



Polynesian Cultural Center

Employee Newsletter

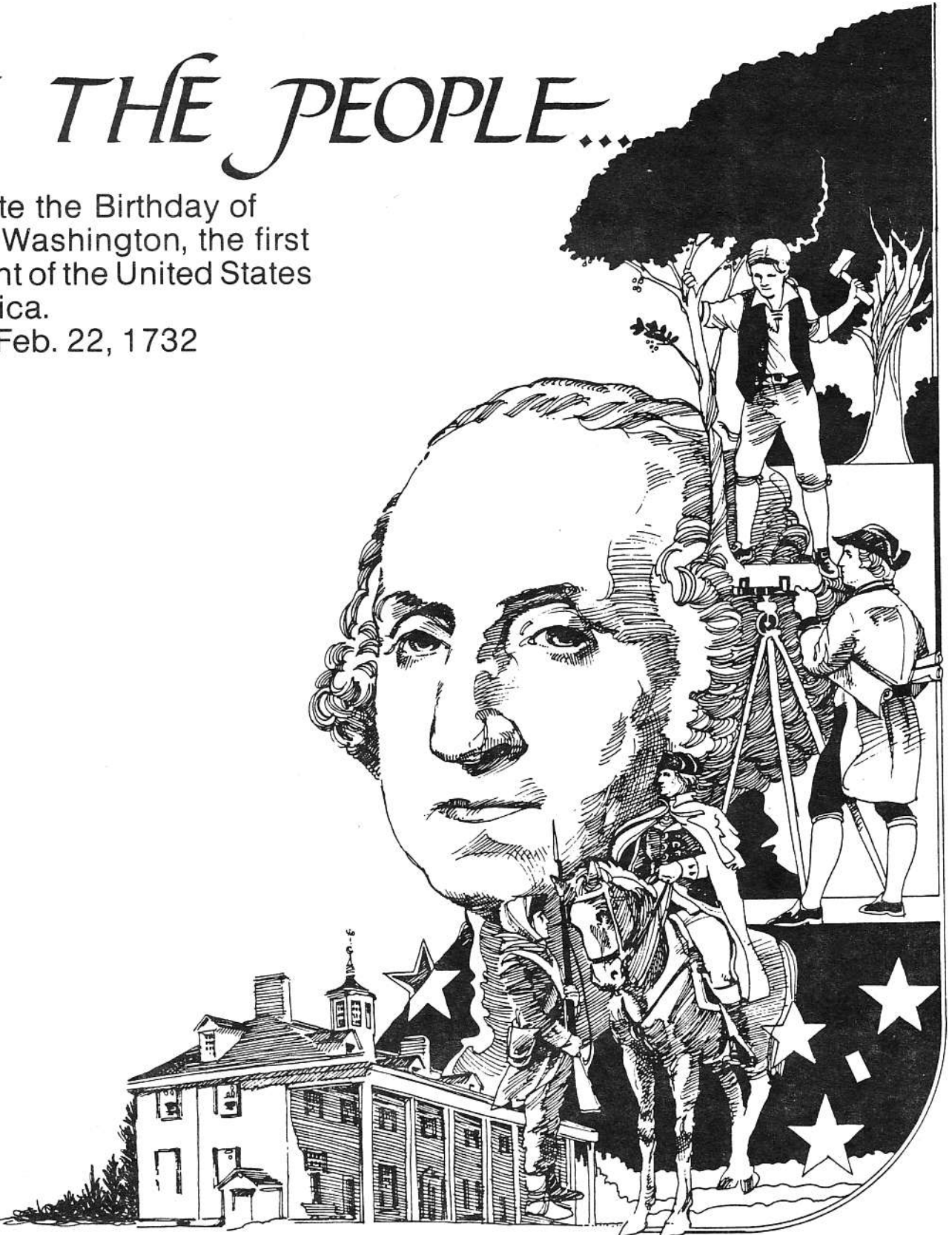
Friday, Feb. 22

# UPDATE '85

## WE THE PEOPLE...

Celebrate the Birthday of  
George Washington, the first  
President of the United States  
of America.

Feb. 22, 1732



## Spotlight On...

# Sister Joan Rodgers

This week the UPDATE honors Sister Joan Rodgers for the unselfish work she renders in entertaining the important guests of the Polynesian Cultural Center. Through the past two years Sis. Rodgers has hosted many dinners in her home and assisted in the special luaus put on at the Center. Her list of distinguished visitors includes people such as Premier Zhao Zhyang of China, the President of Finland, the President of Vanuatu, the Prime Minister of Western Samoa, U.S. Supreme Court Justices, senators, congressmen, governors, including Governor Ariyoshi from Hawaii, and Governor and Mrs. Scott Matheson from Utah. This list includes many heads of businesses such as the recent visit of the heads of the U.S. and Japanese broadcasters. She has also had in her home President Hinckley, President Benson, Elder Monson, Elder Hunter, Elder Ashton, Elder Maxwell, Elder Faust, Barbara Smith, Ardeth Kapp, President of the Young Women, Pat Holland, a counselor to Sister Kapp, and numerous members of the First Quorum of the Seventy. She has also entertained many local church and community leaders. Recently she had all of the principals on the island to lunch, and also invited all of the local stake presidents to a formal dinner.

Sister Rodgers works on these events with the help of many PCC employees. She coordinates the evenings with Pam Su'a and Special Projects, and she plans the menus with Emily Kaopua, who helps her prepare the food. She also has help with serving and presenting the food, and many of the hostesses from the Gateway have been involved in that. She particularly mentioned that Rose and Rowena have consistently been at these events, and have done an outstanding job. She has also employed Anne Marie, one of our security dispatchers, as a hostess for special occasions.



*Sis. Rodgers enjoys cooking for her VIP guests*

Sister Rodgers first began entertaining shortly after she and Brother Rodgers were married. They were serving on the Stake MIA presidency when the chairman of the Church MIA committee came to their stake to visit, and Bro. Rodgers invited him to dinner. This first evening with "Brother" Marvin J. Ashton was the beginning of literally hundreds of important dinner parties. Sister Rodgers enjoys entertaining, and feels that it is an important responsibility in helping the Center's public relations.

One of Sister Rodgers' most important responsibilities deals

with the Board of Directors. Including General Conferences, she must entertain these important people four times a year. It is not easy always trying to think up new ideas and enjoyable entertainment during these visits, but they always turn out successful. During their most recent visit, she treated the Board to a luau in the Hawaiian village, including a traditional imu.

The UPDATE salutes Sister Rodgers for unselfishness and hard work during these dinners. Thanks for all you do to help the Polynesian Cultural Center improve and be its best.

# "The Great PCC Trivia Marathon"

This is the third week of the Polynesian Cultural Center's "Great PCC Trivia Marathon" sponsored by the UPDATE. Points for this weeks questions will be added to the total for the Grand Prize, and a weekly winner will be chosen. After you answer the questions, write your name and department at the top and turn in the completed form to Tammy Au Meyers at the Special Projects office. Your answers will be tabulated and the total points listed. Each week that you participate, your points will accumulate. It's not too late to win the Grand Prize, but you've got to start this week. If you're stumped by some of the questions, fill out the form and turn it in as all your points will be added to your Grand Prize total. **GOOD LUCK!!!**

The winner of last weeks Trivia marathon with 14 points was Rene Tetuanui, who was chosen by a drawing, he was awarded two certificates for free lunches at the PCC Snack Bar.

The following people also received a total of 14 points: Phillips Vaisega J. L. Ieremia, Ofa Talakai, Solomon Kahawai, Mike Foley, Miller Soliai, and Mahana Pulotu.

## This weeks questions are:

1. How many employees are pictured in the 1984 Anniversary photo of employees? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Where did the bell on the Mission Chapel come from? \_\_\_\_\_
3. How many kids does David Hanneman have? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Who wrote the song "Bula Laie"? \_\_\_\_\_

## FOR 3 EXTRA CREDIT POINTS

5. This song (Bula Laie) was retitled for the Elvis Presley movie "Paradise Hawaiian Style." What was the song called? \_\_\_\_\_

## FOR 2 POINTS

6. When was the Yoshimura Store (Shave Ice stand) opened? \_\_\_\_\_  
(month) (year)

## Answers to last weeks questions:

1. Fale Peito-Cooking House 2. President Mauno Koivisto, the President of Finland. 3. Three awards, as explained in the article on the halau in this issue. 4. Ralph Rodgers, Bill Cravens, Vern Hardisty, Larry Haneberg, Wayne Glaus, Les Hawthorne, or Howard Stone. 5. Marvin J. Ashton, J. Willard Marriot, F. William Gay, George Q. Cannon, Fred Baker, Jeffery Holland.

Here are the current leaders points in the Great PCC Trivia Marathon:

Mahana Pulotu (Tahitian Village)	19
Mike Foley (Public Relations)	14
Phillips Ieremia (Tech Services)	14
Solomon Kahawai (Tech Services)	14
Sam Langi (Personnel)	14
Miller Soliai (Tech Services)	14
Ofa Talakai (Seamstresses)	14
Rene Tetuanui (Village Operations)	14
Grace Edmonds (Training)	13
Leialoha Jenkins (Purchasing)	13
Ellouise Kamauoha (Reservations)	13
Raymond Mokiao (Training)	13



*Rene Tetuanui was this weeks trivia winner.*





*Canoe passengers enjoy the most important ingredient, a beautiful sunny day.*

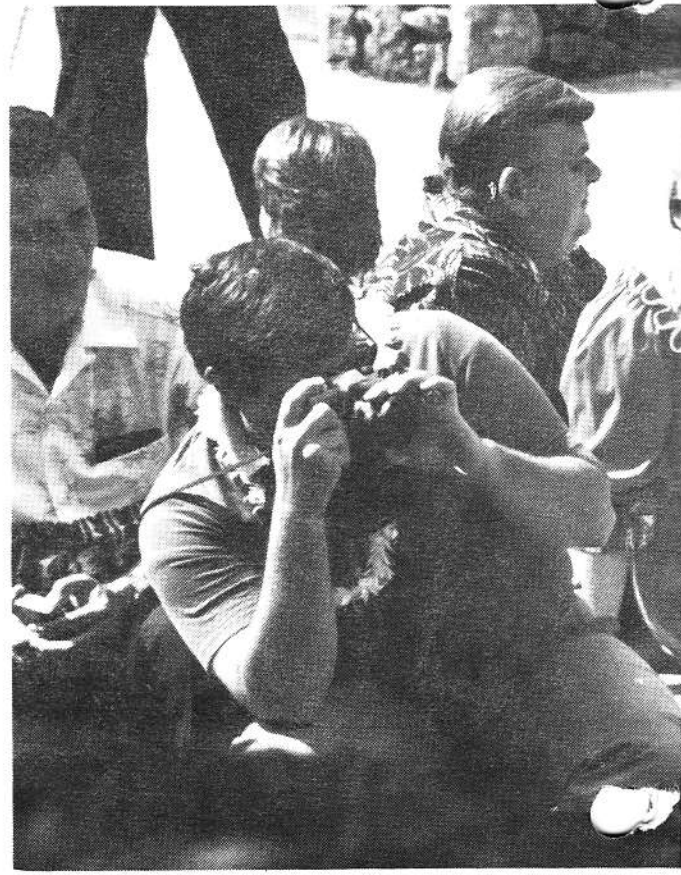
## PCC's B Depa

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*Pres. and Sis. Rodgers have entertained for years*



*The "Entertainment Department" enjoys a VIP canoe*



*beautiful sunny day.*

## *PCC's Entertainment Department*

You probably didn't know that the PCC had an entertainment department for the purpose of feeding and entertaining the Center's VIP guests. These people, along with many others not mentioned, are the core of this group. Although not officially recognized as part of the organization, these people have an important role in promoting the Center. The guests which these employees entertain have influence over many thousands of people who may one day visit Hawaii, and it is vitally important to give them an extra special experience while here.

The UPDATE salutes these individuals and wishes them success in their future endeavors



*Rose and Roena, from the Gateway, always*



*The "Entertainment Department" enjoys a VIP canoe tour*



*Emily Ka*



## Entertainment

### Department

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*Rose and Roena, from the Gateway, always hostess with a smile!*



*tour*



*Emily Kaopua plans and cooks much of the menu*

## And the winners are...

What a fun Valentine's issue we had last week!! The UPDATE staff appreciates the great support shown by the employees at the Center in submitting valentines.

Our staff asked Vernice Pere, an internationally recognized poet, to judge the valentines, and here is what she chose:



*A "Hungry Theater Worker"*



*The "Thief" (Margaret Aumua) tries to steal a prize from Rose Tofa, another winner.*

### Honorable Mentions

1. To Toalei for including his kids in Valentine wishes to his wife.
2. To "A hungry theater person" for saying thank you to employees who often don't get thanked.
3. To the unsigned writer shot by Cupid - for genuine excess in love.
4. To Thief - for a straight out, "not joking" invitation to an age-old problem around Preference time.

### And the winning prize:

To Maile's Secret Admirer, for good old-fashioned emotion sent with simplicity and style -- and no demand for response.

These writers can claim their prizes at the Special Projects office in the old administration building. Please claim them by Wednesday, Feb. 27.

## Royal Progresses in Polynesia *From the Institute of Polynesian Studies*

Royal progresses functioned under the laws of hospitality. It may well be said that they were a "painless" way of forcing voluntary taxes.

In the book *Ancient Tahiti* by Douglas Oliver he quotes Turnbull who observed:

"When any of the greater chiefs return to Tahiti from the Mottos (motu, i.e. probably Tetiaroa), as they are called, they never fail to make the circuit of the whole island. Their retinue is numerous, for, though simple their life; they are not without a taste for pomp. Their followers consist of all the strangers from the Mottos, and the same merriment and diversion continue wherever they stop: add to this they are everywhere loaded with presents; so that by the time they have made the circuit of the island, a peregrination which usually occupies them three months, their canoes return as rich

as a fleet of galleons. Their connection with the royal family renders the people more than ordinarily liberal; it is moreover the custom of the country, on such occasions, to hold no bounds to their generosity."

In his book titled *Fiji and Fijians* Thomas Williams writes:

"Sometimes the property or tribute is taken to the King; sometimes he chooses to fetch it. In the latter case, he makes those he visits a small present, the time of so doing being made the opportunity for his public reception, after which he and his attendants dance. Such visits are very burdensome to the people thus honored: for the King's fleet may comprise twenty or thirty canoes, the crews of which, as well as the King's attendants, have to be fed by the visited, however long they remain."

In Hawaii the monarchy changed the royal progresses to royal processions. The following paragraph

comes from the *The Rise and Fall of the Hawaiian Kingdom* by Richard A. Wisniewski.

"Queen Kapiolani accompanied her husband (King Kalakua), his staff and other attendants on a royal procession through the kingdom shortly after the king organized his new administration. Everywhere they went, they received enthusiastic welcomes."

In Jack London's fictional story "*On the Makaloa Mat*" the story's main character describes a royal progression:

"And they came, riding up from Kawaihae, where they had landed from the royal yacht, the whole glorious cavalcade of them, two by two, flower-garlanded, young and happy, gay, on Parker Ranch horses, thirty of them in the party, a hundred Parker Ranch cowboys and as many more of their retainers--a royal progress."



# HUI HOOULU ALOHA

Excitement is building rapidly among hula masters, dancers and fans as the date for this year's Merrie Monarch Festival in Hilo approaches.

Sometimes dubbed the "world series of hula," halau groups from across Hawaii and even the mainland are feverishly preparing chants, costumes and songs for the unusually intense competition which will be held April 11-13 in Hilo's Edith Kanakaole stadium.

The Polynesian Cultural Center's halau, Hui Hooulu Aloha — under the direction of kumu hula Cy Bridges, Vice President of Presentations at the visitor attraction, is no exception.

He and the dancers can be found at the Center early Saturday mornings and afternoons learning new

motions and getting prepared both physically and mentally, seeking the "lokahi" or oneness of motion and spirit which characterize the best groups in the Hilo competition.

"Every year I compose my own numbers for the Merrie Monarch," says Bridges, "so there's no question about our presentation."

Bridges said most halau's do two numbers of their own choice and are assigned two numbers by the festival committee. "For our choice, the men of Hui Hooulu Aloha will perform 'Aia i Honuakaha i Kuu Lani,' a song I composed in honor of my great-grand-uncle who was vice chamberlain and genealogist for King Kalakaua," he explained.

"The women will do 'Ka Hale'ohu o Kalani,' which I composed for my grandmother's 75th birthday in

March," he added.

The festival committee has assigned all men's halau's to interpret the chant "Na Nalu o Hawaii" about the various surfing sites on the Big Island; and all the women's groups to do "He Inoa Lei no ka Mo'i Wahine Kapi'olani," one of many chants created for Queen Kapi'olani's leis and necklaces.

Last year Hui Hooulu Aloha's women took 5th place in the "auwana" or modern competition while the men took 3rd place in the "kahiko" or ancient division and 3rd place overall.

It is believed Hui Hooulu Aloha is the only or one of the few hula halau's sponsored by a corporation.

*Article and photo by Mike Foley*



*Members of the Polynesian Cultural Center's hula halau, Hui Hooulu Aloha, preparing for this year's Merrie Monarch Festival in Hilo are (left-right, front row): Kawika Kelekolio, Ikaika DelaCerna, Ron Walk, Pono DelaCerna, Conley Gali, Kaleo Requilman, Kory Jones, Raymond Mokiao; (2nd row): Remy Pascual, Lahela Keliikuli, Anna Kanoa, Jackie Manipon, Kanani Balutski, Jan Cartwright, Tina Pascual, Charla Pule, Debbie Keuma; (3rd row): Raylene Cartwright, Kekela Miller, Lynn Cleveland, Julian Kaka, Tiare Tupou and Michelle Keliikuli. (Missing: Kuulei Snowden and Winnie Miller)*



# Mr. Rodger's Neighborhood

*This weeks "neighborhood" was submitted to the UPDATE by Security Manager, Albert Peters, in connection with the trivia question on the tidal wave warning we published two weeks ago.*

This story was related to me in 1970 by an old gentleman who was here on the night of the first PCC show. He installed and operated the sound systems for the old theater and was working in the show that fateful evening so many years ago. He was 68 when he was here then.

## The Story:

When my friends and family heard that I was called to serve a labor mission here in the islands to assist in the construction of the Polynesian Cultural Center, they were so excited. I had about three months to prepare to come to Hawaii and time seemed to drag as I anxiously awaited the day I was to leave. About two weeks before I left, I had a visit from some of my friends who were very concerned for me. They had just learned that the Polynesian Cultural Center included islanders from Fiji.

It was that night I learned that the Fijians were not to be trusted since they were, to a large extent, still cannibals. I heard so many frightening things about the Fijians that night, that when I finally arrived at the Center, I went out of my way to avoid any contact with the Fijians.

As a matter of fact, my fear of Fijians got to a point that if I was going to the theater and I saw Fijians walking towards me, I would turn right around and practically run away from them.

Then the evening of the first show arrived and everyone was so keyed up you could feel the excitement in the air. I came to work early to make sure that the sound system worked. The show that evening was fabulous to say the least. Towards the end of the show, a policeman came to the sound booth and asked me to announce that there was a tidal wave alert and that the theater must be evacuated.

You can imagine the mad rush as people ran out to their cars and headed in all directions. I was one of the last ones to leave the theater and by the time I got out to my pickup truck, it was so dark I could hardly see it in the parking lot. I got in and as I started to drive out, I noticed that there were a whole bunch of people in the back of the truck. Well, I thought, these folks need a ride and so I drove towards the Church College campus using an old cane road that ran towards the college from the back of PCC. Somewhere along the way I must have made a wrong turn because after about 15 minutes I knew that I was completely lost. I was surrounded with cane no matter where I looked. As fear started to get ahold of me I remembered that there were people in the back of the truck that could show me how to get back out. The first thing I noticed was that we were on a mountain and that the moon was out and it seemed so peaceful.

Then I turned to ask directions and my heart just about stopped. There in the back of my truck sat eight of the meanest looking Fijian warriors that I had ever seen. They had their spears and their war clubs. Their faces were all painted and their bodies glistened with oil. I started to back off and cried "Please don't hurt me." One of them jumped off the truck and walked towards me and all I could see was a long sharp spear still clutched tightly in his fist. As he advanced towards me, I stumbled in the dirt and fell. I may have screamed, I don't remember. He stopped and looked at me. Then he said something to the others in the truck and with a big smile on his face he said to me, "Brother, why are you afraid of me? I mean you no harm. Apparently, someone has told you things about us that are not true." He then turned around and walked back to the truck. The next thing I heard was a guitar playing and all of them singing the most beautiful music I had ever heard. I walked over to the truck and hugged each of those wonderful men and apologized to each of them for the mean way in which I had treated them all this time. From that time forth, the only people you would ever see me with were my friends, the Fijians.

*He then looked at me with tears in his eyes and said, "Al, never let others influence you to think unkindly of another human being just because they may be of a different culture and speak a different language.*

## CALENDAR

### Friday 22

Devotional "Dan Ludlow"  
CAC 10:30am

Women's Luncheon  
Ballroom 11:30am

Homecoming Ball  
Ballroom 9:30pm

MOVIE "Fame" Aud. 10:00pm

*Appreciate the freedom we enjoy in  
America*

### Saturday 23

MVolleyball Tournament  
CAC 8am-5pm

Rugby BYU-B/Sea Bird 9am  
BYU-A/UH 12pm

Homecoming Parade 10:00am  
Ward 3 Luau Ballroom

MOVIE "Fame" 6:30,9:30pm

*Ask an 'Ask Me' guide...*

### Tuesday 26

CAC BBall Chaminade

*Take a break from studies & enjoy  
the game*

### Wednesday 27

University Forum LT 10:30am

Lyceum Aud. 8pm,

American Ballet Theater 11  
Maori Delegation Visits PCC

*Invite Sam to lunch*

### Thursday 28

First Ever Film Club

Video Dance 9:00pm Ballroom  
\$1.00 in advance, \$1.50 at the  
door

*Sing happy birthday to Sione*

### Friday, March 1

*"Only 10 months to Christmas..."*