APRIL 1943: The war dominated life throughout the county

History

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EDITOR'S NOTE: *The Sentinel is celebrating its 150th year in 2006 by reaching into our archives to republish some of the noteworthy stories and retrospectives of the past. The following stories ran in April 1943.*

■ School cafeterias suffered from wartime rationing. Elementary schools were the hardest hit, their 10-cent meals barely keeping pace with higher food costs.

■ Mrs. C.C. Moore sold her 55-acre High Street estate and donated a valuable collection of musical instruments to the music department of Santa Cruz High School.

■ More than 1,800 men from the north end of Santa Cruz County were listed in the Sentinel-News index of men in the armed services.

■ The Mission Hill Junior High School donated $11 to the Red Cross war fund after hosting a dance.

■ The city of Santa Cruz saw fewer calla lilies than usual in the spring. The acreage along River Street was sparse due to high water and lack of labor.

■ A dog was found unharmed at the base of a 70-foot cliff at Moore's beach on West Cliff Drive. The dog, who appeared to have been at the base of the cliff for two days, was rescued by an ex-naval man.

■ Four male students from Branciforte Junior High School wore dresses over their slacks to school as a protest against girls being allowed to wear slacks to school. Lewis Morelli, one of the boys, reportedly also wore eyebrow pencil, lipstick and fingernail polish.

■ Trustees of the public library voted to establish a branch at the county hospital. Two-hundred volumes were immediately transferred to the hospital, many of the books taken immediately to the bedside of patients.

■ For the first time in Santa Cruz's fishing industry, three women took out commercial fishing permits. Mrs. Phillip Palmer, Mrs. Wilson Tennant and Mrs. William Tara were the first women to "man" the fishing boats.

■ Instead of their regular weeklong Easter break, wartime schools in Santa Cruz only took off Good Friday so they could get out of school earlier to help with harvest work.