



(Merging the North County Journal and County News)

# Journal News

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Spotlighting the Neighborhood News of Scenic Santa Cruz County

## LAFCO OKs Live Oak Incorporation Plan

Proponents of incorporation of the Live Oak area as a separate city have cleared their first hurdle. On July 15 LAFCO (Local Agency Formation Commission) approved LOCAL-G's application to institute incorporation proceedings.

In order to call an election on the matter LOCAL-G (Live Oak Citizens Aligned for Local Government) must first present to the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors a Notice of Intention containing not less than 25 nor more than 50 signatures and they are now in the process of acquiring these. They then have 120 days in which to secure signatures of approval by owners of 25 percent of the parcels of land and these signers must also represent 25 percent of the land value.

Registered voters are considered only at the election with a simple majority carrying the election. Before such an election the Board of Supervisors must hold a land owners' protest hearing. If owners representing 51 percent of the value of the land file a written protest it stops the incorporation attempt for a period of two years. If no 51 percent protest is filed, an election must be called and may not be held in less than 54 days.

With an estimated total population of 14,600, the area contains a high ratio of registered voters at 6,153.

D.J. Mauro, LOCAL - G chairman, says, "We have every intention of going ahead with incorporation proceedings. When the silent majority is informed on the advantages of incorporation they will make an intelligent choice."

George H. Ward, LOCAL-G committee member, stated at the LAFCO hearing that incorporation of one large mid-county city would create a sprawling city whereas Live Oak would be compact and capable of giving individual attention.

Barbara White, another committee member, presented a proposed budget in the amount of \$511,945 and later noted that this figure does not include the amount by which the revenue was adjusted by the State Board of Equalization with more recent estimates of returnable revenue from subvention and other taxes for an additional \$53,000. This additional expected amount brings the proposed budget reserve fund up to \$100,000.

Opponents of the move who spoke at the LAFCO hearing included Ivan Netoff, charter chairman of CMCP (Committee for Mid-County Progress) formed in December, 1969. Netoff said he "would not quarrel with the figures submitted by LOCAL-G, they come within one percent of my own." He added, however, that "They must have city taxes." He felt that many of the problems are regional, not local.

On the other hand, Peter Harker, property owner and resident of the Pleasure Point area, stated that he found the proposed budget "totally unrealistic," especially the proposed police force of seven men to police a city of 14,000 to 15,000. He added, "The sheriff reports he furnishes twice this number for the Live Oak area."

Harker ended his comments with, "Many of us are not informed as you gentlemen are -- we are not competent to render a decision. For myself and many others, we do not want to run the risk of becoming part of a third-rate city."

Wally Kaufmann, proponent of the incorporation move, answered Harker with an opinion that the per capita cost of police protection goes up as the city becomes larger -- that one city of a million population costs more for police protection than do 10 cities of 100,000 each.

Dorothy Weynacht, secretary of CMCP, urged members of LAFCO to abstain from making a decision on the incorporation application on the basis that two elections would be an additional expense and her group would like to have another month in which to prepare its application.

Mrs. Weynacht stated, "Most people don't want either incorporation or annexation." (But) "Santa Cruz brought on the situation because it is economically starved and needs to take in 41st Avenue and it said it does not want to take us but under LAFCO regulations it would have to in order to get 41st Avenue."

John C. Lappin, newly elected vice-chairman of LAFCO, conducted the hearing in the absence of the new chairman John R. (Russ) McCallie.

Lappin stated, "We can't look just at efficiency but at what the people want."

At the conclusion of the hearing, in answer to CMCP pleas for delay, Lappin said, "I think we have a legitimate petition before us and we have been bandying this thing around for 18 months. It is not good ethics to postpone them again in order to see whether another group may or may not bring in a petition."

Members of the LOCAL-G committee and their supporters expressed appreciation for the opportunity to go ahead with their plans for an election to determine the status of all that area encompassed by Santa Cruz on the west, the bay on the south, the freeway on the north and Capitola on the east.

Unitarians to Hear Talk on Education

Aptos -- Unitarian Universalist Social Action Committee will sponsor another program on education Sunday (July 26) at 11 a.m.

### Unitarians to Hear Talk on Education

Mrs. Eleanor Foster will be guest speaker. Her topic will be "Education and the Individual Dignity."

A former coordinator of the Santa Cruz County Head Start Program, Mrs. Foster is currently teaching three courses on the education of the young child in the University of California at Santa Cruz Summer Extension program, and is Director of Tulare County Child Educational program for Tulare County Department of Education.

The public is welcome at the Fellowship.

### Meets Thursday Bonny Doon Club

Ladies of Bonny Doon Club will hold the next meeting of the club at the home of Mrs. R. Pitman, 11440 Empire Grade, Thursday, (July 23) at 1 p.m.

Mrs. K. A. Taber and Miss Eileen Maguire will serve as co-hostesses.

### County Bank to Host Party for Senior Citizens

Capitola -- Jack Stagnaro, Manager of County Bank of Capitola, will host members of Mid-county Senior Center at an Hawaiian Party to be held in the Center in St. Joseph's Parish Hall Friday (July 24) at 2 p.m.

Door prizes, refreshments and a special program are being prepared for the 200 senior citizens expected.

A Hawaiian theme will be carried out in decorations and attire. Featured on the program are Jacinta Dalpoggetto and her troupe of exotic dancers, and Bobbie and Frank Dubord, popular local entertainers, as well as the Rhythm Band and other Senior artists.

### Bridge Party at SCO Friday

Santa Cruz -- The Senior Citizens Organization (SCO) will hold its regular monthly bridge party Friday (July 24) at 7:30 p.m. at the Clubhouse, 222 Market Street.

Public invited. Prizes will be given and refreshments served. A 50 cent donation will be requested.



PASTING LABELS -- Michael Train (Herman) and Katie Lavender (Cleo) paste labels on vegetable crates in a scene from the upcoming Cabrillo College production, "The Most Happy Fella". The play will be presented at 8 p.m. in the Cabrillo College Theater, Aptos, July 23, 24, 25, 30, 31 and August 1. Tickets are selling at \$1.50 each and may be obtained by calling the Community Services Office at 475-6000, 688-2075 from Watsonville exchanges -- Journal News Photo.