

January, 1981

V.E.P. HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION  
REPRESENTING OVER 2000 HOMEOWNERS IN VISTAPARK,  
ENCORE, ECHO VALLEY, PARKVIEW VALLEY, AND BLOSSOM HEIGHTS

# VEP NEWS

The next meeting of the VEP Homeowners Association will be at 7:30 pm, Monday, January 26, 1981, in the Parkview School Cafeteria (330 Bluefield Drive).  
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!



**FIRE  
PREVENTION**



**MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 1981**

**7:30 P.M.**

**PARKVIEW SCHOOL**

# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

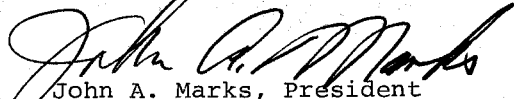
## New Year's Resolve

You've seen a lot of columnists suggest resolutions for the new year at about this time. One I read recently was by a Chinese doctor -- he resolved, among other things, to explain his patient's ailments in PLAIN ENGLISH. It made me chuckle a bit, as I wondered what he was using before.

Normally, I don't place much faith in resolutions; but from where I sit now, there's some obvious obligations I might call to your attention. It's about supporting the VEP Homeowner's Association. Now for starters, I would like to suggest two resolutions:

1. To contribute time and talent to the community in which you live; this resolve should include keeping informed on the issues that affect your neighborhood.
2. As an initial step in fulfilling item 1 above, to mail in my membership dues envelope to VEP, which is found enclosed with this newsletter.
3. To refrain from knocking "the system" until it's had a chance to work; better yet, give some thought and effort to MAKING the system work, be it traffic, shopping, government, or homemaking.
4. Give VEP your continuing support by attending at least one meeting in 1981.

Now that's more than two resolutions, but you can forgive me for getting carried away. That's because I'm concerned. I'm concerned about our expectations. Life in San Jose isn't going to get better without a lot of us pulling our weight, especially as the density of homes increases, traffic gets snarled, costs increase, and pollution gets worse. That's what all those new living units at Capital and Snell mean. Pulling your weight means getting informed, and that can start by attending VEP meetings!



John A. Marks, President

V.E.P. Homeowners Association

# SUPPORT V.E.P. BECOME A MEMBER

Time to renew your membership in VEP for another year! The dues envelopes for 1981 are enclosed in this month's newsletter for your convenience. It's only \$4.00, a bargain considering what you get:

- \* FREE WANT ADS IN THE VEP NEWS. This is available to members only!
- \* A strong organization representing YOU at city hall.
- \* A monthly newsletter delivered to your door.
- \* Monthly meetings on useful topics like fire prevention, earthquake safety, and juvenile justice.

The want ads alone are worth the price, so whip out the old checkbook and join up today!

## Parents Who Care

Parents Who Care will hold a regional meeting on Thursday, January 29, 1981, at 7:30 pm, in the San Jose Unified Vocational Center. Joanne Lundgren and Will Finck will speak at the meeting. (The Vocational Center is at 760 Hillsdale Avenue, between Pearl and Narvaez.)

On Tuesday, February 10, Parents Who Care will hold a Drug Education meeting at Steinbeck Junior High School. This meeting is just for parents and will feature a film and several speakers. It will begin at 7:30 pm.



DO YOU HAVE A PERSONAL COMPUTER?

If you do, would you be interested in forming a local (VEP area) personal computer club? My interest is in being able to exchange programs, problems, and solutions.

If you are interested, call Bob at 629-7949.

I have an Apple computer with Pascal and am a member of The Source Information Utility (I.D. TCE414).



**Red Carpet Real Estate**  
6479 Camden Avenue  
San Jose, CA 95120  
Bus (408) 268-1330  
Res (408) 268-6820



Talk to Red Carpet  
We Listen!

**PEGGY FRANCIS**  
ASSOCIATE-REALTOR

Specialist in all aspects of real estate, including resale of your property, exchange of investment property, and real estate counseling. Member of VEP six years, familiar with VEP area. Always available for free market analysis and counseling.

## GUADALUPE CORRIDOR MEETING SCHEDULE

You should have found a light green flyer in this newsletter-- a copy of the schedule of meetings through February 25th on the Guadalupe Corridor Alternatives Analysis. Although this flyer will arrive too late for several meetings listed, there are a host of others for which you will have adequate time to plan attendance. You should.

By January 21st the Interim Findings Report (IFR) will have been presented for public review. This report narrows the field of alternatives for construction in the corridor to those few most likely for ultimate selection late next summer. You *should* be interested in what those alternatives are; one of them *could* be Southern Pacific commuter trains on the Lick Branch behind Vistapark homes. The IFR will be approved in the meeting on February 25th pursuant to "fast track" pre-preliminary engineering work on those modes chosen.

Despite repeated efforts in these columns to 'get the word out' to this community regarding these meetings, the response has been absolutely *underwhelming!* Evidently only two families from this 2000-home tract have a commute problem or are concerned about traffic conditions. Perhaps it's because no one else cares that \$813,000 is being spent on a study on how to spend another 200-million tax dollars building a facility to "serve our needs". Will your needs be *addressed*? Do you think that government officials are busy trying to second-guess the needs of the silent majority just because that's what they're paid to do? Humbug. Our elected representatives hear only the bureaucrats and the extremists who show up at these expensive meetings.

Moreover, if you think government is busily working on extensive plans to relieve traffic congestion in our part of town you're *crazy!* The Guadalupe Corridor is likely to be all we'll get through the end of this century-- and it won't be under construction for at least another five years. It may only be a dream too unless a clear voice is heard in affected communities like ours. Face the facts: Through *local* inaction we've virtually lost the West Valley Freeway (Rt. 85), and the plans for an eight-lane freeway in the Guadalupe right-of-way that our community was planned around have been abandoned also. There are no plans to widen Rt. 101 south of Tully, etc., etc., etc. There's only planning for growth.

So, next time you're in your car in a traffic jam, think of that misery as a life sentence, friend; no matter how young you are, you'll be in an even worse traffic snarl the day you retire unless you get involved in a solution immediately. Many south San Joseans are approaching two hours per day in commute time to their north/west valley jobs. If only you would spend 5% of that time seeing to it that something be done to afford ultimate relief, years could be pared from that life sentence and our beautiful valley could be spared the obvious destructive side effects. You can start by lobbying at meetings announced in the flyer. Set government's priorities straight. It's your money-- and your life.

*It's up to you.*

# **We Urge You To Attend**



# Crime Prevention Unit 277-4133

In emergencies,  
phone 297-3565.

## HELP PLAN AND BUILD YOUR CITY PARKS & RECREATION SYSTEM

The City of San Jose is currently preparing a master plan for its Parks and Recreation System, a draft of which has now been completed. During this month community meetings will be held in each City Council District (V.E.P. is in District 7) to give you a chance to review this draft. City staff and members of the Parks & Recreation and Planning Commissions will be on hand to hear your comments and concerns. Your suggestions will be incorporated into the development of the final master plan.

The meeting for District 7 is scheduled for Monday, January 26, 7:00 p.m. at Santee Elementary School, 1313 Audubon Drive. Because this meeting conflicts with V.E.P.'s monthly meeting, you may prefer to attend another nearby session or call City Planners directly to discuss concerns. Please call the Planning Department for time and location of other meetings or to address specific concerns or ideas you may have. Ask for Dennis Korabiak or Carolyn Kratter at 277-5175.

*Do it today!*

## CIVIC MINDED??

You live in San Jose City Council District 7; Iola Williams (277-5226) is your Councillor. City Council meets at City Hall (801 North First Street) every Tuesday at 1:30 and 7:00 p.m. Susanne Wilson (299-4321) is your District 1 representative on the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors. The Board meets at 70 West Hedding Street (San Jose Civic Center) every Monday and Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. School policy is set by boards of trustees for each school district. V.E.P. is covered by three districts: all schools west of Vistapark Drive are in the San Jose Unified School District; schools east of Vistapark Drive are in the Oak Grove Elementary and East Side Union High School District--call for schedules of twice monthly evening meetings. Public participation is encouraged.

## A STORY ABOUT FOUR PEOPLE

This is a story about four people: Everybody, Somebody, Anybody, and Nobody. There was an important job to be done and Everybody was asked to do it. Everybody was sure Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody should do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when actually Nobody asked Anybody.

—Anonymously Contributed—

## HOW TO USE SMALL CLAIMS COURT

Judge Mark Thomas of the Municipal Court System visited us at our November meeting and pointed out the basic considerations to employ when appearing before a Small Claims Court. First of all, admissible evidence includes just about anything, including hearsay, opinion, etc. Secondly, one's own sincere story of what happened may be the best "case" one could put together. In short, be natural.

What does it cost to sue someone in Small Claims Court? A filing fee of \$2.00 plus \$3.00 to process and mail the notice-to-appear to the defendant (there's a \$15.00 charge if you want the defendant served in person). There are 10 locations in Santa Clara County where court is held. No lawyer can represent you in court, but one can be present to advise you. This generally works to your disadvantage, however, as any judge will conduct the court in such a way that both parties have equal rights.

Once you're in court, the proceedings will usually take no more than 10-15 minutes. A judgement will be rendered then and there, unless the parties seem to be aggravated, in which case the decision will be mailed. If the plaintiff (accuser) loses, he has no right of appeal; the defendant however, may appeal a decision that goes against him.

If you win a case, there's no obligation on the part of the court to collect. That's your problem. However, armed with the court's decision, you may place a lien on the defendant's property; if he has no apparent property or thing of value, you may ask the court to issue an "Order of Examination of Judgment Debtor." Then the defendant must appear in court and report his assets.

Generally, the Small Claims Court is seen as a convenient way of settling neighborhood disputes or to redress an injury. The limit for claims is now \$700, but it's expected to go to \$1500 shortly.

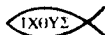
Come to our meeting in January and hear about how to protect your home from fire!

ARE YOU MOVING? - THINKING OF BUYING A HOME? JUST NEED SOME REAL ESTATE INFORMATION? PLEASE CALL FOR EFFICIENT, HONEST SERVICE.

FREE HOME WARRANTY TO VISTAPARK HOMEOWNERS  
NO CHARGE FOR MARKET APPRAISAL  
MOST ADVANCED IN REAL ESTATE SERVICES  
FAMILIAR WITH THE VEP AREA



CALL JERRY HOUSTON, 265-4000 (OFFICE)  
OR 224-8769 (HOME)



1091 Foxworthy, Near Capitol & Almaden Expwy



CRIME IN THE STREETS (and Circles and Drives and Courts)

Last December, the VEP received a letter from a member who is concerned about vandalism in our neighborhood. He has had eggs thrown at his house (he's ready to paint it egg-yolk yellow), his car battery has been stolen, the car egged, 30 Italian Cypress trees have been uprooted and tossed in the street, and his home has been burglarized twice. The police don't even bother to come out anymore; they just take a report over the phone.

He also talked to one of the construction workers putting in Parkview III Park. The worker said he's never seen vandalism anywhere as bad as it is here, and he's been building parks in the Bay Area for years. "For example," he said, "one night I stayed here 'til 10 pm to guard a section of freshly poured cement. I returned at 5 am to find the whole project destroyed by bicycle tracks."

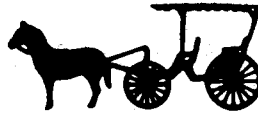
The VEP would like to start putting together a list of incidents like this, and when the list gets long enough, we can present it to the city council the way other homeowner groups in this area have been doing. If you are having problems, report it to the police (even if they won't actually come out here), and write a note to the VEP about it. (The VEP's P.O. address is on the back of the newsletter each month.) We will protect confidentiality of your letters, but anonymous letters won't be any help.

We need to convince the city council that the crime problem down here is real, even if we don't have the glamorous, flashy kind they have downtown. Meanwhile, do you know where your kids are?

## **NORMANDIN CHRYSLER-PLYMOUTH**

**266-9500**  
CAPITOL AT PEARL

**SALES  
&  
LEASES**



**SALES & SERVICE LEADERSHIP FOR 105 YEARS**

### **PLUMBING NEEDS?**

DOYLE CUMMINGS IS AWARE OF THE WATER PIPE PROBLEMS BETWEEN THE METER AND YOUR HOME AND HAS DEVELOPED A FAST, INEXPENSIVE REPAIR TECHNIQUE WITH MINIMUM LAWN DAMAGE. FOR A FREE ESTIMATE ON THE WORK, AND A 10-YEAR UNCONDITIONAL WARRANTY

**CALL 259-2586 ...FOR ANY PLUMBING REPAIR NEED.**

**doyle  
cummings  
plumbing**

# NEIGHBORHOOD WANT ADS

GUINEA PIG CAGE, 14-1/2" X 30", food dish and bottle, \$10. Cane swag lamp, \$20. 226-3868.

PIANO LESSONS. If you're interested in having your child learn how to play piano, contact a 9 years experienced teacher at 629-8502, Fri, Sat, Sun.

EXPERIENCED BABYSITTING in my home. Half block from Belden School. All ages accepted. 225-4207.

FOR SALE: Car Trailer, 2" ball, 64" X 120" inside, new tires 1979, used to tow Fiat 850. \$200.00. 629-4043.

LOVING CHILD CARE in my home. 629-1724.

WOMEN'S CLOTHING, various items, size 7-9. 578-6508 (after 6 pm).

FREE FORM FOR PLACING WANT AD IN VEP NEWS

MAIL TO: Marianne Lent  
Editor, VEP NEWS  
450 Stratford Park Court  
San Jose, CA 95136

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Your name \_\_\_\_\_

Text of ad \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

How many months do you want this ad to run? \_\_\_\_\_

Neighborhood Want Ads are for VEP members only (have you mailed in your \$4.00 dues?). To place an ad, mail the form on this page. Ads must ARRIVE no later than Feb. 7 to appear in the February issue. These ads are free. No commercial accounts.

## THE VEP NEWS

PUBLISHED & DISTRIBUTED MONTHLY BY

**V.E.P. Homeowners Association**

P.O. BOX 18111 SAN JOSE, CA 95138

EDITOR.....Marianne Lent 629-7949  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR.....Dave Fadness 578-6428  
PRESIDENT.....John Marks 225-8195  
1st VP (NEWS Distribution).....Don Och 226-1342  
2nd VP (Committees).....Jim Trevino  
3rd VP (Membership).....Audrey Henderson 226-1499  
TREASURER.....Jim Hicks 226-7124  
SECRETARY.....Jean Robertson 227-0824