

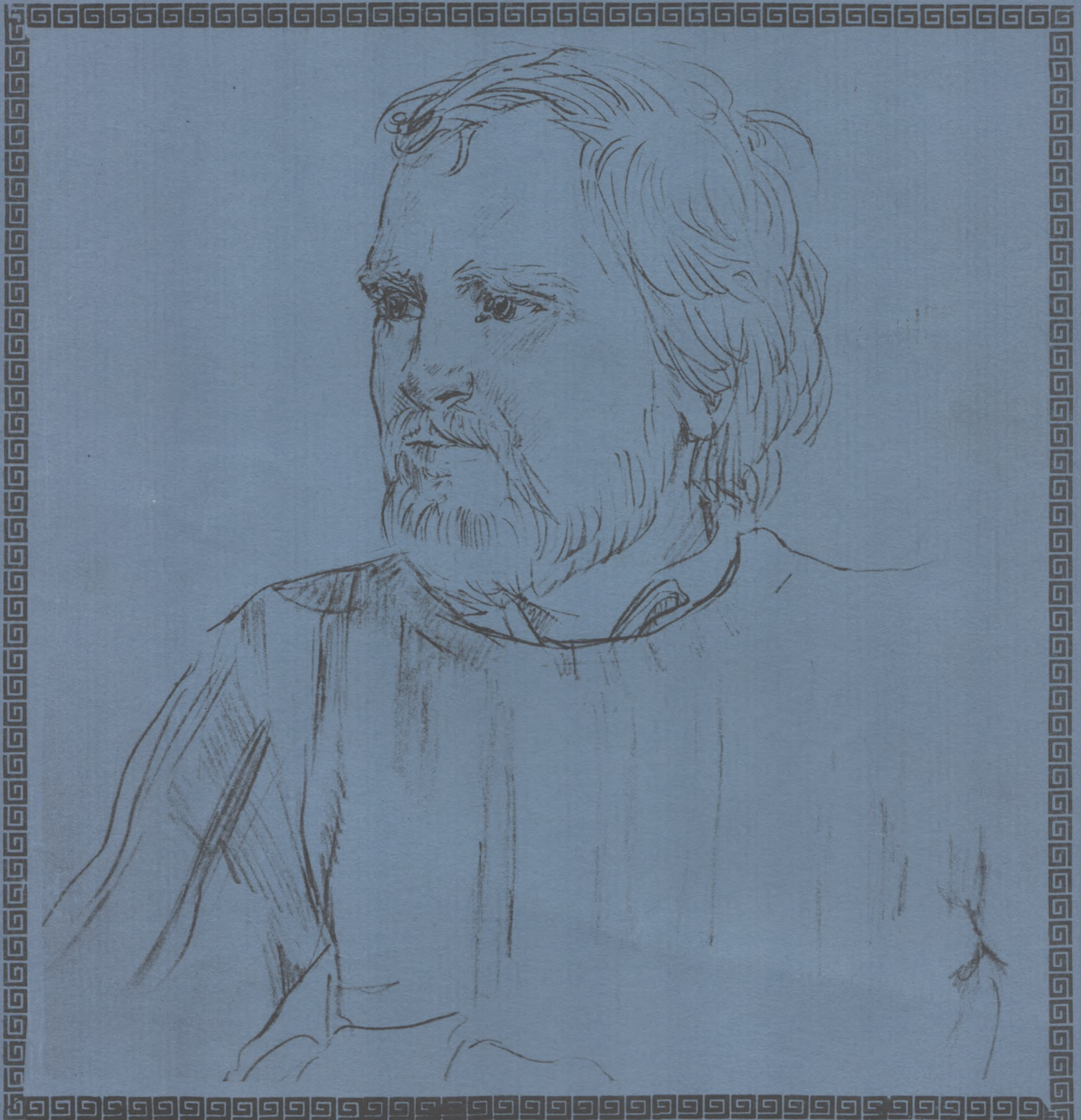
# POINT COUNTERPOINT

A JOURNAL FOR CIVIC COMMUNICATION

JUNE 1, 1975

RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA

35 cents







A couple of visits by you to City Council meetings on June 2 and June 9 will almost certainly mean \$15,000 worth of free hot lunches for Washington School children next year.

On June 2 the Community Development Commission recommendation to spend \$15,000 next year for these children will be on Council agenda. The Council will probably send it to committee. The staff will probably recommend its passage and also funding for free hot lunches for two other schools. Then it will probably come up for a vote June 9 or maybe June 16.

We are doing trail-breaking work here. These lunches will be paid for by Federal block-grant funds and matched by Federal Nutrition funds. The city has the money because the Potrero project cost less than expected. It won't cost the school district a cent. And it won't raise your property taxes.



Thirty-three percent (33%) of these kids are on welfare. But they are our kids - they go to school in our community. Our community includes these children as well as people who are threatened by ammonia tanks.

So even if you don't have children, and maybe especially if you don't have children - PLEASE GO TO THESE MEETINGS. You people in Brickyard Cove - and on Western Drive - the councilmen know who you are. They will recognize you in the audience. We need your support now more than ever.

June 2 is the date. Eight p.m. is the time. The place is third floor of City Hall - 25th & Barrett in the Civic Center. Carpool is leaving from the Santa Fe Market at 7:30 p.m. Watch Saturday's Richmond Independent for the agenda item over the next few weeks. Watch the Point store windows for notices.

We've agonized over this for three years...don't let us down now.

Jeanne Eger  
Chairperson  
Washington School Hot Lunch  
Committee





# ... Community Calendar ...

Tuesdays, June 17 through August 5, 1 - 2 p.m. Films at the West Side Branch Library for children

Thursdays, June 19 - August 7, 1 - 2 p.m. Arts and crafts day at West Side Branch Library

June 2 and June 9 (Monday evenings, 8 p.m.) City Council will consider spending \$15,000 for hot lunches at Washington School. PLEASE SHOW UP!!! Your presence will help insure passage of this important program. Even if you don't have kids, try to come to these council meetings. 3rd floor City Hall - Civic Center

June 2 (Monday evening) 8 p.m. City Council will hold first public hearing on Port and Marina Redevelopment plan.

June 3 (Tues.) Art show at Art Co-op, 1652 Shattuck Ave. Berkeley  
Richmond planner John Kenyon will show "Man-Made Landscapes" - see article on page 18

June 4 (Wednesday) 7:30 p.m. Washington School spring program in school auditorium. Music and drama and dessert! Also awards presentation.

June 5 (Thurs.) 7 - 9 p.m. J.J. Aasen and others - show opening at Richmond Art Center - reception at 7 p.m. 25th & Barrett, Richmond.

June 5 (Thurs.) Multicultural day at Washington School. All day.

June 7 (Sat.) Flea Market on Washington School grounds. Benefit PTA.

June 9 - 13. Registration for Art Center summer classes. See article in this issue.

June 10 (Tuesday) POINT COUNTERPOINT DEADLINE.

June 12 (Thursday) SCHOOL IS OUT!

June 13 (Friday) Sign-ups for puppet making at main library.  
(classes start June 23)

June 26 (Thurs.) 3 - 5 p.m. Community dinner at Community Center  
(pay \$1.00 in advance for purchase of food)

June 28 (Sat.) Excursion to San Francisco Zoo on Bart. Call Community Center 232-6140 for details.



# Trinity

Mid Dornan  
234-5334

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY.

Betty Pearson  
Richard Mateucci  
Victoria Foye

Anna Marie Healy  
Bob Dornan  
Dan Weinstein

Omera Essary  
Cindy Quist  
Diana Spinola

June is the sixth month, completing the first half of 1975. It is a romantic month of weddings and anniversaries...a time for graduations and for remembering dear Dad...a time to plan vacations...a time to appreciate teachers because you'll have their job for a couple of months!

Although she isn't a father, Mrs. John Bruce Dodd will be given a bouquet of flowers as she is the founder of the day honoring Dads. She started it as a local celebration in 1910 in Spokane and four years later Congress (who were all males then) made it apply to fathers nationwide. Mrs. Dodd will be 93 this year.

What is a father? (Answered by those who see him least but love him best, his children) "Fathers are parents, but are male"... (Wendy)..."A father knows when you're too old to be kissed"... (Frank)..."For most children he is an idle"... (Polly)..."A Father is you next best friend..." (Berry)

Happy Anniversary Judy and Joe Travis (15 years) and also Gary and Frances Smith.

After listening to an account of the recent hospitalization of Frank Pearson, his confinement sounded more like a 'treat' than a 'treatment'. And, you can bet the nurses at Alta Bates didn't find duty boring nor will they soon forget his stay!

Those who have thumbed through the May issue of "Seventeen" magazine were pleased to see a picture of the 1974 Junior Miss of California on page 24 and delighted to note it was taken by none other than our own Point resident, George F. Perry. Best photo on the two pages! (unbiased observation!)

Those who refer to Rauld Ferrari's 'green thumb' garden on Casey Drive do so with a deep color of envy.

By the time this is being read, it is hoped Margaret Allyn will have concluded her stay at Richmond Hospital and be back home in the Point.

First communion is a very important event in some young lives. It was served two weeks ago at Our Lady of Mercy Church to Lynn Darling, Susan Amantite, Clare Catherine Doherty and Martha Ramirez. During the special service, they pleased all attending, and especially Father Prendeville by doing some of the readings themselves even though they couldn't reach the microphones.

Drexel Holladay has been confined to Richmond Hospital with a heart attack.





The friendly, gentle personality of Jim Waite will be missed by his friends and family. Jim, a retired Standard Oil employee, was a devoted member of Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church and an avid philatelist. It is with sadness and sympathy that we note the passing of another of our beloved longtime Point residents.

###

It was an unusual Tupperware Party given by Bev Price recently. Five year old daughter, Anne, wasn't feeling well and as the party progressed, so did the fever. Anne was taken to the hospital later and underwent an appendectomy. A slightly older member of the household didn't view this as 'all bad' as maybe she wouldn't have to go back to school!

###

Enjoy the Flea Markets? Whether you buy or sell, Edna Mayfield-Delmore invites interested persons to one on June 14-15 in their Warehouse garage at 535 A Street, between Barrett and Ripley. They are offering the use of their new grey warehouse for this one time event before the building is sold and if you want a space, call her at 235-1935 (home) or 232-2394 (Business). She says the only fee will be the cost of advertising that will be divided among all those who participate.

###

What a woman needs:  
Up to age 14 -- good parents  
from 14-30 -- good looks  
from 30-50 -- good personality  
after 50 -- CASH

###

Don Hansen, who works at the Spot and wife Marsha are the proud parents of an eight-lb. baby boy. "Alexander Roy" was born at Alta Bates Hospital in Berkeley Wednesday night, May 21. Alex was all of 20 in. long when he was born, says Don, proudly.

###

Camp Fire's Grand Council Fire will be on Wednesday, June 4th at Adams Jr. High. O KI 2U will participate.

###

Vocabularies change with the times and if you aren't 'hip' to a current jargon, here's a few that are unfamiliar to the under-30--but may bring a warm nostalgia to those of us 'a little older'.

RUNNING BOARD: a horizontal step on the side of an automobile that enabled a passenger to get in and out without dislocating vertebrae. It also allowed kids to take a ride on the outside of the car, which was lots of fun.

RUMBLE SEAT: a seat that folded into the car when not in use. Sort of a trunk in reverse. A cold place to ride.

ROADSTER: a car with an open body, one seat, and very often a rumble seat.

VICTORY GARDEN: vegetables grown at home by patriotic citizens who quickly learned that being patriotic resulted in their radishes costing 11 cents each.

MARCEL: a horrendous hairdo, concocted by a curling iron. The result was hair waving in alternate directions, as in a bad seascape.

CURLING IRON: you heated it on the stove and the wooden handles were often scorched. Occasionally also one's head.

###

Do something special for Dad and those graduates!





## Thank-yous

Women of the Methodist Church wish to express their thanks and gratitude for the overwhelming response to their "Tea and Stitchery" on the 16th. It is impossible to thank individually all those who made it so eventful and successful.

Enthusiasm was contagious and local trunks and workshops were opened and the contents shared. The day was beautiful and Point residents, former residents and wish-they-were residents came to admire the stitchery of the present, past and even future.

Betty Pearson and Bunny Klivans are thanked for their door-prizes which were won by Caroline Davidson, Joanne Bray and Virginia Marquart.

Besides the fellowship and good food, an important cause was served as members are trying to raise funds to repair and protect the stained glass windows in the historic church. They may even have another such tea next year!

Members also thank the Point Counterpoint for their publicity which was responsible for residents providing items from neighborhood trunks.

## Art Center Summer Program



The summer brochure for the Richmond Art Center is out and registration for classes will be held the week of June 9-13 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Monday and Thursday evenings of that week from 8-9 p.m.

A wide variety of classes will be available, both day and evening, ranging in price from \$5 for seven

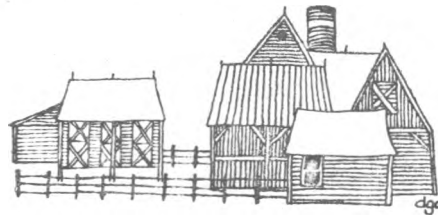
weeks of children's art classes to \$13 for seven weeks of loom weaving for adults. Classes will run from June 16 through August 8.

Most of the childrens classes are Mondays or Tuesdays and include ceramics, creative art and leather craft.

Adult classes include weaving, ceramics, jewelry making, painting, spinning and dyeing, photography and one course in quilting and patchwork design for senior citizens.

Especially if you are new in Town, the Art Center would be a fine place to enlarge your personal world and either dabble or study seriously in the world of art. Classes are held in light, airy well-equipped rooms. Instruction by professionals is of the highest quality.

The Art Center is located at 25th and Barrett in the Civic Center Complex. For more information, call 234-2397.



## the O Ki Zu

The O KI ZU Campfire girls spent Memorial Day baking bread and churning butter. The dough was made into buns and used with bar-B-que'd hamburgers with all the trimmings. We did this as part of the bicentennial celebration.

In June we will put on a program for a convalescent hospital and we will attend the BBO Swim Party put on for the 6th graders by the Discovery Club, the Junior High Camp Fire Girls.

We will also have an outdoor ceremonial picnic and swim party at the Rod and Gun Club and will also attend the annual Grand Council Fire on June 4th.



## ELLIE'S

What happened to Janine? She is still there, but the name of the shop has been changed to "Ellie's". Just a couple of weeks ago I went down for a haircut and was so happy with the experience I wrote an article for the PCP. But Janine asked me to hold off printing it until next month - she might have some more news for me then, she said!

The news is that Janine is still there cutting and setting hair, but a very nice, petite, brown-haired lady called Ellie Hansen has purchased the business. A medical secretary for 14 years, Ellie says "I've wanted a small business for myself for a long time." Ellie lives in Pinole and has been in this area for almost ten years. This is her first venture into the beauty shop business.

Janine just decided to give up the headaches of being a businesswoman and stick to the creative side of it exclusively. There are also rumors that Janine may spend some time at the Sassoon school in S.F. learning the high-fashion geometric cuts. Won't that be something - to have a high fashion hairdresser in Point Richmond!

When I was in the shop last month I treated myself to the first beauty shop haircut I've had in a long time. Janine gave me a blow-cut, which she says is the latest thing in all the best San Francisco salons. The difference between a blow-cut and a regular cut is that the beautician blows the hair dry, meanwhile combing it into a gentle wave that curls under, like a page-boy. This one can do oneself at home with a little practice and one of those curling rods.

Another nice thing about Janine's Ellie's: for one who is easily intimidated by beauty shops (I always feel uglier, stupider

and more awkward than usual when I'm in one), Janine's Ellie's is a really pleasant experience. Janine herself is one of those eternally cheerful, positive people who always leave you feeling better about yourself and the world than you did when you came in.

## Community Center

At the Community Center this summer will be a full and exciting schedule...this is how its shaping up...

### Monday

- 1 p.m. - 7 p.m. General recreation
- 7 - 9 p.m. movies provided by the West Side Branch Library

### Tuesdays

- First & Third; 3 - 5 p.m. Arts and crafts

### Wednesdays

- 3 - 5 p.m. Outdoor games, volleyball, basket ball, soft ball

- 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Senior Adult Day beginning June 25. This program will include sewing, movies, dinners, card games, dominoes, ping-pong, pool and excursions. This program is to be set up by the seniors with their officers

### Thursdays

- Adult night.

A Community Dinner will be held June 26 from 3-5 p.m. The last dinner was cooked for 35 people, but 50 people came! There were many newcomers who enjoyed the home cooking. Remember to pay your \$1.00 in advance for the June dinner, so we'll be sure to have enough.



The staff and everyone that attends the Center would like to thank Mr. Cleophas Brown for donating a pool table to the Center.

An excursion to the San Francisco Zoo on BART will be June 28 for elementary school kids.

For more information call the Center at 232-6140.

I would like to give special thanks to the youth and Ronna Moore for helping serve the fifty people that attended the last Community Dinner.

Gladys Ferguson



#### SUMMER RECREATION - IN THE EAST BAY REGIONAL PARKS...

Usually by this time of year we are flooded with press releases from the East Bay Regional Parks district telling about summer programs. However, as you probably realize, the EBRPD is on strike. At one point the lifeguards had also refused to work in sympathy for the striking workers. At another time it seemed they had gone back to work. But the situation is still fluid, so it might be a good idea to stay away from the swimming areas until the strike is settled, especially if you can't swim.

The Richmond parks are in full operation, however, and we hope to obtain more information about summer programs soon. When school is out Kennedy Swim Center will open to the public and we'll have that schedule for you. You probably know that the Plunge is closed for renovation. Some citizens are working to have it reopened until the renovation actually starts, because it is usually so heavily used during the summer. But there is no final word on that, either.

In Point Richmond, the best bet is still good old Keller's Beach and walking around the hills. You might try Point Molate Beach or Red Rock Marina for fishing. Or take BART to Berkeley, change to "Humphrey Go Bart" the free bus through the campus, up to Lawrence Hall of Science.

Since I tend to hang around Point Richmond most of the time, I'm not really an expert on summer recreation. It would really be great if some of you out there in newspaper-land would let me know your favorite summer recreation hints (only stuff I can print in a public newspaper, please!). Also, if you take a neat trip somewhere, why don't you write about it so we can share it with you?

One more note about the EBRPD. The special A.C. Transit bus that runs up to all the parks in the Berkeley Hills will be operating again this summer. You can transfer to it at the BART station. I wish I could tell you more about it, but I threw away the press release by accident. Some days it just doesn't pay to get up...

j.e.

## PUPPETS

AT THE  
— MAIN LIBRARY —

When I was a child, my sister and I made puppets and put on puppet shows together for the whole neighborhood. Those were some of the best times we had and also some of the few times we got along together. I remember putting on "Rapunzel, Rapunzel, Let Down Your Long Golden Hair". Rapunzel (me) would let down her hair (from this high castle window) and the wicked witch (my sister) would climb up her hair.



and take her off to the dungeon! Well, despite the Freudian interpretations (of which we were thankfully oblivious) the puppet shows were great fun and took up hours of satisfied creative work.

So the notice from the Main Library about a puppet program on Mondays pushed all my mental "go" buttons. Sign ups start June 13 at the children's reference desk. The program runs from June 23 to July 27, every Monday from 2-4 pm. Bring your scrap materials and/or yourself. Puppet show in August!

## AT THE BEACH

... and on the  
Road

For those of you who knashed your teeth in the Memorial day traffic last weekend, consider vacationing in scenic Point Richmond next year! The sun shown brightly and Keller's beach was filled with happy sun and sand worshippers. It was so hot at the beach, in fact, that many grownups overcame their usual aversion to the cold Pacific water and went for a swim.

On Sunday, with not enough of the usual Jumbo's crowd to make up a baseball game, many took to lounging on the lawns bordering the baseball field. They lounged, that is, until the sprinklers began coming on. One couple laughed at the plight of another caught unsuspectingly in the way of a shaft of water until a few minutes later they became the newest victims. All agreed that it was incomprehensible that the city would choose a sunny Sunday afternoon to water the playground lawns instead of waiting for evening.

The intersection of West Richmond and Garrard was buzzing with traffic and pedestrians. The city has just put in a three-way stop sign there, but it left off the

stop sign for west-bound traffic on Garrard approaching the tunnel. This means there are no stop signs between Standard avenue and the tunnel. The crossing between the Plunge and Onstad's pizza is heavily used by children going and coming to the beach and Plunge and school playground and pizza place. In the summer and on weekends there are no crossing guards. The intersection is confusing, at best. The tunnel has no lights in it now and the glare at the other end makes it very difficult to see where you are going. Children disregard the small sign prohibiting bike riding on the tunnel road. All this adds up to a great big traffic hazard at this corner. The city has been requested to put a fourth stop sign there. If they don't do it and a child is killed, BLOOD WILL BE ON THEIR HANDS.

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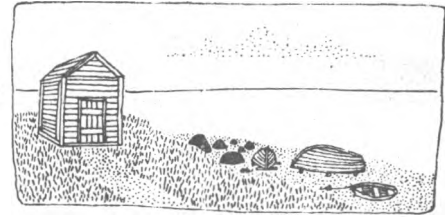
# POEM

blown under a sky of glass anticipation  
golden hair shielding blue eyes from foam  
a small boy builds old man's memories  
from beachfuls of aching muscles tiny laughter  
his fingers sculpt driftwind castles  
into allegoric patters  
working to draw water from a path  
entrepreneur in heavy sand he walls the moat  
with care/ building to outwit the moon

i remember watching such a boy  
running along the beach  
wind in his innocence  
suddenly fall to his knees/ saw him imprison  
an imperfect chattel from the currents  
some richness forgotten  
by some old riptide pirate  
a coin left for sand fingers  
for tiny opposable minds

a small blue-eyed golden-haired  
boy  
a fragile anomaly on a too vast beach  
vascillating between his mother's voice  
and a skyfull of empty stars

Jim Milstead



## IMPORTANT SHOW at the CENTER

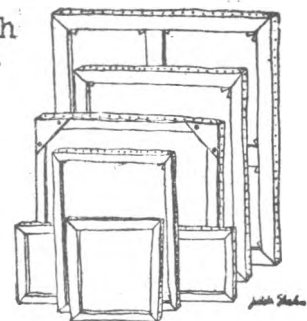
The Art Center, recent victim of censorship by the Richmond School District, looks like it has a winner coming up with its show starting the evening of June 5.

The headliner of the show is "J.J." Aasen, showing paintings, prints and drawings. J.J. was a curator of the Art Center about nine years ago. He followed Jack Richard as curator and the two of them brought some of the finest young Bay Area artists to the Art Center for their first important one-man shows. Many of J.J.'s exhibitors back in the 60's went on to national and international fame. J.J. himself is a fine artist of no small stature. So the public reception to be held June 5 from 7-9 p.m. will probably feature the cream of the Bay Area artists, as well as art of the highest excellence. Art collectors, you have been put on notice!

Also showing in the Main Gallery will be raku by David Kuraoka.

In the other galleries will be showing works of four Sacramento area artists. Loosely labeled the "Capitol Four", it includes Fred Ball, Donna Billick, Patrick Mooney and Lucian Pompili.

The Art Center is located at 25th and Barrett, in the Civic Center complex. More information is available by calling 234-2397. The show runs through July 6.





## - THE COVER -

The portrait of Dan Robertson on the cover of this month's POINT COUNTERPOINT is by Jill Sacherman, a young, talented Bay Area artist. Jill will do portraits at reasonable rates. Contact her at 654-0737 or by calling the Point Counterpoint (232-2494).

I went up to interview Dan at his house on High street in mid-May. Dan couldn't come out to see me because he was recuperating from an accident. Dan had broken his ankle falling out of a tree at Point Pinole the weekend before.

Thea Robertson fixed a beautiful lunch for us in the kitchen and we sat happily, gazing at the sunshine outside beaming on the multicolored garden flowers and the blue sea beyond. Dan poured us glasses of wine and we settled down to hear his life story.

Dan was born in Santa Barbara 37 years ago, but grew up in Norwood Ohio. After high school he came west again to join a brother who was already on the coast. After a stint with Pacific Fruit Express as a clerk, he joined the Air Force and was sent to language school at Yale to learn Chinese. Then he was stationed in Formosa as a Chinese linguist. Dan managed to escape servitude as an Air Force "spook" and got a job as public information officer with the Strategic Air Command stateside, writing press releases and taking photographs.

After he got out of the service, Dan went to work for American Motorcycle Magazine as associate editor. As he tells it, when he applied for the job he told the editor, "You should know two things about me. First, I don't type. Second, I despise motorcycles and motorcyclists." But Dan was hired anyway.

After a couple of years he began to be plagued once again with that small, nagging question, "Is this all there is to life?"

So it was West once more, and this time he landed in San Francisco, obtaining a job as insurance underwriter and spending what Dan calls the "bleakest 5 years of my life."

A year's illness and a marriage behind him, Dan came to Point Richmond one night, carrying a petition to recall Ronald Reagan. Thea recalls she saw him in the Baltic, arguing and waving his arms around. "There's an interesting man," Thea thought to herself. She was also carrying a petition, to save Point Pinole. They met and after some conversation, the immortal words were spoken, "I'll sign your petition if you'll sign mine." And so a modern marriage began.

Along the way, Dan picked up a degree in art from U.C. Right now he is writing like mad, trying to establish himself as a freelancer.

Dan has two girls by his first marriage, Becky and Cathy. They often spend the weekend at the house on High Street. The Robertsons will have to leave this place pretty soon and are expecting to move to El Sobrante if they cannot find a reasonable place to live in the Point.

Dan has been a Point Counterpoint contributor since the late 60's, when Donna Roselius ran the paper. Don's articles have been humorous and insightful, sometimes pointed and outrageous, like the one published around 1969 about "okies". A PCP project under consideration is a book of Dan Robertson short stories, collected from the essays he has written for the newspaper over the years.

By the time we finished the interview it was 3:00 and several glasses of wine later. It had been a fine luncheon with a rising local literary star.

j.e.

# Town Hall Meeting

The initial enthusiasm displayed at the last meeting at which 70 people showed up, waned in May and the neighborhood council meeting Tuesday the 20th had a small turnout of about 12 people. The small attendance seemed to be because of a lack of pressing issues at hand.

Tom Butt had arranged to have Mr. Ralph Seaton, an Assistant County Assessor out of the Richmond office speak to the group. Mr. Seaton explained how residential taxes are determined. A set amount of money is needed by schools and special districts in the county. The money is collected in relation to the value of the property in the county. Property which is worth more must produce more taxes. The appraisal process determines the value of the property and is the main task of the assessor. Assessed valuation is always 25% of full appraisal value. Appeal can be made disputing the assessed valuation of the property, but not the amount of taxes. In other words, a citizen can go before the Assessment Appeal Board and try to show that his/her house is not worth as much as the County claims.

In order to get a case before the appeals board you must file an application for "Change of Assessment". This form is available in the assessor's office and also from the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors. The appeal must be filed between July 2 and August 26. Three Contra Costa citizens appointed by the Board of Supervisors sit as the Appeals Board. Previously the Board of Supervisors sat as the



Board of Equalization and a great deal of their time was taken up in hearing irate citizens complain about assessments.

Mr. Seaton said that a person not the owner of the property can appeal an assessment decision. A famous case occurred a few years ago when private citizens disputed the valuation put on Ronald Reagan's house and the assessment board there raised the valuation.



The appraisal process has three parts: (1) replacement value (2) market data (3) income. The assessment rolls and the tax rolls are public record.

Mr. Seaton was bombarded with questions concerning industrial assessments. Lori Shaper said she had heard that Hilltop land was sold for a large sum and the previous tax appraisal didn't nearly approach that amount. Mr. Seaton asked if anyone in the room could have predicted whether that land would have become a shopping center in advance of the announcement of the plans. Tom Butt explained that comments he had often heard were that Standard Oil is so large and so impossible to keep track of that it in effect assesses itself. Mr. Seaton asked if anyone in the room had the expertise to assess Standard Oil.

Mr. Seaton said that Standard pays nearly 1/3 of the property taxes in Richmond. He said that Richmond does not have a permanent industrial appraisal staff but that the industrial specialists are based in Martinez. Other interesting figures are the proportion of property taxes paid



county wide: 30% is paid by industry, 12½ % by commercial, 54% by residential and about 4% is called "vacant".

He said that Standard Oil turns in a property statement every year (as required by law) and the statement is compared with tax office information. Because of the many refineries in the county, the tax office has a good deal of information about refineries available. Every three years its property tax is audited by the State Board, which does assessments of all businesses of over \$50,000 valuation every three years. Mr. Seaton said that Carl Rush, a chief appraiser out of Martinez and a Mr. Albert Lagorio, who is in charge of industrial assessments would be the people to contact for more information about industrial assessments.

Lori Shaper asked about old people who had lived in the area for many years, owned their homes free and clear and now were being forced out by taxes. Seaton said that the assessor's office has no discretion in the matter of assessments. Relief can only come from the legislature and, in fact, there are several bills in the hopper now for this purpose

#### - LEAD POISONING DISCUSSED -

The next guest was Rita Dennis from the lead poisoning project. She said that one out of 15 children tested in the county had high levels of lead in their blood. Several years ago no one had any lead in their blood but now everyone has a level of about 20. Level 40 is considered toxic. So it doesn't take very much lead to reach a toxic level, especially for a small child.

No symptoms appear for the first six weeks. After that, symptoms may be drowsiness, irritability and loss of appetite, all of which are usually attributed to some other cause. So the only way to really tell is there is lead poisoning is to have the child

(or adult) tested. The final results of lead poisoning are brain damage, mental retardation and death.

Treatment for the poisoning would cost \$2,000 and two weeks in the hospital if it were paid for privately. If the family is low income they can get treatment through the project at no cost.

Ms. Dennis related the shocking case of horses dropping dead in Contra Costa a few years ago. The deaths were the result of lead poisoning from the Selby smelter which deposited lead in the air. The lead was deposited on leaves and grass which the horses ate. The smelter has since been shut down but there is still a lot of lead in the earth around here.

#### - SECURITY PATROL -

The next guest speaker was Chuck Allison from ABC Security Patrol, whom Tom Butt had invited to the meeting. Chuck Allison said he was selling security patrol services. If 70% of the business got together they could hire his outfit. He said they patrol Claremont Pines, where there are \$250,000-\$300,000 homes. If there is a motorcycle rider on the street who doesn't belong there, they scare him away because they wear uniforms that look like police uniforms. He said they would "help keep the ruffians underhand". Mr. Allison was questioned as to why the City Council seemed so anxious to hire his security patrol service and give it a monopoly when cities all around have several patrols operating within their city limits. He said he used to work for Mr. Dabney's enterprise (the patrol that formerly had the Richmond franchise) but had gotten out of that operation because they were a dishonest outfit. He said that Mr. Dabney had been charged with illegal



activity and he thought that having a monopoly contributed to temptations of that kind. In fact, Mr. Allison said he had written a letter to someone to that effect. (We later checked with Mr. Dave Higgins, assistant city manager and he said that Dabney had not had any formal charges brought against him that Mr. Higgins knew about.) A report about charges by Mr. Dansky of the American Mutual Security Patrol against the city are in "City Hall Notes" in this issue.)

### COMMUNITY CENTER

Gladys Ferguson announced that the Community Center is going to receive a gift of a full-sized pool table from Mr. Cleophas Brown, a Point Richmond resident and former city council candidate. The center has already received a smaller pool table from Mrs. Moore of Point Richmond. The youth & center staff greatly appreciate these generous gifts and the community support which has been shown recently. Gladys said she is presently trying to plan activities for the elderly and hopes to have something going on this summer. Peggy Wilson, who was not able to attend the meeting sent an invitation to anyone in the community to help sketch the mural. The work will be done during the summer because one of the requirements was that it be done during regular working hours.

### - RECAP -

Despite the poor turnout, interest in the speakers was such that it was 9:30 before the last agenda item was brought up. Tom Butt wondered whether it would be a good idea to let the neighborhood organization languish for awhile until a new vital issue arose, rather than meeting just for the sake of meeting. He said that when there



is an issue that people are willing to work on, such as the hot lunch program, much can be accomplished. In other cities the revenue sharing program is set up by the city staff and then there are one or two public hearings. Richmond has gone farther and set up a whole neighborhood council and commission structure. So the city resources are available to us when we decide to act again. Ronna Moore and Gladys felt that it was very beneficial to have the local citizens using the center for these meetings. Ronna said she had heard about the last meeting and how great it was all the way up in Sacramento. Someone suggested that the reporting in the PCP was so thorough that maybe people didn't feel a need to come to the meeting!

However most of the group felt that not much action could be expected out of Point Richmond over the summer and it would be better to call it quits until the fall or until something came up. All agreed that no executive board was necessary.

So the neighborhood council adjourned until the next important issue comes up. If you have a project or a gripe that you want to push, contact Tom at Interactive Resources, 236-7435.

## NEWSPAPER HISTORY

From A History of Richmond, California, published by the Richmond Chamber of Commerce, 1944.

(Available at the public library reference desk.)

"Naugle's Record was a weekly sheet and it filled a real need for the community. A good many newspapers have come and gone, but perhaps none was more important than this



first one which faithfully recorded the comings and goings of those pioneer residents of Richmond. For a few months he had the field to himself. Then in 1901 the town attracted the attention of Guy E. Milnes who was publisher of the Gazette at Martinez and an important figure in County politics. One winter day he hauled a second-hand press out from Oakland in the rain, getting stuck in the mud several times on the way. He called his paper the Leader and launched it as a daily. At about the same time a small weekly calling itself the Press came into existence, but it died an early death, presumably from advertising malnutrition. In 1902 Norman Ellsworth, a San Francisco printer, invaded the field with the Tribune. These were the day of personal journalism, and the editors frequently lambasted each other in the public prints, although it is doubtful whether their readers cared a great deal for their personal quarrels. The Tribune had announced that it intended to become a daily, but it never succeeded in coming out oftener than twice a week, and at a tender age it passed out, nor was its passing regretted by its cynical contemporaries. In 1910 the Herald was established by J.L. Kennon. Within a year it was merged with the Record, thus establishing the name Record-Herald under which the paper was published for many years thereafter. In 1912 there was a merger of the Record-Herald and the Leader under ownership of Mr. Milnes and Frank Hull, with F. J. Hulaniski as editor. The latter was an important figure in the newspaper world here and was the author of a history of Contra Costa County."

Newspaper History will be continued in the next issue of POINT COUNTERPOINT.

## PIZZA PARLOR OPENS!

Onstad's Pizza & Things has finally opened! Bob Onstad (who also manages Berkeley's Community Theater full time) was handed his business license late Friday afternoon and immediately ran to his van to get to the produce markets before closing time. Saturday morning brought the new crew, Bob's son Rick, who will be managing the restaurant, Lisa Williams, Betty Black, Chris Sarley, Teri Mathis and Jeanne Eger.

The group eagerly experimented with pizza making - all pizzas are made fresh and the dough is rolled out by hand. The first batch brought rave reviews and Bob took them over to some of the local establishments for samplers to try out. Everyone has been watching the progress of the place over the past 17 months. Bob and Rick have redecorated what used to be the Four Corners Cafe by hand. The pride of the new eatery is the hand-made counter top which displays chart maps of the coastline from San Francisco to Sacramento. Bob's own water-color paintings are on the walls.

Besides the pizza, featured eating includes burgers, hot dogs, "beer dogs" (hot dogs cooked in beer), gourmet coffee and much more. Take-out service is available by calling information for the #.

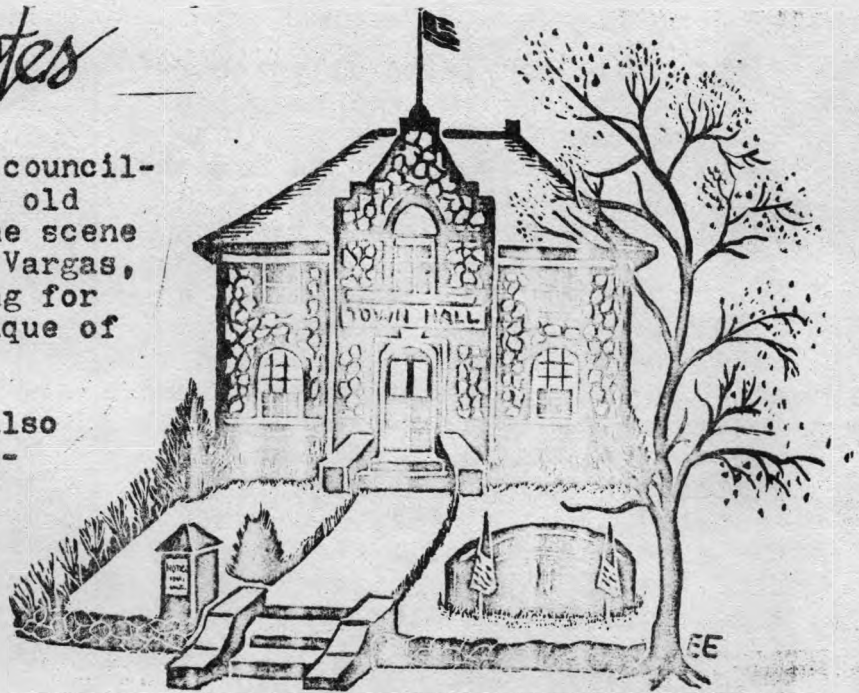
Plumbing, electrical and inspection troubles forgotten, the tired but happy crew sank down upon the outside benches at the end of the day to watch the eclipse. All decided it was a good omen.

A Point Richmond resident, Bob Onstad is no newcomer to the restaurant business. Several years ago Bob created and ran an establishment called the "Bard's Brook Coffee Shop and Pizza Parlor" in Ashland Oregon.



# CITY HALL notes

Monday, May 19 - Two outgoing councilmen sang their swan songs and two old politicians were brought back to the scene of action to eulogize them. Gay Vargas, defeated for council after serving for 24 years was presented with a plaque of appreciation by former Mayor and council member John Sheridan. Booker Anderson got one too and also decided to make off with his nameplate as a souvenir. Anderson's term was distinguished by his wisecracks, introduction of friends and political acquaintances in the council audience, and long speeches about how citizens had a right to speak before the council. His remarks that he intended to stay in the political arena and make friends with some young people and newcomers were incorrectly attributed to Gay Vargas the next day in the daily alternative newspaper. Supervisor and former councilman Jim Kenny was also on hand for the speechmaking.



The round of speeches came at the end of a meeting which was notable only for the way in which council once more, without investigation into charges made, reaffirmed the city-bestowed monopoly to ABC Security Patrol for street patrol services. (This subject was also discussed at the Point Neighborhood Council meeting - see page 13 ) Mr. Harry Dansky, who had been turned down in his bid for the patrol service franchise, quoted a section of the California Code dealing with consumer affairs, which states that no department shall prohibit a business which holds a valid license from operating its business. Dansky said that his patrol service, American Mutual, was going out to street patrol. "If the police want to cite us, they can. The State says they'll back us up," Mr. Dansky stated. Dansky also said that in the cities which ABC claimed to operate on its application for the franchise, it actually does not operate in 70% of the places it claims. At that point Mayor Nelson in an angry and agitated state, objected, saying the matter had already been decided and that we had a good police department. (The police department had made the selection of street patrols.) Nelson ruled the subject closed.

The question was in the minds of many observers as to why the council seemed so anxious to give the security patrol to ABC without further investigation, even though serious questions had been raised two weeks in a row. Councilman Al Silva was the only council member to do less than railroad the matter through. Silva brought up the fact that if the city gave a monopoly to a business, they should provide some way to regulate it. Silva ought to know about this, being manager of the Richmond office of Pacific Telephone, a regulated public utility-monopoly. But he was unsuccessful in this move toward further investigation.

In other action, 25 citizens of the Humboldt Avenue neighborhood attended council and a number of them spoke against a Planning Commission variance given to the owners of a property next to the small park there. The property is zoned for a 3-unit apartment, but the developer wants to put up a 4-unit building with interior courtyard. There would be virtually no set back and a blank wall would be facing the small park. Council failed to muster enough votes to affirm or override the Commission and so the matter was held over to the June 9 meeting.



Tuesday, May 27 - Bob Campbell, Fritz Allen and Tom Corcoran were sworn in as new city councilmen this evening. The council passed its business quickly and then turned to the business of electing a new mayor and vice-mayor. For this the councilmen went into executive session, which lasted quite a long time. When they came out Dick Nelson announced that Gary Fernandez had been elected Mayor but that no agreement could be made as to Vice-Mayor, so the city would be without one, at least this week. Many hopes for a unified council, which will be able to pass on important matters without long squabbling were clouded with this announcement. The meeting was adjourned and council and audience adjourned to the Art Center for a reception to honor the new council members.

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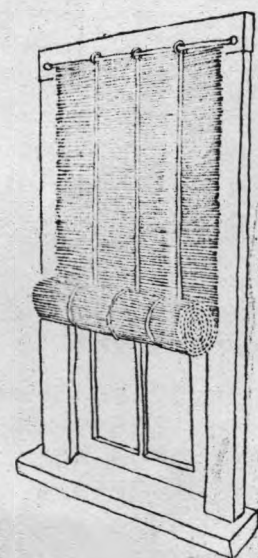
## NO- WORDS PICTURE *of hypodermic needle*

You may have wondered at this headline in the May 15 edition. What was intended was for the artist to draw a picture of a hypodermic needle and that, all by itself, would be a headline. "No words-picture of hypodermic needle" was the instruction to the artist, who reproduced the words instead of drawing the picture.

But no matter - even with such an existential headline, the message came across. Sheila Craft was inspired to write and send us the following poem, which we appreciate:

a lament for Joe and Mariano

what do you do when there's no place left to go/  
when there's no one at home/  
no friends are home/  
oh lord, if there is one, give me a mercy rest/  
take me back to a place  
where I can heal my shattered heart/  
I want to be where love is/  
where I want to want again -  
when did we pass up the boundary?  
I want to feel again needs and wants/  
I don't want to pass up anything  
that is for everyday/  
there could be somebody home/  
if money can buy dreams  
money should buy help/  
there should be someone home...



Sheila

# On The WATERFRONT

A show Point Richmonders may want to catch will be opening at the Art Co-op Gallery, 1652 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley, June 3 and running through June 28.

The featured artist is John Kenyon, a British-born architect who works for the Richmond Redevelopment Agency.

Why, you may ask, is the Point Counterpoint pushing an art show by a Richmond city staffer in Berkeley? I asked the same question of Kenyon and here was his reply:


"True, it is not local, but some of my own work in the show is. I have a watercolor and cardboard 'painting' of oil tanks at Point San Pablo that I privately called 'Homage to Standard Oil' and which was immediately rented for their office building by the Vice Pres. of Standard Oil, from the Richmond Art Center!

I also will have two other pictures in the show that deal with Richmond waterfront, one being a drawing of River Lines (tug) Terminal, the other a painting of the Hoffman Blvd. area. I'm enclosing a copy of my contribution to the Richmond Coastline Study...perhaps you did not know of the existence of this report...which was accompanied by a show of my coastline drawings at the Art Center -- a nice unorthodox thing for a planning department to sponsor."

Pictured on the page opposite is one of John Kenyon's drawings, entitled "Red Rock Marina and the San Rafael Bridge from above Castro Point". Here is the description accompanying the drawing:

"The grassy slopes above Castro Point, accessible from Western Drive, offer a grandstand view of movement free from urban noise.

Cabin cruisers moor at Red Rock Marina (foreground right). Tankers glide toward the Long Wharf or on to San Pablo Bay. Sailboats tack against the wind in the distance. An occasional freight train rumbles along the shore on the Castro Point Belt line tracks, while toy-like cars and trucks gleam continually from the two decks of the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. The silver bridge dominates all, its erector-set precision arching to the hills of Marin. As an incomparable view-view-platform the bridge is an opportunity missed. The Bay, the fabulous landforms of Marin and the details of the Richmond shore are almost cut off from sight by its solid steel side-rails."



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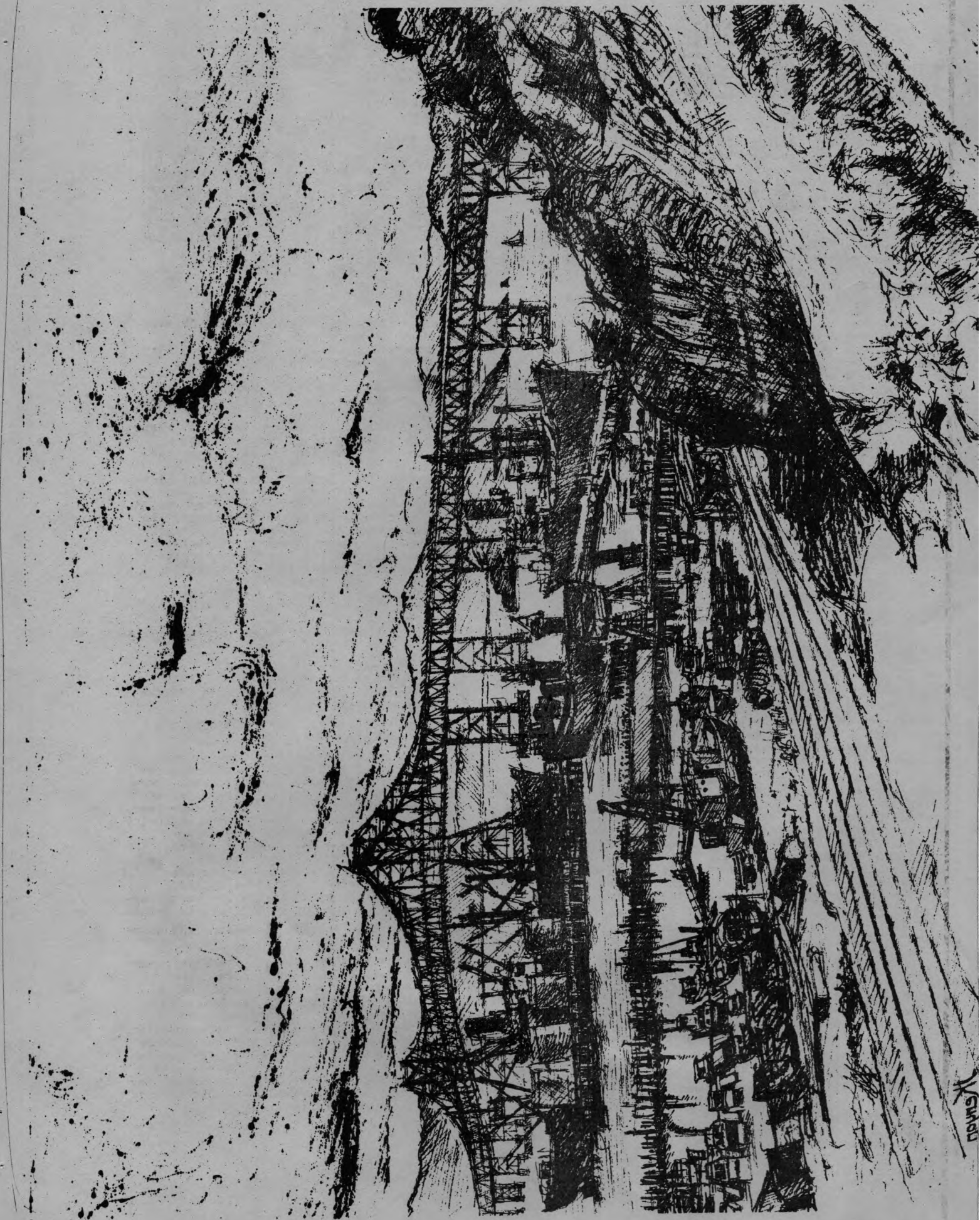
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# ALL ABOUT BLOCK GRANTS

We have been curious about the operation of the "Community Development Commission" - the citizen group set up to recommend spending the new "block grant" (the large chunk of federal money given to Richmond). Starting in April, funding for many city programs changed over from specific projects, such as Model Cities, Redevelopment, etc., to one block grant. On the local level, the manifestation of this is our Point Richmond Neighborhood Council, which meetings have been reported in the POINT COUNTERPOINT. Our representative on the city commission is Tom Butt, President of Interactive Resources.

In order to find out more about the CDC we went up to City Hall late in April, to talk to Mr. Fred Stevens. Mr. Stevens' title is "Senior Management Services Analyst" and his group is called the "Management Services Group". They work under the City Manager's office. Over the last year their primary task has been to perform the necessary analysis and prepare recommendations to implement the transit to Community Development. Mr. Stevens is in charge of that group. In other words, Fred Stevens knows what is going on.

Mr. Stevens graduated from San Francisco State with a science-business major and a few years later graduated from Harvard Business school. In 1971 he went to work for McKinsey & Co., a world-wide management consultant firm based in Washington. Then he came to Richmond.

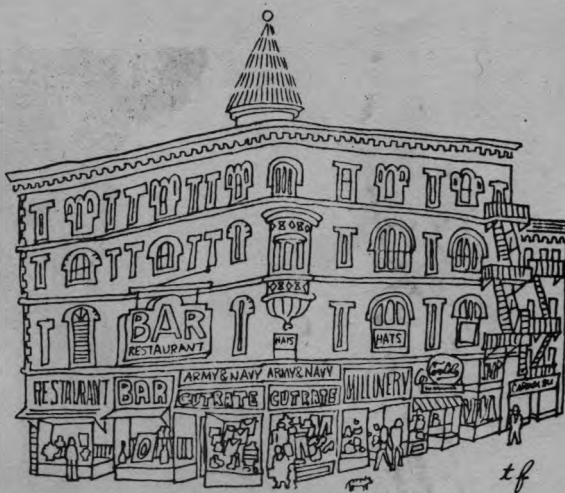
We started the interview at City Hall and then continued it over lunch at the Judges & Spares, where we talked about "701 Comprehensive Planning Assistance Funds". On May 19 the city council approved spending \$40,000 of Richmond's money for this federally assisted program. We wanted to get through the "governmentese" and find out what it was about.

Also printed here is a map which shows the distribution of Community Development Funds. Point Richmond's piece of the pie is the renovation of the Plunge.

We have also reprinted part of an article from the "Montclairion" - a weekly Oakland newspaper, which discusses how Oakland is doing with its CD funds. Reading this makes us in Richmond feel fortunate! In Oakland there is a power struggle between a powerful Redevelopment Agency and the City Council. They have not even decided how to use the block grant funds, whereas Richmond is ready to start spending the money. Fred Stevens says that Richmond has been planning for this eventuality for a long time, so the transition is a lot smoother. Part of this has to do with the city council sitting as redevelopment commission.

Another note: You will need a key for some of these terms. "CD" means "community development", "CDC" means "Community Development Commission". "HUD" means "Housing and Urban Development". And "HEW" means "Health, Education and Welfare."

By the time you get finished with this interview you will know all about Community Development Commission. You may even know more than you wanted to know!



J.E. Mr. Stevens, these grant applications are written in a language which seems to be understood only by city managers. Can you explain the Community Development funding in language the ordinary person can understand?

F.S. Its funding in the general area of housing, community development, urban renewal. Prior to the recent funding change, these various programs, and there are about seven: water, sewers, open space, model cities, urban renewal, recreation and one more; were funded under seven separate categories. They are now funded under one category and that is entitled "Community Development" and it is in the form of a block grant which is the manifestation of revenue sharing.

J.E. Do social services come under this grant?

F.S. To the extent that HUD was funding social service programs, yes, but the fact is that HUD didn't fund many social service programs. Health, education and welfare, even senior citizens programs, by and large are funded by the Department of Health Education and Welfare, which also has forthcoming block grants or revenue sharing.

J.E. When will that start?

F.S. That's still to come out of Washington. When the idea was originated, it was supposed to be in various areas.

J.E. So presently you still have to apply for a specific project?

F.S. For social services. But not for the housing and urban development part.

J.E. The projects are not limited to the model cities area, right?

F.S. Currently none of the projects are limited to the model cities area. Under the new block grant, community development program, there are no limitations, from a legislative point of view. The only limitations would be self-imposed, as agreed on by the persons who have the authority in the city. (the city council) The seven categorical programs are now funded under one block grant received by the city from HUD. The major programs in the city that were the most visible were urban renewal and model cities. Programs that were formerly operated by redevelopment are also now coming out of this single grant.

J.E. Would that include the harbor and downtown?

F.S. Except to this extent. There were some projects, for example, that had funding prior to this, and once a project had been funded for a number of future years, it would continue. Projects such as the downtown conceivably had scheduled for years in the future. So we have a couple of projects that the Redevelopment agency has that still would be funded by HUD for two to three more years. This also goes for Recreation and Parks to a smaller extent. The point is, any new redevelopment efforts scheduled would have to come out of the block grant now.



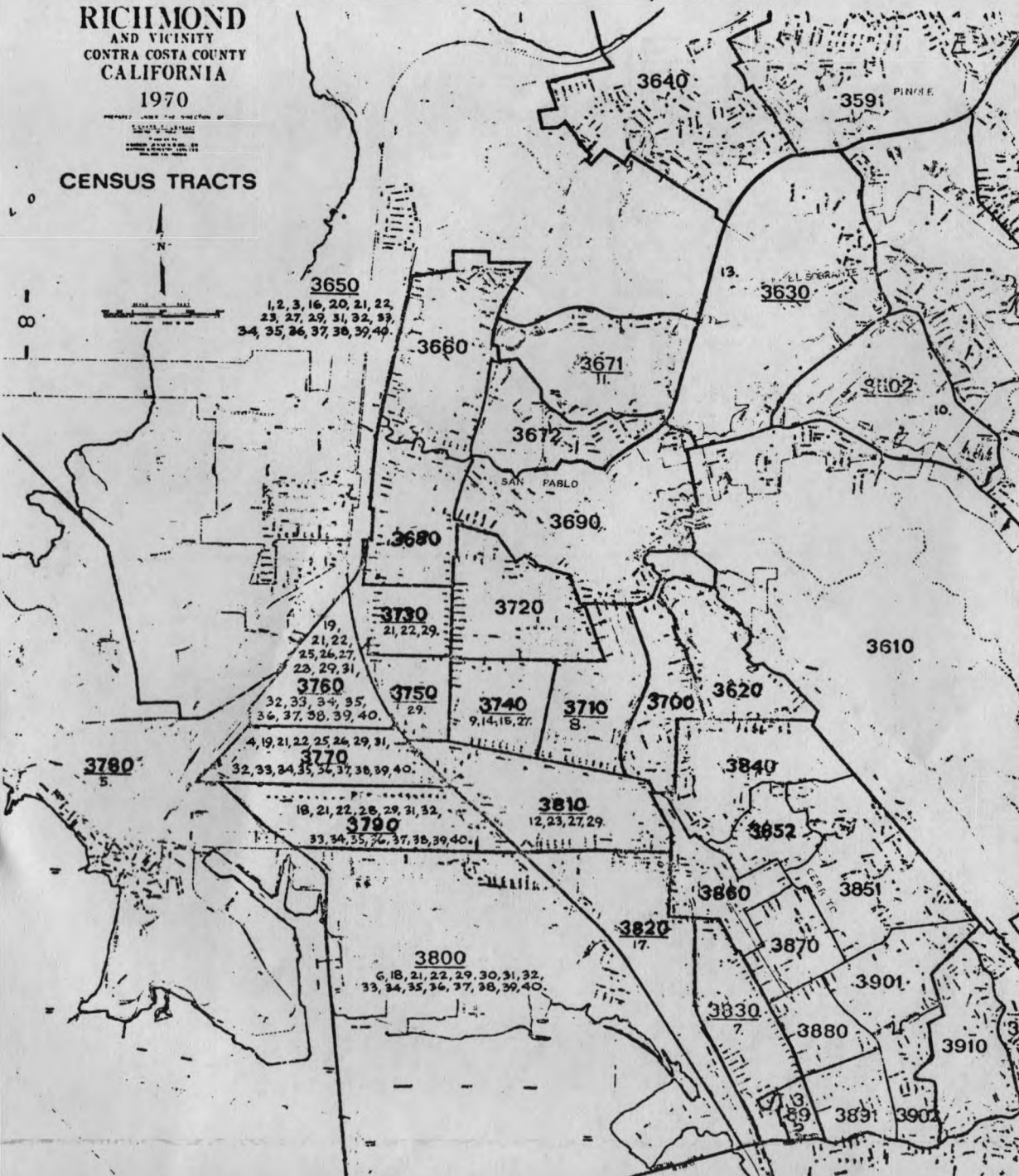
# MAP 1. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM Project Map

CITY OF  
RICHMOND  
AND VICINITY  
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY  
CALIFORNIA

1970

PREPARED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF  
CITY OF RICHMOND  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT  
1970

CENSUS TRACTS



## PROJECTS BY CENSUS TRACT

1. Flood Control
2. Parchester Park \*
3. Parchester Center \*
4. Nevin Center
5. Plunge Renovation \*
6. Boorman Park
7. Mariposa Playlot
8. Wilson School Park Development
9. 33rd Street Overpass
10. DeAnza Center
11. Fairmede Park
12. Easter Hill Ball Park \*
13. Hilltop Green Park
14. Richmond Auditorium Modification \*
15. Civic Center Neighborhood Facility \*
16. North Richmond By-pass
17. Fire Station (New - Carlson & Bayview)
18. Southside Community Center (purchase building)
19. North Richmond NDP \*
20. Nevin Center NDP \*
21. Home Improvement Loan Program \*
22. Rehabilitation Grants Program \*
23. Neighborhood Improvement Program \*
24. Rehabilitation of Vacant and Abandoned Structures \*
25. Demolition of Vacant and Abandoned Structures \*
26. Elderly Turnkey Housing \*
27. Replacement of Nystrom and Triangle Projects \*
28. Code Enforcement Relocation \*
29. Public Housing Modernization \*
30. Child Care \*
31. Economic Development \*
32. Senior Citizen Nutrition Program \*
33. West County Discovery Center, Inc. \*
34. Child Diagnostic & Evaluation Center
35. RUSD School Lunch Program \*
36. RUSD Summer School Program
37. Community Education Project
38. Richmond Youth House
39. Youth Board and Youth Center

## CITY-WIDE PROJECTS

1. Fire Station (renovations)
2. United Council of Spanish Speaking, Inc. (Cultural Center)
3. People Pledged for Community Progress (purchase building)
4. North Richmond Neighborhood House (construct two buildings)
5. Ten Just Men (multi-cultural center)
6. Ecology Center
7. West Contra Costa Health Care Corp. \*
8. Career Development & Training Project \*
9. Welfare Rights Organization (Social Resources Advocacy Center)
10. West Contra Costa Club of the Blind
11. Pullman Child Development Center
12. Emergency Food Pantry
13. Richmond Boys Club
14. Secondary Bilingual Education Project RUSD
15. Section 8 Housing Assistance Payments \*

J.E. I read in the Wall Street Journal about six months ago that Congress was dissatisfied with the way the block grants were being implemented; that they weren't being implemented with as much social services programs as Congress thought was appropriate, and now the HUD fellow (James Price who appeared at a recent city council meeting) said that he thought that Richmond's block grant application was specially good because it stressed the same programs that basically had been HUD programs like housing and physical renovation. Somebody told me that I was talking about a different block grant. What was the Wall Street Journal referring to?

F.S. The Journal has hit revenue sharing two or three different times. For example, there is law enforcement revenue sharing, general revenue sharing and special revenue sharing. General revenue sharing would go to the cities just for general purposes and with little or no strings attached. In the city of Richmond these revenue sharing funds are committed to fund a bankrupt pension system for the police and firemen. Aside from that there is special revenue sharing for law enforcement for one, and community development for the second and if Nixon's programs were still being pushed, there would be one coming forth in health, education and welfare. I'm not sure if that's ever going to come forth.

J.E. Why do you think that that will not be implemented?

F.S. It was a Nixon program and President Ford has to get his own way of doing things. The housing and urban development thing was so far along that all Ford had to do was sign it. It's almost personal in that sense. If Ford thinks enough of special revenue sharing as it applies to health, education and welfare, then that bill will come out. If not, it could fall by the wayside and categorical funding could continue.

J.E. So basically the biggest impact in the city comes from the HUD changeover from Model Cities to Community Development. What do you think is going to be the result of citizen input? Up until now you've had professional city planners doing most of the planning on these projects. Do you think that the citizens' outlook and attitude is going to change?

F.S. Sure. It will, and in a positive way. There will be more of a realistic reflection of what citizens want. It will be what citizens have agonized over and this will be an end product of some kind of compromise. But that's still closer to the pulse of the citizens than the result of analysis by professional people without citizen input. But this really hasn't been the case in the city of Richmond, the way I understand it. Though there hasn't been a marked requirement for citizen input, it has been there all along, as with the Recreation and Parks Commission that has had input into any recreation facilities that have gone on in the past.

J.E. Is that the case in most cities?

F.S. Yes.

(At this point we broke for lunch and went to the Judges & Spares where we talked about the "701 program", which has four aspects: (1) revision of the capital improvement program (2) evaluation of city programs (3) review of land use ordinances (i.e. zoning) and (4) the social element for the general plan. I asked Mr. Stevens about social planning.)

J.E. What is social planning about? What does it mean?

F.S. As it is spelled out there, I think what it means is developing an inventory of needs and types of programs that can address these needs.

J.E. What kinds of needs are you talking about?

F.S. Social needs - education, police services, aid to the aged (gerontology) - almost everything that falls into the category of social needs - health, education and welfare. The form that it will take here is developing this inventory of where the needs are, sort of by census tract. For example, there might be more of a need for family planning counseling in the Iron Triangle, more need for gerontology in the North and East sections, needs may be for home counseling in North Richmond and this kind of thing. And then maybe we can say that here are the programs that can likely address these needs. However, it is important to stress the fact that this is not a program that is designed to talk about services that are going to be rendered by the city.

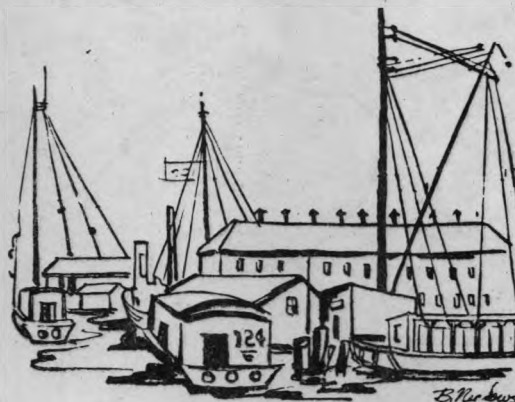
J.E. You mean this would be the city's recommendation to any agency that could actually run the programs?

F.S. Yes, more like that. Its really developing the plan rather than implementing it. There could be a coordinating role - maybe assisting these groups to apply for services, make application for fundings to one place or another.

J.E. Is this a new idea?

F.S. Yes. Many ideas such as this were fostered by organization such as the National League of Cities. Persons have been using that forum to talk about the need for integrating social services into the plan that regular cities form. In addition to the need for police and fire, that kind of thing.

J.E. Let's go back to talking about community development. Where were we?



F.S. There are three types of block grant: community development, law enforcement and manpower. Health, education and welfare will be slower in coming. In the city, seven programs that were funded prior to 1974 under categorical and separately funded efforts now all receive funding through the block grant. The effect of that basically is drastic reduction in the amount of funds that are available to cover the seven categories - maybe as much as 50% cut in total services. I think the city was receiving about \$11 million a year previously.

J.E. Was that large amount because of the competence of the city staff in applying for grants?

F.S. Yes, that's a point about this block grant program. It no longer rewards people who are good grantsmen, because everybody gets theirs based on this formula: population, housing, overcrowding and poverty. That kind of thing. Funds have been reduced considerably so there's less to go around.

J.E. Where is the reward, now that it no longer rewards good grantsmen?

F.S. There is none.





J.E. Assuming that the staff had been responsive to the grants system, now the staff has to be responsive to another system, right? Won't the rewards have to come from below? You'll have to have a staff that will be able to work with juggling priorities of people on the local level asking for money. Will the staff now have to be different kinds of people with different talents?

F.S. No. If you mean it will be necessary to hire different types of persons to be able to respond more directly and deal with increased citizen involvement, the answer is no. Because, by and large, the persons that were involved with this in the Model Cities program did have a heavy compliment of citizen involvement with the Model Neighborhood citizens board. So they've been dealing with that already, or trying. Under Community Development, at least in the first year, there's been less citizen involvement than there was with Model Cities.

J.E. Really? Why?

F.S. Under Model Cities the money was almost directly passed through to be administered by the Model Cities staff with the Model Neighborhood Board acting as a policy-making body. Now the money comes to the city and its not passed through to anybody. The council really is responsible for it and they take advice from a community development commission. But they haven't delegated authority to the community development commission the way it was delegated to the model neighborhood board.

J.E. CDC is a city-wide commission rather than a specific neighborhood commission. But when I talked to the staff about the hot lunch project, among other objections they said that the project money was all pigeon-holed or earmarked for certain areas, mostly model cities areas. So I wonder if there is some feeling of vested interest on the part of the staff to their old constituents in the model neighborhoods.

F.S. That's a good point. However if you look at it you wouldn't have expected it to be much different, because the model cities area was designated based on the greatest area where the greatest amount of need was.

J.E. There's no doubt about that.

F.S. So that area continues to have the greatest amount of need. Even under community development, the criterion for target area selection is still the greatest amount of need. The big difference is that now while needs are still the primary consideration, we can address need in any geographical area of the city.

J.E. Well, Point Richmond has about 16.2% poverty level, despite the fact that it has more than median 12th grade education, \$11,000 median income and all these other factors. Still it has this high poverty level which people miss. They don't seem to comprehend it. All the people on the other side of the hill bring the averages way up, but you still have 208 families under the poverty level. It usually isn't that way.

F.S. Well, actually its not unusual. The people who are educated and have good jobs are the more sophisticated when it comes down to citizen participation in anything. The day is fast leaving us when we are getting real grass roots participation anywhere. That poor wretch is not coming up there addressing the city council. If you were at any council meeting and had the opportunity to pull the speakers aside and inquire a little bit into their background, you would find they really aren't the poor and wretched. They may be representing them but they aren't themselves. For example, Point Richmond was represented at the community development meetings, from which came this "pigeon-holed" activity, as you call it. Some comments from the Point Richmond representatives were "We're probably not going to get any of this money."

J.E. Basically the people who had input at the first meeting were the hill crowd who are not familiar with what is going on down town. But that is changing now. The hill people are learning more about and becoming more sensitive to the needs of the downtown people and the youth and poor and downtown people are beginning to participate a lot more in the meetings. So it is beginning to work pretty well.

(At this point we were going to take Mr. Stevens on a tour of Point Richmond poverty pockets, but our car battery turned out to be dead, so we left Mr. Stevens at a phone booth trying to get a ride back to city hall. Thank you for the interview Mr. Stevens! You enlightened me and some of the rest of Point Richmonders too, we hope!)

THE MONTCLARION, Oakland, California  
Wednesday, May 21, 1975

# City told to (Oakland) 'bite the bullet' and make CD decisions

*This  
is Oakland*

The City Council must decide the direction of its \$12.7 million community development program.

Repeatedly — and from all sides — this admonition came out at the council's work session aimed at dealing with the paralysis that has resulted from intermural squabbling over the CD program.

Management expert Floyd Hyde was brought in for advice in aiming the program to spend the federal money in the right direction. Hyde, from the beginning, has stated repeatedly that CD must be — or become soon — part of city hall. And he says the council must face the fact that because of the new federal regulations, the redevelopment agency has only a limited life left.

Right now redevelopment, under director John Williams,

is conducting the "transitional" phase of the CD program — with the oft-repeated aim of turning the whole operation to the City Manager's office on July 1, 1976.

At last week's worksession, however, Williams said that if the pace of activity did not pick up he expected it would be more likely a year and a half or even two years before redevelopment could let go of CD.

## DELAYING PROBLEMS

Disputing this, Hyde shot back "the longer the transition to city government is delayed the more problems you are going to run into."

Mayor John Reading suggested turning the program over to the city manager as of January 1, 1976. An Councilman John Sutter asked why it couldn't be done immediately.

Councilmen have been complaining in recent weeks that disputes between the city and redevelopment have brought CD activities almost to a halt.

## BOOKS

Reviewed by Carol Bold  
West Side Branch Librarian

Doris Lessing's Summer before the Dark opens with Kate Browne doing what she does best, solving a household problem. The setting is England, but it could be anywhere, and the problem is how to serve tea when the electric power has failed. Much to her teenage children's enjoyment, they build a fire outdoors to boil a kettle of water. Her husband finds nothing unusual about such efforts to keep the daily routine normal. Over tea, the summer's plans are discussed. The house will be rented for the summer because each family member will be away for their own reasons.

Kate is the epitome of middle-class chic with expensive couturier clothes and perfectly-coiffed hair tinted to hide the gray. She has a summer job helping with a convention of world-wide importance held in Istanbul.

When the convention is over, she travels to Spain with a young man who falls seriously ill. Kate manages to get care for him just before she is afflicted with the same mysterious ailment. She gets to London where she has no place to go but to a hotel and later, when she is recuperating, to share an apartment with a young woman who has revolted from middle-class life because she found it revolting.

Kate, by reason of her illness, is freed from everything but contemplation. Haggard and old, her clothes hanging on her, the untended hair half gray and half red, she finds that she is invisible to the world, even to a friend she happens to see. As her health returns, she borrows a dress from her young friend and finds that by the use of a scarf, by arranging her hair simply, and by walking in an assured way, she can at will make herself very visible.

As the summer draws to an end, Kate postpones going home, unwilling to give up her new freedom. In the end she returns to her family but retains one change as a reminder to be honest with herself.

## SUMMER PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN WEST SIDE BRANCH LIBRARY 135 WASHINGTON AVENUE

The following films have been reserved to be shown in the West Side library on eight Tuesdays from 1:00 to 2:00. There will be no admission charge.

June 17 - Peewee Had a Little Ape; Dream of Wild Horses; Anansi the Spider; Cuckoo Magoo

June 24 - Fatal Glass of Beer; Tumbling; Household Drug

July 1 - Brown Wolf; Dinosaurs; Foolish Frog

July 8 - Coral Jungle; Braverman's Condensed Cream of Beatles; Legend of John Henry

July 15 - African Animals; The Dragon; Insomnia

July 22 - Elsa and Her Cubs; Legend of Sleepy Hollow; Alexander and the Car with the Missing Headlight

August 5 - Great Annual Bathtub Race; Paddle to the Sea; I Know an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly

We have also scheduled crafts for children on eight summer Thursdays from 1:00 to 2:00. When I mentioned the plans to some Pt. Richmond problem solvers, Thea and Dan Robertson and Jo Cunningham volunteered time, advice, supplies, and children.

June 19 - We'll provide seeds, soil, and containers for you to plant a little garden to take home.

June 26 - Popular Dan Robertson will give a drawing lesson.

July 3 - Carol Bold will show you basic knitting stitches. Bring knitting needles, if you can, and we'll supply the yarn.

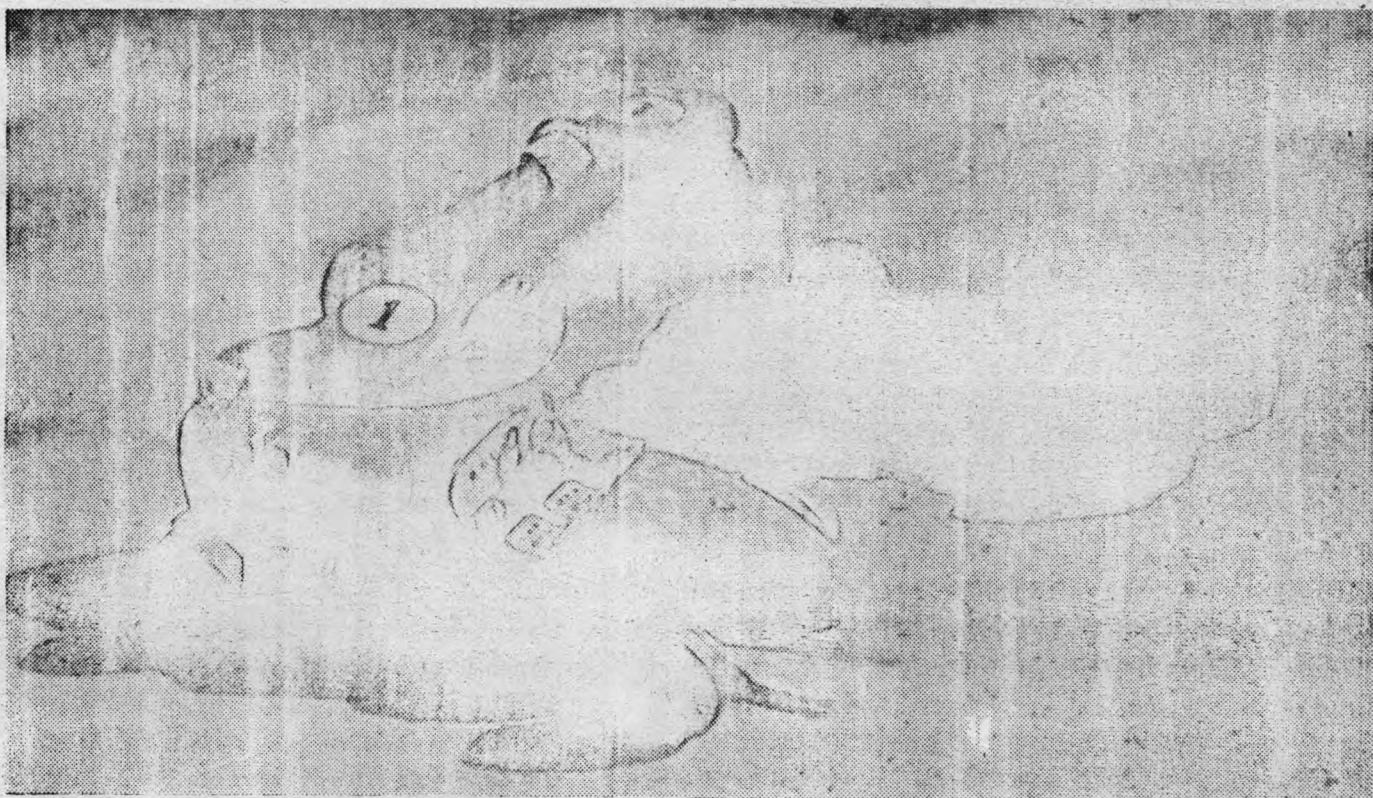
July 10 and July 17 - Andrea Hughes will teach macramé.

July 24 - Elaine Reuter will show you that leaf printing is easy, fun, and beautiful.

July 31 - Create glue-on sculpture from natural materials.

August 7 - Use your imagination and scraps to make a collage.





The Concours Winners: Doug Cuthbertson's Bugatti, foreground, Luther Martin's racer, left, and Dan Robertson's Red Mountain Burgundy Special, right rear.

## The Point Richmond Grand Prix

The Tucker Racing Team from Piedmont turned back a strong challenge from Donna and Tom Powers' star-spangled Scenic Avenue Special to win the first running of the Point Richmond Grand Prix and Concours d' Elegance on Sunday, May 25.

The race, which sort of grew out of a similar event put on by the local Cub Scout pack, drew 31 of the wooden model cars to George and Barbara Martin's house on Nevada Avenue. The Martins supplied hot dogs and champagne and the racing teams brought salads, desserts and snacks.

The concours d' elegance also was won by a Piedmont car, a beautiful replica of a Bugatti racer built by Doug Cuthbertson, formerly a Point resident. Second in the concours was Luther Martin's candy apple blue racer, and third went to Dan and Thea Robertson. Dan, who missed the race due to a broken ankle, carved his car and soaked it in Red Mountain wine for

several days to give it its distinctive purple color.

Third place in the racing went to Eleanor Hunn (Barbara Martin's sister), of San Rafael, and fourth was won by a lumpy green car dubbed "The Pickle," entered by Washington School PTA President David MacDiarmid.

R.B. Read, the "S.F. Underground Gourmet," was starter for the races, and Independent Photographer Bob Forsburg judged the concours.

Racers entered a wide variety of cars, all carved from standard Cub Scout kits. Chuck and Marlys Reynolds collaborated on a ceramic mermaid (by Marlys) riding in a "boat" (by Chuck) decorated with spaghetti seashells. It was a very fast car, but alas, also way over the 5 ounce maximum weight.

Ron and Theresa Albro's car was festooned with flower baskets and tiny chickens, and Pat and Ed Hoiland had a bunch of fresh flowers adorning their car.

# Pollution Control Hearings ~ a Summary

(Editor's note: The Bay Area Pollution Control Board has been holding lengthy hearings on pollution variances recently. Betty Segal, a professional East Bay writer, has attended them all. Betty, who actually gets paid for her articles in Pacific Sun in Marin County and the Bay Guardian in San Francisco, offered to write something for the Point Counterpoint for free because of her concern for the area directly affected by the matter under discussion in San Francisco. Thank you for your contribution, Betty!)

Richmond residents stand to gain or lose more from the outcome of the current air-pollution inquiry in San Francisco than anyone else in the Bay Area. It is a pity more of them have not been attending the

hearings, in which some astonishing revelations have been made about smog district operations in general, and about the role of our neighborly Standard Oil refinery management, in particular.

The hearings were the fruit of a long-standing dispute between Nathaniel Flynn, a conscientious Senior Engineer and his superiors, a dispute which caused Flynn's co-worker on several important projects to resign rather than continue the struggle. Flynn is claiming a "personnel grievance" based on his being removed from responsibility, harassed, humiliated and frozen in pay for maintaining engineering standards too high for the ex-oil company men who now are his superiors.

The press has had troubles covering the hearings because they run four days a week - Board of Supervisors' regular meetings mean no sessions on Tuesdays - and because the hours set by Chairman

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Peter Arrigoni of Marin have been long and tiring, 9:30 a.m. till 6 p.m. or often later. Editors have pulled good reporters off the story for other assignments: this happened to George Dushek of Channel 9's "newsroom" at the end of the first seven hearings, which he was covering in greater depth than anyone else. The Independent's reporter Jack Bradshaw turns up occasionally. But oil company representatives, with tape recorders, are on hand every single day.

How, where, and with what results the smog district monitors sulfur gases from the refinery has been a major topic of the hearings. Nat Flynn collided with district management first over Standard Oil's failure to install monitors in its flare stacks, in 1972, and over the absence of critical data about the refinery's expansion plans in 1973. The smog board members, some of whom were very much interested in developing a comprehensive program of in-stack industrial monitors in the District as far back as 1971, knew industry was reluctant; but not till this hearing did they know that Standard Oil, by threatening a legal battle, had actually blocked the installation of such monitors in the refinery.

On Golden Gate Avenue the District maintains a ground-level monitoring station for sulfur gasses only. This is one-ninth of the "network" jointly maintained by the District, the refinery, and

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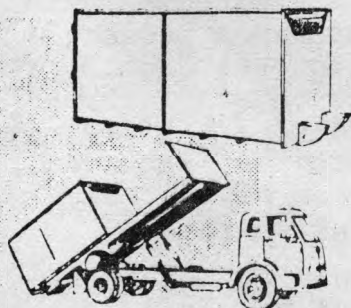


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Allied Chemical. Flynn, as part of his evidence of the ongoing need for in-stack monitoring to replace these ground-level stations brought in readings for mid-January which showed excessively high levels of sulfur dioxide, the harmful gas you can't smell, and hydrogen sulfide, the more notorious one that smells like rotten eggs. Both are bad for human health. Sulfur dioxide also makes for "acid fall-out" when there is moisture in the atmosphere, combining with droplets to make sulfuric acid which blights all forms of vegetation and can spread over a wide area when blown by prevailing winds. You can understand why the refinery has been anxious to forestall any continuous monitoring of those stacks which are the main sources of sulfur gases.

Standard Oil and the smog district's No. 2 man Milton Feldstein, have both argued that replacing the troublesome sulfur recovery units at Allied with new equipment inside the refinery should solve all the problems. Nat Flynn produced ground-level readings showing that Allied is not the only source, and whatever is now coming from the refinery illegally is not going to stop when the new sulfur process goes on stream in the next month or so. Flynn wanted to hold up approval of the new sulfur units until in-stack monitors and other safeguards were guaranteed. James Talbot, another engineer of rank equal to Flynn's but with 19 years service at Chevron Research, took it on himself to ask District counsel for a legal ruling granting the permit prematurely on the basis that a possible statute of limitations had expired. Talbot won, the permit was approved, and soon after, Talbot was double-promoted to become chief of the newly-created division of Permit Services. What does this mean for future safeguards of the community's health and welfare?


The best-known method of enforcing District regulations, because it is the most visible in the community, is the team of




inspectors in their conspicuous blue cars. Normally, inspectors assigned to refineries are rotated every six months or so, to maintain the highest level of effectiveness. But Standard's currently assigned Inspector John Dvorak has been on the same job for three years. He wrote only four violation notices against the refinery in all of 1974, which must be puzzling in retrospect to Point residents. Dvorak testified that he has a hard time writing violations, even if he sees any from where he normally parks on Crest Avenue, because by the time he gets into the refinery to inspect, the word is out and the problem has been controlled, at least temporarily.

Since "favoritism" toward refineries and chemical plants is the charge Flynn has levelled against the District, these examples are fairly easy to understand. Much of the District's response has been in the form of a technical filibuster - long discourses on the "state of the art" of instrumentation, complete with slides on one occasion, even though both Board members and the press are anxious to get on with the show. The District argues that it didn't push very hard for in-stack monitors because they were either too expensive for industry, or not reliable enough; both lines of resistance came straight from written communications from Standard Oil. On the other hand, Flynn and others have said that the instrumentation will get better when it is demanded, and that unless the District starts somewhere, nothing will ever go forward.

Fortunately for us all, the Environmental Protection Agency has now intervened, formally disapproving the District's tolerant attitude on ground-level vs. in-stack monitors. This summer, EPS's regional office will be glad to receive letters on this subject (their address is Paul Di Falco, Regional Director Environmental Protection Agency,

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100 McAllister St., San Francisco, CA.) and next fall, presumably, the agency will announce its decision. So the Flynn evidence has been presented in a timely context and we should be grateful that this man has risked his job and his reputation to do so.

The District is internally as polarized as members of the Board over the Flynn revelations. Engineers and inspectors are obviously cheering Flynn on; the deputy director of Enforcement, Tom Brennan, has suggested that inspectors are often subject to criticism if they are too zealous in writing violations; the middle management ranks, where ex-industry men have important responsibilities, are where the Flynn opposition is concentrated, under the direction of Warren Crouse, a former Phillips employee, and Feldstein. Lower-echelon employees were ordered at first not to attend the hearings even on their own time. Vice-chairman Jelavich objected to this practice and the order was withdrawn. There is obvious fear of reprisals against witnesses for Flynn, since the District has no civil-service protections.

If it has become important to identify sympathies for industry on the staff, it is certainly important to change the manner of selection of the Board members, but that's another long story. At present, each county sends one supervisor and one delegate from the Mayor's Conference - that's how we had the plant manager of Hercules, Inc. sitting on the board from 1965 to 1968, when Hercules was, and is, one of the "major sources" the District controls. An inspector produced evidence of a Hercules violation notice that was cancelled, during those years, for reasons unknown.

The hearings will very likely run ten days more; it would encourage Nat Flynn if the public he put ahead of himself were to show up for the hearing, which



takes place at 939 Ellis Street,  
the district headquarters in San  
Francisco.

It would also be helpful to  
write the Environmental Protection  
Agency - see address given in  
paragraph nine above. As they say,  
the Lord helps those who help  
themselves...

e.s.



#### GARAGE SALE

Janet and David Falletti are  
moving to Fort Collins, Colorado  
this summer and will be having a  
garage sale Saturday, June 7, from  
9 a.m. on. The address is  
Nine Oregon Street in the Point.  
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### Tape No.

- 3 Can Medicines in the Home Poison Your Child?
- 10 Poisons in the Home
- 18 Tonsillectomy
- 75 Pinworms
- 261 Care of the Newborn

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- 99 First Aid for Sprains
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# What's New AT SCHOOL!

Washington School will wind up its parent-teacher-student programs for the 1974-75 school year on June 4th at 7:30 p.m. with an assembly to be held in the auditorium at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to watch a play put on by the children who have participated in the Music and Drama departments activities. After the play the PTA will serve coffee, punch and dessert. Everyone bring your favorite dessert to share!

This school year saw probably more parents active in school activities than in the last five years. Almost every PTA sponsored event was a huge success - I can't remember any that weren't! Meetings were well-attended and parents seemed to be eager to give of their time and energy to make a go of it. 1975 also saw a lot of participation by fathers in the PTA and other school activities for the first time in a long time. The PTA president was a man and, not that he was a better leader for that reason, but David MacDiarmid turned out to be a very popular and effective PTA President, and led the trend back to school activity. Next year's President will be Jean Hazeltine who really knocked herself out for Washington this year. Jean was largely responsible for the success of the carnival. Kathy Lord will be the new treasurer. Penny Greiner said that three years as treasurer was enough! The first Vice-President will be Teresa Fong, Secretary, Babra Addison.

The PTA did well money-wise. At the last meeting there was something like \$500 in the kitty to start next year with. That was a month ago so it may have changed since then.

A flea-market will be held June 7 on the school grounds. If

you are cleaning out your closets, bring it on over in the morning - and sell it. Tables will be set up. You can also bring your stuff over and leave it in the multipurpose room any time before the sale.

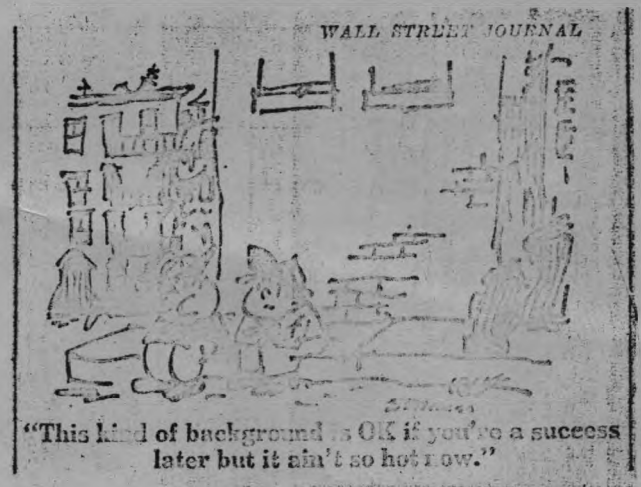
Jeanne Eger volunteered to work up a brochure describing the many activities of the PTA so that it will be available for parents next year, and will make it easier for new parents to become involved.

Projects for next year were touched on. One idea was scholarships to the Lawrence Hall of Science for children who are not achieving well at school.

We only fell down in one area. That was the Parent Advisory Committee - the parent input that is needed to spend the federal money that the school gets. These meetings were very poorly attended and the school got poor grades on that from the evaluators. So let's try to make those meetings next year. We get some goodies from them - like a trip to the state conference in the spring!

The hot lunch thing is coming up before the City Council in the next two weeks. All parents are **STRONGLY URGED** to attend these meetings. It will be on the agenda June 2, and then again either June 9 or 16. Watch the Rich. Independent Saturdays for the council agenda.

j.e.



# the PLUNGE

The Plunge will be open this summer! That is the latest word from Richmond's Recreation and Parks Department, which originally intended to close the Plunge starting in June. A local resident interceded and asked that the indoor swimming pool be left open at least until construction starts, which the city says will be late July but which may actually not occur until late August or September.

The schedule will be swimming every day of the week from 1:30 to 4:30 and Wednesday and Friday nights from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. Adult swimming will be held noon from 12 - 1:30 and from 5 - 6:30pm. No classes will be given at the Plunge - classes will be available at Kennedy Swim Center on Cutting.

The Kennedy Center has the same hours - 1:30 to 4:30 seven days a week, starting when school is out. The charge is 25¢ for children and 50¢ for adults. Season passes are available at about a 40% discount. Children over six years of age can come by themselves but under six must be accompanied by an adult. Lessons will be given at Kennedy.

## Notes from Mr. Kyle's Sixth Grade Class

I like summer  
Because all day I can slumber.  
Without having a care  
or anyone pulling my hair.  
But I'll miss baseball, football  
and basketball  
And "Quiet in the hall!"  
Goodbye, School  
And hello, pool.

Margaret Garcia

On May 14, 1975, Dr. Linker came to our class to show us all the parts of the eye, and explained a lot of things the class and our teacher didn't know about. He said he went to the slaughter house and picked up some cow's eyes. Then he cut the eye and showed the class what was in the eye.

Sam Martinez

Doctor Linker visited our class on May 14, 1975. He showed us all the parts of the eye. It was very exciting when showed us a real cow's eye. He took the cow's eye and cut it around the pupil and squeezed out the lens. Then he took the lens and let the class touch it. It felt like a soft mushy clear marble. After that he showed us the pupil. It had an oblong shape.

Kurt Medina

One day at Washington school a man named Dr. Linker came to Mr. Kyle's class. He brought a real cow's eye. (Dr. Linker is an eye doctor.) Dr. Linker cut the lens out of the cow's eye, and showed us different parts of the human eye.

Mark Healy

