

V. E. P. News

*REPRESENTING THE RESIDENTS OF
VISTAPARK, ENCORE, ECHO VALLEY, BLOSSOM HEIGHTS, AND PARKVIEW VALLEY*

JULY, 1976

THE JULY MEETING OF THE VEP HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION WILL BE HELD THIS COMING WEDNESDAY, JULY 14th, AT 7:30 PM AT NORMANDIN CHRYSLER-PLYMOUTH, CORNER OF PEARL AVENUE AND CAPITOL. THE AGENDA INCLUDES MANY ITEMS OF INTEREST TO ALL AREA HOMEOWNERS. PLEASE ATTEND.

- SHORT BUSINESS MEETING
- HOME SECURITY - CARTER LANGDON, SAN JOSE POLICE OFFICER
- PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENTS - AL CARLSON, ASSISTANT CHIEF OF REAL ESTATE, SANTA CLARA COUNTY TAX OFFICE & ARLEAN GUERRERO, VEP MEMBER

FROM THE PRESIDENT

The turn-out at the June general membership meeting was GREAT, and we hope to see a similar attendance on July 14th. Many thanks to Captain Suess of the San Jose Fire Department for his timely presentation on home fire safety - - and to Pete Sparaco for his demonstration and sale of smoke sensors. We were greatly impressed by Gail Law of Belden Elementary and Ralph Sleight and his administrative staff from Gunderson High. We offer these educators our full support.

This month's meeting will bring two equally interesting topics our way. Methods of home security will be demonstrated by San Jose Police Officer Carter Langdon - - an honorary VEP member. Property tax assessment will be discussed by Al Carlson and Arlean Guerrero. Al is from the Santa Clara County Tax Assessor's office, and I'm sure he'll have answers to many of your questions. Arlean, a VEP member, has actively followed the Valley Coalition's current organization toward a drive to reduce property taxes. She hopes to recruit the active support of our membership.

I am personally interested in these and topics of previous meetings and am dedicated to continue having guests to speak to the problems and interests of our membership.

If you have any suggestions, please feel free to call me.

Our Bicentennial Parade was an unqualified success - - measured by the fun had by all. The band was simply great. Those who participated as organized groups as well as individual entrants did a marvelous job also - - persevering the 2.7 mile parade route with plenty of reserve energy for the fun and games which followed at Parkview School. We had many nice prizes, all donated by community-conscious local merchants. Special thanks to everyone who attended and those who worked so hard to make this the biggest thing that ever happened in VEP Country. We plan to make it an annual event and hope to squeeze in a couple more programs for the kids before the year ends.

Let's keep rolling! Bring your problems, support, and friends to VEP - - it's encouraging to have you attend our meetings and good to get to know you. Have a happy and safe summer. Be sure to be considerate of your neighbors during summer activities, be extra careful on the streets, and be sure to attend our meetings. See you on July 14th.

STREET FINANCING PLANS

At the May general meeting, VEP voted support for the new plan developed by the Citizen's Committee on Street Financing. On June 15, the city council approved the plan in concept. Under this plan, the city would raise \$30 million over the next five years to improve specified city streets. Local streets currently on the list are

- Pearl Avenue - four lanes from Blossom Hill to the railroad tracks.
- Blossom Hill - six lanes from Pearl to Almaden
- Branham Lane - completed East from Vista-park to Monterey Highway and 101.
- Snell - four lanes from Branham Lane South to Blossom Hill

A total of \$13 million of the \$30 million is to be spent in VEP Country. To raise the necessary \$6 million annually, the city has imposed a 1% tax on all building permits. Also, a vehicle tax has been proposed at \$10 per year per vehicle. If this tax goes into effect, the Building permit tax would drop to 3/4%. It appears that our area may, at last, be on its way to street parity with the West and Central San Jose areas.

PARAMEDICS UPDATE

The Santa Clara Board of Supervisors will discuss a county-wide paramedic program on August 2, 1976, at 7:30 PM at 70 West Hedding St. VEP has endorsed the concept of firefighter paramedics, but the proposal before the county is written in such a way as to essentially preclude firefighters from the paramedic program, leaving this life saving task to the existing ambulance companies and local hospitals.

A large citizen turn-out is expected for the August 2 meeting. Anyone interested in a paramedic program should attend.

At present, no method of funding this program has been found. Existing funds are not available, so the board will probably consider additional property or sales taxes. Bob Braud will discuss this topic and answer your questions at the July 14 meeting.

THE SCHOOL CORNER

A capacity crowd at the June VEP meeting heard the administrators of the two new schools in the area, Mrs. Gail Law of Belden Elementary, and Ralph Sleight of Gunderson High, describe details of their school openings in September. Discussion ranged from planned special programs to the subject of open campus at the high school. Members left with positive feelings toward the school programs and the knowledge that communication channels between the community and the schools are wide open

Completion of Belden Elementary School could be threatened by the ongoing electrician's strike. However, if the strike is settled prior to July 15, it will not pose a problem because no electrical work is scheduled prior to that date. If for some reason Belden is not completed by September 1, Carson School will have to carry the extra burden by having double sessions until Belden is completed, with Belden attending the afternoon sessions.

Due to the unfortunate death of Mrs. Law's husband, Belden School meetings scheduled for the last week of June were postponed until further notice. VEP extends sincere condolences to Mrs. Law and her family.

Carson School principal Steve Everett has extended his invitation to parents of students at Carson to review their "cum-files". These files contain various reading and achievement test scores, as well as reports filed by earlier teachers. These files are confidential and can only be reviewed by a parent or legal guardian. As a courtesee and in order to have someone available to interpret the contents, you may wish to call ahead - 998-6287.

VEP NEWS Deadline: July 30, 1976

Editor	Ib Larsen	578-6292
Asst. Editor.	Carri Marks	225-8195
President	Dave Fadness	578-6428
1st VP.	Diane Christensen	578-5231
(Block Reps)		
2nd VP-Committees	Marion Ward	224-0281
3rd VP-Membership	Bob Ward	224-0281
Secretary	Larry LaFleur	226-8140
Treasurer	Chris Braud	225-9135

NO DUMPING - PLEASE

The San Jose Police Department has reminded us that no dumping is allowed in the area except at designated municipal sites. Dumping has become a nuisance at the site of the future Vista Park on New Compton at Massachusetts. Five other locations have become dumping grounds strictly against the owner's wishes. Two arrests have been made already and the area "beat" officers are aware of the locations to watch.

- Northwest corner of Branham & Snell
- Southeast corner of Rosenbaum & Capitol
- Southwest corner of Branham & Vistapark
- Southeast corner of Branham & Vistapark
- Area North of Capitol Expressway between Vistapark and Baroni

The owner of this vacant land is a friend of VEP. He is currently being asked by the City of San Jose to clear this land for a \$10,000 fee. Please show respect of other people's property by refraining from this thoughtless littering.

STREET CONSTRUCTION - AREA UPDATE

Branham Lane Bridge at Canoas Creek - The structure is now approximately half complete. The public works department expects to have the street completed by September 1. Southern Pacific may abandon operation of their spur track through VEP Country and final arrangements for handling this crossing are pending this SP decision.

Snell Extension - This corridor is almost ready for operation. PG&E was scheduled to correct the problem of low-hanging wires (the reason for police patrols) during the first week of July, and Snell may be open by the time this newsletter reaches you. Please abide by the barricades until this new street is safe to use.

WATER PIPES

If you have to repair the water pipe between the meter and your home, or if you have already done so, please retain the receipts for all expenses incurred. Call Dave Fadness at 578-6428 for help. He can find you a reputable plumber, provide advice to do-it-yourselfers, and *MAY* be able to qualify you for a refund of up to 50% of your expenses. *WHY JOIN VEP? HERE'S JUST ONE REASON!*

T H A N K S

A special thanks from VEP to Marion Doerr for all the time and effort she devoted to the Erling fire collections.

PARKVIEW I APPROVED

On June 22, the San Jose City Council approved a \$213 million budget for 1976/77. Included in the budget is Parkview I, an adult extension of the tot-oriented Parkview II, completed in 1974. \$125 thousand is budgeted for Parkview I, located across Bluefield from Parkview School.

The Parks and Recreation Department invites planning input from VEP, and VEP does have plans to participate in the development of this park. VEP has started to organize a parks committee and if you are interested in helping develop your area parks, call Kay Miller, 225-4982, or contact Dave Fadness.

Parkview III on Kingspark is presently scheduled for the 1979/80 fiscal year, and Vista Park, scheduled for the 1980/81 fiscal year, is to be located at New Compton and Massachusetts. VEP is interested in your thoughts about reversing the order of this schedule.

VISTAPARK FURNACE SUIT

All funds have now been received from the defendants in this matter. Furnaces to be repaired for the \$20 fee (Stipulation #1) are presently being repaired. Distribution of the money to homeowners involved should be completed by the middle of August. Please be patient; there are approximately 400 checks to be written.

NEW ASSOCIATE EDITOR FOR THE VEP NEWS

Carri Marks, 443 Thames Park Court, has volunteered to help Ib Larsen with the monthly newsletter. She will be helping through September; then her father John will start helping with the preparation. Please call the Marks team to place any Community Calendar entries or want ads.

VEP welcomes Carri and John and extends thanks for their willingness to help VEP remain the best in San Jose.

DEADLINE FOR AUGUST ISSUE IS JULY 30, 1976.

MEETING NOTES

- JULY 8 Oak Grove School Board Meeting at 7:30 PM
- JULY 13 San Jose City Council, 1:30 and 7:30 PM at City Hall
- JULY 14 VEP General Membership Meeting at 7:30 PM, Normandin Chrysler-Plymouth
- JULY 15 San Jose Unified School District Board Meeting at 7:30 PM, 1605 Park Avenue
- JULY 16 Last day of first summer school session at Parkview School
- JULY 19 First Day of second 4-week summer school session at Parkview School
- JULY 20 San Jose City Council, 1:30 and 7:30 PM at City Hall
- JULY 22 Oak Grove School Board Meeting at 7:30 PM
- JULY 23 Last day of summer school at Carson
- JULY 24 VEP Executive Board Meeting at Larry LaFleur's, 9:30 AM
- JULY 27 Carson Home-School Club Executive Board Meeting, 7:30 PM
- JULY 27 San Jose City Council, 1:30 and 7:30 PM at City Hall
- AUG 2 County Supervisor's Meeting, 7:30 PM at 70 West Hedding (Paramedic Plan)
- AUG 3 NO CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS
- AUG 5 San Jose Unified School District Board Meeting at 7:30 PM, 1605 Park Avenue
- AUG 10 NO CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS
- AUG 11 VEP General Membership Meeting (tentative)

VEP PARADE & GAMES HIGH SUCCESS

The first annual VEP July 4th Celebration was a high success, including a parade, field games, live music, and a raffle at Parkview School.

Winners of the field games at the school are listed here. For the SACK RACE, Adults, John Costas; Teens, Scott Eberle; 8 - 12 years, Rosemary Shine; 5 - 7 years, Dina Borlo. For the THREE-LEGGED RACE, Adult men, John Marks & Bob Ward; Adult women, Maggie Agrella and JoAnn Schroeder; Teens, Bart Forman and James Collins; 8 - 12 years, Kristine Paradis and Sara Stafford; 5 - 7 years, Julie Canteline and Lisa Weise. For the WATER BALLOON TOSS, Kim Calleja and Christina Schroeder; and for the EGG TOSS, Glenn Brown and Jackie Chan.

Special thanks are extended to Magic Village for their generosity. VEP also thanks the marching and stage bands, conducted by Joe Bockner and Lance Bye and organized by Marion Ward, and the VEP quartet: Dina Lofaro, Julie Ward, Ruth Henry, and Donna Chaney.

Additional thanks to Baskin Robbins, Springdale Nursery, Renato's Pizza, Santa's Village, Golfland, Capitol Center Golf, Eastridge Ice Arena, Frontier Village, Winchester Mystery House, Marine World, the SF Giants, the SJ Bees, Happy Hollow Park, Roring Camp and Big Trees Railroad, Almaden Pharmacy, Hillview Beauty Shop, and Amy's Beauty Schop for contributing their valuable prizes.

Happy 200th Birtday and See you ALL Next Year!

SWIMMING LESSONS

\$15 first child, \$12.50 each additional family member. Certified instructors for all levels of swimmers. Two week sessions, on/half hour lessons with five students per class. Call 269-9127 for registration and information.

THE MEADOWS CABANA CLUB - 3983 LUX CT

FOR SALE - Gas log set, new, \$15; Men's Arnold Palmer golf clubs w/bag, \$15; Decorator mirror with two sconces and shelf, \$15; men's gree plaid suitcase, \$12, CALL 578-9200 after

TEN FAMILY GARAGE SALE - July 16 & 17, 10 AM to 5 PM, 652 NEW COMPTON DRIVE.

BABYSITTING - Julie, age 13, \$.75/Hr, & Jayme, age 12, \$.75/Hr; Call 226-4787.