

The Peale, Baltimore

Out of the Blocks Storytelling Series

Recorded by Aaron Henkin; Photographs and Music by Wendel Patrick

Produced for the *Out of the Blocks* website, created by the Peale, <https://ootb.thepeale.org/>

Out of the Blocks is supported by PRX and produced with grant funding from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Cohen Opportunity Fund, The Hoffberger Foundation, Patricia and Mark Joseph, The Shelter Foundation, The Kenneth S Battye Charitable Trust, The Sana and Andy Brooks Family Fund, The Muse Web Foundation, and the William G. Baker, Jr. Memorial Fund, creator of the Baker Artist Portfolios



Speaker 1 ([00:02](#)):

We have pork, beef, lamb, veil, pigs feet, hog malls, chitlins. Richard Cavaleschi Felner Meats. We're in Northeast market, 2101 East monument street.

I can't help, but notice that one of your index fingers is slightly longer than the other one is there must be a story that goes with that.

I did that on the band saw up here cutting pork chops it was really cold and my hand slipped took a little bit off, patched it up, went to the hospital, got a couple stitches and come back to work. I just turned 63. I plan on working probably five more years. I still have a... I got three sons one's in second year in Virginia Tech, the middle one just graduated from Boys' Latin. He's going to university of Maryland next year. And then I got a 10th grader in Gilman. So you see where all my money goes, tuition's.

The Peale, Baltimore

Out of the Blocks Storytelling Series

Recorded by Aaron Henkin; Photographs and Music by Wendel Patrick

Produced for the *Out of the Blocks* website, created by the Peale, <https://ootb.thepeale.org/>

Out of the Blocks is supported by PRX and produced with grant funding from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Cohen Opportunity Fund, The Hoffberger Foundation, Patricia and Mark Joseph, The Shelter Foundation, The Kenneth S Battye Charitable Trust, The Sana and Andy Brooks Family Fund, The Muse Web Foundation, and the William G. Baker, Jr. Memorial Fund, creator of the Baker Artist Portfolios

My oldest son, when he was a Boys' Latin, his grades started to slip. So I said, look, you know, if you're not going to do well in school. I says, you know, I brought them down here at work five o'clock in the morning, on a Saturday. And he worked all day. I had them wash dishes, slice bacon, sweep the floor, mop, everything. So I said, look, one day it's all be yours. I said, we worked 12 hours a day, six days a week. And guess what? We're off Sunday. You go to church. And then he said, dad, I don't know how to tell you this, but I don't want to do, as I said, you got one way out and it says books, next semester he hit honor roll. (laughing)

Alberto just started here. He's from El Salvador. He's bringing his wife and daughter over. He's learning to speak English. He's... Right now he's cutting bacon, washing sweeping the floor. As soon as he learns English well enough, he'll get him to the counter. He'll make more money and I'll get somebody else to do what he's doing. The next guy is Eder. He's from Ecuador. He's been with me probably 10 years.

Speaker 2 ([01:50](#)):

Yes. My name is Eder and I'm from Ecuador. Alberto is a...(Speaking Spanish). He say he wants to take care of his family. And he wants he is like a house and car. And then he wants to be like, take care of all which the family is here in the contract.