Vol. 2 No. 3 East Palo Alto Citizens' Committee on Incorporation

May/June 1981

# LAFCO MEETS: HEARINGS TO BEGIN

After two large community turnouts at meetings of the San Mateo County LAFCo, the LAFCo Commission finally agreed to begin the Incorporation hearings in August 1981. The Board of Supervisors will probably begin its hearings following the LAFCo decision in late September, 1981. It looks like the vote on Incorporation will be held in April, 1982. Congratulations to EPACCI!

# LEGAL DEFENSE FUND

Incorporating East Palo Alto has been an uphill fight from the start. Due to the very many pressing legal questions and issues beginning to surface, EPACCI has established a legal defense fund. An attorney has been retained, and was introduced to our membership in April.

Legal fees being what they are today, a call for assistance in raising funds for the legal aspects on Incorporating must be made. Correspondence has already been sent out seeking aid from a number of local organizations, including Lockheed and the San Mateo County Bar Association. If you know of a company or potential donor who might assist us, please call 327-5846.

# EPACCI SALUTES

EPACCI would like to introduce its readers to a resident of East Palo Alto who is strongly supportive of the Incorporation Drive. Carolyn Greenly is her name.

Born in San Francisco, Carolyn has lived in EPA for the best part of the last 20 years, raising three children and working actively in the community. She is employed to provide services to adults and youth in nutrition by the Cooperative Extension Department of the University of California. Much of her work is spent in the East Palo Alto and East Menlo Park Communities. As a part of the youth nutrition programs, Carolyn works with schools, boys clubs, girls clubs and libraries. For her, with this type of job, holidays are often the most busy; she helps with the organization, collection and distribution of most food projects in our community. In fact, it was she who organized and did most of the cooking for the 250 person reception for the Smithsonian Institute Show, "Black Women Against the Odds," which was recently displayed at the EPA Library.

As busy as she is, Carolyn also serves on the boards of many service agencies for children and adults. These boards include the Child Care Coordinating Council of San Mateo County; Friends On the Outside; the San Mateo County Service League, which provides family services to the families of those incarcerated; and the Herbert Hoover Boys' Club. In addition to these kinds of activities, a career and the plain old family responsibilities, Carolyn is just finishing a three year hitch with the Army Reserve.

In her own words, Carolyn reflects, "I try to organize and work with youth and adults on projects which will show our 'Community Pride.' We should have Incorporated years ago. INCORPORATION will be a great asset for us."

Carolyn Greenly, there are many like you here. We thank you for doing your part in making EPA a decent place to live and worthy of cityhood.

## BEWARE THE TIMES-TRIBUNE

Since early last year, the Peninsula Times Tribune has been reporting on the Incorporation drive. Unfortunately, just about all of their press coverage has been misleading or outright false. Despite the apparent intent of the Times Tribune to mislead the public, the Incorporation drive is stronger than ever and is making much progress with the County.

Come to the EPACCI meetings each Tuesday at the Municipal Center to find out what is really happening. There are still many ways that you can serve. Meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

# SUB-COMMITTEES' REPORT...

Incorporation Application Committee has been very productive these past two months. An official copy of the Incorporation Application, filed with the County on April 10, has been placed in the EPA Public Library for the community to view and refer to. Additionally, SRI consultants are continuing to meet with EPACCI representatives to discuss the preliminary progress of their second assignment, the comparative analysis of the EPA/Belle Haven communities.

To date, more than 100 endorsements from churches, politicians, and agencies have come in supporting East Palo Alto's bid for cityhood. Still others would be even more effective. If you can assist this committee with obtaining others, please stop by the EPACCI office at 321 Bell St., East Palo Alto, or call 327-5846 to share what you have.

Our dynamic Community Mobilization Committee, who took a brief respite from organizing the Outreach Network of block, street and precinct captains, has now revived that project. Work is being accomplished according to schedule. The group met June 13 to share collective training techniques for the individual captains. Bullhorns have been purchased to assist with some of the mobilization activities. At the last general EPACCI meeting, members of the Committee also handed out draft copies of the Opinion Questionnaire they have been working on, and which the body then approved. The document, along with other Incorporation inserts, will be sent to selected segments of the EPA population for a representative sampling of how people feel about incorporating.

The group's voter registration activities have also been rewarding. In an effort to improve their registering techniques, the Committee, after picking up voter registration forms from the County Clerk's Office, designed tally sheets to record the number of newly registered voters. These new forms allow EPACCI to tell at a glance how much progress has been made. Committee people continue to strategically place volunteers in key spots throughout the community. Concentration is currently focusing on registering our 18-year-olds. For general information: Readers--after our city is Incorporated, we will be receiving \$72 per registered voter from the State; a means by the way to build the city budget for ourselves so that we can provide better city services.

Public Information Committee has actively worked on the production of the EPA Unity Run-A-Thon, the 3.1-mile jogging race scheduled to open the Juneteenth Celebration Festival on June 20th. Flyers with registration forms for 2,000 have been distributed throughout the Bay Area, in addition to press releases and posters. Following that Saturday Race, the 8th Annual Juneteenth Festival, which will again highlight the Incororation Movement, promises to be an even greater event than last year's.

And, back again by popular demand, the zesty-looking EPACCI T-shirts will be on sale for the fun-packed weekend of June 20 and 21. For only \$6, why not buy one for yourself and your children and be a visible supporter of Incorporation?

Fundraising Committee has doggedly hung in there to produce some very exciting treasury-builders the past couple of months. A Wine & Cheese Party to benefit our new Legal Defense Fund on May 22 was financially very successful. Certainly, however, more of us could have attended. As time marches on, we must all remember that it takes participation by each of us in all events to insure that the word continues to spread on Incorporation. Following immediately on the heels of the Wine & Cheese fundraiser, was an enjoyable and profitable potluck dinner at the Tulip Jones Hall on June 13. It was fantastic having an occasion to chitty-chat with old friends while simultaneously eating some incredibly tasty food.

Collaborating with the Public Information Committee, Fundraising for the first time, will be printing an offical program of the Juneteenth Celebration. In advance, EPACCI wishes to take this opportunity to thank the many merchants and donors who magnanimously supported us by purchasing advertisements for that booklet.

#### EPACCI RECEIVES SERVICE AWARD

EPACCI received the "Outstanding Organization" Award at the Annual Nguzo Saba Awards Dinner on May 29, 1981 at the East Palo Alto Municipal Center. Congratulations to all of the many hard-working members of the EPACCI group.

## SEARCH IS ON FOR BIG MONEY RAISERS

Leading off the search for new ways to bring in funds to the shrinking EPACCI treasury, is an idea to sponsor a celebrity benefit show. The thought of having a well-known entertainment artist or sports figure come to the area and put on a fundraising benefit for EPACCI has been discussed in depth by members. An effort needs to be made in this direction, but volunteers with expertise in this highly specialized area must come forward.

Pulling off a major benefit of this nature requires precise planning and excellent contacts. Is there a reader(s) out there who will step forward to coordinate this kind of much-needed fundraiser for us? Call 327-5846 if you can aid in any way. Any and all skills may be useful...Share yours.

# -"Incorporate E.P.A."