PANIL Notes

Volume 35 Piedmont Avenue Neighborhood Improvement League - PO Box 20375, Oakland 94620 May 2010

PANIL -- YOUR Organization, YOUR Steering Committee

PANIL provides a voice for neighbors in civic and community affairs, including development and zoning, parks, and pubic safety concerns. PANIL helps neighbors advocate effectively with city government, and the Steering Committee, with input from impacted neighbors, decides on positions PANIL will take on issues before the Planning Commission and City Council. Steering Committee members advocate for PANIL policy through letters or appearances at public hearings. The Steering Committee meets on the third Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at Piedmont Gardens—meetings are open to all neighbors—to identify issues impacting the neighborhood, plan and organize PANIL monthly meetings.

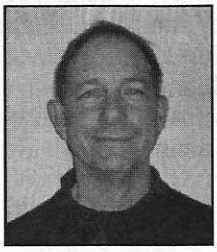
PANIL is looking for more participants on the Steering Committee. The by-laws provide that candidates are nominated by the Steering Committee for one year terms, with elections in July. Interested neighbors can volunteer by sending an email to contact@panil.org.

Margitta Gardner (Ramona)

Why do I serve on the PANIL steering committee? I love everything about this neighborhood and it's my way of giving back and supporting this amazing community. Come and join me.

Valerie Winemiller (Monte Vista)

I got involved with PANIL in 1974 because of concern over impacts of a large-scale development. I stayed because it has been a fascinating learning experience, because I met many wonderful neighbors who became valued friends, and because it is rewarding to give back to my community and to have an impact on its future.

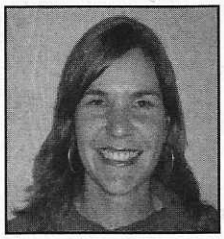


Bill Manley (Gilbert)

I got involved with PANIL because I plan to be a long-timer in Oakland. I saw so much potential in the city, but saw it being squandered by weak, uncaring or unscrupulous politicians and quick-buck businessmen. PANIL afforded me the opportunity to understand the city mechanisms, to get behind the press releases, to have an impact on decision-makers.

I raised my son here. I wanted him to be proud of his hometown. Before joining the steering committee I respected the openness and dedication of PANIL members. I was glad they were there, but I didn't commit to anything beyond my $15 annual membership. After my son went off to college I had no more excuses for not getting more involved.

Organization matters. Persistence matters. PANIL delivers these.



Kelsey Krausen (Entrada)

I am grateful to have lived in the Piedmont Avenue neighborhood almost my entire life (32 years). I volunteer for the PANIL Steering Committee because I care about our community and I believe it is important to have a range of voices to represent our neighborhood. I hope you will consider joining us.

PANIL Monthly Meeting: Wed., May 12 — 7:30 p.m.

Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council — 7:30 pm

Sandra Sanders-West, our Neighborhood Services Coordinator

General Meeting — 8:00 pm

Piedmont Avenue Library property has been sold. *What now?*

Gerry Garzon, Associate Director of the Oakland Public Library and other representatives from library administration and our councilmember's office

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

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Council Changes Cabaret Permit Rules

by Valerie Winemiller

On April 21, City Council passed a new set of rules, redefining "cabaret," and establishing a tiered fee schedule based on the number of seats in the venue, making it easier and cheaper for smaller businesses to get permission to feature entertainment. City Council President Jane Brunner pointed out that houses in her north Oakland district are right adjacent to the popular commercial streets of Telegraph, College and Piedmont Avenues. She asked several clarifying questions of zoning staff to make sure that residents would have appropriate protections.

Most existing bars and restaurants have restrictions on their activities built into their state liquor license from the Alcohol Beverage Control Board and their zoning permit Conditions of Approval from the city. For those venues to get a cabaret permit of any kind, they will have to change their ABC license category with the state, and change their Conditions of Approval from the city. Both those processes require public notification and an opportunity for public comment, so it is still not the Wild West here.

In the event of disturbances, neighbors *must still call police.* For emergencies, call 911 (or 777-3211 from a cell); for non-emergencies, call 777-3333.

And neighbors should work with our Problem Solving Officer through PANIL. But once calls from two or more neighbors establish a pattern of problems, there are two tracks for enforcement. Noise complaints will be referred to the Nuisance Abatement program in the City Administrator's office for enforcement, and other complaints (fighting, drug sales, etc) will be referred to the City Attorney's office.

Enforcement for all problems used to go through the Zoning Division as a revocation of the venue's Conditional Use Permit (CUP). With Nuisance Abatement handling noise, enforcement is a lot faster and easier. A CUP runs with the land and not the business, so it is a property right. The burden of due process and proof is much greater for removing a property right. Under Nuisance Abatement, fines can be imposed immediately—$1,000 a day for violations. Experience so far is that this gets the attention of a business much faster, and they often even decide to sell or move the business rather than risk the fines for long.

Councilmembers made a commitment to review the results of the ordinance in a year.

PANIL *Notes* Invites Advertisers

Advertisers can reach over 2,000 neighborhood households!

For details, see PANIL's website http://panil.org/misc/PANIL_Rates.pdf or contact Bill Manley bmanleynow@yahoo.com or 658-2419.

Max Width 2 ¼ "	1 issue	3 issues	6 issues
Height 0 -- 1 ½"	$40	$110	$200
1 ½ -- 3 "	$50	$140	$275
3 – 4 ½"	$60	$165	$300
Max Width 3 ½"			
Height 0 -- 1 ½"	$55	$150	$275
1 ½ -- 3 "	$65	$180	$325
3 – 4 ½"	$75	$200	$363

Connections

Those on **PANIL's e-mail list** receive meeting reminders and public safety announcements. Send a message to contact@panil.org to be added.

A Yahoo group has been going for several years at **Piedmont Ave@ yahoogroups.com.** It was originally started as a public safety discussion group, but has evolved to a broad list of neighborhood-specific topics.

Rose Avenue neighbor Debra Goldentyr started a Piedmont Avenue neighbors **Facebook group** in April: http://www.facebook.com/group.php?14680751876524&ref=ts

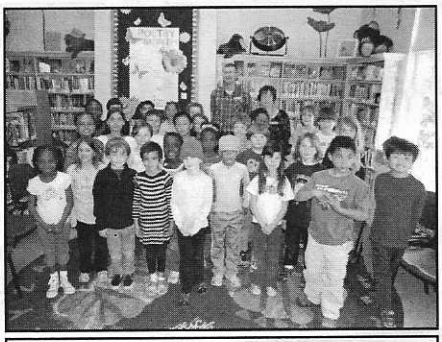
The Friends of Piedmont Avenue Branch Library has a **Facebook group**. http://www.facebook.com/pages/Oakland-CA/Friends-of-the-Piedmont-Avenue-Branch-Library

Friends of Glen Echo Creek Park have a **Yahoo group:** http://groups.yahoo.com/group/glenechowalk/

Library Receives Lois Foster Award

Archway School presented the Piedmont Avenue Branch Library with the Lois Foster Leadership Award in grateful recognition for thirty years of dedicated service to the Archway School Community.

Members of Archway's 4th grade class made the presentation to Andrew Demcak, acting Piedmont Avenue branch manager and Helen Bloch, former Piedmont Avenue children's librarian.



Photos on this page by Phil Liang

Arleen Feng Honored

Arleen Feng, Steward of Glen Echo Creek, was honored at the Volunteer Appreciation Evening hosted by the Oakland Parks Coalition, sponsored by the Oakland Public Works Agency and Keep Oakland Beautiful. Councilmember Jane Brunner presented the plaque.

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ONE HALF-HOUR A WEEK
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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
11th Floor Sky Room

PANIL Steering Committee meets monthly
For the time, date and place of the meeting, email **contact@panil.org**

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 and 4th Saturdays
10 a.m., FREE

Oakland Heritage Alliance

Thursday, May 13, 7:30 p.m.
Partners in Preservation Awards
Chapel of the Chimes
4499 Piedmont Avenue
$10 members/$15 non-members
You may join at the door.

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

Baywood Apartments

(Senior subsidized housing)
225 41st Street

FREE Senior Health Symposium
"Building Community Good Health & Well Being"
Thursday, 5/20, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
For more info: 510-428-1050 or Skok@bentallres.com

Piedmont Avenue Neighborhood Improvement League
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www.panil.org

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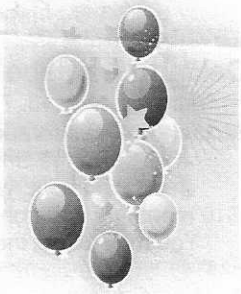
Piedmont Avenue Elementary School Carnival

Saturday, 5/15, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

In the School Yard



Games
Food
Music
Entertainment
Silent Auction

Fun for the whole family

Support our neighborhood public school

Piedmont Avenue Branch Library Survey

Piedmont Avenue Branch Library property has been sold and its rent will go up substantially November first. Use this survey to voice your opinion regarding the library's future.

Go to **PANIL.org** or **PiedmontAvenueMerchants.org** and click on SURVEY.

Paper copies of the survey will be available at the library and at other places on the Avenue. Check the kiosk at 41st and Piedmont Avenue for a list.

Community meetings to review the survey results and assess future plans for our branch will be held on May 12 and May 20 at Piedmont Gardens Sky Room 110 41st Street, 11th Floor

Friends of the Piedmont Avenue Branch Library

Organization matters. Persistence matters. PANIL delivers these.

COUNT ME IN for $15.00/year

Your $15/year dues, and advertising, pay for this newsletter and for PANIL's advocacy for the neighborhood.

PANIL needs 50 new or renewed supporters each month.

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E-mail _____

Mail your check to PANIL, PO Box 20375, Oakland, CA 94620
or go to *www.panil.org* and click on "Join PANIL"
where you can join or renew from the website using PayPal

Note: Contributions to PANIL are not tax deductible