

VENTURA COUNTY COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

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OUTSTANDING WOMEN RECOGNIZED BY VENTURA COUNTY COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

Awards for outstanding contributions by women in a number of categories were handed out to worthy recipients from across the County at the Ventura County Commission for Women's first annual "Salute to Women" awards banquet on Thursday, October 28.

A total of eleven awards were given out this year by the Commission at its awards banquet and installation dinner at the Lobster Trap Restaurant in Oxnard.

The women selected by the Commission demonstrated outstanding excellence and participation in community service, law enforcement, sports, education, homemaking, the arts, business and medicine. In addition, recognition was being given to an outstanding senior citizen and humanitarian. The award winners were:

Dr. Mildred Wallace, Ventura, EDUCATION
Mrs. JoAnn Gibson, Camarillo, BUSINESS
Angela Moya Rodriguez, Ventura, THE ARTS (Dance)
Marcene Camp Jardine, Oxnard, THE ARTS (Music)
Beth Hamilton, Ventura, LAW ENFORCEMENT
Sharon Hanson, Ventura, SPORTS
Patricia Blair, Camarillo, HOMEMAKER
Wendy Fraser, Simi Valley, COMMUNITY SERVICE
Pauline Saunders, Ventura, MEDICINE
Dearie Hampton, Ventura, SENIOR CITIZEN
Name withheld by request of recipient,
HUMANITARIAN

Keynote speaker was Dr. Priscilla Partridge-Rankin of Camarillo, Coordinator of the Ventura College Re-Entry Program.

She spoke on "Women at Work Inside and Outside the Home: A Perfect Balance."

The dinner was sponsored by the Friends of the Ventura County Commission for Women. Being installed as officers were:

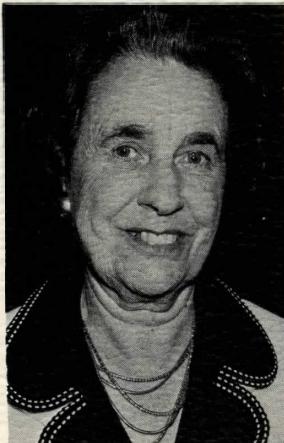
Yvonne Gallegos Bodle of Ventura, Associate Dean of Instruction at Ventura College, appointed by District III Supervisor Maggie Erickson, as Co-Chair;

Virginia M. Connell, Thousand Oaks, Marriage and Family Counselor-Therapist at The Alive Place, Thousand Oaks, appointed by District II Supervisor Ed Jones, as Co-Chair;

Erin Healy Sheffield of Camarillo, homemaker and co-founder of Woodfield Productions, appointed by District III Supervisor Maggie Erickson, as Finance Officer; and

Lauren Anderson, Ventura, executive secretary for the Ventura County Star-Free Press, appointed by District I Supervisor Susan Lacey as Executive Secretary.

The Commission is comprised of 14 women and one man appointed by Supervisors to review, analyze and make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors on issues relating to women, to provide a coordinating function with respect to the many community groups working to improve the quality of life for women; to study any conditions demonstrating discrimination due to sex or marital or parental status; and to perform work assigned by the Board of Supervisors.



Wallace



Gibson



Moya



Jardine



Hamilton

Education: Dr. Mildred Wallace

Dr. Mildred Wallace, a resident of Ventura County for 41 years, is an all-around outstanding educator.

She served in the educational system of the Ventura Unified School District for 35 years, as assistant superintendent of Ventura Elementary School and as director of curriculum of the district.

Most recently, since her retirement, she has served in an outstanding capacity as consultant to the Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) program.

Business: Jo Ann Gibson

A young black girl had a dream - a dream that she would some day have a business of her own.

That dream has come true for Jo Ann Gibson of Camarillo. After attending college in Fort Wayne, Indiana and Long Beach, she began working in data processing.

Mrs. Gibson established Xact Data Service in Los Angeles in 1976 and three years later moved her business to Ventura County. The company, Xact Data Service, is solely owned by Mrs. Gibson. Her staff consists of 12 persons. She has trained students of all races, at her own expense.

The Arts - Dance: Angela Moya

Angela Moya, an actress and dancer who resides in Ventura, believes it is necessary to "involve yourself with constant growth as an individual."

Toward this end, she is an outstanding example of a person who has devoted her life to giving more opportunities in the arts - especially dance and theater - to young people, not only through her own example of performance, but also through her teaching and encouragement of others.

Recently she performed in both the film

and stage versions of *Zoot Suit*, a serious play about 18 young Chicano men convicted in court but who later won their case on appeal. She performed in *Zoot Suit* at the Mark Taper Forum in Los Angeles and at the Aquarius Theater, as well as in New York.

The Arts - Music: Marcene Camp Jardine

The life of Marcene Camp Jardine of Oxnard is filled with music.

As a full-time teacher for the Oxnard Elementary School District, she is responsible for classroom music and choruses in eight schools, seeing 13,000 to 16,000 students weekly. She is responsible for the district's big spring music festival involving all upper grade music students each year.

In addition, she is responsible for the Oxnard College choir and its musical involvements in the community.

Law Enforcement: Beth Hamilton

Beth Hamilton, 32-year-old police officer for the Ventura Police Department, was really shaken up over the death of fellow patrolman John Adair.

Adair, an Oxnard police officer, was killed several years ago during a domestic confrontation while on duty. He was shot to death in front of his wife.

"I was so grief-stricken, I sent a check to the Coalition Against Household Violence," Hamilton said.

Three years ago Beth, the sole support of her son, took steps which have since made her a leader in her department as an advocate for victims' rights. Since she became president of the board of Coalition Against Household Violence, she has spent countless volunteer hours lobbying political leaders, government personnel, and community residents regarding a proposed shelter for battered women.



Hansen



Blair



Fraser



Hampton



Saunders

Sports: Sharon Hansen

Sharon Hansen, a senior at Buena High School, began her athletic career at age nine as a member of a local track club.

Her dedication and achievements in track earned her "Most Valuable Runner" for three consecutive years at Buena. In July 1982, the First Interstate Bank Athletic Foundation named her All-California Interscholastic Federation (All-CIF) in track and field. She was also Channel League champion in the 100- and 300-meter hurdles.

A year later, this past summer, she was the winner of the National Women's Decathlon sponsored by The Athletic Congress. She hopes to become a multiple-event competitor in college.

Homemaker: Patricia Blair

Patricia Blair, a Camarillo homemaker, is being recognized because of her continued efforts in contributing her time, talents and energy to the various groups she has supported for years and to her family.

Mrs. Blair, who holds a home economics degree from University of California at Davis, "has accepted all jobs that needed to be done, put herself into them, working, creating and completing with pride for both herself and her community," according to a fellow homemaker and community volunteer.

Community Service: Wendy Fraser

Wendy Fraser of Simi Valley typifies the many women who unselfishly donate time and talents to make their community a better and more humane place.

As a housewife and mother, she was actively involved in Girl Scouts and Parent Teachers Association (PTA). Three years ago, she joined the Ventura County Rape Crisis Center as a volunteer.

Today Wendy Fraser is Executive Director of the Ventura County Rape Crisis Center, responsible for day-to-day operations of the agency and long-range planning. Fundraising, community education, volunteer recruitment, training and supervision are some of her duties.

Outstanding Senior Citizen: Dearie Hampton

Dearie Hampton, 76, has been a Ventura County resident for the past 20 years.

She became concerned about the welfare of needy senior citizens on Ventura Avenue in Ventura and organized a Senior Service Center on the Avenue. "I saw the need and did it," she says. She and others talked the City of San Buenaventura into providing a new building for the seniors.

The next step followed naturally. She organized a chapter of The Grey Panthers in Ventura last February, a group of which currently has 28 members and is still growing.

Medicine: Pauline Saunders

"A good nurse is love made visible."

That's part of the philosophy which has made the contributions of Pauline Saunders of Ventura so notable in Ventura County.

She has served as supervisor of the emergency department at Ventura General Hospital since 1972, taking charge of nursing care for the 40,000 patients who are served annually by her department.

An emergency medical technician instructor at Ventura College, one of her most notable contributions comes through her volunteer efforts on the Ventura County Sheriff's Department Search and Rescue Team.

The first woman in Ventura County to be involved in rescue work, she learned to be proficient in rock climbing, belaying, rappelling, tracking and helicopter rescue.

CHILD CARE PROJECT COMMITTEE PLANS BROCHURE & PRESENTATION MANUAL

During September, which was declared Quality Child Care Month by the Ventura County Board of Supervisors, a new flyer entitled "Do You Want to Save Dollars?" was mailed to a selected group of employers. A cover letter signed by Supervisor Maggie Erickson, chairman of the Board, urged employers to read about employer-sponsored child care options and to consider taking action in assisting working parents with their child care responsibilities.

The flyer was designed and produced by members of the Child Care Project Committee of the Commission for Women and the Private Industry Council. It briefly lists some

employers now providing some kind of assistance, states a few statistics about working families and lists some of the options an employer may find worth investigating. Using the tear-off provided, six employers have responded so far.

Interviewing teams will be meeting with these employers over the next few weeks to provide more detailed information for their needs. As of this writing, a presentation manual and a descriptive brochure is being printed for these interviews. Samples of all of these materials will be on display at the conference being planned for May 1983.

If you have any questions about these activities, leave a message with Beverly French, staff Secretary, at the Commission office, 654-3109.

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The Commission hopes this newsletter will be self-supporting by and for the women of the County. Please send your contributions to the Commission office if you want to be a sponsor.

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