

VEP NEWS

• VEP COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION •

Representing More Than 2,000 Families In The Blossom Valley Area Of South San Jose Since 1969

February

"The one thing we can never get enough of is love.
And the one thing we never give enough is love."

~ Henry Miller



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The "VEP News" is the official publication of the VEP Community Association, published monthly during the months of September through May each year.

We appreciate and will, at the discretion of the VEP Executive Board, attempt to publish any and all articles that will be of general interest to our membership community.

The VEP strongly encourages local schools to submit news articles about events and achievements on their campuses. Articles written by students will be given extra special consideration.

Persons, schools, or organizations who are interested in submitting articles, letters, or information to be included in the VEP News are encouraged to contact the Editor of the "VEP News," Mrs. Rachel Witmeyer. Email: vepeditor@gmail.com // Phone: 408-728-7296

VEP Community Association Membership

Persons who would like to join the VEP Community Association may send their name, address, and \$20 yearly dues to:

VEP Community Association
P.O. BOX 18037; SAN JOSE, CA; 95158.

Please, do not send cash. Make checks payable to "VEP."

VEP Community Association ~ Executive Board of Directors

President - Marilyn Rodgers
Vice President - Katherine Decker
Secretary - Adina Pierce
Treasurer - *Position Open*
Director - Helen Castillo
Director - Rich Giammona
Director & VEP News Editor - Rachel Witmeyer



VEP COMMUNITY MEETING

► Tuesday, February 27th ◀

Meeting @7:30pm ~ Late Arrivals O.K.!

Vista Park Community Room
475 Hyde Park Drive

Everyone is welcome. Invite your neighbors!

AGENDA

★ Gunderson High School Updates ★

Introduction of New Principal
** Mark Camilleri **

★ Homeless Encampments ★ Caltrans Facilitated Removals

Presentation by
Domingo Candelas
District Director for State Senator Jim Beall

★ VEP Business Meeting ★

Announcements & Updates

Councilmember Khamis and Staff
Updates on District 10 and City of San Jose

Upcoming Events *Save the Dates*

The Annual Senior "Winter Walk"
at Oakridge Mall
Friday morning, February 23, 2018

VEP's Next Meeting - Tuesday, March 27th

VEP Community Clean-Up Day
April 21st - Sign-In At Vista Park

★ Your Concerns and Ideas ★

Your chance to voice your opinion and/or to seek VEP's help.

◆ 2018 is VEP's 49th Year! ◆

VEP's February Meeting Preview

By Marilyn Rodgers

► Meeting Speakers:

Mark Camilleri, Principal of Gunderson High School will provide updates of interest to VEP area residents as well answer questions from the audience.

Domingo Candelas, District Director for State Senator Jim Beall, will provide information regarding Caltrans involvement and processes utilized in the issues of homeless encampments, specifically along Chynoweth between Gunderson High School and Chynoweth Ohlone VTA Station

► **VEP Business Meeting / Announcements:** Additional informational items and announcements will be provided including updates from Councilmember Khamis and Staff regarding issues of interest on District 10 and the City of San Jose.

► **Your Concerns & 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 7:30pm on **Tuesday, February 27th. (Please Note: Late arrivals are always welcome!)**

January Meeting Synopsis

By Marilyn Rodgers

President Rodgers welcomed everyone to the meeting. She thanked everyone for coming and commented on the fact that those in attendance were a small, but enthusiastic group. She also mentioned that many members, as well as several VEP Board members - including herself - were, or had been, ill with the "nasty flu bug" that was affecting so many people in our community, throughout California, and across the country.

Ms. Rodgers stated how pleased she was to once again welcome our District 1 representative on the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors, Supervisor Mike Wasserman. She stated that she is always appreciative of his willingness to periodically update VEP members on issues of interest and/or concern. As many residents know, the voters approved Measure A for Santa Clara County, in a recent election. The money from this measure is to specifically address the housing crises in San Jose as well as other cities in the County.

Measure A specifically focuses on two large issues: 1.) The need for additional "affordable housing" for residents, and 2.) To provide funding for housing of "vulnerable populations" such as homeless individuals and families. President Rodgers stated she had asked Supervisor Wasserman to come and provide us with an update on the status and progress of the monies coming into the County under Measure A.



Supervisor
Wasserman

Supervisor Wasserman thanked President Rodgers, and said it is always nice to come to talk to VEP. He also made a comment on the relatively small group in attendance, but said he understood, because his staff had also been affected by the flu. He then introduced Heather Wilson, his Policy Aide, stating that she was an expert on Measure A.

Supervisor Wasserman stated that the total amount of funds that will be collected through Measure A will be approximately \$950 million. Currently, \$250 million was offered to provide for approved projects. Sev-

eral cities had gone through the proposal process within their individual cities and brought forward projects for approval and funding at the County. (In other words the County, through Measure A funding, is acting as the "Bank of Santa Clara County"). Once these initial projects are close to completion, the County will offer an additional \$250 million of Measure A funding for more projects. The cities with currently approved projects are: Cupertino, Morgan Hill, and Gilroy (each with one project), and San Jose with 3 approved projects in total.

The projects were required to meet already established criteria for "affordable housing," and/or housing for "vulnerable populations," such as homeless individuals. Santa Clara County is providing the funding for these projects through Measure A, however, planning and development processes and procedures are overseen by each of the cities that are involved.

Supervisor Wasserman commented that one of the challenges and/or drawbacks to helping cities manage the housing crises is the possibility/probability of limited sites (*i.e. land*) in which to build such projects.

The Supervisor went on to provide additional information on a variety of topics. He encouraged everyone that is not currently receiving his monthly newsletter to please sign up for it. He also indicated that VEP often includes portions of his newsletter in the *VEP News*. Ms. Rodgers thanked the Supervisor for all of the information he shared.

President Rodgers then provided a brief update on the issue of the homeless encampments in the VEP neighborhood area. Of particular concern is the encampments along Chynoweth between Pearl and New World/Gaundabert. While some of this property belongs to the City of San Jose, the majority of it is State of California property (*i.e. Hwy87 overpass*) and the responsible organization for assistance with the homeless encampments is Caltrans. She indicated that State Senator Jim Beall and his District staff have been very helpful and responsive to VEP's concerns. (*Please see Page 4 of this newsletter for additional information.*)

President Rodgers encouraged everyone to attend the State of the City Celebration scheduled for February 8th. It will be held this year, in the evening, at San Jose City College. (*Please see page 5 of this newsletter for Mayor Sam Liccardo's speech from that evening.*)

Ms. Rodgers also reminded everyone of the annual Senior Walk event at Oakridge Mall. This event is very popular with our "mature" residents in the VEP area, and is very well attended each year. It is scheduled for the morning of Friday, February 23rd.

She thanked everyone for coming to the meeting, encouraged them all to "stay well" (guard against this year's flu), and that she would appreciate assistance in cleaning up the Community Room. The next meeting for VEP is February 27th!



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ENJOY THE BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP



VEP membership is based on a calendar year, January through December, so it's time to renew your membership. Please be sure to fill in the information requested, enclose your \$20 check made payable to VEP, and mail it to us as soon as possible--while it's still fresh in your mind. That's all there is to it!

In a very real sense, renewing membership is your vote of confidence and support for the work we do as VEP volunteers. Yes, we get an occasional "thank you," but proof positive of your appreciation is your willingness to renew membership each year. We also appreciate the nice comments many of you offer along with your renewal—for that, we offer our thanks!

VEP membership is the best value you'll ever experience. Renew today and ask your neighbors to join our growing family. Thank you!

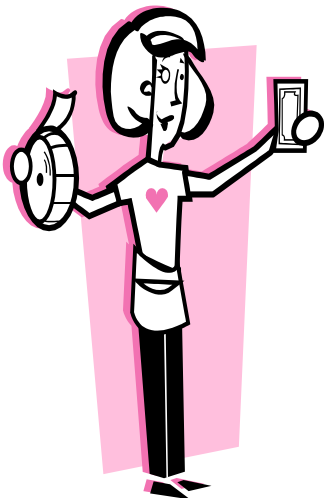
About the VEP Community Association

- VEP is an all-volunteer organization of your neighbors working to improve our neighborhoods.
- VEP sponsors many projects and events that improve safety, our quality of life, and the appearance of our community.
- VEP volunteers make our neighborhood's needs, views, and concerns known to government at all levels.
- VEP was founded in 1969. We are one of the largest, most successful, and most continuously active and enduring grass roots volunteer organizations in Santa Clara County.

Why join VEP?

- To receive our newsletter nine times a year.
- To receive monthly email alerts.
- To keep our neighborhoods beautiful, safe, strong, and prepared.
- To participate in and support effective neighborhood activities and representation.
- To support VEP's annual *Community Service Awards* for high school graduates.
- To be part of an outstanding volunteer community organization with 48 years of success in our neighborhoods.

YOU COULD WIN a **FREE** 2018 VEP MEMBERSHIP!



Bring your completed Membership Application, with payment, to this month's VEP General Meeting on Tuesday, February 27th! You will be entered in a drawing to have your membership fee returned to you, *that night!* Just imagine getting all the great benefits of VEP Membership, *free!*

Tell a neighbor!



VEP Membership Application / Renewal

Note: None of the your personal information will ever be shared with any third party.

**** Please type or print legibly ****

Last name(s): _____

First name(s): _____

Street address: _____

Telephone # _____

Email address(es): _____

Comment(s): _____

Can you give VEP a few volunteer hours? _____

I am willing to volunteer for:

- Beautification/clean-up projects
- VEP News/ mailing prep
- Large Event/Festival, i.e. 4th of July
- Distribute flyers
- Serve on a committee
- Serve as a VEP officer or committee chair
- Other: _____

Please let us know:

- I prefer to receive my newsletters by email only.
- I prefer to receive my newsletters by email and mail.

Mail your \$20 check to:

VEP
P.O. Box 18037
San Jose, CA 95158

Thank you!

Homeless Encampments: VEP's Vistapark Area

By Marilyn Rodgers

(Note: Portions of this article were previously printed in VEP newsletter. This article now includes updates on progress/assistance from Caltrans, CHP, and SJPd along the area indicated.)

Homeless encampments have in been in the greater VEP Community area for over two years, particularly along Branham Lane, including in/around several of our schools and/or parks. However, during late Spring and the Summer months it grew to a crises stage for residents living or traveling along **Chynoweth from New World/Gaundabert to Pearl. Large encampments were under Hwy 87, close to the VTA station and close to Gunderson High School.** One such encampment was under Hwy 87 overpass, and within feet of the sidewalk on Chynoweth in which students walked to access either the VTA station and/or Gunderson H.S. Residents and parents became increasingly concerned. VEP assisted in providing contact information to residents regarding who and what agencies needed to be contacted for assistance for the homeless individuals, and to have the encampments removed.

One of the increasing concerns and frustrations for all involved is the number of "multiple agencies" which own, and are responsible for, maintaining their own property in areas such as this one. For instance, along this area, certain sections of property are owned by the City of San Jose while other sections are owned by VTA/Santa Clara County, and an additional third portion is owned by yet a third agency: CalTrans, State of California. (Not involved in this particular area, but an additional 4th Agency which also has property ownership/jurisdiction within our VEP Community is the Santa Clara Valley Water District.)

While the City of San Jose has provided leadership on the issue of homeless encampments, they have to ask us to report issues of concern to the correct "owner" entity. Unfortunately this not only is frustrating to both VEP and individual residents, it slows down the process of having the correct agency take timely action to resolve the concerns, for all those involved.

Beginning in late November 2017, following the removal of an encampment on the south side of Chynoweth underneath Hwy 87 overpass, a large number of grocery carts containing items that had previously belonged to homeless individuals had been lined up along the sidewalk. Several residents reported the fact that the carts had not been removed. As this was Caltrans property, the reports were made online as per requested procedure. Between the middle of November 2017 and the beginning of February 2018, the carts had not been removed. Also, in the mean time, additional homeless individuals had relocated on the south side of Chynoweth (midway up the embankment) under Hwy 87 overpass. Individual residents had again been informed to contact Caltrans via e-mail. Two major issues of concern arose: 1.) Residents who submitted requests for service were informed that response time was 2 to 3 months; 2.) Additional/subsequent requests made by the same individual would cause **their initial request to be cancelled**, and the new request would be acknowledged and then assigned a **new date for service that was another 2 to 3 months away.** (i.e. - Many residents would wait 3 to 4 weeks and after seeing no response, would initiate a second request for the same area - Not realizing that this increase their wait-time for service to as much as 6 months, or more! Residents became quite frustrated/angry.

VEP did intervene to request clarification and assistance. VEP also provided additional information after a few incidents of inappropriately aggressive behavior by homeless individuals had been reported. (Note: Most homeless individuals are **not** aggressive.) As a result, State Senator Beall's District staff and Councilmember Johnny Khamis' office requested assistance by the Cali-

fornia Highway Patrol and San Jose Police Department. The CHP subsequently did remove three individuals from the encampments. Also, Caltrans cleaned up the area and repaired broken chain-link fences.

VEP wants to thank those agencies involved for their assistance. Also acknowledged is the fact that until adequate resources and assistance are made available to the homeless - especially housing - this issue will continue.

An additional issue of appropriate and timely reporting is crucial. As is decreasing length of response times by Caltrans. Waiting 2 to 3 months (for this particular area) is much too long! (It is acknowledged that Caltrans may need additional resources for their response times to be improved.)

While significant progress has been made with intervention by our City leaders in soliciting assistance and cooperation by partnering entities/agencies - VTA/Santa Clara County and CalTrans/State of California, **it is our hope that over the next several months a more transparent, and expedient process, can be developed for reporting and expediting the response time!**

One suggestion for consideration **is to have a "central" reporting system.** That is, individual residents, community association leaders, and City Council staff should not have to spend time determining the correct agency/entity/property owner, but rather **all calls within the city limits of San Jose should go to one number.** Then, that entity would determine the "owner" of the property and contact that entity for a service request.

Contacts & Resources for Reporting Issues

Beautify SJ: www.beautifysj.org

Direct-Link to Reporting: www.beautifysj.org/index.php/report/

Caltrans (highways): Submit a Report ► <https://csr.dot.ca.gov/>

City of San Jose - Homeless Concerns Hotline

408-975-1440, or email, homelessconcerns@sanjoseca.gov

Parks, City of San Jose: www.sanjoseca.gov/FormCenter/Parks-Recreation--Neighborhood-Services-11/Report-a-Park-Concern-60

Parks, County of Santa Clara: Phone: (408) 355-2201

Union Pacific (railways): www.up.com/aboutup/contact/

Valley Transit Authority (VTA): <http://www.vta.org/feedback>

Santa Clara County Roads & Airports:

www.sccgov.org/sites/rda/info/Pages/service.aspx

Santa Clara Valley Water District:

<https://clients.comcate.com/newrequest.php?id=80>

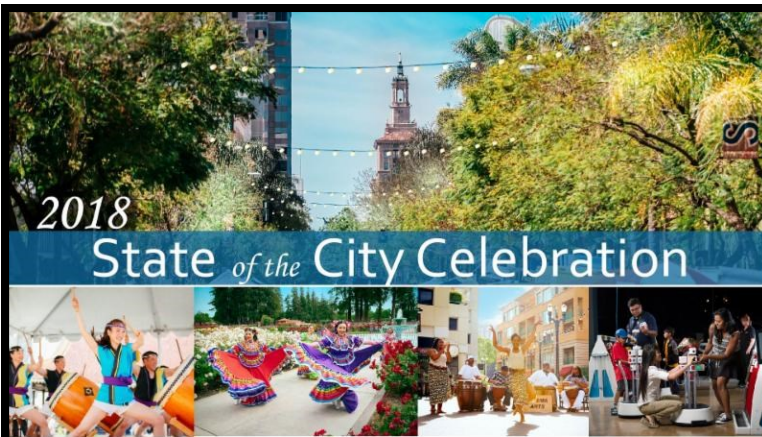
Leigh Moore

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* The 2018 State of the City *

Courtesy of the Mayor's Office

Mayor Sam Liccardo delivered his 4th State of the City Address, unveiling a vision for how San Joseans can tackle the great urban challenges of our day and continue the momentum built over the past three years to create a safer, stronger & more equitable city.

"The state of our city is strong, and getting stronger; experiencing economic vitality as it never has before - yet the great paradox of our prosperity lies in our thousands of neighbors who struggle weekly to pay rent in an economy that increasingly marginalizes many," said Mayor Liccardo.

To confront this paradox, and the other challenges confronting our city, Mayor Liccardo called on the community to continue embracing the same "collective resilience" that has fueled many notable accomplishments over the past three years, including:

- **SJPD is "Rising Again"**: Since reaching a settlement around pension reform, the San Jose Police Department has added 150

new officers over the last year.

- **Raising the Minimum Wage**: Thanks to a regional effort that included community advocates and mayors throughout the county, San Jose and seven surrounding cities will raise the minimum wage to \$15 by 2019.

- **Mobilizing the Community to Fight Blight**: the #BeautifySJ initiative has forged a new path for reducing trash, graffiti and blight in the city by mobilizing tens-of-thousands of residents, and re-focusing City resources.

- **Responding to the Flood**: And most notably, in the aftermath of the devastating Coyote Creek flood last February, the community rallied together to clean up hundreds of homes in five neighborhoods, raise more than \$7 million to support flood victims, and secure safe and stable housing for every single displaced family.

As Mayor Liccardo declared, *"By embracing the same collaborative ethos that animated our response to the flood, we will go much farther, together."*

Addressing the Affordable Housing Crisis

As he looked ahead to the year ahead, Mayor Liccardo singled out Silicon Valley's affordable housing crisis as both the region's most dire needs and one of his top priorities. To address this challenge, Mayor Liccardo highlighted key elements of the ambitious housing plan he released last fall, with a **goal of building 25,000 homes - including 10,000 affordable units in the next five years:**

- Reducing the zoning and regulatory barriers to build high-density housing in our Downtown and near transit.

- Revitalizing declining business districts, catalyzing new urban villages, and replacing replace bars, liquor stores, and other neighborhood nuisances with new development.

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- Finding innovative ways to finance rent-restricted apartments.
- Challenging our wealthier suburbs to do more to house those who work there.

While acknowledging there is much work to do, Mayor Liccardo also shared that **there are already 8,400 new housing units in the pipeline, including more than a dozen affordable housing projects.** He also renewed his call for the entire community to come together to house the community's most vulnerable residents: our homeless neighbors:

"For thousands of San Joseans sleeping outside though, this crisis won't patiently wait for apartment construction on three-year development cycles at a cost of six hundred thousand dollars per unit," urged Mayor Liccardo. *"We must push for ways to accelerate construction and reduce its cost, such as converting motels to apartments, building tiny home villages, and using prefabrication methods. As we build more permanent housing, we'll also work on expanding temporary shelter by creating safe parking areas, and by partnering with congregations in the Winter Faith Collaborative.*

Working together, let's make San Jose a national model of inclusion."

Outlining the Mayor's Other Top Priorities for the Year

The Mayor focused the rest of his speech on how, working together, San Jose could serve as a model for addressing three other critical urban challenges: diminishing opportunity, scarce municipal resources, and climate change.

Broadening Opportunity for Our Residents:

"We can also do more to help thousands of our families who struggle against the headwinds of globalization, automation, and technological change. While we cannot change those winds, we can adjust our sails to expand opportunity, particularly for our youth."

In addition to the successful initiatives launched during his tenure - including his teen jobs (SJ Works) and youth after-school learning (SJ Learns) programs, pilot projects to bring broadband internet service to underserved neighborhoods, and a collaboration with community colleges to provide full-cost scholarships to low-income students - Mayor Liccardo also announced that the City would be launching a **5K Coding Challenge** later this month, with a goal of helping 5,000 low-income students learn coding skills.

Restoring and Enhancing City Services:

The Mayor also urged city leaders to embrace a more sustainable fiscal strategy that does not solely rely on continually raising taxes or cutting services. This included calls for:

- Innovation: through San Jose's Smart City Vision, the city has found numerous ways to leverage technology and innovation to improve services at reduced costs.
- Service and Volunteerism: through his Cities of Service strategy, San Jose has begun to activate people of all ages interested in donating their time to support city services.
- Job Growth: nothing that all cities rely enormously on tax revenues generated by local employers, and the fact that San Jose lags far behind its neighboring cities in both, the mayor urged city leaders to remain focused on facilitating new job growth: *"From Alum Rock to Santana Row; from Little Saigon to Calle Willow, we can expand job opportunities for our residents, and generate the resources we need to better serve our neighborhoods."*

Building A Sustainable City:

Finally, Mayor Liccardo outlined his plans for embracing a more sustainable future:

"While the current occupant of the White House may have withdrawn from his global environmental responsibilities, here in San Jose, we'll embrace the imperative to show global leadership."

As part of a comprehensive Climate Smart Plan to be released next week - with a goal of reducing San Jose emissions to levels that meet the goals of the Paris Accords - the mayor celebrated **the expected launch of San Jose Clean Energy later this year.** Through this new program, residents and businesses will have the option to purchase cleaner, more renewable sources of energy at prices competitive with private utilities.

Noting that 58% of all greenhouse gases emissions comes from transportation, the Mayor also reiterated his focus on advancing important mass transit projects: including the electrification of Caltrain, an expansion of electric-fueled VTA buses, the 2018 opening of BART service to San Jose, and the continued effort to bring BART all the way to Downtown San Jose where there's the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to create a Grand Central Station of the West, surrounded with new retail, restaurants, plazas, residents, a few Googlers, and iconic architecture.

Noting that the city's ambitions around Diridon Station is critical to San Jose's sustainability - as well as future traffic, economy and fiscal health - Mayor Liccardo commented:

"This our moment to embrace a collective vision that preserves our environment, and our children's future."

Notes About the Event

The 2018 State of the City Celebration was held at San Jose City College, continuing Mayor Liccardo's tradition of holding the annual event at a different San Jose school each year. As in year's past, the event featured Community Honorees from each City Council District (chosen by the district's Councilmember) and the Pride of San Jose Awards recognizing exemplary groups of City of San Jose employees.

Community Honorees:

- Tri-Village Advisory Group
- Rue-Ferrari Business Group
- PATH San Jose
- Jai Srinivasan
- Jesus Flores
- Rose, White and Blue Parade Committee
- Advantage Homes
- Villages Veteran's Day Event
- Rudy Flores
- D10 Park Heroes: Pat Pizzo, Lee Pauser & Dave Poesche

Pride of San Jose Award Recipients:

- Project ACE Team (for the MySanJose App)
- SJPD's Safe Communities Team
- San Jose Clean Energy Working Group
- Streamlined Restaurant Program Team
- SARA Bond Refinancing Team

WEBLINKS:

Entire Press-Release and Full-Text of the Speech:
www.sanjoseca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/74880

Video:
www.facebook.com/SamLiccardo1/videos/947343212083078/



Being at the epicenter of the ever-expanding tech industry, the County of Santa Clara is also booming with population growth and an increasing demand for food. While we are proud to be recognized as leaders in ingenuity, we also bear the responsibility of creating a more sustainable way of life. The existing dichotomy between the affluence of the Silicon Valley, and the fact that 1 in 6 Bay Area residents experience food insecurity, makes no sense to me. This reality is seemingly at odds with efforts to tackle Food Waste. Every year, approximately 34 million pounds of edible food in our County ends up in landfills. This has been a dilemma that has brought many entities together, including Joint Venture Silicon Valley and our County's Recycling and Waste Reduction Division.



Now, through a \$313,000 Cal Recycle Grant awarded to Silicon Valley Food Rescue—a system designed by Joint Venture Silicon Valley to divert food from landfills—we can rollout a new method of food distribution in our community. The approach is called A La Carte, which will assemble a fleet of refrigerated trucks to pick up food and transport them to locations that provide meals to people who may need them. The trucks will primarily be gathering unused food from corporate and university facilities and deliver it to homeless shelters, food banks, and poverty-stricken neighborhoods.

This effort is still in its infancy and we hope that it grows large enough to divert a significant amount of food from going to waste, while also helping to address hunger issues. It may also pave the way for other non-profits who wish to create similar models, and help chip away at the \$218 billion spent every year in the country on food that literally goes to waste.

If you are interested in learning more about the Silicon Valley Food Rescue Program, please visit:

<https://jointventure.org/initiatives/silicon-valley-food-rescue>
and/or www.facebook.com/svfoodrescue/



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If you know of a facility that would like to donate unused food, or if you would like to learn how you can help in the effort, please visit: sccgov.org/sites/cpd/programs/fsp/Pages/Food-Donations.aspx

Mike Wasserman
Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors, Dist. 1
www.supervisorwasserman.org



VEP Volunteers Needed!

By Rachel Witmeyer & Marilyn Rodgers

VEP needs volunteers for a variety of projects. Listed below are a few examples. If you are can help your Community Association, please contact VEP President, Ms. Marilyn Rodgers by email, at mrodgersm@aol.com.

1. Mailing of VEP Monthly Newsletter at the Main San Jose Post Office, located on Lundy Ave. Volunteer who is available during the daytime (usually a Monday or Tuesday morning) to transport the hard copies of the VEP newsletter to the main Post Office (or a member who works in north San Jose, and could deliver these to the post office on their lunch break!). Training for the process of a large mailing via regular mail will be provided. Mileage reimbursement is also offered. Note: Our long-time volunteer, Past President Bob Aquino, has told us that he is not going to be able to provide this important volunteer activity very much longer for VEP. Thanks again Bob, for your many years of service and support!

2. Volunteer to Provide Oversight for Beautification Projects Do you like to help with beautification projects for our neighborhoods; ie. either cleanup and/or planting projects? This may be for you! VEP usually plans two such days per year: usually one in April and the other is usually held in October (this one to honor Dave Fadness). This usually means helping with coordinating with San Jose Parks staff and helping organize and facilitate the volunteers who come to assist. Again, training will be provided, but if you have already participated in one of these days, you already have a good idea of what is done!

3. VEP Neighborhood Flyer Distribution Literally what it says! Walk through our beautiful neighborhoods to deliver informational event-flyers to our community!



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Councilmember Johnny Khamis
invites you to participate in the:
**CITYWIDE CLEAN UP
COMPETITION!**

*Show your district spirit and join your
neighbors in beautifying District 10*



**April is District 10
Spring Cleaning Month**

Plan a...

- Litter Pick Up
- Wall Painting • Tree Planting
- Other Beautification Projects

To attend our April 21st litter pick up
event or plan your own
beautification event please call
408.535.4910 or email
Dora.Gonzalez@sanjoseca.gov

**FLIP FOR
DETAILS**



Paid for by City of San José

WHY the competition?



In honor of Earth Day 2018, the City of San José is having a citywide CLEAN UP COMPETITION between all Council Districts throughout the month of April. The winning Council District will be determined by the district with the most participating volunteers. If District 10 wins, Councilmember Khamis will host a Volunteer Appreciation Pancake Breakfast (date TBD) and present the trophy.

HOW can you join the competition?

Join our litter pick up event on **April 21st from 9AM-11AM at Pioneer High School** (Front Parking Lot 1290 Blossom Hill Rd 95118) **AND/ OR** contact our office to coordinate your own litter pick up event, wall painting, dumpster day, tree planting or other beautification efforts*

**All supplies will be provided by our office, subject to availability*

RULES

In order for your beautification event to count toward the competition:

- Event must be coordinated with D10 Council Office
- Event must be in April 2018
- All volunteers must sign in using designated sign in sheets provided by D10 Council Office
- All sign in sheets must be returned to D10 Council Office for official tally

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**VEP**  
**"Clean Up"**  
**event to be**  
**held at**  
**Vista Park.**  
  
**Watch for**  
**Details in**  
**the March**  
**Edition of**  
**VEP News!**  
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Join Mayor's High School Challenge!

The high school with the most **student volunteers** will be awarded \$\$\$ towards their school - 1st: \$1,000, 2nd: \$500, and 3rd: \$250

*To attend our April 21st litter pick up event or plan your own event please call **408.535.4910** or email **Dora.Gonzalez@sanjoseca.gov***



Every second Friday of the month at 6:30-8:30 p.m.

February 9 | March 9 | April 13 | May 11 | June 8 | July 13
August 10 | September 14 | October 12 | November 9 | December 14

FREE ACTIVITIES FOR ALL

San José community centers will be hosting a variety of activities for all ages, including games, arts & crafts, music, dancing, movies and more. Represent your center by posting **#SJNeighborNights** on your social media.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/167909670641718/>

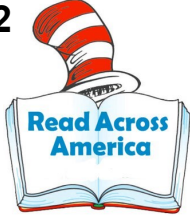



Community Center	Address	Phone Number
Almaden	6445 Camden Ave.	(408) 268-1133
Bascom	1000 S. Bascom Ave.	(408) 794-6289
Berryessa	3050 Berryessa Rd.	(408) 251-6392
Calabazas	1207 Blaney Rd.	(408) 794-6289
Camden	3369 Union Ave.	(408) 559-8553
Evergreen	4860 San Felipe Rd.	(408) 270-2220
Mayfair	2309 Kammerer Ave.	(408) 794-1060
Roosevelt	901 E. Santa Clara St.	(408) 794-7555
Seven Trees	3590 Cas Dr.	(408) 794-1690
Southside	5585 Cottle Rd.	(408) 629-3336
Willow Glen	2175 Lincoln Ave.	(408) 448-6400



Activities subject to change. RSVP on Facebook: [tinyurl.com/SJNeighborNights](https://www.facebook.com/events/167909670641718/)
For more information, contact your center or visit sanjoseca.gov/prns.

VEP Community Calendar

February / March 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
18	19	20	21	22 Community Housing Meeting 6:00pm - 7:30pm @Southside Community Center 5585 Cottle Rd.	23 11 th Annual * Senior * Winter Walk & Resource Fair @Oakridge Mall (See Jan. VEP News)	24 Friends Of The Dr. King Library Book Sale 10:00am-5:00pm
25 Friends Of The Dr. King Library Book Sale 1:00pm-5:00pm	26	27 VEP Community Meeting and ~ 7:30 PM ~ @Vista Park Community Room	28	1	2 	3 Martial Cottle "Healthy Parks, Healthy People Walk" 10am-12pm
4	5	6	7 District 10 Office Hours 8:30-9:30am @Almaden Valley Community Center (6445 Camden Ave.)	8	9	10 District 10 Office Hours 10:30-11:30am @Hub's Coffee (630 Blossom Hill Rd.)
11 	12	13	3.14  HAPPY PI DAY!	15	16	17 <u>St. Patty's!</u> Strong Girls Strong Women Conference 8:30am-2:30pm @Mexican Heritage Plaza (1700 Alum Rock) www.Eventbrite.com
18	19	20 	21	22	23	24 Friends Of The Dr. King Library Book Sale 10:00am-5:00pm

★ Coming Soon in the VEP Neighborhoods ★

VEP's Meetings

Tuesday, March 27th

Tuesday, April 24th

Tuesday, May 29th

Everyone is Welcome!
Invite a Neighbor!



Reach Thousands of
Local People Through:

VEP's Website & News (print & digital)

Reasonable Rates!

Contact the "VEP News" Editor
vepeditor@gmail.com

VEP Community Events

Annual Community-Wide

☆ Garage Sale ☆

First Saturday in May! (May 5th)

4th of July

🌴 Fireworks & Festival 🌴

@Almaden Lake

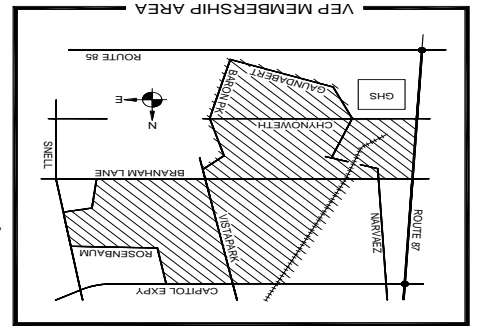


and in the meantime...

Be sure to attend this month's
VEP Community Meeting!
Tuesday, February 27th @7:30pm
 in the Vista Park Community Room ~ 475 Hyde Park Drive



Would you prefer to receive your newsletters via email? Please, let us know at vep@vepca.net



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Vice President	Katherine Decker	408-857-0740	kdedecker@sbcglobal.net
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Treasurer	Position Open		Please Contact VEP News Editor
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VEP BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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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VEP Community Association

A Publication of

THE VEP NEWS



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