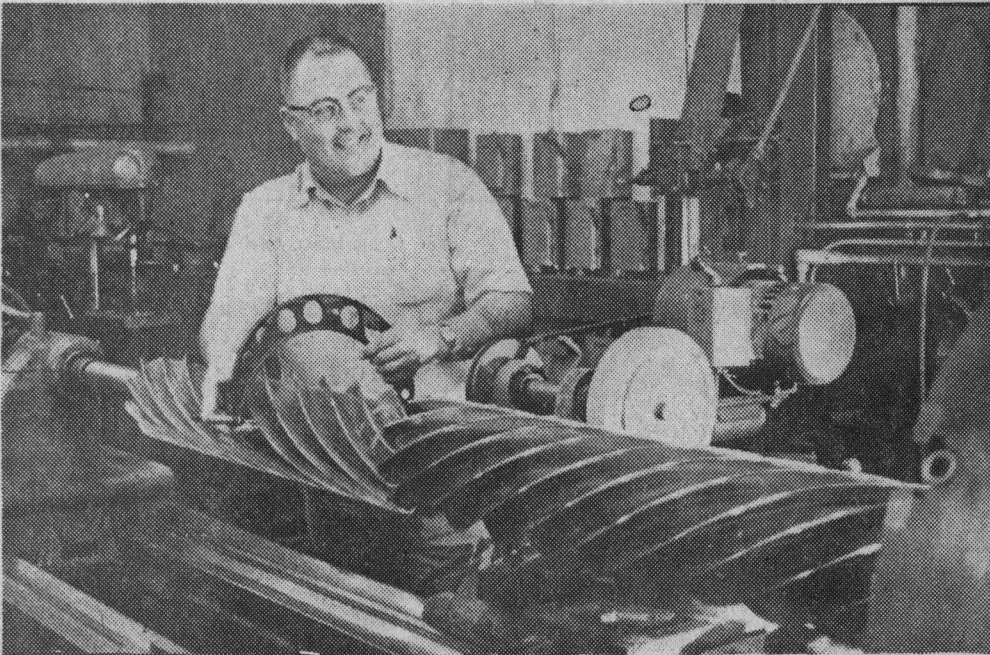


Industries In Santa Cruz County

Kalar's Works With Metals



Darrel R. Kalar checks one of the huge lathes at Kalar's Welding and Machine Shop, 324 River St. Kalar has been a partner in the business since 1956 and its owner since 1961.

(Editor's Note: This is another in a series of articles on industries in Santa Cruz County, appearing periodically in The Sentinel.)

By BRUCE McPHERSON
Sentinel Staff Writer

"We do a little bit of every thing."

With that, Darrel R. Kalar sums up business at Kalar's Welding and Machine Shop at 324 River St.

"We do most any kind of work with metals, from fixing a tricycle to providing beams and frames for large buildings," Kalar added.

There's a touch of history in the shop. The business dates back to the turn of the century, according to Kalar, when it was called Bright's Blacksmith Shop.

"I know it (Bright's) was here in 1906, because it was here when the earthquake struck San Francisco that year."

It was called Bright's Blacksmith Shop after Kalar's great uncle, Fred Bright, until 1937. Then Kalar's father bought the business and changed the name in the 1940s.

In the early days, the label "blacksmith" meant something to do with horseshoeing, fixing wagon wheels and the like.

All that has changed now, of course.

At least half of the shop's business is large enough to go out to bid, said Kalar, pointing at plans for a Monterey Rehabilitation Center which his firm is now working.

"Most of our jobs are in the Monterey Bay area," said Kalar. "We go about as far as Carmel."

The materials (beams and posts) are delivered to the shop in regular lengths and a main function carried out at the shop is to cut them to the correct size to fit the needs of a job.

Understandably, a knowledge of metals is essential in this business. You must know that aluminum can be welded to aluminum and steel to steel, but steel can't be welded to aluminum, for instance.

Kalar, a partner in the business since 1956 and its owner since 1961, said there have been many improvements in the field of welding in that time, such as the types of coating now found on welding rods.

There are seven persons employed at Kalar's. Some of the framing jobs the shop has done include remodeling of the Odd Fellows Building on the Pacific Avenue Garden Mall, enlarging of the Telephone building on Walnut and Center Streets, erecting the dome at the Merry-Go-Round on the boardwalk and the new Palomar Garage.

"We really don't manufacture anything special here," said Kalar. "Our business includes a lot of odds and ends. We do a lot of everything. Whatever breaks and is possible to weld, we can do something to fix it."



Welding is the name of the game at Kalar's Welding and Machine Shop. Here, Ray Hawk shows how it's done as he welds a bracket onto a steel post. Metal beams and poles of literally hundreds of shapes and sizes are received at the shop and cut or welded to fit the needs of a particular job.

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Page 11

SV To Continue Hearing In Development Proposal

Scotts Valley planning commissioners will resume Wednesday a continued public hearing on use permit applications for a Holiday Inn travel trailer park and an automobile service station in a 17-acre, \$2.5-million commercial complex proposed by Broadway Development Co. of San Leandro. The meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. in city hall.

The applications were returned to the developer Jan. 20 by a 4-1 vote of the commissioners following lively arguments pro and con these two portions of the development by a large audience. Protests outnumbered citizen approvals by a count of 7 to 3.

On Jan. 25, directors of the SV Property Owners Association voted 7 to 6 against the trailer park and service station.

Before the Jan. 20 meeting, City Administrator Friend Stone announced the total project had consensus approval from the city council, the planning commission and the city's design and review board.

Echoes of community soul-searching resultant from the debates Jan. 20 were heard last Thursday at a meeting of the city council.

Fr. Michael McDonald, pastor of San Augustine Catholic Church of Scotts Valley, told the councilmen:

"I hope everyone realizes we are part of a whole new community. The city we are making can be nonsense, like San Jose, which was once a lovely little town but is now a metropolis. We have to remember when we talk about a city we are talking about people's lives. When you develop a complex, people live there. This places a terribly grave responsibility on the city council. You have to answer for it.

"It's all right to talk about progress. But progress without happiness is not good. This whole new community is completely dependent upon you. I can see the sense of responsibility on your faces. So when you do zone, don't let anything interfere with your decision for the good, for the good of the poor as well as for the rich. God must love the poor because he made so many of them."

Mayor M. W. Lotts responded to Fr. McDonald: "We are aware of the responsibility. You may be sure we will do our best."

Councilman C. R. Roberson

commented later in the meeting: "I know that others, like myself, don't want mobile home parks or gas stations or apartment houses in Scotts Valley. I liked Scotts Valley best as it was 20 years ago. But I'm sure things cannot stay as they were then. We need to get people to realize the kind of development we have to have.

"A bedroom community would be impossible, because of taxes. There is such a thing as a balanced community. What I'm trying to get people to do is look at the burdens. When you start to criticize developments you have to realize that a nice home alone won't educate even half a child through the taxes paid on the property. It costs from \$750 to \$800 to educate a child in our schools, and the school district gets only around 60 per cent of the property taxes paid by the owner of a home.

"We have to realize we have to get money from more than just residences.

"We need advice. But I think the people need to come to these meetings and hearings with an open ear. I think everyone needs to make decisions as issues are discussed at the meetings, not before they are discussed."

San Diego Travel Agents Tour SC

Some 13 travel agents from San Diego took a "familiarization tour" of the Santa Cruz area Sunday to observe the area and its features that can be used in future promotional efforts.

Burke Pease, manager of the Santa Cruz County Convention and Visitors Bureau, said the tour will be the first of many with travel agents from throughout the state.

"These tours are very important for the implementation of our package program for the two and three-day visitor. We are able to show the community to travel agents that will in turn have a bearing on their ability to sell Santa Cruz to their clients," he said.

The bureau for the past several months has been active in setting up a "package program" that will include the charge for motel accommodations, meals and recreational activities available here.

Pease said the proposed package should be ready for presentation at the committee's membership meeting, Feb. 23 at 7:30 a.m. at The Riverside.

Sunday's tour followed a similar visit by the travel agents of the San Diego area.

mentioned that delegates may visit Santa Cruz before and after conventions there by using the model "package program."

Ken Ferguson provided the commentary of the Sunday tour, which visited spots such as Santa's Village, Roaring Camp, the Holiday Inn, the Pacific Avenue Garden Mall, UCSC, Holiday Inn and the Dream Inn.

Also from the Santa Cruz bureau were president Cliff Silveria, Joe Fortier, Robert Ward and Bill Leonard. Rip Lane, a representative of Pacific Southwest Airlines and Bill Dawson, manager of the San Jose Visitors and Convention Bureau were on the tour, too.

SC Planners Meet Wednesday

Renaming of Cliff and River Streets between Cliff and Front Streets, will be considered by the Santa Cruz city planning commission in council chambers at city hall Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

Commissioners two week ago came up with several