



Temescal News & Views

The voice of north Oakland's Temescal neighborhood

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.

Mission

TNT seeks 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.

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.

Editors

Viki Maxwell • Seana Tilton
temescal_news@yahoo.com

Typography

Skeeter Jarvis

Distribution

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

Printed by KRW Printing
3905 Broadway ♦ 420-1791

Thank You!

This issue sponsored by:

**Generous
Donations
from our
Temescal
Neighbors!**

Outdoor Movie Night this Summer

The Temescal Street Collective has been working with the TTBD to bring an outdoor movie series to Temescal this summer. If all goes as planned, there will be free popcorn and drinks and a chance to gather for a fun evening event in the heart of the Temescal Telegraph Business District. We hope to arrange for merchants to stay open late on movie nights, creating a lively summer evening experience.

Neighbors Catarina Negrin and Suzanne LHeureux formed the Temescal Street Collective to support and create community art. Last year, we proposed an art park at the traffic triangle surrounding Kasper's Hot Dogs that received interest from two City offices. Kaiser officials are considering our proposal for a community mural at 4501 Broadway. The City of Oakland Cultural Arts Department has offered to help select a professional artist to work with Oakland Tech and CCA students to create the mural.

We are open to working with individuals and organizations that share our positive vision for a vibrant community enriched with art and community happenings. We're very grateful to the TTBD for their offers of strategic and financial support in planning this outdoor movie night. We'll provide more details soon!

www.temescalstreetcollective.org
temescalstreetcollective@yahoo.com

—Sue LHeureux
Temescal Street Collective

March-April Events at Désa Arts

Through March 25th: "Radiant Struggle" – an exhibition of paintings and drawings by Jenny Lee on display in our gallery.

March 7th, 6pm-9pm: Opening reception for the artist in connection with Oakland Art Murmur's first Friday art night. We are pleased to host a drum circle presented by Drummm from 7-7:30 and 8-8:30 as a special treat. This will be a hands-on community drumming experience led by Jeni Swerdlow. Drums will be provided and experience is not necessary. Come unleash the drummer within!

March 25th – April 27th: An exhibition of works by Marsha Torkelson in our gallery.

April 2nd, 6pm-9pm: First Friday opening reception for the artist with music TBA.

Our new and improved website, www.desaarts.com, will be launching soon. Please visit the site for more details about upcoming exhibits and events. Stay tuned for information about a Balinese painting workshop, poetry reading, Open Studios and more in May and June.

If you would like to rent our space for your special event, please contact us at 595-1669.

Thanks for supporting local artists and shopping in Temescal!

—Lis Tana, Desa Arts

Chabot Space & Science Center

Chabot Space & Science Center, located in the Oakland Hills, is celebrating our 125th anniversary in 2008 and we are actively recruiting new volunteers! Our awe-inspiring facility and historical observatories are close by and we have unique opportunities to work closely with the public, sharing knowledge and inspiring interest in our Planet Earth and the universe.

Extend your own sense of wonder by joining our dynamic volunteer program and enjoy opportunities such as:

Learning to operate our historic telescopes

Enjoying conversations with visitors and fellow members on the exhibit floor

Inspiring the next generation of scientists, astronauts, and environmentalists working with over 50,000 school children that visit the Center each year.

For more information, please see our website: www.chabotspace.org

To RSVP for the next orientation session, please contact Megan Gray at 510-336-7414 or mgray@chabotspace.org.

Locals Invited to Explore Oakland's Waterfront Recreation and Aquatic Programs

The Jack London Aquatic Center (JLAC), Oakland's premier destination for water sport recreation, education and competition, invites community members to come and explore its state-of-the-art waterfront facility, located at the Oakland Estuary. JLAC offers the best selection in community-based water sports and facility rental for hosting waterfront events.

“The twilight kayaking trips are a perfect way for adults to keep active after work and unwind from a long week at the office,” says Dede Birch, Executive Director and Head Coach for JLAC’s Jr. Women’s Team. “Our variety of programs attracts people of all ages, whether their interest lies in learning how to row, kayak or dragon boat.”

One-day field trips for youth groups, middle school and high school students are offered year round through JLAC’s Explore Your Water Days program. Field trips are designed specifically to accommodate the interests of the group; kayaks, a rowing training barge, and access to dragon boating are all available for Water Days students. In addition, two fifteen passenger vans are available if transportation is needed.

The Junior Women’s Rowing team provides a low cost after-school program for students of Oakland’s high schools. No experience is necessary, and the ability to swim is not required. For adults, JLAC offers introductory courses for both single-sculling and sweep-oar rowing. A master’s rowing team and a single-scullers group are both available for seasoned rowers.

The Jack London Aquatic Center, founded in 2002, is Oakland’s premier waterfront destination for rowing, kayaking, dragon boating and hosting community events. Our mission is to inspire the diverse communities of Oakland – especially youth – to experience their estuary waterfront for the purpose of recreation, education, and competition. 115 Embarcadero 208-6067 info@jlac.org www.jlac.org.

—Hillary Meu,
Program Director
Jack London Aquatic Center

Summer Art Camp for Adults & Kids

From June 22 to 29, 2008, Feather River Art camp is a perfect joyful blend of nature, creativity, fun and camaraderie. While primarily an art camp is for adults, we also have classes specifically for kids. Join us with Temescal teachers Clive Matson for fiction and Linda Lemon for papermaking and other, experienced, dedicated teachers who are offering classes in the following classes for the week: Landscape Painting, Papermaking, Classical and Folk Guitar, Mosaics, Flamework Beadmaking, Drawing and Painting from Nature, Watercolor, Flash Fiction, Fused Glass, Flamework Glass Beadmaking and Tai Chi.

Enjoy a week of unstoppable art-making and freedom from household chores. Complete beginners through seasoned professionals are welcome. Accommodations are rustic but civilized. Meals are delicious. Brochures are available. www.featherriverartcamp.com

—Karen LeGault,
Art Camp Director

New Temescal Telegraph “Gateway” Signage

You may have noticed new Temescal Telegraph District “Gateway” signage, recently installed, which demarks entry points to the local Business Improvement District (BID). The signs not only welcome travelers to the District, and add to our sense of community and place, but also contribute to security. That’s right. A recent security report commissioned by the BID emphasizes “crime prevention through environmental design”. The notion is that when people have more stake and pride in their community, they also tend to look out for one another more, and generally be more aware of their surroundings, which enhances security. Signage is recommended as a way to assist.

The BID has been working with the City’s Traffic Engineers, Marketing Dept. and Public Works to install this Gateway signage at various entry points to the Temescal Telegraph District. Look for the “Welcome to” on: Telegraph, southbound at Woolsey, and northbound at 40th; westbound on 51st St. and Claremont Ave., both near Telegraph, and; east/west bound on 52nd St. at the freeway on/off ramp.

Adding to the District’s identity signage program, you may have also noticed that the BID has been rotating the overhead street banners on Telegraph at 49th St., purposefully combining banners with empty downtime so as to not have constant messaging. The banners promote both specific events and general “Shop Temescal” themes. The current banner program calls for 4 banner rotations: Springtime, the June Street Festival, the Farmers’ Market, and the winter holiday season.

We hope you like these community improvements.

Temescal Hits the Big Apple

Did you happen to see the 12/29/07 issue of the Wall Street Journal? We’re making “Big Apple” news here in funky Temescal! Just for fun, we’ll quote the first two paragraphs

of the WSJ article here. For the full article, which includes a map of eateries along Telegraph, go online:

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB119888290037156475.html>

“In the San Francisco Bay area, there are rumblings of a new culinary movement - one with a funkier edge than the idealistic epicurean enclave in North Berkeley that was fueled in the early 1970s by Alice Waters and her revolutionary Chez Panisse restaurant.

Temescal, in North Oakland, is being dubbed the new Gourmet Ghetto as a wave of new restaurants, cafes and markets help redefine one of Oakland’s oldest neighborhoods. Eateries are opening that focus on using local ingredients. These newcomers, including two by former Chez Panisse employees, are concentrated on Temescal’s main commercial strip, along Telegraph Avenue near 51st Street.”

The article goes on to feature Bakesale Betty, Pizzaiolo, La Calaca Loca, Café Mariposa, Cosmic Chocolate, Genova Deli, Sahn Maru, Asmara and Dona Tomas, as well as our Farmers’ Market. Check it out - tell your friends - especially those on the east coast between the Hudson and East Rivers!

—Bill Lambert
The Temescal Telegraph BID
Promotions/ Econ.Devel. Committee

The Temescal Shops Brochure Has Arrived

Brought to you by your Temescal Telegraph Business Improvement District (TTBID), this is a campaign to encourage Temescal residents to shop locally with coupons and incentives from many of our merchants. Inside, you will find out how diverse and unique the stores are in our neighborhood. If you find yourself shopping more often at Walmart, consider these reasons to shop locally:

Keep \$ in the neighborhood

Local spending has 3X the community impact vs. spending at national chains = more sales taxes for city services.

Environmental Sustainability

Sustain compact, walkable neighborhoods.

Community Well-Being

Non-profits receive 350% more support from local owners than non-local.

Create and keep good jobs

Locally owned businesses create more jobs close to home, often provide better wages/benefits than chains, aid economic independence.

Promote Competition & Diversity

Small businesses bring innovation, low prices over the long-term and more product variety.

Please save this brochure and stick it on your fridge as a reminder to use the coupons whenever you go out to shop. We can make our neighborhood a more vibrant community if we support our local businesses and have pride to be part of Temescal.

—Deborah Quay,
Temescal Telegraph BID

O.P.L. & AARP Join Forces to Offer Free Help

Looking for some good news about tax time? How about some free help finishing and filing all those forms? The Oakland Public Library, in partnership with the American Association for Retired Persons, offers free tax assistance from February 1 through April 15, 2008. Trained volunteers are ready to help at the following library locations. Participants need to bring copies of last year's federal and state tax returns and all materials pertaining to their 2007 tax forms for themselves and their spouse (if filing jointly). Seniors, ages 60 plus, will be given preference at walk-in sites only. Please call ahead to confirm times. Temescal Branch Library 5205 Telegraph Wednesdays, 10 AM to 3 PM. Call 597-5049 for an appointment

For more information, please call 238-3134, or see the Oakland Public Library's Web site: www.oaklandlibrary.org. This free service is being brought to you by the Oakland Public Library and the American Association for Retired Persons. The Oakland Public Library is a department of the City of Oakland. All library facilities are wheelchair accessible.

Tax Assistance at the Oakland Public Library Contacts:

Kathleen Hirooka, Community Relations Coordinator 238-6713 khirooka@oaklandlibrary.org

Tom Downs, Community Relations Assistant 238-3271, tdowns@oaklandlibrary.org

Teens Invited to Enter Manga Art Contest

The Oakland Public Library's TeenZone is organizing its fifth annual *Making Manga Magic Contest*. Young artists, ages 12-18, are encouraged to submit an original image of their own manga or anime character on an 8½ x 11" sheet of paper. Paint, pencil, or computer graphics can be used. On a separate page, participants must write their name, age, grade, Oakland Public Library card number, e-mail address, current mailing address, and phone number.

Submissions will be accepted February 1 – March 30, 2008, at any Oakland branch library. Entries can also be mailed to "Manga Contest," Attention TeenZone, Oakland Public Library, 125 14th Street, Oakland, CA 94612. Winners will be announced on the Oakland Public Library Website and a reception will be held April 12, 2008.

Only one entry per person will be accepted. Participants must have a valid Oakland Public Library card. Entries that do not follow instructions will be disqualified.

For more information, contact the TeenZone staff at 238-7332, or see the Oakland Public Library's Web site: www.oaklandlibrary.org. The Oakland Public Library is a department of the City of Oakland.

—Tom Downs
Community Relations Assistant
Oakland Public Library

Welcome to Temescal

LaVal's Pizza Now on Telegraph

The well-known Berkeley pizza-maker is now open in Temescal at 4919 Telegraph (formerly Milano's.) Take out and delivery also available. Drop by and welcome owner Roger Spenger as he settles into Temescal. (510) 845-5353.

Ruby's Garden Now in Temescal Plaza

Ruby's Garden Kidwear & Flower Shop has moved from Shattuck Avenue to 5095 Telegraph Ave. #C, next to Genova Deli.

Scout Home Hardware Relocates

Scout Home Hardware, the anything-but-ordinary home hardware & décor emporium, re-located from Rockridge to Temescal this past summer. Scout Home Hardware offers a unique selection of lighting, textiles, decorative hardware and of course one-of-a-kind vintage treasures. The inimitable Scout style mixes and matches new and old, elevating

re-use to re-markable – style that fits perfectly with our area's eclectic assortment of homes.

Scout stands apart from other home décor retailers in striving to offer cutting-edge, earth-friendly products. Scout Home Hardware is proud to be the first and only West Coast purveyor of Mythic™ brand zero VOC latex paints. In spring Scout will introduce a furniture line that boasts sustainable wood framing, water-based finishes, soy-based and recycled fillings and natural upholstery fabrics.

The store itself is the brainchild of owner P. Scott Silvera, who divides his time between it and his home staging/interior design studio, also located in Temescal. He re-tooled his store's focus to meet the demands of the many who tour Scout-staged properties and desired access to the distinctive furnishings, accessories and color palettes they encountered in them for their own homes. Scout Home Hardware is located at 5026 Telegraph. Winter hours are: Tues-Sat, 11-7. 547-2688.

TNV Editor Steps Down

After almost five years of editing, layout, and distribution, I have decided to leave my post as editor and give others a chance to shape the direction of the newsletter. It's been a privilege to bring this publication to the community every other month. Every issue reminds me what a vibrant neighborhood we have, thanks to the efforts of volunteers, merchants, and other neighbors who give their time and money to make this a better place to live. I'm grateful that I have had a chance to work with many of you - in particular, I'd like to thank Clint Powell and Tomi Kobara, who organize the distribution of TNV, Thad Shaffer, treasurer of Temescal Neighbors Together, and Seana Tilton, co-editor, who will be taking the reins along with new volunteer Skeeter Jarvis. The newsletter will certainly be in good hands and I look forward to watching it evolve. Many thanks for a wonderful five years!

—Viki Maxwell

Temescal News & Views Seeks Editors

Are you looking for a way to contribute to the community? Become part of the team that makes Temescal News and Views a reality! If you enjoy writing, layout, editing, or proofreading and have some time every two months, we would love to talk with you. Contact Viki Maxwell and Seana Tilton at temescal_news@yahoo.com.

Self Defense Course For Women

The City of Oakland Office of Parks & Recreation and The Office of the City Administrator present this Self Defense Course designed to empower women to feel confident by teaching them specific skills and techniques to defend themselves in potentially dangerous situations. The course covers topics such as Self Protection, Handgun Safety and Sexual Assault Awareness. Participants must attend all four of the three-hour sessions to successfully complete the course.

Saturdays, 1 pm-4 pm. April 19 - May 10, 2008. Arroyo Viejo Recreation Center, 7701 Krause Street, Oakland. Fee \$40. Register online at oaklandnet.com/parks/registration Activity # 70033.401. Info: Titus Taylor (510) 238 2384 or ttaylor@oaklandnet.com.

The City of Oakland Office of Parks and Recreation & The Office of the City Administrator Present

SELF-DEFENSE COURSE for Women



The Self-Defense Course is designed to empower women to feel confident by teaching them specific skills and techniques to defend themselves in potentially dangerous situations. The course covers topics such as Self Protection, Handgun Safety and Sexual Assault Awareness. Participants must attend all four of the three-hour sessions to successfully complete the course.

**Saturdays, 1pm - 4pm
April 19 - May 10, 2008
Arroyo Viejo Recreation Center
7701 Krause Street, Oakland**

Course Fee: \$40.00
(Fee includes course instruction, Certificate of Completion and personal protection items to take home!)

Register online at www.oaklandnet.com/parks/registration
Activity # 70033.401

For more information, contact Titus Taylor at (510) 238-2384
E-mail: ttaylor@oaklandnet.com



Calendar

Mondays (Ongoing), 7 pm. East Bay Toastmasters Club. An opportunity to develop confidence in public speaking and leadership skills. East Bay Church, 4130 Telegraph. 652-5912.

Wednesdays (to April 15), 12 pm. Free tax assistance. Call ahead for an appointment. Temescal Library, 5205 Telegraph. 597-5049.

Friday, March 7, 6 pm. First Friday Art Night. Reception for artist Jenny Lee, featuring a community drum circle by Drummm. Desa Arts, 4810 Telegraph. 595-1669.

Wednesday, March 12. Temescal Merchants Association monthly meeting. All are welcome. Call for details. 653-7196.

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

Friday, March 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. 654-6495.

Saturday, March 15, 10 am & Saturday, April 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.

Friday, April 2, 6 pm. First Friday Art Night. Reception for artist Marsha Torkelson with music TBA. Desa Arts, 4810 Telegraph. 595-1669.

Wednesday, April 9. Temescal Merchants Association monthly meeting. All are welcome. Call for details. 653-7196.

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

Friday, April 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. 654-6495.

TNV Online?

We are exploring making TNV content available electronically. If this idea appeals to you please drop us a line at:

info@temescalnews.org

Let us know which content would be most useful to you. What format would be most convenient (in line text e-mail, HTML formatted e-mail, PDF Attachment, a web site)?

Temescal Walking Officer Kaiser Albino, now has a cell phone number: 750-4586. Please call him whenever you observe suspicious activity or any safety concerns you may have. He is on duty Monday - Friday 1 PM - 9 PM.



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 4112 Emerald St., Oakland, CA 94609.

Thank You!

Yes, I want to help.

Enclosed is my contribution in the amount of:

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

I'd like to volunteer. Please call me.

Name

Address

City

Phone

Zip