass, Don G. Jones, H. E. Scott, A. D. Christie, Rich Sanders and J. L. Taylor, are making white duvetine costumes covered with "diamond dust."

At Darian studio in Hermosa, 72 dancers are preparing the entertainment in the palace of the "Prince" at Stover's in Torrance, the large ballet of the "Waltz of the Flowers" is shaping up.

Dances Readied - Carl Whitmar, too, is working at the "Village School" preparing the solo dance of Mary and the Prince, who are both his pupils, and a large company of "guests" who will make merry at the "Christmas Party" in the first act.

In Manhattan, Barbara Simonsen's large class are learning to be animated toys and the army of the wizard "King of the Mice."

Marines Open Local Office

The U. S. Marine Corps recently announced the establishment of a permanent recruiting office located in the Pose Office building, 1433 Marcelina, Torrance, phone FAirfax 8-2330. The area to be covered by the Torrance office will include Lomita, Redondo Beach, Manhattan Beach, Hermosa Beach, Gardena, and Lawndale. The office was established primarily to process the ever-increasing number of Marine enlistments from the above areas, as well as to provide information and guidance for young men and women interested in Marine Corps service.

Noncommissioned officer in charge of the office is Master Sergeant John R. Dolly, USMC, a veteran of over 14 years' service in the corps, including combat service during both World War II and the Korean conflict.

Sergeant Dolly stated that in addition to the Marine Corps he will be able to provide the latest information on the universal military training act and the reserve forces act, both of which govern compulsory military service.

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