

Happy Valley Voters Face School Bonds

Tuesday, depending on how the vote goes, an era may end at Happy Valley school.

For the third time since 1864, financial aid will be sought from the folks in the school district for the construction of a new school.

The polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the school and the issue is \$200,000 in bonds and state aid loans for the development of a new 10-acre site and the construction of a new five-classroom school with administrative and other facilities.

If transportation to the polls is needed call GA 3-0899, or GA 6-3730.

Happy Valley was the eleventh district in Santa Cruz county to build a school. Temporary quarters were used for several years in the then wilderness area along what is now Branciforte drive.

Then a group of neighbors who had a way with the hammer and saw built a school in 1865.

There are several graduates of this first school living in the Happy Valley area. They include: Vera and Phyllis Thomas, both former teachers; Charles and Sam Bachelder; Thomas Oliver, bookkeeper for the Central One-Stop garage.

Former teachers of the first school house were Marjory March, Maude Stevens, Phyllis Thomas, Edith Fikes, Janie Stocking and Etha Rostron.

Mrs. La Salle Bachelder and Fred Heitmeyer, still active in the community today, were members of the board of directors which decided that the time had come to build a new school — the present one at 3875 Branciforte drive. It was built on the same site as the old one, in 1921.

Mrs. Bachelder started to teach in the school before it was entirely finished. She had 21 students and continued to teach continuously for more than 37 years.

Former trustees living in the area are: Fred Heitmeyer, W. E. Roberts, Mrs. Dino Delucchi, Mrs. William Welker, Adrian Gory and Ken Henline.

Some of the graduates in the district are: Helen Oliver, Tom Tilden, Mrs. Delucchi, John and Laurence Oneto, Ben Cahill, Albert Delucchi and Steve Buffon. The Tildens' and Delucchis' offspring also attended the school.

Over the years Miss Ida Hammond, Mrs. Ruth Clough and Mrs. Marion McCullam taught singing and orchestra at the school.

As the attendance increased Mrs. Charles Larsen became the second teacher. After Mrs. Bachelder's retirement in 1958, Mrs. Clough became teacher-principal. There are now three teachers; Mrs. Clough, Miss Matilda Korver and Mrs. Evelyn Orr.

For many years the school has been the heart of the community. It is a gathering place for a 4-H club, Cub scouts, boy scouts, Brownies, community club, Branciforte volunteer fire department, Mothers' club, Grange and Farm Bureau.

Formerly a one-room building, a half-room has been added to one side and a sliding partition has been erected to accommodate three classes totaling 58 children.

The proposed school, if approved, will be constructed about a half-mile south of the present one.

Cost to the district voters will be about 40 cents per \$100 assessed valuation.

Members of the present board are: Ken Mitchell, Gale McGuire and Murray Sporup. J. Francis Palms of Carmel is the architect.

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Happy Valley School As It Is Today



This photo was taken this year at the Happy Valley school at 3875 Branciforte drive. Fifty-eight students and three teachers are squeezed into this one-room school house in the background. It was constructed in 1921 for about 20 students. District voters will go to the polls Tuesday from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. to make a \$200,000 decision on whether a new school should be built. Many parents of these children attended the same school.

Earl Harris Quits Water Advisors

Angered over the county-wide tax being cut out of the county flood control and water conservation district budget for the coming year, Earl Harris resigned last Friday from the advisory committee.

Reports are that two other members are going to drop off the committee as a result of the tax cut.

In a letter to the directors (board of supervisors), the former chairman of the advisory committee said the district is heading for trouble. Directors and the advisory committee "will be in hot water" in case an emergency situation should pop up, as a water survey for the proposed situation should pop up, as a water survey for the proposed University of California campus, Harris claimed.

The action by Harris, who was instrumental in the early stages of planning the Newell Creek dam and reservoir project, stems from the board bypassing the recommendation of the consulting engineers.

The supervisors—with Chairman Lewis Nelson dissenting—voted 4-1 for no countywide tax

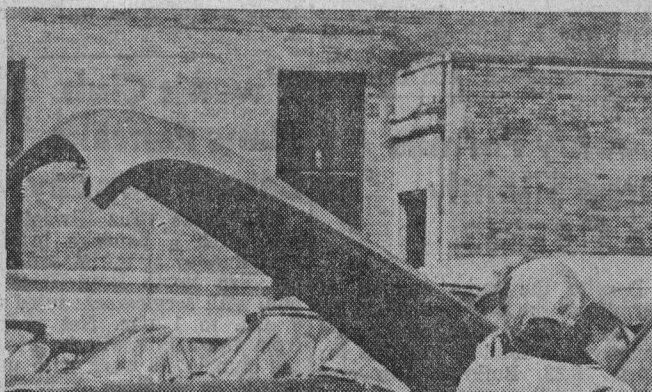
This Is The Original Happy Valley School



Here is the original Happy Valley school, built in 1864 and used until 1921. This photo was taken 30 years after the school was built. The teacher is Miss Etha Bradley who later became

Mrs. Albert Rostron. Some of the pupils are Laura Rostron, Lucy and Blossom Staples, John Trevethan, Eddie, Theodore and Hiram Hall and Vivian and Ethel Duke. The tall man wearing the derby, shown on the

porch, happened to be driving by on his buckboard and declared he would like to be in the picture. He is Fred Howe, who later became Santa Cruz mayor and postmaster.



RUSS ANTARCTIC STATION SENDS DATA
Moscow (AP). — A new Soviet weather station adrift on an ice floe in the Arctic began transmitting weather information Friday, the Soviet news agency Tass said.

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