



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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# Temescal News & Views

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### Trick-or-Treat on Telegraph!

The 2nd annual Temescal Trick or Treat event is coming up on Halloween Day, Wednesday October 31st. Last year's event was a huge success. Several merchants participated. It is an opportunity for families to attend a sage event. There will be trick or treating and other super fun activities. Get your costumes ready and plan to attend the 2nd annual Temescal Trick or Treat on Telegraph. Volunteers welcome to help plan this event. Please call Darlene @860-7327 if you are interested.

—Kathleen Mullesch, *Temescal Telegraph Business Improvement District*

### Celebrate Creek to Bay Day

We look forward to seeing everyone on Saturday, September 15, 2007 at the Temescal Creek Clean-up from 9 AM 'til noon. Please join neighbors beside Temescal Creek for a volunteer creek clean-up. We'll meet at the Claremont DMV parking lot, at the corner of Cavour and Redondo. We will be working on the two blocks between Clifton and Clarke. We will clean up the park along Redondo and the path through the DMV. Come at 9AM for coffee and morning snacks, or join the clean-up anytime between 9AM and 11AM. Creek to Bay Day t-shirts for the first 50 volunteers.

City of Oakland Public Works Environmental Services Division provides necessary tools. This includes garbage bags, loppers, rakes, hoes, brooms, litter pickup sticks, gloves, etc. Please bring your own favorite tools, well marked to identify it as yours. We can always use wheelbarrows. The clean-up will mostly consist of litter removal, weed-pulling and ivy-clearing. Sponsored by the DMV Neighbors Association and the City of Oakland Environmental Services Department. Call Margaret if you have any questions, 655-1767.

—Margaret Pinter,  
*DMV Neighbors Association*

### Picnic in the Park

Family Fun Task Force Day at Frog Park, Sunday 11 – 2PM, September 9, 2007. Share the joy of community spirit with your children. Bring a picnic lunch or, better yet, pick something up at the Temescal Farmer's Market, and then join the volunteer committee of Frog Park with kid-friendly weeding and general care and maintenance of the park. Frog Park is a special spot and needs your help to keep it so!

—Jennifer Cooper, Chair, FROG

### “Paws to Read” Program Returns to Oakland

The program pairs kids in grades one through seven with a canine pal on Thursdays (October 4 - November 8). Eligible children can sign up for a 20-minute time slot between 3:30 and 5pm to read to Gentle Therapy dogs, including “Franklin” and “Cookiescraps”.

Dogs and volunteers are provided by TherapyPets, a non profit, all-volunteer group that facilitates animal-assisted therapy, bringing animals to nursing homes, hospitals and other facilities to enrich the lives of children and adults. TherapyPets is based in Oakland. Call for details 238-7344 Oakland Public Library, Lakeview Branch, 550 El Embarcadero.

—Kathleen Hirooka, Community Relations Coordinator, *Oakland Public Library*

### Teamwork, Fitness and Fun at JLAC

Oakland high school girls and their families are invited to an Open House at the Jack London Aquatic Center, to learn more about the Junior Girls Rowing Team. Saturday, September 8, 2pm-4pm at the JLAC. This after-school program is for Oakland high school girls. Participants will learn to swim, row, and become fit, and may qualify for college scholarships. After-school transportation to the Aquatic Center provided. First session: September 17 until Winter Holiday break. Cost: \$100 per participant; scholarships available. The JLAC is located in Estuary Park, between Oak and 5th Ave. For details and map, visit [www.jlac.org](http://www.jlac.org) or call 208-6060.

—Robert Kidd, Coach, *Jack London Aquatic Center*

### Children's Librarian Says Good-bye

Children's librarian, Joy Shiohita, is leaving our branch for the Main Library. Joy started at Temescal in October 2001 and has been an extraordinary librarian and wonderful co-worker. Her contributions have been numerous. Week after week she presents creative and lively story times for preschoolers. She makes regular outreach visits to schools and preschools, supervises the after school homework program, and plans summer reading and other special programs. When children came into the branch, she not only remembers most of their names, but what they like to read, or might like to read. We will all miss Joy's kind and gentle demeanor, her skills and knowledge, and her commitment to public service.

—Sally Bean, Temescal Branch Manager,  
*Oakland Public Library*

### **Café Mariposa and Bakeshop's Grand Opening**

Enjoy tempting treats and live music at Cafe Mariposa's opening celebration on Saturday, September 8.

Gluten-free goodies, dairy-free delights, and tasty teas, coffees and cold beverages. 5427 Telegraph.

### **Wine & Prizes at the Wine Mine**

Enjoy free tastes poured by wine venders between 12PM and 6PM-ish. Enter to win prizes of goodies and wine. Drawings will be held at 12pm, 2pm and 4pm. Purchase \$25 of wine and qualify to flip a coin to win a free bottle of wine (see owner for details/restrictions). September 8. 5427 Telegraph.

### **Temescal Library Updates**

Our front doors were featured in the Chronicle's "What's Not Working" column (8/10) after a regular patron submitted a "tip" on our behalf. He noticed the oak doors were deteriorating during the past few years. As I write this article, Monty Cayote from Oakland's Public Works Department is hard at work repairing, sanding and refinishing the doors and they are starting to look beautiful again. Thanks to the anonymous tipster and many thanks to Monty for an excellent restoration job!

Clinton Pugh, gardener/crew leader from Oakland's Public Works Department, and his assistant Wilford Patterson have done a great job of bringing back the grounds after a period of neglect. Clint and Wilford keep the lawn cut and the bushes pruned and trimmed. They added bark and mulch to the planting beds and replaced some unfortunate bushes. We enjoy working with them and appreciate all they do to keep this wonderful historic building looking good.

—Sally Bean, Temescal Branch Manager,  
*Oakland Public Library*

### **Toastmasters Announces Open House**

Our Toastmasters club will host an Open House to showcase how we help others overcome fear of public speaking, develop confidence and gain skills in communication and leadership. We will also be celebrating our Select-Distinguished club status awarded by international headquarters. Event details: Monday, September 24, 7:00pm, East Bay Church, Fireside Room, 4130 Telegraph. 652-5912.

—Bill Smith, VP of Education,  
*East Bay Toastmasters*

### **College Avenue's Out & About**

College Avenue will close for the first time in 20-30 years to host Out and About Rockridge on Sunday, September 30, 12-6pm. The event takes place from Broadway to Alcatraz, and College will close from Claremont to Lawton. Local residents are encouraged to walk, bike and invite friends for a fun and festive day. Out and About is sponsored by the Rockridge District Association and is produced by event coordinator Karen Hester.

The community is invited to enjoy three stages with live music, food and drink courts featuring Rockridge restaurants, climbing wall and face painting, wellness tent, craft and community booths, valet bike parking by East Bay Bike Coalition. Parking at Rockridge BART station. For details visit [www.rockridgedistrict.com](http://www.rockridgedistrict.com) or call 604-3125 —Karen Hester

### **Studio One Reopening Party**

With renovation of Temescal's historic Studio One Art Center continuing on schedule toward a late summer completion, planning has now begun on a gala reopening celebration to be held Saturday, October 20. The entire community is invited that day to take a peek at the state-of-the-art facility, meet staff, enjoy a bit of food and music and create art alongside your neighbors. The festivities are being jointly planned by Oakland Office of Parks and Recreation (OPR) and advocacy group, Friends of Studio One. Art classes return in fall to 365 45th St. For schedule/information 597-5027 or [www.oaklandnet.com/parks](http://www.oaklandnet.com/parks).

With the help of Councilwoman Jane Brunner, and with the proceeds from sales at the Friends Table at the Temescal Street Fair in June, approximately \$300k was raised this year. Much, however, is still needed. A popular way for local folks to help the campaign is to host a neighborhood house party in their home, yard or business. Neighborhood parties bring friends, family and colleagues together for a good time, while raising funds for a worthy cause. To host a house party, or otherwise aid the campaign, call Beth Maher 420-5852. Learn more of the history of Studio One and its' role in our community at [www.friendsofstudioone.org](http://www.friendsofstudioone.org).

—Patrick Daughton, *Friends of Studio One*

### **SPONSORS NEEDED!**

Contact the Editor for Details:  
[fredrickapartments@yahoo.com](mailto:fredrickapartments@yahoo.com)

### **Sura Korean Cuisine – Now Open!**

Sura, royal cooking, with exquisite attention to the details of preparation and presentation. 4869 Telegraph 654-9292

### **Book Zoo - Now Open!**

Buy, sell, and trade books Tuesday-Sunday 12- 8PM. Bargain books to rare finds. Donations gladly accepted. Book Zoo occasionally holds local author readings and other events. [www.bookzoo.net](http://www.bookzoo.net) 6395 Telegraph.

### **Scout Staging - Now Open!**

Ideas and products to make homes more meaningful, functional, and beautiful. Scout offers quality tools and hardware that are stylish and distinctive. [www.scouthardware.com](http://www.scouthardware.com) 5026 Telegraph.

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### **Bay Cities Consulting - Now Open!**

A creative source for servers, consulting, and network solutions. High quality onsite service employing the latest technology, experience and training. 482B 49th. Call for appointment 594-9151.

### **TTBID Awarded \$15,000 Grant**

The TTBID is proud to announce it was awarded a grant for \$15,000 to improve pedestrian-oriented lighting and thereby enhance security on Telegraph from 40th to 42nd. The funds are from Oakland's Redevelopment Agency's Neighborhood Project Improvement Program. Last year the BID was awarded funds to add 40 planters that now adorn Telegraph. Last February, in pouring rain, 25 volunteers helped get those planters in place. This new grant will require the Design Committee to work closely with property owners and merchants to install coordinated lights that will maintain the momentum towards a vibrant Temescal commercial district. Look for the latest lights early next year! Design Committee meets every third Tuesday at 3pm at 4801 Shattuck. For information 860-7327 or [ttbid@california.com](mailto:ttbid@california.com). 860-7327.

—Darlene Rios Drapkin,  
*Temescal Telegraph BID*

### **Residential Project Unanimously Approved: 4801 Shattuck**

City Council unanimously approved a 44 unit condominium project proposed for the northwest corner of 48th and Shattuck. This

follows appeals of unanimous approval of the same project by the Planning Commission's. The Council's action on July 17 came after listening to considerable public testimony.

Supporters introduced a petition with over 2,750 signatures in favor of higher density housing that the General Plan encourages at this site, and letters-of-support from 11 immediate neighbors of the project. Speakers in opposition asked the Council to limit the density and height to lower levels required by outdated zoning regulations.

The developer offered several compromise alterations and conditions for the project. The City Council accepted these changes and voted to approve the project unanimously. Added conditions include: step back westernmost 50' of building 46' from the street, to reduce "effective height" from street view and retain its' 4 story height; lower overall building height 2'; detailed measures to ensure best efforts to relocate the Dc-3 rated duplex at 556-558 48th St.; and market for-sale residential units for a set period of time, and with resale income restrictions as follows: 2 units to households at 80% of Area Median Income (AMI) and 3 units to households at 100% of AMI. Councilmember Jane Brunner asked the Council to insist that the corner at 48th and Shattuck be built for commercial use.

The developer opposed this on the grounds that this part of Shattuck is not yet suitable for commercial development. The Council adopted Councilmember Brunner's request.

Following project approval, the developer executed a Purchase and Sale Agreement to relocate the (PDHP) duplex from 556-558 48th Street to the rear of 4811 Shattuck. Project opponents, STAND, filed a lawsuit to stop the entire project.

—Bill Lambert, *Shasta Pros*

### Comission Considers Rezoning Proposal

A re-zoning proposal being considered by the Zoning Update Committee of the Planning Commission will define the future of Telegraph for years to come. The proposal will affect Telegraph from 40th to the Berkeley border and Shattuck between Telegraph and 52nd.

The Temescal Telegraph Business Improvement District (BID) has taken a strong position in a 7 page letter to the Committee. The BID supports higher densities and

height limits, with rules that would allow buildings up to 5-7 stories so long as specified community benefits are provided. Telegraph and this part of Shattuck are major transit corridors where higher density housing belongs to accommodate continuing population growth in the Bay Area.

The BID opposes creating a new set of rules for so-called "neighborhood character defining buildings" and told the Commission that Temescal/Telegraph shouldn't have different preservation standards for older buildings than any other part of the city. The BID also opposes the proposal to reduce densities currently allowed by the General Plan west of Telegraph and Shattuck from 40th to 52nd.

Many speakers at the first hearing favored denser development along the transit corridors including the BID, several property owners, and representatives of the community group ULTRA; representatives of the community group STAND spoke in favor of maintaining the existing zoning and 40' height limits without exception. Contact the BID for a copy of our position letter at [ttbid@california.com](mailto:ttbid@california.com).

It is important that the Zoning Update Committee hear from the Temescal/Telegraph neighborhood that housing densities allowed by the General Plan will stimulate new investment and activity along the transit corridors in Temescal, and that limiting density and height will only push more population to the suburbs and hinder further revitalization of the commercial corridor. E-mail the City staff planner at [ngray@oaklandnet.com](mailto:ngray@oaklandnet.com)

—Rick Raffanti, President,  
*Temescal/Telegraph BID*

### Cohousing Project Unanimously Approved: 5227 Claremont

Plans for Project Kingfish/North Oakland Cohousing got unanimous approval from the Oakland Planning Commission on July 18, as submitted. The plans included architectural changes requested earlier by the commission's Design Review Committee to enhance the building's Telegraph Avenue facade. The changes reinforce the building's Craftsman style, designed by Thomas Dolan Architecture. The 5-story, 33-unit building will be located behind the Smog Shop, where Telegraph and Claremont meet. It will have ground-floor commercial space and entrances on both streets, with the main entrance on Claremont. A requested zoning variance for height was the major objection by project opponents. As TNV readers know, the discrepancy between

Oakland's 1998 General Plan and its earlier zoning codes has led to disagreements about all proposed developments taller than 4 stories.

Members of North Oakland Cohousing argued that a loss of units would make the project infeasible because of fixed development costs and the shared common space that is typical of cohousing. Fewer units would raise the cost per unit to prohibitive rates. One group of proponents urged neighborhood residents to look beyond zoning codes and consider the kind of projects that deserve neighborhood support because of the values they bring to the community. Cohousing, which is based on consensus and sustainability, would be a neighborhood benefit. Both STAND and RCPC have appealed the project. Stay tuned for a City Council hearing.

For information about the group, see [www.northoaklandcohousing.org](http://www.northoaklandcohousing.org).

—Joan Lichterman, Member,  
*North Oakland Cohousing*

### Share your news, views, events and announcements!

E-mail as unformatted, in-line text to: [fredrickapartments@yahoo.com](mailto:fredrickapartments@yahoo.com).

Articles not to exceed 200 words.

Images accepted as tiff or jpeg only.

Submissions may be edited for clarity, tone and length.

### Commentary: Secession from Oakland

There has been talk in Temescal and Rockridge regarding seceding from Oakland. Frustrations with city hall's ineffectiveness to address crime and poor schools have left many Oaklanders feeling as if the situation is hopeless. I doubt if anyone really believes this is a realistic solution and many have accused the movement of being an elitist, leaving West Oakland in poverty. Oakland must make strategic efforts in policing neighborhoods and more effectively manage city tax revenues.

I don't understand why Emeryville has new business and malls but downtown Oakland is a ghost town. Oakland has a shortage of police, but had a hiring freeze two years ago. To thrive, people must feel safe and our merchants need protection.

I feel that our leaders need to be made accountable for the crisis Oakland faces. We as a community need to make the hard choices to make our area safe and achieve economic success.

—Chris Pew, Temescal Neighbor

## Temescal Calendar

**Wednesday, September 12 8:30-10 am.** Temescal Merchant Mixer, hosted by TTBD. Merchants of Temescal-Upper Telegraph business(es) welcome to join. 4920 Telegraph, Heartwalker Studios

**Thursday, September 13, 7 pm.** Temescal Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) Steering Committee meeting. Everyone welcome. Faith Presbyterian Church, 49th and Webster 420-6974

**Friday, September 14, 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, September , 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 Sponsor: ULTRA. Call for information: Hiroko Kurihara 384-3146 or H2Oakland@sbcglobal.net

**Saturday, September 15, 10 am.** Help monitor water quality in Temescal Creek. Lake Temescal inlet near the Broadway Terrace park entrance. 459-3967 temcrk@mountaincurrent.net

**Wednesday, October 10, TBA.** Temescal Merchants Association monthly meeting. All are welcome. Temescal Library, 5205 Telegraph 653-7196

**Thursday, October 11, 7 pm.** Temescal Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) Steering Committee meeting. Everyone welcome. Faith Presbyterian Church, 49th and Webster 420-6974

**Friday, October 12, 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, October 20, 10 am.** Help monitor water quality in Temescal Creek. Lake Temescal inlet near the Broadway Terrace park entrance. 459-3967 temcrk@mountaincurrent.net

**Tuesdays, September 11-October 2, 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm.** Salsa Classes for women. Temescal Arts Center, 511 48th Street. (415) 289-2015 www.salsaforwomen@yahoo.com

## HAPPY HALLOWEEN!

from TNV's Editors

### Halloween Safety: Advice for Your Child

#### Costume safety

Costumes should not restrict your child's movement. The costume should not include clothing that dangles to the ground, or accessories or shoes that could cause your child to trip or fall.

Have your child try on the costume a few weeks before Halloween to make sure it fits.

Costumes should not restrict your child's vision. We recommend using face paint instead of masks. But if your child is wearing a mask, make sure the eyeholes are large enough so he or she can see clearly.

Costumes should be brightly colored and visible at night. Reflective tape or vests are recommended so motorists can see your child in the dark.

Costumes, including wigs and bags, should be flame retardant. Look for this label on costumes before purchasing them.

"Weapon" accessories, such as swords or knives, should be made of flexible material or avoided completely.

Carry a spare "treats" bag in case your child's rips or breaks.

#### Candy safety

Children: Don't eat or open any candy until you get home.

Parents: Always check your children's candy for tampering before they eat it. If a candy wrapper is ripped or open, throw the candy away and do not eat it. If the candy looks suspicious, call your local police department.

- Do not eat candy that is unwrapped, such as loose candy corn.
- Do not eat homemade candy or treats.
- To be extra safe, do not eat fresh fruit that is given out during trick-or-treating.



#### Neighborhood safety

- Know the route you are going to take ahead of time.
- Use a flashlight.
- Only go to houses that have the lights on. Always stay in lighted areas.
- Go to a neighbor's front door, not the side or back of the house.
- If someone doesn't come to the door after ringing the doorbell twice, leave.
- Never go inside anyone's house.
- Do not take shortcuts through backyards, alleys, or parks.
- Be careful around your neighbors' pets.
- Warn your older children about the dangers and consequences of vandalism.
- Greet your neighbors with "Trick or Treat?!", always say "Thank you!".

#### Tips for neighbors

- Turn on all outside lights to prevent injuries.
- Clear sidewalks, doorsteps, and lawns of objects — such as large flowerpots, sprinklers, or other yard decorations — that could cause someone to trip or fall.
- Report any suspicious or criminal activity to your local police department immediately.
- If you need to leave your house, back out of your driveway very carefully.
- Keep pets inside, if possible. If your pet stays outside, make sure it is on a leash and away from trick-or-treaters.

#### Have Fun!

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