Kirkland Town Library

1975 - San Francisco, California

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J uli e

Historical photographs courtesy of Clinton Historical Society unless otherwise noted
In the 1970s, Clinton was a close-knit community like any small town but it still felt the effects of changes occurring across the country. For the American people it was a time to speak up for what they believed in whether it was the environmental movement, political change after the Watergate Scandal, or women’s rights and the passing of Title IX. Celebrations were nothing new to the Village and in 1976, Clinton celebrated our nation’s Bicentennial. The Village of Clinton was 189 years old, making it only 11 years younger than the United States of America.
Similar to Gladrags, people in Clinton would shop at Gorton’s 5 & 10. The store was located on West Park Row. Gorton’s carried a variety of goods and would have been where elementary students just like Julie bought their school supplies. Here is an ad from The Clinton Courier in 1974, listing items and their prices. Can you believe it only cost 29 cents for 12 pencils?
Clinton had their own girls’ basketball team. In fact, there was girls’ basketball in the 1950s in the high school. Julie had to be on the boys’ basketball team because Jack London Elementary didn’t have a girls’ team. Aren’t we lucky that girls today can play on so many different sports teams?
Growing up in the 1970s, if you wanted to see a movie, you didn’t have to go far! Across from today’s Clinton Historical Society, at the corner of Fountain and South Park Row, there was a movie theatre called the Cannonball Cinema. A girl in Clinton might have seen “Jaws” here.
Julie played on her school’s boys’ basketball team thanks to Title IX, the federal civil rights law that states that no one can be excluded from participation in any education program or activity because of their sex. In 1975, a Clinton girl named Jane Burns played on the boys’ tennis team and excelled just like Julie! As quoted in the Clinton Courier, “The Clinton High School Tennis Team ended its season on May 31 with its best finish ever in the Section III Eastern Zone tournament at the Parkway courts in Utica. Jane Burns and Andy Heintz participated in important doubles victories as well as a number of key singles wins.” By 1978, the girls would have their own team!
In 1976, America celebrated its Bicentennial, or the second 100th year anniversary of the United States of America’s independence from Great Britain. In Clinton, festivities were held on July 5th and included much of what we still do today, such as fireworks, games, and food! The only difference is that today, we watch fireworks from behind the elementary and high schools, while in 1976, fireworks were viewed from the town park!
Christmas Parade

Julie went to the Chinese New Year Parade in San Francisco, but if she had been in Clinton, she would have gone to the annual Christmas Parade. While the parade is now part of Shoppers’ Stroll the Friday after Thanksgiving, in 1974 it was held in mid-December.

Christmas Parade Starts
At 2 pm This Sunday

Santa Claus will be coming to town Sunday, December 15, at 2:00 p.m. as the main attraction in the Annual Jaycee Christmas Parade. The parade will begin at Elm street and continue up College street to the center of the Village. Immediately following the parade, Santa Claus will be at the firehouse to talk to the children.

The parade will consist of 25 units competing for the three traveling trophies and prize money. The trophies are the Allen Trophy, the Alteri Trophy and the Ford Trophy. Don’t miss the only area Christmas Parade.

Children who wish to write Santa may use Santa’s Mailbox located in the Village. All the letters will be answered.

The day of the parade the Jaycees will be selling a most unusual Christmas coloring book. This large book sells for only $3.00.
Suggested Reading

**Easy**

- *Maybelle, The Cable Car* by Virginia Lee Burton (Easy BUR)
- *Salt in His Shoes* by Deloris Jordan (Easy JOR)
- *The Princesses Have a Ball* by Teresa Bateman (Easy BAT)

**Juvenile Fiction**

- *Shifty Business* by Greg Trine (BLUE J Fiction TRI)
- *Earthquake in the Morning* by Mary Pope Osborne (BLUE J Fiction, Magic Tree House Series)
- *Tall Story* by Candy Gourlay (J Fiction GOU)
- *Brittany the Basketball Fairy* by Daisy Meadows (BLUE J Fiction MEA, Rainbow Magic Series)
- *Slam Dunk* by Matt Christopher (J Fiction CHR)

- *Changing Tunes* by Donna Jo Napoli (J Fiction NAP)
- *Dear Mr. Henshaw* by Beverly Cleary (J Fiction CLE)
- *Basketball (or something like It)* by Nora Raleigh Baskin (J Fiction BAS)

**Nonfiction**

- *This is San Francisco* by M. Sasek (J 917.946 SAS)
- *Basketball Belles: How Two Teams and One Scrappy Player put Women’s Hoops on the Map* by Sue Macy (J 796.323 MAC (LIGHT BLUE))
- *The Young Basketball Player* by Chris Mullin (J 796.323 MUL)
- *The Vietnam War* by John Devaney (J 959.704 DEV)
Julie’s Accessories

- Book
- Hat
- Purse
- Pouch
- Pajamas & Slippers
Thank you to the Clinton Central School Class of 2015 members: Audrey Bartels, Shannon Cherpak, Amara Rojo and Rebecca Williams for researching and writing these cards.

Thank you to the mother/daughter team of Teresa, Frances and Madeline Jones for researching and writing these cards.

To learn how you can sponsor a doll or its accessories contact Anne Debraggio, Director of Kirkland Town Library, at: adebraggio@midyork.org.

To learn more about the program visit http://kirklandtownlibrary.org/americangirldolls/

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