

APRIL 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, April 27, 1981, in the Parkview School Cafeteria (330 Bluefield Drive). **EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

VEP IS A VOLUNTEER HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

****APRIL 27TH IS OUR ANNUAL MEETING****

WE NEED YOU TO HELP US SET OUR GOALS FOR 1981-1982

April is the month VEP has its Annual Meeting, a time for reports of accomplishments by out-going Executive Boards and the official transfer of authority to incoming officers. We've had twelve Annual Meetings now, and this one is greeted with the same enthusiastic anticipation for the future as was the first.

April 27th is the date, Parkview School is the place for what amounts to VEP's birthday celebration-- your presence will be our presents. Bring your community-wide problems and concerns with you so we can update our goals and re-align ourselves with the ever-changing perception of needs in the VEP community.

That's one of the objectives of be no guest speakers to dis-neighbor discussion of what should be concentrating on Police protection? How Traffic problems? Social what you think. We have praised by others; "Keep ing complement, but no real are doing right. Too few haps because they think our they can do to alter it. NOT members and our neighborhoods; how- know what you expect from us. April 27th is your very next chance-- do it!



the Annual Meeting-- there will tract us from a neighbor-to-our volunteer organization for the next year. Crime? about school financing? events? We want to know been criticized by some and up the good work" is a pleas- help as to what, exactly, we have come forward though, per- course is set and there's nothing TRUE! VEP exists to serve its ever, unless you speak out we can't

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A Renewable Resource...

Renewable resource is a buzz word these days. It means those sources of energy that are indestructible, such as solar radiation, wind, and the tides.

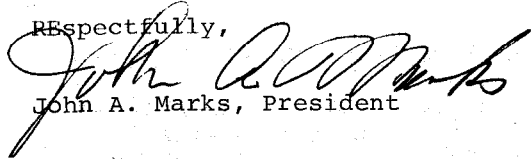
We have a renewable resource right here in VEP Country that we haven't tapped very much. It's the schools. As in any marriage between two parties, what is needed most in the end is communication. The schools are a pipeline of communication that we should be taking advantage of, but we've ignored them to date.

Hopefully, if we can establish some lines of communication with the people in the school administration, or with parent-teacher groups working with the schools, we can help them promote whatever they have in mind to be of benefit to the community.

Now we need to know of some resourceful souls who are willing to keep the VEP NEWS informed of what's going on and what is planned by each of the schools in our area. That includes Belden, Carson, Parkview, Herman, Steinbeck, Andrew Hill, and Gunderson schools. Anyone who feels inclined or inspired to do this work is welcome to contact me or the editor of this newsletter, Marianne Lent. Our phone numbers are listed below.

With a spirit of cooperation, I feel confident we can generate renewed interest in the vitality of VEP Country. It's there if YOU want to reach for it

Respectfully,



John A. Marks, President

DEADLINE FOR MAY ISSUE OF VEP NEWS

Any ads or articles for the May issue of the VEP NEWS must arrive no later than May 9.

THE VEP NEWS
PUBLISHED & DISTRIBUTED MONTHLY BY

V.E.P. Homeowners Association

P.O. BOX 18111 SAN JOSE, CA 95158

Editor.....Marianne Lent 629-7949
President.....John Marks 225-8195
1st VP (News Distribution).....Bill Rogers 225-8377
2nd VP (Committees).....Dave Fadness 578-6428
3rd VP (Membership).....Audrey Henderson 226-1499
Secretary.....Jean Robertson 281-4158
Treasurer.....Jim Hicks 226-7124

eaten on premises

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

Do you have anything you want to tell the world, or at least the VEP membership? I'll be happy to print anything printable for members of VEP. School events, garage sales, car washes, club meetings, essays on philosophy — whatever. I will publish the deadline for the next newsletter each month.

I can type articles for you, as long as your draft is readable. Submit your prose (or poetry) to:

Marianne Lent
450 Stratford Park Court
San Jose, CA 95136

-Marianne Lent-

ARE YOU HAVING PROBLEMS WITH VANDALISM OR CRIME?

If you are having problems with vandalism or crime, let the VEP know. Mail a report of what happened (or is happening) to the P.O. Box shown on the back of the newsletter each month, or call one of the officers.

We would like to keep track of serious incidents, in order to be able to put pressure on City Hall effectively. Of course, always let the police know. Insist in filing a report, even if no one will come out.

DEVELOPMENTS IN AND AROUND VEP COUNTRY

● On April 7th, the San Jose City Council approved plans, final map, and contract for a private development at the southeast corner of Rosenbaum and Capitol Expressway (Tract #6981). Dubbed "Capitol Villages", the plan calls for 144 condominiums. To help carry traffic serving the site, Baroni will be extended and completed as a cul-de-sac there. Few other improvements were required of the developer.

● An environmental impact report (EIR) is being prepared for development of the former Frontier Village site at Branham Lane and Monterey Road. (The park closed last fall.) Now under consideration for the 61.5 acre parcel is phased construction of 860 units over a four year period starting in the spring of 1982. The Bren Company is planning one and two story townhomes and condos in three story structures over parking areas. It will be called "Rio Grande".

A full schedule of public hearings will evolve once the EIR is drafted. Your particular comments on environmental concerns are solicited by the San Jose Planning Department.

NORMANDIN CHRYSLER-PLYMOUTH

266-9500
CAPITOL AT PEARL

**SALES
&
LEASES**



SALES & SERVICE LEADERSHIP FOR 106 YEARS

NEW VEP OFFICERS

A new board of VEP officers was elected on March 23. The new officers are

John Marks	President
Bill Rogers	1st Vice President
Dave Fadness	2nd Vice President
Audrey Henderson	3rd Vice President
Jim Hicks	Treasurer
Jeane Robertson	Secretary

Congratulations to the new members of the board, and thanks to Don Och and Jim Trevino, our retiring VPs, for a year of service to the VEP.

-Marianne Lent-

THE SAN JOSE CITIZENS' ALLIANCE IS NOW UNDERWAY

A volunteer organization of citizens interested in city-wide issues and the welfare of San Jose as a whole in a districted system has kicked off its membership drive and invites you to join. Monthly meetings are planned on third Monday nights at City Hall; several VEPers are likely to be involved, so car-pooling will be available. This is an excellent opportunity to meet other concerned citizens from all over San Jose, to learn the issues in-depth, and to make your opinions known. Lobbying will be an inevitable pursuit. Please call Dave Fadness @ 578-6428 for more information on "SJ CA".

RADIATION EXPOSURE

As part of his lecture about nuclear energy at the March VEP meeting, Bill Leeburn (a project manager for General Electric's Advanced Reactor Systems Department) gave a list of comparative radiation exposures from our environment.

The exposures are described in "millirems per year". Two hundred millirems per year is considered a tolerable level of exposure for a human.

Ground sources in Colorado	58
Cosmic rays in Denver	48
Gastro-intestinal X-ray	700
Chest X-ray	25
Dental X-ray	9
Building materials	5
Two hours per day of TV	0.3
Living at the site boundary of a nuclear power plant	5
Living one mile from a nuclear power plant	0.5
Smoking 1.5 packs of cigarettes per day	5,000
Lung exposure from nuclear power	1
Lung exposure from coal power	1

-Marianne Lent-

HOW DANGEROUS IS MALATHION REALLY?

The following report is reprinted, with permission, from the Environmental Impact News Service, published by Lawrence Jerome.

Because of citizen opposition to the aerial application of malathion to kill the Med Fly, it was decided to employ a combination of fruit stripping and ground spraying in the battle to save California agriculture. Since the first of this year, properties in the core infestation areas have been regularly sprayed at about two week intervals with a malathion/protein bait mixture diluted in water at the rate of 22 ounces of pesticide per 120 gallons, a much weaker mixture than used by most farmers.

The ground spraying is supposed to be done in a manner described as "Bait Station Spraying," in which only selected areas of host trees are sprayed with the bait/pesticide mixture, which dries on leaves and bark and attracts the fruit flies to eat the malathion and die in a few minutes.

It is obvious from residents' descriptions of the spraying that some crews adhere to the bait spraying procedures while other crews are not so careful. Even non-host plants are sometimes sprayed, unnecessarily increasing the malathion load for those properties. Residents whose yards have been recently sprayed often report a "strong smell," adding to their worries and fears.

According to County Health Dept. Entomologist Dean Jameison, the reported smell is not malathion, but rather the StaLeze Bait used to attract the flies.

Still, many residents in the sprayed areas report a variety of symptoms which they or their doctors attribute to the malathion. Reported symptoms include trouble breathing (especially those under treatment for emphysema), allergic reactions, flu-like symptoms, loss of voice, and increased susceptibility to diseases. In Alameda County, the recent 2- to 3-fold increase in crib death (sudden infant death syndrome) has been linked by some media to the malathion spraying. At least one San Jose resident has had a blood test showing abnormal levels of the enzyme cholinesterase. The central nervous system depends on cholinesterase for proper nerve transmission; malathion has ben experimentally shown to interrupt cholinesterase production in animals.

The question is: with all these reported symptoms, is there any evidence that malathion spraying is responsible?

Surprisingly, no!

Take the case of the sad increase in Alameda County crib deaths. EINS called the

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**

Alameda County Health Dept. and was told by Dr. Smith that the crib deaths showed no discernible pattern, that there were an "unusual number of crib deaths throughout the County."

Obviously, if malathion were implicated, the crib-death increases would be concentrated in the core spraying areas.

Then, consider the reported breathing problems; if patients are already under treatment for such problems, the knowledge that a "poison" is being sprayed in their yard could easily psychologically exacerbate the condition, especially if the patient's doctor does nothing to allay the patient's fears. Now, if malathion residues were found in mucous scrapings or lung tissue, then there would be a strong case for suspecting malathion, but until such clinical findings are demonstrated there is no need to unnecessarily alarm patients.

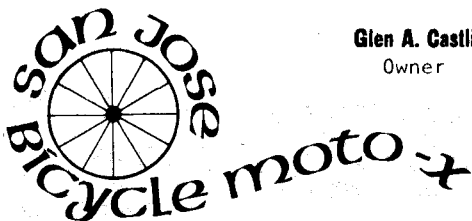
Many doctors, it would seem, are forgetting the very strong power of the mind to influence patient health, both adversely and beneficially. Unless it can be physically demonstrated how an agent such as malathion is operating to affect health, psychological aspects of the case must be considered. Which brings me to another point about malathion and health: How are the patients supposedly ingesting enough of the pesticide to cause health problems?

Of course, while the yard is being sprayed, some of the malathion/bait droplets will be carried by the wind or remain suspended in the air for a time. But I'm sure most — if not all — residents keep their windows closed while their yards are sprayed to keep exposure to a minimum; in fact, even the strongest critics agree that most yards are sprayed in the morning when winds are lowest and the residents are not home.

Once the spraying is completed and the droplets settle, chances for exposure are minimal. Contrary to the claims of some critics, malathion is not volatile and does not remain "in the air." The vapor pressure of malathion is very low -- .00004 mm of mercury at 30 degrees C — so that once the mixture settles and dries, almost none of the malathion can evaporate into the air.

So exposure is limited to during and shortly after spraying. What about dosage levels? EINS is informed that an average dwarf orange tree is sprayed with one half to one gallon of mixture — 0.1 to 0.2 oz. of malathion. Thus, an average yard with half a dozen trees may be sprayed with as much as five gallons of mixture, or 1.0 oz. of malathion — certainly a substantial amount — but, to be hazardous, a person would have to ingest a large fraction of the spray, say 10% (2.4 oz. of malathion is considered lethal to a 150 lb. adult, and 0.12 oz. of malathion a health risk).

Two types of people are at increased risk from the malathion spraying: those with



Glen A. Castlio
Owner

(408) 578-4599

422A W. Capitol Expressway
(At Vista Park)
San Jose, Ca. 95136

10% OFF WITH THIS AD

Expires 5/24/81

Bicycle sales and service. Specializing in Moto-X and 10-speeds.

a genetic deficiency of the enzyme cholinesterase (about 1 in 3000) and babies under two years of age. Certainly, parents of young children should keep them in the house with the windows closed during spraying and restrict their outside play for a week afterward (malathion decomposes in a week, first to the more toxic maloxon, then breaks down to harmless compounds in the presence of air, heat, and light).

It's unfortunate that the Med Fly project and the media have not done more to inform parents and those at risk how to avoid unnecessary exposure to the spraying. The official spray notices minimize health risks, with small-print warnings only on the back of the notice.

But, even with over-spraying in core areas and unnecessary exposure, the health risks from the malathion is minimal. Farmers and home gardeners regularly use far larger doses of the pesticide with no ill effects; they consider malathion one of the safest organophosphate pesticides available.

Dean Jameison of the Santa Clara County Health Dept. points out that malathion has been used in Europe for years as a head and body de-lousing agent with no ill effects.

EINS editor Jerome personally experienced aerial Med Fly spraying in Florida in 1956 - 1957. He comments, "while we didn't like being sprayed, and it certainly did spot our cars and clothes, no obvious adverse health effects cropped up." (Unfortunately, no follow-up health studies were done.)

For those opposed to aerial spraying, EINS would point out that core residents are receiving far more malathion via ground spraying than they would have if aerial spraying had been used. Is that fair to them?

Perhaps if malathion had been named "benethion" people would not consider it nearly so bad!

-Environmental Impact News Service-

SAN JOSE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETINGS

The Board of Education of the San Jose Unified School District will meet on the following days:

April 23 May 7 and 21 June 4 and 18

All meetings will convene at 7:30 pm in the Board Room at 1605 Park Avenue, San Jose, unless otherwise announced by the Board.

Clip this ad!

\$3.00 OFF ANY LARGE PIZZA

OR

\$2.00 OFF ANY MEDIUM PIZZA
eaten on premises

expires 5/24/81

TOOT-N-TOTEM II

Family Restaurant

Corner of Capitol & Vistapark

One coupon per customer per visit

Not good with other discounts or coupons

Limit one pizza

226-8766

Open 4:00 pm daily
Closed Mondays



NEIGHBORHOOD WANT ADS

BABYSITTING. Deanna Bundy, 13 yrs, \$.75 per hour. 578-5825

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

NEWLY BORNE. Handmade blankets or quilts, crib size or smaller; also Burp Me pads and bibs to match. 226-2415

LOVING CHILD CARE in my home. 629-1724

FOR SALE - Ruther drum set. 6 pieces w/ 13" high hat and 21" Zildjian crash cymbal. \$250.00. Good beginner set. 227-1123

BABYSITTING. Nicole Marks, 11 yrs, \$.75 per hour. 225-8195

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, and Sun.

EXCELLENT condition. '66 Corvette, \$10,000. 227-6946

VISTAPARK/ENCORE BABYSITTING CO-OP. Exchange day sits with other parents, take time out to shop, have lunch or go to the doctor without the kids. Call Mrs. Strauss at 578-1645.

GARAGE SALE. Five families. Saturday, May 2, 8 am to 5 pm. Avon Court off Bluefield.

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. To place an ad, mail in this form. Ads must arrive no later than May 9 to appear in the May issue. These ads are free. No commercial accounts.

ARE YOU MOVING? - THINKING OF BUYING A HOME? -JUST NEED SOME REAL ESTATE INFORMATION? PLEASE CALL ME 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, 265-9900 (OFFICE)
OR 224-8769 (HOME)



1091 Foxworthy, Near Capitol & Almanden Expwy