

T O R R A N C E

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Torrance Hosts Ceremony to Name Wilson Park Sports Center “Dee Hardison Sports Center”

Torrance, Calif., November 10, 2009 – On Friday, November 13, 2009, the Mayor and City Council will dedicate the Sports Center at Charles H. Wilson Park in honor of former Mayor Dee Hardison, naming it the “Dee Hardison Sports Center.” The ceremony is scheduled for 3:30 p.m. at Charles H. Wilson Park located at 2200 Crenshaw Boulevard.

The development of the Sports Center occurred under Hardison’s tenure as mayor of the City of Torrance. A former physical education teacher and strong proponent of the youth and community involvement, former Mayor Hardison shepherded the creation of this versatile facility that hosts numerous enriching and educational activities, events and programs, for youth and adults alike. The ceremony honors her significant involvement with this Center and recognizes what has become a lifetime of commitment to shaping the Torrance community through her selfless service.

Prior to serving as mayor, Hardison served on two City Commissions (Parks & Recreation, Planning) and continues to be involved in different committees. She recently served as chair of the Blue Ribbon Ethics & Integrity Committee and sits on the City’s Centennial Celebration Committee. She has a long and continuing history of serving on numerous community and regional organizations, and she has received numerous awards for her community involvement including the City’s highest award – the Jared Sidney Torrance Award in 2007.

The Sports Complex is a 23,000 sq. ft. facility and is considered the central hub of the Charles H. Wilson Park. The Sports Center opened in 2000 and includes an 18,000 sq. ft gymnasium with a championship center court and adjustable basketball backboards to accommodate children’s sports. It also includes a 2,000 sq. ft. meeting room that looks out to the adjacent park and entry plaza. In its nine-year history, an estimated 1.3 million people have made use of the Center whether as active participants, event-goers or participants.

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