

# George Post Named 'Citizen of the Year'

Torrance

## Press-Herald

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**TOP CITIZEN . . .** Awarded the Laughon-Whyte trophy as Torrance's Citizen of the Year Friday night was George W. Post, vice-president and manager of the Torrance branch of United-California Bank. Among those nominating Post for the honor were Mrs. Kenneth Watts, president of the Board of Education, and Bruce Jones, new president of the Chamber of Commerce. (Photo Arts Photo)

# Wreckers Demolishing Old Army Barracks at Hospital

## Banker, Native Honored

George W. Post, banker son and grandson of Pioneer Torrance bankers, was named this city's Distinguished Citizen and awarded the Laughon-Whyte trophy to climax the annual installation dinner meeting of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce Friday night.

Post, who lives at 2305 W. 229th Place, was nominated by Bruce Jones, newly elected president of the Chamber of Commerce, and by Mrs. Kenneth Watts, president of the Board of Education.

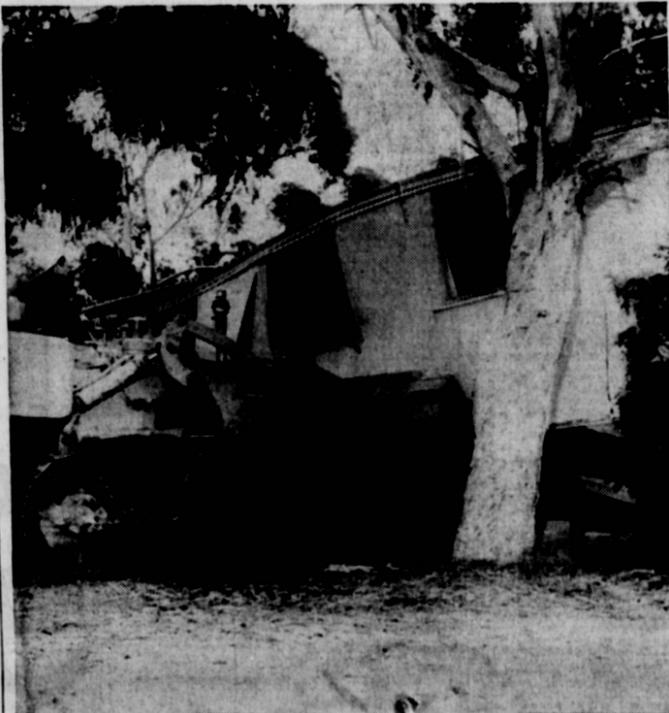
"IT IS MY earnest desire that you consider Mr. Post for the Distinguished Citizen Award as the name George Post is synonymous with Torrance," Jones wrote to the selection committee.

Post has lived in Torrance all of his life. He attended Torrance schools, and was graduated from Torrance High School. He also was graduated from Loyola University and from Pacific Banking School.

He first was employed in Torrance National Bank, the bank started by the Post family early in the city's history. When that bank was purchased by the California Bank, he was named assistant manager and later named a vice-president and manager.

DURING recent years, Post has been an active leader in many civic projects. He has been treasurer of the local March of Dimes for 10 years, has been active in Red Cross campaigns for four years, served as chairman of the YMCA during 1964; was president of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce.

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**AN ERA ENDING . . .** Dozer operator Ken Mead raises one of the original barracks-type buildings at Harbor General Hospital with the blade of his machine as his firm begins the task of demolishing 23 of the old wooden structures. The buildings were erected during World War II to serve as the Army Port of Embarkation Hospital and as a transfer point for wounded and ill servicemen coming in from the Pacific Theater. (Press-Herald Photo)

## 'Dozer Turning Barracks Into Kindling Wood

Bulldozers are smashing down 23 of the original barracks type buildings at Harbor General Hospital.

The buildings, built by the Army at the outset of World War II, served as the Army Port of Embarkation Hospital and as a transfer point for servicemen, wounded or ill, en route from Pacific war areas to hospitals or discharge points.

During the war Italian and German prisoners of war were employed there in non-medical areas.

The Los Angeles Board of Supervisors, realizing the need for a hospital to serve the County's Southern areas, acquired the buildings in 1946. There were 101 structures on 53 of the 78 acres between Vermont and Normandie and Carson Street and 220th Street.

An eight-story Acute Unit and Outpatient Clinic was commissioned in Feb. 23, 1963, making Harbor Hospital the third largest County General Hospital in California. The hospital is rated with 729 beds, Los Angeles County and San Francisco County General Hospitals are one-two respectively.

EVENTUALLY, all the "barracks" will be demolished. These under demolition now comprise the "G-Ramp" or southwesternmost line. They were used until recently to house long term chest patients but were vacated two months ago in favor of remodeled C-Ramp which under present plans will continue to be part of Harbor General Hospital for at least five years.

Supervisor Kenneth Hahn in whose district the hospital lies, has asked for a survey of the property involved for future use. There are several projects under consideration.

but nothing definite has been determined.

A. L. Thomas, administrator, explained that the 23 buildings are being demolished as an economy action.

## Parks Offer 'Music Fun' Ninth Year

"Fun Thru Music," sponsored by the Torrance Recreation Department, begins its ninth summer of programming for elementary school students this week.

Director Jim Davidson and his two assistants, Mike Johnson and Carl Childs, will guide the musicians for the eight-week session.

There is no fee to enroll, but students may be asked to purchase some of their own music.

Registration may be completed during the classes at the parks from 1:30 to 4:30 on Mondays at McMaster Park, 3624 Artesia; Tuesdays at WALTERIA Park, 3855-242nd St.; Wednesdays at the Torrance Recreation Center, 3341 Torrance Blvd.; and Thursdays at Sea-Aire Park, 22730 Lupine Drive.

## Police Officer Is Promoted to Sergeant Rank

The promotion of Gerald Snyder to the rank of sergeant has been announced by the Torrance Police Department.

Sergeant Snyder joined the department in 1956 and has served in the Patrol, Traffic, and Records and Identification divisions. He was assigned to the Patrol Division as a field supervisor following his promotion.

## Top DeMolay Officer of Year Picked

Michael Meltebeke, a June graduate from Mira Costa High School, was awarded a Bible for being proclaimed the outstanding officer of the year when the Redondo Beach Chapter of DeMolay held its annual awards night on Wednesday.

The Representative DeMolay Degree, one of the highest awards given by the International Supreme Council of the Order of DeMolay, was conferred upon Douglas Freeland, John Glatt, Steven Livingston, Michael Meltebeke, Alan Wagstaff, and Barry Yates. This recognition is based on the completion of a self-evaluation course and on physical, mental, and moral development.

Assisting Casey Coane, Master Councilor, in conducting the ceremony was Lee Shultz, Senior Councilor, and, from the Hawthorne Chapter, Robert Thomas, Master Councilor, and Richard Stanley, Senior Councilor; all four boys having become Representative DeMolays, themselves, last year.

MEMBERS' medallions were presented to John Glatt, Albert McCracken, and Michael Meltebeke for having been the leading officers in their respective groups.

Trophies were presented to Richard Jeffries and Michael Meltebeke for being the leading salesmen of the Easter Breakfasts tickets.

For service to the chapter and participation in its activities, a total of 110 merit bars were awarded to: John Allen, Ronald Allen, Joseph Beckwith, William Bush, Casey Coane, Douglas Freeland, John Glatt, Michael Hornick, Richard Jeffries, Brett Klyver, Steven Livingston, Scott Manly, Albert McCracken, Michael Meltebeke, Rae Mills, Bryan Moeck, Thomas Mitchell, Robert Monter, Russell Pi-burn, Dean Scott, Gene Scott, Lee Shultz, John Smith, Steven Smith, Ralph Thompson, Alan Wagstaff, and Barry Yates.

## Lomita Leads County in Construction

Housing construction figures during May showed a sharp upturn on the basis of figures covering areas served by the County Building and Safety Division, with the Lomita district leading all county areas for the third time this year with a total of \$6.3 million.

Housing permits increased from a monthly average of 1,325 to 1,500 in May, according to figures compiled by J. A. Lambie, county engineer.

Total building volume for the month was \$47 million, reflecting 2,520 permits for 972 housing units in unincorporated areas, and 1,239 permits for 528 units in 30 cities served by the county division.

## Recreation Awards

# Volunteer Instructor, Men's Club Win Honors

A volunteer fencing instructor and a community men's service organization were singled out for special honors at the ninth annual National Recreation Association Awards dinner meeting here Wednesday evening.

Lyle (Jeep) LaMont received the NRA Award for

volunteering his services to organize a fencing club for the city's Recreation Department and to provide fencing instruction to hundreds of Torrance youngsters and adults through his voluntary program.

THE HOLLYWOOD Riviera Sportsmen's Club was honored for a long record of service to Torrance youth. Including the activities for which the club was cited was sponsorship of 11 Boy Scout Troops, a Land Explorer Post, a Sea Scout Ship, and a Mariners unit.

The club also sponsored a

## Plunge Open On July 5 In Torrance

Victor E. Benstead Plunge, 3331 Torrance Blvd., will be open to the public from 1-5 p.m. Monday, July 5, the Torrance Recreation Department announced today.

Because of the legal holiday, no swim classes or night recreation swimming will be held.

## Harmonaires to Perform July 4

The Harmonaires, a musical group from John Brown University, Siloam Springs, Ark., will appear July 4 at South Bay Baptist Church, 4565 Sharynne Lane, at the 8:30 and 11 a.m. services.

drive for funds to construct a recreation building at El Retiro Park, and since 1957 has sponsored the El Retiro Park's annual Easter Egg Hunt for children.

The Sportsmen's Club also was cited for organizing and sponsoring the international noted Hagarty Sufers Club.

Donald L. Mihelich, president of the club, accepted the award.

Recreation Director Harry Van Bellehem said the Awards Dinner was held at this time to commemorate June as Parks and Recreation Month, a nationwide celebration. Mrs. Kenneth McVey, chairman of the Park and Recreation Commission, presided at the meeting.

## Construction Delays Play At Entradero

Due to construction delay, Entradero Park will not open until 1 p.m. tomorrow, Harry B. Van Bellehem, director of recreation of the Torrance Recreation Department, has announced.

Check out and restroom facilities are being completed at the park, 5500 Towers St.

A range rider, teenage gymnastic set, arch swing, and merry-go-round are being installed as part of the park's theme "Imagine City."

Installation of the new facilities will end Phase I of Torrance's most recent venture into creative play.

## Anniversary Festival . . .

A festival commemorating the seventeenth anniversary of the state of Israel has been scheduled to begin at 8 p.m. Tuesday at Temple Menorah, 1101 Camino Real, Redondo Beach. The fete is being sponsored by the Torrance Lodge of the Temple. B'nai B'rith with the cooperation of the Temple. Jan Bart, raconteur, humorist, and author, will headline the entertainment. Dr. Lester Sacks is Lodge president.

## Bus Trip Planned . . .

A Recreation Department-sponsored bus trip to Claremont to see 14 of the original Dead Sea Scrolls has been scheduled for Wednesday evening. The group will leave the city hall at 6 p.m. and return at midnight. Cost of the trip, including bus fare and a dinner stop, is \$3.60 a person. Information and reservations are being handled through the Joslyn Recreation Center.

## New Store to Start . . .

M. E. Arnett, president of Bullock's-I. Magnin Co., will head a list of dignitaries here as ground is broken at Carson Street and Hawthorne Avenue for the new Bullock's Fashion Square Torrance. Others to attend will include city officials, and representatives of the architect, contractor, and leasing agents. The new retail complex is being constructed on the northeast corner of the Carson-Hawthorne intersection.



**SERVICE CITED . . .** Lyle (Jeep) LaMont (seated left) and Donald L. Mihelich show off citations presented to them during the ninth annual National Recreation Association Awards Dinner here this week. Looking on from the left are Councilman H. T. (Ted) Olson; Mrs. Kenneth McVey, chairman of the city's Parks and Recreation Commission, and Mayor Albert Isen. (Press-Herald Photo)