

ANTHONY, CALIFORNIA 95008  
76  
ANTHONY  
PERMISSION

# Village Of Seagulls, Sun Spruces Up For Tourists

By DON WILSON  
Staff Writer

CAPITOLA — This is a village of seagulls and sunshine, funky little shops and cafes, Victorian houses and Venetian waterways.

It also is a small city, groaning with the growing pains that are accompanying its evolution into the shopping center of the mid-county area.

And while the city fathers contemplate that evolution and turn their attention toward the 41st Avenue part of the city, others are looking back toward the village itself.

It was Capitola-by-the-sea which was one of the first seaside resorts on the West Coast. Here, the wealthy and influential gather to play, far from the hustle of the city.

And it is here that tourists still come, though not so many of the wealthy and influential — and not for long and leisurely weekends or months.

Today's tourists, says City Mgr. Max Kludt with just a touch of regret in his voice, puts a six-pack of beer and some sandwiches in his car in the Santa Clara Valley, gasses up his car down the street ways, and drives over the hill to spend the day at the beach here. He doesn't spend much money, and he

creates some problems.

But, says Kludt, "he's all we've got."

And so the City of Capitola is leaning toward putting in more parking spaces, rearranging the ones it already has, improving and widening the Municipal Wharf to accommodate some shops and cafes, and encouraging the already moving trend towards sprucing up the village.

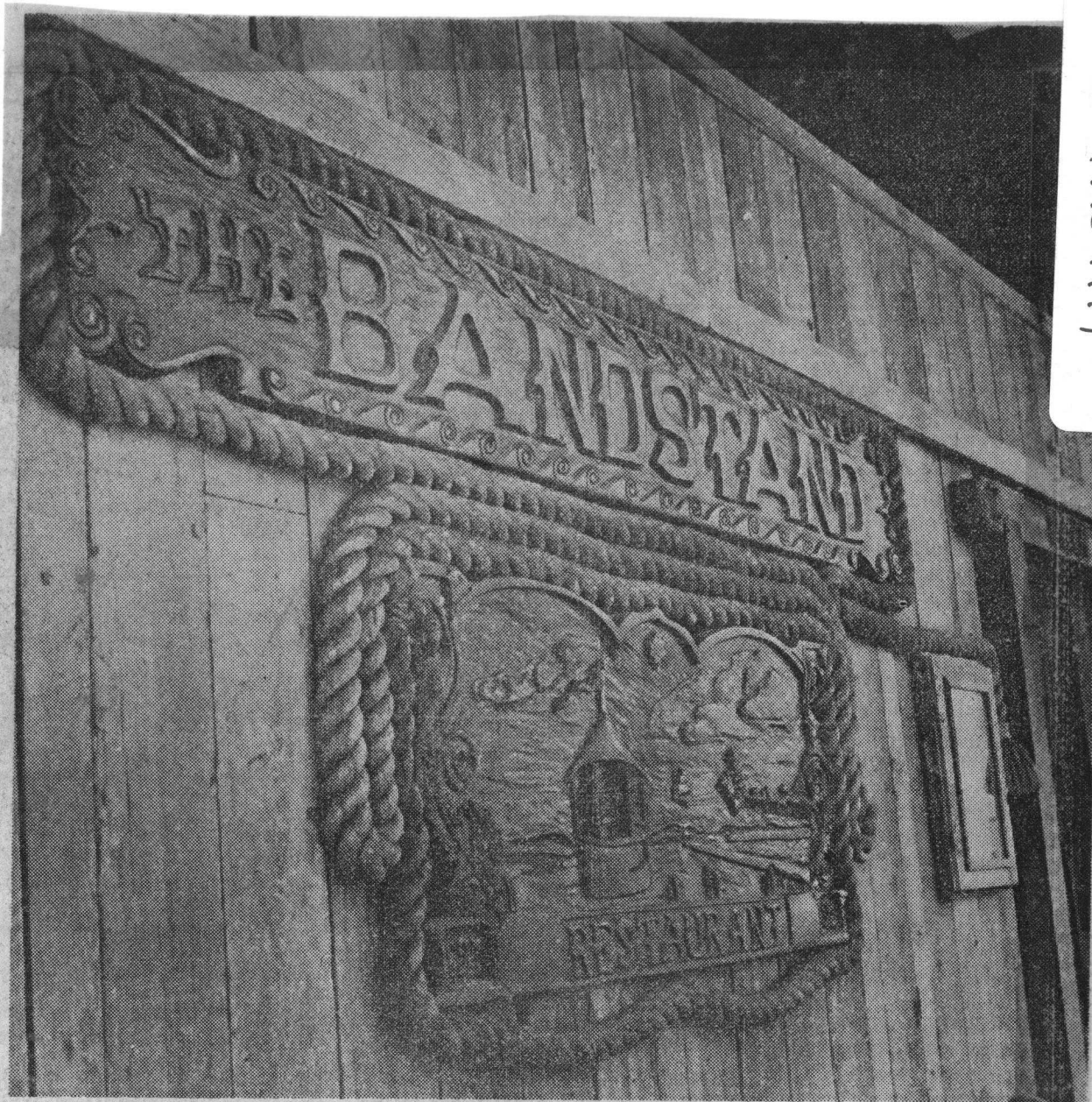
Workers are putting up an addition to the city hall to accommodate the growing need for space in which to handle the functions of the small city.

Around the Esplanade, new cafes have sprung up, and old ones have been remodeled. Owners are remodeling and repainting rental housing units ("We have only one motel," says Kludt) to take care of both vacation and permanent residents.

Let the gleaming new businesses and shopping centers create a bustling image of progress around the intersection of 41st Avenue and Capitola Road.

But down here in the village, resident and tourist alike walk along the beach, take an outboard motor boat off the wharf into the bay for fishing, listen to the screech of seagulls and eat shishkabob in small cafes.

"For a lot of people," says City Mgr. Kludt, "they're happy if we just keep what we've got."



Front of beach restaurant has unique design.

CAPITOLA - (1970-1979)

SAN JOSE MERCURY  
May 13, 1976