REC AND PARKS

A Banning Big **Band Birthday**

Banning Museum hosts fourth annual concert fundraiser.

In honor of the birthday of port-area pioneer ing and dance lessons with a professional, Phineas Banning, the Friends of Banning

Museum welcomes the Fabulous Esquires Big Band, which will perform on the front porch of the historic Banning Museum from 5:30 to 9 p.m. Aug. 18. The Fabulous Esquires Big Band, which was started in 1958, is a 17-piece swing band with two vocalists.

The fourth annual Phineas Banning Birthday Concert celebration commemorates the birthday of Phineas Banning, who played a key role in developing the world-renowned Port of Los Angeles. The concert, including dinner, dessert, danc-



From last year's birthday concert.

wine, reserved seating and VIP gated parking,

costs \$75. Concert-only tickets, including dance lessons and dessert, bring your own dinner, blanket or chair and enjoy a picnic inside the gates on the front lawn of the historic Banning Museum, costs \$25. Swing Dance attire is "admired" but not required.

The Banning Museum is at 401 East "M" St. in Wilmington. For more information, call (310) 548-2005 or visit www.esquires.org for more information about the

The Banning Museum is a Rec and Parks facility.

DON'T BE IN **DE-NILE! CLEOPATRA** TIX AT CLUB **DISCOUNT!**

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NEWSBRIEF

FOR THE BIRDS: THE LA ZOO HAS **BROKEN GROUND** ON A NEW "THEATRE" FOR ITS WORLD OF BIRDS SHOW.

The Zoo broke ground July 18 on the renovated facility.

After enchanting Zoo visitors for more than 20 years, the facility was in need of renovation. Improvements were made possible by donations arranged by the Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association (GLAZA) from Basil Collier and Mohammad Virani of the Angela Collier Foundation and longtime GLAZA docent and donor Helen Pekny.

When the theatre re-opens later this year, its new name will be the Angela Collier World of Birds Theater, named for Collier's late daughter, who established the Angela Collier Foundation to support a variety of animal welfare charities. Support for the project from Pekny, a docent since 1985, funds a complete backstage renovation.

The new Angela Collier World of Birds Theater will feature a Mediterranean theme with a two-story stage to better demonstrate natural behaviors of birds. More than 20 species of birds, including macaws, condors, vultures, cranes, hornbills, hawks and eagles, are part of the bird shows.



