

VEP NEWS

• VEP COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION •

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

April 2011

VEP'S MEETING

7:30 p.m. Tuesday
► April 26, 2011 ◀

Vista Park Community Room
475 Hyde Park Drive

AGENDA

★ ENVISION 2040 PLAN ★

New General Plan for San Jose
Implications for VEP Residents

Presentation by

Shiloh Ballard and Dave Fadness

Envision San Jose 2040 Task Force Members

★ VEP Business Meeting ★

Announcements & Updates

Annual Meeting in May
VEP Board Elections at May Meeting
CSA Awards Application Deadline, April 30th
VEP Neighborhood Garage Sale, May 7th
Memorial Day Event – Vista Park, May 30th

★ 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 April Meeting

by Marilyn Rodgers

Topics that are planned for the April general membership meeting:

► **Envision 2040 Plan – New General Plan for San Jose.** **Envision San Jose 2040 Task Force Members Shiloh Ballard and Dave Fadness** will provide an overview of the plan. The presentation will highlight goals of the plan which include increasing the number of jobs in San Jose, and reducing energy consumption – in accordance with the City's "green" goals. In

addition to jobs, several development proposals are included as part of the overall plan. Several of these are located in or close proximity to the VEP neighborhood. **Of particular interest or concern will be the proposed "village" development at the VTA Park 'n Ride lots at Capitol Expressway and Narvaez.** At present there are no recommendations for improvements in traffic congestion or road development. It is important that all residents take this opportunity to become informed, to ask questions, and voice your preferences for what our city will become in the future. For additional information, see article on the General Plan in this newsletter.

► **VEP Business Meeting/Announcements.** Updates and announcements will be provided on areas of interest.

► **Your Concerns and Ideas** - We always leave time to hear from you regarding concerns or issues that we can work together in resolving. This approach continues to make VEP neighborhoods strong, healthy, and attractive.

We look forward to seeing you, your family, your friends, and your neighbors at our **April 26th** meeting. Please join us!

General Plan on VEP's April agenda

Dave Fadness, General Plan Task Force member

San Jose's General Plan is about to be released for public review. If approved by the city council this fall, it will be our blueprint for growth through the year 2040. Called *Envision San Jose 2040*, it focuses on making San Jose a sustainable city--economically, fiscally, and environmentally. Proposing to add 470,000 jobs and 120,000 residences by the year 2040, it limits outward expansion in favor of increased density of development within our existing urban area.

San Jose has for too long been Santa Clara County's bedroom community. Our city's ability to provide services is diminished by the resulting poor tax base. A central *Envision San Jose 2040* goal is to reverse a pattern of growth that has provided housing for residents who have jobs and spend their money in other cities. We currently have 0.8 jobs per employed resident; our goal will be to achieve 1.3 J/ER by 2040.

Envision San Jose 2040 proposes significant changes for our city. Here are a few examples in and around the VEP membership area:

- ★ Capitol Expy/Monterey Rd: +870 jobs
- ★ Capitol Expy/Vistapark Dr: +680 jobs +540 dwellings
- ★ Capitol Expy/Route 87: +1,650 jobs +1,195 dwellings
- ★ Oakridge Mall vicinity: +9,090 jobs +7,303 dwellings
- ★ Blossom Hill Rd/Cahalan: +1,780 jobs +600 dwellings
- ★ Blossom Hill Rd/Snell Ave: +2,598 jobs +1,083 dwellings

2011 is VEP's 42nd year!

A bit farther from our membership area:

- ★ Communications Hill: +1,700 jobs +2,775 dwellings
- ★ Downtown San Jose: +48,500 jobs +10,360 dwellings
- ★ New Edenvale: +16,000 jobs
- ★ Old Edenvale (Bernal): +31,000 jobs
- ★ North Coyote Valley: +50,000 jobs
- ★ North San Jose: +100,000 jobs +32,640 dwellings
- ★ Blossom Hill/Hitachi: +2,930 dwellings
- ★ Blossom Hill/Monterey Rd: +1,940 jobs

No development will be allowed in the South Almaden Valley Urban Reserve (SAVUR) or Mid-Coyote areas through the 2040 timeframe of this General Plan.

"Green" is a major theme in *Envision San Jose 2040*. It builds on San Jose's Green Vision Goals, adopted in 2007. Public transit, bicycling, and walking will be given priority over cars in order to achieve a 40% reduction in vehicle miles traveled by 2040. Using 2008 as a base, a 50% reduction in per capita energy consumption is targeted by 2022. The plan assumes that 100% of our electrical power will be obtained from clean, renewable sources by that year, requiring 100,000 solar powered homes by 2022; 200,000 by 2040. Zero net energy use will be required of all new residential construction. It also aims for 100% diversion of solid waste from landfills and, compared to 2008, a 50 million gallon per day savings in water use (25% per capita) by 2040.

An important new approach in *Envision San Jose 2040* is scheduled review and opportunities for mid-course corrective action to keep us on course toward achievement of its goals. Major reviews by the city council and community members will occur every four years. Review of progress toward job growth targets will also be triggered upon attainment of each of three residential development planning "Horizons". This will be done before allowing more housing to be built.

After nearly four years of work and more than fifty public meetings with a citizen Task Force, the San Jose Planning Department is now taking *Envision San Jose 2040 General Plan* to the community for review. Your input is desired.

An overview presentation of this proposed General Plan will be given at VEP's meeting, 7:30 pm on April 26 in the Vista Park Community Room. Be sure to attend—bring your questions and your friends.

Contact Dave Fadness if you belong to a San Jose organization (of any size) that is interested in a presentation (phone 578-6428 or email at drfadness@sbcglobal.net). Daytime or evening presentations can be arranged. Do this before June 30th.

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VEP General Meeting March 22, 2011

VEP was joined by **Captain Ricki**, Commander of SJPD 's Southern Division. The southern division office has not been opened do to funding issues and budget cuts, but will hopefully be operating soon out of the new building adjacent to Monterey Highway by Cottle Road. (Behind the new Lowes.) The department continues to face budget cuts and may lose an additional 300+ officers.

VEP members were able to ask questions about the state of the department and the discussion included a reiteration of the to reach the police department from cell phones. The 911 equivalent that will connect you directly to San Jose emergency service is 277-8911. In order to contact local police in non-emergency situations to number is 277-8900. Remember to be patient with 911 operators. Even as you are talking to 911, they are dispatching the officer immediately and giving updates to officers.

The second guest for the evening was **Yves Zsutty**, who is a manager with the Trails System for City of San Jose. The mission of the Trails System department is to create a 100 mile trail network of trail systems to enhance, strengthen and connect neighborhoods. VEP was presented with the current status as well as goals for the next 20 years.

| Year | 2011 | 2022 | 2030 |
|---------|-------|------|------|
| Miles | 53.64 | 100 | 130 |
| Systems | 24 | 32 | 35 |

Throughout San Jose, you can find a trail within 3 miles of your home. This is consistent with the national goal. San Jose is also fortunate enough to be bounded by 300+ miles of Bay Area Ridge Trail.

One of the current projects of the Trails System department is to improve safety along the trail. Los Alamitos Creek Trail is have markers installed every ¼ mile. This will allow emergencies services who respond to calls to be able to fix location specifically rather than by landmarks. New 'courtesy' rules are being implemented through signage and city ordinances. The rules include 6 foot leash law on trail, pass to the left, and yield to pedestrians.

The department also faces many current challenges. Developed trails cost approximately \$3 million per mille. It can take

(cont)

up to 10 years to study, plan, design, and construct a trail. Funding is tight. City of San Jose funds about 50% of project budgets, with the rest coming from a variety of 35 funding sources.

VEP members were also very concerned about the planned trail that appeared on the last iteration of the Marshall/Cottle Park EIR. Mr. Zsuttly clarified that the project is in the "Identify" stage. It has been reviewed for only a basic analysis. Full development of the project is at least 10 years away and would have extensive community input.

For more information you can go to www.sjparks.org/trails. Or follow them on Twitter: sanjosetrails, or read the newsletter: bikesiliconvalley.org.

VEP's final guest for the night was **Laura Cowan**, from Nancy Pyle's Office. Key information from Nancy Pyle included the intent for the council to pass a Social host ordinance: This would hold adults who provide can't provide alcohol to minors responsible for any resulting consequences. Ms. Cowan also reminded everyone about the emergency alert program available for cell phones. By signing up at www.alertscc.com, you can be notified in case natural disasters, or emergencies.

To wrap up, **Marilyn Rodgers** spoke about the fatal accident last month on Chynoweth, and suggested forming a committee to review possible responses with regard to safety. Many opinions about the situation were heard. If you are interested in participating in a committee discussion, please contact Marilyn.

Ken Flauding won the Amaryllis door prize

Annual Board Elections

By Marilyn Rodgers and Jeri Arstingstall

May is the annual meeting VEP which includes the election of a slate of members who will serve as the Board of Directors. The names of members who will be included in the slate are forwarded to the membership for election at the May meeting, and will be listed in advance in the May VEP Newsletter. Once the membership elects the Board of Directors, the Board then elects organizational officers such as President, Treasurer, etc.

We would like to encourage members to consider running as a member of the Board!! Currently, we have a wonderful group of board members, many of whom have served on the board for several years! Our goal, however is to rotate members through these important roles. It is a nice opportunity for members to learn more about our community and our city, and provides individual members a venue for sharing skills and talents with their community. New board members also provide new ideas along with enthusiasm in giving back to their community.

If you have questions or would like additional information about serving as a board member, don't hesitate to contact any current board member. Contact information is listed on the cover sheet of the newsletter.

Jeri Arstingstall, a VEP Past President is the Nominating Chairperson this year. Please contact her for additional information or to volunteer to be a candidate. Contact Jeri at phone number 408-281-1959, or e-mail at jeri@arstingstall.com.

VEP Memorial Day Parade & Field Day

Mark your calendars and
be sure to join our Parade & Family fun!

Monday, May 30th

Parade leaves Vista Park at 11 am

➤ Field Day to Follow at Vista Park ◀

Bring your friends and entire family

➤ For general information contact ◀

vepeditor@sbcglobal.net

➤ To volunteer contact ◀

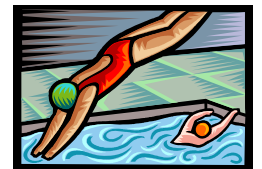
Be a Parade clown
Set up for field games
Help with snack booth
Run relay games
Make crazy hair
Face painting
Helen Castillo at 981-5902

➤ To donate contact ◀

Marilyn Rodgers at 225-7553 or mroddgersrn@aol.com

Do it today!

Enjoy your Summer join Encore Pool!



Encore Pool is a neighborhood Cabana Club in the VEP Association. We are a family oriented Swim Club located near Vista Park and Branham Lane area.

We offer a wonderful swimming pool for adults and families as well as a kid's pool for those six and under. We have area to BBQ and have parties with neighbors and friends. This summer we will also offer a variety of social events as well as swim lessons for all ages.

We do have openings for the summer season. Membership information can be found online at www.wghoaencorepool.com or by calling and leaving a message at 226-6445.

Come join our Association and have a fun and healthy summer. See you at the pool!

ENCORE POOL CABANA CLUB

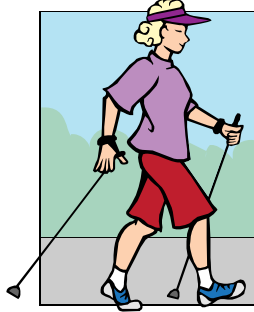


Summer Membership Available
May - Oct 2009 Season
Swim lessons offered for all ages.

Located Vista Park / Branham area
For info call 408-226-6445
www.wghoaencorepool.com

Uvas Canyon County Park

Uvas Canyon County Park is a refuge for hikers in the south bay. It's too far from civilization to be used as a neighborhood exercise track, and horses and cyclists are not allowed on any of the trails. The park offers a few loop opportunities, and one steep out-and-back option. Many visitors go no further than the Waterfall Loop. A 1-mile route along both shores of Swanson Creek, the loop includes a self-guided nature trail (pick up a pamphlet from the wooden box at the start of the trail). The toughest hikes in the park are the treks to Nibbs Knob and Knobcone Point. Nibbs Knob is a 3.6 mile out-and-back hike with a gain of about 1400 feet (there's a shorter, easier route from the other end of the Nibbs Knob Trail, accessed via a pullout on Summit Road). The trip to Knobcone Point is a less strenuous climb, simply because the trail only extends 0.4 mile.



Although Uvas Canyon County Park offers a feeling of rugged remoteness there are also 25 campsites with drinking water and restrooms available on site.

In brief: 3.2 mile loop visits a series of waterfalls in this secluded canyon park.

Distance, category, and difficulty: This **3.2 mile loop hike** is easy, although there are a few short moderately steep sections. Trailhead elevation is about 1100 feet. This hike's highest point is about 1800 feet. Total elevation change is about 700 feet.

Exposure: Completely exposed.

Trail traffic: Light-moderate.

Trail surfaces: Dirt trails and fire roads.

Hiking time: 2 hours.

Season: Nice any time; best in late winter for waterfalls

Now is the time to get out and enjoy our local parks. Uvas Canyon County Park is a short drive and is worth the day or overnight camping trip. You can find out more about Uvas or our other county parks at <http://www.sccvote.org/portal/site/parks>

Martial Cottle Park Plan – Project Management Transition

By Marilyn Rodgers and Adina Pierce

County staff recently sent out the Final Project Newsletter. This phase – that of development of the Master Plan Design was completed with approval from both the County Board of Supervisors and the California State Parks Commission. The newsletter along with the final Master Plan and EIR, as well as other documents and information will be available online at www.parkhere.org under the Martial Cottle Park Project.

County Parks staff will be transitioning project management roles with the next phase - the Park Plan Implementation phase. During the planning phase, the planning project had been managed by Senior Planner Jane Mark and supported by Park Planner Kimberly Brosseau.

We would like to thank Jane and Kimberly for their commitment and dedication to assuring that this phase of the project development came to fruition. We also wish them continued success in their new assignments.

In Phase I Implementation, project management has been assigned to Capital Programs Manager Deedee Flauding, who will be the new Project Manager, with oversight from Park Development Manager, Mark Frederick, of County Parks Department's Park Development Unit. We look forward to working with Deedee and Mark in the future.



Where is the Vista Park Community Room?

"Vista Park" is a city park; it's at the intersection of Hyde Park Drive and New Compton Drive, here in our VEP community. We meet in the Community Room which is on the east side of the park, at 475 Hyde Park Drive. It's easy to find...

From its intersection with Branham Lane, take Vistapark Drive south to Hyde Park Drive (that's where Vistapark Drive ends). Turn right on Hyde Park Drive and drive a few blocks to just beyond the bridge over Canoas Creek. The parking lot and Community Room will be on your right. (If you get to the stop sign at New Compton Drive, you've gone too far.) We look forward to seeing you there!

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FREE Open House and Fly-in Wings of History, San Martin

By Susan Iverson

Living in the heart of Silicon Valley with every kind of futuristic technology at our fingertips, it can be easy to forget about some of the technology that amazed people 100 years ago. Less than 30 minutes, the Wings of History museum is a treat to any adult or child interested in flying!




The Wings of History Museum, run completely volunteers, is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation and restoration of antique aircraft and displaying items from aviation history. The Museum has been in existence for more than 40 years. In addition to being open for tours throughout the year, the Museum also hosts an annual open house and fly-in. The fly-in encourages participation by all types of pilots and preservationists. The displays include not only planes, and machines of flight, but also historic automobiles, combustion engines, tractors, and other related items of historical interest.

Displays in the past have included military aircraft, both past and present, experimental aircraft, and current day aircraft. Young Eagles have provided Cessna rides to youths under 16, and the local Pacific Coast Aeronauts club have launch hot air balloons and provides tether rides at the airport.

To find out all the details about plans for this year's event, to be held on Saturday May 14, the museum can be contacted at <http://wingsofhistory.org> or (408) 683-2290.

While the Wings of History is always a great bargain, the Open house event is FREE. But you may find yourself wanting to return to see a work day. Tuesdays and Thursdays are 'work' days at the Museum. Visitors will find our volunteers and staff actively working in the Restoration Shop, Propeller Shop, Library and on special projects.



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Annual VEP Membership Drive Ended April 1st

By Marilyn Rodgers & Adina Pierce

Thank you for your continued support of VEP! If you have a friend or neighbor who forgot to renew their membership, or know of a resident who would like to join us, VEP accepts memberships throughout the year. An application is available online at the VEP website – www.vepca.net, or contact any Board member – we are happy to provide membership applications and remit envelopes. Then, just complete the application, make out a check to VEP Community Association for \$20.00, and mail it to:

VEP Community Association, P.O. Box 18111, San Jose, Ca. 95158.

We appreciate all of the kind and encouraging comments that members made as they sent in their memberships for 2011. Many of you also included additional funds to be used by VEP as needed. Several of you responded to the call for "volunteers" and selected one or more options in the volunteer category. We will be in touch with you in the near future to provide you additional information and to determine your special interests in volunteering. Thank you all!

City of San Jose Trail Program

By Marilyn Rodgers

The City of San Jose has made a commitment to the development of an extensive non-vehicular trail system within the city. The goal being to eventually develop 100 miles of trail.

We appreciate Mr. Yves Zsutty providing a presentation to VEP last month on the city's overall trail program, and to provide initial information on the possible proposal for trail development along Canoas Creek. Many VEP members are eager to learn more about the City's trail system. See below for additional links which Mr. Zsutty provided.

Links for additional information:

San Jose Trail Program – Home Page: <http://www.sjparks.org/Trails/>

- Albertson Parkway – Case Study: http://www.sjparks.org/Trails/documents/CaseStudy-AlbertsonParkway_001.pdf
- Award Winning Trail Projects: <http://www.sjparks.org/Trails/TrailsAwards.asp>
- Inventory of Existing and Future trails: <http://www.sjparks.org/Trails/TrailsList.asp>

VEP Community Service Awards

By Marilyn Rodgers and Lu Anne Behringer

At the February VEP meeting, the membership approved the specific criteria and budget for the 2011 CSA Awards Program.

The specifics are as follows:

"Up to 3 awards be granted at the judges' discretion, evenly distributed among selected winners. Nominations to be solicited from AHHS, GHS, and in the VEP newsletter (for Member-at-Large). School administrators will be asked to nominate at least 2 students per school with no upper limit. No more than 1 award per category (AHHS, GHS, At-Large). Ok to grant an award in a category with only 1 nominee. Ok not to grant an award in any category, if judges feel the candidate(s) don't merit an award."

The budget approved for 2011 is \$1,000.00.

Applications for students at Andrew Hill and Gunderson High Schools are available through each school. Contact Mr. Joe Ortega at Andrew Hill, and Ms. Stephanie Heuer at Gunderson. The application for At-Large candidates will be available online at website at www.vepca.net, or by request. For additional information, or requests for applications, please contact Marilyn Rodgers at 408/225-7553 or by e-mail at MRodgersRN@aol.com.

Completed applications must be received by April 30th. Selection of awardees will be made during the first part of May by a selection committee, and awards presented at each participating school and/or at the VEP meeting on May 24th.

If you know a deserving high school senior who is a very active volunteer, please let them know about our Community Service Awards.

If you would like to serve on the Selection Committee, please contact Marilyn Rodgers at 408/225-7553 or by e-mail at MRodgersRN@aol.com.

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Books from the Library? At your Fingertips!

By Susan Iverson

Since I was a small child, I have been addicted to the library. During the summer my mother would let me spend hours at the old Pearl Avenue library, reading books in the pleasant air-conditioning, or wandering the aisles browsing book spines, and the occasional jacket flap. Initially I was in the children's section, but by 11 or 12 years old I had ventured into young adult and non-fiction sections. Many people today talk about wasting time on the internet, but I am expert at fitting away the hours at a library. Not to mention the time I spend reading the stack of books I bring home!



Over the years I have gone through phases of reading old classics, or chosen a country and reading only books set there, to learning to knit. (You really can learn to knit from a book.) I love time spent just perusing books for the next thing to peak my interest. (I was in a near panic when all three of our local libraries were closed for reconstruction!) But reality has also intervened and the free hours I have to stroll book aisles is limited, so thank goodness for the internet after all!

San Jose Public Library offers many services and features from their website that allow me to continue to be a book-worm, even if I can't spend leisurely summers soaking up the air conditioning!

Request books online—peruse the online catalog, find a book you like, and request it be delivered to the library of your choice. It will be conveniently located on the hold shelf, labeled with your name. You will be emailed when it is ready for pickup. Less than 5 minutes and you can be in and out with weeks of reading material.

Email Renewal Reminders and online renewal—I have probably paid enough fines over the years to build a library! But now you can get email reminders when your books are due, and renew up to three times for three weeks right online.

Audio and E-books—Many titles are available for download to iPods, MP3 devices, as well as a growing selection of e-book reading devices. And since it is an electronic check-out and return, there are never any fines!

Find all this and more at <http://www.sjpl.org>.

PawFurred Pricing

Adoption Special
At HSSV's adoption centers in Milpitas,
Sunnyvale & Saratoga throughout April



With Spring brings dozens of unwanted kittens and dogs into Humane Society Silicon Valley's already crowded adoption centers. Without the public's help, adult cats and dogs may be overlooked as these younger animals arrive and could face many more months of waiting to find permanent, loving homes.

In an effort to combat this problem, we are offering "Pawfurred Pricing" for all adult cats and dogs (6 months or older) throughout April. This special offer gives adopters the chance to set the adoption price that's right for them to take home the pet of their dreams! All cats and dogs are spayed/neutered, vaccinated, microchipped, temperament-tested and medically evaluated.

Humane Society Silicon Valley

Animal Community Center
901 Ames Ave Milpitas

HSSV's Satellite Adoption Centers at:

PETCO Saratoga

500 El Paseo de Saratoga , San Jose



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7 Unusual Alternative Uses for Lemons

By Louisa Price

If you've a meyer lemon tree growing in your backyard, and you're wondering what to do with all those beautifully bright lemons before summer, here's a list of unusual and interesting things to do with lemons or lemon juice.



While lemon is widely used in cooking for its delicious tangy flavor and zesty aroma, it also has many other rewarding benefits. For example, when you incorporate lemon into your skin-care routine, it works like magic to brighten up dull-looking complexion.

Additionally, the high acidity content of lemon juice makes it an excellent natural household cleaner, perfect for killing germs and bacteria.

Household Uses for Lemons/Lemon Juice

1. Polisher -You don't need expensive high end polishers to make bathroom faucets or stainless steel kitchen sink shine and looking brand new. A cut-up lemon dipped in salt (for abrasion) is great for removing tarnish and polishing brass cookware, copper tea kettles, chrome fixtures, or stainless steel cutlery. Simply rub the salted lemon in a circular motion, over the surface of the piece that you want to clean. Then rinse in warm water and lightly buff with a soft cloth or paper towel

2. Room Freshener -Rather than buying expensive air fresheners, make a Eco-friendly, chemical-free homemade room deodorizer. Combine the juice of 1 lemon with 1 spoonful strong tea (black or green tea). Strain and transfer to a spray bottle. Spray once or twice into the air to neutralize odors, and your rooms will smell fresh and crisp all day.

3. Drain Cleaner - Do you have a smelly garbage disposal problem? Toss used lemon rind/peel down the garbage disposal once a week to get rid of the stinky odor and keep it smelling fresh.

4. Laundry Bleach - Conventional laundry bleach is not only toxic to the environment, it can also cause irritations in people with sensitive skin, and can be fatal if swallowed. To avoid harmful residue in clothes, use lemon juice to whiten yellowed laundry instead. Simply add about ½ cup straight lemon juice to the wash or rinse cycle to brighten up white clothes. You can also combine lemon juice with cream of tartar and rub it on stubborn stains before you wash.

For the rest of the ideas, checkout
www.nichetopics.info/unusual-alternative-uses-for-lemons.html

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VEP Neighborhood Garage Sale

Save the Date: May 7, 2001

By Helen Castillo-

It's that time of the year to clean out our closets with the clothes we are surely going to wear to our next high school reunion or all those great projects in our garage. VEP is having their annual garage sale On May 7th Jonathan Fredrick from the Salvation Army will be out with their trucks again this year. They will be parked at the end of Chynoweth (by Barron Park) from 11 am to 4 pm. We want to thank Jonathan and the Salvation Army for supporting our Neighborhood. Questions on what you can donate to The Salvation Army contact: Jonathan at Jonathan.frederick@usw.salvationarmy.org or call 408-298-7600 x 32 see you out there!!!

**VEP helps you solve
community problems**

Emergency Preparedness

By Helen Castillo



With all the disasters we are having. I thought it would be a good idea to remind you to check your emergency supplies. Plan on at least 72 hours on your own. There are seven types of basic supplies you should have in the event of an emergency.

Water: Store at least two gallons per person. Keep at least a three day supply per person. Label and replace water every six months. Don't forget to also store water for your pets.

Food: Store at least a three day supply of non-perishable. Store foods that do not need water or refrigeration and have a long shelf life such as canned meats, fruits, vegetables, juices, milk. Also high energy foods like peanut butter, granola bars and nuts. Store food in air tight containers to keep the rodents out.

Basic First Aid: Sterile Bandages, Gauze pads, Hypoallergenic tape, Instant hot and cold packs, Ace bandage, needle, thermometer, scissors and tweezers, latex gloves, sterile saline to wash burns, hand cleaner, hydrogen peroxide, first aid manual, prescription medicine, sun screen, antiseptic, aspirin, vitamins, syrup to induce vomiting, laxative, anti-diarrhea medicine, antacid. If someone requires special medicine keep a 14 day supply on hand.

Tools Battery powered radio with extra batteries or Solar cranked. Flash light, fire extinguisher, Shutoff tool for gas and water, shovel, pliers, Water proof matches, rope, crowbar, paper goods, multi-purpose knife, mechanical can opener portable toilet, cooking utensils, toilet paper, garbage bags, whistle, map of local area, money, soap, duct tape, pencils, writing paper, plastic bags and container.

Clothing and Bedding Sturdy shoes and work boots, heavy gloves, hat, long pants, long sleeve shirt, blankets or sleeping bags, rain gear, eye protection.

Special Personal Items; (medical prescriptions)

Mini Survival Kit: dental needs, extra eye wear, Hearing aid batteries, personal hygiene.

I hope this is a good start in helping you GET PREPARED If you have any questions call Helen Castillo -408-981-5902 For more information you can contact the Office of Emergency Services 408-277-4595 or 408-277-4598

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VEP Community Calendar

April / May 2011

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--------|--|-----------|--|--------|--|
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 World Book and Copyright day |
| 24 Easter  | 25 | 26 VEP Community Meeting—7:30 PM—Vista Park Community Room | 27 | | 29 | 30 |
| East Side Union High School District — Spring Break Oak Grove School District—Spring Break | | | | | | |
| 1 May Day  | 2 | 3 World Press Freedom Day and World Asthma Day | 4 | 5 World Athletics Day  | 6 | 7 Community Garage Sale!  |
| 8 Mother's Day  | 9 | 10 World Lupus Day | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 Wings Of History Fly In (page 5) |
| 15 International Day of Families  | 16 | 17 World Telecommunication Day | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |

THE VEP NEWS



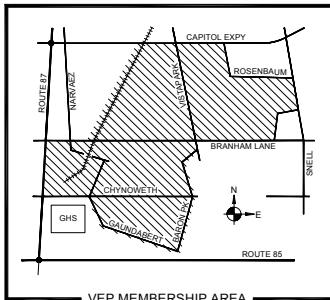
VEP Community Association

P.O. Box 18111 San Jose, CA 95158
Email: vepca@vepca.net Website: www.vepca.net

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.

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Be sure to attend
VEP's April 26th Meeting
7:30 pm
in the
Vista Park
Community Room
Check our website: www.vepca.net