

North & East Newsletter

July 2006

Newsletter of the North & East Neighborhood Council

P.O. Box 254, Richmond, CA 94808 (510) 237-5670 www.northandeast.org

Dear Neighbor,

We are once again looking for a Treasurer for the N & E Neighborhood Council. But I have a new plan: split the job into two parts!

Martha White has agreed to be the "outside" Treasurer -- to do the banking and be the point person for residents sending in their dues (see the coupon on the back page). Martha has recently taken on a full-time job so this works for her.

The other part of the job is keeping track. So we are looking for someone who is happy to work on the computer, keeping track of the checks Martha deposits and making a monthly report for the council. We're not into high finance and we don't have all that many transactions each month, so once you've set up a system to keep track, it will not be a time-consuming task.

Please call me to talk about it if you are at all willing and able.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

National Night Out is the night we take back the City from crime. Everyone is encouraged to turn on the porch light and come out. Neighbors are invited to hold block parties and City officials will caravan to the various sites.

National Night Out is always the first Tuesday of August, this year on August 1st. The Kick-off is a party at Civic Center Plaza, and the caravan leaves at 6:30 p.m. to visit block parties all around Richmond, ending at the End Party. On the Caravan are Police Officers, Police Cadets and Explorers, members of the Police Commission and often, City Council Members and the Mayor.

Richmond has participated for many years and has entered the competition for which we have won awards several times.

If you are interested in being visited, or even in hosting the End Party, call our representative to the Crime Prevention Program, Alva Foreman, at (510) 234- 7862 or Chair Marie Ries at (510) 236-4052.

I look forward to seeing you at a meeting or hearing from you soon.

Sandi Genser-Maack
President
(510) 237-5670
northandeast@comcast.net

NORTH & EAST GARAGE SALE WEEKEND COMING

- Labor Day Weekend
 - Friday, Sept. 1 to Monday, Sept. 4
- Addresses will be listed in the September issue, which goes to all homes in the N & E.
- See page 5 for 9 Tips for a successful sale.

N & E GARAGE SALE WEEKEND -- BE ON THE LIST!

This Labor Day weekend -- Friday, Sept. 1 through Monday, Sept. 4 -- is the all North & East Garage Sale.

We will publish the list of Garage Sale locations in our September newsletter, which goes to all 5,000 households in the N & E.

So it is time to start making plans, looking around for treasures to get rid of (one man's junk...) and to let us know.

The cost of being on the list is \$5. Send the fee, your address, the days you will be "open" and a brief description of the stuff you'll be selling (i.e. baby furniture; records and books, computer equipment; antiques, etc.) in 10 words or less, to:

N&E
P.O. Box 254
Richmond, CA 94808

Make sure we receive it by July 20 as we produce the Sept. newsletter then.

N & E Calendar

Thurs., July 20 -- N&E Meeting, Senior Center, 7 p.m.,
Sat., July 21 -- Good Neighbors Delivery Day, 10:30 a.m.,
950 32nd St., (510) 235 -5696.
Mon., July 24 -- Planning & Zoning Committee, 7 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: THURS., JULY 20, 7 P.M., AT THE SENIOR CENTER

NEW WAYS TO CONTACT POLICE

Besides the 911 Emergency line and Richmond Police Department's non-emergency number -- 233-1214 -- the city has created email for its officers and each officer now also has voice mail.

If you have a law-enforcement related issue that isn't an emergency and want to discuss it with our "beat" cop, Joseph DeOrion, you can leave a message for him at jdeorian@richmondpd.net or call 621-1212 extension 7068. Area Commander Anthony Williams can be reached at 620-6990 or by email at awilliams@richmondpd.net.

Police Officers usually work a 4-day week, so they might not get back to you immediately, but they have assured us that they will respond.

COLLISION HOT SPOTS IN NORTH & EAST

It was a good news/bad news presentation by Nancy Baer, Manager of Contra Costa Health Services' Injury Prevention Program. The bad news was that three of the five priority hot spots identified as part of a new Pedestrian Safety Program (PEDS) are in our neighborhood. The good news is that the PEDS program, a joint venture between Baer's program and the City of Richmond, aims to improve safety in those areas through increased enforcement of traffic laws, improved engineering of signs and other devices and community education.

In the coming months we hope to participate in the project, which will continue the efforts begun through the Street Smarts program. That project was responsible for the posters and signs with catchy messages like "Want to Meet a Cop? Drive Fast" and "Slow Down for Kids."

WANT TO ADVERTISE YOUR SERVICES?

Our Good Neighbors program is looking for freebies to include in the baskets volunteers deliver to new homeowners in the neighborhood.

Every month, teams of neighbors spearheaded by Chair Ronnie Marty take goody baskets out to welcome those who have just bought new homes in the North & East. It's a great way for the newcomers to learn about services available in the community and a wonderful way for local business owners to get the word out.

To donate anything from pens to calendars, business cards and other promotional items, contact Ronnie at (510) 235-5696.

ACLU OFFERS LOCAL PROGRAM

Don't miss the conclusion of the American Civil Liberties Union East Bay Chapter movie nights at the Madeline Whittlesey Room at the Library.

On Tuesday, August 8, at 7 p.m., the film will be about dissent. The speaker will be long-time civil rights attorney Jim Chanin. For more information, call 233-3316.

WEST NILE VIRUS A THREAT

Health officials are predicting this could be a bad year in Northern California for West Nile Virus, a disease spread by mosquitoes. The best way to protect against the disease, which can cause death and serious illness, is to use insect repellent with the ingredient DEET when outside, put screens on windows and doors and dump and drain standing water where mosquitoes breed.

For more information, call Contra Costa Health Services Health Emergency Information hotline at 888-959-9911.

RICHMOND'S WWII HISTORIC SITES MAKE A GOOD TOUR

Richmond's Rosie the Riveter World War II Home Front National Historical Park recently conducted a bus tour for residents of the city's World War II era sites. Among the sites: the Mexican Baptist Church near Atchison Village housing, where once Mexican-American farmers grazed their livestock in open fields. The village was built as housing for Kaiser shipyard workers who flocked to Richmond during the war years.

The Winters Building on Macdonald Avenue at 11th Street was a dance hall and air raid shelter during the war -- it now houses the East Bay Center for the Performing Arts. The Galileo Club on South 23rd Street was an Italian social club for what was Richmond's largest single ethnic group before World War II. In the Pullman District, the group saw the still-standing, New Orleans-style hotel where Pullman porters stayed between runs as well as buildings where Pullman passenger cars were repaired and restored.

Park Florist on Macdonald was once owned by a Japanese family, which was forced to sell the business when they were relocated to an internment camp; and the Kaiser Field Hospital was one of the first structures shipbuilding magnate Henry J. Kaiser used as part of his health care system for his shipyard workers, a system that eventually grew into Kaiser Permanente.

Rosie the Riveter National Park community liaison Betty Reid Soskin designed the tours, which have been funded by a grant from PG&E, and officials are hoping to make additional tours available to more residents.

You can pick up a driving map of the sites associated with the Rosie National Park at the temporary Visitors Center in the temporary City Hall at 1401 Marina Way South or at the Richmond Convention & Visitors Bureau, 3925 Macdonald Avenue.

NEW NEIGHBORS -- WHERE DO THEY COME FROM?

The North & East Good Neighbors welcome new homeowners to the N&E every month. But where do they move from?

The Good Neighbor program has the answer because this is one of the questions we ask as we deliver our decorated baskets filled with information about Richmond. A good majority of new homeowners are actually people who were renting in the N&E area and they liked it so much that they chose to buy a home here. Not surprising! The N&E area is the best place to live in Richmond.

The Good Neighbor delivery of baskets in June was great, as 11 new homeowners out of 14 were home to receive their baskets. This was a special treat as Patricia Gangwer (who can only help out in the summer, and we are very glad to have her back) brought gift beauty packs from VP'S Beauty Salon in the N&E area on San Pablo Ave. to put in the baskets.

We are in great need of freebies for the baskets. I asked Patricia how she was able to obtain such wonderful items and her response was that she asked the owner if she wanted to do some FREE advertising!

This is the same way that Renate Siman was able to get her dentist to donate tooth brushes with a brochure advertising his business.

WE NEED FREEBIES for the baskets, so let's all use our imagination on whom we can offer free advertising. A business card offering a percentage discount is a good way; maybe you can think of other ideas.

The next Good Neighbor delivery will be on Saturday, July 22nd., at 10:30 a.m., and it only takes an hour. Please plan to come help welcome our new neighbors.

For more information, or to donate, please call Ronnie Marty at (510) 235-5696.

NORTH & EAST PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE REPORT -- JUNE 26, 2006

The Committee convened at 7:08 p.m. with members Sandi Genser-Maack, Dolores Hembree, Martha Seymour and Jerry Rasmussen (Acting Chair) present.

1. Jack up existing dwelling to add ground floor garage/workshop at 759 Wilson Avenue — conditionally approved.

Mike Stanley presented his proposal to double the enclosed house area, to accommodate his hobby — restoring his own old automobiles. New front and rear stairs would be added outside the present footprint. The one-car detached garage at the rear, northeast corner of the lot, and its driveway would remain. The 12' height of the addition would allow the use of a hoist.

The Committee voiced concern that this added height might be out of scale and character with surrounding houses. Also noted was the reduced area of already minimal Interior Yard Space on the 37.5' wide lot. Otherwise the proposal materials, finishes and details appeared to be acceptable.

The Committee voted 4 - 0 to approve the project subject to conditions that:

a. Variances shall be obtained, if necessary, for expanding non-conformities or for reducing standards such as yard areas or setbacks.

b. One or more street trees shall be installed and maintained in accordance with City standards.

2. CUP to operate day care/Montessori pre-school at 2856 Garvin Avenue — conditionally approved.

LaRhonda Martin described her proposal to operate a facility for up to 50 kids, from 6:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. It would be used eve-

nings and weekends for occasional small meetings, with no one residing on site. Though by State standards the 2650 sq. ft. four-bedroom, two-bath dwelling would allow 50 students, she said she planned to employ five teachers with a seven-student-per-teacher ratio.

The Committee voiced reservations about the impacts of a facility this size in the center of the neighborhood. Parking for staff, pick-up and drop-off on a busy, through collector street were cited. Ms. Martin suggested how these potential problems could be addressed. It was noted that even a very modest size front yard sign could require a variance.

The Committee voted 3 - 1 (Hembree no, due to size) to recommend approval subject to conditions that:

a. The school operator shall establish and enforce rules and procedures to minimize impacts of staff parking and of parents' pick-up and drop-off.

b. A Variance shall be obtained for any over-size signage.

c. The applicant shall install and maintain one or more street trees in accordance with City standards.

3. Re-install steeple on church at SW corner of 37th Street and Roosevelt Ave. — project not ready. Will re-schedule at a later date.

The following were set for the agenda but no representative appeared, so the Committee deferred them pending further contact with the applicants. #5 has since asked to appear on the July 24th agenda.

4. Erect fence taller than 3.5 ft. at front property line of four-plex at 23xx Maricopa Avenue.

5. Add second floor to single-family dwelling at 316 45th Street.

The Committee adjourned at 8:35 p.m. to reconvene on July 24.

RICHMOND ART CENTER SUMMER EXHIBITIONS

OPEN

Exhibition Dates: **June 27- August 13**

Gallery Hours (during exhibitions):
Tuesday - Saturday, 12 - 5 p.m.

Main Gallery **Microcosm** Group exhibition of artists who take inspiration from the patterns of the natural world, featuring Sydney Buffman, Reed Danziger, Alison Foshee, Benicia Gantner, Dee Hibbert-Jones, Seth Koen, Seth Minor, Sean Olson, Mel Prest, Nomi Talisman, Victoria Wagner, Alexis Weidig, Renee Whitworth.

South Gallery **The 8th International Juried Enamel Exhibition** See the most contemporary and innovative enamel art being created nationally and internationally. Offered in association with Northern California Enamel Guild.

West Gallery **James Gouldthorpe: Cast-offs** Using materials from a three-month residency at the San Francisco Dump, Gouldthorpe acts like an archaeologist and explores avenues into our cultural trash heap, sifting through layers of history.

Community Gallery **4 Ways: Art from the Emerging Teen Artists Program** Work created by high school students with artistic promise who worked with professional artists for the last academic school year. The show includes screen prints, sculpture, and drawings that the students curated themselves.

FOR A FULL CLASS SCHEDULE, VISIT
OUR WEBSITE

WWW.THERICHMONDARTCENTER.ORG

OR CALL 510.620.6772.

SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS:

Teapot Intensive Learn about the teapot from start to finish with Dianne Jerome
August 1, 8 & 15

Square Printing Take your quilts and sewing projects to new levels with basic screen printing techniques *August 5, 12 & 19*

Melon Basket making with Kathleen Hubbard *July 29*

Check out our selection of knitting classes for all levels!



James Gouldthorpe, *Linemen Series: Bob on Telephone Line between Peanut and Hayfork*, 2006, ink, 65 x 76"

YOUTH ORGANIZATION DOES GOOD

San Francisco Chronicle columnist Jon Carroll recently wrote a piece about an East Bay hero and her organization that helps kids. Berkeley real estate agent Diane Mintz was working as a tutor at Coronado Elementary School when she realized that most of her students had never been out of Richmond; that they needed field trips to see more of the world.

In 1999, she raised enough money to send 10 kids from Coronado School on field trips; the next year, she raised enough money to send 81 kids to summer camp. This year, 400 kids will go to camp thanks to Mintz's group. According to Carroll, studies say summer camp can have a big impact preventing students from losing ground during the summer. They also get to have a safe place to have fun.

Mintz formed a nonprofit organization called YES - Youth Enrichment Strategies. They send kids to established summer camps. To get families involved, Mintz also created a family camp program. In two years, 800 people have participated.

Contributions to YES can be sent to 1577 Solano Ave., Berkeley, CA 94707.

RICHMOND BAY TRAIL UPDATE

Check out TRAC's cool, new Richmond Bay Trail web site at www.pointrichmond.com/baytrail/ where you will find user-friendly information, maps and links to help you explore and enjoy the recreational, natural and cultural treasures to be found along Richmond's shoreline.

A major focus is "Closing The Gaps," which highlights plans and challenges for closing the 17 miles of gaps remaining in Richmond's Bay Trail. To find out how you can help close these gaps, click on "What You Can Do Now".

HIKE THE SAN PABLO PENINSULA BAY TRAIL

Be among the first to hike four miles of the planned Bay Trail route on the Point San Pablo Peninsula. Sponsored by Muir Heritage Land Trust, Bruce Beyaert of TRAC will lead a hike on Saturday, July 22, from 9 a.m. to noon, along little-known shorelines on both sides of Point San Pablo, which is the scenic, geographic dividing point between San Francisco and San Pablo Bays.

You'll learn about the challenges of implementing the San Pablo Peninsula Open Space Study managed by the Land Trust and about the Peninsula's rich cultural history including Chinese shrimping camps, the last whaling station operating in the U.S. and the largest winery in the nation before Prohibition.

Please call the Land Trust office at (925) 228-5460 to reserve your space and obtain directions.

Darrell Hoh will return with
the Real Estate market
update next month.

KAISER HEAL COMMUNITY SECTOR

Dear Neighborhood and Community Leaders,

The West Contra Costa County Health Improvement Network was successful in achieving the first level of support from the Kaiser Health Eating Active Living (HEAL) initiative a few months ago. We're entering the six-month planning phase for each of the four sectors the grant addresses. Our sector – Neighborhood/Community – will meet several times and work together to come up with a good plan to bring more resources to our community. Thus, we are at a critical point to seek more input from the full constellation of invested partners.

Below is an overview of the program.

GOAL

The goal of this initiative is to empower communities with the capacity to support healthy eating and active living through sustainable policy and environmental change across four sectors – schools, workforce, healthcare and neighborhoods.

BACKGROUND

According to the California Department of Health Services (CDHS), poor diet and lack of activity are the second leading causes of death and disability, resulting in nearly 30,000 deaths each year in California. CDHS statistics also indicate that the prevalence of overweight children in California has increased from 38% in 1984 to 57% in 2003.

With obesity comes associated health risks, including heart disease, type 2 diabetes, high blood pressure, stroke, arthritis-related disabilities, sleep disorders, some cancers, depression and other mental health problems.

Root causes of the obesity epidemic include increased access to low-cost high-calorie foods, as well as environmental surroundings that contribute to physical inactivity. Change at multiple levels, including individual behavior, public policy and the physical and social environment, along with access to appropriate medical care, can help reverse this epidemic.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Healthy Eating, Active Living (HEAL) exemplifies Kaiser Permanente's commitment to help reduce obesity and improve the health of our communities, including our members and employees. As part of KP's Community Health Initiatives, HEAL-

CHI seeks to significantly and measurably improve the health and well-being of communities by addressing behavioral, public policy and environmental change that will enhance or create access to affordable, healthy foods, physical activity, and healthy lifestyle choices.

With a focus on targeted populations and a prevention-oriented approach, this five-year initiative seeks to create conditions that make it easier for communities to choose healthy foods and to be physically active. In this way, we can slow the growing trend of overweight and obesity, and the rise in preventable diseases such as diabetes and heart disease.

COMMUNITY HEALTH INITIATIVE

A large part of Kaiser Permanente's HEAL plan is the Community Health Initiative (CHI). The vision for HEAL-CHI is to help establish thriving communities where residents have access to affordable, healthy foods and where active lifestyles are encouraged and supported.

The HEAL-CHI initiative includes:

Ø A commitment of \$4.5 million over 5 years to 3 Northern California community collaboratives

Ø A targeted geographic approach

Ø Long-term partnerships with public health agencies, schools and community-based organizations

Ø Involvement across 4 sectors within communities: Neighborhoods, worksites, schools/after-school and health care

Ø A focus on sustainable policy and environmental changes

Ø Empowering community members to drive changes in their own physical and social environments and/or advocate for policies that promote healthy eating and active living

Ø A focus on efforts that reduce racial and ethnic health disparities associated with poor nutrition and inactivity

Ø A commitment of technical assistance and expertise

Ø A comprehensive process and outcome evaluation to capture and disseminate findings

If you are interested in working with this project, to represent the North & East in this worthy cause, please call President Sandi Genser-Maack at (510) 237-5670 or email northandeast@comcast.net as soon as possible.

9 Steps To A Successful

GARAGE SALE

1. Take the first step by participating in your neighborhood garage sale!

2. Let your friends know NOW... TODAY... Make it a fun social event & invite them to sell with you.

3. Start cleaning out your garage, then room by room for stuff in storage that hasn't been used for 2 years.

4. Make sure all items are priced or organized by box & placed where they can be easily seen by shoppers.

5. Sort out small items, toys, books, knick-knacks, clothes into the same area.

6. Get up early on sale day & arrange your items in the garage, lawn or driveway in an orderly manner. Use tables to display valuable & smaller, breakable items.

7. Have some \$1 and \$5 bills & quarters to start.

A cashier & calculator.

Use an apron with pockets ...

8. Stick to your posted price until noon-ish. Deals: \$1 each or 7 for \$5 dollars. You may want to give bargain prices later, on your last day.

9. Donate leftover goods to your favorite charity:

Goodwill closes at 5 p.m., Salvation Army at 6 p.m. and you have done your spring cleaning!!! OR...Call (800) 747-8387 American Veterans, they will come Mon-Fri to pick up any donations you leave at your front door...

Meet your neighbors...

Open: 9am to 4pm

Garage Sales can be fun -- filled with good times & Money \$\$

by Debbie Lew

**Richmond Neighborhood
Coordinating Council**
City Manager's Office
1401 Marina Way South
Richmond, CA 94804

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The North & East Newsletter

The North & East Neighborhood: West to 23rd St., East to San Pablo Ave., North to the City limits, South to Macdonald Ave.

<p>I support my Neighborhood Council! <input type="checkbox"/> I enclose dues (voluntary) of \$10 for the 06-07 year. <input type="checkbox"/> I enclose a donation of _____ <input type="checkbox"/> I enclose a donation for the newsletter _____ Name _____ Address _____ City, State, Zip _____ Phone _____ email _____ <input type="checkbox"/> I do not want to remain on the mailing list</p>	<p>Mail to: Martha White 3411 Lowell Richmond, CA 94804</p> <p>make checks to: N & E</p>
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North & East Neighborhood Council Meeting

Thursday, July 20, 2006

Third Thursday

7:00 p.m.

**Richmond Senior Center
2525 Macdonald Avenue**

*A representative of the Richmond
Redevelopment Agency will fill us in on*

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE NORTH & EAST:

Is Target really coming?

What is going on on Macdonald Avenue?

When are they starting work on City Hall?