

# VEP NEWS

• VEP COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION •

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

September 2012

## VEP'S MEETING

7:30 p.m. Tuesday  
▶ **September 25, 2012** ◀

Vista Park Community Room  
475 Hyde Park Drive

## AGENDA

### ★ Video Cameras - Usage for Home Security and Protection ★

a presentation by  
**Don Ferguson**  
VEP Member and Electronics Specialist

#### Brief Presentations on:

VEP & San Jose Parks Foundation  
Donation Partnership  
Doggie Bag Replenishment Program

Vista Park Gates Project

### ★ VEP Business Meeting ★

Approval of VEP 2012-2013  
Goals and Objectives  
Annual Budget

Updates/Announcements  
Martial Cottle Park  
Nextdoor.com

Save the Date! Election Forum  
October 23rd

### ★ Your Concerns and Ideas ★

Your chance to voice your opinion and/or to seek VEP's help.  
Everyone is welcome. Invite your neighbors!

## VEP's September Meeting

by Marilyn Rodgers

September's general membership meeting:

▶ **Video Cameras – Usage for Home Security and Protection.** Long time VEP Member and electronics specialist **Don Ferguson** will provide information on how homeowners can use video cameras for surveillance and protection of their homes, yards, and cars. Don will include options for homeowners to consider in purchasing and installing video cameras.

**Presentations on: San Jose Parks Foundation – VEP Donation Partnership,** Executive Director **James Reber** will provide a brief overview and update on process of making donations and the benefit to VEP and neighborhood parks. **Vista**

**Park Gates Project – Lynn Rogers,** City of San Jose Cultural Affairs – Public Art Program will provide a brief update on the status of the Vista Park Gate project (see article and Survey/Questionnaire provided elsewhere in the newsletter).

▶ **VEP Business Meeting/Updates/Announcements.** Members will be asked to approve the Goals and Objectives for 2012-2013 and the Annual Budget. Announcements and updates will be included – Save the Date: Election Forum, Tuesday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

▶ **Your Concerns and Ideas –** We want to hear from you! Together we can work toward positive resolution. This approach continues to make VEP neighborhoods strong, healthy, and attractive.

We look forward to seeing you, your friends and neighbors, at the **September 25th** meeting. Please join us!

## VEP's May Meeting

by Marilyn Rodgers and Katherine Decker

On May 29<sup>th</sup>, VTA staff Kathleen Podrasky, Jane Yu, and Murali Ramanujam provided an overview of the Express Toll Lanes Hwy 85 project. They stressed the inclusion of a toll road was currently the best option for dealing with increased traffic congestion on Bay Area highways while managing the realities of significantly reduced financial resources. Participants verbalized several concerns and suggestions for staff's consideration. Blaine Tehaney, with GEM – Green Energy Match program provided an overview of how this San Jose City sponsored program could help residents save money by reducing their current energy bills, earn financial rewards, and help the City compete for the Coolest City in California award. Attendees were so enthused they requested the Board send an e-mail to members encouraging all to take advantage of this program. Members voted approval of the slate of candidates for election of the Board of Directors. Announcements included a scheduled CPR class to be held on June 2<sup>nd</sup>, and May is the last meeting prior to summer break. Reminder – does VEP have your current e-mail address for communication during the summer months?

2012 is VEP's 43nd year!

## Update on Vista Park's Gate Project

by Marilyn Rodgers

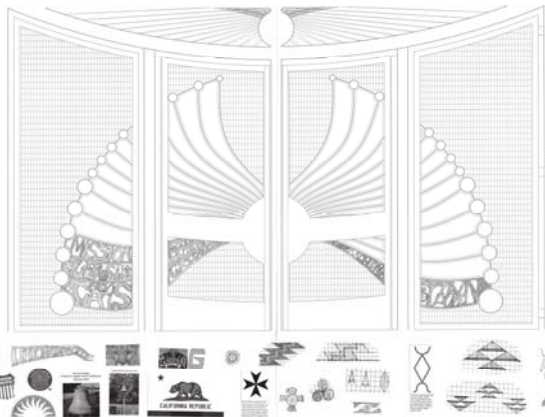
The Vista Park Gate Project is on target for completion by the end of the year.

In the Spring of 2011, significant progress was made toward replacing the original gates, which had malfunctioned shortly after the Community Room was dedicated and opened. (See article in April 2011 Newsletter). Safety and security of the Community Room was and is the primary reason for the gates. However, as funding for completion of the gates was found through special projects under the Arts Commission, the goal became to not only provide safety/security in the replacement of the gate, but to provide an opportunity to use art in a public area, such as a park. The Board of Directors acted on the community's behalf to provide input into the process, with other stakeholders that included members of the Arts Commission, Parks & Recreation Department staff, and SJ Police Department.

Artist/designer/builder, Bill Gould was selected from a group of ten potential artists with extensive experience in designing/building similar small projects. Bill is a San Jose resident, who has designed/built several projects in San Jose. As this gate will be a permanent, non-moving structure (unlike the motorized previous gate), many issues were identified and discussed such as child safety, ease in preventing/removing graffiti, and long term attractiveness and maintenance.

Information was provided to Mr. Gould regarding recent history and usage of both the park and the community room. The importance of recent history of the park – starting with closing of Belden School and VEP's involvement in the land becoming a neighborhood park, as well as the negotiations with developer Summerhill to build a community room with bathroom facilities – was stressed. Mr. Gould wants to include words and symbols in the gate that will reflect the community's values as well as the historical significance in the area. (See Questionnaire/Survey included elsewhere in the newsletter.) Please consider filling out this questionnaire.

Lynn Rogers, Project Manager for San Jose City Cultural Affairs – Public Art Program, will provide a brief presentation at the September membership meeting.



## Proposed VEP's 2012-2013 Goals & Objectives

1. Continue to improve our community and our association.
  - A. Encourage regular turn-over of VEP Board Directors to bring new ideas and energy to our organization and to assure broad membership representation.
  - B. Continue to maintain VEP's positive fiscal condition.
  - C. Continue to publish the VEP NEWS nine times per year. Improve and increase electronic communication, including use of the VEP website and e-mail.
  - D. Provide a variety of opportunities for volunteer service that reflect member-endorsed projects and improvements within our community.
2. Promote community interaction, pride, and preparedness.
  - A. Promote and encourage member participation in neighborhood safety programs, crime prevention, and disaster/emergency preparedness.
  - B. Organize and encourage "adoption" and active participation in cleanup and maintenance of public areas within our community.
  - C. Sponsor and promote (election, holiday, educational, social) events for our membership area.
  - D. Encourage and acknowledge outstanding volunteer service by students and VEP members.
3. Partner with government and local businesses to create and maintain high-quality public services for the VEP area.
  - A. Work with government and businesses to improve and maintain public landscaping and city parks.
  - B. Work with government to provide traffic safety and uncongested conditions on VEP area streets and roads.
    - a. Continue to work with the city and Erikson Neighborhood Association to formally adopt a Thornwood Drive terminus for any crossing of the Guadalupe River easterly from Almaden Expressway.
    - b. Seek real improvements in traffic level of service at the Capitol/Narvaez/northbound 87 onramp.
    - c. Ensure that impacts of any proposed development along the Guadalupe Corridor are fully mitigated.
    - d. Continue VEP involvement in proposed revisions to the configuration of Branham Lane between Snell and Narvaez.
  - C. Participate in and react to any plans for urban development, services, and public infrastructure (Urban Village at Capitol/Narvaez and Almaden Ranch).
  - D. Continue to monitor, participate and react to the design planning and initial development of Martial-Cottle Regional Park (the Lester Property).
  - E. Work with City to support interior maintenance of Vista Park Community Room.
  - F. Monitor opportunities to build a city park at Capitol/Narvaez

## VEP Community Service Awards

by Marilyn Rodgers and LuAnne Behringer

For the 28<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, VEP offered grants towards higher education or vocational training to graduating high school seniors with exceptional records of volunteer community service. As the 2011-2012 school year came to a close, VEP proudly presented annual Community Service Awards to seniors at Andrew Hill High School and at Gunderson High School. Congratulations to our 2012 award winners, who each received \$500.00 toward their ongoing education.

**Andrew Hill High School: Gisela Gomez-Cruz.** Over her high school career, Gisela volunteered over 700 hours at the Sunday Friends program, Children's Discovery Museum, and St Maria Goretti Catholic Church. She has volun-



teered as an alter-server, and worked at health fairs, festivals, and other events often as a translator for health care providers. She has extensively worked with young children, serving food, taking pictures, and supervising children's art activities. Gisela also created a peer counseling program. Gisela is currently attending Saint Mary's College, majoring in Biology (with two minors – one in Spanish and one in Music). She hopes to go on to Medical School and become a Pediatrician.

**Gunderson High School: Julio Valdez.** Over his high school career, Julio has volunteered over 575 hours to Empire Gardens After School Program, the Migrant Program, Holy Cross Parish, and the YMCA Camp Campbell program. In his volunteer service, he has done everything from serving food, to assisting with candy and bake sales, to supervising and teaching grade school students math and science, as well as supervising eight (8) boys all summer at Science Camp. Julio is now attending DeAnza College, majoring in Computer Science.



**At-Large:** One At-Large application was received this year. No Award was given.

Many thanks to Joe Ortega at Andrew Hill and Stephanie Heuer at Gunderson for administering the nomination process at their respective schools.

Thank you to VEP CSA Judging Committee Members: LuAnne Behringer, Dave Fadness, Stephen Kinsey, Dave Noel, and Debra Suydam.

Thank you to LuAnne Behringer, Co-Chair of the CSA Committee for presenting the award at Gunderson, and to VEP Board Member Katherine Decker for the presenting the award at Andrew Hill.

## CPR Class - Seventeen Attendees Certified

by Marilyn Rodgers and Katherine Decker

VEP offered a CPR class on Saturday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>. The class was held from 9am to 12noon in the Vista Park Community Room.

Participants, who paid \$35.00 each to attend the class, were all certified in CPR for two years, and received cards acknowledging that certification. HeartShare Training Services, a private company affiliated with the American Heart Association, specializes in teaching CPR courses to healthcare providers and employees. HeartShare is also eager to provide courses to the general public. Class participants were very enthusiastic and eagerly provided positive feedback to both teaching staff and to members of the VEP Board.

We would like to thank HeartShare instructors Njoki Karoki and Chris Lawrence for their professionalism, enthusiasm, and flexibility.

VEP as an organization hopes to encourage a large number of our neighbors to consider taking a course in CPR and First Aid. Why? These are very important skills to have – and having these skills are very empowering. Should something happen to a loved one or a neighbor, you will have the confidence and skill to help them. We also believe, that in the event of a major emergency/disaster, it would be beneficial to our entire community for a large cadre of neighbors to have these skills.

Thank you to VEP Board Member Katherine Decker for coordinating the event on June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Congratulations to all of the following – who are now certified in CPR:

Ron and Hennie Orcutt  
Christine and Zack Gray  
Tracy Cavano  
Chuck and Barbara Lucchesi  
Vernerova Andrea and Sarka Durcova  
Dave Noel  
Bob Glicksman  
Bob and Francine Olsen  
Peggy Golden  
Jeanette Jackson-Jones  
Joyce Chesnos  
Cynthia Apps

Would you like to take a CPR Class? Please let us know.

In addition to the certified CPR class, VEP is also considering the possibility of offering a shorter version, called "Hands-only CPR". This option takes about one hour to learn, and is currently offered free of charge.

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## VEP Donation Partnership with San Jose City Parks Foundation

by Marilyn Rodgers

In February, James Reber, Executive Director of the San Jose City Parks Foundation made a presentation to the members of VEP. In his presentation, Mr. Reber described activities/services that the Foundation would be helping to provide in the future. Many of these activities were previously provided through the City of San Jose Parks and Recreation Department. The need for the Foundation to assume additional functions is a direct result of the budget deficit, and resources for city parks and staff being significantly reduced in recent years.



Neighborhood parks have always been a high priority for VEP as an organization. As a result of Mr. Reber's presentation, members requested the VEP Board of Directors consider a donation to the Parks Foundation, and to return to the membership with a recommendation. The Board recommended, and the membership approved a \$1,000.00 donation.

This donation initiated a partnership between VEP and the San Jose City Parks Foundation. In addition to the VEP organizational donation, VEP members will be able to make a tax deductible donation to the City Parks Foundation. VEP will have an opportunity to use a portion of

those donations for VEP neighborhood parks. Members who choose to donate to the Parks Foundation, can indicate "VEP" on their donation. One option for VEP members to consider would be to support the "doggie bag replenishment program".

Doggie Bag Replenishment Program - last year, the City of San Jose announced that the Parks Department would no longer provide doggie bags in city parks. VEP made a commitment to supply doggie bags to the five neighborhood city parks within VEP's geographic area.

Currently, VEP has had several months of experience supplying doggie bags to neighborhood parks. The VEP Board continues to believe in and support the commitment to supply doggie bags for neighborhood parks – believing that it is a priority for the organization. However, there is a concern about the cost of the bags. Biodegradable bags are required by the City, and these bags are expensive. Therefore, the Board will be requesting input and feedback at the membership meeting on how best to manage this important program.

Members will also be asked to approve a budget item for doggie bags for the year.

## October 20<sup>th</sup> – Additional New Area Code

Starting October 20<sup>th</sup> a new area code will be implemented - 669, will join the current 408 area code. As of Oct 20<sup>th</sup> both 408 and 669 area code telephone numbers – when calling from a landline phone will be required to **dial 1 + area code + telephone number**. To complete calls from a mobile or cellular phone, callers **may dial either 1 + area code + telephone number, or....just area code + telephone number**. This process will be mandatory beginning October 20<sup>th</sup>, but you can begin using it now to get use to the new procedure.

A flyer was included in recent telephone bills explaining this process and providing 800 numbers and websites for your telephone provider for additional information.

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## Pie For A Year

By: Kathy Wood

Why do we call this time of the year "Fall"? Is it because the abundant green leaves that have clung to all the trees in our yards over the long summer have begun to turn their brilliant hues of oranges, reds, and yellows, then proceed to "fall" to the ground? When someone or something "falls", the beginning stage is an upright position with the final result being prone. Possibly it is Summer "falling" into Winter just as Winter "springs" into summer.

Many households "fall" into the familiar routine of school and all the activities that go along with this vigorous schedule. Whatever "fall" means to you I hope you will "fall" for this pie recipe. It is one of my favorite "fall" flavors but is considered a "summer" pie because of the ice cream content and its home is in the freezer. But, really, is ice cream only for summer...and is pumpkin only for fall?

Frozen Pumpkin Mousse Pie Ingredients: 30 small gingersnap cookies (about 7 ½ ounces), 2 tablespoons raisins, 1 tablespoon canola oil, 1 cup canned pumpkin puree, 1/3 cup packed brown sugar, ½ teaspoon ground cinnamon, ¼ teaspoon ground ginger, ¼ teaspoon freshly grated nutmeg, 2 pints (4 cups) frozen low-fat vanilla ice cream, softened.

Instructions: Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Coat a 9-inch deep-dish pie pan with cooking spray. Prepare crust by combining cookies and raisins in a food processor and pulse until finely chopped. Add oil and pulse until blended. Press evenly into the bottom and up the sides of the prepared pan. Bake the crust until set, about 10 minutes. Transfer to a wire rack to cool completely.

Prepare filling by combining the pumpkin, sugar, cinnamon, ginger and nutmeg in a large bowl and mix well. Add the ice cream and stir until blended. Spoon the mixture into the cooled pie crust. Freeze until firm, at least 2 hours. Let the pie soften slightly in the refrigerator for 20-30 minutes before serving.

I found this recipe in a supplement to *Eating Well* magazine entitled, "Fresh and Simple", pg. 30.



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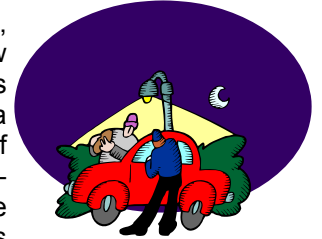
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## VEP Neighborhoods Increase in Vehicle Thefts

by Marilyn Rodgers

As summer came to a close, some VEP neighborhoods saw a spike in vehicle break-ins and thefts. Holycon and Mia suffered several incidents of vehicle break-ins with valuables stolen. View Park Circle had several Honda vehicles stolen.



VEP was notified as well as the San Jose Police Department, who made out reports on each of these incidents.

VEP members living on Holycon and Mia have taken action by talking to all of their neighbors, and initiating a Neighborhood Watch meeting.

Video cameras were successfully used in detecting the person breaking into cars on Holycon/Mia. VEP is including a presentation on use of video cameras to monitor/protect homes/yards/cars – be sure to attend!

Remember these additional precautions which may be helpful:

Keep your cars/vehicles locked at all times,  
Do not leave valuables in vehicles

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## 2012 Neighborhood Development Training Conference (NDTC)

Saturday, September 29 from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM at  
San Jose State University

This annual, growing event - unique to all of Silicon Valley - works to strengthen the voices and skills of neighborhood residents in Santa Clara County. The NDTC features quality workshops taught by practitioner-instructors who have experience in improving local communities.

Please note that the registration is a two-step process.

1. Constant Contact Registration and
2. Workshop Sign-Ups.

For questions regarding the registration process,  
Please email Diana Ramirez at dramirez@nhssv.org.

## REGISTER TODAY!

**Saturday, September 29, 2012**  
8:00 am to 5:00 pm

### Neighborhood Development Training Conference

Location:  
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**Registration Opens August 1, 2012**

Cost: \$10. For questions about this conference, contact Jaime Angulo, (408) 579-6560 or jangulo@nhssv.org



## Traffic issues and accidents over the summer.

Over the summer there were three accidents on Branham - fortunately no fatalities (except for trees and fences).

In June, there was a minor accident where a single car took out a tree in the median on Branham.

In July, a more serious accident. Apparently a VEP resident was turning left from Branham onto New Compton Drive. Two cars - apparently speeding/racing cars heading east on Branham, hit the car turning left, pushing that car into the chain link fence and cement bridge over Canoas Creek. Information I have indicates driver of hit car was not seriously injured. Chain link fence etc has been replaced. This accident resulted in the placement of the "speed-o-meter" being placed on the meridian (for traffic heading east on Branham) to remind drivers of their speed/to slow down. It was at this location for approximately 3 weeks.

Third accident was in August (a week ago) at Branham and Snell. Apparently, on a Sunday evening at approximately 11:30pm, two men tried to rob the McDonald's. They drove off in a car, pursued by police, and were in an accident at the intersection. Intersection closed until about 9am Monday morning - causing huge commute time traffic backup (very busy intersection).

On Hyde Park Drive.....traffic in general continues to increase on Hyde Park Drive. The increase appears to be a large number of drivers using Hyde Park as a short as Chynoweth, Hyde Park, Vistapark, have no traffic signals (vs Branham Lane) and only three stop signs. An increasing number of cars are "driving through" the neighborhood, many of whom are speeding and not stopping at stop signs. Minor injury accident occurred in August at intersection of Hyde Park and Vistapark Drive - car did not stop at stop sign, hit a pedestrian - fortunately pedestrian sustained only cuts and bad bruises.

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## Fall Plantings

By John Marks

September is a good month for planting cool season veggies. including beets, carrots, lettuce, parsnips, certain types of peas, and Swiss chard. Broccoli, cauliflower, kohlrabi, rutabaga and turnips also do well. Leaves, stems, flower heads and roots are the edible portions of these versatile vegetables, depending on the species.



Anything grown from seed (most of the above) can usually be started in August or September. Those bought as nursery-grown seedlings are usually better transplanted in September, since the same warm weather that stimulates fast seen germination can cause tender, thirsty seedlings to wilt or burn.

Root crops, such as carrots and parsnips require full sun, sandy or loamy soil, and regular irrigation. When sowing carrot seeds keep the soil moist and never let a crust form on top, or the seeds have difficulty sprouting (start indoors?). Unfortunately, parsnips never get as much good P.R. as their orange cousins. Parsnips' creamy white to yellow roots have a unique, mild flavor and can be baked, fried, mashed, or cooked in soups or stews. Cold weather makes them sweeter.

Another favorite is the humble beet. For absolute cut beauty and flavor, go for the Chioggia, also called Bull's

Eye, an unusual Italian heirloom beet with concentric white and red rings inside. Albina Verduna is a sweet white beet that grows well here, and Sangria is a classic deep red, like the wine. Because it develops its shape early, Sangrea also makes a good "baby beet" when pulled early.

Swiss chard, a leafy vegetable, is actually a type of beet without the tasty bulbous root, and is beautiful on the dinner table served raw, steamed, or stir-fried. It's also an attention getting ornamental in the garden, when you're touring with friends. The Bright Lights variety is especially attractive, showing up with crimson, yellow and white stems.

The obvious leafy vegetable choice is lettuce, which comes in four varieties: crisphead, like iceberg and butterhead, Bibb loose leaf, Oak Leaf, and Romaine, which grows in vertical stocks.

I trust you've been pulling the heads off those dandelions all summer. If not, you should have. Every time you walk to the car to go somewhere and you see a yellow dandelion blossom, don't think, "I'll have to dig that up when I get home." It'll never happen. Prevent that plant from multiplying by going over and plucking the blossom; if it's already progressed to the fuzzy ball, all the more important to trot over and close it into your hand and throw away, before the wind spreads the spores.

## Coyotes Spotted in Vista Park Area

Over the last couple of months several neighbors have reported seeing coyotes in the Vista Park area.


On Monday September 10<sup>th</sup> Bob Schoberg found a dead cat on his front lawn. This large black and white cat appeared to have been killed by a wild animal and had been half eaten. You might want to keep small pets, especially cats inside during the night.

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## Silicon Valley to Tokyo Flight to Start January 11, 2013

**SAN JOSE** – All Nippon Airways (ANA) today announced the new nonstop service between Mineta San Jose International Airport (SJC) and Narita International Airport in Tokyo will start January 11, 2013. The inaugural flight will bring the first Boeing 787 Dreamliner aircraft to the Bay Area.



“We are looking forward to the launch of ANA’s new non-stop service between Tokyo and San Jose,” San Jose Mayor Chuck Reed said. “Whether on business or visiting friends and family, Silicon Valley residents will find that ANA’s new flight offers a convenient connection to Japan and the Pacific Rim. I thank ANA for their investment in San Jose and encourage all Silicon Valley residents to experience the comfort, efficiency and ease of flying out of our state-of-the-art airport.”

The new flight will depart San Jose at 11:45 a.m. and arrive in Tokyo at 4:10 p.m.

The return flight will leave Tokyo at 5:35 p.m. and arrive at SJC at 10:10 the following morning. The service is expected to start with five flights per week, excluding Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The afternoon arrival in Tokyo is timed to allow connections to destinations throughout Asia, including Beijing, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Singapore, Taipei, Delhi, Guangzhou, Chengdu, Bangkok, and Manila. The new route will be available for booking August 30.

“This is a significant game changer for our airport and I’m confident it will open the door for more flights to serve Silicon Valley,” said Aviation Director Bill Sherry. “The new ANA service is the culmination of years of work and the strong and active support from our business, community and elected leaders.”

San Jose officials have been in discussions with ANA since 2008. In February 2011, Mayor Reed and Carl Guardino, CEO of the Silicon Valley Leadership Group, traveled to Tokyo to meet with ANA CEO Shinichiro Ito and other airline executives to discuss the benefits of a direct flight between Tokyo and San Jose.

The Silicon Valley Leadership Group, San Jose Silicon Valley Chamber of Commerce and Santa Clara Chamber of Commerce have been actively engaged in the effort to recruit direct service to Tokyo, which is a priority travel route for Silicon Valley businesses.

“While this is terrific news because service to Japan opens up all of Asia as well, it’s only the first step which was to secure the flight and a start date. The real work, to which the 375 CEOs who own the Silicon Valley Leadership Group are committed, is to ensure those ANA flights are full,” said Guardino. “Like Orville and Wilbur Wright, this has been a partnership from day one, between the Leadership Group and Mayor Chuck Reed. After two years of hard work, we have lift off.”

ANA will use its new Boeing 787 Dreamliner aircraft on

the Tokyo Narita-San Jose route. Built mainly from carbon fiber composite material, the 787 features increased fuel efficiency and passenger comfort. ANA was the launch customer of the 787, ordering 55 of the aircraft in 2004 and taking delivery of the inaugural aircraft this year.

SJC currently offers international service to Guadalajara and Cabo San Lucas. American Airlines operated a Tokyo-San Jose route from 1990 to 2006, and routes to Paris and Taipei in 2001.

### About ANA Group

All Nippon Airways (ANA) is the ninth largest airline in the world by revenues and the largest in Japan by passenger numbers. Founded in 1952, it flies today to 76 domestic and international cities in a fleet of 231 aircraft serving a network of 174 routes. ANA has 33,000 employees and operates about 1,000 flights a day. In 2011, it carried 43

million passengers and generated revenues of \$17.1 billion. ANA has been a core member of the Star Alliance since 1999 and launched a joint-venture with United Airlines on trans-Pacific and Asia routes in April 2011; ANA launched a joint-venture with Lufthansa on Japan-Europe routes in October 2011. ANA has more than 23 million members in the ANA Mileage Club, its frequent flyer program. ANA is the launch customer for the world’s newest and most advanced passenger aircraft, the Boeing 787 Dreamliner. For more news and information, visit the All Nippon newsroom at [www.ana.co.jp](http://www.ana.co.jp).

### About Mineta San Jose International Airport

Mineta San Jose International Airport (SJC) is Silicon Valley’s airport, a self-supporting enterprise owned and operated by the City of San Jose. SJC serves approximately 8.4 million passengers per year with approximately 125 flights a day on nine domestic and international carriers to 29 nonstop destinations.

The airport’s recent \$1.3 billion comprehensive modernization project, completed in 2010, makes SJC the most technologically advanced airport in the nation and the first terminal to be awarded LEED Silver certification for environmental sustainability.

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## Vista Park Gates: Words and Symbols A QUESTIONNAIRE FOR COMMUNITY MEMBERS

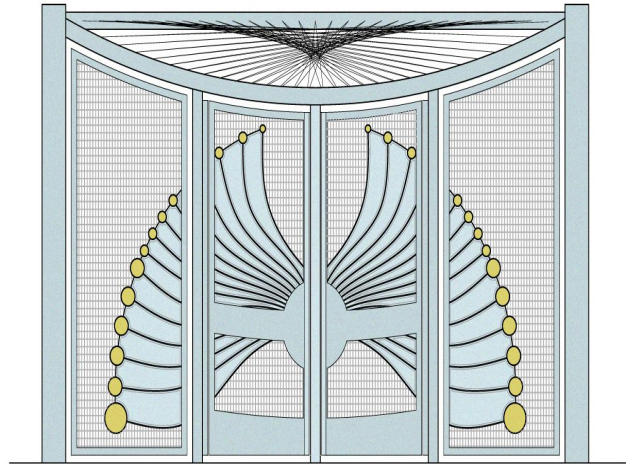
Greetings,

My name is Bill Gould. I am an architect and also a San Jose artist. I have created public art in schools and other community settings around San Jose. Over this past year I have been working with the VEP Board, the City's Department of Parks, Recreation & Neighborhood Services and its Public Art Program to design some beautiful gates for the Vista Park Community Room building.

The design of the gates will include words, symbols and images that have meaning to this area. Through these, the Vista Park Fence and Gates will touch on the people, events and activities that form the geographic, historical, and cultural fabric of the Vista Park neighborhood. These will reflect the community today, and also acknowledge history and evolution of this area.

In addition to my own research about this area and its history, I am looking to members of this community as a resource, to share your knowledge. Please answer any of the questions below, or, at the bottom, you can share your own ideas. Instructions for how to return this form are also at the bottom of Page 2.

Thank you in advance for your participation,  
Bill Gould, Artist



*A concept design drawing by the artist for the new gates: the background area will be heavy steel mesh; the words and images will be laser cutwork in the metal "wings"; the circles will be thick handmade glass disks with colors and images in them; all the metalwork will be painted.*

### Ideas about Vista Park:

1. What do you enjoy most about Vista Park? What is your favorite activity to do at the Park? Do you have a favorite memory of the park to share?
  
2. What sports have been played here? Has there been Little League or other teams in this neighborhood, and if so, what are their names? What events or celebrations (personal and community) happen at the park?

### Ideas about History, the Neighborhood & Community:

1. Is VEP (derived from V = Vistapark; E = Encore (and Echo Valley); and P = Parkview Valley) the name you most commonly use for your neighborhood? Are there other words and names (including historic) that you associate with this neighborhood?

2. Where are people in this neighborhood from? What languages are spoken?
  
3. What happened on this land before it was purchased by developers? What was grown here? What else happened here?
  
4. What people or events are important to the neighborhood, now and in the past? What are the key things that should be remembered about the neighborhood's past?
  
5. Belden Elementary School (1980 – 1989) was one important neighborhood institution: What memories do you have of it? What was the school like? Who were the important people? What was the school's symbol/mascot; did it have colors?
  
6. Are there other neighborhood institutions: now or from years past? What are they?
  
7. **Please share any other ideas you know about the history of the area, the neighborhood, and the park. You are welcome to attach another sheet of paper if needed.**

Thank you for taking the time to share your ideas! There are two ways to submit this. You can:

1. Bring it to the VEP Membership Meeting on September 25 at 7:30 PM at the Vista Park Community Room; it will be collected at that meeting
- OR
2. Mail it BY September 25 to: San Jose Public Art Program – Vista Park  
200 E. Santa Clara Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
San Jose, CA 95113

If you have questions, please contact Lynn Rogers at the San Jose Public Art Program by email at [publicart@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:publicart@sanjoseca.gov) or phone at 793-4339.

OPTIONAL: Please give us your name and email if you would like for the San Jose Public Art Program to keep you up to date about this and other public art projects in San Jose.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

# VEP Community Calendar

## September / October 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25 VEP Commu- nity Meeting— 7:30 PM— Vista Park Community Room	26	27	28	29
30	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 Columbus Day	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20

### Dates to Remember!

#### VEP Community Meetings

September 25, 2012  
 October 23, 2012  
 November 27, 2012  
 January 22, 2013  
 February 26, 2013  
 March 26, 2013  
 April 23, 2013  
 May 28, 2013

#### Community Events

Santa at Vista Park - Sunday, November 25, 2012  
 Community Garage Sale - Saturday May 4, 2012

# THE VEP NEWS



## VEP Community Association

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 Email: [vepca@vepca.net](mailto:vepca@vepca.net) Website: [www.vepca.net](http://www.vepca.net)

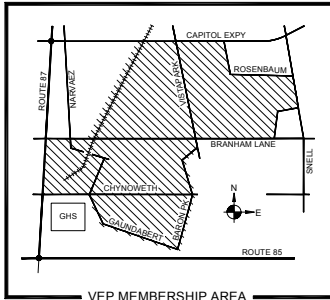
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Published monthly by VEP Community Association, a not-for-profit organization of volunteers established in 1969 to serve and represent more than 2000 homes in the Blossom Valley area of southern San Jose. VEP is dedicated to neighborhood maintenance 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, contact our Treasurer or write to the address listed above.

### VEP BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Prefer your newsletter via Email?  
 Let us know at [vep@vepca.net](mailto:vep@vepca.net).



Check our website: [www.vepca.net](http://www.vepca.net)

Community Room

Vista Park

in the  
 7:30 pm

September 25th Meeting

Be sure to attend  
 VEP's