

# V.E.P. News

REPRESENTING THE 2200 RESIDENTS OF VISTAPARK,  
ENCORE, ECHO VALLEY, BLOSSOM HEIGHTS, AND PARKVIEW VALLEY

MARCH, 1977

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE VEP HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION WILL BE HELD THIS COMING WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9, AT 7:30 PM IN THE FORUM AT GUNDERSON HIGH. IT IS OPEN TO ALL VEP MEMBERS AND RESIDENTS OF THE VEP AREA. THIS MONTH IS ELECTION MONTH SO IF YOU WANT TO VOICE YOUR OPINION FOR YOUR LEADERS FOR THE COMING YEAR. ATTEND & VOTE!

## A G E N D A

- PARKVIEW I PLAN PRESENTATION - Robert Robertson, Landscape Architect, San Jose Department of Public Works
- ELECTION OF 1977/1978 VEP OFFICERS
- HOME ALERT PROGRAM - Officers Neil Payne and Frank Kossick, San Jose Police Department - See Story on page 2
- EDENVALE DISANNEXATION FROM SAN JOSE - Karen Daly, President, San Jose Alliance of Homeowner Associations - See page 2
- ELECTION RESULTS - Announcement of new elected VEP officials

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 1977/78 WILL BE THIS WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9th, AT GENERAL MEETING

Several new personalities are running for VEP offices this year. So you may become somewhat familiar with those you don't already know, VEP presents some information about each.

MAY DODD, BILL JOHNSON, and MARGE SCALIA are nominees for the office of treasurer. MAY has lived in VEP Country since 1970 as a housewife. Her activities have involved her in the various facets of scouting, and she is at present an assistant scout leader. BILL moved to VEP Country five years ago. He is an accountant and eager to help this association. MARGE, a homemaker and member for five years is looking forward to another great VEP year.

AUDREY HENDERSON and GEORGE CAIN have both shown a sincere interest in the office of secretary. AUDREY, an executive secretary, is new to the VEP community. GEORGE, also relatively new to VEP, came here from North Dakota two years ago. His recent involvement with VEP was as a member of the nominating committee.

Incumbant 3rd Vice President BOB WARD has accepted a nomination to run for that office for another term, continuing his work developing membership.

The 2d Vice President slot, covering committees, will be filled by DONNA MARKS or ED SHAPIRO. DONNA has been a VEP member for two years and enjoys the group and its members. She is active professionally and socially, is a nurse, involved in her church and with raising her children. ED also came to VEP Country two years ago. He is a sales manager for a local firm, dealing with people daily, so he feels he can contribute much to this association.

SHIRLEY WREYFORD, a 6-year member of VEP, opponent of the proposed light rail branch, housewife with a keen interest in the neighborhood, feels VEP has a lot to offer and wants to

offer her efforts as 1st VP, Block Representatives. And present 1st VP DIANNE CHRISTENSEN, a medical assistant and housewife as well, active with the Women of the Moose, desires to increase her role and help to VEP as the new president.

HAVE YOU NOTICED??? ARE YOU AWARE OF THE LACK OF CITY SERVICES IN OUR AREA???

Karen Daly, President, SJ Alliance

City Services encompass streets, police, parks, fire, sewer, sanitation, and other services. I believe it goes without saying that city streets in our areas are disastrous, almost unbearable at peak hours. Almaden/Blossom Hill and Blossom Hill/Snell are the TWO LOWEST SERVICE transportation intersections in the entire city (LEVEL E).

Police service is also lacking, although admittedly, it has improved during the year. We are the third highest crime area in SJ.

Parks are another poorly serviced area. According to Federal standards, there should be 10 acres per 1,000 people. California standards are 8 acres per 1,000. San Jose's hopeful future standard is 5 acres per 1,000. But we in Edenvale (Capitol Expressway on the North, Almaden Expressway on the West, Santa Teresa Hills on the South, and the future 101 by-pass on the East) have 15 acres for 87,000 people - 15 acres of developed parks!

There are some active community citizens in our area, including myself, who feel our city has not fully planned efficient and adequate services in accord with expansion. Also, the city is still not spending the full amount of taxes generated from our area IN OUR AREA! We believe there must be some alternatives to that we can get the much needed ADEQUATE city services.

One of the alternatives being discussed is DEANNEXATION from San Jose "proper" and organizing a city of our own - - perhaps including Almaden and Coyote planning areas. WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON THIS ALTERNATIVE? COME TO OUR NEXT HOMEOWNER MEETING AND LET YOUR IDEAS BE HEARD!!

### HOME ALERT

Home Alert is a cooperative effort between the citizens of San Jose and the Police Department designed to reduce residential burglaries and other neighborhood crimes. This is accomplished by forming home alert groups in the neighborhoods through a program coordinated by the Crime Prevention Unit. Neighbors can join together to report suspicious activity to the police as well as to learn good, sound security measures to secure their homes.

The program involves three presentations. The first is a get-aquainted meeting and the basic concepts of Home Alert are explained. The second deals with home security including lock displays and a burglary prevention movie. The third presentation is scheduled two months after the second and involves progress monitoring and program reinforcement. The VEP meeting this Wednesday, March 9, includes the second of this series. It is very important that all Block Reps attend so this program can be effectively organized in VEP Country. GET INVOLVED AND PUT THE CRIMINAL OUT OF BUSINESS.



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**STREETS**

**ROSENBAUM/BLUEFIELD** - Public Works has agreed that this intersection needs a cross-walk and the striping and sign work should be done by the time you read this. Please observe this precaution, for our kid's sakes.

**SNELL AND ROSENBAUM SPEED LIMITS** - The city attorney is presently drawing up ordinances for radar-enforced speed limits of 45 MPH on new Snell and 30 MPH on Rosenbaum. The speed limits will have to be passed into law by the city council at an as-yet un-scheduled time. VEP believes these limits are too high -- watch for an announcement of the meeting and be there to support reduction of these proposed limits.

**BRANHAM LANE** - The most recent development in this "We'll believe it when we see it!" saga of unopened multi-million-dollar Branham Lane is another nearly reached agreement between the city and SP. Earlier, as reported in VEP News, SP backed away from a proposal for fear of liability reprisal. Now, a more recent meeting, SP insisted that at least two guards are required at the Lick Branch crossing of Branham, and \$1,000,000 insurance is necessary. Both sides are now preparing agreements with a detective agency for guards and insurance. According to the new terms, SP will not be held liable for mishaps at the crossing.

Before the Public Utilities Commission can issue a crossing order, the agreement must be signed by the SP and approved by the SJ City Council. Most optimistically, this could occur within a 4-week period. We'll believe it when we see it!

**CAPITOL EXPRESSWAY/VISTAPARK** - Thanks to an idea from VEP members Mr. & Mrs. Harry McIrvin submitted on the flap of their membership dues envelope (Yes, they ARE read), the left turn stacking lane from Capitol to Vistapark now has improved night visibility. Recommendations were to have the city paint the curb white - Capitol is a county road, and they used reflectors, but this dangerous spot has now been improved. Thanks to the county and the McIrvin's!

**SNELL/ROSENBAUM** - All work planned by the city at this intersection has been completed, but some residents believe that a traffic signal is necessary. Please write, call, or attend the next VEP meeting and give us your input.

**RENATO**

**KING of the PIZZA**



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● AND 1711 MCKEE AT KING RD - **259-6870**

OWNER - RENATO MONTE - VEP MEMBER

These past twelve months have been the busiest but most rewarding months of my life. I've spent them with and for you, my neighbors and good friends. It's a good feeling.

There are many volunteers within VEP working equally hard to maintain pride, safety, and intelligent citizenship in our neighborhoods. The 1976/77 VEP executive officers are prime examples, and it has been a distinct pleasure to serve you with them. Credit must also be given to our editors, our committee volunteers, and our block reps. The list is too long and growing daily. Groups working for the schools, the city council, and the school boards must also be praised for their friendship and dedication to the betterment of our city. We are growing together.

VEP is alive and well. We will install a new executive board this month, officers for 1977/78. Diane Christensen will be our organization's first woman president. She will direct a staff consisting of Shirley Wreyford, 1st VP, Ed Shapiro, 2nd VP, Bob Ward, 3rd VP, Audrey Henderson, Secretary, and Bill Johnson, Treasurer. I offer my congratulations to them for winning their respective offices, and my thanks and condolences to those who ran but lost. I speak for the outgoing executives in offering our full support and counsel to the new board. I speak for the membership in saying that VEP is fortunate to have such qualified leadership.

Thank you all for this opportunity to become involved. Your reliance on VEP is adequate testimony to its effectiveness, the reason it is the strongest and most active homeowner group in Santa Clara County, and ample reward to its officers. We need your continuing involvement -- your membership -- and your participation. VEP successes are contingent upon your support. Welcome and encourage your new executive officers by attending the next general membership meeting Wednesday night. Thanks!

*Dave Padness*

#### SAN JOSE FAMILY CAMP

Do you realize that the City of San Jose has a family camp on the middle fork of the Tuolumne River near Yosemite?

This camp offers an economical and enjoyable family vacation opportunity and has a trained staff, organized programs for all ages, and family style meals prepared for you. This year, the camping season opens June 20 and closes September 5. For additional information and reservation forms, call Parks & Recreation, 277,4000.

#### BLOCK PARENT PROGRAM

Be a hero! Help neighborhood children when emergencies arise. Volunteer for the Block Parent Program. Pick up applications for this worthwhile cause at your school office, any VEP meeting, or simply call

Patty LaFleur, Belden Rep - 226-8140  
Rosemary Capitalo, Carson Rep - 265-1561  
Carole Wilson, Parkview Rep - 226-2477

Find out how simple it is to be a Block Parent.

#### **PLUMBING NEEDS?**

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## GUNDERSON COMMUNITY CENTER

The Gunderson Community Center at Gunderson High is a part of the San Jose Parks and Recreation Department and is not operating full time. The center is responsible for planning community leisure activities with it's first program scheduled for April 18. It is also responsible for coordinating the Metropolitan Adult Education Program and in addition, reserves all facility uses at the school.

A brochure covering scheduled events is available at the office, located in the Media Center at the school. If you want one mailed to your home, call 224-9404 to add your name to the mailing list.

Sandra Chaviel, Gunderson Center Director, will be at the April 13 VEP meeting to hear your suggestions for summer recreation activities at the facility.

## VISTAPARK FURNACE SUIT UPDATE

All money due to eligible Vistapark homeowners has found its way to the proper hands. Many families have left the area since this legal marathon began, but the last check was mailed to New York on February 28, 1977.

There have been a few problems clearing the last few warranty items, but Russell L. Hofuendahl, attorney for Heatwell, has indicated that a management change at Heatwell should allow an equitable settlement of these last few difficulties. Your patience is appreciated.

VEP's resident plaintiff, Bob Braud, is moving from VEP Country. After April 15, contact Bob Ward, 224-0281, with any future furnace questions.

## MONEYSAVER! ENERGYSAVER!

Here's an effective way to save money, reduce traffic congestion, smog, and energy

consumption while making your trip to work more pleasant and broadening your friendships. Not impossible - try carpooling!

Santa Clara County has launched an all-out, county-wide carpooling program. It's computerized and it makes a lot of sense. All you to is call County Transit, 287-4120, and provide the information required to match you with other persons using similar routes and schedules for work transportation. Operators are on duty from 6:00 AM to 10:30 PM on normal work days, and from 8:00 AM to 6:15 PM on weekends and holidays.

Within three weeks of your call, you will receive a list of potential carpool partners. Then, simply contact these people and work out your arrangements. Easy!

In addition to the obvious benefits you will realize, the city's General Plan 75 claims: "By doubling the average occupancy of automobiles, few if any new improvements to the thoroughfare and transit system would be necessary during the planning period.", (1975 - 1990). This means a potential estimated savings of \$600 million in transportation tax dollars. VEP fully endorses this program. Let's make it work.

## WARNING - PLEASE TAKE NOTE

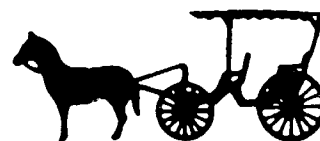
The vacant lot at the corner of Capitol and Vistapark is privately owned, but many persist in unauthorized parking of vehicles there to sell them. VEP has received many complaints because of this inconsiderate practice. It's not only illegal, it's downright ugly.

VEP has been given permission by the owner to serve as an agent in an agreement with a towing company. *ANY AND ALL CARS PARKED ON THIS PRIVATE PROPERTY WILL BE TOWED AWAY AT THE OWNER'S EXPENSE.* Please respect the property rights and beauty of VEP neighborhoods. Don't force VEP to use legal sanction; we want to be friends.

# NORMANDIN CHRYSLER-PLYMOUTH

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## SCHOOL CORNER

The area parent-teacher organizations are about to select new administrative officers for 1977-78. VEP salutes the dedicated individuals who have freely given time and talent to improve home/school relationships during the past year. Such work for the community is evident in countless ways -- school site improvement, improved communication, help in the classrooms, many social and informational gatherings -- just a few of the year's accomplishments. Above all, there is their selfless concern for VEP children.

Your support is vital. Please respond favorably if asked to participate as an officer or in other capacities, and help improve credibility and responsiveness to

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your needs by attending meetings regularly. These are dynamic, hard-working people whose strengths improve with your involvement. Give them *your* vote of confidence.

**BELDEN SCHOOL** - Belden Home/School Club is sponsoring a luncheon at Mercury Savings & Loan on Thursday, April 14. A group of parents and teachers (limit - 60) can expect to enjoy a pleasant and informative social event. Tickets are available now, first come, first served. Contact a Home/School Club officer.

Nominations for new officers will remain open until elections at April 20 general meeting. This meeting agenda also includes an annual report from the outgoing board and an open house. This is an excellent opportunity to vote, meet neighbors and officers, and discover what the group has accomplished this past year.

Belden School will be officially dedicated the first weekend in May. An ice cream social is planned. Watch for more details.

**CARSON SCHOOL** - Carson Home/School Club annual elections will be held at the April 26 general meeting. The agenda is highlighted by a Kindergarten program and a play by the 6th grade class. Attend, vote, and enjoy the talents of these children.

Fun is the key word for the Carson Home/School Club FUN FAIR scheduled for April 30, 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM. This is a family affair with games, contests, and lots of prizes. Pat MacIntosh, driving force behind this event run entirely by parents, predicts a high turn out. Proceeds will be dedicated the Carson site improvement, a very worthwhile cause. Don't miss it!

**PARKVIEW SCHOOL** - The Spring Carnival March 4, 5, & 6 was a big success again this year. Special credit goes to all volunteers who worked to assure this success. Most of the OVER \$2,000 proceeds will be put to immediate use buying books for the school library. A small portion will be reserved to the Home/School Club's operating fund for next year.

The new administration will be elected at the next general meeting April 19. Candidates are presently being considered by the nominating committee for the six open seats on the executive board. Floor nominations will be accepted also on the 19th. Refreshments and an open house are on the agenda. Your presence there is important!

A special tribute to the effectiveness of the Parkview School Community Association was accorded by area parents in their response to a recent survey. An overwhelming majority was very satisfied with the direction of education, the quality and responsiveness of the faculty, and the work of the parent/teacher group. Congratulations!

**STEINBECK JUNIOR HIGH** - Another Pancake Breakfast is scheduled at Steinbeck for May 1, from 8 AM and 1 PM. All the pancakes you can eat for \$1.25 (under 12) or \$1.75 (Jr High and older). The 9th grade is also organizing a Flea Market to run concurrently. If you have donations, call Bob Liehr, or drop them by the school. All proceeds go to the 9th Grade Promotion Activities fund.

Recreation classes in wrestling, weightlifting, and gymnastics will be offered this summer for Steinbeck teens. Details and sign ups will be available May 2.

A summer brochure outlining adult education, teen, elementary, and preschool programs will be available May 4 at Steinbeck, Pearl Avenue Library, and Gunderson Center, if you don't receive one in the mail. Also, you can call 578-8900 and request one.

## SCHOOL CORNER

Belden - The spirit of friendship and neighborly cheer abounded as parents and teachers enjoyed the Belden Home and School Club Wine Tasting Party Saturday, February 12. It was a complete success. VEP joins the 120 guests in a bouquet of thanks to Judy Cornellier and her many energetic volunteers. Belden students are grateful too, since proceeds will provide study trips for all classes.

Another Belden success is a local best-seller, the Belden Cookbook. Over 100 copies have already been sold. Don't be the only gourmet in your block without one. Call Sue Fuchs at 226-6903 for your copy. It's only \$2.00.

Carson - Students will present a play at the next Home and School Club meeting, March 22 at 7:30 PM. A mock student council meeting is also on the agenda. All Carson parents are urged to attend.

Fred Miliani has accepted the task of formulating a slate of Home/School Club officers for the 1977/78 school year. This is an excellent opportunity to become involved in your child's school. If you would like to volunteer for his nominating committee, or better yet, can accept the challenges and rewards of an executive office, call Fred at 629-8744. Nomination deadline is March 31 for elections on April 26. DO IT NOW!

Deadline for turning in Campbell soup labels is March 12: for Post cereal box tops it is March 31. Send them to the school.

The Carson Student Patrol has been discontinued after one troublesome month. Failure of this street crossing aide program using upper grade students is attributed to a lack of consistent student participation.

Parkview - THIS IS THE WEEKEND - The annual Parkview Spring Carnival is this weekend, March 4, 5, & 6, right NOW. The school hosts the event, other area schools

receive benefits from advance sales of tickets, and Butler Brother Amusements provides the thrills. Tickets are on sale at the carnival, too. SEE YOU THERE!

Two exciting and educational programs are planned at Parkview March 15 and 16 by the SJ Police Department. The first program covers bicycle Safety and the second program is "Stop on a Dime". Both dramatically emphasize the need for traffic safety for the children and are presented by Police Officer Bruce Ray.

A follow-up presentation on Pedestrian Safety by Officer Effie Walls rounds off the week on March 18. VEP thanks the SJ Police Department and the school for their dedication to the welfare of our children.

Deadline for Post cereal box tops for Parkview is March 31. Send them to the school.

An Open House and election of officers is scheduled for April 19.

## A NOTE OF THANKS

A little less than a year ago, I was introducing myself and asking for your help and cooperation in my duties as vice president of block representatives. My term is closing and I want to sincerely thank all in VEP Country and specifically those who helped distribute our newsletter. I asked for more hands to ease the load and to get the newsletter to every home in our boundaries. I am very happy to say we now distribute 2200 newsletters monthly - the best coverage VEP has ever had and I know it will get better.

To all my block reps - thank you - you're doing a fantastic job, and I know that the next 1st VP will enjoy working with all of you as much as I have.

Diane Christensen  
1st Vice President



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STREETS

Snell/Rosenbaum - All planned work by the Public Works Department has been completed. Improvements urged by VEP include (1) No Parking on Snell North of Rosenbaum, (2) a right-turn lane from Snell to Rosenbaum, (3) moving the stop striping forward on Rosenbaum, (4) painting a center stripe on Rosenbaum. City Council action is required to establish a posted speed limit on Snell, and this much-needed regulation will be pursued by VEP in cooperation with our neighbors, Willow Glen II Homeowners Association.

Public Works projects at this dangerous intersection - the scene of several recent serious accidents - have been directed toward improving visibility. Homeowners forced to use the route daily are not satisfied, however, justifiably insisting that a traffic signal be installed. They are also disconcerted by the city staff recommendation for a 45 MPH speed limit on Snell --- too fast for the usual mix of local traffic. What do you think: Write your Council c/o Francis L. Greiner, City Cler, 801 N. 1st Street, SJ 95110. Bring your thoughts to the next VEP meeting this Wednesday, 7:30 PM at Gunderson.

Rosenbaum/Bluefield - Homeowner concern for the safety of school children crossing at this intersection has resulted in a speed check and a traffic count at this corner - - - and one motorist was ticketed at 61 MPH!! The average speed was found to be 38 MPH. By a quirk of city ordinance, to employ radar, a traffic study must be conducted and the speed limit that is established must be set near the average speed determined by the study. This means that Rosenbaum would have to be posted at 35 MPH before radar could be used. Now if everyone drove 61 MPH as the ticketed driver did, the limit would probably be set at 55 MPH!

The choice rests with area residents - a sensible speed limit or radar enforcement? It is anticipated that the traffic count taken will result in striping for a school crossing. With or without a crossing, please watch for school children, and ease off on the throttle! One careless moment could be your worst, and some innocent child's last.

Branham/SPRR Lick Branch - The city, SPRR, and PUC are still facing a standoff. Last month report that an agreement was pending turned into disappointment when the SP issued an 11th-hour change of heart. The city has appealed to the PUC for an overriding decision. This time, a public hearing will be scheduled. Watch for announcement of the date.

NOTICE TO NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTORS

Please do not put newsletters in mailboxes - this is a violation of federal law. We have received a letter from the Postmaster indicating that this is happening. No mailboxes please - the door handles work fine, or place them under the door mats. Thanks.

REMEMBER - THE SPEED LIMIT ON MOST VEP NEIGHBORHOOD STREETS IS 25 MPH

VEP NEWS April Deadline: March 25 1977  
Editor . . . . . Ib Larsen 578-6292  
Associate Editor . . John Marks 225-8195  
  
President. . . . . Dave Fadness 578-6428  
1st VP . . . Diane Christensen 578-5231  
(Block Reps)  
3rd VP . . . . . Bob Ward 224-0281  
Secretary. . . . . Larry LaFleur 226-8140  
Treasurer. . . . . Chris Braud 225-9135

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