

THE HERCULEAN

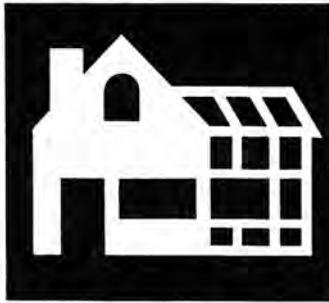
NEWSLETTER OF THE CITY OF HERCULES
P. O. BOX 156
HERCULES, CALIFORNIA 94547
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OCTOBER, 1981

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Hercules is booming once again as grading for construction takes place in several parts of town. On the north side of Sycamore Avenue the ground is being prepared for our long-awaited shopping center. The grading is quite extensive for three reasons. A) Plans call for the rerouting of Refugio Creek to parallel Sycamore Avenue. Along the creek will be a continuation of the path that runs through Refugio Valley Park. This process involves careful maneuvering around the existing creek so that there will be a minimum of disturbance to the creek until it is time to change its flow. B) The power lines also will be moved, probably in the spring. The lines were erected when the manufacturing plant by the bay was the only structure in town. C) Santa Anita Development Corporation, co-owners of the shopping center site, also own the land on San Pablo Avenue now being filled. Since a great deal of dirt needed to be removed from the shopping center site, the Council granted Santa Anita permission to fill the low site adjacent to San Pablo Avenue. Traffic is sometimes halted to allow trucks to move from one site to another. We hope that this has not caused you much inconvenience. Grading for the shopping center will be completed within 30 to 60 days, depending upon the weather. The site will then be winterized. In the spring the P.G.&E. lines will be moved and the final grading finished. Construction should start in the summer. Lucky's will be the grocery store in our shopping center.



Across the street from the shopping center, major grading is being performed on the future site of an office park, townhouses and single family homes. The single family homes will grace the hill above and to the west of the Sunstream Homes development. The townhouses will be constructed adjacent to the freeway. An office park will be constructed at the corner of Sycamore and Refugio Valley roads. The grading will be done this fall and building will begin in the spring.

The owners of Sycamore Place next to the telephone company building will see some action this winter also if the developers succeed in their financing plan by the end of the year.

The Village houses in the Hercules Historic District are on their way to once again becoming a community. A number of the houses have been raised onto jacks and will be moved in October to fill the vacant lots between the other old homes on Bay and Pinole streets. New

foundations will be built under the homes, then both the exterior and interior of the homes will be renovated.

Grading on the remainder of Neighborhood 6, the Bay Village project built by Citation Builders, will continue until the rains come. New Hercules and Santa Fe Avenues will be constructed first. The intersection of the new road with San Pablo Avenue has already been graded. The developers will provide roads for people driving to City Hall during the project. Single family, patio homes and townhouses will be constructed in the area. The single family homes will be built first, beginning next spring or summer.

The City Council is now working on plans to encourage development (and a tax base!) on the remaining parcel of vacant land, the industrial zone near the waterfront. We will keep you apprised of our actions through Council meetings, the **Herculean** and the press.

The Council urges you to participate in City government. Council meetings are held every second and fourth Wednesday at Hercules Elementary School at 7:30 p.m. Other meetings are scheduled as needed. Watch Channel 12B or call the City Clerk for up-to-date information on meeting times and dates. We are very interested in your ideas and opinions.

Mayor Lynn Judnich

CHIEF'S COUNTRY

The summer season is over and our children are once again back in school. The weather is good so bike riders and skateboarders are still seen everywhere after school hours. Be alert for children playing or walking to school.

Those of you who have children of your own should advise them about traffic safety. Request that they use the crosswalks and always cross the street at the corners. Remind them to pay attention to the crossing guards whose job it is to help them and to look out for their safety.

Our police units will keep a watchful eye on your children as they walk to and from school. In addition, parents should remind their children **never** to get into cars with strangers. If a problem of any kind arises, tell the children to go to a teacher, playground leader, or a police officer.

If anyone sees a suspicious person around our schools or playgrounds, call the Police Department at 724-1111.

Another traffic hazard exists near the construction site on Sycamore Avenue. Be very cautious when approaching this area. Obey the flaggers and drive defensively.

Bicycle burglaries have sharply increased in the last



few weeks. We advise all bicycle owners to take precautions to prevent the theft of their bikes. Always put your bike in the garage or by the side of the house where it will not tempt a burglar. Use a case hardened steel lock and chain to secure your bike to a stationary object. Record any numbers on your bicycle (they are often on the rear sprocket). If a bike is reported stolen, the numbers will be run through a state-wide computer that lists all bikes recovered. If your bike does not have numbers, engrave initials and date of birth or a driver's license number on the bike.

Parents are asked to review bicycle safety tips with their children. Do they know the proper hand turning signals? Does their bike have reflectors for late evening riding? Do they know which side of the road to ride on? Also remind them that they are not to weave back and forth through the center lines of the street or to ride on the hillside open space areas. Call the Police Department if you have any questions on bicycle safety.

Emergency Phone Numbers

Hercules Police Department (bus.) 724-2677
 Hercules Police Department (emer.) 724-1111
 Rodeo Fire Protection District 799-4484
 Ambulance 234-3242

REFUGIO VALLEY PARK

The Refugio Valley Park construction is now completed. The next step is the finishing details. The city gives a list, called a "punch list" to the developer which details all the final work that must be done before the city accepts the park as finished. The developer must complete this list by early November. If the city is not satisfied with their work, the developer must continue to work after that date. The developer was unable to complete his "punch list" prior to the scheduled October 10 dedication ceremony, so the ceremony was postponed. It will be rescheduled. Watch the press and Channel 12B for details.



SCHOOL NEWS

With the advent of September came the yearly confusion and excitement of the new school year at Hercules and Ohlone Schools. The new Hercules School principal, Chuck Forcier is busy getting acquainted with the teachers, students and parents at his new school. Mr. Forcier has been with the Richmond Unified School district for over 20 years. He spent several years at Fairmede School in Richmond teaching second and sixth grades. He spent the rest of his career to date as principal of Kensington, Bay View, and Kerry Hills elementary schools. Mr. Forcier likes the children at Hercules and feels that the teachers are doing a good job. His main goals for this year are to improve the physical plant. There is a great need for more storage space, for example. He is also working to improve the landscaping. The PTA placed a sprinkler system in the front garden that they landscaped; but much more needs to be done

and Mr. Forcier is tackling the problem. Helping him will be Greg Mcginnis, the new PTA president. Other officers are needed. Come to the next PTA meeting to offer your services.

Ohlone School has 266 students this year, up from 230 last year. The October 6 Back-to-School-Night introduced parents to their children's teachers. The new PTA officers have been elected. They are: President, Laurie Suttle; First Vice President, Ken Briscoe; Second Vice President, Larry Collison; Treasurer, Pearl Flemming; Secretary, Loretta Stirling; Parliamentarian, Delora Quinteras; Auditor, Jay Tucker; and Historian, Nancy Ylagan.

HAPPENINGS IN HERCULES

The **Hercules Sister City Association** eagerly anticipates the arrival of the Mayor and four other representatives of our Sister City, Tsushima, Japan on November 4, 5, and 6. The Association plans to treat our Japanese visitors to a number of all-American events. Everyone is welcomed to join the Sister City Association and to participate in the events scheduled for the delegates from our Sister City. Members of the Association meet the second Monday of every month. The next meeting is at the home of Pat Perkins at 121 Nutmeg at 7:30 p.m. on October 12. For more information, call Pat Perkins at 799-1264; Connie Rogers at 724-2490; Bennett Tom at 799-5649; or Adria Schwartz at 799-6681.

The **Association of Filipino-Americans of Hercules** (AFAH) held a general meeting and potluck picnic at Ohlone Park on September 19. On September 26, AFAH sponsored a Reno Fun Trip to the gambling capitol of the west. Winners and losers alike had a good time -- some just a richer good time than others! Congratulations to the members of the AFAH Summer Bowling League Champions -- the "Cowboys." Members of the winning team are Pompey and Grace Festejo, Dario Chitpanganiban, Dan and Minda Maramag and George Mareno.

The **Country Run Homeowners Association** wishes to thank their former social chairperson, Mary Schmidt, for her fine work in this position. Mary hosted gracious meetings that helped improve the communication and caring among the neighbors who make up the Country Run family. She and her husband, Fran, spent their spare time organizing events, then carrying out the many details that made our social activities a success.

Micki Cocklin has assumed the chairmanship of the Social Committee. Welcome Micki to her new position by calling her 799-1090 to volunteer your time to her committee.

The **Hercules Tennis Club** urges all current members and anyone else who's interested in tennis to attend a club meeting on Monday, October 12 at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Thian Lim, 161 Elderberry Court. Officers will be elected. Club membership is open to all tennis lovers. The club will form tennis ladders and hold tournaments after they get organized.

SEWER SAGA

In July the City's innovative Solar AquaCulture Wastewater Treatment Plant was certified by the State to discharge 200,000 gallons per day to the Bay. Technical problems, however, limited capacity without additional modifications and additions. The City Council, faced with the prospect of more costs in an already tight budget

year and, most importantly, delay in acquiring sufficient treatment facilities by 1984-85 when all available capacity will be exceeded, opted to begin negotiations to expand the Pinole Treatment Plant which utilizes a conventional and proven technology rather than continue to support an admittedly experimental methodology, however promising.

The price tag of Pinole expansion, as estimated by a competent engineering consultant at \$6.2 million, is about the same as building a modified plant at Hercules but some of the construction costs are expected to be shared with Pinole and operating costs should be lower because of economies of scale.

CHANNEL 12B

Some frustrating technical difficulties have been eliminated and Channel 12B, the Hercules local television station, is now broadcasting daily messages to our citizens. The station runs a video bulletin board full of information that will keep you up to date on City Council activities, Leisure Services programs, and special events. Community groups are urged to place their messages on the station. Messages are changed weekly. Call John Powderly at 724-PLAY for more information.

ATTENTION, MOTHERS!

All Mothers are invited to participate in a Mothers support group. Mothers and their children will meet during the day to share ideas and to discuss common concerns. An evening group will be formed also if enough interest exists. Call Cyndy Maloney at 724-PLAY or Kathy French at 799-3620 for more information.



TINY TOTS

Registration for the October 24 to December 4 session of the Tiny Tot classes will begin October 12 at Hercules City Hall. Classes will be held at Civic Arts House in Old Hercules. The instructor, Margaret Rodrigues is assisted by Debbie Alves as teacher's aide. Classes for 2½ to 4-year-olds are held from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. The afternoon class from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. is for 4 and 5-year-olds.

Parents now have a choice regarding the number of days their children attend the program. The schedule and fees are as follows:

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| Tuesday & Thursday only: | \$30.00, residents |
| | \$33.00, non-residents |
| Monday, Wednesday & Friday only: | \$45.00, residents |
| | \$49.00, non-residents |
| Monday through Friday: | \$70.00, residents |
| | \$77.00, non-residents |

Children must be pre-registered. Registration will be taken by telephone. Payment is due no later than the first day of the class. Call Cyndy Maloney at 724-PLAY for more information.



HAUNTED HOUSE

The spooks and goblins of Hercules will once again congregate at the Haunted House on the McLeod Ranch at #1 Hercules Avenue. To join them for their Halloween fun, come to the McLeod Ranch on October 28 and 29 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. for a tour. WestCAT

has a special bonus for Haunted House-bound visitors. Vans will pick up youngsters at Hercules and Ohlone Schools between 6:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. for 25¢. The ride back is free! The goblins charge 50¢ for children up to 12 years of age to enter the Haunted House and 75¢ for anyone older. Beware! Anyone refusing to pay will be duly punished by the Resident Boogeyman.

Youth or teen volunteers who'd like to help scare the daylight out of the Haunted House visitors should contact Cyndy Maloney at 724-PLAY.

GOOD NEIGHBOR AWARD

Mrs. Bonafacio of 2113 Pheasant wishes to acknowledge the Ohlone School P.T.A for their efforts and concern for the school children, not only while they're in school, but also while they're at home and in the community. As a working mother, Mrs. Bonafacio appreciates the thoughtfulness and dedication of the Parent-Teachers' Association.

Mrs. Bonafacio also wishes to thank everyone at City Hall and feels the Leisure Services Department provides excellent programs for the citizens in Hercules.

We know that Hercules is populated by blocks and blocks of wonderful friends and neighbors. If you live near some of these special people, let us know. We would like to honor them in future issues of the **Herculean**. Call Pam Dorway-Worley at 799-0602 or 724-CITY with your nomination.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS

On November 3 voters of the Richmond Unified School District (which includes Hercules) will elect three members to the School Board. Voters who for any reason will not be able to vote in their precinct should contact City Clerk Joe Valles to obtain an absentee ballot. Ballots must be returned by October 27.

ADS FOR THE HERCULEAN

The advertising insert in this issue is designed as a service to Hercules residents as they search for products and services they need. The advertising revenue helps defray the printing costs of the **Herculean**.

The **Herculean** is delivered to every household in Hercules. If you want to reach this select audience, call Ginger Amantite at City Hall, 724-2489, for forms and rates. We run 1/8 page, 1/4 page, and classified ads. Space is limited and ads are accepted on a first come, first served basis, so act **NOW!**



CITY OF HERCULES
555 RAILROAD AVENUE
HERCULES, CA 94547



VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS FAIRE

The Hercules Civic Arts Association is sponsoring the Victorian Christmas Faire on Saturday, November 14, and Sunday, November 15 at the historic Hercules Clubhouse near City Hall. The Faire will feature an art exhibit, handmade Christmas items, refreshments, and live entertainment. If you are interested in participating, call Doris Holstein at 799-1835.

TENNIS COURT RULES & REGULATIONS

The following rules and regulations are posted at both Refugio Valley and Woodfield Park tennis courts. These rules will be strictly enforced.

- Reservation system in effect at all times.
- Play is limited to 1 hour beginning on the hour.
- Tennis shoes only.
- No food or drinks on courts.
- Activities other than tennis prohibited.
- Lessons and tournaments by permit only.
- Be careful, clean, and courteous —

Reservations must be made at City Hall, 555 Railroad Avenue, 724-7529.

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| 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. | \$1.00/hour |
| 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. | \$1.50/hour |
| Weekends | \$1.50/hour |

Lights are provided at Refugio Valley courts only for \$1.00 (quarters only) per hour. At 11:00 p.m. lights will go out automatically.

EXERCISE & WEIGHT LOSS

Junior Jazzercise: Lorraine Patterson instructs youth between the ages of 5 and 12 in the fine art of exercise to music from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Thursdays at Hercules Elementary School. The cost is \$12.00 monthly, payable at the first class.

Adult Jazzercise: Adults can dance away their extra pounds and forget the stress of the day at one of the two Jazzercise sessions held at Hercules Elementary School on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Sessions are held from 5:30 p.m. to 6:20 p.m. and from 6:35 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. If you want to check out the program without committing yourself for the long term, buy a \$3.00 ticket at the door. For longer term membership, you pay \$2.00 per session. You can purchase tickets at the class. Non-residents are charged an additional \$2.00 per month.

Weight Watchers: Weight Watchers are meeting every Wednesday from 6:15 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. in Room 10 at Hercules School. Registration is \$15.00, and a \$6.00 fee is collected at each meeting.

The Lose-A-Size-Club is another way to shed those unwanted pounds. The group meets Thursdays in the Multi-Purpose room of the Hercules School from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The program consists of one-half hour of meeting time and one-half hour of exercise. The initial membership fee is \$1.00; a quarter for dues is collected at each meeting.

For information on any of these programs, call the Leisure Services Department at 724-PLAY.

LEISURE SERVICES ITEMS

A tear gas for self-defense class will be held October 14 from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Call Cyndy Maloney at 724-PLAY for further details.

The fall brochure outlining classes and activities will be in your mailbox by the end of October. Keep your TV tuned to Channel 12B for updates on Leisure Services programs. The items are updated weekly.

