



# 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

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## Thank You!

This issue sponsored by:



**Temescal  
Telegraph  
BID**

## Happy New Year from the Temescal Telegraph BID!

The Temescal Telegraph Business Improvement District is committed to bringing "Hip Happenings" to Temescal in order to create a sense of pride and place for its residents. In 2008, we hope you enjoyed the Street Fair, Street Cinema, Holiday Skate & Stroll, Trick or Treat and the Farmer's Market, all brought entirely or in part by the Temescal Telegraph BID. We look forward in 2009 to building upon this tradition of community building events.

And that's not all we do. We are also dedicated to a clean and secure shopping district through improved streetscape. And let's not forget focusing on bringing you an enhanced mix of new businesses to the neighborhood.

We thank all of you who have been involved in some way with our organization, from volunteering for events, or planter maintenance, or just supporting any of our many activities to make the heart of Temescal a better place to live, shop and work!

Look for additional planters, better lighting, art projects (mural and utility boxes), etc., etc. Stay tuned!

May we remind you once again:

### 5 Reasons to Shop in Temescal First

1. Keep \$ in the neighborhood. Local spending has triple the community impact vs. spending at national chains, resulting in more sales taxes for City services.

2. Environmental Sustainability. Sustain compact, walkable neighborhoods.

3. Community well-being. Non-profits receive 350% more support from local owners than non-local

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

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

-TTBID

## Thank You to our Donors and Sponsors!

Temescal News & Views is an all volunteer effort, but depends on sponsorship and donations to pay for printing. Thank you to the neighbors and merchants who made the newsletter possible with their generous contributions in 2008:

**Aunt Mary's Café**

**Bear Naked Burgers**

**Beacon Properties**

**Beatrice Baker**

**Anita Becker**

**Johnnie Coleman**

**Richard Cooluris**

**Heather Hanly & Daniel Purcell**

**Ellen Johnson**

**Christine Kalb**

**Judith Margulis, PhD**

**Viki Maxwell**

**Consuelo & Thomas Odegard**

**Melvin Rosenthal**

**Levi Strauss Foundation (employee)**

**John Schindel**

**Temescal/Telegraph Comm. Assoc.**

**NCPC Update**

The Temescal Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council beat 12x meets monthly at 7pm on the 2nd Thursday of the month at Faith Presbyterian Church, 49th and Webster. We urge residents concerned over their neighborhoods to join us. Let us know what is working well in your part of the Temescal and what you may need us to help you with. We're not shy! We tackle hard to fix issues on crime, or your 'cat in the tree' concern!

Last month, the Opal Street Opalians met with the Neighborhood Watch coordinator at Oakland International High School-thank you Principal Reyes! We are being trained to keep ourselves and our properties safe. All are invited to attend the second part of this meeting, which will be held on Monday, January 26th at 7pm at OIHS 45th and Webster.

Our Problem Solving Officer, Officer John Cunnie, can be reached at. We

invite and urge you to report any incidents of concern to our Problem Solving Officer, Officer John Cunnie, at JCunnie@oaklandnet.com. This keeps him up to date on neighborhood news. Our neighborhood, our responsibility! ellenrocs+ncpc@gmail.com

*Ellen Gierson and Lee Edwards,  
Temescal NCPC co-chairs*

**Temescal Branch Library Update**

We had a wonderful 90th Anniversary Celebration on December 10th, 2008! Over 100 people gathered here to see 3 historical exhibits, and to enjoy a piece of architecturally correct Temescal Branch cake.

The 3 exhibits are: "Reading History: Temescal Branch Library Celebrates 90 years"; "Italian Americans in Temescal: The Story of the Colombo Club" and "Carnegie Libraries." These exhibits, created by volunteers and staff, are not only visually appealing, but very interesting and informative as well. They will be up

through the end of January, so please stop by the library. They are well worth the trip.

However, I need to warn you not to come between Dec 24th and January 2nd. The library will be closed down due to 3 holidays and 5 mandatory business shutdown days for the city of Oakland. Most city services will be curtailed during that time period. Additional shutdown days are planned for February 13, March 13, April 9, April 10, May 22, June 5 and June 19.

The Colombo Club exhibit mentioned above was put together by Dimond Branch staff member Giovanna Capone. She has been working with members of the Club to go through their extensive archive of photos, posters and documents in order to enlarge and develop a library/cultural resource center. On January 17th, 2009, from 3-5 pm Giovanna is hosting a program in Temescal's Meeting Room, in which she will present a video showcasing

**THEN AND NOW in Temescal**

**1908**



*Courtesy of Ray Raineri*

**2008**



*Jeff Norman*

**The southeast corner of Telegraph Avenue and 51st Street (looking east).** Constructed in 1907, the building that is now home to Bakesale Betty and the Aikido Institute housed the Alden Wine Depot and a billiards hall. The Alden Wine Depot, run by the Dachas, an old Temescal Italian-American family, was popular among UC Berkeley students. The building was remodeled and given its Art Deco-inspired ornamentation in the 1930s. —Jeff Norman/Shared Ground, [www.sharedground.org](http://www.sharedground.org)

the Club's senior members as well as an informal talk by a local historian. Refreshments will be provided by Colombo Club members.

Finally, I want to encourage you to go out for dinner at Aunt Mary's Café at 4307 Telegraph Ave. on January 6th, 2009 from 6-9 pm. Owners Nu Ho and Jack Stewart are planning a fundraising dinner (their first), with proceeds going to the Friends of Temescal Branch Library. You can call the café for more details at 601-9227. Thanks to Nu and Jack for supporting the library!

I also want to thank BakeSale Betty, Peet's Coffee, Ruby's Garden, Walgreen's and the Business Improvement District for their generous donations for our 90th Anniversary Celebration.

-Sally Bean,  
Branch Manager, Temescal

### **Aunt Mary's Cafe's First Benefit Dinner January 6**

Join us in celebrating Temescal Library's 90th Anniversary on January 6, 6-9pm. Fixed price. Reservations required. 601-9227. For more information visit [www.auntmaryscafe.com](http://www.auntmaryscafe.com).

-Nu Ho  
Aunt Mary's Cafe

### **Join our campaign to Silence The Violence!**

The Ella Baker Center works to create a culture of hope by inspiring young people to advocate for peace, and builds unity in the Bay Area around smart solutions to violence. Old approaches -- like "getting tough on crime" -- have not worked. It's time for a new approach, one based on opportunity and focused on the real reasons for violence.

### **Peace In Oakland Billboards and BART Posters**

It's up to ALL of us to silence the violence, so we're bringing our message of peace to everyone. Our hope is that these billboards inspire a sense of community and highlight the best of Oakland.

So tell us, how will YOU silence the violence? We know there are hundreds of people working for peace throughout the Bay Area. In the midst of the violence, we believe that the steps everyday people take now will bring peace tomorrow. Add your voice to the story, and submit your ideas!

[www.ellabakercenter.org](http://www.ellabakercenter.org)

### **Emerson School Parent-Teacher Group Sponsors Holiday Faire**

The Emerson Elementary School Parent-Teacher Organization sponsored a well-attended holiday craft fair at the Emerson School on December 12. Nearly 100 parents, students and teachers enjoyed socializing and creating their own holiday decorations at creatively organized work stations.

Children had the opportunity to create such delights as marshmallow snow men, edible Christmas trees of ice cream cones and frosting, Christmas ornaments and gingerbread houses.

This was the first school event to be sponsored by the newly formed PTO. Event chairperson Carol Cyrus was extremely pleased with the turnout. School principal Wendi Caporicci remarked excitedly that, as principal, she had been waiting a long time for this (a school PTO), and now IT'S HERE!!

The PTO wishes to thank all who attended, with special wishes to thank

Bakesale Betty, Safeway Stores and Children's Hospital Cardiology Dept for their generous donations.

For more about the Emerson School PTO, contact Jesse Phelps at [guru-julp@gmail.com](mailto:guru-julp@gmail.com). Or call the Emerson School office 879-0811.

-Bruce Williams,  
Emerson PTO

### **Notes From The Principal**

Oakland International High School (Webster and 45th St) opened its doors two years ago to the most recently arrived immigrants in the Oakland Unified School District. With the help of community volunteers, local non-profits, and the work of a dedicated staff, OIHS has grown from an idea in the brains of a few educators into a reality. We provide quality alternative education focused on English language acquisition. 100% of our students are English Language learners; they come from 24 countries and speak 22 languages. I would like to share with the community some highlights from our fall semester.

### **Election 2008**

Seniors from our government class volunteered for the Obama campaign here in Oakland. Two OIHS students traveled to Nevada with staff members for a weekend of door to door campaigning. "We visited democrats and republicans. We told them about Obama. We also gave them information about their local voting place," said Moroccan Senior Hamza Hachim. Math students learned the US election process, tracking and graphing Obama's and McCain's popularity in California and swing states over the course of the fall.

**Large Grant Received**

OIHS won an \$81,000 grant from the City of Oakland to provide part-time therapeutic counseling services and after school programming – including soccer, biking, and academic tutoring. This allows us to bring in a specialized counselor one day a week to work on gang prevention.

**College Trips**

In November, OIHS students participated in a unique college trip designed specifically for Latino boys. They toured Cal State Monterey with tour guides from a Latino fraternity who introduced them to dorm life, professors, and Latino support agencies on campus.

**Internships Needed**

Next year, our juniors are required to intern at workplaces across Oakland 1 or 2 afternoons per week. If you or your company can provide a paid or unpaid internship experience, internship /volunteer coor-

dinator Rebecca Huang at [rebecca-huang@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rebecca-huang@sbcglobal.net)

Visit <http://oihs.blogspot.com> for more information.

*-Carmelita Reyes, Principal  
Oakland International High School*

**Winter Art Classes  
January 5 – February 28**

Explore your creativity at Studio One Art Center! Daytime and evening classes for adults, youth, and children from January 5 through February 28. Adult and youth (16+) classes include ceramics, glass, metal jewelry, photography, sculpture, printmaking, textile arts, floral arts, language arts, creative writing, and yoga. Youth and children classes include clay and ceramics, drawing and painting, photography, knitting, puppets, theatre, and cooking. Pre-register on line [www.oaklandnet.com/parks](http://www.oaklandnet.com/parks). 365 45th.

*-Studio One Art Center*

**Writing Excursions 2009  
February 20 - March 1**

**“Writing Costa Rica”**

Nosara, Costa Rica, fee: \$1600. Contact: Deborah Tommassini, [debratom@aol.com](mailto:debratom@aol.com). (917) 204-9613 [www.nosararetreat.com](http://www.nosararetreat.com)

**Calendar**

**Wednesday, January 14, 6 pm.** Temescal Merchants Association monthly meeting. All are welcome. Call for location.653-7196.

**Thursday, January 8, 7 pm.** Temescal Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) Steering Committeemeeting. Everyone welcome. FaithPresbyterian Church, 49th and Webster.420-6974.

**Friday, January 9, 7:30 pm.** Poetry Saloon. Bring a poem that youhave written and one by someone elseto share, or just come to enjoy. 472 44thStreet (between Telegraph and Webster). 654-6495.

**Saturday, January 17, 10 am.** Help monitor water quality in Temescal Creek.459-3967 or [temcrk@mountaincurrent.net](mailto:temcrk@mountaincurrent.net).

**Wednesday, February 11, 6 pm.** Temescal Merchants Association monthly meeting. All are welcome. Call for location.653-7196.

**Thursday, February 12, 7 pm.** Temescal Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) Steering Committeemeeting. Everyone welcome. FaithPresbyterian Church, 49th & Webster.420-6974.

**Friday, February 13, 7:30 pm.** Poetry Saloon. Bring a poem that youhave written and one by someone elseto share, or just come to enjoy. 472 44thStreet (between Telegraph and Webster). 654-6495.

**Saturday, February 21, 10 am.** Help monitor water quality in Temescal Creek.459-3967 or [temcrk@mountaincurrent.net](mailto:temcrk@mountaincurrent.net).

**TNV Volunteer Opportunities**

Are you looking for a way to contribute to the community? Become part of the team that makes Temescal News and Views a reality! We currently have two openings: Editorial Staff: Contact Seana at [fredrickapartments@yahoo.com](mailto:fredrickapartments@yahoo.com). Distributor: Call Clint at 658-7345.



**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

Zip

Phone