



# 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:



## Trick or Treat on Telegraph

Summer is almost over and autumn will soon be here. To celebrate the season, don't miss taking the kids out to Telegraph Avenue, decked out in costumes and masks to collect candy from the Temescal merchants. Every year at Halloween, there's been a huge turnout of participants and this year's Trick or Treat Event will be even better than before. More crafts, more costumes, more candy...and it's all free!

This event will start soon after school lets out on Friday, October 31st (Halloween), but look for posters in store windows and at the schools that will provide the final details. With this fun event, we have made Temescal a safe neighborhood for our children to go out Trick or Treating!

We are looking for volunteers to help prepare for the event or to help on that day. Please contact Darlene Drapkin, at 860-7327, or ttbid@california.com to participate.

-Deborah Quay

Economic Development Committee, TTBID

## Benefit for Katrina Tree Recovery

"In Magdalene's Garden" A Sacred Vespers' sponsored by SAGRADA Sacred Arts. An evening meditation with music, dance and prayer. Benefit for Katrina Tree Recovery. Saturday, September 20, 7:30pm at First Congregational Church of Berkeley. Info and tickets: 653-7196. www.sagrada.com.

-Sagrada

## Temescal Library Memories and Photos

Staff and friends of the Temescal Branch Library are gathering photos and recollections of this north Oakland community

fixture as it approaches its' 90th birthday this December. In celebration, we invite library users of today and yesterday to forward memories of time spent in our library. Reading surprises, enjoyable programs, meaningful encounters, whatever you recall. To help out, please fill out a brief form at the branch or via e-mail to Sally Bean sbean@oaklandlibrary.org. Your name, address and age are required with your memories.

Children are particularly encouraged to participate, as is anyone with an especially long association with the Temescal Library. In December, we plan extra programs, an exhibit of the history of the branch since its' opening in 1918, and a birthday bash on December 10th. We hope library users will recall some good stories, send them along, and then join us in commemorating 90 years of the Temescal Library in our community.

-Martha Bergman, Temescal Library Supporter;  
Former Branch Manager

## Annual Free Public Pumpkin Potluck at Studio One

There is always preference. And like new shoes, that also happen to be comfy, people are slipping into the beautifully renovated City of Oakland Office of Parks and Recreation's Studio One Art Center. The polish brushed upon the building, enriches the glowing memory of so many who have returned to this art facility at 365 45th St. Walking is pleasurable from the street pass the six dichroic glass art works. You'll enter a set of welcoming doors, be greeted by equally welcoming staff, and offered a well thought out program of classes. Call at your convenience 597-5027. Visit www.oaklandnet.com/parks for Fall Classes scheduled September 8-October 31.

Not to be missed is Studio One's Annual Free Public Pumpkin Potluck Supper on Friday, October 31, 7-9:30pm. Festivities will include: "best eats" contest, costume contest, paper plate mask contest, carved or decorated pumpkin contest and a "lights out" haunted house. Come Out and Play The Oakland Parks and Recreation Way.

-Tomye Neal-Madison

**Expand Your Universe!**

Chabot Space & Science Center is recruiting volunteers to excite and inspire visitors about our Planet Earth and the universe. A variety of volunteer roles and shift times are available Wednesday-Sunday. Training and enrichment opportunities are provided. Additional benefits include admission discounts, exhibit previews and enrichment programs. Attend our next Volunteer Orientation Saturday, October 19th, 10-12:30pm. RSVP required. For future dates visit [www.chabotspace.org](http://www.chabotspace.org). Call 336-7414 or visit [www.chabotspace.org/volunteer](http://www.chabotspace.org/volunteer).

-Lesley Stoup, Volunteer Assistant Chabot Space & Science Center

**We'll Miss You!**

Dear Temescal Friends and Neighbors, It has been a pleasure being a part of the Temescal business and neighborhood community. It's a very special place and I appreciate the warm welcome and embrace during the past five years. I will no longer be a part of La Calaca and Bare Naked Burgers, as I am moving on to other projects. I would like to thank you for all of your support and friendship during my time in Oakland.

This is not a good bye, but as hasta luego for now. Best of luck to all of you in all of your future endeavors.

Take care,

Jack Schwartz  
[jack@mexico.com](mailto:jack@mexico.com)

**Citizens of Oakland Respond to Emergencies (CORE)**

On October 11 the Office of Emergency Services will host a special event geared toward CORE volunteer networking. In seeking opportunities to promote community awareness and service, the mission of CORE is to promote the spirit of neighbor helping neighbor and to

provide the highest quality emergency and disaster prevention, preparedness and response training.

Through CORE training, it is our intention to facilitate the development of active CORE groups throughout Oakland who are organized, empowered and involved in the health, safety and well-being of their neighborhood. CORE-trained neighborhoods can demonstrate cohesiveness and competency because they have identified the human and material resources within their neighborhood to respond to and recover from emergency situations.

In 2008 the CORE Program began offering new ways for CORE volunteers to network with each other. These include launching an online CORE discussion group, forming a CORE Group Leader Roster, creating an interactive CORE GIS map, and hosting networking events.

CORE is a program of the Oakland Fire Department Office of Emergency Services (OES). 1605 MLK. 238-6351. [core@oaklandnet.com](mailto:core@oaklandnet.com).

[www.oaklandnet.com/fire/core](http://www.oaklandnet.com/fire/core)

**STAND MacArthur Transit Village Update**

The Oakland City Council is set to vote for final approval on the MacArthur Transit Village proposal at its July 15, 2008 meeting. This vote culminates a process that began in 1993 and has gone through various development configurations, changes of developers, and intermittent outreach to community members & groups.

STAND is pleased to report that the current proposal has undergone a number of changes to mitigate its impact upon the neighborhood, including changes to building heights, step-backs and setbacks to allow

*Then and Now in Temescal*



1940

Paul Smith



2008

Jeff Norman

**Shafter Ave., between 42nd and 43rd streets (looking south).** The Sacramento Northern Railway, whose station and rail yard extended along 40th St. between Webster and Opal streets, ran passenger and freight trains up Shafter Ave., through Rockridge, around Lake Temescal, through a tunnel above the Montclair district, and eventually all the way to Sacramento and Chico. The last train to roll along Shafter was in 1957. *Courtesy of Shared Ground/Jeff Norman, [www.sharedground.org](http://www.sharedground.org)*

more light in, permit parking in the immediate neighborhood, council oversight of design details and retail usage, concurrent construction of 'affordable' housing units and certification under the 'Alameda County Green Points Checklist' (ACGPC).

While STAND believes the above changes will help lessen the project's impact on Temescal, there are areas of concern that still remain:

1. The lack of a coordinating local transit plan to service BART riders who will lose parking access.
2. The lack of enforcement staff or monies for the neighborhood Permit Parking scheme.
3. The use of the ACGPC instead of the more stringent LEED certification on all construction.
4. A lack of incentive to bring neighborhood-serving retail to the project, such as a grocery store.
5. The minimal amount of Open Space and interior light of the current project configuration.

STAND will continue to monitor the progress of this project, and encourages you to make your opinions known to both your district and at-large councilpersons. STAND: Standing Together for Accountable Neighborhood Development.

- Dahn Van Laarz, Member, STAND

## **Business Opportunities on Telegraph**

### **TTBID Links Businesses and Property Owners**

In efforts to continue the revitalization of Telegraph Avenue, the local Business Improvement District (BID) has recently completed an inventory of vacant spaces along Telegraph. With property owners' consent, these listings have been published

both on the group's web site ([www.temescaldistrict.org](http://www.temescaldistrict.org)) and with a retail listing service, and submitted to the City's Business Services staff for their clients. The website includes a map of the spaces available, square feet, asking rents and contact information.

For many years people in Temescal have wanted a local produce and convenience grocery store located in the area. In 2006 the BID commissioned UC Berkeley grad student study to analyze the tenant mix along Telegraph. The results showed a gap in the retail mix for both produce/grocery and clothing stores.

It is difficult attracting a grocer to Temescal. The owners of CiviQ, the approved development at 51st and Telegraph, tried for over a year to interest a produce operator in that site with no success. The spaces available along Telegraph are mostly small, with no off-street parking. Foot traffic along Telegraph is not as strong as in other commercial districts, although it is increasing. These and other leasing variables make recruiting a produce/grocery store problematic.

Nevertheless, the search goes on. The BID and its volunteers continue to seek operators for the vacancies available. If you know of retailers interested in Temescal, please direct them to the web site above or contact the BID at 860-7327.

-Bill Lambert

*Economic Development Committee, BID*

## **Experience the Richness of Community Education at The Peralta Colleges**

Berkeley City College, College of Alameda, and Oakland's Laney and Merritt Colleges offer you exciting educational opportunities. The

worlds of biotechnology, computer and information sciences, multimedia, business, culinary arts, aircraft maintenance, nursing and health sciences, transportation technology and more are open to you.

The Peralta Colleges offer classes when you need them – days, evenings, weekends, short-term and full semester. An ever-changing variety of curriculum is taught by talented, dedicated faculty using the latest technology. Cultural activities abound to feed your soul; from concerts and lectures by visiting artists, to plays, festivals and art exhibits. Fitness and swimming facilities provide opportunities to push your own boundaries in competitive team sports. A broad range of student services includes financial aid, academic advising, career development counseling, peer tutoring, legal services and support groups.

The opportunity is here. For information call 466-7267 [dftzgerald@peralta.edu](mailto:dftzgerald@peralta.edu). Or visit [www.peralta.cc.ca.us](http://www.peralta.cc.ca.us).

-Diana Fitzgerald  
*Peralta Community College*

## **Tour de East Bay Cohousing**

Pump up your tires and get ready to bike to 5-6 East Bay cohousing communities on Sunday, September 28th, 9am-3:30pm. We'll be biking approximately 8-10 miles on a flat route at a leisurely pace with frequent stops. We'll start at Berkeley Cohousing, ride on to Doyle Street in Emeryville, Mariposa Grove in North Oakland, Temescal Commons and Temescal Creek Cohousing in North Oakland and end at Swan's in downtown Oakland where you can jump on BART or pedal home. Karen Hester, founding member of Temescal Creek Cohousing, is your tour leader. Cost is \$35 with cold

drink provided, \$45 with lunch from Bakesale Betty and cold drink provided. Limited to 30 participants. Please mail checks made out to Karen Hester to 320 45th St, Oakland, CA 94609. Please include your name, email, phone number and whether you'd like lunch and drinks provided. Also indicate whether you prefer veggie (egg salad) sandwich.

-Karen Hester  
Temescal Creek Co-housing

**Virtual Home Bus Tour**

The City of Oakland along with the National Association of Hispanic Real Estate Professionals of Alameda County and other non-profit organizations will be hosting a City-wide Virtual Home Bus Tour of all foreclosed homes and bank owned properties on Saturday, October 25. Call for information 583-5435 or visit [www.nahrepalameda.org](http://www.nahrepalameda.org).

-Luis Castillo-Munoz  
President, NAHREPAC

**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.

**City-Wide Recruiting for High School Girls Rowing Team**

The Jack London Aquatic Center (JLAC) is recruiting high school girls for the 2008-2009 season of the Junior Women's Rowing Team. Now in its 6th season, the "JLAC Juniors" introduces the sport of rowing to high school girls. During the autumn 2008 season (September 15-December 15), girls will be taught to swim and to row and will participate in team-building activities. During the spring 2009 season, the rowers will compete against other high school rowing teams from around the state. The U.S. Olympic Committee has recently recognized the excellence of this program by awarding to the JLAC one of the USOC's few 2008 "outreach" grants.

To assure access to all, JLAC will transport athletes from their high schools to the JLAC each afternoon. For girls who do not swim, JLAC will provide swimming lessons after school, as part of the autumn 2008 season. The participation fee for autumn 2008 is \$100 per semester, with scholarships available.

For more information call 208-6060 or visit [www.jlac.org](http://www.jlac.org).

-Jo Ann Driscoll,  
Consultant, JLAC

**Calendar**

**Wednesday, September 10, 8:30am.** Temescal Merchants Association monthly meeting. All are welcome. Call for location. 653-7196.

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

**Friday, September 12 & Friday, October 10, 7:30 pm.** Poetry Saloon. Bring a poem that you have written and one by someone else to share, or just come to enjoy. 472 44th Street (between Telegraph and Webster). 654-6495.  
[www.matsonpoet.com](http://www.matsonpoet.com).

**Saturday, September 20, 10 am.** Help monitor water quality in Temescal Creek. 459-3967 or [temcrk@mountaincurrent.net](mailto:temcrk@mountaincurrent.net).

**Saturday, October 4th 11 am to 6pm.** First Annual Oktoberfest in the Dimond. Traditional German beer gardens, arts & crafts booths, Oakland History Tours, Gourmet Food booths, live music on two stages, Kids Zone. Free Admission. [oaklandoktoberfest.com](http://oaklandoktoberfest.com).

**Wednesday, October 8, 8:30am.** Temescal Merchants Association monthly meeting. All are welcome. Call for location. 653-7196

**Thursday, October 9, 7 pm.** Temescal Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) Steering Committee meeting. Everyone welcome. Faith Presbyterian Church, 49th and Webster. 420-6974.

**Saturday, October 18, 10 am.** Help monitor water quality in Temescal Creek. 459-3967 or [temcrk@mountaincurrent.net](mailto:temcrk@mountaincurrent.net).

**Friday, October 31.** Enjoy a Safe and Happy Halloween!



**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