

VEP COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION •

Representing More Than 2000 Families In The Blossom Valley Area Of South San Jose Since 1969

November 2010

### COME JOIN IN THE FUN!!

2pm – 4pm Sunday (Thanksgiving Weekend) ► November 28, 2010 ◄

Vista Park Community Room 475 Hyde Park Drive

# ★ Santa in the Park ★

★ Have a Picture Taken with Santa ★ Bring the Kids or the Whole Family

### $\star$ Professional Photos by Jeri Arstingstall $\star$

Precious Moments in Time (or feel free to bring your own camera)

> Door Raffle Prize Arts and Crafts Refreshments

Appetizers by Giacobbe's Italian Bistro

(Note: No scheduled membership meetings for November and December – next meeting January 25<sup>th</sup>)

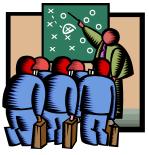
Happy Holidays to VEP Members and Their Families from the VEP Board of Directors



# October Meeting

by Marilyn Rodgers

To a "standing room only" attendance in the Vista Park community room, the October membership meeting started with brief introductions and an overview of the evening's meeting agenda. Attendees were encouraged to participate in the raffle for a free sampler box of chocolates from Champagne Wishes and Choco-



late Dreams provided by Susan Iverson.

Jaime Ruiz, newly assigned San Jose City Parks and Recreation Manager for Vista Park provided an overview of the planned work to be completed in Phase 3 of the Vista Park Community Room Master Plan. Included work will be applying wood chips around the area where trees were planted in April, installing a mowstrip type curbing around the basketball court, and replacing shrubs and ground cover plants in front of the community room. The shrub planting will take place after a determination that the irrigation system is working. Mr. Ruiz provided hard copy pictures of five plants for possible selection. One attendee voiced concern about using one of the options – that of Jasmine, as it is a fragrant flowering plant which might attract bees.

The city will have a contract in place for the work to be completed in January/February, 2011 timeframe. One member voiced support for having all of the work completed by contractors rather than depending on volunteers.

Thuy Nguyen, Sr. Civil Engineer and John Aquino, Project Manager, of the San Jose City Public Works Department presented a very enlightening overview of the "Branham Lane Sewer System Project" (official name Downer-Canoas Interceptor Rehabilitation Project). Ms. Nguyen and Mr. Aquino informed the attendees that the project was ahead of schedule and equipment and crews would be completing the Branham Lane portion of the project by the first week in November. (See article included elsewhere in this edition of the newsletter for detailed information of the project.) Several members of the audience asked questions. The dialog became quite energized when one member asked about traffic flow and control. The contractor had hired SJ Police Officers to provide for traffic control and safety. One member asked about the adequacy of the signage in regards to the area being a "construction zone", as his family member had been given a traffic citation. Construction zone citations for speeding are significantly more costly. Another attendee voiced confusion about where the "construction zone" started and ended. Several members of the audience voiced strong support for SJPD issuing traffic/ speeding citations, as there has been a long history of vehicles speeding along this section of Branham Lane.

Laura Cowen of Councilmember Nancy Pyle's office announced several upcoming events.

Members in attendance approved the 2010-2011 VEP budget.

Other announcements included the November Santa in the Park event, and a brief update on the status of the Martial Cottle Park EIR Report.

#### **Upcoming Opportunities for Volunteers** by Helen Castillo and Marilyn Rodgers

We have three upcoming opportunities for volunteers.

1. Provide input on the Vista Park Community Room Master Plan <u>breezeway security gate</u>. As part of the master plan for the Community Room, city staff need input from members on the **design of the breezeway security gate**. Volunteer commitment would be to attend one meeting of approximately 1-1/2 to 2 hours in



length. Number of volunteers needed - 2 to 3. For additional information, or to volunteer contact Marilyn Rodgers at <u>MRodgersRN@aol.com</u> or

408-225-7553.

2. **Santa in the Park** event, November 28<sup>th</sup>, from 2-4pm in the Vista Park Community Room. Number of volunteers needed - 3 or 4. Time commitment – 2 to 3 hours. <u>This is a very enjoyable event</u>!! For additional information, or to volunteer, contact Helen Castillo at <u>hcastillo@vbprop.com</u> or 408-981-5902.

3. January **VEP Membership Drive mailing**. In January, VEP kicks off the annual membership drive, which includes a large mailing to both current members, and to non-members throughout the geographic VEP area. Number of volunteers needed for membership mailing preparation – approximately 20, time commitment – 2-4 hours. Tentative date and meeting place – Vista Park Community Room, Sunday, January 16<sup>th</sup>. For additional information, or to volunteer, contact Helen Castillo at <u>hcastillo@vbprop.com</u> or 408-981-5902, or Debra Suydam at dsuydam@sbcglobal.net or 408-972-4231.





# •Sales •Service •Rentals •Body Shop

900 CAPITOL EXPRESSWAY AUTO MALL • SAN JOSE

# 266-9500

Serving San Jose Since 1875

# "Thank you" to Our Advertisers

by Marilyn Rodgers, Ginger Cardona, Susan Iverson

We want to take this opportunity to <u>thank our Advertisers</u>. They play an important role in VEP's continued fiscal health. Many of them have been loyal supporters of VEP for many years. Others you will notice are brand new to VEP. Whether long term or new, advertisers appreciate knowing when their advertising dollars are effective and bring them business. Please take a moment to look through the VEP Newsletter with particular attention directed to the advertisers. If there are products or services that you, your family, or friends may be in need of, contact our advertisers first. And....most importantly, <u>be sure to mention that you are a member of VEP</u>, and <u>saw their ad in our newsletter</u>!!

#### New advertisers:

- Better Homes/Ventura Barnett Properties Helen Castillo
- Giacobbe's Italian Bistro Layla Suarez
- The Plumber's Handyman John Wakefield
- Sino Foot Spa
- Western International Securities Johnny Khamis

### Arco Station Redevelopment

By Dave Noel

2

On October 26<sup>th</sup>, the San Jose City Council upheld the August 25<sup>th</sup> Planning Commission decision allowing the Arco franchisee at Branham and Pearl to build



an AM/PM mini market with 24 hour operation, but without alcohol sales.

The Arco franchisee appealed the Planning Commission's denial of alcohol sales to the City Council, but withdrew that appeal at the City Council hearing.

In addition, the neighboring 7-11 franchisee appealed the Planning commission's approval of the mini

market. The City Council heard his concerns but decided to allow the project as approved by the Planning Commission.



With the appeals behind them, it is our understanding the Arco franchisee will now proceed with the project.

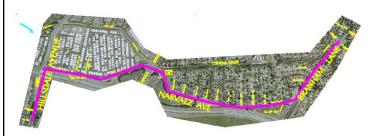


#### **Sewer Rehabilitation Project**

Thuy Nguyen, City of San José-Public Works Department

The saying "Out of Sight, Out of Mind" can be applied to the sewers running beneath our streets...until...something goes wrong such as sewer spills or back-up into homes and businesses, or roadway cave-ins due to collapsing sewers. Most of these menaces are caused by aging sewer systems combining with limited maintenance activities. Sewer rehabilitation (or renewal) projects such as the recently completed Downer-Canoas Interceptor Rehabilitation Project (the project) is intended to keep the sewers working effectively while staying "out of sight" for residents and business owners of the south San José communities, including the VEP neighborhoods. Running parallel to Canoas Creek, east of Route 87, from Blossom Hill Road to Curtner Avenue, the Downer-Canoas Sanitary Trunk Sewer is a large sewer (42-inches and 48inches in diameter. This trunk sewer serves the neighborhoods of South San José and conveys over 7 million gallons of wastewater per day north toward the sewage treatment plant in Alviso. The sewer had an accumulation of sediment and had never been cleaned since its construction in the 1980s.

In 2006, the City contracted with AES Enterprises, Inc. to clean more than a mile of pipeline and inspect 3 additional miles of the Downer Canoas sewer system. The inspection revealed the need to renew a portion of this sewer system. Video images inside the pipe showed signs of aging pipe and joint separations which allowed ground water to infiltrate into the pipe. In August 2010, the City contracted Pipenology, Inc. from Rocklin, California to renew the aging sewer along Branham Lane from New Compton Drive to Narvaez Avenue and along Narvaez to Hillsdale Avenue.



The project utilized a "trenchless" method to renew the existing 42-inch and 48-inch diameter concrete pipes. To implement this renewal process, the existing (host) pipe had to be cleaned. Sewage was diverted through a sewer bypass system which consisted of series of black (high density polyethylene or HDPE) pipes stationed along the east side of Canoas Creek and along the south side of Hillsdale Avenue.

The installation of the sewer bypass system took five weeks

to complete, including four diesel pumps placed near the intersection of Branham Lane and New Compton Drive (picture below.)



With the sewer by-pass in operation, the pipe cleaning phase began and took seven weeks to complete. Pipenology utilized large vacuum trucks and high pressure cleaning equipment to remove 12 truck loads of debris from the sewer.

Multiple layers of a woven polyester felt-like material are used to line the sewer in the cured-in-place pipe (CIPP) liner process. The polyester liner is first saturated with a thermo-resin at the construction site. After saturation, the liner is inserted into the sewer through a manhole and pulled through the pipe. The liner is kept cool until it is ready to be inflated like a balloon inside the pipe. The contractor pumps cold water into the liner, which causes it to expand inside the pipe. After the liner is fully expanded, a large boiler is used to heat and recirculate the water inside the liner to "cure" the resin. The liner and resin materials harden and form a brand new pipe within the old pipe.



Before Renewal





By the last week of October, Pipenology, Inc. has successfully renewed 8,650 feet of the Downer-Canoas Trunk sewer utilizing 720,000 lbs of resin and nearly 2 million gallons of water for curing the liner. The project also rehabilitated 24 sanitary sewer manholes.

The cured-in-place rehabilitation method used for this project is quicker and less costly than the traditional remove and replace (open-cut) construction method. This trenchless rehabilitation method decreases the noise and traffic impacts normally associated with traditional sewer repair methods and minimizes the impacts to other underground utilities such as water, storm sewers, electrical, telecommunications and gas lines.

Residents can help keep the sewer system functioning effectively by not pouring kitchen grease or hazardous waste into sewers. Trees or large shrubs should not be planted near a sewer line to prevent root intrusion into the sewer. Homes with basements plumbing fixtures that are lower-than street level should be equipped with a back-water flap valve on the sewer lateral to prevent sewage back-up into the dwelling. The website address below contains helpful information regarding sewer backups.

http://www.sanjoseca.gov/transportation/ sewer\_sewercleaning.htm

# Gunderson Wins "Got Milk" Challenge!

Last month, to increase academic success and the personal well being of students, GOT MILK? along with San Jose Unified School District challenged high school students at Gunderson, Willow Glen and San Jose to start the day off right with a nutritious breakfast including milk. The schools competed over three weeks to increase their breakfast participation. Gunderson High School increased their breakfast participation by 22% over last year and was presented with a \$3,000 check for winning the competition!







## The Plumber's Handyman Plumbing/handyman projects

Free Estimates, Good Rates

John Wakefield (408) 679-2078



Randazzo's

WATER SOFTENERS & FILTER SYSTEMS

SALES + REPAIRS Parts and Repairs for Most Brands FAST SERVICE \* FAIR PRICES

Discounts Available to VEP Members

Family Owned & Operated License #514073

# (408) 978-5355

### Katherine's Corner

By Katherine Decker

Hi everyone,

On 10/18/2010 I was invited to The Villages in San Jose for an emergency preparedness drill. It was very exciting. The Villages are the model for San Jose. They are so organized and prepared. Their community can maintain itself for up to two weeks after an emergency.

Wouldn't this be great for our neighborhood? But it would take a lot of work and planning, and getting our community involved.

If you are interested or want to hear more, please e -mail me at <u>kddedcker@sbcglobal.net</u>

# Street Light Repair

by Marilyn Rodgers

With Fall arriving and the change of time from daylight savings to standard, dusk and darkness seems to arrive early. <u>You may have noticed a</u>

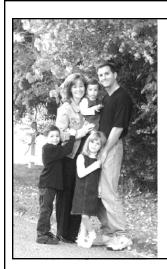


street light in the neighborhood that is not working. The City of San Jose appreciates and depends on citizens reporting non-functioning street lights. To report a non-functioning street light, call Street Light Repair at **408-277-5517**. You will hear a recorded message that asks for several pieces of information including: a) your name, b) the number listed on the street light (note: there is a 6 digit number on the pole of the street light at "eye level"), c) address of street light (provide either the residence number if lightpole is in front of a home, or provide a description in terms of street location, ie. southwest corner of x street).

City staff attempts to repair street lights within 7 to 14 days of notification. Help keep our neighborhood and the City of San Jose safer by reporting non-functioning street lights!

Remember .... When it is raining, be sure to turn on <u>your car headlights</u> at the same time as turning on your windshield wipers! <u>It is the</u> <u>law</u>, and makes for safer driving for everyone on the road!

wakefieldjm@comcast.net





**365 Cookies** By Kathy Wood, Baker

Miscommunication resulted in the printing of last month's article in which I mistakenly believed I was writing for the January publication. Being the new leaf on the tree, I thought it possible there would be no more printings until after the holidays (the busiest time of the year). Anyway, the cookie baking is still on track; my list is full for the rest of the year and I'm still finding new recipes. Now comes the predicament of which ones will be sent to the island of untried cookies.



We are nearing Thanksgiving, one of the best holidays for delicious food, with Christmas inching its candy cane fingers around the corner. The following recipe has become one I will make again, especially this time of the year. Make a batch of these to enjoy Thanksgiving morning with a cup of coffee or for a late night snack after the kitchen has been put back into order (somewhat), and the relatives have been sent on their way. They are a cake-like cookie with a mildly spicy pumpkin flavor. The chocolate chips and walnuts randomly sprinkled throughout make every bite satisfying.

Chocolate Chip Pumpkin Cookies: 1 cup butter, softened (recipe calls for shortening), 2 cups granulated sugar, 2 eggs, 2 teaspoons vanilla extract, 1 (15 ounce)can pumpkin puree, 4 cups all-purpose flour, 1 ½ teaspoons baking soda, 1 ½ teaspoons baking powder, 1 teaspoon salt, 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon, 1 pinch ground nutmeg, 1 cup semisweet chocolate chips, 1 cup chopped walnuts (optional).

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees. Grease baking sheets or line with parchment paper. In a large bowl, cream together the butter and granulated sugar until smooth. Beat in the eggs one at a time. Stir in the vanilla and pumpkin until well blended. Combine the flour, baking soda, baking powder, salt, cinnamon and nutmeg; stir into the pumpkin mixture. Mix in the chocolate chips and walnuts, if desired. Drop by teaspoonfuls onto the prepared baking sheets.

Bake for 12-15 minutes in the preheated oven, until edges begin to brown. Allow to cool for a few minutes on the baking sheets before removing

# Happy Holidays!

Kaye Moore, Pearl Avenue Library

Come on in to the Pearl Avenue Library to enjoy all of our beautiful holiday decorations, and bring your family to a couple of our upcoming programs.

First off, if your children have been caught up in the *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* craze, we are having a special Book Adventures program,



which is a book club for kids with crafts, games, and discussion surrounding the book, Wednesday, Dec  $1^{st}$  at 3 pm.

There aren't any regularly scheduled story times taking place in December, but on Thursday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 11:30 am, P&T Puppets will present *The Night Before Chris Mouse* for a special holiday show. Along that line, *Papa Hugs* and his band will perform on Wednesday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, also at 11:30 am.

On Saturday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, at 11 am, kids are invited to create their own catapults out of commonly recycled materials, and at 3 pm, adults and teens can learn how to make their own holiday greeting cards.

Our final event of the month is our holiday craft program for kids and their caregivers on Wednesday, December  $22^{nd}$  at 3 pm.

We also want to remind you that the library will close early the night before Thanksgiving on November 24<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm, and will be closed on the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> as well. In December, we will be closed the 24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> and again for New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.

Happy Holidays to all of you, and we hope that you find the time to come over grab a book, DVD, or holiday music here at Pearl, during this special season.

I am a VEP member Bringing You A World of Opportunities in Real Estate



Yogendra Singh CRS, CIPS, GRI, e-PRO, SRES Whether you are, Buying or Selling, Call me:408-636-3115 California Best Properties www.CaliforniaBestProperties.com

# **Communication with Our Members**

by Marilyn Rodgers, Adina Pierce, Susan Iverson, Jeri Arstingstall

Face to face communication is usually the most meaningful and rewarding. Membership meetings between September



and May, special events and projects provide this opportunity. However, we have many non-face to face opportunities as well – they are as follows:

As you are reading this newsletter, you already know about our Number 1 (and most popular) way to communicate with our members – through the **VEP NEWs**. Our members continue to tell us how much they enjoy receiving and reading the newsletter.

The VEP News is available in a hardcopy and mailed through traditional mail, or by e-distribution through e-mail. (Note: cost of printing and postage is saved through e-distribution. However, we are happy to provide our members with whichever method of delivery they prefer.)

We continue to evaluate and utilize electronic means of communicating with our members, particularly in between editions of the newsletter. (Please note: if you have provided us with your e-mail address to receive either e-mail Alerts, newsletter e-distribution, or both, <u>please remember to contact us</u> <u>when your e-mail address changes</u> or you deactivate an email address. This prevents large numbers of "bouncebacks" returning to us for invalid addresses.)

**E-mail alerts** – if you have e-mail and would like to receive monthly e-mail Alerts, please be sure we have a <u>current e-mail address</u>. (We usually send one or two e-mails per month, so we will not fill your mailbox with junk e-mails; and e -mail addresses are confidential).

**VEP Website** – <u>www.vepca.net</u> – find current information, highlights of upcoming events, as well as historical information on the website. Our website is intended for use by both members and non-members. Look for an increasing amount of information to be available on the website in the future.

**VEP - Yahoo groups and Facebook** – for those members interested in additional electronic access and use "social media" sites, VEP has a **Yahoo group** and is on **Facebook.** 





COMMERCIAL ★ INDUSTRIAL ★ RESIDENTIAL CA LICENSE #501042

# BOB CHESNOS (408) 978-6640

INTERIOR ★ EXTERIOR ★ INSURED & BONDED

**QUALITY PAINTING SINCE 1977** 

Going Green In Your Home Is Easy! By Our City Forest

Have you been thinking about going green, but find it not so easy? Going green doesn't require spending a lot of money to save money. Simple changes to our daily habits are introduced by Our City Forest in the Green and Healthy Workshops.



What are Green and Healthy Workshops?

With all the information about going green one can be easily deterred. Our City Forest offers hands-on workshops that allow you to learn about your ecosystem and take steps to adopt a climate-friendly lifestyle that's simple, free and fun!

Which are the important actions to take? These workshops cover seven main topics including; reducing your energy use through energy efficiency; using earth-friendly landscaping with drought tolerant plants; reducing toxic household waste; recycling tips to reduce waste; shopping sustainably by choosing locally-grown, seasonal foods; and using alternative transportation. The hands-on workshops have knowledgeable facilitators that have gathered the best research and make the transition to new habits easy.

It is important for San José to lead the way in energy conservation. The San José Green Vision sets a goal to reduce energy consumption by half, while receiving 100 percent of our electrical power from clean renewable sources by 2022. To help reach this goal, Our City Forest provides the Green and Healthy Workshops for individuals to learn about and adopt sustainable lifestyles.

If you are interested in learning more about the connection we have with our natural resources and local urban forest, while attaining money saving tips for your home, please contact: <u>Greenandhealthy@ourcityforest.org</u> or 408-998-7337 ext. 123. If you would like to coordinate a Green and Healthy neighborhood workshop, Our City Forest will guide you through the process of becoming a Green Amigo.

Our City Forest is a 501(c)(3) urban forestry nonprofit that has served the San José area since 1994. With help from city and state grants and local contributions, Our City Forest has distributed \$5 million worth of free trees and services to neighborhoods, schools and agencies, including nearly 50,000 15gallon shade trees.

Help Our City Forest grow a greener San José. Get involved today!

# **November Garden Reminders**

Sprinkle some color into your winter garden, if you're not growing vegetables this year. Sow wildflower seeds, and the winter rains will water them for you. You could also plant winter flowers, such as pansies, stock, snapdragons, and primrose. I've got some cosmos that keep re-seeding themselves in a neglected former tree hole in the driveway; they grow tall and beautiful, a thing of beauty to behold every day when I leave and return.

For veggies, plant those snow peas, broccoli, chard, etc. Garlic planted now can be harvested in May; set cloves (pointed end up) in soil that has good drainage. Plant about one inch deep, three to six inches apart.

Also, get ready to spray fruit trees; after leaves have fallen, spray peach trees and nectarine trees with lime sulfur to control peach leaf curl. Spray apricot trees with a fixed-copper spray, coating the stems and trunk thoroughly.

Continue to clip spent roses off the plants. You can expect more roses through December, even if the weather is frosty. But hold off on serious rose pruning until January.

#### Bulbs go in NOW

There is still time to plant spring-flowering bulbs. Most hurseries and garden centers remain well-stocked with dozens of colorful selections. To help you plan your garden, check out <u>www.bulb.com</u> for a wealth of information and tips about how to choose, plant and otherwise care for your bulbs. The site is maintained by the Netherlands Flower Bulb Info Center (where else?). Once you get those bulbs in the ground, give yourself a little instant gratification by planting winter-color annuals on top. Good choices for sunny spots include pansies, violas, primrose and Iceland Poppies. For shady or dappled spots, try cineraria and cyclamen.

#### Using Oak Barrels

Half an oak barrel makes a great container for small trees, particularly citrus trees. But what about drainage? You should drill four, half-inch (or so) holes around the perimeter of the bottom. Coat the interior with a roofing compound, such as Black Jack, to prevent rotting.

#### Bees in the Backyard?

Unless there is a bee's nest in your back yard, you need not worry about killing them. Bees will fly miles to reach a site where food is obtainable. To eliminate the possibility of bees buzzing around, say during your yard party, you would have to spray a circular area miles across, and then only on the day of the party.





## **Gunderson Updates**

Henry T. Gunderson High School students and staff have just completed the first twelve weeks of school, and as progress report cards make their way through the mail, the school is gearing up for the final six weeks of the semester.



On Thursday, November 4, an Academic Awards ceremony was held in the gym for over 240 students who achieved a 3.0 GPA or higher last spring. These 10-12 graders were honored during 1<sup>st</sup> period. The superintendent, administrators and parents were on hand to celebrate all of the students' hard work.

Gunderson's Link Crew recently held a pumpkin carving party for freshmen. Upper classmen assisted, and also created several spooky scenes in some "haunted" portables. Fun was had by all!

On Election Day, seniors had the opportunity to work at polling places around the city. Ms. Rebelo organized this yearly event that allows our students the chance to watch government in action.

Grizzly PRIDE continues to grow at HTGHS! The month of November focuses on the principle of INTEGRITY. Paw dollars will be awarded to students who demonstrate integrity. Additionally, the Student of the Month winners will all have been chosen for their strong sense of integrity.

The GHS sports teams have organized Student vs. Staff games. These games will take place on a regular basis. The principal, Mr. Dominic Bejarano, has presented the staff with t-shirt "uniforms" for these events.

As the holidays arrive, our students' great sense of compassion will continue to drive several school-wide projects that benefit others. Interact Club is holding a canned food drive, and the social science department will run its spare change competition again. Last year our students raised over \$2,000 for needy Gunderson families.

The music department will put on its yearly winter concert on December 2.

Don't forget to check out all of the other amazing events that go on at Gunderson by logging on to: <u>http://gunderson.sjusd.org/</u>

GO GRIZZLIES!

# Proposed Citywide Social Host Ordinance

From the Office of Nancy Pyle

As many of you know, on September 21st our community suffered a fatal motor vehicle crash involving two 2010 Leland High

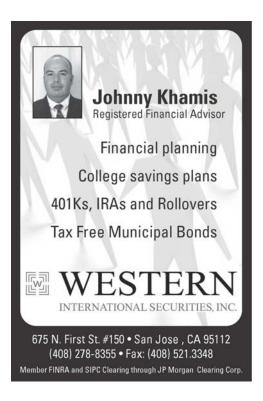


School graduates. Alcohol was involved in that accident and so on Tuesday, October 19th Leland High School hosted a community forum to discuss issues related to teen drinking and driving. The event was a collaboration effort between Leland and the Santa Clara County Public Health Department's Traffic Safe Communities Network (TSCN). TSCN is a community collaborative which includes representatives from law enforcement, transportation, education, healthcare, and elected officials. I went to the forum and was happy to see many students, parents and other community members also in attendance.

Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of injuries and deaths for teens and alcohol is one of the primary causes of these collisions. In 2008, the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) reported 118 collisions in Santa Clara County involving drivers under age 21 who had been drinking. The crashes resulted in 111 injuries and three deaths. The same year, alcohol -related crashes made up 11 percent of all motor vehicle collisions in Santa Clara County and caused 38 percent of all motor vehicle fatalities.

These statistics are both shocking and unacceptable. I have submitted a <u>memo</u> to the Rules and Open Government Committee asking staff to look into a Citywide Social Host Ordinance which is a proactive step that holds adults responsible for underage drinking when they knowingly or unknowingly host parties on property they own, lease or otherwise control

I look forward to continuing to work together to keep our community safe



#### RELIABILITY WITH QUALITY CRAFTMANSHIP





Visit our website at ElriteCustomBuilders.com email zakelrite@elritecustombuilders.com

408-205-2890

© Elrite Custom Builders 2007-2008 All rights reserved #408-205-5890

## San Jose Voters Approve Fiscal Reforms

From the Office of Mayor Chuck Reed

San Jose voters overwhelmingly passed two important ballot measures this November that will allow the city to take the first step toward restoring fiscal responsibility.



**Measure V**, which received more than 66% of the vote, places

some common-sense limits on outside arbitrators that prevent them from spending money the city doesn't have. In addition, **Measure W** received more than 70% of the vote, allowing the City Council to establish lower retirement benefits (a.k.a. a  $2^{nd}$  tier) for new employees.

On November 18, the Council will hold a special meeting on the 2011-2012 budget, where they will also receive input from a **Stakeholder Group** that has been looking at potential elements of retirement reform. Negotiations with employee bargaining groups are scheduled to begin in January 2011.

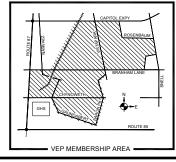
In the November election, San Jose voters also authorized the City Council to impose a business tax of up to 10% on marijuana establishments (Measure U). All local election results can be found at the **Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters** website.

# VEP Community Calendar November / December 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
21	22	23	24	25 Thanksgiving Day	26	27
28 Santa in the Park	29	30	1 Hanukah	2	3	4
5		7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 Merry Christmas
26	27	28	29	30	1 New Year's Day	2

# ədt ni (an Nov gas jadmac mq 05:7 To Tadmavol II pritaam

# Check our website: www.vepca.net



Community Room

Vista Park

NO Meeting In November or December. See you next Year

972-4231 dsuvdam@sbcglobal.net 972-4098 Katherine Decker kddedcker@sbcglobal.net 813-0592 vepeditor@sbcglobal.net Let us know at vep@vepca.net.

mrodgersm@aol.com

adinap@yahoo.com

cardona@sbcqlobal.net

hcastillo@vbprop.com

Prefer your newsletter via Email?



established in 1969 to serve and represent more than 2000 homes in the Blossom Valley area of southern San Jose, VEP is dedicated to neighborhood maintenance and improvement in its membership area as well as to active involvement in civic affairs. This newsletter is mailed monthly to all members in good standing, to our advertisers, and to schools and government officials serving our membership area. For membership or paid advertisement information,

VEP BOARD OF DIRECTORS

225-7553

362-0937

227-0222

981-5902

contact our Treasurer or write to the address listed above

Marilyn Rodgers

Ginger Cardona

Helen Castillo

Debra Sudvam

Vacant

Editor (Non Board) Susan Iverson

Adina Pierce

President

Secretary

Treasurer

Director

Director

Director

Director

PRSRT STD U.S. POSTAGE PAID SAN JOSE, CA **PERMIT #5242**