

quick-takes

This month's meeting date

Because the first Monday of July is the 4th, a holiday, our general meeting will take place on the following Monday, July 11th, usual time and place. See you there.

No meeting, no Views in August

Following a long tradition we love to maintain and which may come as a relief to our readers, there will be no edition of Views and ERNC meeting in August. May you enjoy the break as much as we will. The next meeting will be September 5th. As usual, you'll receive the September issue of Views during the last week of August.

Sergeant Hill

We're not surprised but we are pleased. At our last ERNC meeting, it was announced that community police officer, André Hill, was recently promoted to the rank of sergeant. After the announcement, the first question he was asked was "Now are you going to leave us for another assignment?" Answer, "No. I'm staying." Good news. Hill has proven himself to be an attentive and responsive police officer. We feel lucky to have him on our side.

Hotline to City Manager's desk

The City Manager's Office currently maintains a customer service hotline to provide greater responsiveness to residents' concerns. This hotline should be used as a last resort to resolve individual and/or community concerns. Residents can now call 231-3031, 24 hours a day for assistance. The hotline is available daily from 8:30 AM to 5 PM. If you call at any other time, a voice message will take messages for next day response. For additional information on the City Manager's customer service hotline, please call the City Manager's Office at 620-6512.

Hello. Are you the homeowner?

Tired of telemarketing calls? You can make them stop calling for free. Simply register for the "National Do Not Call" list by calling 888/382-1222, or on-line at www.donotcall.gov. Register before August

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At 100, Richmond can still party

By Andy Pasternack

If it's true that everyone loves a party, then this summer will be one of Richmond's best. August 6th and 7th mark the official celebration of Richmond's Centennial Celebration, but the summer will offer plenty of chances to honor our city's past, present and future.

Saturday, August 6th, will feature the Festival by the Bay, at Marina Bay Park, featuring food, entertainment, kids' activities, and vendor booths and exhibits. The day will culminate in one of the city's great fireworks displays. This will be followed on Sunday, August 7th with the Richmond through the Decades event, based in Point Richmond, in which guests are invited to dress in their favorite decade attire. (Anyone need my peace-sign necktie?)

But the summer will indeed be rich in other related and free activities. For a quick overview of some of the events that are planned, turn to page 2.

Street Smarts

"Chance fights ever on the side of the prudent."
-Euripides, Greek dramatist (484 BC - 406 BC)

Some people seem to fall victim to theft, assaults and other personal offenses more often than others. Maybe it's an illusion. Then again, certain people really do present attractive targets: time of day, location, and how a person carries himself are all factors that determine a bad guy's decision on whom to set upon. People who lack "street smarts" are more likely to become victims.

At the June ERNC meeting, Sergeant André Hill distributed a one-page brochure entitled *Street Sense*, published by the National Crime Prevention Council. It sets out some 30 principles that should guide our behavior on streets, in the car, and on public transit. To most readers, these principles are just "common sense" — yet time and again we are reminded that common sense is not all *that* common. So in the spirit of offering some gentle reminders, we're reprinting some basic rules of personal safety.

Basic street sense

- Wherever you are — on the street, in a public building, waiting for a bus, in the mall — stay alert and tuned in to your surroundings.
- Send the message that you're calm, confident, and know where you're going.
- Trust your instincts. If something or somebody makes you uneasy, avoid the person or leave.
- Know the area where you work. Check out the locations of police and fire stations, public telephones, and restaurants or stores that are open early and late.

On foot — day or night

- Stick to well-lighted, well-traveled streets. Avoid shortcuts through parking lots or alleys.
- Carry a purse close to your body, not dangling by the straps. Put a wallet in an inside coat or front pants pocket, not a back pocket.
- Try to use ATMs in the daytime. Have your card in hand and don't approach the

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next meeting

Monday, July 11. 7 PM. Serra Adult School. See back page for agenda.

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1st and calls will stop by October 1st. After that time telemarketers can be fined up to \$11,000 for each unwanted call.

2005 Point Richmond music festival

From smooth jazz to funk to blues to bluegrass, the Point Richmond music festival is celebrating its tenth anniversary with a wonderful range of free concerts, along with 10 nearby restaurants ready to serve you when the music is over. On Friday, July 8, from 5:30 to PM, you can catch funk and jazz by N Focus and Thomas Banks & Cultural Gumbo. On Friday, August 12, from 5:30 to 8:00 PM, the FezTones (classic rock) will be joined by Wendy DeWitt (boogie woogie).

The major event is coming on Saturday September 10, from 11:30 AM to 7:30 PM, when the full-tilt Art and Music Festival features 11 different performers, along with classic cars, display of artists works, and other attractions. For more information, visit www.pointrichmond.com/prmusic/index.htm, or send an e-mail to andrew.butt@intres.com.

Fellowships in government

Do you know a college grad who may be interested in a career in government? He or she may appreciate learning about a fellowship program that places them in either a State Assembly Capitol office or an Assembly committee. Here they learn by drafting legislation, writing response letters to constituents, preparing committee briefs, researching policy issues, meeting with constituents, and much more.

Application to the 2005-2006 Unruh Assembly Fellowship Program is open to 4-year college graduates holding a degree by September 2005. Individuals from all academic disciplines are encouraged to apply; there are no preferred majors.

For more information, contact Michelle Mylam, at Assembly-member Loni Hancock's District Office, 510/559-1406, ex. 16; or send an e-mail to Michelle.Mylam@asm.ca.gov.

(QuickTakes continue next column)

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Kathy Scharff	President
Gina Swirsding	Vice-president
Nick Despota	Secretary
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Andy Pasternack	IEWS editor

At 100, Richmond can still party, continued from page 1

- Beginning in July and running through-December, the Richmond Museum will exhibit *This is Your Life, Richmond California*, in the Seaver Gallery. Call 235-7387 for details
- In both July and August, Point Richmond will host the Point Richmond Music Festival. See QuickTakes (this issue, left column), or call 236-1401 for details.
- Hungry for a good breakfast on a luxury liner? On Sunday, July 24, 9 AM, enjoy a Pancake Breakfast on the Red Oak Victory Ship. Call 237-2933 for details.
- There is yet more music on Saturday, July 23, noon to 7:30 PM, at the *16th Annual Music-on-the-Main Summer Concert Series*, Macdonald Ave at 10th Street. Phone 236-4049.

August will feature more activities an fun, such as the August 6 Centennial celebration described above, another more music in Point Richmond (August 12, see Quick Takes), another pancake breakfast on the Red Oak Victory (August 14), and another Music on the Main Summer concert (August 14).

If you are finding it hard to keep track of all this partying, fear not. You can retrieve information as needed at www.richmondcelebration.com.

quick-takes*continued from first column***Literacy for all**

A functionally illiterate adult cannot read, write, communicate in English, or compute and solve problems at levels of proficiency necessary to function in society. Illiteracy is the biggest problem facing Richmond because it is the root of many others. Literacy for Every Adult Program (LEAP) works to eradicate illiteracy.

LEAP offers services such as basic lit-

eracy instruction, beginning computer classes, GED classes, English as a second language/literacy (ESL/L) classes, small group tutoring, and one-to-one tutoring. Hours are Mon. - Thurs., 8:30 AM to 8 PM and Fri. 8:30 AM to 5 PM.

For more information, including how to get involved as a volunteer, call 307-8084 or visit the LEAP office at 330 25th Street, second floor.

incidents reported to Richmond Police

This report shows calls made to the Police Department from May 3 – 31, 2005, not necessarily crimes committed. Calls for incidents at commercial establishments are not included, only those concerning possible crimes against persons or personal property. Furnished by Perry Austin, Crime Statistics Department.

Abandoned auto

Two incidents

Stolen vehicle

05/03 22XX Key
05/05 122XX San Pablo
05/15 6XX Humboldt
05/23 6XX Yuba

Calls related to dogs

05/12 6XX Humboldt

Robbery

05/10 49XX Macdonald
05/10 121XX San Pablo
05/11 48XX Macdonald

Burglary from auto

05/16 55XX Sierra
05/18 6XX Amador

Burglary from residence

05/03 57XX Solano
05/05 9XX Yuba
05/20 9XX Sonoma

Vandalism

05/03 9XX Amador
05/24 San Pablo/Barrett
05/24 54XX Solano
05/26 7XX Kern
05/26 123XX San Pablo

Juveniles causing disturbance

05/13 8XX Sonoma
05/13 8XX Kern
05/14 8XX Sonoma
05/14 51XX Esmond
05/25 8XX Sonoma
05/30 8XX Sonoma

contacts



Find many more phone numbers, as well as e-mail and web links for public services at our web site www.eastrichmond.org.

Emergency 911
Crime in progress, medical emergency

To report suspicious activity

In city limits, Richmond Police
Dispatch: 233-1214
In unincorporated area 925/646-2441

Report anonymous tips 232-TIPS

East Richmond's primary beat officer and Sergeant

Offcr. Andre Hill 620-6642

General security concerns, other police services:

RPD Watch Commander: 620-6643

Neighborhood Council concerns

Kathy Scharff 237-2297

Report blight or graffiti

Richmond blight abatement 231-3010
CalTrans (graffiti) 925-926-6112

this issue of Views

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Subscriptions: Subscriptions to Views are free but a donation is requested. To get on our mailing list, please mail a request to ERNC, PO Box 5253, Richmond, CA 94805. Be sure to clearly print your name and address on your request.

Articles and News: The ERNC newsletter is a great way to publicize your neighborhood event. Our deadline is the 15th of the month prior to publication. We will make every effort to include your information. Contact Andy at 233-6673 or via e-mail at levinack@hotmail.com.

Street Smarts, continued from page 1

machine if you're uneasy about people nearby. Use drive-up ATMs, or ones located inside stores.

- Don't wear shoes or clothing that restrict movement.
- Have your car or house key in hand before you reach the door.
- Have to work late? Make sure there are others in the building, and ask someone — a colleague or security guard — to walk or drive you to your car or transit stop.

On wheels

- Keep your car in good running condition. Make sure there's enough gas to get where you're going and back.
- Always roll up the windows and lock car doors when you park. Check inside and outside the car before getting in.
- Avoid parking in isolated areas. Be especially alert in lots and parking garages. Note the location of exits and emergency phones.
- If you think someone is following you, don't head home. Drive to the nearest police or fire station, gas station, or open business for help.
- Don't pick up hitchhikers. Don't hitchhike.
- Leave enough space to pull around the vehicle in front of you when you're stopped at a light or stop sign. If anyone approaches your car in a threatening manner, pull away.
- Beware of "bump and rob": A car rear-ends or bumps you in traffic. You get out to check the damage and the driver or one of the passengers jumps in and drives off. Look around before you get out; make sure other cars are around. If you're uneasy, stay in the car and insist on moving to a busy place or police station.

Road rage

- Violent incidents on the roads recorded by police have increased more than 50 percent over five years.
- Don't be drawn into a test of wills on the highway. If someone wants to pass you, pull into the slow lane and let them. Don't tailgate or cut off others in traffic. Don't drive in the passing lane.
- Don't take traffic problems personally.
- Avoid eye contact with aggressive drivers.
- Don't make obscene gestures. Use your horn sparingly, as a warning, not an outburst.
- Reduce stress by allowing ample time for your trip.
- If you witness aggressive driving, stay out of the way and contact the police when you can. Consider carrying a cell phone in your car.

On buses, BART, Muni and other mass transit

- Use well-lighted, busy stops.
- Stay alert. Don't doze or daydream.
- If someone harasses you, don't be embarrassed. Loudly say, "Leave me alone!" If that doesn't work, hit the emergency device.
- Watch who gets off with you. If you feel uneasy, walk directly to a place where there are other people.

If someone tries to rob you or take your car

- Don't resist. Give up property, not your life.
- Report the crime to the police. Try to describe the attacker accurately. You can help prevent others from being victims.

This information is presented in the brochure, *Street Sense: It's Common Sense*, published by the National Crime Prevention Council. To obtain copies, write to the Council, at 1700 K Street, NW, Second Floor, Washington, DC 20006-3817. Or visit their web site at www.weprevent.org.

at the next ERNC meeting

Youth awards. Community-policing priorities.

Some neighborhood councils have established youth awards as a means of promoting efforts that support community life. As a first step toward doing that in East Richmond, we'll discuss basic questions: who would be eligible to receive awards, what criteria should be applied, how much money do we award, and how frequently?

At our March meeting we identified the 4 top concerns for our crime prevention efforts:

1. Stolen vehicles & car break-ins
2. House burglaries
3. Truancy
4. Blight and abandoned vehicles

We will revisit our priorities and, with the help of Sergeant André Hill, review the actions we can take to minimize property crimes, blight and truancy.



Note: meeting on 2nd Monday of the month because of July 4th!

Monday, July 11, 7 PM

Serra Adult School
6028 Ralston Ave.

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