

POINT COUNTERPOINT

A JOURNAL FOR CIVIC COMMUNICATION

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Early Days at Point Richmond

from the Richmond Museum
Association MIRROR, 1966

In its infant days, Richmond had much of the flavor and excitement as well as the violence and frustrations of a typical western frontier town.

At the turn of the century, most of what is now Richmond, San Pablo, and El Cerrito was owned by descendants and heirs of Don Francisco Maria Castro and by farmers and cattle ranchers who had trekked westward to the Promised Land after the close of the Civil War and purchased land without securing legal title. The Castro heirs were a bitter, disappointed lot. Prior to 1894, the great San Pablo Rancho, comprising a substantial portion of what is now urban Richmond, had been theirs. But on that fateful year, and after four long, weary decades of controversy, the court handed down a landmark decision which, in effect, broke up the former Spanish Land Grants into diverse ownerships, leaving little to the Castro offspring. Painful as the decision was, the doors were opened for speedier land development.

Among the beneficiaries of the great land partition was John Nicholl, a jovial but shrewd old country Irishman, who was awarded 152 acres of a rough, hilly peninsula jutting into San Francisco Bay and identified as Point Richmond on old United States geodetic survey maps. Santa Fe officials, seeking to destroy Southern Pacific's stranglehold on California's rich, productive Central Valley, recognized Nicholl's peninsula as an ideal place for a deepwater terminal, and promptly bought 57 acres of it for \$80,000 cash. With the proceeds of the sale, the astute Irishman bought adjoining land on the opposite side of the steep Potrero of San Pablo, preparing for the inevitable boom the railroad terminal would bring to the lands lying along the company's right of way.

With the last spike driven into place in July of 1900, Santa Fe's construction and maintenance workers settled down to the serious business of forming a town. Until the rails came, Point Richmond was virtually an island, separated from the mainland by a series of shallow, meandering sloughs. Several cottages and saloons had sprung up near the Santa Fe's original train sheds at the foot of what is now Barrett Avenue. But prodded by John Nicholl, this little settlement moved lock, stock and barrel to a sheltered location at the base of the Potrero Hills.

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The portraits of Roger Brand and Joel Beck which appear on the cover of this issue were drawn by Jill Sacherman.

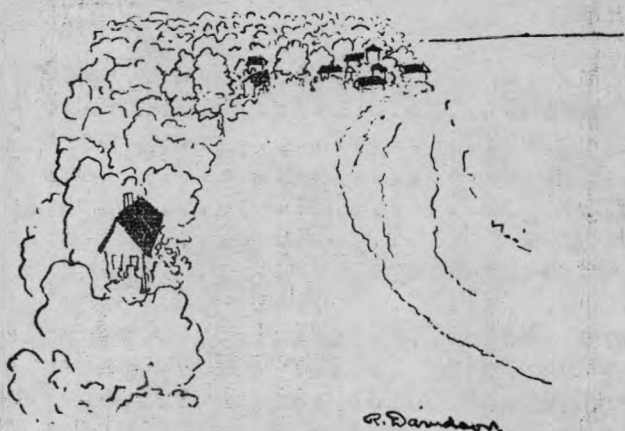
TWO PIONEER FAMILIES

Martha Critchett was a short, stocky, gregarious woman. She loved laughter and gaiety and good company. But there was precious little of these commodities in this raw, lonely community in 1900. The Critchetts--Martha, husband Frank, and their three sons--had arrived at Oldtown (the original Barrett Avenue settlement) right on the heels of Santa Fe's construction crews. Frank Critchett, a talented builder, was quickly offered free land by John Nicholl if he would construct a first class "mechanic's hotel" on a dusty, hastily carved out street called Washington. He accepted, and moved his family from a partly finished building at Oldtown to a tent at the new site at the Point.

Tenting was not a new experience for Martha Critchett. Her husband's trade had imposed primitive conditions on her before, and she had borne them with true pioneer spirit. But the fall of 1900 was a poor season for camping out. At first it was unbearably hot and humid, then freakish winds and rains buffeted the area. Martha didn't grumble. She was too busy fetching water from the town tank cart, and cooking and sewing for her family to mind the discomforts. There wasn't any time for gossip and sociability.

At last the hotel was finished, and a handsome structure it was. A wood frame building, the hotel had 25 rooms and a splendid dining hall. It was time for a celebration. In an expansive mood, Martha thought it was now time to meet the wives of the railroad workers. A blanket invitation was issued, asking all the ladies to come to the new hotel for afternoon tea. On the appointed day, Martha rose earlier than usual. Cakes and cookies were baked, silverware was shined to gleaming perfection, and her best linen and most fragile china were trotted out. Satisfied that every detail had been attended to, she sat down to await her callers.

(continued on page 9)



Pie in the Sky

by Jeanne Eger

...the local businesses like having a community newspaper and want local patronage and they know the editor can't live on thin air - so they advertise in the Point Counterpoint. Unfortunately that is not the kind of approach that is effective with the larger businesses and national advertising that it takes to keep a paper going. So we have place

this issue a postage-paid return postcard questionnaire for you to fill out and drop in the mail. This is to find out what kind of readership we have so we can sell ads. The alternative is a very expensive readership survey, which is beyond our means. We take as our shining goal the Montclarion, which started in 1940 with \$300. This is building a newspaper the hard way, from the bottom up. The other way is to start at the top with a big capital investment, giving the papers away and guaranteeing circulation until the ads catch up with the investment. Some make it, some don't. I think I like it better this way, even if it is harder. So send in your postcards!

THE CUMMINS MEMO

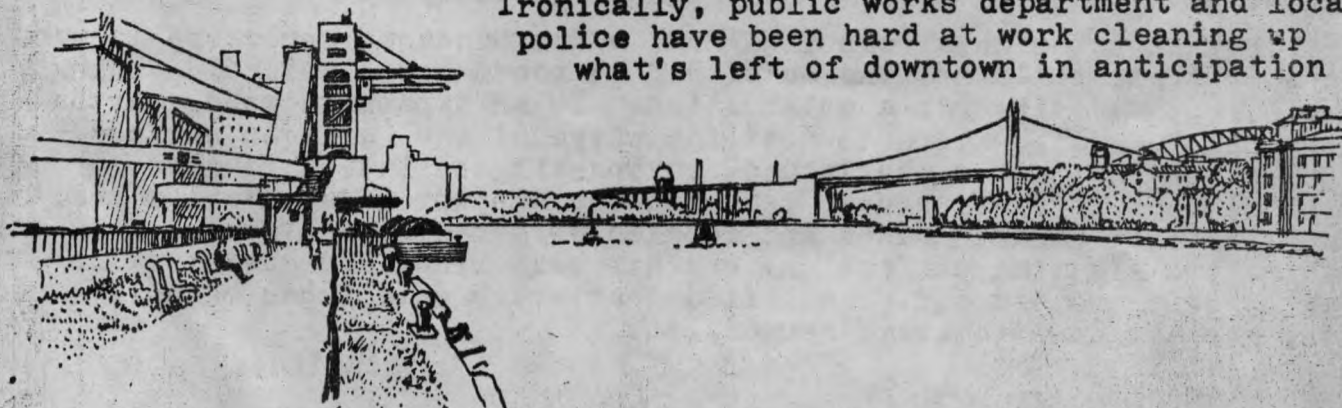
or

A CASE OF A BAD IMAGE

If you read the Contra Costa home edition of the Oakland Tribune you know about this already. The big \$28 million Social Security Western Regional Center, which was located in Richmond to give the city an economic boost, opened for business Monday, August 11. All 1800 workers were in the building that day. Shortly thereafter, Mr. Everell Cummins, the director of management (i.e., the big boss) sent a memo to all supervisors, saying that the 15 extra minutes banking time on payday, which the workers had enjoyed in San Francisco, was no longer to be approved. Unfortunately, the memo went on to say, "...for safety reasons, very few employees can be expected to want to conduct business at the local banks."

The curtain on the second act rises Wednesday morning, 11 a.m. at the Economic Development Commission meeting. Pat Herron reads the memo (which has leaked out) to the group. The Commissioners are horrified and decide to meet with Social Security Management.

Ironically, public works department and local police have been hard at work cleaning up what's left of downtown in anticipation of



the building opening.

Commissioner Warren Brown, publisher of the Independent is not at the meeting. Nor are any Independent reporters. However, unbeknownst to the group, a new reporter from the Tribune is in the audience quietly taking notes.

A chilly Thursday morning dawns and commissioners are being ushered to their meeting with Mr. Cummins. He seems visibly upset and nervous. He explains that the management and the union have made a deal to give the workers more staggered working hours and take away their 15 minutes banking time. The building is beautiful but weird. Shortly after the meeting begins a long loud beep issues from the ceiling of the conference room and a 1984 voice booms out, "A fire has been reported on the fifth floor. Will all workers proceed to the exits and descend the stairs. Do not use the elevators." The Richmonders freak. This is the Big Apple. Everyone walks downstairs.

After reconvening the meeting, the commissioners testify that it is not dangerous to bank in downtown Richmond. The police chief allows as how there is not much crime around the banks. Everyone want to know what they can do to make the newcomers feel better about being in Richmond. Nobody thinks of punching Mr. Cummins in the nose.

Thursday afternoon Contra Costa Tribune subscribers are greeted with a glaring front page headline, "Richmond Crime Fear - Don't Cash Paychecks." Thousands of dollars worth of bad publicity has been done.

Friday morning, August 15, Redevelopment Agency staffers report seeing a little old lady with a picket sign in front of the Social Security Building. The sign says "Oakland Tribune Lies. Richmond O.K. I've banked here for 10 years. Your 15 minutes is labor-management dispute."

Friday evening is the date set for the City reception for Social Security workers. Many of them show up. City Manager Ken Smith instructs the bartenders to pour stiff drinks (free) and invites City Hall workers to make sure it is a good party. The banks are there in force with their literature. Everyone is having a good time. When it comes time for speeches, Mayor Gary Fernandez winds up his speech saying, "I'm not going to get into comparing Richmond's crime rate with San Francisco." Everyone cheers and claps loudly. Fernandez is so happy with the response he looks like he's going to cry.

The curtain goes down. But does it? The longer range problem remains. Mr. Cummins must have had a terrible image of Richmond to think of saying something like that in the first place. Perhaps the local businesses that have been here for years and years and have become ingrown and parochial will start paying attention to how we look to outsiders.

A step in the right direction was taken Monday night, August 18, when the city council unanimously granted a \$10,000 contract to local public relations person, Bud Wakeland. Wakeland's firm "Public Relations Pacific" did the leaflets for the AFL-CIO council slate in the last City Council election. Wakeland was responsible for a large picture and a article about the new Social Security building which appeared in newspapers nationally a few months ago. He does public relations for the

(continued on the next page)

(THE CUMMINS MEMO - continued)

Mechanics Bank and Security Pacific Real Estate. Wakeland hopes to receive some public relations mon money from several large private businesses in the Richmond area, as well as contributions from El Cerrito, Pinole and San Pablo.

Though June Peterson, unsuccessful council candidate, charged Wakeland with conflict-of-interest, because he had participated in election campaigns, councilmen upheld his selection on the basis of his competence to do the job. Wakeland has been in business in Richmond for three years, having formerly worked for many years for the Oakland Tribune. The two other major political public relations firms in Richmond; M.M. Snodgrass, who is well-connected with Standard Oil; and Coffey and Co (Bert Coffey) who handles campaigns for Democratic party candidates (such as John Knox and George Miller II), have given no opposition to Wakeland's city contract.

The Point Counterpoint applauds the city's decision to spend money on public relations. Certainly, it will be no instant panacea. It means cultivating newspaper editors and reporters, and sending out press releases in the hope that the newspaper will have a slow news day and will have a slot to fill up with a press release. When a city's image is as bad as ours it is not a waste of money to do a little horn-tooting. It would seem that our image is so bad it is getting in the way of new investments. I'm talking about investments downtown, where not even the most ardent conservationist would oppose development. Most other cities the size of Richmond have a "public information officer". It is high time we stopped our public self-castigation and started acting with a little more pride. Even welfare recipients have pride....

Art Center classes start Monday September 15 and Registration dates are Sept. 10 - 12 (Weds - Fri.) at the Art Center. There is a full schedule of classes for adults, teens and children, including jewelry, weaving and photography as well as the usual painting and ceramics. Fees range from a low of \$10 to a high of \$38. Call the Art Center (234-234-2397) or stop by to get a brochure.

On those same dates (Sept 10, 11 & 12) the Gift Shop at the Art Center is having a 20%-Off-All-Items sale from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.



An intriguing program which has been sponsored by EBRPD this summer are "Horseback Nature Rides", guided in Tilden Park by Peter Ourusoff, the Cowboy Naturalist. The Rides will be continued into September and October and the dates are Sept. 2, 5, 9, 12, 16, 19, 23 and 26 and Oct. 21, 24, 28 and 30. The fee for a 1½ hour ride is \$7.00. The stable horses are gentle and Ourusoff says no previous riding experience is necessary.

The rides leave the Grizzly Peak Riding Academy on Lomas Con-tados Road at the southeast end of the park. Call 525-2233 to make a reservation.

SOUNDING OFF!!

A GUEST EDITORIAL

by Margaret Williams

Since becoming a resident of Point Richmond, I have enjoyed the serenity of early morning walks in the neighborhood. Point Richmond is a beautiful place. Apparently people don't appreciate this. I have no objection to people enjoying drinking and partying in out of the way places, but why must they leave evidence with their disgusting broken wine bottles, beer cans, candy wrappers and garbage? To me, people that dump garbage are no more than garbage themselves. Kellers Beach is one of the worst places of all, and Scenic Avenue is far from "scenic". Why don't these people "clean up their act". Next time you see someone littering, say something to them. Let's keep Point Richmond as beautiful as it should be!



INTERACTIVE RESOURCES will be hosting a conference on Solar Energy Applications for Buildings at the Oakland Museum September 11 - 12, from 8:30 to 4:00. If you're interested, pick up a brochure from their office (next to the Central Pool Hall). Registration costs \$85.00 and the deadline is supposed to be Sept. 1, but, as is often the case with conferences there may be some late openings.

ANNIVERSARY ANNOUNCEMENT

Jeannie Russell and Tom Gibson of Golden Gate Avenue celebrated their first anniversary in August. The day has very special meaning for them as the Point Richmond Madrigal Singers, of which Jeannie is a member, catered and set up the reception, handled all the flower arrangements, and provided the music during the ceremony in the redwood grove at Piedmont Park in Oakland.

The Madrigal Singers are known for performing their Renaissance period music at the Baltic for Pioneer Days and the Point Businessperson's Association last Christmas. Point members are Kathy Jensen - Director, Bill Anderson, John Adams, Jean Cook, Russ Segue, Kevan Kidd and Jeannie Russell. Carol Hudson lives in El Cerrito and Thom Muggleston resides in Berkeley. Jean and Bill's son Evan is a special honorary member.

"We want to thank you all, musical friends. The wedding - fantastic party that it was - is a beautiful, clear memory for us. Love to you all for giving us such a lovely day."

Tom and Jeannie

We are happy to hear that Barney Baxter, former Spot bartender, is now the proprietor of the Silver Club (on Standard Avenue next to Al's Ham & Eggs). He purchased the bar when Aubrey and Lola Reed retired and has been in charge since August 1. He says he is not going to make any big changes - it will stay pretty much the same. Barney is looking forward to seeing his old friends at the Spot. Why not stop in at the Silver Club some evening and drink a toast to our newest business adventurer!

aisle 11

by Dan Robertson

I seldom go to the supermarket, because if God wanted me to go to the supermarket, he would not have invented women. But on the way to a picnic last week, I did step in a supermarket to get a jar of pickles.

A functionary said the pickles were on Aisle 11. Aisles in supermarkets are as long as visits to the District Attorney, so I asked, "Where is Aisle 11?"

She said, "The whole aisle." And that is how I discovered the Pickle Phenomenon.

Aisle 11 turned out to be a library of pickles, surely the pickle heart of the world. They need guides working on Aisle 11, because the beginner can stand there blinking for hours and never unravel the complexity of the pickle situation. The choices are incredible.

You cannot just reach out and pick up a jar of pickles. You have to decide what size you want. Pickles come in 6-ounce jars, 8-ounce, 10-ounce, 12-ounce, quarts, quarts-and-a-half, gallons, two gallons, five gallons, plastic wrapped, and naked.

You have to decide on the shape. Do you want strips? Do you want chips? They have them. They have whole pickles, half pickles, quarter pickles. They have large pickles, medium pickles, small pickles, midget pickles, in your choice of fat or skinny. They have smooth pickles and corrugated pickles.

There are scores of brands. You must choose between Heinz pickles, Del Monte pickles, Smith pickles, Jones pickles, Hammer and Sickles pickles. Do you want the six and one-half ounce plastic wrapped at 87 cents, or the 13 and three-fourths ounce Piknik Pak at a dollar nine?

Aisle 11 had every kind of pickle. They had sweet pickles, semi-sweet pickles, sour pickles, garlic pickles, dill pickles, kosher pickles, only-the-tiniest-bit-dill with a-little-sweet-added pickles, tomato pickles, onion pickles, cauliflower pickles and piccilli. The only thing I didn't see was Instant Mashed Pickles, but they were probably on another shelf.

There is a pickle for every mood, and certainly a mood for every pickle. I was bemused by Aisle 11. Across the aisle was a display of Purina Dog Chow in 80 pound sacks, so I rearranged them into a kind of couch, where I could sit and study the Pickle Phenomenon at leisure. It was peaceful there. A person could sit on the Purina couch, bask in the watery green light glowing from the pickles get a breeze from an occasional passing cart, and imagine he was on an ocean voyage.

Aisle 11 is a place for the psychologist, the sociologist, and the anthropologist to observe humanity. Here's a man marching down the aisle. He picks up a jar of koshers with no hesitation, and marches away. A decisive



type, a leader, probably head of a major corporation. (But who has ordered him here to buy pickles?) Here comes a fatty in last decade's MuMu. She bends and chooses, not the quart-and-a-half, not the two gallon, but the five gallon jar of Giant Sours! In her own home she is a nobody, a Mrs. 5 by 5, a feignite scurfnold, but here on Aisle 11, she is a Lady Hero. The five gallon Giant Sours!

I saw a marriage break on the green glass cliffs of Aisle 11. He demanded Sweet Midgets, she insisted on Bread and Butters. Their voices clashed like hammers smacking together, until he stalked away and came back with his own cart. He scooped up six jars of the Sweet Midgets. She jammed a gallon of the Bread and Butters into her cart. They tramped off in opposite directions, the wheels of their carts squeaking angrily under the humming fluorescent lights.

But there was love on Aisle 11 too, when two young hands accidentally brushed as they reached for the same jar.

"Oh, do you like Whole Dills with Sesame?" he asked shyly. "My favorites," she whispered. They strolled away together, their carts nudging each other shyly, one jar of pickles between them. Thee, and Whole Dill with Sesame, I will wed.

There is something for everyone on Aisle 11. For the artist, an infinity of shape and form; for the abortionist thousands of green fetuses tucked neatly away; for the geographer, labels from

Chicago and China; for the thief, pickle lifters' heaven; for the economist, the knowledge that this wall of pickles would feed India for a month.

I spent several happy hours on Aisle 11, and left only because the picnic had started long ago. Alas, I also left without any pickles. I was never able to make up my mind between dill halves and dill quarters, so I bought a jar of ripe olives instead.



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(Early Days In Point Richmond C'td)

Mrs. Lyman Naugle, wife of the village postmaster, grocer, and owner and editor of the weekly "Point Richmond Record", arrived. The Naugles and Critchetts were old friends, having been neighbors briefly in Oldtown. In fact, Frank Critchett had supervised construction of Naugle's Pioneer Grocery Store in the new townsite, and was listed as the first subscriber to Naugle's "Record". The two women chatted and waited--and waited--and waited.

Only belatedly did they discover that they were the only women in town!

COVER

ROGER BRAND and JOEL BECK

Pictured on the cover are Roger Brand and Joel Beck, two Point Richmond "underground" cartoonists. That's Roger with the dark hair and beard. Joel is on the right with the hat on. Jill Sacherman did the drawing.

Roger and Joel both grew up in this area and have known each other since elementary school. Both have rejected (at least for the time being) the big-city-slick-advertising agencies to live in genteel poverty in Point Richmond and pursue their craft of cartooning. Roger's work was featured in the July issue, with a cartoon of July 4 at Point Richmond. We are fortunate to publish in this issue Joel Beck's graphic depiction of the life of an underground cartoonist and also his impression of the Point Counterpoint editor, commissioned for letterhead stationery.

Roger is 32 years old, a Capricorn with Libra rising (whatever that means). He describes himself as moody and inwardly tormented by "an inner driving demon that makes me draw the morbid and bizarre things that happen in the comic strips." No wonder. Roger grew up in Richmond, El Sobrante and Pinole. He graduated from De Anza High and spent about three years at Contra Costa College. Following Joel Beck's lead, Roger got into designing greeting cards. Then from 1964 to 1966 he worked in a shoe store and toy factory. True to the call of the artist, Roger got married and ran off to New York in 1966 where he worked for Wallace Wood, the original MAD cartoonist and Gil Kane, who did Spiderman, Batman and Captain Marvel comics. When the underground cartoon movement started in the late '60s, Roger jumped into it.

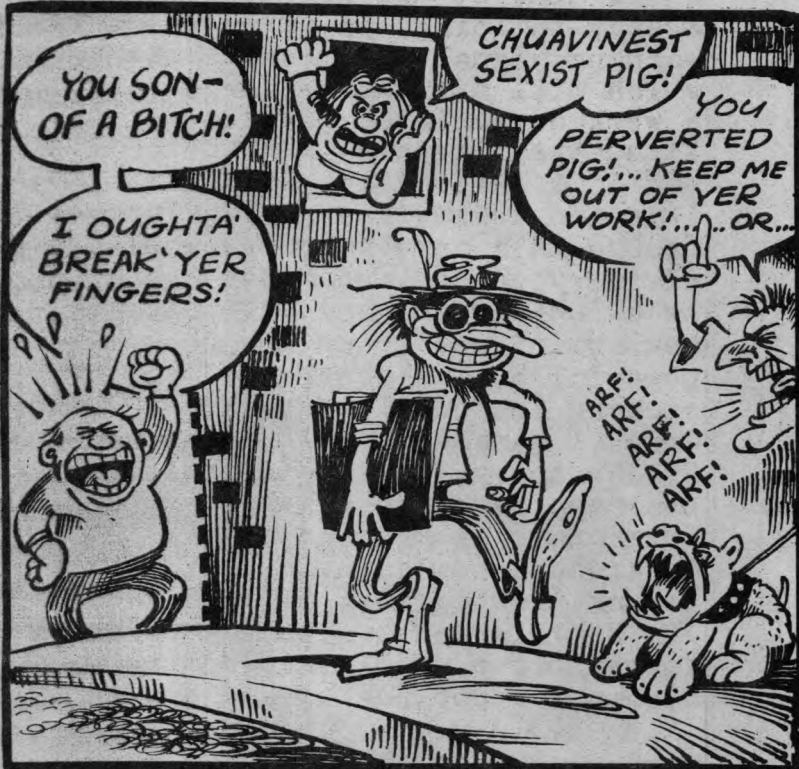
The Bay area is a center of underground comics, Roger says. Originally starting with a rebellion against taboos (with the lifting of censorship controls) the movement often portrayed gratuitous sex and violence. However, most cartoonists have gotten that out of their systems by now and have turned to more serious work. In the world of underground cartoons there is more freedom to handle whatever subject matter the artist wants to deal with. In a spillover effect, standard comic book outfits (Superman, etc.) have liberalized themselves as a result of injection of new talent.

We asked Roger how cartoonists make characters appear the same in each panel. "I don't know why people always ask that," he said. "It's simply a matter of understanding drawing. In fact, experienced artists sometimes even have trouble making their characters look different. You get a stock-in-trade group of characters and get stuck in a rut."

Roger has been in the Point for 11 years off and on. Why do you like it here we asked? "It's a perfect combination of small and quiet and at the same time next to everything that's big," he replied.



.....**BE LOVED AND ADORED**
BY THE HORDES OF MASSES!.....
 ...**BE RECOGNIZED ON THE**
STREET BY THE LOVING FANS!.....



.....**LIVE IN BEAUTIFUL**
LUXERIOUS SURROUNDINGS
WITH ALL CONVENIENCES AT
YOUR FINGER TIPS!.....



Joel Beck was born at 6:00 am., May 7, 1943, in Ross County Hospital. He was delivered by a female doctor. Joel explains that thus began the domination of his life by women forever after.

As a seven-year-old child, Joel had a combination of tuberculosis and spinal meningitis, of which he was one of the first victims to recover. The two years spent in bed was to have a decisive influence on his life. Joel spent his time as an invalid reading Mark Twain and Walt Disney and drawing cartoons. We asked Joel what his parents thought of their precocious son.

"They thought it was cute as a child, but when I grew up they started getting a little frightened. When I started to make a career out of cartooning they became paralyzed with fear and offered to buy me out by sending me to a university to be an art teacher."

At age 18, Joel ran away from El Sobrante and went to Los Angeles. "Upon reflection that is like running away from Lompoc and going to Lodi," says Joel. Then he ran away from Los Angeles to go to Manhattan. "Which is like running away from Lompoc and going to Fresno," Then Joel ran away from Manhattan to go to Berkeley. "Which upon reflection is like running away from Knott's Berry Farm and going to Disneyland." From Berkeley Joel came to Point Richmond where he has been ever since.


Joel worked for the Berkeley Barb shortly after it started in the mid-sixties. He has memories of the early days of the Blind Lemon and the Steppenwolf and the youth movement in Berkeley which was filled with creative energy. His first full-length comic, "Lenny of Laredo" was published

THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

in 1965. After that came "Marching Marvin" and "The Prophet" (the collected works from the Barb). After coming to Point Richmond Joel began his "fantasy" drawings. An important patron was Mary Fowler who traded free rent in return for Joel's originals. Joel now lives in the building known as the "Pink Palace" (over Friendly T.V. and the Karate studio).

We asked Joel what was his greatest pleasure. "Drinking white wine and talking with interesting people over clams," was the reply.

This portrait of the two cartoonists would not be complete without a mention of a third important artist, Paul Rogers, also a product of El Sobrante. We will do a portrait of Paul in a future issue. Paul, Joel and Roger are heroes to a young generation of artists. We in Point Richmond tend to take our talented citizens for granted, but in travels and conversations with young people on the East Coast we find that they regard our cartoonists as idols. "You KNOW Joel Beck?" is the comment I have heard on many occasions. Jill Sacherman confirms that she often discussed the work of these Point Richmond cartoonists with her friends in Ohio and regarded them with AWE!



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This commission, which meets the second Wednesday of each month at 10 a.m. at the Redevelopment Agency building, is often an early warning signal about developments which will hit the City Council a week or so later. It is a "run it up the flagpole" kind of commission, to see if the industrialists and businesspersons salute. Though this commission has only advisory powers and often seems to be a "whitewash" group, individual members of the group are very powerful or influential. Commissioners include Tom Sheehy, General Manager of the Standard Oil Refinery; Moreal Marshall, business representative for the International Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union; Patricia Herron, law partner of John Knox; Jim McMillan of McMillan's Pharmacy; Warren Brown, Publisher of the Richmond Independent, and others.

At the August 13 meeting, City Manager Ken Smith presented two important reorganization plans. Because the federal government no longer makes categorical grants for single projects, the city should change the Redevelopment Agency and the Port Department into one department which would be directly responsible to the City Manager.

"We are juggling a lot of balls right now and there are just getting to be too many to manage," he said, referring to the fact that the City Manager's office has been coordinating among many departments in the Redevelopment effort.

The new department would be headed by a highly paid and (hopefully) highly talented individual. His dept. would function like a corporate Research & Development group, or, another example Smith used - the Chevron Land Corporation.

(continued opposite)

HERE & THERE

with Dorothy King

YOUR HOROSCOPE GUIDE for SEPTEMBER

ARIES (Born March 21 - April 20)

Sept. 1-7: you may have a glittering social life. Your distinction lies in the travel and study you have done. Sept. 8-14: Sweep the board clean of past errors and start anew. Buy new clothes. Sept. 15-21: a lot of social high life. A well known friend may help you in the community. Remainder of month: be happy with friendship; this is a good time to buy yourself a pet.

TAURUS (Born April 21-May 20)

Sept. 1-7: you need to lose weight. Do a lot of walking - meditate. Sept. 8-14: You feel like a slave to your work. Sept. 15-21: you keep up with your work. You may get help from a loyal associate. You may have to talk most of the day. It may make your work tiresome and nervous.

GEMINI (Born May 21-June 21)

Sept. 1-7: Take your time with work. Sept. 8-14: An older person may be friendly and helpful in your work. Sept. 15-21: You will find help in younger people in your work and at home. You will receive help from a friend.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)

Sept. 1-7: You may have important affairs at work. You might become a leader. Sept. 8-14: Disciplining yourself now to keep in line. You could easily fall to brooding and you can't allow this. Sept. 15-21: Be careful in the home, yet you must watch out for electricity and fire. Remainder of Month: you will receive a letter or see a good friend of yours.

LEO (July 23 - August 23)

Sept. 1-7: Keep gentle with children; no harsh words. Sept 8-14: Buy a pet. Try to please children. In the evenings entertain lightly with friends. Remainder of month; you may find something new at work - try to develop unusual skill and speed.

continued over

(ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT C'td)

"The agency head should be someone with private development experience. One reason this would be important is because the funding method for the city would be by "tax increment." In other words, the money that the city lays out for improvements would be returned through increased taxes on the increased value. The value-increment taxes would be retained by the city.

The new "Department of Economic Development Renewal" would be charged with development of the Port while a port commission would be charged with running it once built.

"For this reason," Smith said, "I believe discussion of an independent port commission is premature."

(A citizens group is reportedly circulating a ballot initiative to establish an independent port commission.)

Smith said that the Port of Richmond presently grosses \$2 million annually, most of which is plowed back into improvements. The city has four facilities worth \$12 million. The establishment of an Economic Development Agency with the present Commission acting as citizen's advisory board would neatly bypass the hot issue of a Port Commission.

The commission voted with one nay and one abstention to recommend Smith's plan be adopted by the city council.

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VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 22)

Sept. 1-7; you have a good month ahead. Have a party and relax. Sept. 8-14; your work goes well and you are happy with your friends. Sept. 15-21; you look your best and have good health. Remainder of month; if single you will meet someone new in a public place, by chance.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Sept. 1-7; you may become ill. Seek a physician and you'll find it doesn't take long to get well. Sept. 8-14; you might find some hardships in your work. You might change jobs. Sept. 15-21; one who loves you will help you in many ways. Remainder of month; do things to show your love, use some of your artistic talent to make people happy.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 - Nov. 22)

Sept. 1-7; you may take a trip where you can be alone and relax. Sept. 8-14; you may find a new friend in your neighborhood. Sept. 15-21; you may find yourself a new home and enjoy it very much. Remainder of month; if alone you might meet someone and fall in love; there will be no marriage.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)

Sept. 1-7; you will do a fine job of thinking up things for children. Sept. 9-14; you may receive a gift that helps you a great deal. Sept. 15-21; You may have a neighbor who expects too much of you. Remainder of month; you might take a trip to see relatives and in-laws.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 20)

Sept. 1-7; you feel that there is an impossible rift between yourself and one you once loved. Sept. 8-14; Try to see things the way another might see them. Sept. 15-21; you feel too much is expected of you. You don't feel like talking to anyone. Remainder of month; your loved one might likely say this is the end. You don't talk in a true and meaningful way. You do just as you please.

1/22/75

James M. Burkhard
(200 block of) Western Drive (558-020-015)
LV: \$25,300
IMPR: 0

2/7/75

Donald L. & Sarah B. Amantite
Bishop Avenue (558-041-003)
LV: \$4,940
IMPR: 0

also

Bishop Avenue (558-041-004)
LV: \$4,940
IMPR: 0

Spirito Amantite et al
273 Bishop Ave.
LV: \$15,400
IMPR: \$11,020

3/31/75

Nellie June Davies
Nevada Ave. (556-122-007)
LV: \$1,100
IMPR: 0

3/17/75

Zoana Kille
205 East Richmond Ave.
LV: \$8,800
IMPR: \$8,280

4/4/75

Laura E. & Salina Arthur
44 Montana Street
LV: \$16,480
IMPR: \$13,200

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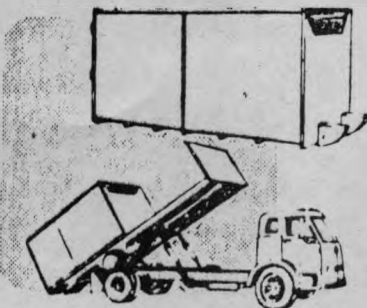


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No Turnips in the Marmalade

By Carol Bold, West Side Branch Library

It helps to know the right people. Eleanor, an English friend, my sister Frances, and I worked out an itinerary for three weeks recently spent in England. Eleanor's idea was to plan an economical trip for 20 to 30 interested Americans next summer; Frances hoped to make it a literary tour, but we couldn't ignore cathedrals, castles, and stately homes which loomed up wherever we went. In addition, visits to the homes of Eleanor's friends and relatives were a special privilege and surprise.

We drove about 2,000 miles in Eleanor's Austin, which cost us each \$40, including servicing the car at the end of the trip. Petrol was \$1.50 an imperial gallon, and the little car averaged 39 miles to the gallon. We stayed in dormitory rooms at seven universities for an average cost of \$7.00 a night, which included breakfast. Our biggest expense was the flight; the best we could do was a charter flight costing \$445 round trip to London.

Universities all over the world seem to have adopted the same design for their dormitory rooms - small, single, spartan, but adequate, with the bath down the hall. With the exception of Lancaster University, the rooms had wash basins with hot and cold water. Sometimes kitchens near our rooms were available.

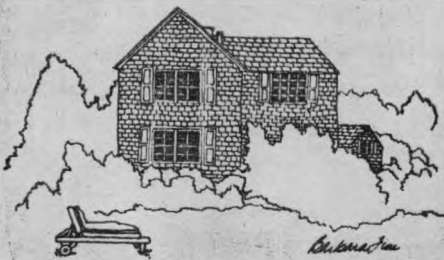
An English breakfast is adequate. The college cafeterias always offered eggs, bacon, milk, tea, coffee, toast or rolls, butter, marmalade or jam. Eleanor said that the best marmalade is dark in color and made from Spanish oranges. Cheap marmalade is padded with turnips. We usually could also have dry cereal, canned juice, sausages or fish, baked beans or potatoes, stewed tomatoes. Sometimes we had canned grapefruit and were surprised once with a generous helping of mushrooms. The English like bacon undercooked; so Frances and I cut away the fat and enjoyed the delicious lean part.

Lunches were picnics by the side of the road or snacks of Scotch eggs, pasties, or grilled sandwiches in pubs. Dinners could have been eaten in the dorm dining rooms for very little, but we were usually too busy touring to get back in time and ate where we found likely places. We used the kitchen on our floor at Warwick University several times for simple dinners using the supplies carried in the car for lunch picnics.

Coming back to San Francisco on the 707, passengers were bubbling over with exciting stories of their travels, but everyone we talked to had harrowing experiences with outrageous prices. The teacher sitting next to me had paid, in an emergency situation, \$63 for six hours in a Hilton hotel, another woman said \$55 a night was ordinary, and Frances heard some people say that they almost always slept on the trains using their Eurail passes because they could not afford hotel rooms.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)

Sept. 1-7; Come out of your own little world and talk to your love loved ones. Sept. 8-14; buy a gift for someone you love. Sept. 15-21; try to lose some weight. Remainder of month; take your loved ones out and show them a good time.



Property Transfers

Many Point Richmonders are interested in the land and property around the Point. Who has sold their house and who bought it? Who is building a new house? All this information is public record. Starting this issue we're introducing a new feature - it is a run-down on all property transfers and building permits issued in the Point. We've got to admit we are copying this from the Montclarion, which publishes property transfers from the tax-stamp records.

From the County Assessor's office we've obtained property transfers in the Point from January, 1975 to August 13, 1975. Under each entry, the date is the date of entry in the assessor's office. The name is the name of the new owner. The parcel is given by street address when it is available or by book and parcel number, if there is no street address. We've also tried to further identify it if possible. LV means "land value"

(continued on next page)

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ROUGH RIDER SPORTSWEAR
PURITAN SWEATERS



The Soldier's Wife

She sits.
Back to the door
Ignoring footsteps,
Whose measure is not right.
But sometimes
Like a face in the distance,
A feeling felt in airplanes, elevators.
The breath held,
Waiting the spoken name
In proof of memories fleeting.

When the eyes are shut
The image will not appear.
Why only the back
Bent striving not to turn
For a final farewell.
The photograph is becoming worn.
There are no photographs of backs.

Once a mountain time.
A trout rippling among the pebbles.
The string sound, the arrow,
The water spouting as a fountain's final effort.
The cold flowing stream
Washing away the clouded redness.
Until in the clearing he lies
Silently upon the stones.

Sally F. Parrott

Our 2,000 miles took us from London south to Canterbury, west to Bath, north to Warwick University, northeast to York, further north and east to Durham, southwest to Lancaster, southeast to Maidenhead near London, where we stayed in a private home. I have emphasized the "what did it cost?" aspect of the trip, because this question has been most often asked about our travels. For future issues I'll write vignettes about interesting people, sights, and experiences in England.

MAKING PIZZA

By Tressa Albro

As much as I love pizza, I've always hated to make it. There are so many steps involved in making the crust: mixing dough, letting it rise, rolling it out. Yet it galls me to pay six or seven dollars for something made of such simple ingredients. So, I set out to find an easier way.

When I make spaghetti sauce (as in the last issue), I usually make two or three times the recipe. I freeze one extra batch for lasagne or ravioli next week. The other extra batch I refrigerate for pizza later in the week.

Start by preheating your oven at the highest setting. Then take out that extra sauce. If you don't have any extra sauce, use one 8-oz. can of tomato sauce and one Tbsp. dried minced onion -- only 14¢ per oz. at the health Co-op in Berkeley. Add one tsp. basil leaves and $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. oregano leaves. Boil, stirring constantly, until it has thickened. Add a quarter pound sliced salami, cut into half inch pieces, and anything else you want on your pizza: olives, mushrooms, sausage, anchovies. Stir these into the sauce thoroughly.

Now, use flour tortillas for the crust. Sprinkle a little cornmeal on enough cookie sheets or pie pans for five or six tortillas. Divide up the sauce and spread it over each pizza. Sprinkle on cheese.

Cook as many as you can at one time, but use only one rack, placed as low as possible in the oven. Cook four to seven minutes, depending on how hot your oven will get. Careful. They burn easily.



The Richmond Museum is collecting books for a book sale to be held September 19. This annual sale is the main source of support for the Museum. You can donate books by bringing them over to Tressa Albro's house at 220 Tunnel Ave. or call Tressa and she'll come pick them up (233-6243).

SCHOOL STARTS

School starts September 3. The 9th is a holiday - Admission day. The 10th is the first PTA meeting. Here is the list of teachers for the new school year, with the exception of one third grade teacher and one aphasic teacher, which will be announced later.

Ruth Faria - kindergarten
Ellen Holder - kindergarten
Christine Johnson - 1st
Dorothea Nowling - 1st/2nd
Barbara Politeau - 2nd
Nancy Spencer - 4th
Walter Kyle - 5th
Gloria Gold - 6th
Vivian Ramstad - aphasic
Ila Warner - Vice Principal
Ina Briggs - principal
Marguerite Marinell - secretary

School telephone is 232-1436.

CITY HALL NOTES

On August 14 the City Council set the tax rate for the 75/76 fiscal year. The rates will range from high of \$3.10 per \$100 assessed valuation to a low of \$2.89 per \$100. This represents a 2¢ decrease in the tax rate.

The County also set its tax rate on August 27. They didn't do as well as the city - taxes went up a little bit - by about 7.9¢. The new county tax rate will be approximately \$2.85 per \$100 assessed valuation. The county will have a total budget of \$3.9 million.



The Soldier's Wife

She sits.
Back to the door
Ignoring footsteps,
Whose measure is not right.
But sometimes
Like a face in the distance,
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EATING OUT in POINT RICHMOND



EATING OUT in Point Richmond is a pleasure because of both the quality and variety of good food.

Parking is available behind the Baltic or by the railroad tracks. For the benefit of those with $\frac{1}{2}$ hr. lunches, most restaurants can be called ahead of time and lunch will be waiting on the table when you arrive.

If you are usually a lunch-time visitor, try treating yourself after work to a Point Richmond dinner and an evening at the Masquers. After that go bar hopping and take in the unusual range of bar-styles that co-exist in the Point. The oldest part of Richmond, Point Richmond is also a place where many people like to live, so drive slowly through the village, watching for children in the street. Bon appetit !

The Baltic

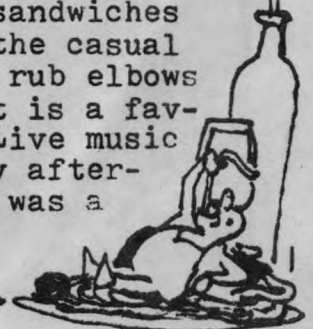
135 Park Place. 235-2532. Open 11 a.m. to 2 a.m., Sundays 3 p.m. to 11 p.m. Lunch is served weekdays 11:30 a.m. till 2 p.m. Reservations advisable. Menu includes a variety of sandwiches (steak, ruben, etc.), soup, chef's salads. Owner Howard Kern says anything can be prepared to take out. Cocktails. The Baltic is Richmond's oldest bar. Many of the fittings in the handsome bar are from the

the original building. Note the Tiffany stained glass lamps, the fine wood paneling. Kern and the late Wayne Wanlass spent many hours restoring the bar to its original beauty. One wall serves as a common wall with the firehouse and jail next door. The Baltic at one time served as a bordello. Live music packs the place on Saturday nights.



The Point

32 Washington Ave. 233-4295. Open 11 a.m. till 2 a.m. except Sat. & Sun. when it opens at 4 p.m. Cocktail lounge. Lunches served 11:30 till 2 p.m. Reservations advisable. Jay Ward and Ramona Longpre are the working proprietors of this elegant bar and restaurant. Dining is enhanced by white tablecloths, linen napkins and candlelight. Entrees with soup or salad run about \$3.00, and Louie salads and sandwiches are also served. Diners dress casually, in keeping with the casual nature of Point Richmond itself, and corporate executives rub elbows with hard hats. In late afternoon and evening the Point is a favorite watering place for the young hip single crowd. Live music on weekend evenings. Plans are for live jazz on Sunday afternoons in the fall - this was tried in early summer and was a huge success, so look for the sign!





Jumbo's

110 Washington Ave. 233-3188.
Open 6:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. eve
every day. No reservations.

Betty Moore has been running
your basic hamburger hang-out
since 1963. Besides preparing short-
order breakfasts (eggs with potatoes and
toast \$.90), and a cheeseburger-with-every
thing that melts down your fingers, Betty
commiserates stoically with local business-

persons breakfasting
before their stores
open. Betty also
gives out sympathy
to the love-lorn
and the unem-
ployed. This is
the place to

read the daily
newspaper over
a cup of cof-
fee and catch
up on the
latest gossip.

"I can prepare
anything to go,"
says Betty. "Food,
the customers, the
counter..."



Central Pool Hall

49 Washington Ave. 234-9924. Open 11 a.m.
to 2 a.m. every day. No reservations.

This is basically a beer and wine bar with
three pool tables, shuffleboard and foos-
ball available. But if you don't get in-
to the Point in the evening, it is worth
a visit at lunch (sandwiches from Whitney's
sandwich shop down the street are served)
to view this historic building, which was
built in 1902, and keeps much of its ori-
ginal appearance. On the wall across from
the bar hang two photo-

graphs of Frankie
Neil, former Ban-
tamweight champion
of the world. When
Frankie was alive he
used to hold court
on the bench be-
neath the photo-
graphs.



Al's Ham and Eggs

Corner of Standard Ave.
and Santa Fe. Open 6 am
close about 2:30 p.m.
Al's is sort of on the
highway so it is a fav-
orite stopping-off place
for truckers. Others
who enjoy the short-order
breakfasts and lunches and
cheerful smiles from Al and
Helen Frosini are commuters
coming through from Marin and
locals before business hours.
Lunchtime hamburgers are re-
lished by Standard Oil workers
and others interested in
simple food in a clean, well-
lighted place with quick ser-
vice. Al is a champion water-
skier and also teaches a
local kung-fu boxing class.



Mexican Inn

109 Park Place. 232-1272.
Lunch reservations advisable.
Open 11:30 til 2 p.m., 4 p.m.
til 9 p.m., except Friday &
Saturday when there is no
lunch. Frank and Myung He
Cosgrove are the working pro-
prietors of the fine restaur-
ant with red-checkered table-
cloths and Mexican sombreros
hanging on the walls. The
wide variety of Mexican food
is served piping hot with the
waitress warning, "Be careful,
hot plate coming!" Luncheon
and dinner menus are the same
with a typical dinner of Tos-
tada, Enchilada, salad and
refried beans at \$3.25.
Small banquet facilities
will seat 30 and there is
a back room for quiet
dining. Myung He is
Korean by birth and
Frank was an air-
force pilot during
the Korean war.





Judges and Spares

130 Washington. 235-9375. Open Monday through Saturday 11:45 a.m. to 9 p.m., except Monday, when it closes at 3:30 p.m. No reservations. Judges and Spares serves one main course each day which ranges from Moussaka to Creole Gumbo. The entree (\$2.55 at lunch and about \$3.75 at dinner)

includes salad and freshly baked herb bread. There is also a selection of sandwiches, different soup daily, freshly prepared desserts (Chocolate Mousse, cheesecake) and gourmet coffees and teas. Classical music emanates unobtrusively from the sound system and fresh cut flowers are on the table. The young staff prides itself on the preparation of the food from "scratch" - a legacy from baker Al Brennan who started the place in 1972. Line up at the counter with your tray and watch each sandwich being individually constructed with people even line up at restaurant before it two outside tables, place is popular with In late afternoon is over you will often writers and professionals enjoying a leisurely cup of



cafeteria style with being individual loving care. Some the door to the opens. There are cafe-style. This the city hall crowd. when the lunch rush find local artists, sional people enjoy-coffee.

Onstad's Pizza

Corner East Richmond & and Garrard (across from the Plunge). 232-9604. Open 11 am to 12 midnight weekdays. Open till 2 or 3 a.m. weekends. Bob Onstad and son Rick redecorated this charming pizza parlor from what had previously been a greasy spoon and originally was the office for the construction of the tunnel back in 1912. Bob's pride is the counter which depicts the coastline from S.F. to Sacramento in chart maps.

Pizzas are the specialty - the dough is made fresh and pizzas are liberally heaped with cheese (\$2.10 for small plain up to \$5.35 for large with everything.) Call

ahead 15 min. & it will be waiting.

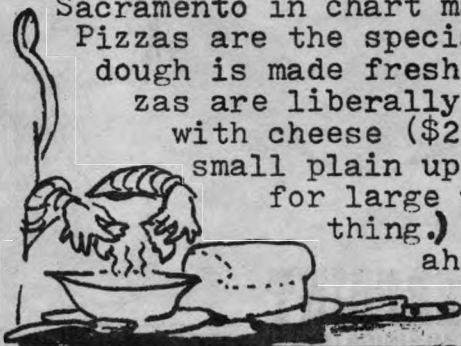


Villa Sorrento

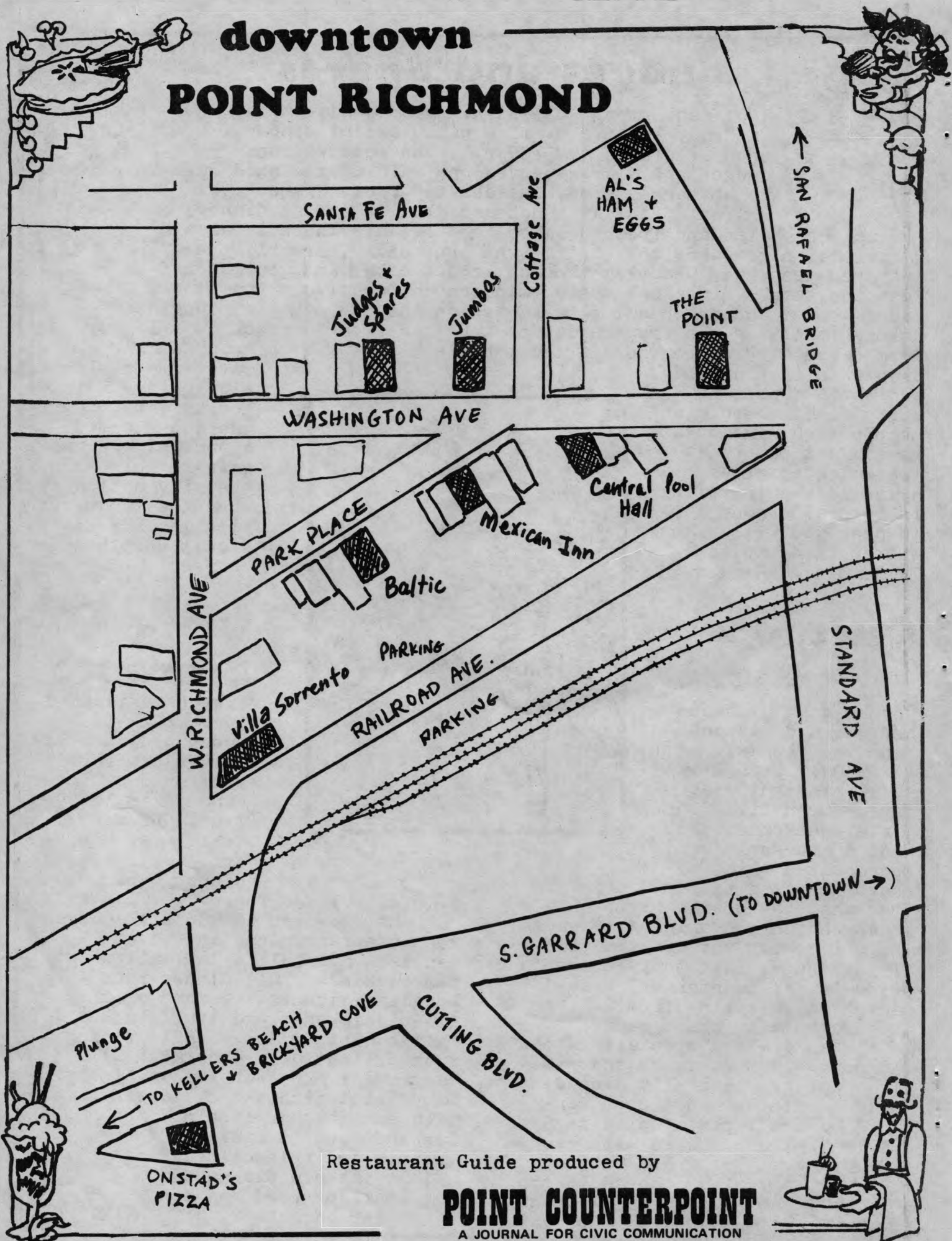
Two West Richmond Ave. 232-4970. Lunch & dinner reservations for parties over five. Lunch from 11:30 to 2:00. Dinner 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. Mon. - Fri. Sat. & Sunday dinner 4 p.m. to

11 p.m. Closed Tuesday. Cocktails.

Chefs/owners of the Villa Sorrento restaurant, Gene and Vivian Agnitsch specialize in Italian-American cooking. Full dinner runs \$5-\$6. Locals residents are fond of the fried-chicken-to-go (full bucket \$6, half-bucket \$3.50). Small dining room delightfully decorated with a large wall mural of Venice, Italy. Many Point Richmond oldtimers frequent the bar evenings and weekends and it radiates the warmth and friendliness that that the old Richmond Italian crowd has for for each other.



downtown POINT RICHMOND



MASQUERS HAS A HIT

The Masquer's new musical "She Loves Me" opened August 15 and is looking forward to a successful run through October 11. Don't miss this show! It's great. I couldn't understand why the house wasn't packed the night I went. Apparently the word just hasn't gotten out.

This light-hearted romance is set in a European city in 1930. The story revolves around the sales clerks at "Maraczek's Parfumerie", a small but elegant perfume shop. The lead characters are Amalia Balash, played to perfection by Mary K. Temple, and the head sales clerk, George Nowack, a shy handsome bachelor, strongly played by Chuck Haacker, Masquer's veteran. Both Amalia and George have been carrying on correspondences with a secret pen pal, "Dear Friend", and each has fallen in love with "Dear Friend" whom they have never seen. At the store they carry on a running feud, as young people will do when they like each other and wish to hide their feelings from each other and themselves. Little do they suspect that each other is "Dear Friend". Finally arrangements are made for the correspondents to meet.

Supporting characters carry on romances of their own. Llona Ritter, an approaching-middle-age saleslady is magnificently portrayed by Lois Hanrahan. Of all the wonderful singing in the play, I liked hers the best. Ms. Hanrahan has a great musical comedy voice in the style of Ethel Merman. She really belts them out. I particularly liked "What's In a Name", a duet between Ms. Hanrahan and Mary Temple. I meant to mention some other songs but I became so entranced listening to the music that I forgot to take notes.

The sets are equally as enchanting as the music. Designer Jerry Larue had designed a set that goes back three or four layers. Thus,

though the same basic set is used through most of the play, different combinations of depth through lighting and painted gauze curtains, make the scenery constantly shifting and interesting. In fact, the whole inside of the playhouse has become the set, with murals on the walls and an ingenious flower stand disguising a heating outlet.

The timing goes without a hitch. The characters are all strongly played by confident actors well-familiar with their lines. The music is delightful and weaves in perfectly with the story line. In short, the whole thing adds up to a perfectly charming, cheerful and worthwhile night at the theatre.

(Curtain time is 8:30 Friday and Saturday nights. For reservations call 233-4295).



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and
Irish coffee

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11:30AM - 2:00PM.

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POINT RICHMOND
PHONE 235-2532



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He can set you free.



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Subsidiaries: Providor Management Company
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Call or write your local
Provident Mutual agent
for a free informative
booklet on life insurance
for your family security.

Ned Bogie
391 Western Drive
Point Richmond,
Ca. 94801
254-7100



Sherry and Bob's
DEPARTMENT STORE

201 W. RICHMOND AVE.
PT. RICHMOND CALIF
TELEPHONE 232 3908

& patio of fashion

ELLIE'S

We have Redken products

Beauty Shop

139 PARK PLACE

237-9860

BLOW CUTS by JANINE

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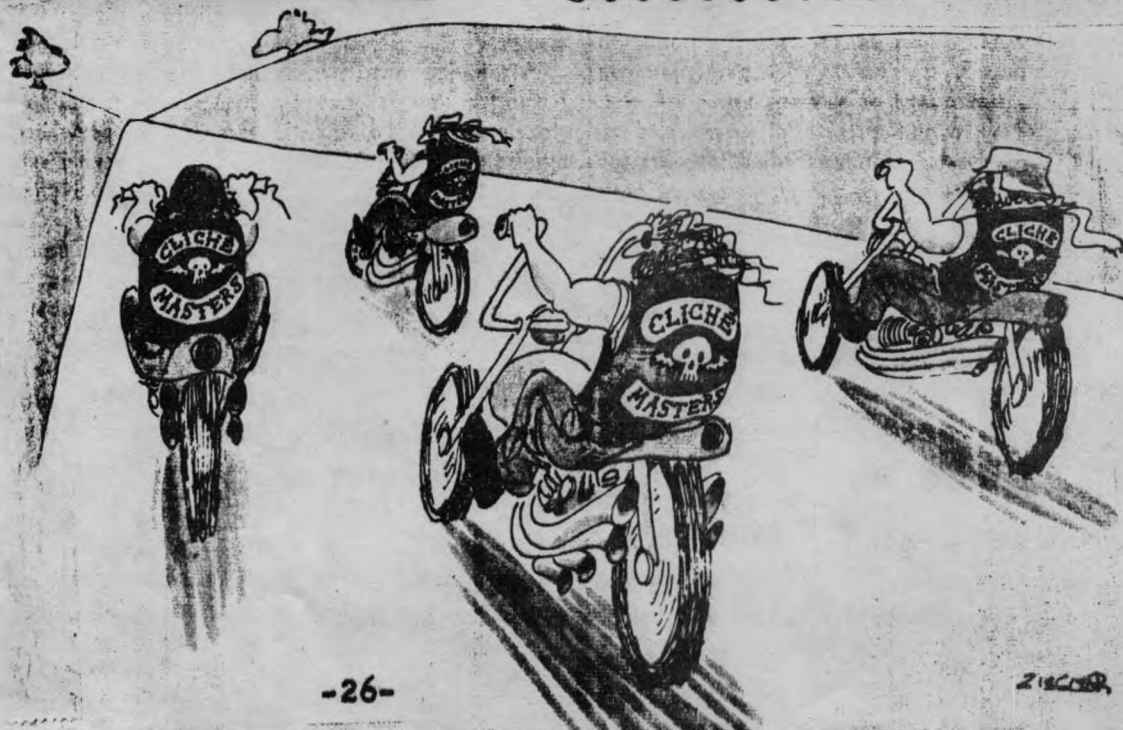
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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Sept. 3 (Wednesday) School starts.
(First day is a 1 minimum day)

Sept. 5 (Friday) Dedication of
new Social Security Building.
11:00 a.m.

Sept. 6 & 7 (Sat. & Sun.) Yard
sale at One Crest Ave.

Sept. 9 (Tues.) 7:30 p.m. Neigh-
borhood meeting at Community
Center to discuss controlled
development zoning of Point
Richmond.

ALSO

Admission Day - School Holiday

Sept. 10 (Weds.) 7:30 p.m.
PTA meeting in multipurpose
room, Washington School

Sept. 10-12 (Weds.-Fri.) Art
Center registration for fall
classes and gift shop sale.

Sept. 11 & 12 (Thurs. & Fri.)
Solar energy conference at
Oakland Museum.

Sept. 13 & 14 (Sat. & Sun.) Yard
Sale at One Crest Ave.

Sept. 16 (Tues.) 12 noon - 1:30 pm
Planning Commission to discuss
Point Richmond controlled de-
velopment zoning. Basement
conference room.

~ Classified Ads ~

HOUSECLEANING. Have a few hours
available. Call Emma Gean Cook
232-3021 evenings.

GIANT YARD SALE. Toys, furniture,
clothes, books, tools, kitchenware.
One Crest Ave. September 6, 7, 13
& 14. Free coffee and donights.

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Anyone interested in AVON products
in the Point please call 232-2660
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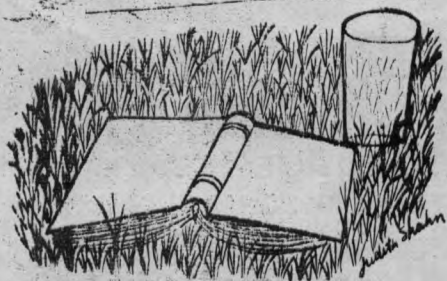
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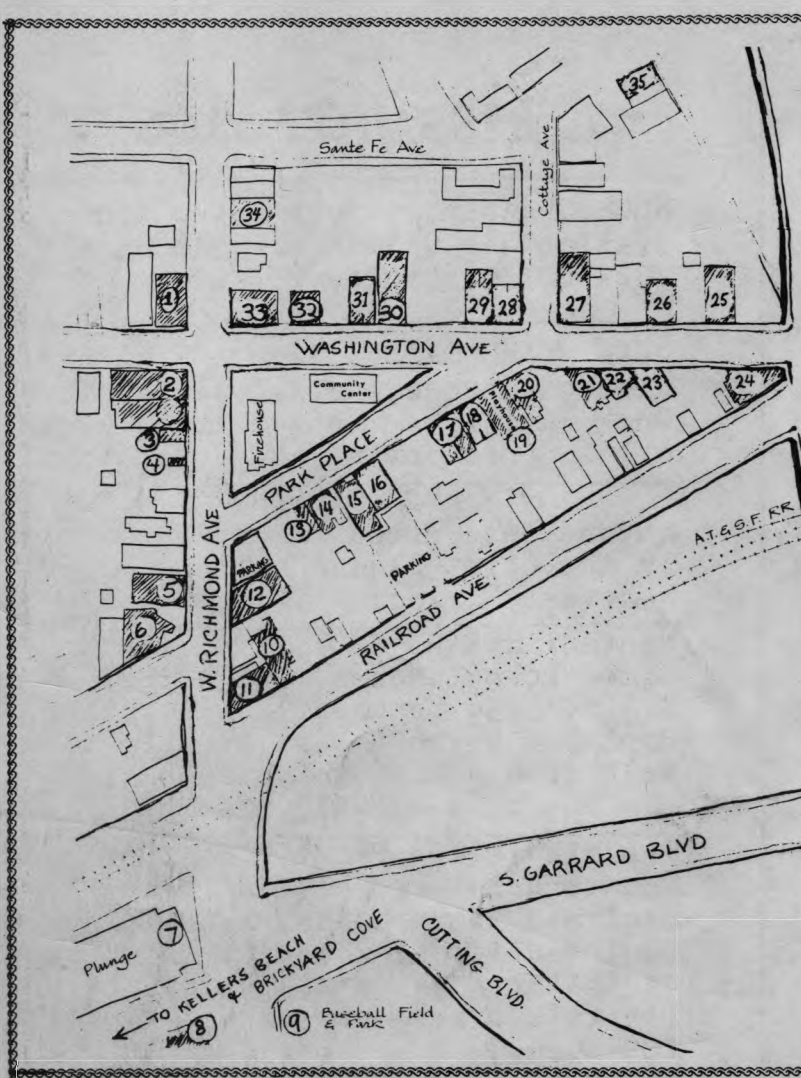


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Street _____

City _____

ZIP _____



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2. Santa Fe Market
3. Richmond Supply Co.
4. Point Richmond Real Estate
5. Karate Friendly T.V.
6. Bradley's Automotive
7. Plunge
8. Onstad's Pizza
9. Washington School
11. Villa Sorento
12. Point Orient
13. Wood Spirit
14. Sophie's Emporium
15. The Old Fire House
16. Ellie's Beauty Shop
17. Antiques and Accessories
18. Park Place Barbers
19. Masquer's Playhouse
20. Mariner's
21. Central Pool Hall
22. Jack Stoddard Realty Interactive Resources
23. Kay's Secret Place FDR Palace Whitney's Sandwiches
24. The Spot Liquors
25. The Point Restaurant
26. Mark Farmer Inc. (Doll Factory)
27. The Mac Hotel
28. The Gingham Goose Post Office
29. Jumbo Burgers Lou's Barbershop
30. Judges and Spares Village Launderette
31. Allyn's Men's Shop Taxis & Toadstools
32. Pottery Public
33. Ron's Market
34. R & D Plastics
35. Al's Ham & Eggs

Mexican Inn

Splendid Architect

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