

TRAILBLAZER

QUARTERLY BULLETIN
OF THE CALIFORNIA PIONEERS
OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY
INCORPORATED 1875

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1861 - 1863
Martha L. Bulmore

The cost of keeping county roads in usable condition was so costly the Board of Supervisors granted franchises to companies that would keep them in repair for the privilege of collecting a toll. In 1861 a franchise was issued to the San Jose & Alviso Turnpike Co., in 1863 the county bought back the franchise for \$5,000. Following is their advertisement:

RATES of TOLL

On the San Jose and Alviso Turnpike Road!

San Jose to Alviso or from Alviso to San Jose:

Loaded Wagons, drawn by two horses or oxen	\$1.00
" " " " four " "	1.50
" " " " six " "	2.00
Every additional horse in the team	.12 $\frac{1}{2}$
One horse buggy or carriage	.37 $\frac{1}{2}$
Two " " " "	.50
Single Horse with rider	.25
Loose Horses, less than ten, each	.05
Ten or more, for each ten and fraction over	.40
Single Cow, with or without sucking calf	.05
Loose Cattle, more than one and less than ten, each	.04
Ten or more, for each ten and fraction over	.30
Single Sheep or Hog	.05
More than one and less than ten, each	.03
Ten or more, for each ten and fraction over	.25
Any animals n o t enumerated above, at the same rates.	
Wagons or Carts having wheels with more than 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches tread, the toll to be reduced at the rate of 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent for every $\frac{1}{2}$ inch over 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches.	

Wm. Daniels, President S.J. & A.T.R. Co.

* * *

OUR STATE FLAG

Arthur M. Fisk

The plaza in the City of Sonoma, scene of the Bear Flag revolution, should interest everyone in California, for here our State Flag was designed and raised, June 14, 1846.

The flag of California is an emblem with a history. Although the Bear Flag was not adopted as the State Flag until 1911, it was the first to fly over California after Mexico's commandante, Mariano G. Vallejo, had been taken prisoner and Pioneer Americans proclaimed "The CALIFORNIA REPUBLIC."

Riding all night from Sacramento Valley, 30 horsemen rode into the Mexican Pueblo of Sonoma at sunrise June 14, 1846 and took Vallejo prisoner.

After seizing the military barracks and rusty cannon of the town, the Americans under William Ide decided they needed a flag to run up on the Plaza's flag staff where the Mexican emblem was flying. Material was scarce but William Mathews, the express rider between Sonoma and Sutter's Fort, persuaded his wife to give her red petticoat to the cause and the blacksmith's wife, Mrs. John Sears, gave some unbleached muslin or manta cloth which she had brought across the plains in a covered wagon from Missouri. The flag was put together by William Todd, a nephew of Mrs. Abraham Lincoln and Nancy Kelsey in the Salvadore Vallejo House, built in 1836, after the pioneers agreed upon the symbols of the California grizzly bear and the star of Texas. They painted the bear red against the white muslin field and above the red stripe bordering the lower edge, they printed the legend "CALIFORNIA REPUBLIC."

Another version of the creation of the Bear Flag is given by William Camp in his book, Port of Gold: "Nancy Kelsey provided a piece of unbleached cotton cloth, five feet long and three feet wide, upon which William L. Todd, nephew of Mrs. Abraham Lincoln, outlined in red paint a five-pointed star in one corner, and a crude grizzly bear in the center, and painted the name of the new republic in red capitol letters along the bottom, just above a strip of red flannel furnished by Mrs. John Sears. Residents of Sonoma laughed at the emblem, saying it looked more like a pig. There the Bear Flat remained, however, until it was replaced July 9, 1846, by the Stars and Stripes."

July 9th, after word had been received that the American flag had gone up at Monterey, Lt. Revere, of the

U. S. Navy (a relative of Paul Revere) arrived from the U.S. frigate Portsmouth with an American flag for Sonoma and raised the Stars and Strips over the Plaza. As he pulled down the crude Bear Flag, he remarked, "This emblem is worth saving." The original flag was finally presented to the Society of California Pioneers and was one of their valued relics until it was destroyed by fire following the earthquake in 1906.

The Society of California Pioneers was organized in San Francisco in August 1850. Marjorie has a photograph of the Pioneers taken in the Plaza in Sonoma in 1879 where the Bear Flag was first raised. Her grandfather, Julius A. Poppe, was then president of the Society. The emblem of the Society held by Nick Stewart, shows the bear standing on its hind feet rather than on all four. This picture has caused considerable amazement and consternation among historians in California, but it has been pretty well established that the bear in the original flag was standing on all four feet. A replica of the original bear flag is on display in the State Museum in the Mission at Sonoma. Some of the other men shown in the picture are Thomas Earl and Nicholas and Soloman Carriger.

* * *

DALE HISTORY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW

Frances L. Fox

(Continued from the Winter issue)

1902 Mountain View was incorporated into a city and trees were cut down along Castro Street. By 1904 some of the streets were graveled and the town acquired and constructed a system of waterworks to be used for domestic purposes and fire protection.

The Dale's next door neighbors were the Sanford Carters who had a daughter, Eleanor, born January 9, 1886 in Des Moines, Iowa. Mr. Carter had bought an orchard of apricots, prunes and cherries at the end of Dale Avenue.

After completing the first two years of high school Eleanor transferred to a nurses training course at St. Winifred's Hospital in San Francisco. At 19 she returned to Mountain View as the wife of James J. Dale, grandson of Edward. They were married November 27, 1905.

James was associated with his father, William, and held a portion of the Dale Triangle on Dale Avenue fronting El Camino Real. For sixty-one years Eleanor Dale made her home at this location. This is now the site of the present Emporium department store. Four children were born to Eleanor and James Dale; Dorothy, Claire,

James and Laura.

In 1897 a bank was started in Mountain View with a capital of \$25,000 and was located in the first block on Castro Street. In 1913 a second bank, the First National was opened at Castro and Villa streets.

April 14, 1905 a Free Public Library and Reading Room opened in the "New Home Lodging House" over Rogers General Store with Hessel, librarian. Damage done to this building during the 1906 earthquake, necessitated moving the library to the Mockabee Building. August 1907 report included 520 volumes, 300 registered card holders, 616 books issued for home use and 1061 registered visitors. 1910 the library was moved to the new City Hall, Miss Laura Graham, librarian. 1944 a bronze plaque of Frank (Lightnin') Bacon was presented to the library by Mrs. Frank Bacon. 1952, once again the library moved to Dana Street, Edith Duke, librarian. The new library on Franklin Street cost approximately \$210,000 and was dedicated on October 19, 1958.

At 5:14 a.m., April 18, 1906 Mountain View was jarred awake by the state's mightiest earthquake. The two story brick Olympic Hall was partially destroyed. Water tanks of the new fire system collapsed along with a few other buildings in town, fortunately only one small fire occurred.

Mountain View's first fire department was organized April 1, 1874 when 50 volunteers formed a fire brigade and named it the Mountain View Hook & Ladder Co. #1. Their equipment consisted of a hand drawn ladder and bucket wagon, with buckets and axes. May 19, 1905 they purchased a hose cart and Fred Peterson was chosen as Fire Chief. Later, west side residents formed Hose Company #2, they were located at Bailey and Villa streets. 1907 a new firehouse was built and furnished with modern equipment. The area beyond the city limits was badly in need of fire protection and July 11, 1928 the Fremont Fire District was formed.

Faded newspaper clippings indicate that the first town marshal sat on a nail keg on the corner of Castro and Villa streets and from that hub of activity maintained the town's law and order. The earliest recorded jail was located at Castro and Mercy streets, this twenty foot square structure with three barred windows, a low sloping roof and a twelve foot fence surrounding it was used by the town marshal at the turn of the century. 1909 the jail was moved to the city hall, which also housed the courtroom, judge's chambers and jury room.

In 1952 Mountain View had its own police station.

In 1909 Mountain View's population was less than 2,000. The public school system consisted of the Highway Grammar School and High School both located in wooden buildings at El Camino Real and Calderon Avenue. Eleanor Dale helped organize the city's first Parent-Teacher Association on March 11, 1915, serving as its first secretary. She also served as president in the elementary and high school P.T.A., the Foothill Council, the Sixth District and as State Treasurer of the California Congress of Parents and Teachers 1920-1923. She also served as a member of the Mountain View School District Board of Trustees.

1924 the new high school was completed on Castro Street and four years later the gymnasium, shop and other units were added. The new Highway Elementary School was erected on the site formerly occupied by both grammar and high school and completed in 1927.

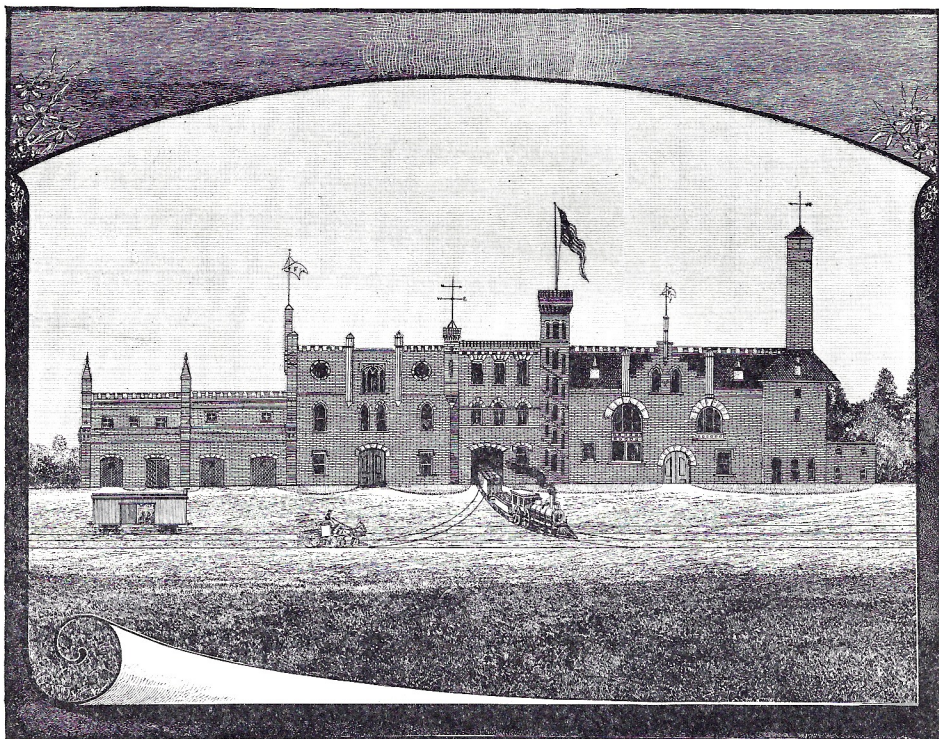
Moffet Field was commissioned as a United States Naval Air Station in 1933. The giant dirigible Macon was based here until the foggy February evening when it crashed into the Pacific Ocean off Point Sur.

September 9, 1954 the Mountain View Pioneer and Historical Association was organized with Mrs. Clarence Taylor president and Mrs. Eleanor Dale secretary. Two years later Mrs. Dale was elected president (1956-'62). 1962, Mountain View's new \$800,000 city hall was completed. At the dedication ceremonies, January 19, 1962, Mrs. Dale, then president of the Historical Society opened the sealed time capsule which had been laid in the cornerstone November 30, 1909. Contents of the capsule included coins, tokens, newspapers, cards and official documents.

June 1962 Mrs. Dale was honored by the district's Board of School Trustees who voted to name the new school to be built on Dale Avenue the Eleanor Dale School. This property at one time belonged to the Sanford Carters, Mrs. Dale's parents.

Perhaps the ten remaining trees of the original Dale homestead will chant their own requiem in the afternoon breeze and the nightwinds will whisper through the shrubbery of the rich heritage initiated by the pioneer, Edward Dale. His neighborliness, generosity and dedication to a community was his way of life as well as the succeeding five generations of Dales."

* * *



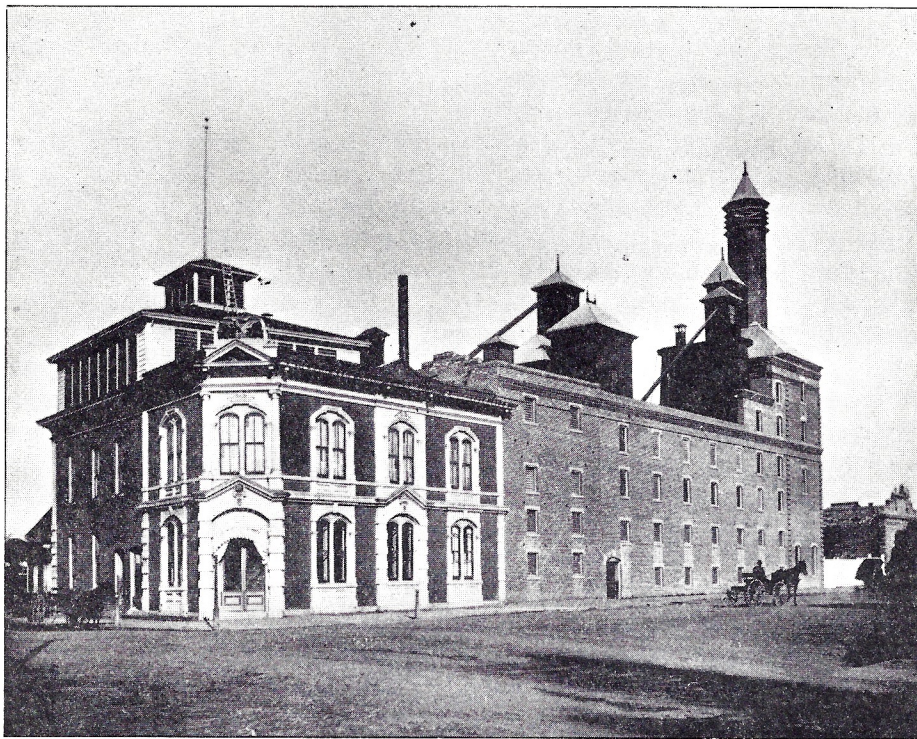
GENERAL VIEW OF FREDRICKSBURG BREWERY, SAN JOSE—DENICKE & SCHNABEL PROPRIETORS.

The above picture of the Fredericksburg Brewery (circa 1880) shows the tower, which was destroyed by fire in 1902. The brewery was established in 1869 by Frederick Krahenberg as a small concern, making about 13 barrels of beer per day. In 1872 Ernst Schnabel bought out Krahenberg and increased the capacity of the brewery.

The following quote from Pen Pictures by Foote, 1888. "Schnabel continued developing this business with great success, changing from the old process to making lager beer from cold fermentation, until the brewery now turns out sixty thousand barrels a year, and the beer has a first-class reputation."

More on the Fredericksburg Brewery by Anthony Sapena was published in Vol. 12, No. 1 of The Trailblazer.

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GEORGE SCHERRER'S EAGLE BREWERY, SAN JOSE.

Above picture of the Eagle Brewery (circa 1895). It was located at the southeast corner of San Carlos and Market streets, where the San Carlos Hotel stands today. The brewery was established in 1853 by Joseph Hartman on a small scale with a capacity of eight barrels of beer per day. After Hartman's death the brewery was taken over by George Scherrer and the capacity increased to 50 barrels per day. The beer was sold mostly in Santa Clara County and was known as "Old Joe's Steam Beer." The Eagle Brewery did not make any lager as the steam beer only required six weeks to become perfect, while lager beer took four months. The Eagle "steam" became quite popular and Scherrer wanted the quick turn-over.

Mr. Scherrer was born in Germany where he learned the brewing business. He came to San Jose in 1860 and went to work for Mr. Hartman at the Eagle Brewery, and in 1875 married his daughter, Georgiana.

Over the entrance to the main office was a beautiful hand carved golden eagle with its wings spread wide. Does anyone know what became of this eagle?

* * *

MOTHER LODE COUNTRY

The following pioneer information was received with the application for membership from one of our newer members, Mrs. Mary McGee Johnson:

"My paternal Grandfather, William J. McGee, was born at Beal's Bar mining camp on the American River. This area is now under the lake behind Folsom Dam. His father John Floyd McGee, from Tennessee and his mother, Margaret Sheldon McGee from Kansas City, Missouri came to California in 1850 across the plains. They settled near Plymouth, California where they ran a boarding house.

My paternal Grandmother, Helena Wildman McGee, was born in Sutter Creek, California in 1859. The house in which she was born is still standing and occupied by my parents. Her Father, William T. Wildman came from Danbury, Conn. to California in 1851. Her Mother, Julia Campbell Wildman came to California from Rochester, Vermont in 1853. Both came by way of the Panama Isthmus.

My Father, Ralph Campbell McGee was born in 1890 at Jackson, California. He was a practicing attorney but since 1946 has been Superior Court Judge of Amador County.

My maternal Grandfather, John Marchant was born in York, England in 1844, came to California by covered wagon in 1850, age six years. They settled in Lancha Plana, California.

My maternal Grandmother, Harriet Brusie Marchant, was born in La Porte, Indiana. She arrived in California in the early 1850's. Her father, Dr. Luther Brusie was a surgeon in the Union Army. Her mother, Harriet Coffin Brusie was born in Nantucket, R. I. They settled in the town of Ione, California.

My Mother, Margaret Marchant McGee was born in 1890 at Ione. The house in which she was born is still standing.

My Mother and Father are still active in the community life of Sutter Creek."

* * *

NEWS BRIEFS

Henry J. Calloway

In 1863 the S.F. & S.J. railroad depot was built near San Pedro Street.

In 1869 the railroad was extended farther south, to the town of Gilroy a distance of 30 miles, now making the road 80 miles long from San Francisco to Gilroy. The cost of the road so far has been about two million five hundred thousand dollars.

* * *

BY-LINES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Lynn L. Vermillion

I wish to express my thanks to all of our members, who have made the past year as president a memorable and rewarding one. I am extremely thankful for the strong support of the Executive Board. Progress is being made by our members and other individuals at the never-ending task of preserving and researching our historical heritage. The San Jose Historical Museum will soon celebrate its first anniversary at Kelley Park, the attendance has been gratifying. The Souisseau Academy for Local History at San Jose State has field workers researching interesting subjects. I have met several of these field workers and I am impressed with their seriousness of purpose and enthusiasm. We should all take an interest in this organization as it is one of our members who made it possible for this type of historical research to be pursued. Leonard McKay is making a tremendous effort to present San Jose's past with his walking tour of historical places in San Jose. Pat Loomis is to be commended for her series of articles "Signposts" on the streets and roads of Santa Clara County. The selection of articles from The Trailblazer for the Effie Hawkins memorial book is moving forward. Three new redwood trees grace the grounds of the Rose Garden, thanks to the green thumbs of some of our Pioneers. At the request of the California Historical Society the Pioneers have co-sponsored the photographic exhibit Executive Order 9066, the internment of 110,000 Japanese Americans. We Pioneers love to try to preserve our history, but it seems to me we are busy making history happen.

* * *

MEMORIAL TO EFFIE HAWKINS

Dear Miss Vermillion:

I thank you for your thoughtfulness by informing me that the decision has been made in memory of Effie Hawkins by the Board of Directors of the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County. It is indeed an excellent decision to publish articles from the Trailblazer in book form in memory of Effie.

All who had the pleasure of enjoying the genuine friendship of Effie will feel as I do. Effie's life was indeed one of service, much beyond her line of duty.

Having known Effie well as our tour leader and narrator of our tour groups, and her great interest in history I felt strongly in favor of some special memorial as I discussed with Austen Warburton after Effie's departure

to her Eternal Reward. I also told Austen that I would double my usual offering at the time that our Board of Directors made their final decision. I deeply regret that I cannot attend the March meeting, so the enclosed check is my offering toward our memorial to Effie.

In my note of condolence to Effie's family, I wrote that I would hold my memorial offering until our Board of Directors came up with an idea for a memorial to which Effie's many friends would gladly support.

May God bless our Board of Directors, the members serving on this committee and last but not least Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Fisk for their outstanding volunteer work in publishing THE TRAILBLAZER and all the members who so kindly contributed such interesting historical articles.

Sincerely yours, Mae H. Ferry.

* * *

LOOK FOR IT HERE

Lou's Village will be the setting for our next quarterly meeting, Saturday, June 3rd at 12 o'clock noon. A good program is promised by our chairman. ***

Please send your change of address to Miss Bernice Van Gundy, 561 Fuller Avenue, San Jose, CA 95125. ***

BUS TOUR information may be obtained from Mrs. Esther Adams, 264-8119, 9 a.m. until noon Mon. thru Thur.

The Social Club of our Society meets on the 1st and 3rd Monday afternoon of each month. For further information call Mrs. Lovene Luhrman, 292-0070. ***

22 TRAILBLAZERS were returned from the last issue, because members had moved and failed to send in their change of address. This cost you 10 cents each or \$2.20, won't you please help us keep down expenses; the only alternative would be an increase in dues. ***

Arbor Day, March 7th, three young redwood trees were planted in the north-west corner of the Rose Garden in honor of the Pioneers of Santa Clara County. A short dedication ceremony was held, with Mr. Henry Stout reading the pioneer prayer, Mr. West, superintendent of parks speaking for the City of San Jose and Mr. Clyde Arbuckle for the Pioneer Society. Our president, Miss Lynn Vermillion, made the introductions. ***

Martha Bulmore, president and Leonard McKay, vice-president of the San Jose Historic Landmarks Commission planted a prune tree on March 21st. This particular prune tree was planted at 180 W. St. James St., which was the site of Louis Pellier's "City Garden Nursery" back in the 1850's and marks the start of the prune industry in Santa Clara County. ***

WELCOME

Congratulations to our new members: Esta Alvarez, Loretta Bahre, William A. Bahre, Earle O. Berger, Gladys Barnsworth Berger, Emma C. Berkman, Imogene T. Clark, Charles Conniff, Bradley Cozzens, Irle E. Cozzens, Veda V. Creech, Griselda M. Farro, Lawrence J. Farro, Carlton Galbraith, August Gonzales, Milena B. Jurras, Marjorie Larson, Thelma L. Marston, Russell H. Pearce, Lena Ricca, Edna Stanich, Joseph R. Stanich, Luella Stevenson, Wilma Kay Thoms, Marion Van Gundy, Ross G. Van Gundy, Ina A. Vermillion and Evelyn Wellington.

* * *

UNDER THE WEATHER

Marjorie B. Fisk after spending over two months in O'Connor and St. Vincent hospitals is progressing very nicely.

Please report any sickness or death to Miss Doreen Magus, 819 State St., San Jose 95110. Phone 293-0242.

* * *

BEYOND THE SUNSET

May Moran

March 2, 1893 - June 20, 1971

Angie H. Irwin

September 29, 1902 - January 16, 1972

Melvin H. Johnson

July 13, 1904 - February 15, 1972

Mervyn P. Bollinger

February 28, 1904 - March 9, 1972

Rosalie T. Mac Michael

October 17, 1892 - March 14, 1972

Isabel M. Rebeiro

June 30, 1894 - March 19, 1972

Fred E. Lester

April 5, 1888 - March 31, 1972

In behalf of the officers and members of the California Pioneer Society of Santa Clara County, the Trailblazer extends their sincere sympathy to the relatives and friends of our departed members.

THE TRAILBLAZER

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Editor: Arthur M. Fisk, 390 N. Winchester Bv., Santa Clara

Associate Editor: Marjorie B. Fisk

Assistant Editor: Henry J. Calloway

Staff Artist: Ralph Rambo

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Officers for 1971-'72

President Lynn L. Vermillion
 1st Vice President. Anthony R. Sapena
 2nd Vice President. Laurence E. Bulmore
 Recording Secretary Byron K. Bullard
 Corresponding Secretary Esther M. Adams
 Financial Secretary Madeline Smalley
 Treasurer Curtis Bailey
 Directors: Clyde Arbuckle, Leland M. Boruck, Martha L. Bulmore, Ramona W. Moxley, Henry C. Stout, A. Bernice Van Gundy, Austin D. Warburton and Howard L. Worcester.

* * *

SEND APPLICATIONS for membership and address changes to Bernice Van Gundy, 561 Fuller Ave., San Jose, CA 95125.

BUS TOUR INFORMATION for members of the Pioneer Society may be obtained from Mrs. Esther M. Adams, phone 264-8119 9 a.m. until 12 noon, Monday through Thursday.

SICKNESS and DEATHS please notify Doreen Magud, 819 State Street, San Jose, CA 95110. Phone 293-0242.

* * *

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