

Hoot said he and Hanan found all north and south streets from Cedar Road east in need of resurfacing. He said these streets, the town's oldest are all badly crazed. Other road needs include reducing the sharpness of curves on Oakleaf Drive between Magnolia Court and Salter Path Road and on Mimosa Boulevard just south of Hawthorne Drive. Numerous dips in the pavement that need correcting include one on Walnut Circle. Gibson said these dips probably resulted from the rotting of tree stumps buried under the road surface.

By now most PKSers will have noticed the blue markers in the center of our streets. The markers are another step taken to help our Fire Department locate the nearest hydrant in case of fire. Each blue marker identifies the location of a fire hydrant. BLUE These markers and the newly installed hydrants will provide better protection MARKERS for PKS.

In this connection, we think it fair enough to repeat a story that went around the Town Hall to the effect that when the markers were first installed, Jack Thompson (the Commissioner charged with the Fire Department) met Commissioner Hoot Gibson as the latter entered the building. Said Hoot, who is mighty fast on the verbal draw, "I just noticed a number of blue things scattered along the streets. But don't worry about it, I've picked up almost all of them!" For a moment Jack was in a state of shock, until he noticed the broad grin on Hoot's face.

PKS BIRTHDAY

Our Town celebrated its tenth birthday.

This occasion differed, however, from the traditional festivities on a child's birthday. The object then is to please the child and to let it feel the warm affection which surrounds it. With the Town's birthday, we not only express our pleasure at its felicitous beginning and at its highly satisfactory development over the past ten years, but inevitably we also look toward the future.

Our town is growing rapidly. Where we had tens of residents in 1973, we have hundreds in 1983; where we then had a few condominiums, we now have many. If the national depression meant decreased building activity generally, PKS certainly has been spared that situation. In addition, we have added to the geographic area of the Town by annexation. Increased population and additional structures place new pressures on the volunteers in our Rescue Squad and our Fire Department, on our Police, on the endeavor to achieve effective municipal government at a reasonable cost, on the use of our beaches and other recreational areas and on the ability of our leaders to channel growth in a manner consistent with the general good.

No doubt each of us would prefer to retain our Town precisely as it was when he or she first came here. Each of us has wanted to lock the door immediately after we arrived. Of course that is, and always has been, impossible. But we can strive to keep alive those things we then liked. We can be constantly alert to developing problems; we can continue an unending struggle against changes in our PKS way of life no matter how many newcomers we welcome. We can insist that the essential character of our Town be maintained.

That effort will require both the participation and the assistance of each one of us. It will require the same kind of volunteer effort (from one who serves us as Mayor to one who simply plants a bush) which has in the past made possible all that has been achieved. The character of our Town is really no more than a reflection of the character of our people. As long as that character remains sturdy and steadfast and as long as our people are willing to work for what they want, our Town will remain a fine place in which to live and its 20th birthday will be celebrated with as much satisfaction as has been its 10th.