

Chamber Fills Offices, Sets Installation

Torrance

Press-Herald

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BANQUET PLANNERS ... Checking floral possibilities for next Friday night's annual Torrance Chamber of Commerce banquet are (from left), Robert L. Reis, banquet chairman; Harry Gorman, incoming president; George Ebert, retiring president, and Horton Scott, of Windsor Florists. Reservations for the annual affair may still be arranged at Chamber of Commerce offices. (Press-Herald Photo)

Civic Center Library Construction Started

New Facility A Year Away

Construction of Torrance's new \$1.5 million central library was begun Wednesday afternoon on the civic center as city officials and civic leaders joined in groundbreaking ceremonies for the structure.

The new facility, to become the hub of the city's new independent library system, will be located on the Torrance Boulevard frontage of the civic center adjacent to the city plunge.

When completed a year from now, the building will contain about 4,000 square feet and will house about 212 volumes for the city's library users.

Other facilities will include a meeting room which will seat more than 150 persons, audio visual facilities, films, art reproductions, and a center for graphic arts.

Through the cooperation with the Lions Club, whose ongoing project is to provide aid for the sightless, the library will include a section equipped with special typewriters books Braille volumes, audio equipment, and other special aids to the blind.

Opening of the library is being scheduled for July 1, 1970.



STARTING LIBRARY ... Symbolic earth turning marked the beginning of construction here Wednesday afternoon for the city's new \$1.5 million central library on the civic center. Shown here with shovels (from left) are Russell West, city librarian; Mrs. Hannah Saville, city library commissioner; and Mayor Albert Isen. Opening is scheduled for July 1, 1970. (Press-Herald Photo)

Annual Chamber Dinner To Salute New Officers

Harry Gorman, manager of Del Amo Properties here, will be installed as president of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce for 1969-70 during the group's annual dinner program next Friday evening. Gorman will succeed George Ebert in the post.

Plans for Friday night's annual banquet to be held in Manhattan Beach this year include the formal installation of Gorman and his officers and the naming of the city's Distinguished Citizen Award winner for the year. The perpetual Laughon-Whyte trophy, named for two early Torrance civic leaders, will be passed on to the new winner. It was won last year by Robert Vroman.

Vice presidents taking office with Gorman next weekend will be Lucius "Bud" Babcock, area coordinator; Alan A. Smith, community development; Robert Reis, member-

ship affairs; Don McGrath, governmental affairs; Clinton B. Cooke, economic development; and Bret A. Swartz, treasurer. J. Walker Owens is executive vice president and manager.

New directors to be installed include Paul E. Anderson, Robert I. Boynton, Dan E. Butcher, Charles L. Butler, Neil E. Campbell, James C. Conn, Hubert L. Kaltenbach, William F. Parsons, Reis, and John A. Teske.

Reservations for the affair may still be made at the Chamber of Commerce offices.

Frances Young, founder of the South Coast Botanic Garden Foundation, is retiring as the foundation's first and only president.

After 10 years of full time volunteer service as "First Lady" of the South Coast Botanic Garden, Mrs. Young is now president emerita of the garden's foundation.

In 1958, Mrs. Young took first steps toward the creation of the garden by enlisting the aid of friends, citizen groups, and garden clubs. Petitions were circulated requesting the county board of supervisors to set aside part of the land fill area of Rolling Hills for the proposed garden.

Her tireless efforts were rewarded in 1960 with the establishment of the garden.

THE 87-ACRE facility has become the rooting grounds for thousands of plants, collected under Mrs. Young's leadership. The garden also features a clubhouse building, in which horticulture lectures are given. A basic research library is currently being collected.

The garden, which was a trash heap ten years ago, now welcomes thousands of visitors each year. Lawns, wooded hillsides, and the beginning of a lake and stream now cover the acreage formerly used as a dump.

MRS. YOUNG and her husband came to California in 1920. Her first project in Los Angeles was the building of Bethany Baptist Church at 104th and San Pedro Streets. The site was considered "way out in the country" in those days.

In 1935, the Youngs moved to Hermosa Beach, where they now make their home. Mrs. Young has been responsible for many civic beautification and landscaping projects in the South Bay area.

Engineer Cited For Service

At the age of 71, Dexter Pullen is the only Los Angeles city employee ever to be permitted to work two years beyond the mandatory retirement age of 70.

Although he was formally retired recently by the Board of Public Works, he will keep on working for three more months because the Bureau of Engineering finds him indispensable.

Pullen, who lives in Lomita with his wife Dorothy, was presented with a Citation for Service at retirement ceremonies.

Pullen has a degree in architectural engineering from UCLA, where he was a star athlete.

Friends Schedule Tribute Here for Joe Blatchford

Joe Blatchford, new director of the Peace Corps, and Mrs. Blatchford, will be honored at a testimonial dinner in Torrance July 3.

Sponsored by friends and supporters, the Blatchford dinner will be held at the Torrance-Lomita Board of Realtors office, 22833 S. Arlington Ave., beginning at 8:30 p.m. The testimonial will honor Blatchford on his first trip home since his appointment as Peace Corps director.

"The dinner is actually a

family affair for all the people who have met Joe, worked with him, and want to wish him well in his new job," dinner chairman Bob Barth said.

Today is the deadline for purchasing \$7.50 tickets for the testimonial. Tickets are being sold in the Torrance area by Bob Flora, president of the Marble Estates Homeowners Association; Morris Hooper, former mayor of Lawndale and primary candidate for the Republican congressional nomination; Meri Jo McMullen,

president of Del Amo Federated Women; Ken Miller, Torrance city councilman; Anita Sharpe, 67th Assembly District secretary; and Bill Uerkwitz, Torrance city councilman.

Assisting Barth on the dinner committee are Bea Mester, co-



JOE BLATCHFORD

chairman; Dr. Don Cortum, treasurer; Mrs. Barbara Werre, ticket information; Al Atchison, ticket chairman; and Stan Metzler, publicity chairman.

Blatchford, Republican candidate for Congress in the 17th District last November, will kick off his trip home with an appearance June 28 at the Harbor Chamber of Commerce annual dinner. The event will be held at the Officer's Club at Fort Mac Arthur.

Concert Slated At Bandshell

Families are invited to share a summer afternoon of music in the out-of-doors Sunday with the Imperial Dance Band at 2 p.m. in the Torrance Park Bandshell.

The band concert, directed by Ron Large, is the first "Music For a Summer Sunday" performance which will be conducted through August sponsored by the Torrance Recreation Department.

Selections to be played include, "Love is Blue," "Downtown," "To Sir With Love," and "Don't Sleep in the Subway."

Members of the dance band make up the Junior Imperials for musicians 11-to 14-years old and the Senior Imperials for those 15-to 21-years old. The band plays at various civic functions throughout the year.

Schedules listing the summer programs are available at the Joslyn Center, 3335 Torrance Blvd. Torrance Park is located at 2001 Santa Fe.

Sister Turns In Dope Suspect

The older sister of a 16-year-old Torrance boy called police Wednesday after discovering what appeared to be marijuana in his bedroom. Police said a lab examination of the substance verified suspicions.

The boy's parents had suspected their son was using narcotics for some time because of his peculiar behavior.



BRONZE STAR ... Master Sgt. Ray Stauble of Torrance receives his Bronze Star medal in recognition of the outstanding initiative and leadership he displayed while serving with the Air Force in Vietnam from Dec. 13, 1967, to Oct. 13, 1968. Making the presentation is Lt. Carl John O'Brien (left), detachment commander, while Chamber of Commerce Assistant Manager Ed Sullivan waits to offer his congratulations. Sgt. Stauble served as a noncommissioned officer in charge of administration and First Sergeant with the 15th Aerial Port Squadron, upgrading the effectiveness of the squadron in support of combat operations. (Press-Herald Photo)