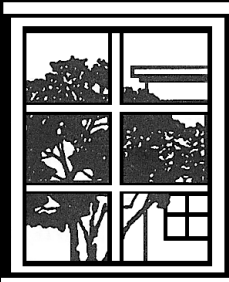


# Temescal News & Views

Published by Temescal Neighbors Together with the support of Temescal merchants



Temescal News & Views is published bimonthly and distributed to 3,000 households, schools and businesses.

## Our Mission

The mission of TNT is to enhance the quality of life in our diverse community through revitalization of our homes, businesses, schools and public services by providing an ongoing forum for community education, interaction and empowerment.

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### DISTRIBUTION

Clint Powell: 658-7345  
Tomi Kobara: 420-1197

Printed by KRW Printing  
3905 Broadway ♦ 420-1791

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## COMMUNITY NEWS

### The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Temescal Street Fair!

The 4th annual Temescal Street Fair will take place on Saturday, June 9, 12-6PM on Telegraph Ave. between 48th and 51st. The fair is a great place to meet your neighbors and support the local and growing businesses who anchor our neighborhood, especially our new businesses: Scout Hardware, Tip Top Bike Shop, The Wine Mine, Afterglow, and East Bay Depot for Creative Reuse.

Our local restaurants: Lanesplitter Pub and Pizza, La Calaca Loca Taqueria, Tanjia, Bakesale Betty, Café Pippo, and Cosmic Chocolates will provide fantastic food and drink. There will also be activities for the whole family. Come check out the Temescal Fashion Show, make art with Studio One and East Bay Depot, and shop at our arts, crafts, and community booths. The fair will feature live entertainment on the main stage. This year we lined up Ricardo Lemvo, Makina Loca, the Venezuelan Music Project, and the Kundun Ensemble. On the kid's stage there will be a juggler, a magician, and much more. Valet bike parking will be provided by East Bay Bike Coalition. Invite your friends! The fair is only eight blocks from MacArthur BART.

Unfortunately, fundraising for this year's festival is down over \$10,000. We are asking the community to show its support by making a tax-deductible donation to the Temescal Merchants Association c/o Karen Hester, 320 45th St., Oakland, CA 94609. Volunteers are also needed to put up posters. Call 654-6346 x 2 or go to: [www.temescalmerchants.com](http://www.temescalmerchants.com)

—Karen Hester

### See How Things Get Done Around Here

It has been a little over a year since I read about the need for volunteers to promote the Temescal Holiday Stroll. Little did I know what I was getting into when I joined the Temescal Telegraph Business Improvement District's Promotion/Economic Development committee. This committee was created by the BID to make the commercial corridor of our neighborhood a better place to live and shop. In addition to producing events, it focuses on business retention and recruitment strategies.

I'm glad to be involved at my capacity, even if that

means I mostly do the "leg work" of making phone calls and passing out fliers. Walking to each business between 51st and 40th has given me a sense of belonging and involvement. Already I'm thrilled to see changes taking place.

If you would like to get involved, come to our meetings: every third Wednesday at 1:30PM or call Darlene Rios Drapkin at 860-7327. Let's work together on this!

—Deborah Quay,

Economic Development Committee, BID

### East Bay Depot for Creative Reuse is Almost Here!

Besides the usual wonderful mix of reused arts and educational supplies that you know and love, the new Depot is educator and child-friendly with hands-on arts and environmental education opportunities. It is also a showcase of ecological building.

The Depot is an arts and crafts nonprofit founded by an Oakland teacher and a recycling guy in 1979. Today, tons of really cool stuff is diverted from the waste-stream. These donations end up in our store where we sell them at low cost to the public.

We feel privileged to join the Temescal community. Stop by our old store at 6713 San Pablo Ave. in Oakland until May 16. We will start accepting your donations at the new store on May 9. And we hope you come to our Grand Opening Celebration on May 19. Store hours are 10-6PM daily. 547-6470.

—Allysyn Kiplinger

### May is Bike To Work Month

Tip Top Bike Shop 4800A Telegraph Ave. is here to help you dust off your bicycle, fix it up, find the right part, or fit your bicycle for you. We can also offer advice on how to keep your bike running, find people to ride with, improve your skills, or direct you where to ride.

Bike to Work Day is May 17th. On that day we will host an Energizer Station at MacArthur BART. Stop by Tip Top Bike Shop/Lanesplitters for the After the Bike to Work Day East Bay Cruiser Ride.

Help Temescal become a more beautiful and bike friendly place by participating in Bike to Work Month. Hope to see you out there.

—Richard & Charlotte Oelerich

[www.tiptopbikeshop.com](http://www.tiptopbikeshop.com)

### Temescal News and Views Editorial Policy

TNV publishes submissions from community members. We do not fact-check, although we correct inaccuracies if we know about them. We strive to achieve a neutral tone and may edit articles accordingly, but ultimately TNV reflects the point of view of the authors and not that of the editors.

### Happenings at Désa Arts

Désa Arts is participating in East Bay Open Studios in June, bringing back the ink and watercolor paintings of Balinese artist, I Madé Moja. Check out his work and all the other great East Bay artists the weekends of June 2–3 and June 9–10!

Look for a special Désa Arts booth at this year's Temescal Street Fair and be sure to visit our website [www.desaarts.com](http://www.desaarts.com) for other great upcoming shows and events

—Lisa Tana

### 2007 NPI Community Grant Program

The Oakland Redevelopment Agency is pleased to announce the 2007 cycle of the neighborhood Project Initiative (NPI) community grant program in the Broadway/MacArthur/San Pablo Redevelopment Project Area. The NPI program funds one-time, small-scale, community-initiated physical improvement projects. The program is designed to support blight reduction and beautification efforts and to encourage community participation in revitalization.

First launched in 2006, NPI awarded grants to ten community projects including landscaping the 40th St. median, creating a dog run at Mosswood Park, planting trees and planters on Telegraph Ave., improving the Golden Gate and Mosswood Recreation Centers, and painting a mural on the Ella Baker Center building.

A total of \$200,000 is available for 2007. The minimum grant award per project is \$5,000, the maximum - \$50,000. All projects must be located within the redevelopment boundary: the area between Broadway and Highway 24 from 27th to 42nd Streets, and San Pablo Ave. between 53rd and 67th Streets. The submital deadline for applications is June 15. Go to [www.business2oakland.com/main/broadway.htm](http://www.business2oakland.com/main/broadway.htm) or contact Kathy Kleinbaum at 238-7185 or [kkleinbaum@oaklandnet.com](mailto:kkleinbaum@oaklandnet.com).

—Kathy Kleinbaum

### Friends of Matilda Brown Home Question Its Closure

The Matilda Brown Home in North Oakland has long provided affordable care for older women. Recently the closure and future sale of the home was announced by its board. In response, families of residents and members of the community have joined forces and formed Friends of Matilda Brown. We hope to keep the Home open and running by find-

ing a new nonprofit organization to operate it. We have over 30 members and are looking for more.

According to Victoria Tolbert, division director of the Alameda County Adult & Aging Services, the need for affordable senior housing is substantial and steadily growing. It is difficult to find affordable assisted living in this area in pleasant surroundings comparable to Matilda Brown. The Friends of Matilda Brown wish to preserve and reenergize this community resource.

The current Executive Director of the Matilda Brown says that the Home will close on June 15 regardless of whether the residents have been able to find new homes. The Friends of Matilda Brown is hoping that the Matilda Brown board of directors will take a more flexible position.

Please join us in rescuing the Matilda Brown Home.

—Karen Hester

David Rosen

Friends of Matilda Brown Home  
[www.hesternet.net/matildabrown.htm](http://www.hesternet.net/matildabrown.htm)

### Peralta Rises in Temescal

Peralta Elementary School has relocated temporarily to Carter Middle School, following a devastating fire March 26. Over the course of seven days, volunteers, parents, and district staff transformed the two-years vacant Carter campus with paint, plantings, art, and elbow grease. Thanks are extended to our Temescal school neighbors: Emerson, Park Day, and Oakland Tech and to all of those who helped get Carter ready for the April 3 opening. Peralta will remain at Carter until the end of the school year.

The Peralta Parent Teacher Group launched the Peralta Rising Campaign to help renew, rebuild, and re-grow the school community including the library, and courtyard garden. Funds will be used to replace the public art, books, and gardens that were destroyed and will also provide activities and services to heal our students and school community.

On Tuesdays from 2:30–5:30 Peralta will be operating a farm-to-you produce stand at Carter, which is open to all. On May 12 12–4PM Peralta will host its annual spring festival featuring BBQ, carnival games, student performances, quilt making, a rock climbing wall, and more. Admission is free. For information: [www.peraltaschool.org](http://www.peraltaschool.org).

—Marguerite Young

### Temescal NCPC News

Is a barking dog bothering you? Oakland's municipal laws can help. The Tether Law allows a dog to be tethered for a maximum of 20 minutes at a time. Call your neighbor and explain that his/her dog is creating a nuisance. If you get no cooperation, call Animal Control 535-5602 or the Police Non Emergency number 777-3333. Be sure to ask for an incident number. Still getting no help? Come to one of our monthly meetings and ask to make it one of our three Monthly Crime Priorities. We're helping neighbors in the 50th/Webster area. We can help you too.

Welcome to Peralta School in its new temporary home. NCPC is helping by asking for increased traffic enforcement around the school. This was our April priority for the Traffic Enforcement division of the Oakland Police Department.

At our March 17th Town Hall Meeting residents elected the following officers of the Steering Committee: Donald Lowrey, Chairman; Lee Edwards, Vice Chairman; Susan McDonough, Secretary and Ellen Gierson, Treasurer. Join us on the second Thursday of each month (May 10) at 7PM at Faith Presbyterian Church.

—Donald Lowrey

### Art Exhibition

Local resident, Teresa Brazen, will exhibit a community-based art installation about metamorphosis. In this installation, a video will be projected upon the surfaces of hanging cocoon sculptures. Each cocoon is made by someone in the Bay area, specifically addressing a change/metamorphosis that they are experiencing. The goal of the project to encourage viewers to think about change and its role in their own lives. This exhibition of kinetic, interactive, and computer-based work will be on May 5 from 7–10PM at the CCA, Nahl Hall 5212 Broadway. Call 594.3656 for more information. To view the work, visit [www.brazenart.com](http://www.brazenart.com)

—Teresa Brazen

### Summer at the Temescal Branch Library

Now that the weather is getting warmer, many of you are probably planning projects for your apartments, houses, and gardens. Remember to visit the library for books and videos on decorating, home repair, renovation, landscaping, and gardening. You can also borrow tools (anything from screwdriv-

ers to demolition hammers) from the Tool Lending Library when you are ready to undertake your projects. For a complete listing of tools, you can go to the library's website at [www.oaklandlibrary.org](http://www.oaklandlibrary.org).

The Summer Reading Program for children will run from June – August. Children can win prizes for reading and enjoy free shows at the library. You can stop by the library, call us, or check our website for more details. By the way, on the “Kids’ World” page of the website, you can find a lot of interesting things for children.

We are always getting new book for kids and adults, so come in and take a look at what we have! See you at the library!

—Sally Bean, Branch Manager 597-5049

### Studio One Needs Supplies

The studio is requesting supplies of all sorts to make the session at 1428 Alice as engaging as possible before the move back to 365 45th St. Help us fire up the creative drive of our youth by donating stained glass, non-lead solder, filament, and findings and fastenings for bead jewelry. Teachers would also appreciate hot glue sticks, white glue, masking tape, small acrylic Plexiglas, fluid latex household paint, brushes in good condition, carving tools, water-based printing ink, clean stockings with runs, threads, yarn, beads, cutters, waxed paper, functioning clothes irons, construction paper, blotter paper, portions of matboard, 36" wide butcher paper and paper with any surface, any weight, and lots of plastic containers of any size. Office staff can be reached at 597-5027 to arrange for delivery or pickup.

A complete listing of adult and youth classes will be posted on [www.oaklandnet.com/parks/registration/default.asp](http://www.oaklandnet.com/parks/registration/default.asp). Come Out and Play the OPR Way at Studio One!

—Tomye Gouache

### Development News

#### Glossy Mailer Under Scrutiny

The controversy over condo development in North Oakland has been ramped up a major notch with the recent mailing to Temescal residents of a full color glossy brochure (claiming to be) produced by a coalition of groups advocating development which exceeds by large percentages all current building codes. It is a slick piece that presents a vision of Telegraph Ave. and 51 St. that is hard to disagree with.

Unfortunately the piece is filled with half-truths and misleading statements. Many of the groups cited on the back page as authors of the brochure deny having been consulted by the individuals responsible for the mailer.

Those of us who have been opposed to rampant development in our neighborhood were characterized as wanting only “minimal change.” This is simply not true. We all want a revitalized Telegraph Ave. We want change. We simply want a different route to a revitalized neighborhood; one that does not involve oversized mega condo developments – one that retains the character and scale of our neighborhood while providing a lively and livable environment.

In order to promote that different route to a revitalized neighborhood, we are having a garden fundraiser May 6th at 4-6PM. We need to grow funds for appeals of Planning Commission approvals, outreach materials, and legal assistance. Headlining the fundraiser is the socially conscious soulfolk performer, Robert Temple. The event will be held in the Mauer house located at 449 49th St. We will have a light buffet and refreshments. The donation is \$25 for an individual, \$40 per couple. Kids are free. The venue is wheelchair accessible. For more information contact Robert Brokl, 655-3841, [broklcrofts@earthlink.net](mailto:broklcrofts@earthlink.net)

—Bruce Williams

Advisory Board Member, STAND  
[standnorthoakland@gmail.com](mailto:standnorthoakland@gmail.com) 652-8121

#### Developing Livable Communities

Seventy-Five people attended the March 17th ULTRA forum. Professional facilitator Sabrina Klein connected what we value about living in neighborhoods with how we define concepts like community, voice, equality, and mobility. Panelists from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, Association of Bay Area Governments, and the Sierra Club showed the direct relationship between focused-growth along transit corridors in existing urban communities and reduced automobile pollution, CO2 emissions, and urban sprawl. They also pointed to important equity issues related to sprawl: long commutes that lower commuters’ quality of life and thousands more spent by commuter per year on gasoline compared to those who can afford to live closer to city centers where they work.

Participants raised significant questions: When would the amount of density allowed begin to outweigh our quality of life? Is there a formula for the amount of open space that

should be created relative to increases in density? The connection between density and affordability wasn’t entirely clear. Although some information suggests that increased density will create more affordable housing opportunities, statistics also indicate that greater density in a given area can raise property values. How do we reconcile the two?

Unfortunately, there wasn’t enough time to answer all of our questions. Answers from panelists will be posted to our website. We also intend to tackle some of these issues in our “Neighborhood Solutions Series” where community members will have an opportunity to work with specialists to explore issues like traffic and parking problems and affordable housing. (For forum Q&As, outcomes from facilitated exercises, and upcoming workshop information, visit [www.ultraoakland.org](http://www.ultraoakland.org))

ULTRA is an independent community group that receives no outside contributions. We are grateful to panelists and our professional facilitator for volunteering their time. Everyone is welcome to join us for our Neighborhood Solutions Series!

—Suzanne LHeureux

#### CHART Mailer Receives a Positive Community Response

If you live in the Temescal News & Views delivery area, you may have recently received a mailer from CHART, the Coalition for Housing and Retail on Telegraph. Like-minded organizations and individuals who support the recent development projects proposed along Temescal’s transit corridors and the continued revitalization of Telegraph Ave. formed this group. Our goal is to engage the community by extending the dialogue to individual households to hear their thoughts and gain their feedback.

The message of the mailer was one of support for the City of Oakland’s General Plan and the housing densities it allows along Temescal’s transit corridors. As many of you know, the City’s older Zoning Codes include height limits, which prohibit builders from achieving the residential densities allowed by the newer General Plan. According to Oakland’s municipal codes, when there is a conflict between the General Plan and the Zoning Code, the General Plan takes precedence. So, the message behind the CHART mailer was support for the more recently adopted and overriding General Plan.

The mailer received a very positive response. In the few weeks since the mailer

Continued from pg.3

was issued (until the mid-April deadline for this article), roughly 150 responses have been received by mail and e-mail, a tribute to Temescal's engaging residents. Of those responses, 73% have indicated support for continued revitalization along Temescal's primary transit corridors, for more housing and retail on Telegraph. In tribute to Temescal's activist spirit, over half the responses indicated an interest in maintaining communication about these issues. We are encouraged by the growing dialogue on the revitaliza-

tion of Telegraph Ave. and we look forward to continued discussion.

—Bill Lambert

Correction: In the March/April Newsletter, we incorrectly named Shasta Pros as the developer of Centrada Temescal, Gate 48, Temescal Place, and Project CiviQ. They are, in fact, a project management firm, which assists owners of properties in implementing their development plans.

### Oakland News

#### Feather River Art Camp for Adults and Kids

Feather River Art Camp is a camp for adults and, for the first time, is happy to be hosting children's classes too! The camp takes place from June 24 – July 1 at the Oakland Feather River Camp near Quincy, CA. Art camp is a perfect blend of nature, creativity, fun, and camaraderie.

Temescal teachers Clive Matson (fiction), and Linda Lemon (papermaking) are among the experienced, dedicated teachers who are offering classes at the camp. Enjoy a week of unstoppable creating and great meals. Complete beginners through seasoned professionals are welcome. Accommodations are rustic but civilized. Brochures are available. [www.featherriverartcamp.com](http://www.featherriverartcamp.com)

—Karen LeGault, Hydrangea Studio  
[www.karenlegault.com](http://www.karenlegault.com) 601-1619

#### Crisis Volunteers Needed

Volunteer phone crisis counselors are needed to staff phone calls at the Crisis Support Services of Alameda County (CSS). Volunteers handle incoming calls from people with all kinds of troubles, including suicidal concerns. Problems of abuse, violence, homelessness, loneliness, old age, teen cutting, and mental illness are the subject of most calls.

Volunteers work one four-hour shift weekly for a year. Training is free and no experience

is required. Crisis counseling is an exciting and satisfying way to serve the community. The techniques learned in one-on-one practice sessions are skills that volunteers find useful in their home and work lives. CSS is close to BART and bus stops, offers free parking and disabled access, and is convenient to the Temescal neighborhood. Help heal hearts. Call 420-3204 for information.

—Claire Wahrhaftig

#### A "Temescal" Summer at the Jack London Aquatic Center

Temescal kids and adults can kayak, row and dragon-boat this summer at the Jack London Aquatic Center on the shores of the Oakland Estuary. Participants do not need to know how to swim. The JLAC provides instructors, equipment and life-jackets, and a completely new view of Oakland's waterfront. We also offer adult twilight kayaking, an after-work kayaking expedition from JLAC around Government Island, and adult classes on learning to scull on Saturdays throughout the summer.

The Jack London Aquatic Center is located in Estuary Park, on the Embarcadero, between Oak Street and Fifth Avenue. Note that it is located about one mile south of Jack London Square, but *not* in Jack London Square. Go to [www.jlac.org](http://www.jlac.org) or call 208-6060 for dates, times and details:

—Robert F. Kidd

#### Movement Analysis

Our Oakland based Movement Analysts work on site in your business or home office halt equipment and body usage problems with easy, cost-effective solutions. Bodies that feel better get more done! The Body At Work: 415-820-1410, [www.thebodyatwork.com](http://www.thebodyatwork.com).

—Hilary Bryan

## Temescal Calendar

**Saturday, May 5, 7 PM.** Interface Exhibition California College of the Arts, Nahl Hall, 5212 Broadway Info: 510.594.3656

**Wednesday, May 9, 6 PM.** Temescal Merchants Association monthly meeting. All are welcome. Temescal Library, 5205 Telegraph. 653-7196.

**Thursday, May 10, 7 PM.** Temescal Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) Steering Committee meeting. Everyone welcome. Faith Presbyterian Church, 49th and Webster. 420-6974.

**Friday, May 11, 7:30 PM.** Poetry Saloon. Bring a poem that you have written and one by someone else to share, or come to enjoy. 472 44th Street. 594-2200.

**Wednesday, May 16, 6 PM.** Establishing Mixed-Income Communities in North Oakland: The Complexities of and Innovative Solutions to the Financing of Affordable Housing in Higher Income Neighborhoods. Rockridge Branch Library, 5366 College Ave. by Hudson Sponsor: ULTRA For information: Hiroko Kurihara 384-3146 H2Oakland@sbcglobal.net

**Saturday, May 19, 10 AM.** Help monitor water quality in Temescal Creek. Lake Temescal inlet near the Broadway Terrace park entrance. 459-3967 or [temcrk@mountaincurrent.net](mailto:temcrk@mountaincurrent.net).

**Sunday, June 3** Ruby's Garden trunk show at Studio Grow 10AM-2PM 1235 10<sup>th</sup> St. in Berkeley. Stop in or call 595-5325 for more information. email: [info@rubysgarden.com](mailto:info@rubysgarden.com).

**Friday, June 8, 7:30 PM.** Poetry Saloon. Bring a poem that you have written and one by someone else to share, or come to enjoy. 472 44th Street. 594-2200.

**Saturday, June 9** Kids Fashion Show brought to you by Ruby's Garden & 17 Jewels at the Temescal Street Fair June 9! Stop in to Ruby's Garden or call 595-5325 to participate. email: [info@rubysgarden.com](mailto:info@rubysgarden.com)

**Wednesday, June 13, TBA.** Temescal Merchants Association monthly meeting. All are welcome. Temescal Library, 5205 Telegraph. 653-7196.

**Thursday, June 14, 7 PM.** Temescal Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) Steering Committee meeting. Everyone welcome. Faith Presbyterian Church, 49th and Webster. 420-6974.

**Saturday, June 16, 10 AM.** Help monitor water quality in Temescal Creek. Lake Temescal inlet near the Broadway Terrace park entrance. 459-3967 or [temcrk@mountaincurrent.net](mailto:temcrk@mountaincurrent.net).

*Help Support This Newsletter and TNT.* Volunteers are doing the work of getting out this newsletter (and occasional fliers)—but we still need to pay the printer! If you value our community efforts, please consider making a donation. Any amount will help. Make your check payable to TNT, and send it with this form to: TNT, c/o 469 Rich St., Oakland, CA 94609. —Thank You!

Yes, I want to help.

Enclosed is my contribution in the amount of:

\$10  \$25  \$50  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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Phone \_\_\_\_\_

I'd like to volunteer. Please call me.