

V.E.P. News

REPRESENTING THE 2000 RESIDENTS OF VISTAPARK,
ENCORE, ECHO VALLEY, BLOSSOM HEIGHTS, AND PARKVIEW VALLEY

NOVEMBER, 1976

The next meeting of VEP is this coming Wednesday, November 10, and will be held in the Gunderson High School Faculty Lounge. This meeting starts at 7:30 pm -- you should plan to be there.

AGENDA

- PARKS UPDATE: Parkview I - Kay Miller
Parkview III - Marcia Ash
Ross Martinez
- LOCAL TRANSPORTATION PROBLEMS: discussion of proposed solutions to SPRR's Lick Branch abandonment and contingencies for land use. Bob Pine, VEP Local Transportation Committee Chairman, pro tem.
- SHORT BUSINESS MEETING: includes brief update on cracked concrete problem.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Very Enthusiastic People--that's V.E.P. We truly live up to that description too! We have the vitality, energy, and pragmatism (VEP) to continue to grow and respond in a community of over 2000 homes whose interests and problems range from those of most recently occupied to those of older, more mature and established neighborhoods. We've been going strong since 1969 and there's no sign of a change in our momentum.

However, we are seeing a slight, but favorable change in emphasis. As our community grows and matures, so does our sphere of involvement. Our complexion now engenders civic and social aspects; we are working together and playing together. That's good life insurance for any organization.

With that growing sphere of involvement comes a growing sense of responsibility and a greater challenge to a more diverse community group. There's more room now in V.E.P. for your particular set of talents than ever before.

Don't let worries about some dreadful committee assignment keep you from attending our meetings, though. We need you, but we'll let you volunteer your talent when and if you so desire. Join, come to our meetings, bring your problems, voice your opinions, meet your neighbors, get involved. It's fun and it's habit forming--you'll enjoy it! See you on November 10. Thanks

Dave Fadness
VEP President

● BLOCK PARENT

On October 6, VEP sponsored a meeting of key personnel involved in the B.P. Programs at Belden, Carson, and Parkview Elementary Schools. Principals, presidents, program coordinators, and interested parents enjoyed an in-depth presentation by officer Rich Bailey, SJPD Crime Prevention Bureau. Ideas for wide-scale implementation of the program were exchanged and goals were set as follows: 1) cooperation between schools and VEP, 2) improved communication between coordinators and Block Parents, 3) rapid processing of new applications, 4) improved understanding of the program by students and the adult community, and 5) at least two parents on every block in the attendance area of all three schools -- before the end of the school year.

BE A HERO: Please use the enclosed application form to help make our plans successful -- and our streets safe for the children. Be sure to write in the name of the school serving you, then mail it directly to the address shown (upper left corner) on the form. You'll find that participation requires little of your time -- and less time will be required as more people get involved! The coordinator from your school will contact you ASAP after you are approved. We need YOU to help our children in emergencies!

For further information, call:
Patty LaFeur (Belden) 226-8140
Rosemary Capitalo (Carson)
265-1561
Carole Wilson (Parkview) 226-2477

● STREETS

The Branham Lane culvert bridge continues to be a problem. SPRR recently shot down a proposed agreement with Public Works to hire a flagman crossing guard. This means further delays in opening. The entire matter of discontinuation of service along what SP calls their "Lick Branch" now rests on a decision by the ICC --

in Washington D.C.

SP, San Jose, and the PUC all are in favor of abandonment. We need the opening of Branham Lane. It looks like this street will not be opened until a final decision is handed down by the ICC, however, and that may take a year. Want to expedite that process? Write a letter to:

Mr. Philip Israel
Deputy Dir. of Finance
Interstate Commerce Commission
Washington, D.C. 20423

Mention in your letter that there is no opposition to abandonment, so long as the right of way is not used for future transportation purposes.

● OGAN INTERSECTION

A traffic count by the Public Works people at Pearl and Ogan, urged by VEP, has resulted in a decision to include left-turn signals there for south-bound traffic on Pearl. We're assured that the appropriate hardware is on order, and that installation will be complete by December. Please be patient -- and careful at all times!

● SCHOOL NOTES

Bouquet: Chris and Maureen Beni have been awarded a Certificate of Appreciation for the work they've done in making Carson School and the Carson Home and School Club a particular success. Maureen served as V.P. of the H/S Club last year, and is the President this year. Chris has worked with much success as the driving force behind the school's Site Improvement Committee. Both have played key roles in the formation and development of the H/S group, now in its second year

VEP extends its thanks and a round of applause to this dynamic couple; truly involved Community Leaders!

Boxtops: Carson Home and School Club is asking your cooperation in their drive to collect box tops from Post Cereal Brands breakfast foods.

The box tops must be donated before March 31, 1977 for a program that offers school equipment for physical education in return. Only box tops from the fourteen brands of Post Cereals apply -- send them with your children to Carson. No kids at Carson? Questions? Call Maureen Beni at 224-0560.

Bussing: According to the terms agreed upon between VEP and SJUSD, we can expect an end to bussing of Steinbeck students living south of Branham Lane concurrent with an operational traffic signal at Blossom Hill and Playa Del Ray. Latest reports from Public Works indicate that signal will be installed and operational by mid-Nov.

Although VEP requested that other concerns related to a safe route be resolved by the District before bussing is again discontinued, and promised community input, there has been no response -- from District or community! Interested in chairing or serving on a committee dedicated to this matter? Call Dave Fadness, 578-6428.

Halloween: The first cooperative effort between VEP and our area schools has proven to be a great success on a number of counts: we had fun, we got to know one another, shared ideas and goals, and worked together as one community. VEP offers its warmest thanks to all those who willingly helped and especially to Edythe Fehling and Peggy Francis (Parkview), Cathie Santos and Joan Mullins (Belden), Maureen Beni and Reba Witwer (Carson)

Jane Burns (Gunderson) and Marge Reid and Kathy Steward (of VEP) for their organizational talents. Beautiful people, all! We hope to have taken the first step in a tradition of sharing, and should have a report on the success of the event elsewhere in this Newsletter.

Outdoor Ed: The entire Parkview School Sixth Grade class was treated to a four-day outdoor education program at Montetoyon, a park in the Sant Cruz mountains near Aptos. In behalf of those lucky kids, we extend our thanks to the Parkview teachers and high school seniors supervising the event, and to Oak Grove School District, their benefactor.

- PIXIE WORKSHOP BOUTIQUE - Nov 13-14 at 587 Kings Cross Way - 10 am to 5 pm Features home-crafted, unique Christmas gifts. (no children, please)
- FOR SALE - '67 Pontiac GT0, vinyl roof, 4-speed Hurst shift, disc brakes, \$625. 578-5371
- STUDENT DESIRES WORK - Cleans pools, checks chemicals: \$1.00. Clean filter: \$1.00. Geo. Marks, 225-8195
- FOR SALE - Barbie Doll clothes, 50¢ per outfit. Flo Sayer 225-8583
- CRACKED DRIVES & WALKS - If the concrete laid by your developer is severely damaged by natural forces, we'd like to hear from you. VEP may wish to involve itself in seeking help if an adequate number of homeowners respond. Call Dave Fadness, 578-6428, or attend our next business meeting.

DOYLE CUMMINGS PLUMBING

BROKEN WATER PIPE? DOYLE IS AWARE OF THE PROBLEM OF WATER PIPE FAILURES BETWEEN METER AND HOMES AND HAS DEVELOPED A SPECIALIZED TECHNIQUE ALLOWING HIM TO DO EACH JOB FASTER, WITH MINIMAL LAWN DAMAGE, AND AT A CONSIDERABLY LOWER PRICE. CALL FOR A FREE ESTIMATE.

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● HALLOWEEN A HOWLING SUCCESS

Over 1000 goblins, ghosts, dragons, spooks, witches, vampires, monsters, devils, demons, ghouls, and their eccentric escorts held forth in the Halloween Happening on October 30. Outstanding was the variety of little Count Draculas. Awards for the best costumes were not available at press time, but they know who they are.

Over 3300 tickets were sold for hot dogs, soft drinks and the haunted house. You might be interested in how the whole thing was arranged. V.E.P. VP Larry LaFleur did most of the organizing, who obtained help as follows: Make-up Booth and Pumpkin Walk - Belden School; Pumpkin Decorating and Sponge Toss - Carson School; Apple Bobbing and Washer Drop - Parkview School; Haunted House and Bake Sale - Gunderson High. V.E.P. personnel handled the hot dog sales, soft drinks, ticket sales, ribbons and prizes.

This community affair was such a success that the pixies and sorcerers involved have plans to repeat the parade and entertainment again next year, adding fortune telling and various feats of magic.

● GUNDERSON PARENT ACTION GROUP

At a September 29 meeting, a group was officially formed by interested parents to assist in school activities, form a liaison between school officials and the community. They call themselves C.O.G., Community of Gunderson. You need not be a parent to belong.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- Nov 9 - Parkview Home/School Club General Mtg, 7:30 pm
- Nov 9 - Carson Home/School Club Board Mtg. at Carson 7:30 pm
- Nov 9 - City Council Mtgs, at City Hall, 1:30 & 7:00 pm. Also 11/16, 11/23
- Nov 10 - VEP General Mtg., Gunderson H.S. 7:30 pm
- Nov 11 - Oak Grove School Board Mtg. 7:30 pm. Also 11/25.
- Nov 11 - Veteran's Day
- Nov 17 - Belden Home/School Club, Belden Cafeteria, 7:30 pm
- Nov 18 - SJUSD Board of Educators, 1605 Park Ave., 7:30 pm. Also 12/9.
- Nov 19 - VEP Exec. Board Mtg., 587 Kings Cross Way, Time TBA
- Nov 22 - Gunderson School Dedication, Wilson Riles, Guest Speaker 7:30 pm.
- Nov 23 - Gunderson Parent Group Mtg, in Faculty Lounge, 7:30 pm.
- Nov 25 - Thanksgiving School Recess, (11/25 & 11/26)
- Dec 2 - Homeowner's Alliance Mtg., Franklin Savings, Blossom & Snell, 7:30 pm.
- Dec 7 - Carson Home/School Club Board Mtg., 7:30 pm.



George Cain
REALTOR ASSOCIATE
(VEP MEMBER)

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● LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT THRU V.E.P.?

Light Rail Transit has been proposed and recommended to run through the V.E.P. community. A six-month, \$200,000 Light Rail Feasibility Study and Analysis has been concluded for Santa Clara County. The Final Report recommends a starter line of 12.25 miles, extending from downtown San Jose to IBM, and from Lick Junction, just north of the Capitol Drive-ins, to Oakridge Mall. The latter segment is the Lick Branch Line, presently used by Southern Pacific as a spur line. Santa Clara County Transportation Agency is serious about implementing light rail on the Lick Branch Line, which will cross Capital Expressway, Bluefield, Branham, Narvaez and Pearl.

In the beginning, there will be 9 light rail vehicles (\$600,000 a piece) passing these streets at-grade at 45 mph. In the beginning, at peak hours, the light rail trains will pass every 2 1/2 minutes (conservative figure). This will give children 2 minutes 10 seconds to cross Bluefield on their way to school in the morning before another light rail train comes roaring down the track at 45 mph. The same will be true at Branham, Narvaez, Pearl and Capitol Expressway. The noise level of one light rail vehicle exceeds the EPA limits for residential areas; three light rail vehicles can be connected to make a train 213 feet long.

The train will operate 6 am - 10 pm. When ridership increases, light rail can easily be upgraded to full metro rail transit similar to BART, which is noisier yet. There will be vibration impacts on our homes and property, a loss of privacy to hundreds of our homes, extreme and prolonged noise throughout the day, and a real danger to our children crossing Bluefield, Branham, Narvaez and Pearl.

At the November 10th 7:30 p.m. V.E.P. Meeting at Gunderson High School, there will be a presentation on the proposed Light Rail Transit, with special emphasis on how it will affect the V.E.P. commu-

nity, and what you can do about it. Write and phone the City Council and Board of Supervisors. They will decide the issue; we will not have a chance to vote on this. Cast your vote now by a short (or long) letter and a phone call. See flyer insert for further information.

Bob Pine
Local Transportation Committee, V.E.P.

● POLICE NON-EMERGENCY CALLS

The San Jose Police Department suggests two alternate numbers to use when your call is informational or advisory only:

Reporting vandalism or burglary when the culprit is not known: Information Center - 277-5300

Complaint Desk, culprit known, action requested: 277-4933

The police desire to help as much as possible, and encourage you to use the above numbers to assure you of the best possible response.

Chris Braud



VEP NEWS	Deadline: Nov 24
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● PARKVIEW III

The following is an expression of opinion by an articulate group of V.E.P. homeowners in the ENCORE II area. The Parkview III park discussed is in that area, and is part of the Parkview I & II system.

"The time has come for all to stop complaining about problems and start to take an active interest in getting them resolved.

"To give you an idea what progress can be made, two homeowners contacted the city in regards to access paths across the park and around the houses where there is no street. We met with Sam Lorocca, city representative, and outlined that we need these paths, so our children walking to school and bus pickups in the rain wouldn't ruin clothes and shoes in the mud. We hope to have this completed BEFORE the rain sets in.

"I'm sure you all have notices Larwin's trailers on our park site. At the moment, it looks like the city dump! We have been assured by Bill Harrington, Larwin's vice president, that as soon as the PG&E lines are in next week, their equipment will be moved and the area cleaned.

"As for our uncompleted park, which most of us have been waiting for for 5 years, that too is going to be completed only when people are willing to take an active interest.

"We should have had a park by now, but to our understanding the construction date now reads 1980!

"There is a very strong possibility that the date could be brought forward a couple of years to accomplish this, we must voice our opinion to the city as a large organized group. There are at least 350 adults in the homeowners association affiliated with the pool between Sayoko and Adragne. To this add the housing areas near the park, and it would complement this number for a total of 700 adults. Add the younger generation and we could come up with the representation required for an effective meeting with the Department of Parks and Recreation.

"In order for a meeting to be effective the following must take place:

- 1) A commitment must be obtained from every homeowner who will attend the meeting,
- 2) We must have an opinion about what the park should contain,
- 3) A committee of 5 persons must be

formed to coordinate the action, 4) A report must be sent to each homeowner showing what the majority of homeowners want in their park, 5) The report will be presented to the Parks and Recreation Dept. 6) The maximum number of homeowners must attend this meeting, with the assigned spokespersons.

"If you are interested in volunteering for committee members, volunteering for other duties (flyer delivery, etc.), or have any other positive ideas so we can have the money allocated for the budget in 1977, and our park by 1978, please call: Ross Maritnez - 578-2126 or Marcia Ash - 578-3499"

PROPOSED ADDITION TO BY-LAWS OF V.E.P. HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION


Dissolution: Upon dissolution of this Association such residual assets as may remain, shall be assigned to the San Jose Alliance of Homeowners Association, an exempt organization, or any other exempt organization designated by the Board.

This proposed By-Law is required of the V.E.P. Homeowners Association for successful application for recognition as an exempt organization under the Internal Revenue Code. Please be assured that the V.E.P. Homeowners Association is not contemplating dissolution.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

Members and Non-Members prepare for the 1977 Membership Drive - make out a check to the V.E.P. Homeowners Association in the amount of four dollars (\$4.00) now. Then when the membership mailer is received in a following V.E.P. Newsletter you will be ready. You will also be ready in case your block representative or membership solicitor calls. Thank you!

RENATO
KING OF THE PIZZA



WILLOW GLEN SHOPPING CENTER
2306 ALMADEN ROAD

266-8780