

PANIL Notes

Volume 32 Piedmont Avenue Neighborhood Improvement League - PO Box 20375, Oakland 94620 October 2007

ASKED ON THE AVENUE

What Have You Done to Prepare for the Next Big One?



Marda Woodbury, Monte Cresta Ave.
I have the supplies I need in my apartment, but I haven't put them together in a kit. I did hang a whistle on my bedpost, so if there's an earthquake at night I can whistle for help rather than attempt to shout.



Doug Johnson, Cerrito Ave.
We are lucky to live in pretty new housing, so we hope we're up to code. We have 12 gallons of water and canned food in storage, and we have a meet-up and phone-call plan. Our kits aren't as organized as they need to be. I tend to rely on getting access to our camping gear, which is a mistake.



Rita Kresha, Glen Eden Ave.
We bought our house in 1994 and joined a well-organized CORE group (part of the Oakland Fire Department). We have a directory listing 35 houses on the block. In 2005 we purchased equipment and storage for community tools. Each resident is responsible for food and water and for keeping up with annual CORE training.



Kate Spohr and Terry Bottomley, 41st St.
We've had our house seismically retrofitted by a specialist. We've also established an out-of-state emergency number. Each family member carries the number at all times. We have a large, water-tight emergency supply container behind our house with batteries, flashlights, thermal blankets, extra clothing, radio, water, food, candles, matches and important financial papers.

Photos by
Joyce Benna

Continued on page 6

CHANGES COMING IN 2011

Safeway Wants Longs' Space at Rockridge

By Valerie Winemiller

More than 60 neighbors attended a community meeting at the Claremont House on Sept. 11, to comment on Safeway's plans for redevelopment of the Rockridge Shopping Center (Broadway and Pleasant Valley). Todd Paradis, of Safeway's real estate division, announced that Safeway intends to take over the Longs Drugs space when Longs' lease runs out in 2011, and remodel it to suit their needs. Safeway wants the store's more convenient customer parking arrangement and wants to enlarge inventory, including offering more organic produce.

Many audience members took turns at the microphone to urge Safeway to keep Longs at the shopping center; a show of hands revealed near-unanimous agreement with that plea. There was also agreement that the parking lot is unattractive and unfriendly to pedestrians, bicyclists and shoppers who come by bus. Several speakers urged a complete rebuilding of the center to make the layout relate

Continued on page 2

☺ Halloween Comes to Piedmont Avenue Saturday, Oct. 27

See page 5 for parade schedule and list of activities.

October PANIL Meeting
Wednesday, Oct. 10, 7:30 p.m.

"What Happens to Your 911 Call?"

Regina Harris,
Police Communications Supervisor

Piedmont Gardens,
110 41st Street
11th Floor Sky Room

**Piedmont Avenue
Neighborhood
Improvement League
PO Box 20375
Oakland CA 94620
www.panil.org**

PANIL Notes is the monthly publication of the Piedmont Avenue Neighborhood Improvement League (PANIL). Writing, editing and layout are all done by volunteers. Articles may be reprinted only with the permission of the editors. Circulation: 2,000 copies

**Steering Committee
and Working Groups**

Advertising/Library/Media
Joan Dark
338-1316
jdark@pacunion.com

**Beat 9X NCPC Co-
Chair/PANIL Distribution**
Margitta Gardner
652-6609
migbrynas@aol.com

**Beat 9X NCPC Co-Chair/
Finance and Membership**
Bill Manley
658-2419
bmanleynow@yahoo.com

Senior Liaison
Moira Nichols
652.-192

Zoning/Building
Valerie Winemiller
653-4552
vwinemiller@hotmail.com

PAMA
Ann Kraynak
428-2698
piedmontsys@sbcglobal.net

City Government
District 1 Councilmember
Jane Brunner
238-7001
jbrunner@oaklandnet.com

District 1 School Director
Kerry Hamill
879-8653
kerry.hamill@ousd.k12.ca.us

Oakland Police Dept
Lt. Jim Meeks
238-7147
jmeeks@oaklandnet.com

NSC Paul Brekke-Miesner
Neighborhood Services Coordinator
238-3102
pbrekke-miesner@oaklandnet.com

PSO Melvin Bermudez
Problem Solving Officer
773-6947
mebermudez@oaklandnet.com

Safeway Wants Longs' Space at Rockridge

Continued from page 1

better to the urban fabric and to include housing above the stores. Safeway's lease establishes Safeway as the master planner for the shopping center, but does not allow housing or multi-story structures, Paradis stated. He did not commit to advocating for those ideas with the property owner and pointed to cost feasibility on site plan changes.

Safeway will now select an architect and begin preliminary drawings; no date was set for follow-up community meetings. Formal public hearings will be announced during the city permit application process. It is likely that the city would require at least a limited Environmental Impact Study, focused on traffic and pedestrian access issues.

PANIL and the Rockridge Community Planning Council co-sponsored the meeting.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Public Meeting Monday, Oct. 22
Design Review for Kaiser Hospital Replacement
7 p.m., Mosswood Park Recreation Center

L I F E M A R K G R O U P TM

Chapel of the Chimes

O A K L A N D

"Every Life
Leaves Its Mark"

510.654.0123
4499 Piedmont Avenue,
Oakland, CA
www.lifemarkgroup.com
FD# 1254

COMPLETE END-OF-LIFE PLANNING, SERVICES, SUPPORT

COMING IN JANUARY
Best of the Avenue

In the January issue of PANIL Notes, ShopGirl will introduce Best of the Avenue, an appreciative hat-tip to the great stores and services in our neighborhood. She'd like to hear your nominations in any category you propose: most kid-friendly, most historic, most colorful, best alternative to a mall store, and so on. (Be creative!)

Send submissions to
shopgirl@panil.org
Deadline: Nov. 10.

Energize yourself at your friendly, independent, neighborhood gym!

**INSIDE
OUTSIDE
FITNESS**

Check out our new Fall classes -
NIA, Pilates, Cardio Jazz!

**This is not your typical gym.
We're better!**

Pay-as-you-go memberships.
Light, airy space with artwork.
Over 45 great classes a week.
Motivating instructors & trainers.
(Shhhh... Piedmont Ave's
best kept secret...)

Group Classes, Personal Training, Childcare

4444 PIEDMONT AVE, OAKLAND (510) 655-8308 WWW.INSIDEOUTSIDEFITNESS.COM

Halloween Treats

by ShopGirl

Pumpkins and costumes and masks—oh my! Here's where to find what you need for the Piedmont Avenue parade Oct. 27—and for Halloween four days later.

The easiest costume of all is a Superman or tuxedo T-shirt from **Greetings** (kids' and adults' sizes, \$14.95 to \$16.95)—and you can wear it all year round! Accessorize your look with a sparkly, scary temporary tattoo (\$2.95/package) or a set of reflective devil horns (\$3.95). Store manager **Chad Sitzman** says the store is stocking lots of Halloween cards, stickers and wind-up toys with a Halloween theme, as well as festive goody bags for party guests (\$2.95 for 16 bags).

Bring the kids in costume to **Crackerjacks** before noon on Saturday, Oct. 27, and portrait photographer **Amy Perl** will take their pictures for free! Later, you'll be able to order color prints for \$5 to \$20. Elsewhere in Crackerjacks you'll find new and recycled clothing, including costumes, in sizes 0 through 8 and maternity. For Halloween, you'll find brand-new butterfly wings made with real feathers (\$20); on a recent visit, a gently used two-piece chimp suit, size 2T, was \$22.

"Shop early!" is the advice of store manager **Carol** ("I never use my last name") at **Teddie's Party Store**. A one-stop resource for holiday accessories and tableware, Teddie's often sells out of the most popular items early in the month. The store isn't carrying costumes this year, but you can create your own using a classic black mask, a witch's hat or a very detailed Medusa headpiece (\$30). For the office: Halloween-themed silk neckties and a light-up necklace of jack o' lanterns (\$6.99). And, says Carol, Teddie's can satisfy "all your fake-blood needs—by the pint, the tube or the capsule." During October, take 25% off the price of orange and black paper products (plates, napkins, cups).

Count on **Nathan Waldon**, owner of **Nathan + Co.**, to offer offbeat Halloween gifts and décor like a skull- and-crossbones indoor/outdoor doormat designed by Swiss-born designer Thomas

Buchheim (\$22) and felt garlands with skulls and bats (\$9). For an easy costume, pick up a book of 15 punch-out animal face masks (\$12.95). And if boos turn into boo-boos, cover them with decorative and functional Halloween-themed bandages (package of 30 for \$5).

Noella Teele and **Joe Colley**, the owners of **Issues**, are teaming up with Sebastopol-based MAKE Magazine (sponsor of Maker Faire) to showcase some nifty, crafty, kid-friendly projects. Visit the store on Oct. 27—the day of the avenue's Halloween parade—to get inspired by stencil-carved pumpkins and to sample ghoulish snacks like Graveyard Cake and Sweet Bleeding Heart. Pick up a free raffle ticket to win a copy of MAKE or Craft magazine (drawing at 2 p.m. Oct. 27). And buy your own copy of MAKE magazine's special Halloween issue (\$9.99), with full-color instructions for creating 42 projects.

For the third consecutive year, **J. Miller Flowers** is hosting a pumpkin patch behind the store. It's the place to choose from among 15 varieties of pumpkins and gourds (\$1 to \$50), as well as Indian corn, carving kits, stencils and harvest wreaths. Owners **Robbin Lee** and **Jon Goldstein** have also stocked plenty of decorations, from small witches (about \$3) to an elaborate inflatable haunted house (\$300). And speaking of spooking, don't miss the free, kid-friendly, just-scary-enough haunted house. Pumpkin patch hours are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily.

Where to Find Halloween Treats

Greetings

4152 Piedmont Ave., 547-2555

Crackerjacks

14 Glen Ave., 654-8844
(for Amy Perl Photography: amyperl.com)

Teddie's Party Store

4009 Piedmont Ave., 547-4149

Nathan + Co.

3820 Piedmont Ave., 428-9638

Issues

20 Glen Ave., 652-5700
issueshop.com

J. Miller Flowers

4416 Piedmont Ave., 658-0613

Calendar

(for more neighborhood events go to www.panil.org/calendar)

PANIL Meeting

2nd Wednesday of the month
7:30 to 9 p.m.
Piedmont Gardens
110 41st Street

PANIL Steering Committee
email contact@panil.org for time, date and place of monthly meeting

Glen Echo Creek Work Day

2nd Saturday of the month
Monte Vista Avenue, 9:30 a.m.
654-1930

Mt. View Cemetery Tour

Docent led tour
2nd Saturday of the month
10 a.m., FREE

Events at the Chapel of the Chimes

4499 Piedmont Avenue
654-0123

Historical and Botanical Tour

3rd Saturday of the month
10 a.m. to noon, FREE

Jazz at the Chimes

3rd Sunday of the month
\$20/children under 12 FREE
2 to 4 p.m.

Oakland Heritage Alliance Lecture Series

2nd Thursday of the month
7:30 p.m.
\$8 OHA members/\$10 non-members/\$5 low income
For more information contact:
www.oaklandheritage.org,
763-9218

Piedmont Avenue Branch Library

160 41st Street, 597-5011

Storytimes

Toddlers
Wednesday, 10:15 a.m.
Pre school
Wednesday, 11 a.m.

Saturday Knitting Club

Every Saturday 3 to 4 p.m.

To place an item on PANIL's calendars, send e-mail to: contact@panil.org

Margitta Gardner Named a Community Hero

Whereas, the City of Oakland's First City Council District -- North Oakland -- is home to the more than 57,000 people who live in the area bordered by the City of Berkeley, the 580 freeway, the City of Emeryville and the county line in the Oakland hills, and

Whereas, Due to the energy, intelligence and persistence of its residents, North Oakland has by far the highest concentration of active community and neighborhood organizations in the City, and

Whereas, In each of North Oakland's many neighborhoods are specific individuals who go above and beyond in their efforts to improve their communities, organize their neighbors, keep their political leaders accountable, and make Oakland a better place for all of us to live, work and play, and

Whereas, it has become customary at the annual North Oakland Summer Picnic to celebrate individuals worthy of recognition for their activism, and

Whereas, Margitta Gardner is one of these individuals. Since moving into the Piedmont Avenue neighborhood more than 20 years ago, Margitta has done everything: she's currently on the PANIL Steering Committee, Co-Chair of the Beat 9X Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council, a Friend of the Piedmont Avenue Library, and the Distribution Chair for the PANIL Notes newsletter. She has volunteered for Piedmont Avenue's Tulip and Art Festivals and has served as Ramona Avenue's Block Captain. She's completed the Citizens' Police Academy and all three levels of CORE training. Even one of these accomplishments would make an activist, but Margitta has done them all.



Therefore be it resolved, that Jane Brunner, Councilmember for District 1, on the occasion of the 2007 North Oakland Summer Picnic, hereby recognizes Margitta Gardner for her vision, passion, and commitment, and joins her community in conveying heartfelt appreciation for her work. She is a true "Community Hero."

How Does This Newsletter Get to Your Doorstep?



Have you met the good neighbor who delivers this newsletter to you?

Victoria Shoemaker delivers PANIL NOTES to her neighbors on **Rose Avenue.**



monart
School of the Arts
Fine Arts Classes for Children, Teens and Adults
Mon - Fri, 9:00am - 12:30pm
Spring Art Camp: April 9-13
Summer Art Camps: Jun 18-Aug 24
1918 Encinal Ave., Alameda
5427 Telegraph Ave., Oakland

Vacation Art Camps for ages 6-12

daily drawing lessons
weekly themes • various media
complex projects • whimsical crafts
age appropriate educational instruction

Call 521-DRAW (3729)
or visit our websites at
alameda.monart.com/camps
oakland.monart.com/camps

Halloween Comes to Piedmont Avenue Saturday, Oct. 27

— Parade and Dozens of Free Activities

Start the day with classic cartoons Piedmont Cinema:
9:45 to 10:45 a.m.

PARADE

Meet at the Blockbuster parking lot (Montell and Piedmont Ave.) at 11 a.m.

TRICK OR TREAT at all "Candy Station" merchants:
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Music:

11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Ted Czuk with Jazz du Jour at Key Route Plaza

10:30 a. m. to 1 p.m.

Tara Linda and Somba de Luna at L'Amyx Tea Bar

Piedmont Avenue School:

Noon to 2 p.m.

PTA sponsored carnival on the front lawn

Fire engine

"Talking" police car

Piedmont Avenue Branch Library:

Noon to 1 p.m.

Gross "Touch Table of Delights" at Key Route Plaza

1 to 2 p.m.

"Not So Scary" storytime and "Creepy Craft" program (ages 3 to 6)

Mt. View Cemetery:

Noon to 3 p.m.

Mt. View Pumpkin Patch (free food and games for the whole family)

Chapel of the Chimes:

2 to 4 p.m.

Feast of the Angelitos

6 to 8 p.m.

Dias de los Muertos procession

All events are free! 😊



pilates five eighty

170 Santa Clara Ave
Oakland, Ca 94610

510.868.8122
www.pilates580.com
pilates580@att.net



WOODEN WINDOW INC.

Restore your vintage home's windows and doors to their original beauty

The Bay Area's premier window preservation & restoration company, providing custom fabrication & installation for over 25 years

Lic 640153

510 893 1157 Call us or send us digital pictures for a quote on a project of your own

www.woodenwindow.com

RABBI COLETTE SIDI-SCHOULAL Psy.D.

Non-Denominational Pastoral Counseling
Bereavement, Grief, Life & Death Issues
Individual, Couple
Gay & Lesbian

Sliding Scale -- 510.459.6698 for appointments



PERSONALIZED SERVICE
Open 7 Days
Mon-Sat 9 am-8 pm
Sun 9 am-7 pm
Credit Cards & ATMs Accepted
FREE PARKING IN REAR

COMPLETE LINE OF
U.S.D.A. CHOICE MEATS
GOURMET PRODUCE
WINES & SPIRITS
GROCERIES-GOURMET FOODS

4038 PIEDMONT AVENUE
510.653.8181

Representing Buyers and Sellers in Oakland, Piedmont, Berkeley

Pacific Union GMAC Real Estate Services



1900 Mountain Boulevard
510-338-1316
jdark@pacunion.com

Joan Dark
"The Neighborhood Realtor"
Proud supporter of Piedmont Avenue School

Piedmont Avenue Neighborhood Improvement League

P.O. Box 20375

Oakland, CA 94620



PANIL Notes October 2007. PANIL Notes is printed on recycled paper by **Piedmont Copy** 4237 Piedmont Avenue, Oakland, CA 655.3030

ASKED ON THE AVENUE

What Have You Done to Prepare for the Next Big One? (continued)



Lorri Rosenberg Arazi, Croxton Ave.

In addition to a seismic retrofit, I had a gas shut-off valve installed on my home and on a duplex I own in the Glenview neighborhood. The valve will shut off all gas if an earthquake causes a break in the line. The valve costs about \$500, including installation, and can be installed by any licensed plumber.

Count Me In

I want to support PANIL's work to keep the neighborhood informed and make our voices heard.

I want to be a member!

I'm using the envelope enclosed with this issue to send my check for \$ _____ (minimum of \$15)

Name _____

Address _____

E-mail address _____

Mail to PANIL, PO Box 20375
Oakland, CA 94620

Gas Shutoff Devices

For information about gas shutoff devices, their benefits and drawbacks, see the website of California's Division of the State Architect, Dept. of General Services:

www.documents.dgs.ca.gov/DSA/gas_shutoff/



Manual Shutoff Valve, effective only if someone is present to close the valve, is installed by the utility company.

Earthquake Sensitive Automatic Shutoff Valve installed by owner senses shaking above a certain level and automatically shuts off gas.

Excess Flow Automatic Gas Shutoff Valve installed by owner senses gas flows above trigger flow rate and restricts gas flow downstream.

Photo from www.pge.com/safety.



Caldecott
PROPERTIES

WE'D LOVE TO HELP YOU BUY OR SELL YOUR HOME!
5251 Broadway, Oakland, CA 94618 • 510.594.2400

Caldecott.com