# WED NEWS

July 23, 1979

REPRESENTING OVER 2000 HOMEOWNERS IN VISTAPARK, ENCORE, ECHO VALLEY, BLOSSOM HEIGHTS, AND PARKVIEW VALLEY

The next meeting of the VEP Homeowners' Association will be Monday, July 23, 1979, at 7:30 pm, at Mercury Savings & Loan, located on Blossom Hill Road at Pearl Avenue (next to Angels).

# **AGENDA**

Short business meeting

Presentation by Mr. Jim Lightbody, representative of Santa Clara County Transportation Agency

Discussion Item: Crime in VEP Country

JULY MEETING - PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Mr. Jim Lightbody works for the Santa Clara County Transportation Agency as a route planner. The Agency is planning to expand its bus fleet to 750 buses, and Mr. Lightbody will be helping to decide the routes for all these new buses.

Here is your golden opportunity to tell the Santa Clara County Transportation Agency where YOU think our buses should run!

Mr. Lightbody will answer questions about the future plans of the Transportation Agency and will explain how bus routes are established.

# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As you may recall from this message page in the last issue of VEP News, your organization is actively involved in resisting efforts to develop our area with massive and dense apartment projects which would have an adverse effect on our environment and heavily impact governmental services such as parks and libraries which are already over-stressed due to budget restraints. Specifically, Arcadia's plan to build almost 2000 apartment units just south of Capitol Expressway and east of the main S.P. line was finally, after being deferred several times, acted upon by the City Planning Commission. In response to our objections as well as those of other interested citizens, the vote to approve the project failed, by a 4-2 margin. Thus, the rezoning issue now goes before the city counsel for final action, with no recommendation from the Planning Commission. We feel this is a significant victory and that our chances of success before the city counsel are excellent.

This is only one example of the many areas in which homeowners can accomplish much for the benefit of us all through an organization such as VEP. However, the benefits do not come automatically, or easily. Community involvement is required; effort by many individuals working within the organization is required; the organization can only function when people are willing to invest some time and effort so that something worthwhile and beneficial to us all can be accomplished.

Several specific problems need to be addressed by our organization. Crime, and burglaries in particular, are escalating in our area. We need to become aware of what can be done, and then set out to do it, to insure that certain idle youngsters and anyone else who steals as a way of life or just to be ornery is discouraged rather than encouraged from practicing their miserable trade in our area. You will find within this issue of VEP News specific reference to what VEP will be doing and what you can do about this problem.

We have also noted that Parkview Park is being used by some young people to harass and assault children who are trying to use the facilities of the park which are designed for their enjoyment. This matter will be discussed at our next general meeting, so come with your concerns and particularly your ideas on how each of us individually and as an organization can deal with this situation.

# VEP is YOUR organization

Annual member/fiip only \$4.00



PEGGY FRANCIS Bus. 268-1330 Home 268-6820

Talk to Red Carpet, We Listen

Finally, those of you who must use Rosenbaum to get to Capitol Expressway via Snell certainly have noticed the great hazard there is in getting out onto Snell, especially because of the curve in Snell just north of that intersection. Your organization intends to do something about it, and we hope many of you will sign a petition and even help to distribute it so that the city counsel will know we are really concerned about safety in that area.

Al Bender

#### V.E.P. SEMI-ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Enclosed with this months newletter is a membership envelope for those of you who have not joined this year. V.E.P. dues are \$4.00 per year for the calendar year. If you are new in your home or have never joined V.E.P. you may send in \$1.00 for each quarter or partial quarter you have lived in your home. Please join today and become part of the largest and most active homeowner group in the San Jose area. Your dues go to help cover the costs of running the organization which represents you in the community and sponsors various events during the year. If you have already joined for this year we want to thank you for your support and let you know that we will be sending out envelopes again in January, 1980 so that you can join for the following year. V.E.P. is your organization, so join today.



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THIS NEWSLETTER PRINTED BY .



C-A-P PRINTING

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# WARNING - DISEASE IN PROGRESS

VEP faces one of it's toughest foes. This disease can kill, maim, destroy or otherwise multilate us or our property. This cancer is quite simply - CRIME.....

Just how advanced is this disease?? We are not certain at this time. We do know that it happens in our neighborhood at least <u>five</u> times per week. Most people are afraid to report crimes because they fear there may be repercussions.

They let the symptoms go unnocticed. However, we can no longer afford to do that. The cost is too much, in terms of our community health. Some present things happening are:

- 1. Cars: A number one target for vandals. Tires are being stolen, slashed with knives, punctured and air let out of them. Windows are being smashed with bats or rocks.
- 2. Homes: Our most precious possession. They are not safe. There are numerous break-ins. Some of it just for kicks. Such as cutting up the furniture, painting the walls, throwing all the food out of the freezer and refrigerator, kicking in the tv screens and whatever else may strike their fancy. Robberies have one thing in common they take whatever is of value to them such as stereo equipment, jewelry anything that can be turned into liquid assets-which, of course, means CASH.
- 3. Yards: Bicycles are stolen in front of our doors. Trees are being ripped out, shrubs destroyed. Nothing is sacred to these undesirable elements.
- 4. Parks: Parkview Park is perhaps our greatest worry. Parkview Park is the meeting ground for all types of undesirable elements in VEP country. Do you want to buy drugs?? Simply walk over to the park. Young people stand around, drinking beer, smoking, leaving broken glass everywhere and threatening little children who come there to play. ALSO, we believe there is a young person living in Parkview Park. He has blonde hair, shoulder length, is chubby, and has a key ring hooked in his back pocket. We do not want this element cruising at 3:00 a.m. in the morning. This has to be taken care of now.

# NORMANDIN CHRYSLER-PLYMOUTH

266.9500 CAPITOL AT PEARL SALES & LEASES



**SALES & SERVICE LEADERSHIP FOR 104 YEARS** 

Are you being intimidated by teenagers, are you being victimized? Are you being harassed? Is this happening to your children or your neighbors???

VEP COUNTRY IS CALLED THE GOLDEN GHETTO. We got that distinguished title because we are such an easy mark.

There are some things we can do - if we want to stop the spread of this cancer. Some concerned neighbors have joined together to form a neighborhood patrol to discourage people from being on their streets who do not belong there. It has been effective. They do, however, need more people to volunteer. If you would like information about volunteering for this neighborhood patrol, please call any of the VEP officers listed on the back of the newsletter. They will then forward your name to the Neighborhood Patrol.

We can begin to really look and listen to what is happening around VEP country. The police emergency number is 297-3565. Do not hesitate to call them for help or assistance.

At any point and time during the day or night - are you aware of what your children are doing? We are responsible for our children rather they are with us or not.

It is imperative that you come to the next meeting to discuss your concerns with us. We all have to work for a cure together. The meeting begins at 7:30 P.M. on July the 23rd at Mercury Savings and Loan, located on Blossom Hill Road at Pearl Avenue (next to Angels).

Take the time today to volunteer for the neighborhood patrol. They definitely need your assistance.

Do not hesitate to call the police or your neighbors. Remember, they need your help and you need theirs.

We want everyone involved, husbands, wives and children to help us stop this cancer now before it is too late for any of us. We are tired of being sick.... and we are not going to stand for it anymore. We really do want a decent neighborhood for ourselves and our children to live in.

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 - A RESIDENT



CALL JERRY HOUSTON, 265-9900 (OFFICE) OR 224-8769 (HOME) VEP MEMBER





1091 Foxworthy, Near Capitol & Almanden Expwy

#### SAVE OUR PRECIOUS WATER - BE WATERWISE James R. Melton

Public Information Officer - Santa Clara Valley Water District

Did you know that we must continue to practice water conservation? It's true, and there are several very good reasons. First, water is getting more expensive because of the costs involved in building dams, pipelines, treatment plants, percolation ponds, etc. Huge amounts of energy are required to pump, transport and clean up water. Second, it just makes good sense not to waste a limited natural resource (yes, until we can figure out a cheap way to convert seawater into freshwater or recycle water to make it absolutely pure, water is limited!) Third, in our Valley we have the same amount of water as the demand for it. Until the San Felipe Importation Project is completed in 1987 or so, we will have less and less supply per person because of our growing population.

Here are some tips to help you conserve:

#### SAVE IN THE KITCHEN AND LAUNDRY

Use your automatic dishwasher only for full loads.

Use your automatic washing machine only for full loads.

- If you wash dishes by hand, don't leave the water running for rinsing. If you have two sinks, fill one with soapy water and one with rinse water. If you have only one sink, gather washed dishes in a dish rack and rinse them with a spray device or panful of hot water.
- 4. Don't let the faucet run while you clean vegetables. Just rinse them in a stoppered sink or a pan of clean water.
- 5. Keep a bottle of drinking water in the refrigerator.

tap water to cool it off for drinking is wasteful.

o. Check faucets and pipes for leaks. Leaks waste water 24 hours a day, seven days a week and often can be repaired with only an inexpensive washer.

#### SAVE OUTSIDE

- 1. Water your lawn only when it needs it. A good way to see if your lawn needs watering is to step on the grass. If it springs back when you move, it doesn't need water. If it stays flat, fetch the sprinkler .
- 2. Deep-soak your lawn. When you do water, do it long enough for the moisture to soak down to the roots where it will do the most good. A light sprinkling can evaporate quickly and tends to encourage shallow root systems.
- 3. Water during the cool parts of the day. Early morning generally

is better than dusk since it helps prevent growth of fungus. Don't water the gutter. Position your sprinklers so water lands

- on the lawn or garden, not on paved areas. Also avoid watering on windy days.
- 5. Plant drought-resistant trees and plants. Many beautiful trees and plants thrive with far less watering than other species.
- Put a layer of mulch around trees and plants. Mulch will slow evaporation and discourage weed growth.
- 1. Use a broom, not a hose, to clean driveways and sidewalks.
- Don't run the hose while washing your car. Clean the car with ail of soapy water. Use the hose just to rinse it off.

  Tell your children not to play with the hose and sprinklers. a pail of soapy water.
- Check for leaks in pipes, hoses, faucets and couplings. Leaks

outside the house may not seem as bad since they're not as visible. But they can be just as wasteful as leaks inside. Check frequently and keep them drip free.

#### SAVE IN THE BATHROOM

- 1. Check your toilets for leaks. Put a little food coloring in your toilet tank. If, without flushing, the color begins to appear in the bowl. You have a leak that should be repaired immediately.
- 2. Stop using the toilet as an ashtray or wastebasket. Every time you flush a cigarette butt, facial tissue or other small bit of trash, you waste five to seven gallons of water.
- 3. Put plastic bottles in your toilet tank. To cut down on water waste, put an inch or two of sand or pebbles inside each of two plastic bottles to weigh them down. Fill them with water and put them in your toilet tank, safely away from operating mechanisms. In an average home, the bottles may displace and save ten or more gallons of water a day.
- 4. Take shorter showers. Long, hot showers can waste five to ten gallons every unneeded minute. Limit your showers to the time it takes to soap up, wash down and rinse off.
- 5. <u>Install Water-saving shower heads or flow restrictors.</u> Your local hardware or plumbing supply store stocks inexpensive water-saving shower heads or restrictors that are easy to install.
- 6. Take baths. A bath in a partially filled tub uses less water than all but the shortest showers.
- 7. Turn off the water after you wet your toothbrush. There is no need to keep water pouring down the drain. Just wet your brush and fill a glass for mouth rinsing.
- 8. Rinse your razor in the sink. Fill the bottom of the sink with a few inches of warm water. This will rinse your blade just as well as running water. And far less wastefully.
- 9. Check taucets and pipes for leaks. Even the smallest drip from a worn washer can waste 20 or more gallons a day. Larger leaks can waste hundreds.

#### HALLOWEEN HAPPENING

I have decided that it's too late to organize a summer VEP event, so instead I will get an early start on the Halloween Happenings. The entire VEP Board hopes this Halloween will be the best eyer!

The Happening will be Saturday, October 27th. It will be a family event, with an opportunity for the kids to try out their costumes before the big night.

I will keep you posted in further newsletters. Marianne Lent 629-7949

#### PLUMBING NEEDS?

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# **NEIGHBORHOOD WANT ADS**

BOYS AND GIRLS 10 TO 15 YRS. WANTED TO DELIVER THE SOUTH SAN JOSE SUN NEWSPAPER IN VEP COUNTRY! APPLICANTS MUST BE DEPENDABLE, HAVE PARENTS CONSENT AND BE AVAILABLE FOR DELIVERIES EVERY WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON. SEVERAL ROUTES ARE NOW AVAILABLE, CALL NOW TO APPLY. IF WE DO NOT HAVE AN IMMEDIATE OPENING, YOU WILL BE PUT ON OUR WAITING LIST. CALL 225-8377 BILL OR BERTHA ROGERS. (VEP MEMBER & BLOCK REP)

LICENSED DAY CARE - Love, attention and care in my home near Belden, Weekly, daily, or hourly, call Margaret at 578-9133.

LICENSED CHILD CARE - Ages, Three and up near Parkview School, lunch and snack provided, Call Norma at 529-0570.

NEED OFF AND ON BABYSITTER- Friday and Saturday nights. Preferably over 18, non-smoker, non-drinker and with reterences. Call 629-3912 between 10 AM and 4 PM.

FULL DAYTIME CHILD CARE near Park- View school. Call Leslie 225-1048.

#### CHILD CARE

My home, Pearl, Branham and Blossom Hill area. Call Judy 578-5523.

STANDARD RED BRICK - 100 plus. 10¢ apiece or offer. Call Carol Jaech 227-8050 after 6 PM.

MOVING SALE: Living room sofa with Love Seat and Chair (Light gold/green color). Call 226-7463.

HOUSE PAINTING - Vistapark resident - Specializing in professional painting at moderate prices. Free estimates on interior or exterior painting of homes or apartments. Will do acoustical ceilings. Jim Allen. 029-9604.

#### BABYSITTING

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|---------|-----|--------------|---------------------------|
|         |     | 14, \$1/hr   | 225-1791                  |
|         |     | ,\$.90/hr    | 225-8195                  |
| JENNY - | Age | 14, \$1/hr   | 578-1037                  |
| KARIN - | Age | 14, \$1/hr   | 226-8120                  |
| LANEL - | Age | 13, \$1/hr   | 227-8758                  |
| MEG -   | Age | 15, \$1/hr   | 226-9339                  |
| SHARON- | Age | 16, \$1/hr   | 225-1791                  |
| LISA -  | Age | 11½,\$.75/hr | 227-7196                  |
| DEE -   | Age | 115,\$.75/hr | 225-4241                  |



#### THE VEP NEWS

Published monthly by the VEP Homeowners' Association, P. O. Box 18111, San Jose, California 95158

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