

# Ben Lomond library gets breathing space

*Libraries 1980-1989*

By Richard Palmer

Ben Lomond residents have roughly one month left to turn back the clock 60 years and once again establish the town library as an independent, self-supporting entity.

The library, scheduled to close the end of this month due to budget cut-backs, was given a one-month breather by county supervisors last week.

To make sure the library will stay open, members of the Ben Lomond

Town Association have been mapping plans and will present them at a general meeting of the group Thursday, Feb. 7.

"That's when we will vote on taking responsibility for the library," says Faye Ellis, a member of the association. That meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. in Wilder Hall.

"Giving us that one month really helps since it gives us a chance to gather people," Mrs. Ellis says. "If we can get enough people actively interested and willing to work four hours a week, we could open the library five days a week."

Recognizing that reliable volunteers are hard to come by, library supporters are aiming their sights somewhat lower for now.

"We're still at the discussion stage, but we're talking about opening the library Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 1 to 5 p.m., and Saturdays from 10 to 2 p.m.," Mrs. Ellis says. The library is presently open Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1 to 5 p.m.

Other changes—still tentative—include:

—Selling library cards, 50 cents for adults and 25 cents for children;

—Decreasing the check-out period for books from three weeks to two, while increasing magazine check-outs from one week to two;

—Eliminating the present two-

(Continued on Page 4)

## Disco fever cooled by sober policy

By Robin Hutchings

Valley students will have to face the school administration's music if they plan on attending school dances.

School administrators and dance committee members say they will once again require permission slips signed by parents before students will be admitted to a Feb. 2 Valentine's dance.

The permission slips—the lack of which forced the cancellation of a dance a few weeks ago—require that parents insure their children will not be under the influence of intoxicants when attending a dance. The slips also

(Continued on Page 4)

dance committee which has been a band, he notes.

## Ben Lomond library

(Continued from Page 1)

month waiting period before persons can get a library card;

—Limiting use of the library to those with Ben Lomond mailing addresses; or charging more for non-resident library cards;

—Charging (a highly remote possibility) a nominal fee for each book or periodical check out.

"I've thought about it (charging for check-outs), but we've got to be careful not to drive anyone away," says Mrs. Ellis. "But I don't think it's unreasonable to ask a fee for library cards."

Opening the library on more evenly spaced days would be "less confusing," she says. The two month waiting period for library cards is obsolete, she notes, having been instituted back in the 1960s

when the Valley was abound with hippie vagabonds.

Plans aside, the library could still close—if there aren't enough volunteers.

"I would like to appeal for volunteers," says Mrs. Ellis. "There should be a lot of people who have always wanted to work in a library, or people who have and would like to get back in."

"This isn't just the Ben Lomond Town Association; it's the entire community."

Library supporters have a tentative Feb. 13 meeting with Supervisor Pat Liberty to review plans. County supervisors should decide the issue at their Feb. 19 meeting.

Those interested in volunteering should contact Mrs. Ellis at 336-2381.

tensively and round growing grapes. On and out of the area would be necessary rumored, he said.

Russell said derosa pine would given away, pref The pine, valued \$25,000, cannot be is restricted in th the area would ha he said.

Ron Tyler, Un director of the Agriculture Exte plants could be vines to control provide organic n plants.

Bill Davilla, biotic study of th the county, said several thousand mine the numbe considered an