

# 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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## COMMUNITY NEWS

### Donate Extra Backyard Fruit for Preserves

Fall is here and Temescal Amity Works is back in residence after a 2-month sojourn on the East Coast. We are on the lookout for backyard apples, figs, citrus and other fall produce that you don't have time to pick or can't use for yourself. We will pick it or pick it up! This fall we hope to make a series of communal preserves, ciders and preserves from the bounty of the neighborhood yards, all of which will be distributed free from our storefront at 482D 49th St, just behind the Bank of the West.

We are open from 3-7 PM on Saturdays, or by appointment. Fridays are our neighborhood harvesting days, so we are intermittently in and out of the storefront. Call us at 517-4149 to schedule an appointment or a harvest. If you want to receive email updates, join our email list by sending an email to bigbackyard@amityworks.org.

We are organizing several special events, including an all-day performance by local artist Sarah Klein. In *The Bread Project*, Klein brings bread-making to unexpected places and invites people to join her in the eight-hour process of making naturally leavened bread. At the end of the day, fresh bread will be sliced and shared with participants. Join Klein and *The Bread Project* at the Amity Works space on Saturday, Oct. 28 at 11 AM.

Throughout September and October, Amity Works will host Neighborhood Public Radio (NPR). NPR's Jon Brumit will join Amity workers in harvesting fruit and gathering stories and sounds from Temescal residents. NPR invites neighbors and passersby to join in the production of live broadcast events, making programs and content by neighbors for neighbors and beyond! Tune in and drop by to contribute ideas, stories, and anything else you might want to hear on your new neighbor, amity radio!

Neighborhood Public Radio is an independent, artist-run radio project committed to providing an alternative media platform for artists, activists, musicians, and community members. Its motto is: *If it is local and it makes noise ... we hope to feature it on*

NPR (Neighborhood Public Radio). For a listing of scheduled broadcasts and live NPR events, as well as other Amity Works news, visit our website at [www.amityworks.org](http://www.amityworks.org).

—Ted Purves & Susanne Cockrell, TA Works

### Temescal Design Workshop

A Temescal Design Workshop sponsored by Councilmember Jane Brunner will be held from 10 AM - 2 PM on Saturday, Sept. 16 at Faith Presbyterian Church, 430 49th St. This will be the third meeting that is part of a community planning process to determine the nature of future development in Temescal and along Telegraph Ave.

This workshop and another meeting in October (not yet scheduled) are important opportunities for each of us to learn more about the issues relating to development in our neighborhood and to be part of the process that determines what kind of development will and will not be permitted. In October, City staff will present draft options for a neighborhood plan. At the September and October meetings the group will make recommendations to City staff regarding density, building height, housing type and affordability, residential transition zones, building setbacks, parking requirements, allowable uses, historic buildings, design standards, open space, creeks, streetscape treatments and traffic solutions.

I would like to hear what you have to say on this important topic. Please attend one of the upcoming meetings or feel free to contact me directly at 238-7001. —Jane Brunner, Councilmember, District 1

### Emerson-Peralta After-School Partnership

With \$200,000 provided by the Oakland Fund for Children and Youth (OFCY) for the 2006-07 academic year, Emerson School will begin a new after-school enrichment partnership with nearby Peralta School in September. The infusion of funding, intended to strengthen comprehensive after-school programs at each site, has been awarded to Bay Area Community Resources (BACR), a 30-year-old non-profit agency focusing on youth development.

### Temescal News and Views 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.

The Emerson-Peralta Umoja Village Program will offer high-quality instruction and enrichment to Emerson students on-site, in a safe and supportive environment, for at least three after-school hours per day, five days a week, at no cost to enrolled families. Services offered to Emerson children will be provided by three highly regarded local agencies: the Museum of Children's Art (MOCHA), Opera Piccola and the Destiny Arts Center. The latter two are based in Rockridge and Temescal, respectively.

MOCHA, encouraging hands-on learning in the arts, has since 1988 promoted the arts as a prime way to help children develop as healthy, resourceful and involved citizens. Opera Piccola, with a program recognized as a national model, uses interactive theater, multicultural stories and the magic of live performances to advance student creativity and critical thinking. Destiny Arts has for many years been helping diminish youth isolation, prejudice and violence in our community by means of their exceptional martial arts, theater and dance programs.

The OFCY funds are renewable at the same \$200,000 level for the 2007-08 academic year. For more info, contact Martin Weinstein at BACR, [mweinstein@bacr.org](mailto:mweinstein@bacr.org).

– Patrick Daughton

### ULTRA – New Urban Planning Group

A new group is forming to encourage infill development in North Oakland—Urbanists for a Livable Temescal-Rockridge Area (ULTRA). We believe that the people who live, work, shop and play in Temescal and Rockridge define our community and that the built landscape can either hinder these activities or help them.

Telegraph Ave. between 40th St. and 55th St. is Temescal's main street. At its heart are the buildings on the block between 49th and 51st Streets. There are other architectural gems scattered up and down this 15-block stretch of Telegraph. However, there are also many parking lots and one-story, low-density commercial buildings. Also, there is very little residential or mixed-use (retail on the first floor, residential above) development along our neighborhood's stretch of Telegraph.

We want to see relatively small-scale but higher density mixed-use development along Telegraph. We believe that such developments will:

- Encourage economic diversity (if they have residential units of various sizes)
- Provide more spaces for neighborhood-oriented retail
- Increase public safety and alternative transportation
- Create a livelier, friendlier and culturally diverse streetscape along our main street

If you share these goals, please contact: John Gatewood at [johnnyg@california.com](mailto:johnnyg@california.com), Hiroko Kurihara at [h2oakland@sbcglobal.net](mailto:h2oakland@sbcglobal.net), or Joyce Roy at [joyceroy@earthlink.net](mailto:joyceroy@earthlink.net).

– John Gatewood, ULTRA

### Studio One Offers Fall Session

Out of sight, not out of mind: we at Studio One trust that we are still in the minds and hearts of Temescal neighbors! We have had a steady build-up of patrons participating in each new session of classes offered in our Lake Merritt location, and some have "traveled" from their Temescal neighborhood to join us in having creative fun in our art and balance classes. Check out the new and returning classes in Studio One's Fall Session, which runs from Monday, Sept. 18 – Saturday, Nov. 18.

Don't miss our First Annual Family Potluck Pumpkin Candle Light Supper, to be held on Saturday, Oct. 28, 5:30–7:30 PM. Festivities will include a pumpkin pie contest, pumpkin carving centerpieces, and other delectable squashy foods.

To find out more about classes and events, visit us at 1428 Alice Street (off 14th St.), online on the City of Oakland website, [www.oaklandnet.com/parks](http://www.oaklandnet.com/parks), or call us at 597-5027. The Studio One Art Center in Temescal is scheduled for completion in June 2007.

–Tomye' Neal-Madison, Program Coordinator

### Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council News

Two home invasions in the Manila/49th St. area in early August rattled neighbors. In one case, the thief crawled through an open window, pushed a 70-year old woman into her bathroom, and stole her car keys. Quick work by Oakland and Antioch police resulted in capturing the 19-year old suspect as he drove the victim's car. During these warm days and nights, you might be keeping windows and doors open for ventilation – but how do you



Opal Street neighbors enjoy a block party on National Night Out, August 1. Photo: Ellen Gierson

secure them? Get window clips for \$3-4 per window; these allow windows to open no more than 6 inches. Get a screen door that locks or latches.

National Night Out on Aug.1 was a big success with several house parties in Temescal. Residents on Opal Street, the 300 block of 50th Street and other locations shared desserts and ideas about reducing crime and making safer streets.

Picnic Kudos—For their generous help with our Aug. 6 neighborhood picnic, we give our thanks to: Yeda Altes and her husband Gene, who donated two huge fillets of king salmon, caught by Gene that morning; Allison and Michael of Bakesale Betty, for their donation of superb cookies and cakes; and Park Day School, for the use of their delightful school grounds.

The next NCPC Community Meeting is Saturday, Oct. 21, 9:30 AM – noon, at Faith Presbyterian Church, 49th at Webster. Join Oakland police and other Temescal residents concerned about crime prevention.

– Donald Lowrey, NCPC Chair

### Creek to Bay Clean Up

Celebrate Creek to Bay Day, Saturday, Sept. 16, 9 AM – noon. Join your neighbors for a volunteer cleanup of Temescal Creek. Meet at the DMV parking lot, corner of Cavour and Redondo at 9 AM. Tools will be provided, but feel free to bring your own favorites. The cleanup will consist of litter removal, weed-pulling and ivy-clearing. Sponsored by the DMV Neighbors Association and the City of Oakland Environmental Services Department. Contact Margaret for more information at 655-1767.

–Margaret Pinter, DMV Neighbors Association

## Join the JLAC Junior Women's Rowing Team

The Jack London Aquatic Center (JLAC) invites you to an open house on Sunday, Sept. 10, from 2-4 PM. Meet our coach, Abby Loughrey, and our team captains, Mari Acosta (Skyline H.S.) and Emerald Jones (Oakland Tech H.S.). Learn more about the sport of rowing, and talk with our returning rowers and their families. The JLAC is located in Estuary Park, on the Embarcadero, between Oak Street and 5th Avenue, about one mile south of Jack London Square. For more information, go to [www.jlac.org](http://www.jlac.org) or call 208-6060.

The JLAC Junior Women's Rowing Team is for high-school-aged girls who are either enrolled in an Oakland public high school or are Oakland residents attending high school. The team will row after school, Monday through Thursday, Sept. 2006 through May 2007. It will compete against other Bay Area high school crews and at the State championship in Sacramento in May 2007. Our returning rowers are students at McClymonds, Oakland, Oakland Tech, Skyline and Castlemont high schools. (Look for us when you register for classes in Oakland high schools!)

No rowing or swimming experience is necessary. The program includes swimming lessons and transportation from high school to the Aquatic Center. The participation fee is \$135 per semester, and partial grants are available. Many young women find that rowing is the perfect combination of fitness and fun. Rowing builds strength and rewards teamwork, and it can open doors to college and scholarship opportunities. This could be your sport!

—Robert Kidd, Stein, Rudser, Cohen & Magid

## BUSINESS NEWS

### New Businesses Now Open

Opened in May, Désa Arts is an import boutique that sells furniture, textiles, jewelry, personal accessories from Southeast Asia, and a community art gallery that features art exhibitions, special events, workshops, and cultural programs. A display of travel photos, "Portals: A Journey Through the Lens of Hedi B. Desuyo and Donna M. Guenther, M.D." will run Sept. 15 - Nov. 6. In October, "Indian Summer Nights" will feature free music by local musicians in the gallery ev-

ery Friday night from 6 - 8 PM. Visit our website at [www.desaarts.com](http://www.desaarts.com) or call 595-1669 for more information about the gallery, located at 4810 Telegraph Ave.

—Lisa Tana, Owner

Tumble & Tea Café, a full service café, is now open. Our menu features breakfast and lunch items, including paninis, salads, and organic coffee and teas. Indoor and outdoor seating is available. We also have an adjoining play park for children 5 and under. Although we do cater to families, we welcome all members of the community. We are open from 8 AM - 6 PM, M-F, and weekends 9 AM - 4 PM. We also offer full-service birthday parties. We'll be open for extended hours on Temescal Family Night, Sept. 7th, 6 - 8 PM. Visit us at 4210 Telegraph Ave., online at [www.tumbleandtea.com](http://www.tumbleandtea.com), or call 601-7378.

—Susan Older, Owner

At Ruby's Garden you'll find flowers and baby/kids' wear in the heart of Temescal. Our grand opening on Saturday, Sept. 9th, 10 AM - 1 PM, will feature garden crafts for kids (and parents), balloons, and fresh-baked goods from our neighbor, Bakesale Betty. We'll be raffling t-shirts, flowers and other prizes all morning. We're at 4925 Shattuck Ave. at 51st St.—look for our balloons!

—Mae Chan Frey, Co-owner

Inside Outside Fitness (formerly Inside Out), a neighborhood fitness center located at 4444 Piedmont Ave., is currently open for business while being renovated by new owner and Temescal resident Lisa Gartland. In addition to traditional indoor exercise classes (circuit training, yoga, dance, step, spinning and more), she'll be offering innovative outdoor classes combining running and calisthenics. She is also setting up childcare and adding new classes to the fall schedule. Lisa invites her Temescal neighbors to attend any class for free with this article. Call 655-8308 or visit [www.insideoutsidefitness.com](http://www.insideoutsidefitness.com).

—Lisa Gartland, Owner

afterglow, an independent boutique and design studio, opened this past July in Temescal. Located at 4233 Telegraph Ave. (two blocks north of the MacArthur BART station), the store features women's clothing and accessories designed and produced by owner Amy Cools as well as by other independent California designers. Styles incorporate durable and comfortable fabrics such as cotton jersey, woven prints, corduroy and

denim with vintage yardage and details. No sweatshop labor is used in production. The store is open Wed. - Sat., 11 AM - 7 PM and Sun., noon - 6 PM. For more information, call 654-7514 or visit [www.aclothingandbags.com](http://www.aclothingandbags.com).

—Amy Cools, Owner

## Centrada Temescal Gets Planning Commission Approval

Recently the Centrada Temescal project at the southeast corner of 48th and Telegraph was heard before the City's Planning Commission. That hearing was continued because the traffic study hadn't been completed.

When the commission met again on July 12, it heard testimony from numerous neighbors, about half in support and half opposed. After taking all the testimony, the Commission voted 5-0 to approve the project as proposed with 51 residential units plus 5,000 sq. ft. of ground-floor retail space.

One commissioner noted that this project is a "prototype of what we'd like to see on Oakland's transit corridors." Another commissioner said it was the best design to come before them in years.

The commissioners added a condition of approval to ensure that we provide relocation assistance to any occupants of the existing buildings before the buildings are removed. We gladly pledge to do this. We are also trying to arrange to move the existing buildings on the site to other locations in the neighborhood. If you have a location and are interested in one of the buildings, please call Roy Alper at 550-7175.

A group of people has filed an appeal regarding this project. As of this writing, no date has been set for that appeal hearing.

—Roy Alper, Developer

## New Temescal Residential Project Proposed

Several residential and mixed-use development projects have been proposed in the last year in the Temescal District. In 2004, twenty-five units known as "Temescal Place," at 48th and Telegraph, were completed and sold out immediately. It took some time for the owners to identify the ground-floor retail tenant they wanted, but now there is "17 Jewels" at 4801 Telegraph, owned by Julie Stevens.

Local developers Roy Alper, Ron Kriss and Patrick Zimski, who all live in the Temescal/Rockridge area, have submitted an applica-

# Temescal Calendar

**Friday, Sept. 8, 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.

**Sunday, Sept. 10, 2 PM.** JLAC Open House. Jack London Aquatic Center, 115 Embarcadero, Oakland. 208-6060.

**Wednesday, Sept. 13, 6 PM.** Temescal Merchants Association monthly meeting. All are welcome. Temescal Library, 5205 Telegraph. 653-7196.

**Thursday, Sept. 14, 7 PM.** Temescal Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) Steering Committee meeting. Everyone welcome. Faith Presbyterian Church, 49th and Webster. 420-6974.

**Saturday, Sept. 16, 10 AM.** Temescal Design Workshop, a planning meeting to determine future development in Temescal. Faith Presbyterian Church, 49th St. and Webster. 238-7001.

**Saturday, Sept. 16, 9 AM.** Temescal Creek Cleanup. Meet at Cavour and Redondo across from the DMV parking lot. 655-1767.

**Saturday, Sept. 16, 10 AM.** Help monitor water quality in Temescal Creek. Lake Temescal inlet near the Broadway Terrace park entrance. 459-3967 or temcrk@mountaincurrent.net.

**Wednesday, Sept. 20, 7 PM.** Join us at Sagra for an evening of Breema: The Art of Being Present. Learn how to nurture your body, mind, and heart via Breema bodywork and the Nine Principles of Harmony. 4926 Telegraph. 653-7196.

**Thursday, Sept. 21, 7 PM.** Community meeting to present the design and development proposal for a new building at 48th and Shattuck. Faith Presbyterian Church, 49th and Webster.

**Wednesday, Oct. 11, 6 PM.** Temescal Merchants Association monthly meeting. All are welcome. Temescal Library, 5205 Telegraph. 653-7196.

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**Saturday, Oct. 21, 10 AM.** Help monitor water quality in Temescal Creek. Lake Temescal inlet near the Broadway Terrace park entrance. 459-3967 or temcrk@mountaincurrent.net.

**Saturday, Oct 28, 11 AM.** Join local artist Sarah Klein in baking bread for *The Bread Project*. Temescal Amity Works, 428D 49th St. 517-4149.

**Saturday, Oct. 28, 5:30 PM.** Studio One Potluck Pumpkin Candle Light Supper. Studio One, 1428 Alice St, Oakland. 597-5027.

**Save the Dates: Nov. 4 and 11, 9 AM.** Planting days for the 40th St. median. Contact Rick Mead, 652-7795 for more information.

tion for development review of a 44-unit project at the corner of 48th and Shattuck. This project will be solely residential, no retail. The developers and their architectural team, KDA Architecture of Berkeley, will present their design and development proposal for this project at a community meeting scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 21, 7 - 8:30 PM, at Faith Presbyterian Church, 49th and Telegraph.

Put on your thinking caps and come give your ideas and comments to the developers and architects. The style is modern/contemporary and ought to provide plenty of grist for the mill. We hope to see you then.

—Bill Lambert, Shasta Production Services

## Temescal Public Improvements

Many people have been working hard to obtain funding for local public improvements that we will all share and enjoy. The following projects were recently secured by community members through the City of Oakland Redevelopment Agency's Neighborhood Projects Initiative Program:

- \$8,000 for a mural on the Ella Baker Center on 40th St. (Ella Baker Center)
- \$24,400 for the Telegraph Gateway Beautification Project to be installed between 40th and 42nd St. (Temescal Telegraph B.I.D.)
- \$19,100 to fund plantings in the 40th St. median (Rick Mead on behalf of local community members)
- \$30,000 to establish a teen center at Mosswood Park in the building next to the horseshoe area (Oakland Parks and Recreation Department)
- \$24,000 to build a dog run in Mosswood Park (Seth Katz, on behalf of local community members)
- \$13,000 to plant trees in the deficient areas on Telegraph between Hwy 580 and

40th St. (Mosswood Neighborhood Association)

— Councilmember Brunner arranged the planting of 44 new trees along Telegraph Ave. in deficient areas.

Also, the City's Redevelopment Agency recently obtained \$1.7 million in federal and regional grant funds to improve pedestrian and bicycle access to the MacArthur BART Station along 40th St. between Telegraph Ave. and Martin Luther King Jr. Way. This doesn't include the current \$10+ million dollar retrofit of Studio One.

In addition to these grants and improvements, the developers of the former "Pussycat" site at 51st and Telegraph will also be installing three public improvements in their development, known as "CiviQ", in response to community concerns about the project. One will be an extension of the pathway following Temescal Creek, which currently ends at Redondo and Clarke, so that FROG Park will connect through the CiviQ project to 51st St. This will be a dedicated public walkway. The project will also have an open plaza at 51st St., and the entire block will be upgraded with lighting and landscaping. Finally, pedestrian safety around the entire project will be upgraded according to a study to be undertaken in the coming months by the City and Councilmember Brunner's office.

The City has also submitted a \$2.9 million grant application to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission for additional public amenities along Telegraph Ave. The local Business Improvement District has pledged a contribution as part of matching funds for that grant. Funding decisions should be made by early September.

—Darlene Rios Drapkin, Exec. Dir., Temescal Telegraph BID (Business Improvement District)

*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 469 Rich St., Oakland, CA 94609. —Thank You!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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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.