

THE HERCULEAN

NEWSLETTER OF THE CITY OF HERCULES
P. O. BOX 156
HERCULES, CALIFORNIA 94547
PHONE: 724-CITY (2489)



April 1980

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

As you know, Hercules is a new, growing, evolving community. Here, an old-timer is someone who has lived in the City over five years! People move into their neighborhoods as strangers and soon find that the people of Hercules are good folks to know. Gradually former strangers join into the community spirit of our City.

This community spirit is enhanced by the many people helping others, being good neighbors. It's time these people be recognized for their efforts, so the **Herculean** is establishing the GOOD NEIGHBOR AWARD. The Good Neighbor Award will recognize those people who add a spark to other people's lives through their words and actions. It can be a neighbor, someone from another part of town, or a member of your club or organization who is a special person to you.

Do you know a Hercules Good Neighbor? I urge you to nominate him or her by writing or calling Pam Dorway-Worley, City Hall, P.O. Box 156, Hercules, California, 94547, 724-2489. Good neighbors will be recognized in the pages of the **Herculean**.

Fred Wachowicz
Mayor

CHIEF'S COUNTRY

Burglary Prevention: We have had a number of burglaries in the City in the past months. We were able to apprehend a suspect through some fine investigative work by our officers. We want to make the community aware that you can assist us. If you see **anything** suspicious, please do not hesitate to call us. We are also prepared to give burglary prevention talks in the community. If you are interested on how to make your home less attractive to a potential burglar, please call us at 724-2677 (COPS) to set up an appointment.

Reserve Officers and Cadets: We are still recruiting male and female Reserve Officers and Cadets. If you would like a chance to serve your community, please call for an appointment and we would be happy to explain the program to you.

Traffic Enforcement: We have received a number of complaints regarding speeders. We will be concentrating on a stricter traffic enforcement program in the residential area, both in the Centex (especially Violet Road) and Sunstream areas. Please remember the speed limit is **25 MPH** in the residential areas. The spring weather brings a number of children out to play in and near the streets. It is up to you to drive cautiously and carefully.

Ride-Along Program: Our ride-along program is still active. If you are interested in seeing your police department in action, call for an appointment to set up a ride with our officers.

The April 1, 1980 Census Day

By April 1, you will have received a census questionnaire in the mail. Questions about the age, sex, education, income and ethnic group of family members, your house, utilities, automobile, taxes, and job are included. Many of the questions are detailed but each is asked for a specific reason. For example, the questions on plumbing facilities and number of rooms per house are used to determine where substandard housing exists and allows the federal, state and local governments to determine where grants and loans will be made.

The questions may be detailed, but be assured that your answers are **CONFIDENTIAL**. Census Bureau workers are sworn to secrecy. The census has been taken every decade since 1790. Not once has a census employee ever been formally charged with releasing anyone's census answers. No other government agency including the IRS, the FBI, or the Immigration Service has access to Census Bureau records. The information from the census is distributed only as statistical summaries. Your particular answers cannot be identified.

If you do not mail back your census questionnaire, census takers will visit you and ask questions orally. If you mail your questionnaire

promptly, the only person who will see it will be a clerk who has thousands of returns he/she checks to see if all answers are completed. If all answers are completed, the information (**excluding** your name, address and telephone number) is read into a computer which sorts all answers for the statistical summaries. The actual questionnaire is locked into a vault that only the Census Bureau has access to.

This census is **very** important to Hercules. It is important that everyone answer the census so the City can have a complete count. To underscore this, the City Council passed a Proclamation declaring April 1 as Census Day and strongly urging all residents to cooperate fully with the census.

Why is the census so important to Hercules?

Revenue Income Based on Population: Certain revenues collected by the State are shared with the cities based upon population. Each man, woman and child brings about \$140 in revenue for city services. In the 1970 census, Hercules had 121 residents. After a special census in August 1977, the population had zoomed to 1,658. By the time of another special census in January 1979 the population had risen to 3,900, almost double the 1977 number. City staff estimates the present population to be 6,500 to 7,000 residents. The City needs to have an accurate count of the population to budget for programs of direct benefit to all its citizens.

Planning Programs: The census will give age and sex distribution, and ethnic background of Hercules citizens. This information will be very important to the Leisure services Department as they determine the type of programs to offer. The City Planner will use similar information in planning the type of parks, and other facilities needed for the residents. The City Council will use the information on the census as background for the policies they make for the City.

Attracting Business: Businesses thinking of coming to Hercules call City Hall almost daily. They want to know the age, ethnic groups, income, job skills and education of the population. An updated census will allow the City to give them an accurate picture. This will help attract commercial establishments to serve the needs of residents. The Council is also interested in developing the industrial zone. The information from the census will be a valuable marketing tool to attract industry which will provide appropriate jobs for residents.

Applying for Grants: The more accurate the census is, the greater chance Hercules can obtain state and federal grants if available and when needed. In these days of inflation and tight budgets, even a relatively prosperous city like Hercules needs to look at these sources of income. The first step for eligibility for state and federal loans and grants is a population profile including information on age, ethnic groups, income, housing, and employment. The only acceptable information is information verified by the census. Since Hercules is growing so rapidly, our census information will be outdated quickly. In many ways, this makes it even more important to have an accurate 1980 census count—we have to rely on these numbers for many years. The grants affected by the census count includes those for public works (streets, highways, traffic control, and sewage treatment plants), public services (fire and police protection), human and social services, and housing and planning grants.

Proposition 4: The recently passed Constitutional amendment put a limit on government spending. The formula for the spending limit factors population and cost of living. Accurate census counts will determine the ceiling for Hercules.

Reapportionment: Districts for the U.S. House of Representatives and State Legislature are determined by the population of each district. The one person, one vote Supreme Court ruling dictated that the districts have to be apportioned by exact numbers.

The Census is important to Hercules. We're counting on you!

Lee Girl

Lee is Finance Officer for the City, a part time position he has held for over a year. He is responsible for City investments, accounting for revenues and expenditures, cost statements and internal audits. Lee also keeps his eye on the fiscal policies, procedures and systems related to State of California governmental codes. He supervises the work of the bookkeepers and attends all Council meetings to answer fiscal questions that arise.

Lee has a great deal of experience in the field of finance. He is retired from the State of California, having served in the State Department of Motor Vehicles, Department of Finance, Department of Transportation and Department of Education. While at the Department of Transportation, he was the fiscal accountant for the seven State-owned toll bridges that handle over one million dollars per day in tolls. His job included accounting for and investing this money.



CENSUS '80
APRIL 1
We're counting on you. Answer the census.





Joan Woods

Joan Woods has been the bookkeeper for the City of Hercules for 2 1/2 yrs. Her duties include handling accounts payable, receivable, and payroll. Joan lives in Pinole with her husband D'Arcy and their two sons Jeff and Daryl. Jeff attends Pinole Valley High and Daryl attends Ellerhorst Elementary School.

Ann Travaglini

Ann works part time as the assistant bookkeeper, posting, filing and typing. Ann lives in Pinole with her husband and two daughters aged 12 and 10. She enjoys sewing, but says most of her free time is spent taking her children to and from piano and baton lessons.



LEISURE SERVICES

Get ready for Easter at the Hercules **Easter Egg Hunt** on Saturday, April 5, at Woodfield Park. Children from one to five years of age will hunt for treats at 10:00 a.m. Children from six to ten years old will take their turn at 10:40 a.m. The Easter Bunny will be there!

Vanpool

Riders needed for vanpool departing Hercules at 6:45 a.m. and leaving San Francisco at 5:00 p.m. with pickup in the Financial District, Civic Center and along Mission Street to 9th. Contact Ming Ko evenings at 799-4173 or Sherman Ko days at 565-1531.

THANK YOU!!

Despite the rainy weather on February 17, Dr. Eddie Parayno and his assistants administered low-cost rabies shots to 20 Hercules dogs. Although there were some dogs nervous at the sight of the needle, their owners are very thankful to Dr. Parayno for performing this service.

Dr. Parayno is very interested in serving his home town and plans to offer the rabies clinic annually. Next year's clinic will probably be in January and hopefully on a sunny day.

VOTE!

April 8, is Election Day for three City Council positions. Polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. If you are in line to vote at 8:00 p.m., you will be allowed to cast your ballot.

If you are unable to be present in Hercules during these hours for any reason, you may obtain an absentee ballot from City Clerk Joe Valles. Come to City Hall or call him at 724-CITY (2489). Absentee ballots must be returned to the City Clerk by 5:00 p.m., April 1.

VOTE! It is your right and your duty.

Dial-A-Ride

The dispatch number for Dial-A-Ride has been changed to 724-RIDE (7433). This will allow everyone within the Dial-A-Ride district to call for pickup without a long distance call.



MAY WE ENTICE YOU . . .

into participating in the Second Annual Hercules Cultural Fair April 12? Call Cindy Maloney at Leisure Services, 724-PLAY (7529) and arrange for a booth for your organization or for yourself as an individual. Sponsor some entertainment, sell food or merchandise, display arts or crafts.



Booth reservation forms are available at City Hall. Please contact the City if you are interested even if you do not know the size booth you need yet. Hercules citizens have first choice of booths but we need to know of your interest early to allow this to happen. This year there will be a \$17.50 charge for the booth and \$4.50 charge for the table. The charges will cover the City expenses for renting the booth and tables. The City will provide water, electricity, a PA system and restrooms.

Last year's fair was fun for all. Ethnic dances, delicious food, and arts and crafts for the many cultural groups in Hercules were available. Plan to attend this year to join the fun. Mark your calendar for April 12, Noon to 5:00 p.m. on the baseball courts at Woodfield Park.

Michelangelo - Move Over!

We want the young artists of Hercules to give us some paintings, drawings, stained glass, works of any kind of art (not too big) to display in a special Civic Arts booth. We want to show the public what wonderful things can be produced by our own talented local young people.

Prizes will be awarded. Think up your own idea. Draw a picture of one of your "favorite things." Paint a likeness of your dog, cat, or little brother. Sketch a tree, a hill, some clouds. Dream up a picture of something then create it out of whatever materials you like. Make an interesting design that catches the eye. Work up a dream scene: a space fantasy, your room, your house, a decoration, a fan, or a kale. Let your imagination and your talent run out of the end of your fingers, and share it with your admiring public.

We will hang or display or prop up the best pieces and pin first, second, and third prize ribbons on them. We will write a commemorative poem for each winner!

Talk to Nancy Thompson or Ann Ostrander about your ideas, and they will help you coordinate your individual effort.

The Cultural Fair will be April 12 from Noon to 5:00 p.m. with booths, food, entertainment, community singing, and all sorts of fun things. Woodfield Park is the place and everybody is invited.

THE GRAND OPENING

Solar power, water hyacinths, and aquatic life - the components of the unique Hercules Solar AquaCulture Wastewater Treatment Plant. This innovative system has been recognized by Congress, the EPA, and scientific journals as an important step towards effective energy conservation and cleaner waterways.

A Grand Opening dedication will be held on Earth Day, April 22, to commemorate the completion of the plant. Congressional representatives, state, county and city officials, scientists interested in aquaculture, and people involved in the planning of the Hercules plant will be invited to the Grand Opening. The keynote speaker will be a major national figure.

A series of tours for the general public are being planned for late spring. Details about these tours will be printed in the local press.

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555 RAILROAD AVENUE
HERCULES, CA 94547**

