

POINT COUNTERPOINT

A JOURNAL FOR CIVIC COMMUNICATION

25¢

First Issue

March 1974

Point Richmond, Calif.



TEWKSBURY AVENUE POINT RICHMOND

RICHMOND'S EARLY PARKS



By Marlys Reynolds

"Council Will Purchase 41 Acres Grand Canyon Park" - read the caption from a 1927 edition of Richmond's Record Herald. Despite the classic protest of higher taxes, the City Council agreed to pay \$50,000 for the 40 acres of land of unusual character. Councilman Scott, a man with foresight, contended that parks were a big asset to a city.

Indian women once ground acorns into flour on rocks in this area. The remains of a shellmound still exist here. Rains fill Wildcat Creek with rushing waters. Beautiful old Buckeye trees, oaks, bay and other native plants grow in abundance. Once water from Wolf Spring was bottled and sold commercially.

The park area was part of the Rancho San Pablo, owned by the Castro family. The park was later named after Juan B. Alvarado, a son-in-law. Alvarado became Governor during the Mexican regime. The "Arroja Grande" was often used for Spanish family picnics.

In the early 1900's, after Richmond's excellent trolley system was established, dancing and dining brought gay crowds near the park. Remains of the old building can still be seen on the crest of the hill fronting the park. At different times it served as a nursing home, speakeasy, gambling house and, some say, with the usual retinue of ladies who were not always in retirement.

After the city purchased the park it put in many improvements without destroying the original wooded feeling of the land. Now there are 17 barbecue and picnic areas, hiking trails, playgrounds, and primitive overnight camping area available to organized groups, especially Scout and Campfire members.

the Contra Costa Shoreline Parks Committee

program of activities for March

..... "George Miller Jr. Regional Park Month"

SUNDAY, MARCH 3



3:00 to 5:00 p.m., "Tea and Toddy Party" to inaugurate "George Miller Jr. Regional Park Month," at the Richmond Museum, the old Richmond Library Building at 4th and Nevin, Richmond.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6



3:30 p.m. at Keller's Beach, the Harry Ells High School and Kennedy High School Hiking and Biking Clubs explore the site and enjoy refreshments.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13



3:30 p.m. at Keller's Beach, the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Brownies and Cubs will have a Kite-Flying and Hiking Day on the beach and hills, with refreshments.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20



10:30 a.m., at Keller's Beach, the Nursery Schools of the area will play on the beach and have refreshments.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27



3:30 p.m. at Keller's Beach, the Camp-Fire Girls of the area will take a Wild Flower Walk up the hills of the future George Miller Jr. Park, and have refreshments.

SUNDAY, MARCH 31



1:00 to 3:00 p.m., at the home of Assemblyman and Mrs. John T. Knox, 229 Bishop Avenue, Point Richmond, a Champagne Breakfast. \$5.00 donation for the Contra Costa Shoreline Parks Committee.
645 Cypress Point Road, Point Richmond, California, 94801.



Music for all reasons, seasons & tastes

A Music Center, though a wonderful thing for this community, was not envisioned as being an overwhelming success, when it began in 1969. Now, at the beginning of 1974, there are more than 450 students attending the Center, learning almost anything you can think of that can be categorized as "performing arts," from classical music to jazz to electronic music, from clarinet to shakuhachi, from ballet to African dance, and even drama and film-making.

The Center (a non-profit community school of the performing arts) offers to people of all ages and all interests an opportunity to learn what, and as much as, they want from highly qualified teachers. It is located (mostly) at Grace Lutheran Church, 24th and Barrett in Richmond, with overflow classes located at First Methodist at 32nd and Barrett. (Telephone no. is 234-5624).

Besides teaching, the music Center offers free concerts twice a month, the second and fourth Thursday evenings, at 7:45 p.m. These "Coffee Concerts" begin with a short concert by students, followed by guest artists. On Valentine's day, four of the finest vocalists in the Bay area thrilled the audience. February 28 is the next concert, and it will feature the Syrinx Woodwind Quintet. (Shirley Campbell, flute, Donna Roselius, oboe, Barbara Davis, clarinet, Mary Kay Duggan, French Horn, and Marje Prindle, bassoon.)

On March 16, a special piano concert will be given in celebration of the Center's new Concert Grand piano. Janet Guggenheim, Lois Brandwynne and Karl Goldstein will perform!

Can you assimilate MORE?

An additional service now started is a series of workshops designed to assist people who are singing, playing instruments, etc., but who could use some help, advice, criticism, etc. please call the center about these!

WANTED: A Park You can Walk To

by

Lucretia Edwards

Since the Contra Costa Shoreline Parks Committee strongly feels that the Point Counter Point played a vitally important part in the fierce fight that was waged for a regional park at Point Richmond, it would be pleasant at this moment of renaissance of the Point Counter Point to be able to report to all our loyal supporters that continued efforts have resulted in dramatic success.

Unhappily, though the efforts have been continued and while there are results, we are still a long way from dramatic success. In order to keep the sequences straight in this minor classic of frustration, a brief history of the struggle to liberate our sleeping beauty of a park will help in understanding what has been done and what remains to be done.

Since Richmond was born and has largely existed to serve industry, it is not surprising that until very recently there was no public access to the Bay along the entire 33 miles of city shoreline from Pt. Isabel to Pt. Pinole. With the exception of the mile of residential zoning at Pt. Richmond and a 60 foot boat launching ramp the rest of the shoreline was zoned for industry, although much of it including the hills and flat land at Pt. Richmond were undeveloped.

In 1947 plans for an Aquatic Park at Pt. Richmond were first proposed and included in the interim Master Plan. Between 1947 and 1954 the city made a beginning towards acquiring underwater property in the area, and \$48,000 was set aside for eventual development of a small boat harbor. In 1954 when state tideland oil revenues were made available for waterfront parks, the Aquatic Park seemed about to become a reality. But the idea was strongly opposed by Standard Oil on the basis of possible interference with shipping near Long

Wharf and the plans were shelved. The \$48,000 fund was diverted to other purposes. Ten years later in 1964, as an inducement to Contra Costa County to join Alameda County in the East Bay Regional Park District, Contra Costa was promised a 200 acre west county waterfront park by June 1969. The East Bay Regional Park District pledged that \$100,000 a year of Contra Costa tax funds would be set aside for 4 years to provide money to purchase land for the park. In 1964 \$400,000 seemed a princely sum, and quite adequate to make a good beginning at land acquisition. Point Pinole, at that time recently made available for purchase by the gunpowder manufacturers who had owned it, was proposed as the park site, but before any arrangement could be consummated the entire property was purchased by Bethlehem Steel Company, whose stated intent was to develop it extensively as an integrated steel production plant.

With Pt. Pinole eliminated, various alternate West County shoreline sites were reviewed and evaluated, and in 1966 the Pt. Richmond area was chosen by virtue of its size (large enough to qualify for a regional park), climate, variety of terrain, superlative hill views, and accessibility to the public in a heavily populated urban area.

This site of hills and shoreline had the enthusiastic support of the General Manager of the East Bay Regional Park District, Mr. William Penn Mott, but when Mr. Mott was called to Sacramento to head the State Recreation and Park Department, the attention of the new manager, Mr. Luckman, was absorbed by other priorities. The Regional Park Directors, who were understandably eager to acquire still available untouched wilderness areas deep in the county, were chary of the idea of spending taxpayers dollars on highly priced industrial land whose potential they could not envision. So activity ground to a virtual halt until 1968. At that time, frustrated by the lack of progress towards getting the park, the Park Committee of the Pt. Richmond

Civic Group disaffiliated from that group to become the Contra Shoreline Parks Committee. The group took it upon themselves to remind the Park District of its pledge to Contra Costa County by launching a vigorous campaign of speeches, trips, motion pictures, parties, newspaper articles, publications (The Tiny Tennis Shoes Press) television shows and other means of informing the public. In addition, they attended all Regional Park Board meetings.

In 1969, since negotiations by the Park District seemed to have stalled with the Santa Fe Railroad Company (which owned all of the flat land and much of the hill land at Pt. Richmond). The group communicated directly with Mr. John S. Reed, President of the Santa Fe and discussions were promptly re-opened. Eventually, after many fits and starts and a few more letters to Mr. Reed, the Santa Fe agreed to sell 8.5 acres, at \$10,000 per acre, on the flat land between the bay and Garrard Boulevard, with permission for a bridge approach to the shore over the tracks. In addition, the Santa Fe generously contributed 44 additional acres of underwater lots along the railroad tracks, plus a strip 2800 feet long and 48 feet wide, linking the new park site with the city's lovely little Keller's Beach, opened in 1967.

While this was going on the top of Nicholl Knob, long envisioned as the crowning peak of the hills embracing the park area, was threatened by unexpected East Bay Municipal Utility District plans to hollow it out for construction of a 500,000 gallon water tank.

The Saga of Nicholl Knob will be continued in the next edition of Point Counterpoint.....

Anyone having opposing views to the opinions expressed in any of the articles is encouraged to submit their own articles, letters or news stories. These must be signed to be printed.

HERE AND THERE

with Dorothy King

The Chinese New Year was celebrated at the Point at Bob's Market and Ron's Market and the Point Orient Restaurant by the Richmond San Pablo Judo and Gung Company. They did the dragon dance of the Lion who is the King of Animals and then the Tiger dance as this is the year of the Tiger. They did the dance with fireworks and firecrackers! For the Chinese people it is believed that wisdom, luck prosperity, health and wealth will come. So Happy New Year!



Bob Reed, well loved denizen of Park Place, and best selling author of San Francisco Gourmet, is the proud new owner of a Champion Afgan. It is rumored that Bob can't think of a name for it. Any suggestions?



Is something going on down at the Central Pool Hall? Since popular Al Chelkauskas ("Big Al") has taken over from old timer Marshall Bedwell, some strange new vibes have been emanating from that well known landmark. In particular, we mention the Rockabilly Rythm Boys, who provide some of the best electric blue grass around. In any event, you're almost sure to find some real fine country music with an electric flair on Friday and Saturday nights at the Central. You all come, you hear?



Local Merchant Prince Dave Lee had his hands full the other night. Two beautiful damsels walked out of the Point Orient without paying. Dave followed them out into the darkened streets of Point Richmond to gain his due. Although Dave was known as the terror of Chinatown in his youth, he prudently avoided a confrontation with the lovely absconders and settled for a license plate number instead.



A big welcome back from all of us to our own magnate, George Marks. After building a multi-million dollar business in the camping equipment business in Berkeley, George has sold out and returned to the Point where, it seems, he has rented his old building over on Tewksbury and plans to install a complete woodworking shop. Just a hobby now, but we suspect ulterior motives, for George is justifiably known for his Midas touch.

Speaking of Georges, George Haigh is now behind the plank at the Point Orient on Friday and Saturday nights. The management was impressed with the magnitude of George's bar bill and invited him to participate in the operation of this fine restaurant. An early dish-washing experiment in the kitchen didn't work out because of communication difficulties. It is hoped that George will soon pick up enough Chinese to correct these deficiencies.



A big celebration of the Paaschs' birthday, (Walter & Russell) & Mrs. & Mrs. Walter Paasch's 48th Wedding anniversary was held at Russell Paasch's home at 318 Tunnel Ave.

the Field House Program

The winter program at the little Field House next to Washington school continues through March. The hours of our newest recreation center fit in with the school times of the children at Washington:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday,
from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, 1:15 to 5:00 p.m.

Here are the activities:

Monday: Volleyball, football, table games

Tuesday: Arts & crafts, basketball, table games

Wednesday: Dance

Thursday: Arts & crafts, football

Friday: Special events.

Movies, excursions, football games and special events will be announced.

Call 234-6032 for more information.

Community dinners at Community Center

Did you know that the Point Community Center was host to 70 (count them - seventy!) people for Thanksgiving dinner? Each person paid \$1.00 and there was a LOT of food.

The dinners will become a regular thing this spring. March 6 and March 27 are the dates to plan for. Anyone can come. All that is required is that 75¢ be paid in advance, so Gladys Ferguson can buy the food and cook it.

Gladys runs the community center and is all excited about the programs for the spring. Included will be a ping-pong tournament and a pool tournament in March. Check with her at 232-6140 for the dates.

The center is open from 1 to 9:30 p.m. and is available free during those times for community groups, with a reservation in advance. It is also available to be rented for private parties and meetings at other times.

There is also an excursion once a month. February's trip was an ice skating party.

Check it out!



WAIT UNTIL DARK, a suspense-filled drama by Frederick Knott, author of DIAL "M" FOR MURDER, will open here in Point Richmond on Friday, April 19 at the Masquers Playhouse. The drama focuses on a young blind woman who accidentally becomes the possessor of a highly valuable doll sought after by three unusual men. The young woman is forced to rely on every bit of resourcefulness that blindness has taught her as the intruders attempt to beguile her. As clever as they are and as helpless as she seems to be, she nonetheless is able to outwit them until....

Until what happens? Find out at the Masquers, Friday and Saturday evenings, from April 19 to June 1. For reservations call 233-4295 after 3:00 p.m. Admission is \$2.50.

WALDIE Supporters

Judy Coleman (Mrs. Alan Coleman) of 509 Golden Gate Avenue, is Chairperson of Richmond Grass Roots for Waldie. Call her at 232-8218 to contribute money, your endorsement or your time to help Jerry Waldie's campaign for Governor. Judy says, "If people would quit saying he's too honest and too good and he'll never win - and start helping the campaign, then he might make it."

Rumor has it that right next door to the Colemans is another candidate, this one for the seat that Waldie is vacating. Is Art Carter running for Congress? No formal announcement has yet been made. Rumor also has it that he will be opposed in the primary by George Miller III, son of the late State Senator from Martinez.

The RICHMOND MUNICIPAL NATATORIUM ~ ~ ~

A program in Lifesaving will be given at the Plunge starting March 2. It will be on Saturdays from 9-12 noon. An American National Red Cross Senior Lifesaving Certificate will be issued to students successfully completing the course. Pool use and course text will cost \$6.00. Registration is supposed to be February 23 but there may be openings left. (The first 12 qualified swimmers will be accepted). If you are interested stop by the Plunge or call 232-1212, X496.

Skin and Scuba Diving will be offered at the Kennedy Swim Center Thursdays, March 21 - June 6 from 7-10 p.m. Registration is at the Parks & Recreation Department main office until March 19 or at the Swim Center at the first class. The course will cost \$35.00. For more information call 232-1212, X 496.

Did you know that on Tuesday nights the pool at the Plunge is filled with kayaks instead of swimmers? I think it is called the White Water Club. That might be an interesting, fun thing to watch some Tuesday night.



ARTIST'S MODEL OF POINT RICHMOND HOUSE OF FUTURE
wind-powered electrical system answer to energy crisis?

the Windmill House on Western

Residents of Western Drive are all excited about a windmill house going up on their street. It is being built by a young architect from "Interactive Resources", a new architectural consulting firm located next to Stoddard Realty. More on this next month.

What's New at School?

By Doris Cort

Two parent groups are hard at work this year to add what they can to Washington School's program. The PTA, caught between two traditional nemeses—skimpy funds and too few parents with extra time to donate, continues to brave the situation. Pat Hoiland, Vice-president, is on the look-out for 'junk' which can be repaired and/or used in classroom projects. It's amazing what things a teacher and twenty children can turn into learning experiences. If you have anything to donate, call Pat at 233-2784.

Doris Cort, PTA secretary, is cheerfully accepting cash donations from groups, industries, businesses, etc. to foster a free snack program for hungry children at Washington. Would you or your group like to sponsor one class for a year, or a month? Call Doris at 234-6989.

.....continued ↗

The second of Washington's parent groups is relatively new. It came about as a condition to receiving the government monies now at work at Washington. Federal grants come with the stipulation that the parents become involved in deciding how the money will be used. Hence, the PAC (Parents' Advisory Council). This group is open to any interested parent. The meetings are lively — here at least there is money to work with, if one can only untangle the rules and regulations handed down from the government regarding the limitations of its use.

This group plods on, currently in the process of assisting faculty in the writing of next year's application for funds. An estimated decrease in the numbers of pupils at Washington next year will be accompanied by a proportional decrease in funds. This is bad news since the program is just getting off the ground and now faces an immediate cut-back.

For a completely mind-boggling experience, attend one of the monthly District meetings. (Washington has three representatives to the DAC, District Advisory Council, but guests are welcome). Call Doris Cort 234-6989 for information on time and place of meetings.

Continued adventures of your local crusaders next month!



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...take the kids to Lawrence Hall of Science!

Did you ever wonder what to do on a chilly Sunday afternoon when the kids are bored and you are too? Take a powder and go to the Lawrence Hall of Science in Berkeley.

As you enter this spacious building perched high in the Berkeley hills, above the stadium and tennis courts, you will find it only costs \$1 for you and from zero to 50¢ for a child, depending on age. Walk past the busts of famous men and the rock crystal exhibit to the two large rooms all the way in the back. It is like a wonderful pinball hall.

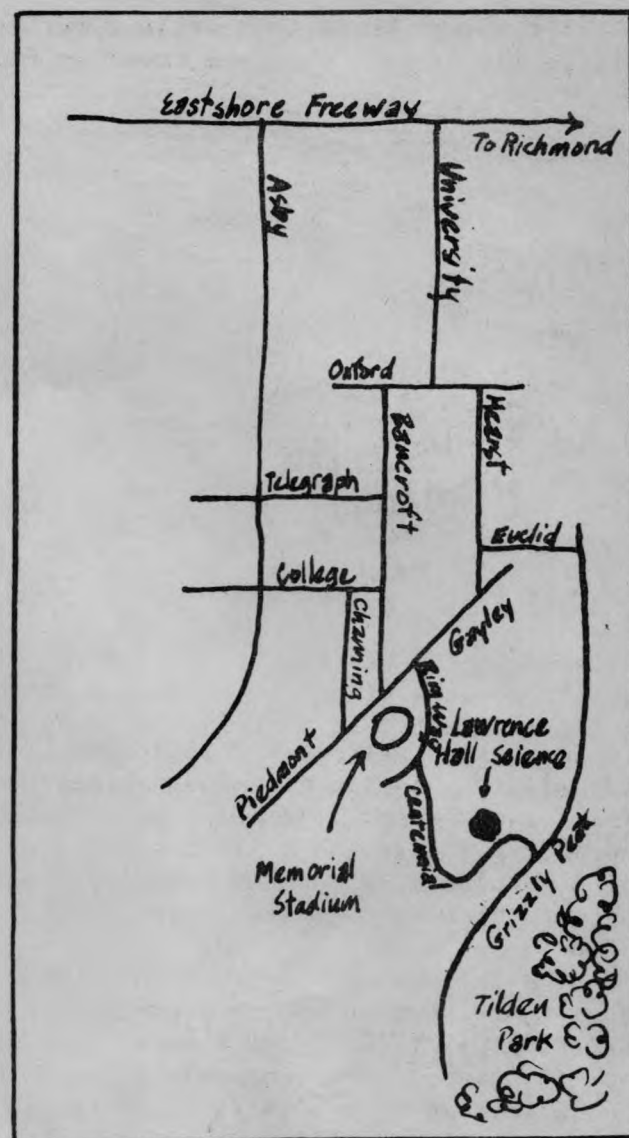
The automatic games are even better than pinball games, however. Each game machine illustrates a scientific principal. It is not necessary to know the principal to play the game, however. All the game machines are free.

Your children will forget you are there and you are likely to forget about them too, as you go from exhibit to exhibit.

After you have been there two or three times you can turn them loose in the game rooms and go downstairs to the cafeteria to enjoy a cup of coffee or the newspaper or the wonderful view which overlooks Berkeley, Oakland and Richmond, stretching out beyond the Golden Gate. Or you may wish to play with a computer terminal, making the machine print out a picture of Donald Duck or beat you in a game of tic tac toe. You may want to attend the planetarium program for 50¢ or go to a scientific lecture in the auditorium. You may discover something new each week.

Hours are Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Lawrence is open weekdays until 4:30 p.m. Lots of parking available.

This is how I get there. Down San Pablo, left on Marin, right on the Alameda which blends into Shattuck, left on Hearst (go past Euclid), right on Gayley Road, left on Rim Way Road (at the tennis courts), slightly left on Centennial Dr., up the hill, and you are there. It's not hard to find if you've been there once.



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CORNER STANDARD & SANTA FE

Editor's note: Doris Cort wrote a series of short stories about an imaginary community. This is the first. Then she moved to Point Richmond and found a REAL imaginary community!

The Rhinestone Lady



Once upon a time, not so long ago, there came out of the city to our town, a woman made all of rhinestones. This rhinestone woman was wonderful to behold. A thousand rays of color shone out from her body. All the myriad of hues around her were reflected and multiplied in the brilliant cells of her form. Her dress hung down from her dazzling shoulders in rows of crackling sequins. When she walked she made a noise like the wind blowing over dry leaves.

The children of our town loved the rhinestone lady at once. They followed her laughing, wide-eyed at the ever-changing spectacle of her shell. We older ones thought her rather artificial and knew at once that she would be out of place in our movement back to nature. Even completely naked she would look rather grossly made up. Perhaps she noticed we were a little cool toward her and that is why, or perhaps it was just her nature to be aloof. In any case, she took a room over the bank and was seldom seen out during the day. Every night, a little after midnight, it became the rhinestone lady's custom to take a walk through the town.

At night she seemed to blend in with the neon signs - these signs were a constant reminder to us that our work was not yet done. She looked almost gaudy at times, reflecting both the black of the night and the fierce intensity of the bright lights as she passed by them. The children were deprived of her presence by these habitual night walks and probably it was just as well. They sometimes tended to go along surprisingly unnatural directions.

One day, bright and sunny, upon which we had gathered for a community corn planting, and after we had rather forgotten the existence of the rhinestone lady in our town, she appeared suddenly. She was breathtaking standing there among the newly turned clods of earth. We almost could not look at her, she shone so splendidly, radiantly, under the noon-day sun. We looked toward her, awed and silent. With little tinkling sounds like beads of glass she spoke to us. "Since you will not allow of a reflection, I have decided to go." With these words she moved away, crackling like a warm fire to the road.

The children cried when she had gone and we tried to comfort them, telling them that she would probably go to a place that was more natural to her. Perhaps somewhere there were people more like her with whom she would feel more comfortable. As I said, though, it was not so long ago, and we still think often of the rhinestone lady, wondering where she will in fact go, and whether we might have lost something in her, something more dear than we realized.



Confirming Community by Gina Green

DON'T BE AFRAID OF THE INDIANS!

On New Year's Eve at the hospital where I work, I asked the patients to share their recollections from times past, and something of what they had learned from living their lives.

Edna Hegler, who tells people she's 104 but whose record shows she was born 87 years ago in Mendocino County, told of how it was to grow up in that place at that time. She lived next to the Indians. Her mother, she said, grew up being afraid of the Indians - she carried that fear with her all her life and communicated it to her children. I asked Edna if she had any wisdom she wanted to pass along to people growing up today. "Yes", said Edna, "Yes I do. Don't be afraid of the Indians!"

Somehow we all seem to have our Indians - our fear of differences. The word for that symbol of fear changes but it is that "they" out there that we dump our fears on to.

I look at us here at the Point sharing this common space - I see our differences, our commonality. I see the corner boys, the people who drink away their hours in the bars, the shop keepers, the people who live at the water's edge, those who live on the hillsides. Who are our Indians?

We are suffering from a power shortage we are told. Its true, we are suffering. But what is power? What is our power source? There is power "out there" and there is power within. We are just beginning to tap the potential of the energy within. The trouble has been with our experiencing of power. We fear power. We fear our fear. We name power bad. We short-circuit ourselves from our own energy source. Power is neither good nor bad. Power is power is energy. One power source is fear. One power source is love. When we assign energy to fear we support corrupt governments, we live in sickness, in isolation and impotency.

The call is to act beyond fear...to accept and appreciate differences, so that we are moving from the power place of commonality that can be sent and received as unqualified positive regard.

The potential is vast, precisely here at the Point where we live. We have but to make the connections. We start just where we are, and we use what is next to us.

We can't go off in all directions anymore. We will be forced of necessity to find our goodies at home. Perhaps when we've "come home" we'll find that the Indian we've been running from all this time is an aspect of ourselves. That aspect may be fear itself.

Maybe the message of the Indians, Edna, is: "Don't fear fear; use it." But to experience that as the power source it is, we would have to be getting the call as positive. The call is for common concern. We might hear it as music - "The Indian Love Call."



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If you wish to follow up on Mr. Mead's suggestion (and who of us who smoke wouldn't like to quit?) you may attend a "Quit Smoking" clinic to be given in the cafeteria of Richmond Hospital every Monday and Thursday evenings during March from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

This is the third such clinic so we may assume it achieves some success. The Richmond Hospital, Contra Costa Health Dept., Model Cities and the American Cancer Society are the sponsors. The clinic uses the group approach.

Reservations are required. Call the American Cancer Society (232-9130) for more information.

School Board News

From the Flatlands - School Board News Citizens for Responsive Government petitioned the Contra Costa School Board to place on the general election ballot a proposition that Richmond School Board members be elected by district or Trustee areas, instead of at large.

The first hearing was in December when the County Board voted to allow the voters to consider the issue of districting. Point resident Doug Lord, Attorney at Law, spoke in favor of the proposal, along with others.

After the action, the ballot proposition was termed "flawed" and was resubmitted by petition of the coalition on January 23, asking that there be five (5) trustee areas in the RUSD. That proposition ran into difficulty concerning its legal language and so there was another hearing scheduled, on February 21 just as this article is being written. So watch your June ballot for this proposition!

Community Involvement Center

By the way, lots of action is happening at the Community Involvement Center, 11275 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito (near Potrero - 2 blocks from Co-op). Anyone wishing to get INVOLVED should stop by the Center. Organizations having offices there include CUBS (Citizens United for Better Schools, the League of Women Voters, League of United Latin American Citizens, the Richmond Elementary Council PTA, GRIP (Greater Richmond Interfaith Program), Women In Service to Community, El Cerrito NAACP, Sakura Kai (Japanese Senior Citizens) and ECology (El Cerrito Recycling).

HEALTH

Comes first

BY A. H. MEADS

ABC'S OF SMOKING:::

AFTER SMOKING FROM AGE 16 TO 50 I GAVE UP SMOKING 13 YEARS AGO. I AM NOW CAMPAIGNING AGAINST SMOKING.

A-AGES YOUR RESPIRATORY SYSTEM PREMATURELY.

B- BURNS YOUR LIPS, TONGUE AND THROAT - UNLESS THEY ARE MADE OF CERAMIC.

C-CONVERTS YOUR DELICATE MUCUS MEMBRANES INTO SMOKE TUNNELS.

D-DECREASES YOUR CHANCES FOR A LONG AND HAPPY LIFE.

E-ENGULFS THE ATMOSPHERE WITH MAN-MADE POLLUTION.

F-FILLS OUR HOSPITALS WITH MANY PITIFUL CASES.

G-"GUMS UP YOUR LUNGS", WITH "TARRY RESIDUALS".

H -HASTENS YOU INTO A SURE DECLINE IN HEALTH.

I-INCITES ONLY PITY FROM THOSE WITH NORMAL WILL POWER.

J-JEOPARDIZES THE DELICATE TISSUES IN YOUR THROAT AND LUNGS.

K-KINDLES THE FIRES OF REMORSE - WHEN IT IS TOO LATE.

L-LEAVES YOU EVENTUALLY GASPING FOR BREATH.

M-MAINS YOUR LUNGS AND HEART AND VEINS.

N-NAILS YOU DOWN TO AN UN-WHOLESOME HABIT.

O-OFFERS YOU NOTHING BUT THE DUBIOUS DISTINCTION OF IMITATING THE ABORIGINES.

P-PROMISES YOU EVENTUAL PAINS FOR EACH PUFF.

Q-QUESTIONS YOUR CAPACITY FOR DISTINGUISHING THE WORTHWHILE THINGS IN LIFE.

R-ROBS YOUR BODY OF THE OXYGEN ESSENTIAL TO GOOD HEALTH.

S-STAINS YOUR FINGERS AS WELL AS YOUR LUNGS - AND YOUR HOME.

T.TAKES AWAY YOUR NORMAL ABILITY TO ENJOY THE SENSES OF TASTE AND SMELL.

U-UNDERMINES TEENAGERS' CHARACTER BY SETTING A BAD EXAMPLE.

V-VEILS MANY WINDOWS PREMATURELY.
W-WRECKS NORMAN GOOD HEALTH.
X- XCITES SYMPATHY - WHEN IT'S TOO LATE TO DO ANY GOOD.
Y-YIELDS ONLY ULTIMATE DISCOMFORT THROUGH IMPAIRED HEALTH.
Z- ZEROS ANY HOPE FOR A HEALTHY, HAPPY OLD AGE.

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Catching up on - PTA -

As school started at Washington this year, most of the PTA officers were carried over from last year - Jeanne Eger, President; Pat Hoiland, Vice President; Penny Greiner, Treasurer and Kathy Lord, Chairperson of the Parent Involvement Committee. Barbara Martin resigned as Secretary because of her heavy study schedule and was replaced by Doris Cort, who also serves on the Parent Involvement Committee, and represents the school at the District Advisory Council meetings (see Doris's article in this issue). Kathy Sherwood and Joan Neptune are Hot Dog Day Co-Chair persons. Louise Genosick, former Point Counterpoint Distribution Manager, is membership chairperson and Founders Day Luncheon Chairperson.

As you can see by reading this list of ladies doubled up with more than one job per person, PTA involvement is small this year and the load is heavy on the people who are working. So if your membership card is late or you haven't gotten an invitation to Founder's day yet, don't complain - volunteer!

Still, activity is higher this year than it was two year than it was two years ago when there wasn't even a president to be found.

The year started off with the disappointment of losing Mr. Claude Hill, who was transferred to El Portal School in San Pablo. But we knew we were winners when we found out that Miss Ina Briggs had been assigned to Washington School. Formerly Principal at Martin Luther King, Miss Briggs is a real go getter and does not hesitate to demand the best programs and supplies available for the school.

A large number of part-time teacher aides were hired this year from the community, with the goal of having one paid aide for each teacher. This means a lot in the way of individual attention to children. With 28 to 30 children in each classroom there is not much time for one teacher to pay attention to the individual child. So doubling the staff has made the school a beehive of activity.

In November the PTA tried an experiment. It tried to get the community to come to the school by inviting Bobby Seale to speak. The theory was that with a big name speaker people would come out of curiosity. But it didn't work. Many people were afraid to come over because Dr. Marcus Foster had been killed just two nights earlier. Some District officials had planned to come but were given bodyguards and advised to stay home from all public meetings. And Bobby Seale himself didn't show up either. The excuse was that his plane was late arriving from Boston. Maybe he, too, was a little worried about what had taken place earlier in the week. In his place was Erika Huggins, a teacher at the Intercommunal Youth Institute and an editor of the Panther Newspaper. About 75 people from the community showed up. It was an interesting speech with good questions asked. It was also the quietest, most peaceful meeting that many had ever attended.

In December the children presented a Christmas program called "Santa Claus for President." This was the first Christmas program in a few years. The auditorium was filled with proud parents, some of whom had arrived an hour too early by mistake. But the program ran smoothly when it finally started and was a big success.

Its hard to believe that a group like the outlaw Symbionese Liberation Army could have an effect that extends all the way the Washington School PTA, but sure enough it does. The PTA has been experimenting this year with a free morning snack program. For a few months it bought graham crackers for grades Kindergarten - 3rd. The crackers were handed out by the teachers in the morning to make sure that no kids were having trouble learning because they were hungry hungry. All the teachers say that there are some hungry kids in each class. Some parents say there is no excuse for that because it is the responsibility of the parents to make sure their children are fed in the morning. But it may be, for example, that the parent must go to work and leave the older kids to feed the younger ones and get to school, and they don't do as good a job as they should. There could be lots of other reasons. But some kids are hungry. They say they have a "stomache ache" or just fidget a lot, disturbing the others. Or they may act tired and drowsy because their blood sugar is low and have trouble paying attention.

This program costs about \$60 a month just for the primary grades. The teachers liked it, the kids like it and most of the parents liked it. The plan was to ask some of the large industries around the Point to help cover the costs. But now that the S.L.A. has used terrorist methods to set up a food program, the P.T.A. is hesitant about actively soliciting funds for the school program. And yet the kids are hungry....

Here's hoping that more parents will be coming to PTA meetings. The children are always so proud that their Mom or Dad went to PTA.

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★ Die in the Sky ★

Old news...February 3, I attended a Sears Strike Rally in the Orpheum Theater in San Francisco. My friend, an old labor advocate, said with some degree of anticipation that maybe this would be the beginning of a general strike.

"You never can tell what will set it off", he said.

Sears workers have been on strike almost seven months. They want parity with the other department stores in San Francisco - they want the same wage scale and health benefits and they want an increase in "big ticket" commissions-commissions made on large appliances.

Sure enough, when we arrived we received leaflets saying "San Francisco - Shut it Down." It seemed like ages since I had been to a good rally - I used to see all my friends at the Peace March once a year, but now that the war is over there are no more peace marches to bring us together.

The rally was a good one - many labor unions and other organizations were represented. The ILWU (Longshoremen & Warehousemen), the Retail Store Employees, Machinists, American Federation of Teachers and others were there. Senior Citizens were represented. From the politicians were Milton Marks, Willie Brown, John Burton and a representative of Mayor Alioto. The Central Labor Councils were represented, including our own Art Carter, who gave a rousing pitch for solidarity.

It seemed as though something was missing, however. The men all filed on to the stage and there were no women represented on the podium. About an hour into the program a young woman climbed on to the stage looking a bit surprised and flustered. The men were all nodding their heads and beckoning her to sit down. They seemed to think they should have thought of this sooner. After all, most of the strikers are women. The woman's name was Lois Weiner of the American Federation of Teachers in Hayward. The audience responded enthusiastically to her speech, rising and cheering when she asked them to. Later one of the labor officials apologized to the audience for not thinking about this earlier. The audience shouted and cheered again.

There was no general strike, however. Perhaps the labor officials who announced that we would "take the store" think it is better to wait until after the election to cause trouble, because they did not seem to want to lead us down the street. Oh well, with two children in tow, I was not in a hurry to be in the middle of that kind of action anyway. We can only hope that the strike is settled without "taking the store."

.....Mabel

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Waldie for breakfast

Oil mixed with disillusion were Congressman Jerome Waldie's main themes when he carried his campaign for Governor close to Point Richmond recently.

The Antioch Democrat addressed nearly 150 of the party faithful who got up early Sunday for the February 3 fund-raiser at the Holiday Inn.

Waldie reported that during his walks through California, people he met voiced unprecedented disenchantment with government and politics. He warned other politicians in the crowd that they must work harder than ever to combat the electorate's post-Watergate syndrome by putting government less in the hands of special interests and more into the hands of the people.

continued on page 17.....

Cookies for Kids



16.

Here is a recipe that kids can make! Its not hard to cook. Just remember the rules and follow the directions. Cooking is also good training for being a chemist.

- SOME RULES:
1. Ask you mother or father first.
 2. Wash your hands and wear an apron or towel.
 3. Read the whole recipe first so that you can make sure you have everything you need (ingredients and equipment).
 4. Let your Mom or Dad light the oven.
 5. After you have put the cookies in the oven be sure to check the clock often so the cookies don't burn.
 6. YOU should clean up the kitchen and wash the dishes when you are through.
 7. If you do a good job and clean up you may make a different kind of cookie next month.

SPICY SUGAR COOKIES

Get Ready:

1. a large mixing bowl
2. a mixing spoon
3. measuring spoons
4. a measuring cup
5. a sifter
6. one or two cookie sheets
7. a spatula for taking the cookies off the sheet
8. Pot holders for holding the hot cookie sheet



Now get these ingredients ready:

- 1/2 Cup butter or other soft shortening (like Crisco)
- 1/2 Cup granulated sugar (regular sugar)
- 1 egg
- 2 Tablespoons dark or light Molasses

- 1 Cup flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- a pinch of salt
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cloves
- 1/2 teaspoon ginger

Before you do anything else, now ask your Mom or Dad to turn the oven on and set it at 375 degrees.

Now turn the page over and start cooking!

MAKE THE COOKIE BATTER

1. Get a large mixing bowl. Measure the shortening and put it in the bowl. Measure the sugar and pour it over the shortening. Cream them together. (Push and mix them together slowly.)
2. Get a cup and break the egg into it. Add the egg to the creamed mixture. Beat it with a mixing spoon.
3. Measure the molasses and pour it in. Stir everything together. Stir well. Set the mixing bowl aside.
4. Measure the flour, the baking soda, the salt, and the three spices into a sifter. Sift Sift them into a bowl.
5. Pour the sifted ingredients onto the molasses mixture. Stir until all the flour is mixed in.

NOW SHAPE AND BAKE THE COOKIES

Use an "eating" teaspoon. (Not a measuring spoon.) One full teaspoon of batter makes one cookie. Scoop out a spoonful of batter and then push the batter off onto the cookie sheet.

These cookies spread out as they bake, so leave plenty of room around each cookie. How many cookies do you have? Put them into the hot oven. (Remember to use pot holders.) Close the oven door, and don't open it for 10 minutes. (If you have another cookie sheet, you can get another batch of cookies ready while you wait.)

After 10 minutes, look at the cookies in the oven. Are they flat and crinkled? Do they look firm? If not, let them stay in the oven two minutes more.

Take the cookie sheet out of the oven. Lift the cookies off with a spatula and set them on a wire rack to cool.

ALL DONE!

Set the cookies on the serving platter. Then pass them around.

"Did you make these cookies?" everyone will ask.

"Of course," you will say. "I like to make cookies."

Waldie (cont.)

The special interest he discussed the most was the petroleum industry. He deplored what he saw as excessive economic and political power wielded by oil interests, and advocated stricter controls on the oil companies.

Waldie noted that the federal government already owns considerable oil reserves, such as those at Elk Hills in southern California. He suggested that the government should consider going into oil production itself, similar to the federal role in providing electric power through the Tennessee Valley Authority.

Master of ceremonies for the event was Jim McMillan, co-chairperson of Richmond Citizens for Waldie.

Mayor Booker Anderson was there, as were City Councilmen Al Silva and Nello Bianco; Chairman Al Dias of the county Board of Supervisors, with Supervisor Jim Kinney; Concord Mayor Dan Helix (talking much about his own plans for the Congressional seat Waldie is leaving); George Miller III; and Cleophus Brown.

Roscoe Kreftmeyer, president of the Antioch Branch of the National Association of Letter Carriers, presented Waldie an honorary membership in the Association.

RICHMONDS EARLY PARKS

..... continued from page 1

The Eastshore Park, purchased by Richmond in 1938 was part of 6,000 acres purchase of the Rancho San Pablo. The original buyer, Richard Stege, developed 21 acres. He built a beautiful home and planted luxuriant gardens. Gum trees, Bay, Willow, Palms provided a lush background. Stege, a successful restauranter during the Gold Rush period, raised frogs. He supplied the Palace Hotel and other sophisticated dining places with frog legs. The Stege home became a center for many cultural activities. After Stege's death in 1882 his adopted daughter Edith sold the land to Standard Oil Company. Then the land was sold to the Eastshore and Suburban Railway Company. Eastshore Park operated on a private basis. The original gardens were enjoyed by the public. The Richmond Museum has a collection of charming photos that contrast with the somewhat spartan motif of present day development. Today the 19+ acres of Eastshore Park, located between South 47th Street and Carlson Ave. contain 15,000 square feet. There are baseball and basketball facilities, tennis courts, and a Community Center available for public use.

NICHOLL PARK

Nicholl Park is Richmond's largest city park. Over 21 acres - it is the most developed and varied of our city parks. The original land was donated to the city by the daughter of John W. Nicholl, pioneer businessman.

John Nicholls, who became a millionaire, was a shrewd and enterprising man. He was quick to recognize the economic value of Richmond's geographical position on the Bay. He became directly involved with the Richmond Plunge, when an adventure into drilling for oil at the Point resulted in an unlimited supply of water. Nicholls donated the land and the largest indoor swimming pool in the East Bay was built in Point Richmond in 1928.

The family home and several acres

adjacent to Nicholl Park were sold. St. Cornelius Catholic Church and School occupy this land now. The old Nicholl home was moved to South 38th Street.

The Parks and Recreation Department has continued to grow and change with the City of Richmond. Yet with all the vast shoreline, there is very little available to the public. The 0.20 acre on Cutting Boulevard is partly developed and only a boat landing is there.

The 15.0 acres at Point Molate, located near the Naval Fuel Depot, has a beach and picnic facilities. Ironically, it is only available by car. State Highway 17 approach to the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge prohibits foot or bicycle traffic and also bisects the road leading to Point Molate.

Keller's Beach, located at the west end of the tunnel, is completely developed and well done. It is accessible by car, foot, bicycle and bus, but it is only 1.3 acres. The East Bay Regional Park District has purchased an 8 acre strip of land adjoining Keller's Beach for a future aquatic park. It does provide a "toe-in-the-door" hold in favor of public ownership of shoreline lands. The next obvious step would be the purchase of Nicholl Knob, uniting the surrounding hill and water as it existed originally.

*Historical material for this article was made available from the Richmond Museum and Ethel Kerns, President.

Deadline for news stories, letters and ads is on the 20th of each month. The Point Counterpoint will be produced on the last weekend of each month, hopefully. If you want to help with production (or anything else for that matter) call Jeanne Eger at 233-1588 before 7:30 a.m. or evenings. Or mail your copy to 408 West Richmond Avenue, Point Richmond.

Want ads are accepted by the 20th of the month. Non-commercial ads, baby-sitting ads and odd jobs for teens are free. Commercial ads are \$1.

Point

by Mid Dornan

Sunday, February 24, Senior Patrol Leader Gary Darling received the award of Ad Altar Dei at St. Francis Cathedral in Oakland. A member of Scout Troop III, Gary was presented with the award for his work with the church.

Coming soon - the 20th Annual Pancake Breakfast of Boy Scout Troop III, Watch for further announcements.

Editor's note: we regret to announce that the first edition of the Point Counterpoint carries the sad news that Mid Dornan's mother passed away early in February. Mid has been back home in Nebraska with her family and so was unable to write her regular column at its usual length this month. We will look forward to reading it next month.


As the newspaper goes to press, plans are being finalized for the Washington School annual Founders Day Luncheon, Tuesday, February 26. An honorary life membership in the Washington PTA will be presented at the luncheon for outstanding service to youth.

Boy scouts, Girl Scouts, Brownies and Cubs are invited to a gala spring kite flying and hiking party to celebrate the site of the future George Miller Jr. Regional Park, Wednesday, March 13, at 3:30 p.m. starting at Keller's Beach Point Richmond.

Bring your kites and wear your walking shoes to explore this unique Park site of beaches and steep grassy hills, set in the midst of a lively industrial landscape. Refreshments will be served, so please let Louise Hammond (235-6717) know how many are coming.

We would like to extend particular thanks to Donna Roselius for her advice, help and moral support in producing this first issue, and for her indication of support in upcoming issues. Without her help we probably would have floundered about and never gotten the show on the road. THANKS DONNA!!!

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Point International

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A "School For Parents" will open its doors to interested Point Richmond residents on Thursday, March 14, at 7:30 p. m. when Gina Green and the Rev. Richard Smith will begin an eight week session of a nationwide educational program called Parent Effectiveness Training.

The classes will be held on eight consecutive Thursdays from 7:30 to 10:30 p. m. at the home of Mrs. Green at 428 Washington Avenue, Pt. Richmond. The course is open to fathers and mothers of children of all ages, to single parents, and to all interested adults working with youth.

P.E.T. as the course is called, was started in California by Dr. Gordon in 1962. It has now spread into hundreds of communities in all of the 50 states. Parents learn how to listen so children will talk, talk so their children will listen, and how to solve conflicts so that no one loses. It offers training before trouble.

Mrs. Green is an accredited Instructor who is a former teacher and the founder of the Children's Preschool in Davis. She has worked as a counselor and group leader. Reverend Smith is the minister of the Pt. Richmond Methodist Church. He has had extensive training in counseling.

The tuition charge of \$65.00 per person or \$100.00 per couple covers the 24 hours of individualized instruction and includes a workbook and textbook. The class is restricted in size. Interested people may learn more information by contacting Gina Green at 235-1547 or Richard Smith at 237-0413.

Fashion Benefit

20

Sherry and Bob of Sherry and Bob's Patio of Fashion were host to a gala fashion show held Wednesday, Feb. 20 at 7:30 p. m. at the El Cerrito City Club.

The show was sponsored by the American Business Women's Association's Scholarship committee. This group raises funds for scholarships for worthy girls to go to Contra Costa College, San Jose State and other local colleges. The girls chosen are followed through their college careers and often given extra help at crucial times.

The title of the show was "Cherry Blossom Fashion Parade." Models came from many civic organizations, including the Edgar Children's Shelter, Cancer Society, Children's Hospital, Jefferson School, the Lung Association, American Business Women's Association, and the County Association for Mental Health.

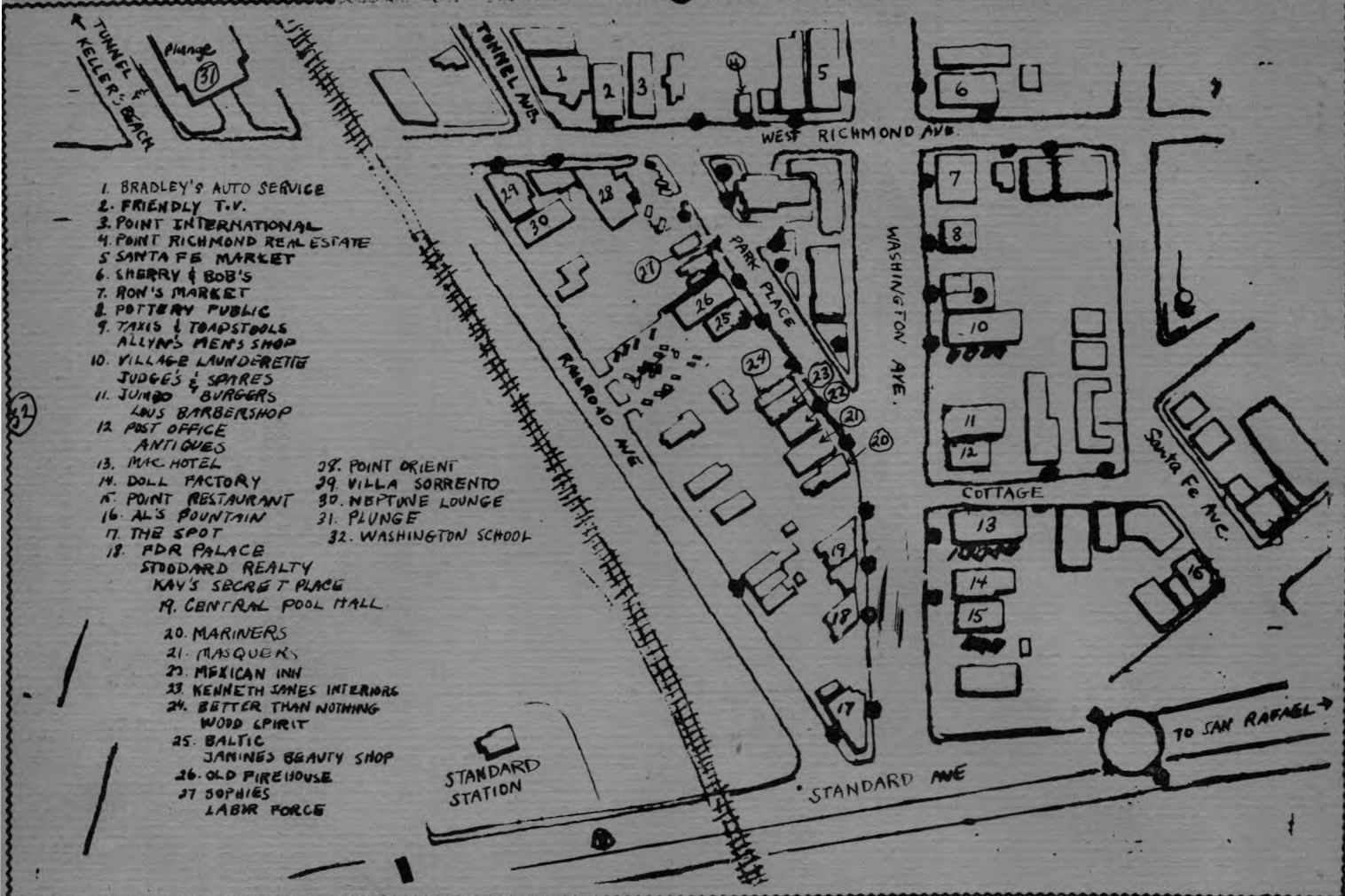


Well, here we are at the bottom of the last page of the first issue. It is 11:45 on a Sunday night and the multilith machine is grinding out the pages of the first issue. And there are still about 6 inches of space to fill out. So we would like to take this opportunity to thank all the people who helped with this first issue and especially the many Point Richmond businesspersons who really took a chance and paid the editor in advance for their ads, thus enabling us to ensure that we could pay for the printing of the paper. Also at this time and in this space, we hope they will accept apologies for any wrong information that may have appeared in the ads, or ads that were not quite done right and were not brought back for final inspection, or for ads that did not get into the paper for some reason. We hope you will bear with us and give us a chance to get it all straightened out for the April issue...

Thanks again!

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POINT COUNTERPOINT is published around the first of each month in Point Richmond, CA by Jeanne Eger, 408 West Richmond Ave, 233-1588.

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