

VEP NEWS

• VEP COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION •

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

October 2011

VEP's MEETING

7:30 p.m. Tuesday
▶ October 25, 2011 ◀

Vista Park Community Room
475 Hyde Park Drive

AGENDA

★ Home and Personal Security ★ Presentation by Frank McLaughlin

ê VEP Business Meeting ê

Announcements & Updates
Halloween Costume Prize
City Department Updates
Santa in the Park - November 27th
November 29th Meeting

★ 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 October Meeting

by Marilyn Rodgers

October's general membership meeting:

▶ **Home and Personal Security** - featured guest speaker Frank McLaughlin will provide a timely presentation on tips for each attendee to use in improving their own home and personal security. Frank is currently on staff with Councilmember Nancy Pyle, and is a former police officer with both the Chicago, Ill. and Morgan Hill, Ca. Police Departments.

▶ **VEP Business Meeting/Updates/Announcements.**

▶ **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 **October 25th** meeting. Please join us!

Halloween Costume Prize

Is Halloween one of your favorite holidays? Do you enjoy becoming your favorite Halloween character in costume? Consider coming to the October VEP Meeting in costume – you might just win a prize!

VEP September Meeting / Ice Cream Sundae Social

Over 50 people attended the first meeting of the year and enjoyed a delicious ice cream sundae. Bay Area Ice Cream Ca-



tering provided several fun options for attendees to choose from, as well as many, many tempting toppings. Members ap-



proved both the 2011-2012 Budget and the Goals and Objectives. Brief updates on changes to city departments and services were provided. A special thank you and introduction of Anti-Graffiti Volunteer Richard Garcia (see separate article elsewhere in newsletter).

2011 is VEP's 42nd year!

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Report, Report, Report!!

by Marilyn Rodgers

Whether at community association meetings, discussing issues of concern with city staff members, or attending the Neighborhood Leadership Development Conference held at San Jose State University on Saturday, October 8th....the message is repeated over and over again. San Jose residents are being increasingly encouraged to report incidents to the proper city authorities or city departments!! Residents are often hesitant about reporting incidents that are not life-threatening. Incidents can be such things as graffiti, several streetlights in a row needing to be repaired, break-in and damage to vehicles (or thefts of things inside of vehicles like computers and iPods), suspicious or inappropriate behavior by people you observe in your neighborhood, and traffic violations or speeding vehicles (just to name a few). San Jose Police Department representatives are particularly concerned that residents are not reporting these type of incidents. Residents are aware that resources and services are changing due to budgetary constraints, however if incidents are not reported, city departments are unable to document the need for services and/or respond to requests for service. Most departments have website options for reporting, as well as calling in complaints/concerns.

For Traffic/Vehicle/Speeding Concerns – go to City of San Jose Police Department website – to the TEU site (Traffic Enforcement Unit). The link is www.sjpd.org/_forms/TEU_Request_Form.asp. Complete a report – the more specific the details, the better.

For Graffiti – call 1-866-249-0543 to report the incidence of graffiti. Then file a report with SJPD at their site under Graffiti (include uploading pictures if you have them).

For Streetlights Needing Repair – call 277-5517, the information required includes the pole number, the street address or location, and your name and phone number. Currently the 7-14 day turn-around is not in effect, but repairs are done on a first come/first report basis.

For Suspicious Behavior and/or Car Break-ins – Theft of Belongings/Equipment – call 311 and provide specific details. If the behavior starts to change and/or becomes increasingly aggressive or violent, call 911 or in San Jose call 277-8911.

Vista Park Community Room Victim of Graffiti

Marilyn Rodgers and Adina Pierce

On September 9th, the Vista Park Community Room was severely graffiti-ed. VEP Board Member Adina Pierce was one of the first people to see it, and quickly took pictures. Unfortunately the building was graffiti-ed on walls, doors, and windows.

Richard Garcia, VEP resident, and an Anti-Graffiti Volunteer was the first volunteer on the scene. He removed the graffiti from windows and doors, and painted over the graffiti on the walls. Thank you so much Richard!! In fact, Richard arrived late in the afternoon at the Vista Park Community Room, as he had been removing graffiti in other VEP neighborhood locations, including under the freeway overpass (close to Gunder-son High School) on Chynoweth.

As reported in the September edition of the VEP News, there has been a change in the Anti-Graffiti program in San Jose. This is one area that volunteers in the community can make a significant difference. Residents who see graffiti in their neighborhood, are encouraged to:

- Take pictures of the graffiti immediately if possible,
- Call and report graffiti – provide specific details on location (buildings, walls, etc) with the address
- Call 1-866-249-0543 (or if you have the previously listed City number of 408-277-2758, a recorded message will direct you to the new number)

Then upload the pictures you have taken to the San Jose Police Department website – under Graffiti, and complete the report that is requested. Two police officers are assigned to followup on the reports and pictures. They track locations and type of graffiti. Some graffiti is gang related, others are done by “gang-want-to-be’s” (and still others just want to attract attention/be noticed). Additionally, the Officers track habitual offenders, and are responsible for initiation of prosecution where appropriate (this is often to obtain financial restitution). Volunteers being available to remove graffiti are an important



component of the program, as they are often able to quickly remove the graffiti. Speedy removal of graffiti is a positive deterrent in discouraging repeat episodes of graffiti in your neighborhood. Volunteers are provided with a kit which includes supplies. For additional information on volunteering (or obtaining supplies), call 277-3208.



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'Tis the Season to be Pruning

What is the Best Way to Prune Orange Trees?

Orange trees need little pruning compared to other fruit trees. In fact, they prefer to have a skirt of leaves all the way to the ground. This protects the trunk which can get sun scald when exposed to strong sunlight. Citrus trees bloom and bear fruit on new growth, so cutting off branch tips will reduce the size of your crop. If desired, you can prune off the dead twigs and small branches found on the inside of the tree, but be aware of the sharp thorns, as these can give nasty scratches!



Keeping Ants Off Fruit Trees

Ants will climb into plants, shrubs, and trees to get access to the sweet exude of certain sucking insects (aphids, mealybugs and scale). They use the exudate as a food. Prevent their access to any shrub or tree that you see them invading by spreading Tree Tanglefoot Pest Barrier around the stem or trunk. Wrap a 3-in-wide band of masking tape around the trunk near the base. Spread a 2-in or so wide band of tanglefoot over the tape. Ants can't cross the goeey, stick stuff. Replace the tame and Tanglefoot as needed.

How to Prune Lavender

Some say that lavender should be cut back almost to the ground in the early winter. But that's a care technique applicable only in the Eastern U.S. Lavender in California should be pruned after flowering in mild-winter areas. You can use hedge shears to cut them back, or prune off stalks that have spent flowers on them. You'll get better results if you prune off the stalks. Make your cut just above a junction, leaving at least an inch of the leafy stem. Your lavender will be more bushy and compact as a result.

How to Grow Parsley in Pots

Parsley is easy to grow in pots, and with restricted sunshine. But transplants at a nursery, since the seeds aren't reliable, often taking several weeks to sprout. Use a commercial potting mix. Keep the mix moist. Fertilize monthly with a water-soluble complete fertilizer, such as Jobes or Miracle-Gro. Your parsley will grow all winter, but it is best to plant

new ones to replace the old plants every spring.

Pleasures of a Winter Garden

Don't put away that shovel; instead, get busy sowing your winter crop.

Are your tomatoes tiring? Cucumbers ready to quit? Beans burning out? In October and November, as nighttime temperatures drop into the 40s, your harvest plummets, and it's past time to pull them and stuff them in the compost heap.

With a climate that rarely dips below 25 degrees, quite a few crops can be grown outside, yielding fresh food during even the darkest days. Winter gardening offers many advantages, including:

- Pests, such as aphids and snails disappear until spring.
- Plants need much less water
- Cool-weather veggies get sweeter
- Cold extends the harvest time
- At a time when produce is shipped around the world, losing their vitamins along the way, your family will be eating veggies chock-full of nutrition.

But to have a harvest in February, you have to start seeds or plants now. Altho some gardening books insist that veggies can't be transplanted, as long as the roots aren't disturbed, the seedlings won't be any wiser. Repot seedlings only if they outgrow their first containers.

Here's some ideas of what can go into the ground soon.

- Peas, whether snap, snow, or sugar peas, they have more carbs than green beans, and that translates to sweetness, perfect for stir fries, or eating off the vine.
- Root veggies: carrots, turnips, rutabagas, and beets are perfect for hearty winter soups, stews and salads.
Greens: lettuces, spinach and ma'che (corn salad).
- Broccoli, kale and collard greens.
- Garlic and onions, which add so much to broth and sautes. No need to wait until the bulbs form; plant them close together and use them like French onions when they need thinning, taking a leaf or two for flavoring.

Bon Appetite!

The latter part of this article was extracted from the San Jose MN, 9/12/09.

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Update on Branham and Pearl Businesses

by Marilyn Rodgers



Branham Lounge – owners of the Branham Lounge located at Almaden Expressway and Branham have recently sold their business, and anticipate moving to a new location at Branham and Pearl. They are pursuing a Conditional Use Permit and must also complete an environmental clearance permit application to assist the Planning Department review. This process normally takes up to 4-6 months. It may be extended as there apparently is disagreement with new owners at original site as to who owns the business name and liquor license. There will be a community meeting and opportunities for public comment if owners pursue the new location at Branham and Pearl.

Medical Marijuana Facility – a collective (Yerba Buena Collective) with an existing business license has opened an outlet at the Branham and Pearl center. As of September 28th, the City Council has passed, and will begin implementing new criteria for medical marijuana facilities. As of November 1st, facilities will need to apply for approval. Only 10 facilities will be approved for the city of San Jose (a large decrease from the current number operating within the city limits). There are additional new restrictions, such as the facility must grow all of the product on site (the facility at Pearl and Branham is too small to meet this requirement).

Current operating medical marijuana facilities and other advocates have initiated a campaign to obtain needed signatures to place this issue on a special election ballot. To do this, 30,000 signatures will need to be obtained by October 30th.

For additional information, go to www.piersystem.com/external/content/document/1914/1206571/1/1/02-28-11 for information on the criteria developed by the City Council, and for additional information on the collective, go to www.ybcollective.com.

Meet Captain Honda—Southern Division

From Nancy Pyle
District 10 Councilmember

Please join me in welcoming Captain David Honda to the San Jose Police Department's Southern Division. Captain Honda replaced SJPD's new Assistant Chief Rikki Goede following her promotion to that position in early September.

Captain Honda is a 21 year veteran of the SJPD. Throughout his career, he has held positions in the Patrol Division and the Special Operations Division. Among other assignments, Captain Honda has served on the M.E.R.G.E. (SWAT) team and in the Internal Affairs Unit. Captain Honda has previously served as commander of the Foothill and Western Divisions.

Over the past month, Captain Honda has had the opportunity to meet many of you. I know he will be a great addition to the Southern Division team!

For more information about Captain Honda and the Southern Division, please visit: www.sjpd.org/bfo/Southern.html.

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Remember –
Sunday, November 6th at 2am
Pacific Daylight Savings Time 'falls' back one
hour to Pacific Standard Time!

Encore Pool – Willow Glen HOA

Located on the corner of Bluefield and Rosenbaum, Encore Pool once again was the Summer Hot Spot in our community. Families flocked to the pool this year for lots of swimming lessons, parties, and afternoon swims. Many members of our community took advantage of key access to swim laps in the morning, or just to relax in a chaise lounge and read their books.



We're already working on plans for the 2012 season, and invite all in our community to pick reserve their associate memberships early. Please remember, memberships are limited and available on a first-come, first served basis. We've also got a new Facebook page where you can get the latest updates on pool happenings. From movie night, to our neighborhood pot-luck dinner, to 4th of July festivities, it's all happening at Encore pool.

Like us on Facebook: just type in "EncorePool" or go to: <http://www.facebook.com/#!/EncorePool>



We look forward to seeing you next season at Encore Pool
Halloween is Coming – remember to drive slowly so that all those little Ghosts and Goblins in the VEP Neighborhood will have a safe and enjoyable Halloween!!

**Free Halloween Glow Necklaces Available at the VEP
October Meeting**

GUNDERSON NEWS



With a successful Homecoming and College Week behind us, Gunderson staff and students are keeping busy with all kinds of activities in addition to working hard on academics. Seniors are busy right now writing personal essays and filling out college applications, athletic teams are playing or preparing for their season, artists and actors are working diligently to create projects for the school community and the school is full of Grizzly PRIDE.

Student of the Month ceremonies are happening again this year, and occur the last Thursday of each month. Students are honored with certificates, pins and a reception with goodies. More and more teachers and staff are providing the names of students who excel not just academically, but who also live the tenets of Grizzly PRIDE. PRIDE stands for PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY – RESPECT – INTEGRITY – DIVERSITY – EXCELLENCE.

The 3rd ANNUAL GUNDERSON IDOL takes place through October on Thursday evenings at 6pm in the theater. Student singers will compete each week for a slot in the finals on October 27, an evening that will also include teacher performers

Gunderson will hold its first ever Athletic Festival on 10/22 to fund the ever-increasing costs of athletic programs. GHS athletes will be on hand and there will be food and games. The festival will take place from 1-4pm and is free to all ages. Food will be available for a minimal cost. This is a great chance to support GHS sports. All of the money raised for the day will be donated to the GHS booster club and will be distributed equally amongst all sports present at the festival. This event is wonderful way for students to support one another and for the school to improve the quality of our athletic programs. We plan another festival in February. This festival is one more example of Grizzly Pride in action. If you can't make it, be sure to check out the BRAND NEW athletics web site at:

<http://www.gundersonathletics.com>

The athletics page is full of information including schedules, profiles of athletes, statistics and so much more. There is a lot of new Grizzly Athletic Gear, with more to come in the near future. Consider REPRESENTING Gunderson Athletics with some GHS swag.

San Jose Repertory Theater will again grace the Gunderson stage with its touring production of Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men*. The freshman class will view this professional production on November 1 as part of their English curriculum. Theater students will also attend and will assist the technicians and actors with set up of the production.

Principal Bejarano holds chats at 6pm on the FIRST Thursday of every month. The next chat is Thursday, November 3.

<http://gunderson.sjUSD.org/>

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Communication with Our Members

by Marilyn Rodgers, Adina Pierce, Susan Iverson

Face to face communication is usually the most meaningful and rewarding. Monthly membership meetings between September and May, special events and projects provide this opportunity. However, we have many non-face to face opportunities as well – they are as follows:

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

We continue to evaluate and utilize electronic means of communicating with our members, particularly in between editions of the newsletter (remember **e-distribution of the newsletter** is available upon request as well).

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

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

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



How many kids do we need to lose before you care?

That sentence pushed us into action. We care and we are sure that you care too. And so **Almaden Cares** was created. Our focus is young drivers at Leland, Pioneer and Gunderson High Schools. Over the last several years, we have witnessed too many horrid accidents resulting in fatalities and devastating injuries involving our youth. These accidents have shredded the lives of the victims and their families and left our communities mourning.



Our goal is to raise the consciousness of pre-teens, teens and parents regarding the causes of these accidents. We want everyone who gets behind the wheel of a car and everyone who rides as a passenger to make good decisions about their own safety as well as the safety of those around them.

We've held community events where we pass out our literature, dvds, cards for teens to give to parents that will open the conversation about expectations and try to get the community aware of our mission. Merchants in our area post signs in their windows with our messages. The Almaden Resident runs a weekly ad with our messages aimed at drivers of all ages. We've held two training days on driving simulators demonstrating the pitfalls that can cause accidents without anyone getting hurt.

We hold monthly community meetings at the conference room at Alain Pinel Offices on Blossom Hill and Almaden Expressway (beside Lamps Plus). We invite you to attend and join us in our mission to save lives. Please join us for future event or volunteering opportunities by looking at the events page at www.almadencares.com Please call Martha Kelly with any questions (408) 997-6521.

Drive to arrive.....alive!



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Crows Damaging Grass

By Jeri Arstingstall

We have been experiencing our grass being torn up and were at a loss of what was causing this damage. At first we thought we had gophers, yet there were no holes. The grass was getting pulled up in lumps. After doing some research we found out that crows like to shred grass. We then witnessed these great big crows doing it in broad daylight like little thieves.

If you see crows on your lawn or if your lawn appears torn up in areas, you may have a lawn [grub](#) problem. Crows actually hear the grubs in the ground feeding on [thatch](#) and grass roots. The damage crows make digging up the grubs can be worse than the damage the grubs do themselves. Skunks also love eating grubs and depending on the severity of the infestation, skunks and crows can quickly destroy an entire lawn. If you suspect you have a grub problem, [take a closer look at your soil profile](#). If you have more than five grubs per square foot of lawn, it is considered an infestation and action should be taken.

Over the summer we noticed a lot of beetles – we called them June bugs – it turns out that is what brought on the grubs. Beetle grubs often feed on grass roots and in turn become food for skunks and crows, both causing damage to the lawn.

We went to Summer Winds Garden and purchased Grub Control with Arena.

Now we wait and try to control the Crows.



A Year of Cakes

By Kathy Wood

"Trick or treat, turn up the heat, let's bake a cake, then eat, eat, eat!"

To celebrate the closing of the month of October, little people wander the neighborhoods disguised as witches, ghosts, pumpkins, princesses, or their favorite cartoon characters. As they approach your home, listen closely; you can detect the excitement in their shuffling footsteps and the rustling of costumes larger than them. The ringing of the doorbell or the quick little knock on the front door proceed the 2-handed grasp on the loot bag and the all-too-familiar 3-word phrase "Trick or Treat!"

I was raised in a small town in another time where safety (candy bars) and we literally RAN from house to house. A lot of territory had to be covered in the allotted time. The fire department hall was usually last on the agenda because they gave out bags of popcorn even past the cut-off time. Shortly after we arrived home, we each claimed a space on the living room floor and dumped our "candy store". Organization began with separate piles for lollipops, candy bars sorted by kind and size, an apple or two, even a few pennies. Following this, the trading started. By the time we were finished, we each had attained the candy we liked. Our parents received those few pieces neither of us desired. Lastly, we counted our treasures and figured out if we had enough to last until Christmas!

This cake recipe is appropriate for Halloween because it is cake disguised as a lollipop. Make a batch or two for your favorite trick-or-treaters!

CAKE POPS; Ingredients: 1 package cake mix, 1 container prepared frosting, 48 ounces candy coating, 48 paper lollipop sticks, Styrofoam block, sprinkles of choice.

Instructions: Bake cake as directed on the box, using a 13x9x2-inch cake pan. Let cool completely. Once cake is cooled, crumble in a large mixing bowl by cutting cake into 4 equal sections. Remove a section at a time, break it in half and rub the two pieces together over the bowl, making sure to crumble any large pieces that fall off. Repeat with each section until cake is crumbled into a fine texture.

Add $\frac{3}{4}$ of the container of frosting. Mix it into the crumbled cake, using the back of a large metal spoon, until thoroughly combined. Roll mixture into 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch balls, placing them on a wax paper-covered baking sheet. Cover with plastic wrap and chill for several hours in the refrigerator, or place in the freezer for about 15 minutes.

Melt candy coating according to package directions. Remove a few balls and, one at a time, dip about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch of the tip of a lollipop stick into the melted coating, and insert the stick straight into a cake ball, pushing it no more than halfway through. Dip the cake pop into the melted coating, and tap off any excess coating by rotating the pop..

Sprinkle with toppings of choice until covered. Carefully place end into Styrofoam block and continue with remaining balls. Allow to harden or place in the refrigerator for a few minutes.

"Family Circle", Meredith Corporation, NY, October 17, 2011 edition, pg 114.

Visit ayearofcakes.blogspot.com for a picture and other cake recipes.

"Let's Bake a Cake!"

San Pedro Square Market

From Nancy Pyle

District 10 Councilmember

With 80 percent of its 50,000 square feet leased, San Pedro Square Market expects to open October 22, according to co-owner Michael Maida. Spaces in three buildings comprising the public market range from 200 square feet to 4,000 square feet. Construction workers are currently applying tenant improvements and landscaping. The fourth structure, the Peralta Adobe - the oldest building in San Jose - will serve as an historic backdrop for outdoor seating, morning coffee, lunch and evening entertainment. The market will also exhibit the works of professional artists.



Some of the businesses lined up include:

- Crewners - full-service barbershop with a nostalgic feel.
- The El Dorado Bar - full-service bar in the heart of the market. Drinks can be taken throughout the market, including on the Peralta (Adobe) Plaza.
- Joe's Smoke House & BBQ - old-fashioned smoke house offers variety of smoked meats and side dishes.
- La Fina Cocina - kitchenware, household items, gifts and art imported from Mexico.
- On A Roll - Vietnamese specialties including banh mi sandwiches, spring rolls, and tapioca pearl drinks.
- Pizza Bocca Lupo - featuring wood-fired Neapolitan pizzas baked in a handmade brick oven imported from Naples.
- Robee's Falafel - Mediterranean and Middle Eastern dishes including falafel, shawarma, kebab, hummus, salads, and baklava.
- Treatbot - karaoke ice cream, a stalwart of the local food-truck scene.
- The Usuals - clothing boutique featuring house-designed, contemporary and Silicon Valley-based T-shirts.
- Veggie Box - fresh locally grown produce, flowers and dairy products.
- Vino Vino Wine Bar - local wines plus gourmet cheese, charcuterie, panini, and salads.

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CRIME STOPPERS

VEP Community Calendar

October / November 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
16	17	18	19	20	21 Gunderson Football Game— 7pm	22
23	24	25 VEP Commu- nity Meeting— 7:30 PM— Vista Park Community Room	26	27	28	29
30	31 Halloween	1 Dia De Los Muartos	2	3	4	5
6 Daylight Sav- ings Time Ends (Fall Back 1 hour)	7	8	9	10	11 Veterans Day	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19

Dates to Remember!

VEP Community Meetings

October 25, 2011
 November 29, 2011
 January 31, 2012
 February 28, 2012
 March 28, 2012
 April 24, 2012
 May 29, 2012

Community Events

Santa at Vista Park - Sunday, November 27, 2011
 Community Garage Sale - Saturday May 5, 2012

**Santa is Coming to the Vista Park
Community Room
475 Hyde Park Drive**

**Bring your kids or the whole family
for a free photo with Santa. We will
also have arts and crafts, and light
refreshments.**

**Have a photo taken by VEP photog-
rapher Adina Pierce,
or feel free to bring your own
camera.**

**When: Sunday November 27th
Santa hours: 2 pm to 4 pm**

**VEP wants to thank you for your
support**

**Wishing you and your family a
joyous holiday season**



Real Estate Corner: Are You Well Covered

By Helen Castillo

What you should know about home- owners insurance...

Most insurance companies recommend that your policy covers 100% of the replacement cost. If your home is financed, many mortgage banks will have minimum coverage requirements.



Consider the following:

- **Estimate the cost to rebuild:**
Ask your local building costs and multiply it by the square footage of your dwelling.
- **Account for the value of your personal possessions:**
Determine the amount of coverage needed to replace the contents of your home with new items at current prices if everything were destroyed.
- **Learn about the geology of the area you live in:**
Review your policy's exclusions statements. You may need supplemental coverage for natural disasters or other hazards unique to the location of your home.
- **Maintain the right scope:**
Contact your insurance man annually and review any changes such as:
Home improvements
Rising costs of construction
Changes in building code

VEP helps you solve community problems

What is VEP Community Association?

- VEP is an all-volunteer organization of your neighbors working to improve our neighborhoods; VEP is our community's "homeowner's association".
- VEP volunteers participate in a variety of activities, all of which originate in and benefit our neighborhoods.
- VEP volunteers make our neighborhood's views and needs known to government at all levels.
- Founded in 1969, we are one of the largest, most successful, and most active and enduring grass roots volunteer organizations in Santa Clara County.

Why join VEP?

- To receive our newsletter nine times a year, keeping you up-to-date and informed.
- To participate in and support neighborhood activities and representation.
- To contribute to our annual VEP Community Service Awards for area high school graduates.
- To be part of an outstanding community organization with a long record of success for our neighborhoods.

THE VEP NEWS



VEP Community Association

P.O. Box 18111 San Jose, CA 95158
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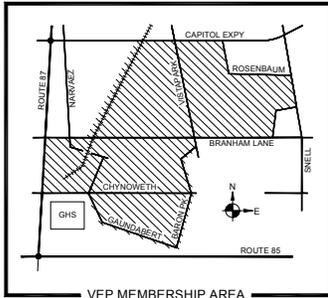
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Published monthly by VEP Community Association, a not-for-profit organization of volunteers established in 1969 to serve and represent more than 2000 homes in the Blossom Valley area of southern San Jose. VEP is dedicated to neighborhood maintenance 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.

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 Let us know at vep@vepca.net.



Be sure to attend
 VEP's
 October 25th Meeting
 7:30 pm
 in the
 Vista Park
 Community Room
 Check our website: www.vepca.net