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County Bank To Open Soquel Branch Thursday

The opening of County Bank's new Soquel Office is developing the aspects of a community celebration, according to plans announced for Thursday's ribbon-cutting and open-house festivities.

John M. Allen, Soquel Manager for County Bank, said today that the cooperation and enthusiasm of the Soquel business community has been especially encouraging. He cited such instances as:

Maddock's Bakery volunteering to bake a special cake for the occasion, decorated with design of the new office; the various Soquel stores and shops displaying posters and showcards announcing and inviting

participation in the open house; the acceptance by various public officials of invitation to the opening ceremonies scheduled for 10 a.m., and an air of good will pervading the historic village of Soquel.

James Coulter, president of the Soquel Merchant's Association, commented that the bank's presence in Soquel is regarded as vital to the community's business health. "County Bank must be considered one of the most important traffic generators — if not the most important in the Soquel area. The parking created for bank customers will surely relieve our street parking greatly. This new bank development appears to be the most significant private investment in Soquel in many years." Coulter added that the innovation of auto-teller windows in the new bank should reduce pressure on the limited street parking spaces. The auto-teller service features a pneumatic tube system being introduced in North-

ern California for the first time. Joseph H. Hill will be assistant manager of the Soquel branch.

The new building is an almost complete reconstruction of the Willbanks Building which formerly housed Midtown Market. Architect is Melvin Rojko of

San Mateo; contractor is Reese Construction Co. of Santa Cruz; structural engineer is George Washington of Capitola.

Refreshments and modest gifts will be part of the 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. open house program. The public is invited to participate.



John M. Allen



Joseph H. Hill