

Aptos feeling hand of county government

A declaration that the Aptos Chamber of Commerce should get behind an effort to incorporate Aptos drew cheers from one director and nods of assent from others at a meeting of the board Thursday morning.

Director Lucile Aldrich brought the matter up, saying "the time is now. . . we've got to get out from under the heel of downtown (county government) . . . we have to direct our own lives. . ."

Mrs. Aldrich made the statement during a discussion of Aptos village traffic problems, and what the chamber should do to get the county to do something about them.

The discussion also brought out a statement by past president Chuck Holcomb that the election of Mrs. Marilyn Liddicoat to the board of supervisors "was great for our town."

But, said Holcomb, "the rest of the county did not continue in the same vein and now we're going to have a board of supervisors that's going to kill us." Holcomb's apparent reference was to the defeat of Pat Liberty for the Scotts Valley seat retained by Supervisor Ed Borovatz.

"I'm paranoid about this," Holcomb declared. "I think it's a plot to keep Aptos down."

The discussion was sparked by chamber president Ted Colton's appointment of a committee to study the traffic situation on Trout Gulch Road and Cathedral Drive.

Mrs. Aldrich said the county had made a study of the traffic situation there, "but it

has not been publicized. We want to force the issue."
done in the village, or lives will be lost."

Evidence of the growth of the upper Cathedral Drive area was the location of 45 new mail boxes in the Monte Toyon camp area, "and there are 70 more (houses) in process at the end of Cathedral Drive," it was said.

Mrs. Glenn Specht said the chamber should make its own traffic study on the two roads to give it the information in needs to confront the county with the need for improvements.

Citing the hazards caused by the heavy traffic on the narrow, winding roads, she said the situation has been aggravated by the county allowing building to go on the upper end of Cathedral Drive because of the building ban in the Aptos area. "They allow building up there which is insane," she declared, adding, "This chamber has a mandate to insist a transportation study be

Colton said that, by its inaction, "the chamber would be remiss if something happened up on that road and, God forbid, someone was killed."

The committee named by Colton is to meet before next month's meeting and come up with plans for the traffic count, using volunteers.

In other business Thursday, directors:

—Voted to "support our local sheriff and see that he is given whatever he needs to carry out his job." The intent was to support Sheriff Noren's SWAT plans.