

Temescal News & Views

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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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Thank You!

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THE TEMESCAL
STREET FAIR

593-9831

First Temescal Street Fair to Take Place August 21

The first annual Temescal Street Fair will take place on Saturday, August 21, from noon to 6 PM, on Telegraph Avenue between 51st Street and 48th Street. The Street Fair will feature live bands, children's entertainment and art making for kids, food and craft booths, and displays by neighborhood community groups. The fair is sponsored by Temescal Place, the City of Oakland's Community and Economic Development Agency, and dozens of local businesses who work with the Temescal Merchants Association.

Fair Activities

Headlining the main stage will be three well-known bands, all of whom have members that live in North Oakland. The Crooked Jades are an old time string band, reviving musical styles from before the influence of radio. Montuno Groove is an eleven-piece, mostly female band combining Salsa with Latin jazz and R&B. Otis Goodnight, newest on the scene, plays neo-soul fusion and funk. All three bands hope you'll come to the Fair prepared to dance! In addition, we'll have appearances from the East Bay Church of Religious Science Gospel Choir, and a Marshall Arts demonstration from the Aikido Institute.

The Fair will be full of activities for children. Studio One Arts Center and the East Bay Depot for Creative Reuse will have children's art making activities out on the street, while children's musicians Colibri and Asheba will take their turns on the main stage. Street performers, such as magicians and clowns, are anticipated but not yet confirmed as of the TNV deadline.

At the center of the Street Fair are the 60 booths and two seating areas that will line Telegraph Avenue, turning it for one day from a busy thoroughfare into a neighborhood gathering space. A beer and wine garden will be at the south end of the Fair, underneath the trees that shade the street in front of Dollar Cleaners. Near this seating will be Italian food from the East

Bay Italian American Federation, pizza by Lanesplitter, Moroccan food by Tanjia, and other food booths. North of there, between the stage and the Beer and Wine Garden, will be crafts booths featuring some of the area's finest artists.

Finally, a number of community-based organizations, including the Neighborhood Crime Prevention Committee and Temescal Neighbors Together, will be staffing booths. We'll be looking for neighbors who want to meet up and discuss the issues in our community and how to resolve them. Community groups that want to participate can get space for free in exchange for a small volunteer commitment of four hours of time, either on the day of the fair or before.

We Need Neighbors to Pitch In

The Street Fair needs volunteers. Right now we need neighbors who can help with publicity - distributing the posters and flyers that are a big part of the publicity plan. On the day of the Fair, neighbors will be needed to help set up and take down booths, as well as to staff the information booth, and to help ensure that everyone has a fun, safe time.

We also want your input. If there's something you know how to do that you want to contribute to the Fair, let us know! Please contact Kenny Mostern at 593-9831, or Karen Hester at 654-6346. We look forward to seeing you at the Fair!

—Kenny Mostern

Fewer Lanes of Traffic on Telegraph?

The Temescal Merchants Association has been discussing how AC Transit's Bus Rapid Transit Corridor Proposal, a route that includes Telegraph Ave. through Temescal, will impact our neighborhood.

AC Transit is proposing a Bus Rapid Transit service from San Leandro, through Downtown Oakland, up Telegraph Ave., and into Downtown Berkeley. According to their proposal, Bus Rapid Transit will have "bus-only lanes for most of the route, fewer stops, traffic signal priority

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Melrose Elementary third-graders learn about Temescal Creek as they explore the PostMark Temescal interpretive site outside the Temescal post office. The students were on a field trip investigating how neighborhoods preserve their history. Photo: Jeff Norman

Cross-Neighborhood Exchange

Third-graders from Melrose Elementary in East Oakland wound their way on AC Transit to the Temescal neighborhood one morning this past May. Throughout the spring, teacher Laura Arnow and her class created a video about the history of the Melrose neighborhood that features interviews with long-time Melrose residents, merchants and representatives from local businesses. The class then took a field trip to Temescal to meet with some Temescal neighbors and see examples of how another Oakland neighborhood has conveyed its history. After visiting the PostMark Temescal public art project outside Temescal's post office on Shattuck Ave., the class stopped by the History Walk outside Fire Station 8 on 51st St. Before catching a bus back to their school, the students and accompanying adults enjoyed bagged lunches under the redwoods at the Frog Park at Redondo and Clarke streets.

— Jeff Norman

for transit, and full-featured stations.” The project's purpose includes improving service along “one of the most heavily used bus corridors in the Bay Area,” “reducing auto use, contributing to transit-oriented development and neighborhood revitalization, and better serving low income and minority populations.”

AC Transit recognizes that “fewer lanes of traffic” might have the following impacts: “increased congestion and delay at intersections; reduced street parking near BART stations; restricted turning movements across bus only lanes; changes to street appearance; changes to bike lanes and bike routes; possible noise and vibration impacts; possible effects on historic structures; temporary construction impacts.”

The Temescal Merchants Association is concerned about these impacts and how they could affect our businesses. We would like to maintain an attractive and accessible place for customers to shop and frequent. We are concerned that these changes to Telegraph Avenue will reduce our ability to take deliveries and offer parking.

The Rapid Transit is not likely to decrease the number of vehicles accessing the freeway. Congestion at the Telegraph and 51st intersection could grow. Emergency services to the hospital and from the local Fire Department could be affected.

The Temescal Merchants Association is planning to offer its input to AC Transit and the decision making board. Our suggestions for our neighborhood include routing busses over an alternate route, retaining shared bus and car lanes, and adding diagonal parking.

We are eager to hear more from local residents and business owners. Please e-mail Sarita Waite at saritawaite@earthlink.net so that we can incorporate your comments into our proposals. To learn more about Bus Rapid Transit visit the website www.actransit.org.

— Michael Camp, for the Temescal Merchants Association

Temescal Library Offers Summer Activities for Kids

The Oakland Public Library is in the process of planning for expanded hours in all the branch libraries thanks to the passage of Measure Q in March. We don't have all the details yet at the Temescal Branch, so stay tuned.

Our annual Summer Reading Program for children is underway, but there is still plenty of time for kids to sign up and participate! The theme this year is “Go Wild with Books” and will continue until August 14. We have some fun activities planned for July and August. On Monday July 12, the musical group Colibri will be here at 7 PM to play wonderful music from Latin America. The following Monday, July 19 at 7 PM, Bitsy the Clown will entertain children with jokes and funny magic tricks. In August, staff from the Museum of Children's Art will teach children to create a small hardcover book with blank pages. They will be here on Monday, August 2 from 6:30–8 PM. This evening event is for children from kindergarten to 5th grade and you must

call to sign up. The next day, August 3, they will present the same workshop at 3:30 PM and you don't need to reserve a spot.

For parents who are bringing their children to the library, we want to remind you that there are other fun places to go in the neighborhood. There are two playgrounds nearby, which are part of the Rockridge-Temescal Greenbelt. Redondo Playground is a tot lot designed for children two to five years old and is located beneath the grove of redwoods at the intersection of Redondo St and Clarke St. Hardy Playground, for children ages five to twelve, is located near Miles St. and Hardy Circle. We hope to see you soon!

– Sally Bean, Temescal Branch Manager

NCPC News

House Break-ins on 43rd Street

There have been seven house break-ins from April 14 to June 14 on 43rd Street from Telegraph to Shafter. Neighbors are forming Neighborhood Watch groups to combat this shocking outbreak. Get involved. Know your neighbors, their phone numbers and addresses. Call these numbers as needed:

Robbery in progress or suspicious people lurking about – Dial 911

From cell phones – Dial 777-3211

If you have information about possible perpetrators – call our Neighborhood Problem Solving Officer Helene Schmitt at 238-7517

Police Non-Emergency line – Dial 777-3333 and select 0.

Crime Abatement Committee Meetings

The time and place of Crime Abatement Committee meetings have changed. We will meet at a new time: 6 PM on the third Wednesday of the month at Faith Presbyterian Church, 49th and Webster. Contact Bill Peterson at 652-4507 to be on the agenda or discuss a problem.

Steering Committee Meetings

The Steering Committee continues to meet at 7 PM on the same night, at the

same location as the above meeting. Residents, merchants and guests are invited to attend. Call Don Lowrey at 420-6974 to discuss issues or to be on the agenda.

The Annual Potluck-Barbecue

Join us on Sunday, August 8, from noon to 4 PM at Park Day School at 43rd and Shafter. We will provide plates, plastic cutlery, napkins, cold drinks and hot grills. You bring a dish to share and food to barbecue. Hope to see you there.

– Don Lowrey, NCPC Chair

Studio One Seeks Community Input

Once again this summer, Studio One Art Center brings together residents of Oakland and the whole Bay Area by offering art and fitness classes at very modest cost. We continue to live up to our reputation as a congenial and encouraging place for trying out new things. Our summer session got underway June 21 with the community's rush to register for many of the classes. In the classes, children meet others their age, while teen aides, older staff and some adults who have been attending the Center for well over 40 years come meet in our neighborhood again. Grandparents speak glowingly of their children taking classes at Studio One. Their adult children's children now enjoy programs here.

Yet, seemingly faster than oil paint dries on canvas, an abrupt disruption of services will take place at Studio One. In the Summer of 2005, architects, contractors, city officials, and participating neighbors will begin the task of physically redesigning the space that Studio One occupies.

Studio One is currently looking for input about the redesign – and what to do while closed. We need 20,000 square feet of space, preferably buildings near each other, to host some classes while the building is closed, and also to help store equipment, tools, furniture, materials, etc. We need you to help our teachers and support staff so that your most affordable

visual art resource will not get tucked away to the recesses of your mind. If you have ideas or want to get involved, please contact us.

“Did you know?” is the theme of the City of Oakland's Parks and Recreation Department new marketing campaign to encourage the use of public parks, recreational centers and various outdoor activities. While the Studio One summer session takes place, you are invited to an Open House Monday, July 19, from 11–2 PM, where you will be able to find out things you don't know about our facility.

Studio One Art Center is located next to the Temescal Pool in North Oakland at 365 45th Street. Call 597-5027 to get further details, suggestions on how you can help, or to register for classes.

– Tomye Gouache

Oakland Heritage Alliance Offers Neighborhood Walking Tours

Come celebrate 16 different Oakland neighborhoods on foot starting July 10! See Oakland up-close with its breadth of architectural styles and points of cultural and living history. These tours span the city from the waterways across the flatlands to the hills, east Oakland to west Oakland.

The Temescal neighborhood will be featured on Saturday, August 14 from 1:00 to 3:30 PM. Meet in front of Genova Delicatessen, 5095 Telegraph Avenue (inside the Temescal Shopping Plaza). The tour will look at the commercial district that developed around the Oakland Street Railway car barn, built in 1870. You can see Victorian and early 20th century stores still in use. The tour will go on to investigate period homes on residential streets. Come learn about the history of your neighborhood!

Highlights of other tours include Oakland's Walkways and Streetcar Heritage in the Trestle Glen to Grand Lake neighborhood, Rockridge Arts and Crafts and its historic buildings, charming Glenview, Broadway Meets the Water and the revitalized waterfront, New Era/New

Temescal Calendar

Saturday, July 3, 9 AM. Green Panthers planning meeting. Meet at Temescal Cafe. 658-2488.

Sunday, July 4, 11 AM. East Bay Parks staff will hand out gifts all morning in honor of Lake Appreciation Week at Lake Temescal Park. 6502 Broadway Terrace. 652-1155.

Friday, July 9, 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). 594-2200.

Saturdays and Sundays, July 10 - August 29. The Oakland Heritage Alliance offers walking tours of different Oakland neighborhoods. Locations and times vary. Visit www.oaklandheritage.org or call 763-9218 for a complete schedule.

Sunday, July 11, 10 AM - 3 PM. Councilmember Jane Brunner's Summer Picnic. North Picnic Area, Lake Temescal Park, 6502 Broadway Terrace.

Monday, July 12, 7 PM. The musical group Colibri plays music from Latin America. Temescal Library, 5205 Telegraph. 597-5049.

Wednesday, July 14, 6-7:30 PM. Temescal Merchants Association monthly meeting. All are welcome. Temescal Library, 5205 Telegraph. 653-7196.

Monday, July 19, 7 PM. Bitsy the Clown entertains children with jokes and magic tricks. Temescal Library, 5205 Telegraph. 595-4459.

Monday, July 19, 11 AM - 2 PM. Studio One Open House. Studio One Art Center, 365 45th St. 597-5027.

Wednesday, July 21, 6 PM. Temescal Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) Crime Abatement Committee meeting. Everyone welcome. Faith Presbyterian Church, 49th and Webster. 652-4507.

Wednesday, July 21, 7 PM. NCPC Steering Committee meeting. Everyone welcome. Faith Presbyterian Church, 49th and Webster. 420-6974.

Saturday, July 24, 9 AM. Green Panthers beautification activity. All gardeners welcome! Meet at Temescal Cafe. 658-2488.

Monday, August 2, 6:30 PM. Make hardcover books with staff from the Museum of Children's Art. Please reserve your spot in advance. Temescal Library, 5205 Telegraph. 597-5049.

Tuesday, August 3, 3:30 PM. Make hardcover books with staff from the Museum of Children's Art. No reservations necessary. Temescal Library, 5205 Telegraph. 597-5049.

Saturday, August 7, 9 AM. Green Panthers planning meeting. Meet at Temescal Cafe. 658-2488.

Sunday, August 8, 12 - 4 PM. NCPC Annual Potluck-Barbecue. Bring something to grill and a dish to share. Park Day School, 43rd and Shafter. 420-6974.

Wednesday, August 11, 6 - 7:30 PM. Temescal Merchants Association monthly meeting. All are welcome. Temescal Library, 5205 Telegraph. 653-7196.

Saturday, August 14, 1 - 3:30 PM. Temescal Neighborhood Walking Tour sponsored by the Oak-

land Heritage Alliance. Meet in front of Genova Delicatessen, 5095 Telegraph Ave. 763-9218.

Wednesday, August 18, 6 PM. Temescal Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) Crime Abatement Committee meeting. Everyone welcome. Faith Presbyterian Church, 49th and Webster. 652-4507.

Wednesday, August 18, 7 PM. NCPC Steering Committee meeting. Everyone welcome. Faith Presbyterian Church, 49th St. and Webster. 420-6974.

Saturday, August 21, 12 - 6 PM. First Annual Temescal Street Fair! Telegraph between 51st and 48th St. 593-9831 or 654-6346.

Saturday, August 28, 9 AM. Green Panthers beautification activity. All gardeners welcome! Meet at Temescal Cafe. 655-8855.

continued from third page

Politics and the impacts of prominent African-Americans on Oakland's contemporary landscape, New and Old in McClymonds-Clawson which explores innovative and adaptive reuse of Oakland's industrial past, Richmond Blvd along Glen Echo Creek and its charming homes, vibrant Fruitvale Commercial, and Middle Elmhurst and the beautifully restored Arroyo Viejo Amphitheater.

Tours will occur every Saturday and Sunday from July 10 through August 29. The cost is \$5 for Oakland Heritage Alliance members and \$10 for non-members (if you sign up or renew a membership on the day of the tour, the fee will be waived). No reservations are necessary, except for the first tour (*Oakland's Walkways and Streetcar Heritage*) on July 10. For a full tour schedule or more information, visit www.oaklandheritage.org, call 763-9218, or e-mail info@oaklandheritage.org.

— Esther Hill, Administrative Director

Did You Know?

✓ The Temescal Pool, which was closed for renovation in February, is scheduled to re-open in mid-to-late July. Call 238-2196 for more details.

✓ The East Bay Regional Park system offers a huge variety of activities each month in parks around the East Bay for children, adults, seniors and families. Learn to kayak, take a fitness class, go on a challenging hike or an easier nature walk, join a family campfire and sing-along, listen to a concert in a natural setting, or brush up on your photography or wilderness skills. Check out www.ebparks.org for a complete list of events and to register for activities.

✓ Kids of all ages can call 597-5054 to listen to a three or four minute recorded story. "Dial-A-Story" is offered by the Oakland Public Library. Stories change every week and are available in both English and Spanish.

✓ The Temescal Merchant's Association has a new Website! The site includes a shopping directory, news, links to other sites of local interest, and Temescal history. Check it out at www.temescalmerchants.com.

✓ East Bay Parks will celebrate "Lake Appreciation Week" July 1-6. On Sunday morning, July 4, staff will hand out free "Lake Appreciation Gifts" at the entry kiosks to all East Bay Park lakes, including Lake Temescal. Drop by, pick up your gift, and take a swim in our own local lake! Call 652-1155 for details.

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 519 43rd St., Oakland, CA 94609. —Thank You!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

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.

