

Views

Richmond Heights Neighborhood Council

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Rock Brown, President • P.O. Box 5253 • Richmond, CA 94805

quick-takes

New RHNC officers elected

At the October meeting, the East Richmond Neighborhood Council finalized becoming the Richmond Heights Neighborhood Council, and elected its neighborhood council officers. President, Rock Brown; Vice-president, Gina Swirsding; Secretary, Jennifer Mills; Treasurer, Jannete Russey (9 years running!). Owen Martin will continue as Newsletter Editor, and Andy Pasternack will continue as the Newsletter Writer.

City Election Results

a Cliff Hanger

No matter where you live, this year's elections seemed to have been characterized by narrow margins. Nowhere was that more true than in our mayoral race. At press time, the race between challenger Gayle McLaughlin and incumbent Irma Anderson was less than 300 votes.

With incumbent Irma Anderson conceding the election to Gayle McLaughlin on Tuesday November 21, 2006

Three of the city council's soon-to-be-vacated seats will be filled by Jim Rogers, Maria Viramontes, and Ludmyrna Lopez.

The Measure T initiative did not pass. Not even close.

Richmond's Memories In Good Hands

In case you haven't visited in a while, the Richmond Museum of History owns many collections of interest to the casual researcher and the scholar alike. The museum has city and company documents, local histories, hard-to-find books, and much more. And the collection is constantly growing due to the generous donations of current and former residents, who love their home town and wish to see its history preserved and displayed.

The jewels in the crown are the museums prints, negatives, and slides dating from the late 19th century to the present day. Virtually all relate in some way to Richmond's past.



During the Second World War, Richmond's Kaiser Shipyards published their own weekly magazine for the benefit of workers and their families. The museum's collection of these fascinating newsletters is complete, covering the war years and beyond.



The programs that were printed for the 747 ship launches, many presided over by celebrities such as Bing Crosby, are interesting not only from a historical and social perspective, but offer rare examples of the artwork of this unique time and place.



And the collection of Richmond school yearbooks, newsletters, and student essays and poetry, while not complete, offers a unique glimpse into the life of the city's young people, from 1907 to the recent past. The museum also has maps, including road maps, of the Richmond area from the late 19th century to the present day. Also available are a modest collection of real estate brochures dating from Richmond's early days. There is a virtually complete collection of the daily Richmond Independent from 1912 to 1950, and news clippings covering many aspects of Richmond's development.

The Indian group that inhabited the area that became the town of Richmond is known as the Huchiun. They were a sub-group of the Ohlone tribe, which inhabited an area from about Antioch to San Jose. The Museum owns a modest collection of artifacts made by indigenous peoples, some of which were found in local shellmounds.



Lynn and Sandi Genser-Maack, residents of the North and East neighborhood (immediately west of Richmond Heights) have spent years amassing a truly unique collection of Richmond memorabilia. A small part of their treasure is on display in the museum, and includes many promotional items given away by Richmond businesses over the years and other items of Richmond nostalgia.

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Downtown Richmond Holiday Festival

Who doesn't love a holiday festival? Sponsored by the Richmond Main Street Initiative, our own Downtown Richmond Holiday Festival will take place on Friday, December 1, 2006, 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. at the corner of Macdonald and 11th St. in Richmond.

The event will include refreshments, gifts for children, live music, holiday tree lighting, and a chance to meet Santa Claus. Enjoy refreshments while you're there.

For more information please contact Daniel Ponce at 510/918-4593 or Daniel_Ponce@ci.richmond.ca.us.

Our Mistake

An article in last month's issue (New Library Proposal Portends Bigger Civic Life) had numerous errors, due to frequent reference to out-of-date materials that were found on-line. It would make us rest easier if you would review the version posted on eastrichmond.org which has the virtue of being accessible 24/7 and also correct.

Bus Ride Details Development Prospects

If a bus tour of Richmond sounds sort of interesting, then consider joining the General Plan Advisory Committee City on December 2. They will be touring the city by bus that day 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. to give a guided tour of the general plan for the city. The tour leaves from city hall at 1401 Marina Way South.

Richmond Gets Park Service Recognition

Richmond's oldest neighborhoods are getting new attention.

Here's a good example: The City of Richmond got a note from First Lady Laura Bush who wrote to inform the city that Richmond is now a Preserve America Community. That means it has been accepted into program sponsored by the White House and the National Park Service as a community that protects and celebrates its heritage, use its historic assets for economic development and community revitalization; and encourage people to experience and appreciate local historic resources through education and heritage tourism programs.

Benefits of the Preserve America designation include White House recognition (that's always nice), a certificate of recognition, a Preserve America Community road sign, authorization to use the Preserve America logo on signs, flags, banners, and promotional materials, listing in a Web-based Preserve America Community directory, inclusion in national and regional press releases, and official notification of designation to State tourism offices and visitor bureaus. Designation also makes communities eligible for annual grants.

Meanwhile, the American Express – National Trust for Historic Preservation grant program has made grants to the Richmond Plunge and the Maritime Child Care Center.

As if all this isn't enough to make any preservationist's day, Richmond made the national news. National Public Radio listened in as county supervisor John Gioia served as master of ceremonies for a Veteran's Day tribute at the Red Oak Victory. The Red Oak Victory is part of the Rosie the Riveter World War II Home Front National Historical Park and is being restored by the Richmond Museum of History.

A link to National Public Radio reporter Richard Gonzales' story can be found at Richmond council member Tom Butt's website, <http://www.tombutt.com/e-forum.htm>, as can the transcript of the story.

United We Won!

Rosie the Riveter/World War II Home Front National Historical Park located in Richmond, California, preserves and interprets the stories and places of our nation's home front response to World War II. One way it does that is by collecting World War II civilian home front stories.

It's very easy to submit a civilian home front story for yourself or someone else.

Call 800/497-6743 and be prepared to give your address and phone number to a volunteer or voicemail box. You will be sent information in the mail on how to submit your story.

Richmond's Memories In Good Hands

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Other publications are equally rich in Richmond's history. Dating from the early 1900s, the collection of city directories is an invaluable aid to the researcher of local and family history.

Richmond Museum of History is located at 400 Nevin Avenue, in a building erected to house the city's first library. For more information call 510/235-7387 or visit the museum's website at www.richmondmuseumofhistory.org/

contacts



You'll find many more phone numbers, as well as e-mail links for public services at our website, www.eastrichmond.org

Emergency 911

Crime in progress, medical

To report suspicious activity

Richmond Police 233-1214

Unincorporated area 925/646-2441

Anonymous tips 232-TIPS

Community Police Officer

Officer Joe Avila 620-6642 ex 7115

e-mail javila@richmondpd.net

General security concerns,

other police services

RP Watch Commander 620-6643

Neighborhood Council issues

Gina Swirsding *82-232-1675

Report blight and graffiti

Richmond 321-3010

CalTrans 925/926-6112

And as always we are looking for community events for the Newsletter if you know of an event coming up in the future let us know at least the first week of the month before. Just drop a line to the Editor at APASTERNA@jbp.com with any requests or suggestions. If you have something you would like to write yourself, we are also all ears. This is your newsletter.

The 911 call reporting a shooting victim from the Valero station on San Pablo Ave. October 2 was not shot at that location according to the Police Department. Some where near by and then went there hoping for a safer location to get help.

Calls for service to the Richmond Police

Calls made to the Richmond Police from September 1-30. Statistics are provided each month by Perry Austin of RPD, whose support and assistance we continue to appreciate.

Suspicious person	10
Suspicious vehicle	15
Abandoned auto	10
Recovered stolen vehicle	2
Vehicle tampering	none
Disturbance	21
911 Disconnect	7
Dogs	none
Stolen vehicle	15

10/4	129XX San Pablo
10/4	7XX Ventura
10/5	124XX San Pablo
10/5	Macdonald / San Pablo
10/5	6XX Sonoma
10/8	6XX Sonoma
10/10	6XX Humboldt
10/16	8XX Humboldt
10/16	124XX San Pablo
10/18	54XX Esmond
10/20	6XX Sonoma
10/21	4XX 46 th St.
10/28	8XX Lassen
10/28	4XX McLaughlin
10/30	4XX McLaughlin

Hit/Run property damage

10/10	7XX Lassen
10/16	49XX Macdonald
10/21	50XX Barrett

Battery

10/3	Barrett / San Pablo
10/7	120XX San Pablo
10/8	Barrett / San Pablo
10/16	Garvin / San Pablo

Burglary from residence

10/19	7XX Amador
10/24	53XX Barrett
10/27	6XX McLaughlin

Burglary from auto

10/1	55XX Clinton
10/3	5XX Key
10/5	7XX Ventura
10/11	6XX Yuba
10/12	6XX Lassen
10/20	52XX Esmond
10/20	4XX Mount
10/24	7XX Humboldt

Shooting of a person reported

10/2	126XX San Pablo
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Hold up alarm

10/16	123XX San Pablo
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Robbery

10/1	9XX Yuba
10/24	120XX San Pablo
10/28	126XX San Pablo

Grand theft

10/21	Macdonald / Wilson
10/29	122XX San Pablo

Petty theft/stolen property

10/1	6XX Ventura
10/16	121XX San Pablo
10/16	48XX Macdonald
10/20	121XX San Pablo
10/20	49XX Macdonald
10/22	Macdonald / Wilson
10/23	51XX Solano
10/27	6XX Yuba
10/30	3XX Carlston

Calls related to juveniles

10/2	Garvin / Yuba
10/21	51XX Clinton
10/28	Prather / Key
10/31	Solano / Yuba

Vandalism

10/8	7XX Humboldt
10/24	123XX San Pablo
10/29	5XX Key

Person with a gun

10/6	7XX Amador
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quick-takes

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Dances Mid-Month

The annual High School Snowball will be held December 15 at the Richmond Memorial Convention Center. This dance runs from 7:00 p.m. to midnight.

And the following night, it's the return of the Senior Winter Ball Date, on December 16. This event, also to be held at the Richmond Memorial Convention Center, will also run from 7:00 p.m. to midnight.

For questions about either event, call 510/620-6793

Holiday Classic in Point Richmond

"Amahl and the Night Visitors," the famous one-act opera by Gian Carlo Menotti, comes to the Masquers Playhouse December 21 through December 30.

The opera was born of holiday television. It was first performed on December 24, 1951 in New York City, at the NBC studios, where it was broadcast nationwide -- the first opera specifically composed for television.

Amahl will be performed at the First United Methodist Church of Point Richmond, 201 Martinez St., December 21 and 22, and thereafter December 23, 28, 29 and 30) at the Masquers Playhouse. For more information or for reservations call 510/232-4031.

Richmond Art Center in Holiday Swing

The Richmond Art Center, celebrating its 70th birthday this year, can still get into the swing of the season on when it holds its Art Festival on Sunday, December 3, from noon to 5:00 p.m. Here's a great chance to pick up unusual holiday presents, or just take in some great local art. There is no admission fee.

A silent art auction will feature more than 50 select works of art by emerging and established Bay Area artists (bid cards cost \$5, but are free to RAC members). Concurrently, an art and craft sale will feature handmade ceramics, woven and knitted textiles, drawings, prints and other unique crafts made by artists from the Richmond Art Center's adult education program and surrounding community.

While adults are scoping out (or scooping up) serious art, children's art activities will include a variety of holiday projects led by artists and designed for children of all ages.

Here's one thing everyone can enjoy: the holiday café. After a hard afternoon of gallery hopping, relax and enjoy sweet treats and a savory lunch. Delicious baked goods will be available as well. For more information call 510/620-6772. Volunteers are needed, by the way.

Bridge toll increase coming

Starting January 1, 2007 the cost to cross San Pablo Bay to Marin County will set you back \$4. Just so you don't feel left out, it will cost that to cross all seven state-owned spans, others of which are the Bay, Antioch, Benicia, Carquinez, Dumbarton, and San Mateo bridges.

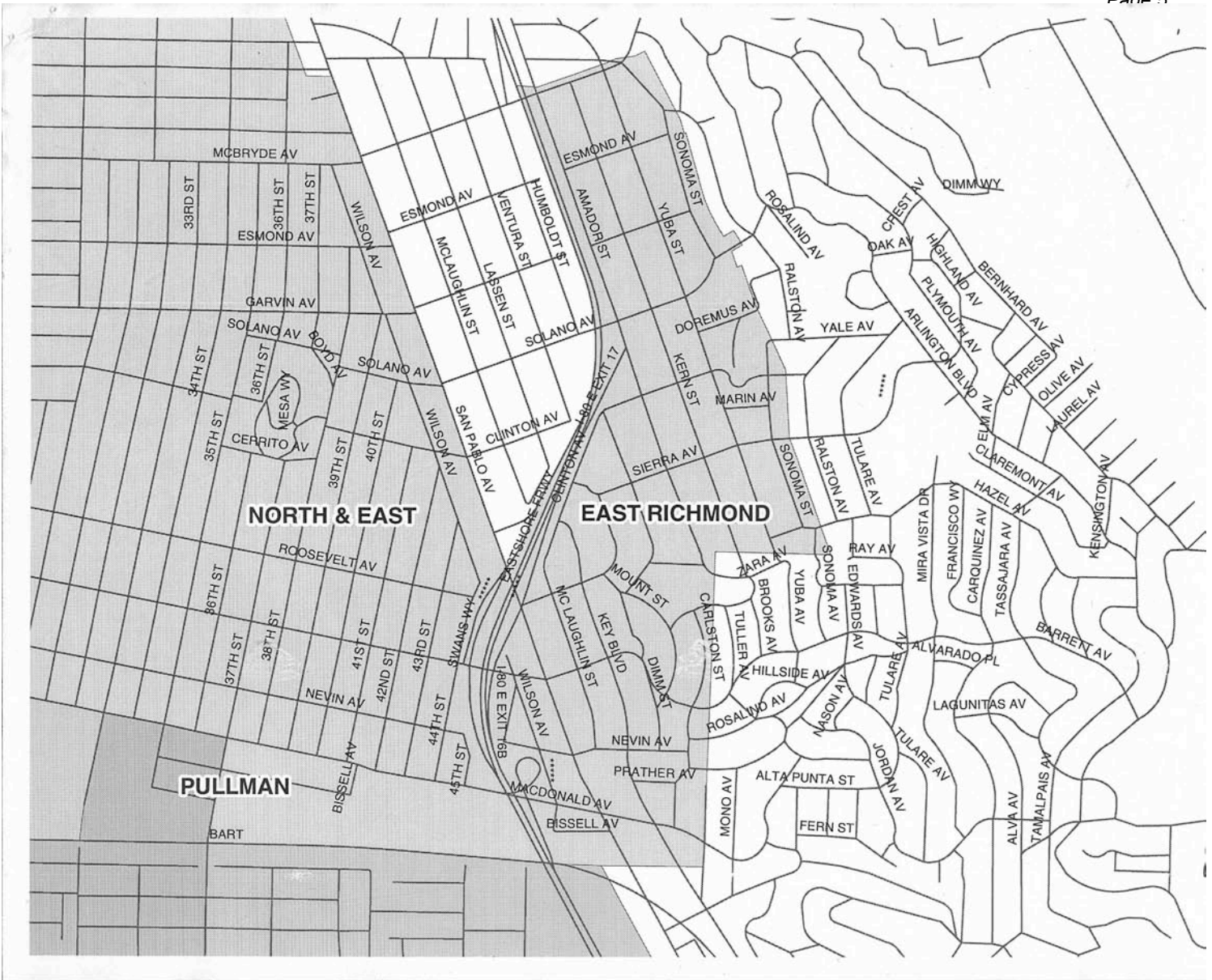
Golden Gate Bridge tolls will not change, and FasTrak users will continue to pay \$3 through the month of January.

Car thefts on the rise

Some may have noticed the crime stats on "stolen vehicle" 15 each in the month of October. While "recovered stolen vehicle" 2 each for the same time.

Also in the West County Times recently there have been two stories about chop shop busts. Hopefully this will slow down the stolen vehicles. In the mean time, some may want to get a locking device, an alarm, put your vehicle into your garage, or ALL three where possible.

Also, some people have found their garage doors open by a remote control set to the same program as their own. It is an inconvenience to unplug, or bolt the garage door after each use, but it may save you from replacing your belongings.



Although this map is old Richmond Heights Neighborhood Council is east of Interstate 80 in the Macdonald area, and when the Interstate crosses San Pablo Avenue the border becomes San Pablo Avenue to the city line with the City of San Pablo near Glenn Street to the north. The area continues east to the Richmond City / Contra Costa County border. Some of the border also is with the City of El Cerrito.

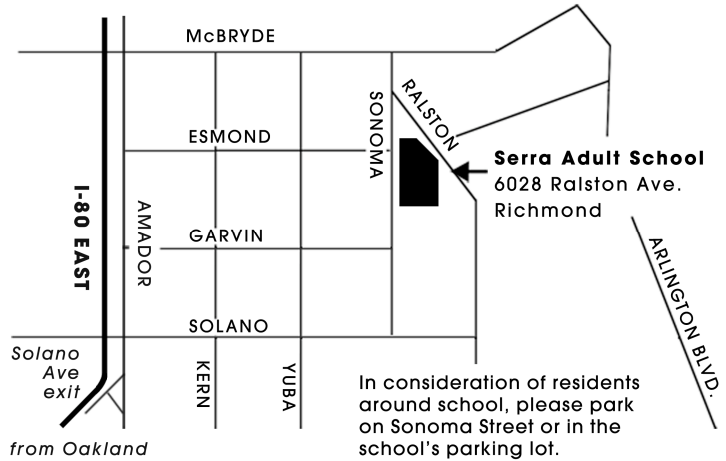
At some point we hope to have a map that includes the area between San Pablo Avenue and Interstate 80 shaded the same as the area east of Interstate 80.

at the next RHNC meeting

Next Meeting, December 4th

A representative from the City's Parks and Recreation Department will show pictures of playground equipment for installation in the Kern Street Play Lot, and to hear neighbors' preferences for colors. A small holiday celebration is also planned so please bring a holiday appetizer or dessert. The monthly meetings always include a report from our beat officer, Officer Joe Avila of the Richmond Police.

Note that there will be **No Meeting in January** of the Richmond Heights Neighborhood Council.



Monday, December 4th, 7 PM
Serra Adult School
6028 Ralston Avenue

RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD COORDINATING COUNCIL
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