

Mostly about People

By Wally Traling



Boys Club In Operation

Mr. and Mrs. John Mallery are going to affect the lives of thousands of youngsters in Santa Cruz.

They are giving close to \$200,000, the price of a sumptuous yacht, or status in society, or glittering jewels — toward the building and operation of a Boys Club in this city.

What is a Boys Club?

Last week I drove to San Jose to visit one which has been in operation since 1944.

Talked to the man who founded it and who has been executive directive all this time—a Harry Slonaker.

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Physically, the club here is a building, neatly landscaped.

Inside there is a large room filled with billiard tables, ping-pong, table shuffle boards and other games.

It is noisy inside, which means the place is filled with kids.

There is a library with exciting books.

During school sessions some 20 San Jose State college teacher training students volunteer their time in the evenings to help club members with their home work. Both sides benefit.

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There is a crafts room with modern and professional wood-working machinery, and a professional there to guide members.

Eight hundred youngsters from eight through 17 years hold membership cards which cost 50 cents a year.

These cards are valuable. They admit the member to the club (and if one is forgotten, the substitute is one handful of litter from the street).

That 50 cents will give members access to all the facilities, gym equipment, the works.

The hours are made for kids, 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. daily except Sunday, and during the summer, open at 9 a.m.

Slonaker said an average of 200 youngsters use the place every day during the winter and about 100 during the summer.

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They call him "Uncle Harry" and the shouts of greeting rang through the games room in wholesale lots as we walked in. "We have established the environment that this is their place.

"They keep it clean and serve on committees and as officers in the club," he said.

And so they grow.

Santa Cruz is ripe.

It is no longer a town where

the kids know the policemen, the corner grocer — how many kids know a clerk in the supermarket chain?

There are strangers everywhere — nameless faces.

Slonaker said: "Gone is the day when a neighborhood boy guilty of some prank and mischief is told: 'Johnny, I will speak to your dad about this.'

"Today, the adult's reaction would be: 'You punk, I'll call the cops!'"

The Mallerys will deal a blow to loneliness and idleness for literally thousands of kids in the future.

So much of the time our kids are priced out of their environment of everyday fun.

Everything — even a day on a state park beach cost 50 cents.

The Santa Cruz Boys Club — and the talk is that it will be ready by Christmas or early next year, — is good.

Thank you, Mr. and Mrs. Mallery.

Shakespeare Was Also MD

Washington (AP) — Forsyth! Was William Shakespeare practicing medicine with a license?

Whether proof of it is to be or not, a Washington doctor — professional eye — says Shakespeare's plays — today with this diagnosis:

That the Bard of Avon had enough knowledge of anatomy to rate hanging out as an Elizabethan M.D.

Verily, quoth Dr. S. Dodek, the great Shakespeare was years — nay, centuries — ahead of the medics in his seeming edge of some aspects of physiology.

Take the great discovery of the circulation of the blood, generally credited to William Harvey who first described it in 1619.

In effect, Shakespeare had Harvey on this or that one of his characters in the first act of "Hamlet" ten 16 years previously.

"... holds such a blood of man."

"That swift as quicksilver courses through"

"The natural gates and keyholes of the body. . . ."

Win