

July 11, 2011

Vol 1, Issue 27



# Take A Fresh Look at Oakland

News from Mayor Jean Quan

## Greetings!



**Mayors meet with President Obama** at the White House last month. (l-r) Charleston's Joe Riley, White House liaison David Agnew, Sacramento's Kevin Johnson, US Mayor Conference Chair Elizabeth Kautz, Detroit's David Bing, Long Beach's Bob Foster, LA's Antonio Villaraigosa, and Oakland Mayor Jean Quan.

Throughout the budget process I have been struck by the parallel rhetoric and debate raging from Washington to Sacramento to Oakland. Over the months the White House has engaged big city mayors in constant dialogue on many policies affecting our economy. Last month we told him that jobs was a key issue and that the cuts in the federal budget were crippling our attempts to reduce unemployment. This week many of us received a surprise call from the President to discuss the impact of a possible failure to lift the debt ceiling and the cuts being demanded.

The question of a Fair Share Budget is being debated nationally. I am sharing a "My Word" piece that I am sending to local papers after our briefing by the President:

"Budget balancing is no easy feat in Oakland or Washington.

Last week Oakland breathed a sigh of relief when all of our unions agreed to contribute 9% of their income-in pension payments, wages, and furloughs-to save critical services in the worse recession since the Depression. I still must reorganize because we eliminated over 200 more jobs and I am asking for a five year emergency tax. We worked hard to convey to council members, employees and citizens that Oakland could not balance the budget without everyone giving their fair share.

**This publication is not produced at public expense.**

During the week, I also post to my Facebook page: [Facebook.com/mayorjeanquan](https://www.facebook.com/mayorjeanquan). Hit the "like" button to become a "fan".

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## Send This To A Friend

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## In the News

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[Night Owl: Oakland Mayor Jean Quan a popular attraction in her city](#)  
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Jennifer Ward, Oakland Local  
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[Oakland police reveals reorganization plan](#)  
SF Gate

July 7, 2011

We can't cut our way out of this recession. All cuts budgets go too deep; crippling city infrastructure needed for recovery.

In this week's conference call with President Barack Obama 20 Mayors discussed the Federal debt ceiling and budget and their impact on the nation's cities. The issue is the same, although on a bigger scale.



Without a higher debt ceiling, the Federal government will not be able to pay all of its bills. We don't know who could go unpaid but many feel it could be recipients of Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security beneficiaries and people on unemployment. If the Federal Government isn't able to support our most vulnerable citizens in need, then our cities and counties will be left to pick up the tab with very little resources of their own. As mayors on the

local front lines, these are not just numbers, they are our children, parents, grandparents and neighbors.

What's more, if the debt ceiling isn't raised, it will be more difficult to get loans, and interest rates will rise-not just for the US Government, but possibly for states, counties, cities, and even local property owners. That is because our economy is interconnected with a high risk of a ripple effect.



Now is not the time for political brinkmanship. The Republicans and Democrats must come together to agree on how they will resolve the situation-and time is of the essence. We cannot implement major federal debt reforms on cuts alone. If the government does not raise the Federal debt ceiling by the August 2 deadline, it could trigger a domino effect that will be felt all the way back to Oakland, California.

It's not about who is right, but about doing what is right for American families. On the local level I am asking my citizens to pay less than a quarter a day per household to keep senior centers open, maintain policing levels, fill potholes and maintain our famous parks; that is about a quarter of our budget gap. The President, too, is also asking that 25 percent of bridging the Federal gap come from taxing corporate jets, hedge fund managers, and oil companies at the same rate as the rest of us.

So please write Congress today to ask them to raise the Federal debt ceiling before August 2 and do their fair share, just like we are doing in Oakland." (Writing

Congresswoman Lee and Senators Feinstein and Boxer is like singing to the chorus, I recommend Oakland residents write House Leader [Boehner](#).)

**SIGN UP FOR NATIONAL NIGHT OUT, AUGUST 2, NOW!!!**

## Follow the Mayor



Find me on Facebook

Facebook subscribers can also [become "fans"](#), [hit the "like" button to receive daily updates.](#)



[Subscribe to daily tweets](#)



View our press briefings, meetings & community events

## Discover Oakland

**Oakland Aviation Museum**  
Where West Coast Aviation Began



Retrace Amelia Earhart's flight route, and learn about the history of aviation here on the West Coast. The museum houses a replica of the Wright Bros. Model B and other artifacts. Their archive and library is extensive. Check it out

8252 Earhart Road - Oakland, CA 94621  
(510) 638-7100

[oaklandaviationmuseum.org](http://oaklandaviationmuseum.org)

*Change will not come if we wait for some other person or for some other time. We are the ones we have been waiting for.*

*Barack Obama*

Only 3 more weeks to sign up for National Night Out (NNO)-- the citywide block party. Whether you've lived here 30 years or 30 days, this is an opportunity to meet the neighbors on your street or in your neighborhood. Neighborhoods where people know each other are safer and happier places to live. Tens of thousands of Oaklanders are expected to participate. Last year over 25,000 people attended over 450 parties. [Register your block today and receive a special thank you gift as a host.](#)



*Police Chief Batts, Council President Reid, beat officers, neighborhood service coordinators, and Neighborhood Council leaders join us in Beat 33x calling for an increase in block parties this year before walking the neighborhood.*

**Does Neighborhood Organizing Make a Difference?** When I was elected to the Council 8 years ago, there were about 35 NNO parties; this year our goal is 500. Coming out of many NNO parties are new Neighborhood Alert and Emergency Preparedness groups. Despite the economy and spikes in murders, Oakland's overall crime rate is still heading down for the fifth straight year and I think that is because of increased community involvement. Take a look at our story on Beat 33 X (See #2), we are so proud of the increased community participation and plan to keep working with this neighborhood over the years.

## THANKS VOLUNTEERS

Our office has a very small staff but we are involved in hundreds of projects and initiatives. We can do this because we have great volunteers and staff who donate many hours of their time. With a long season of block parties and street festivals we will continue to try and take City Hall out to the community. Look for our booth. We now have a new group of volunteers called the "Mayor's Ambassadors." If you can help contact [rcowan@oaklandnet.com](mailto:rcowan@oaklandnet.com).



Our newly minted Mayor's Ambassadors participated in the Temescal Street Fair, the first of a series of street festivals throughout Oakland this summer. (See # 10 below for the list of events). Picture here: Susan Flakus, Sokhom Mao, Ambassador Coordinator Monique Rivera and Linda Taylor.

**Mayor Jean Quan**

## 1. Discover Oakland This Week

**19th Annual [Oakland Symphony Chorus Summer Sing-ins](#):** Don't miss this summer of fine choral music. All are welcome to sing or listen. Tuesdays, 7-9:30 pm, St. Paschal Beylan Church, 3700 Dorisa Avenue. This week's music is Brahms *Ein Deutsches Requiem*, Buddy James Conductor.



**Oliver! at Woodminster Amphitheater, July 8-17:** Enjoy musical theater in Oakland's wonderful 2000-seat Woodminster Amphitheater in Joaquin Miller Park. Tickets and details at [www.woodminster.com](http://www.woodminster.com).

<<Kelsey Venter as Nancy and Grant Lowenstein as the Artful Dodger in Woodminster Summer Theater's Oliver!

**Digital Equity for Small Businesses--2011 Thursday, July 14, 11 am-Noon, Oakland Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, 475 14th Street:** Presented by [Oakland Digital](#) (ODALC), Sponsored by YP.com in cooperation with the Oakland Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, the 2nd of 6 classes focuses on driving traffic to your website. Suggested donation \$20 per class. Register on line at <http://digitalequity.eventbrite.com>

|  |         |                 |
|--|---------|-----------------|
| <b>DIGITAL EQUITY FOR SMALL BUSINESSES</b> | JULY 7  | 11 AM - 12 NOON |
|  | JULY 14 | 11 AM - 12 NOON |
|  | JULY 21 | 11 AM - 12 NOON |
|  | JULY 28 | 11 AM - 12 NOON |
|  | AUG 4   | 11 AM - 1 PM    |
|  | AUG 11  | 11 AM - 1 PM    |

All classes held at Oakland Metro Chamber of Commerce located at 475 14th Street in Oakland



**The Crucible's Fire & Light Soiree and Art Auction, Thursday, July 14, 6 pm, 1260 7th Street:** Enjoy a delicious 3-course dinner with wine pairings and bid on beautiful works of art in metal, glass, wood and more. All



proceeds directly support [The Crucible's](#) educational programs.

**Oakland /Bay Area CARES 3rd Mentor Recruitment Training, Friday, July 15--Sunday, July 17:** Randall Robinson, Dr. Joy DeGruy, Susan L. Taylor and City Ministers and local leaders join Oakland/Bay Area CARES, part of the mentor-recruitment initiative, National CARES Mentoring Movement (NCMM) in a weekend focused on "A New Way Forward" Healing what's hurting the Black Community:

- Friday, July 15, 6 -9 pm, featuring Randall Robinson and Dr. Joy DeGruy at Allan Temple Baptist Church, 8501 International Blvd.
- Saturday, July 16, 9am-6 pm, Niles Hall, Preservation Park , 66013th Street (**sold out**)
- Sunday, July 17, Sunday morning services at various Oakland Faith-based Centers.



[Sign up here.](#)

**Friday, July 15 8th Annual USOA Healthy Living Festival, 8 am-2 pm, Oakland Zoo,** Knowland Park, 9777 Golf Links Road: Enjoy a walk through the Zoo-- many areas are flat and wheelchair accessible and the views of the animals, Oakland hills and the Bay are enticing. There will also be health screenings and financial planning information. You can drop off/discard of outdated medications. [Register now!](#)

**Slumber with the Stars, Friday, July 15, 6 pm- Saturday, July 16, 10 am, Chabot Space & Science Center:** An overnight includes games, exhibit exploration, shows, hike and viewing through our historic, large telescopes (weather permitting).



**Two New Events at Late Night Live, Friday, July 15:** The 81st Avenue Library will open up until 10 pm for families starting this Friday, and every Friday and Saturday through August 27. And Youth Movement Records launches the Late Night Live Talent Competition and Career Orientation to the Music Industry at Rainbow Recreation Center this Friday, 8 pm until Midnight. Special guest artists including ERK the JERK, POPlyfe, Dwayne Wiggins, Goaple, Sheila E and others will perform. Youth will compete for a performance spot at Art & Soul and the Back to School Rally in August. For details, email [contact@youthmovementrecords.org](mailto:contact@youthmovementrecords.org) or call 832-4212.

**Bay Area BBQ Championship/Oakland A's vs. LA Angels at the Oakland Coliseum, Saturday, July 16, 9:30 am/ First Pitch 1:05 pm:** Celebrity judges Cesley "Sully" Sullenberger (Hero of the Hudson), Liam Mayclem (Foodie Chap from CBS 5-Eye on the Bay), Joey Altman (celebrity chef, author), Narsai David (KCBS Food & Wine editor), Amy B Sherman (Cooking with Amy), Stan Bungler (KCBS Morning Anchor) Doug Govern (KCBS News Reporter), Brad Levy (Owner/Chef Firefly Restaurant). Live performance by La Toya London, and AFS Children's Guardian Award to Senator John Burton. Proceeds support Alternative Family Services, providing care for foster youth. For details, go to <http://www.bayareabbq.org/>.



**Oakland Animal Shelter/Pet Finder Adopt-a-thon, Saturday, July 16 and Sunday, July 17, Noon - 5 pm, 1101 29th Avenue:** PetFinder, the largest and most successful online venue for adoptable pets, is celebrating their 15<sup>th</sup> birthday. The free site was launched in 1996 and has facilitated an estimated 17 million adoptions. They've set a goal of 15,000 collective adoptions over the weekend. There will be special adoption rates available for the following categories of animals:

- Any spayed or neutered dog: \$35.
- Cats above six months of age: \$25.
- Kittens, puppies, and any other dogs are available at normal rates.

In addition to the animals available at OAS, several other groups will be on site to show animals for adoption, including Berkeley East Bay Humane Society, NorCal Golden Retriever Rescue, San Francisco SPCA, and Tony LaRussa's Animal Rescue Foundation. The public is invited to sign a PetFinder birthday card at [www.petfinder.com/birthday](http://www.petfinder.com/birthday) and more information about OAS, the adopt-a-thon, and the shelter's adoptable animals is available at [www.oaklandanimalservices.org](http://www.oaklandanimalservices.org).

**Free Boating on Lake Merritt, Saturday, July 16, 1-3 pm:** As part of the month long activities featuring the City's Recreation Programs, there will be free boating opportunities at the Boat House on Lake Merritt.



**Chinatown Town Hall Meeting, Sunday, July 17, Oakland Asian Cultural Center, 388 9th Street:** At the District 2 Town Hall Meeting, we promised that we would host a special Town Hall Meeting for Chinese speakers. Mandarin and Cantonese speakers/translators will be available.

**Jazz by the Lake, Sunday, July 17, Noon-2 pm, Cameron-Stanford House, 1418 Lakeside Drive:** Fresh from the Healdsburg Jazz festival and a tour of Russian, The Bay area's own Nicolas Bearde will bring his unique vocal talents to Camron-Stanford House. An alumnus of Bobby McFerrin's Voicestra, he also has performed at the Russian River Jazz Festival, Monterey Jazz Festivals, Jazz at Newport and Yoshi's. Brunch and live entertainment \$35 members;\$50 nonmembers. Call 874-7802 for reservations.

**Oakland Municipal Band 100th Concert Season, July 17, 1-3 pm, Lakeside Park:** The Free Concerts are conducted by Troy Davis and performed by 35 musicians featuring an array of jazz, contemporary, pop, big band, international, classical, marches and show tunes. Bring a lawn chair or blanket. Picnics welcomed and Flag waving encouraged. For more information, please call 339-2818.



**Prescott Circus Theatre Presents The Show Must Go On, Wednesday, July 20, 11 am and 1:30 pm and Thursday, July 21, 11 am and 1:30 pm, Malonga Casquelourd Center for the Arts, 1428 Alice Street:** See our kids shine! Special Saturday Show, July 23, 3 pm at DeFremery Park, 18th and Adeline for [Prescott Circus Theatre](#) Day during DeFremery Park's Open House.

## 2. Organizing Block by Block---Beat 33X



Last January, Congresswoman Barbara Lee and I canvassed Beat 33X, between 82<sup>nd</sup> and 98<sup>th</sup> Avenues below MacArthur Blvd. to encourage residents to meet each other, organize and get involved in improving their neighborhood. We returned to the neighborhood with Council President Larry Reid, neighborhood services staff, problem solving officers and Block by Block Organizing Network volunteers this past Thursday, July 7 to knock on doors, hand out flyers and encourage residents to host block parties as part of National Night Out (NNO) 2011 (see item #8).

I have long believed that strong neighborhoods are safe neighborhoods, and that the key to building strong neighborhoods is community organizing. We've begun to make a difference in this neighborhood, which has experienced high unemployment, high student drop out rates, and blight and crime.

In the six months since we first canvassed Beat 33x and provided residents with phone numbers to call for improved city services, it is clear that local residents are taking our efforts to heart:

- Since January, the City has received 53% more calls for service through the Public Works Call Center (615-5566) --507 compared with 690 for all of 2010.
- Participation in the local Neighborhood Council has grown from 5 to almost two dozen a month. Members have identified several priorities that they and the city have been working on
  - Prior to our adopting the beat, there had been no calls to the drug hot line, but in the first six months of this year, more than 103 calls have been made, leading to several arrests.
  - Issues about abandoned autos resulted in a special abandoned auto detail for quicker City response to calls.
  - The request for more late night activities for youth resulted in a Friday Night Live opening up at the Oakland Youth Development Center.
  - Requests for more neighborhood activities resulted in Measure Y-sponsored activities at Willie Wilkins Park
  - About 80 young parents attended our Baby College Program to learn how to be better parents and help their children succeed in school.

These efforts--and an increase in NNO events--will help build community and strengthen neighborhood engagement among neighbors and with the City.

## 3. Parcel Tax Vote July 19th

This week Lamont Ewell, the interim City Administrator will return to his family and retirement. I know I cannot adequately thank him for his leadership during these tough times. I have never had a better partner working in government.

In the two interim weeks our Budget Director Sabrina Landreth will serve as acting City Administrator. Deanna Santana begins August 1st.

We begin the new fiscal year with a budget, a new city administrator, and a lot of work ahead of us:

- We will join other cities to take the legislators' decision on redevelopment to court and hope to have a decision by the end of July.
- We will fight the newest state grab of between \$1.3 and \$1.5 million from the state vehicle license fees.
- We are completing the sad job of lay offs and managing the bumping process that will occur as we implement the budget.

I want to thank everyone, again, for working so hard during these difficult times.

The long delayed vote on the parcel tax, city attorney, and other measures will be decided this Tuesday.



**I am hopeful that the Council will let the citizens decide on the parcel tax and will not stop it from being placed on the ballot. Thanks to the several dozen volunteers who came to plan for the campaign at the Dimond Library. If we can pass the parcel tax we will reach the budget I would like to see for the City, the Fair Share Budget C.**



**The economy is recovering slowly. It will take us several years to recover the same level of property taxes we had just three years ago. It is critical to pass a parcel tax to:**

- Fully staff our senior centers
- Maintain police staffing levels
- Add crews to fix pot holes
- Restore park maintenance staff

#### 4. More City News



**Late Night Live Programs Growing:** For about a month we have been phasing in late Friday and Saturday night programming to give young people in East and West Oakland safe places to be at on the weekend. **This weekend we expand with the new 81st Avenue Library coming on line to be open Friday nights until 10 pm. At Rainbow Rec we are starting an Oakland Idol program hosted by local professionals in the performing arts industry. The group or performer chosen will be on stage at Art and Soul!**

<<League play at McClymonds last week.

**Seeking Nominees for Boards & Commissions:** Because of term limits, nearly all Boards have openings on a regular basis. *(Right) Nominees for next year's Youth Commission meet with the Mayor.* Here are some of the more popular ones with current openings:

- Oakland Housing Authority Board (opening for tenant/resident of the OHA)
- Commission on Aging [only 1 or 2]
- Budget Advisory [But must be nominated by their Councilmember]
- Citizen's Police Review Board [must have attended Citizen's Police Academy]
- Residential Rent [looking for a landlord seat]
- Library Advisory Commission
- Parks and Rec Advisory Commission
- Violence Prevention [But must be nominated by their Councilmember]
- Measure Z [But must be nominated by their Councilmember]



Contact [Richard Cowan](#) with a cover letter and your resume if you are interested in applying.

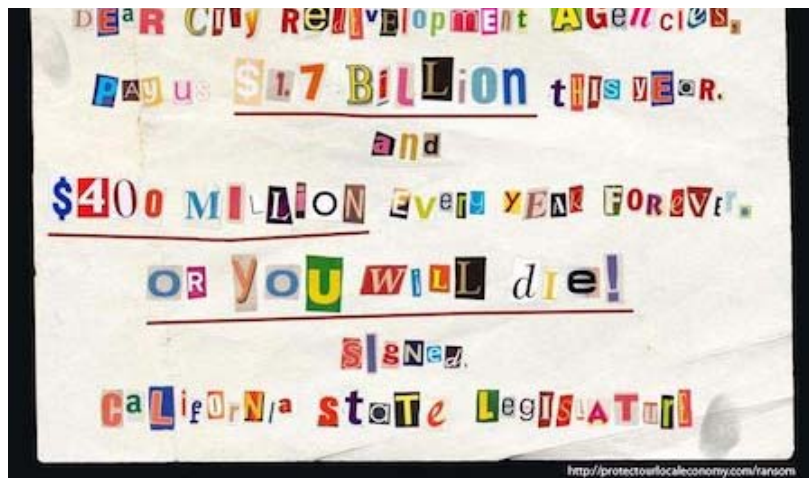
#### 5. Redevelopment Bill Passes But Future Now Uncertain; Oakland Schools Bill Stopped, "Johns" Fines Raised to \$25,000

- **Cities Prepare for Lawsuit on Redevelopment, Hope for Decision on Injunction by August.**  
The California League of Cities and other government agencies will like file its lawsuit



against the state for the "ransom" of redevelopment. We want to thank Assemblyman Sandre Swanson for voting against the elimination. Should the suit fail, the city would have to buy back redevelopment at the cost of \$40M this year and \$10 M in future years, greatly reducing the housing and other projects possible. The state would take the lion's share of funds.

Many cities have said they cannot afford to pay including San Jose, so it is unlikely the state will get the funds they expect.



• **Swanson Bill Signed by Governor, "Johns" face \$25,000 fines:**

Fines against "johns" who pay for sex with minors will now range up to \$25,000 under an East Bay legislator's bill signed into law Tuesday by Gov. Jerry Brown. AB 12, the Abolition of Child Commerce, Exploitation, and Sexual Slavery, or ACCESS, Act by Assemblyman Sandré Swanson, D-Alameda, also requires that the new fine -- which previously ranged up to \$10,000 depending on the circumstances -- be directed to groups providing therapy, housing, shelter, and education to child victims of sex trafficking. Swanson has worked with us to author several related laws in recent years. His 2008 bill created a diversion program in Alameda County for child prostitutes; Brown last week signed his bill to extend that program. And AB 17 of 2009 increased fines on pimping, pandering, or procurement of a minor, dedicating those funds to help sexually exploited minors obtain education, counseling, and shelter.

• **School Financial Takeover Bill, AB 609, Put in Suspense:** Assemblyman Sandre Swanson's Bill to relieve the school district from state fines imposed on mismanagement by the state trustees was put into suspense. [The state auditors fined Oakland \\$22M for mistakes incurred during the state takeover.](#) This is in addition to the additional debt run up by the state during the takeover, another \$80M. In plain English this means the city's schools are \$100M more in debt after the state takeover. The original debt that led to the trusteeship was about \$27M.

• **State Redistricting Commission Releases Maps, [Comment On-line:](#)** Oakland remains in one congressional district, Fremont is split.

## 6. Building Oakland--Karen Paulsell, Friends of Sausal Creek



**Karen Paulsell** has been volunteering with Friends of Sausal Creek (FOSC) since 2001. Her first volunteer effort was as a truck driver, bringing plants from the nursery to the planting site in Dimond Canyon, where 20,000 plants were planted by FOSC during the winter of 2001-2002. For the past 10 years Karen has spent many hours in FOSC's Joaquin Miller Park Native Plant Nursery, collecting and sowing seeds, transplanting seedlings, and nurturing rare plants.

Activities in the watershed take her throughout the parks in the Oakland hills, including Joaquin Miller Park and Shepherd Canyon, down through Dimond Canyon, and into the Fruitvale area, where the creek runs a block north of Fruitvale Avenue.

Karen got her start in using maps during her environmental volunteering via a close friend at GreenInfo Network, as they critiqued maps on which he was working. Then she learned how to use a GPS (global positioning system) to improve trail maps and trace many of the smaller creeks in the watershed. She has made maps for the Friends of Sausal Creek and Friends of Joaquin Miller Park that show clearly where trails, creeks, and other park features are located. One of her maps is available online at [www.sausalcreek.org/pdf/Sausal\\_Trails\\_Map.pdf](http://www.sausalcreek.org/pdf/Sausal_Trails_Map.pdf).

"What I like about volunteering with the Friends of Sausal Creek is there are so many different projects to do, and it is great to be able to work on a creek restoration site for several years, and see that people working together can really make a difference," she said. She also likes the diversity of the people she volunteers with, from an Eagle Scout building trail-map boxes and students who come to work days to fulfill their community service, to lawyers and environmental consultants who serve on the FOSC board.

Currently, Karen continues to make maps to meet various special needs for information to manage the watershed efforts, and to work on nursery record-keeping databases.

*If interested in volunteering with Sausal Creek or for more information you can go to [www.sausalcreek.org](http://www.sausalcreek.org), email [coordinator@sausalcreek.org](mailto:coordinator@sausalcreek.org), or call 510-501-3672.*

**Submitted by Lanaya Lewis, entering Senior at Oakland High School and Youth Radio intern in the Mayor's Office.**

## 7. The 25% Solution

*At the Inauguration, I asked Oaklanders to increase local shopping by 25%. If we all did so, we could raise \$9-\$12 million more in sales tax-- that's enough to double our Park and Recreation Programs, or to add another 60 policemen! We can maintain important city services by finding ways to increase our revenue. This one is very doable!###*

#



### Sweet Potato Pies!

"You say potato... I say potato..." No matter how the saying goes, we can all agree that there's nothing better than a homemade sweet potato pie. After last week's article on cakes and tarts, we got lots of other locations in addition to Lois the Pie Queen for sweet potato pie. No need to head South for this culinary treat, Oakland has many spots to satisfy your craving!

#### Louisiana Famous Fried Chicken

4006 MacArthur Blvd  
(between 38th Ave & 39th Ave)  
Oakland, CA 94619

[www.louisianafriedchicken.com/Oakland.html](http://www.louisianafriedchicken.com/Oakland.html)



#### Everett & Jones BQ

126 Broadway  
(between 2nd St & W Embarcadero)  
Oakland, CA 94607  
(510) 663-2350

[www.eandjbbq.com](http://www.eandjbbq.com)

#### Chef Edwards Bar B Que

1915 San Pablo Avenue  
Oakland, CA 94612  
(510) 834-9515

[www.chefedwardsbbq.net](http://www.chefedwardsbbq.net)





**Nellie's Soul Food**  
1155 3rd Street  
Oakland, CA 94607  
(510) 625-1350

[www.nelliessoulfood.com](http://www.nelliessoulfood.com)



**It's All Good Bakery**  
5622 Martin Luther King Jr. Way  
Oakland, CA 94609  
(510) 597-9700

**Phat Matt's BBQ**  
3415 Telegraph Avenue  
Oakland, CA 94605  
(510) 879-7294  
[www.phatmattsbbq.com](http://www.phatmattsbbq.com)



\*\*\*\*\*



Check out one of our **40 unique neighborhood business districts**. Each one has a different mix of restaurants and shops. The [Shop Oakland website](#) is a great place to start. There's a [wonderful map](#), as well.

Visit [Oakland Grown](#) for the latest on local independent merchants and their wares.



## 8. Safe & Healthy Oakland

**Community Policing at Work:** In four recent instances, alert neighbors helped Oakland police make arrests in violent crimes.

- On June 16, 2011 at approximately 6:15 AM, a 58 year old female was collecting recyclables in the 3300 block of E. 17<sup>th</sup> St. when she was viciously attacked by a stranger. A witness called the police and provided the license plate number of the suspect's vehicle. Oakland Police Felony Assault Investigator Sgt. R.Wingate began a diligent investigation and was able to identify the suspect. On July 11th, 2011 the Alameda County District Attorney's Office charged the suspect with Assault with a Deadly Weapon and Battery.
- On July 9th, 2011, at approximately 4:34 PM, a concerned neighbor called the Oakland police after hearing the security alarm and seeing two male suspects leaving residence in the 7700 block of Hillmont Dr. Oakland police officers responded to the residential burglary and neighbors provided a description of the suspects and the direction in which they left the scene. Officers located two juvenile suspects and items which were stolen from the victim's residence a few blocks from the scene. The juvenile suspects aged 15 years old and 16 years old were arrested and interviewed by investigators. Both suspects confessed to their roles in the crime. This case is being reviewed by the Alameda County Juvenile Probation Department.
- On July 10, 2011 at approximately 4:55 PM a witness called the Oakland Police Emergency Dispatch to report a robbery that just occurred at the Oak Knoll Market in the 7900 block of Mountain Blvd. Witnesses reported seeing a female adult being robbed by male suspects. Oakland police officers responded to the scene and obtained information, including a license plate number and description of the suspect vehicle. Within minutes officers located the suspect vehicle and arrested two of the suspects. Cash and items taken from the 54 year old victim were found in the suspects' possession and recovered.

- On July 11th, 2011, at 1320 Hours, Oakland patrol officers were dispatched to a burglary having just occurred on the 3000 Block of Bona St. A witness observed suspects pull out a screen window entering a house and immediately called 911. Upon police arrival a perimeter was set up. Suspects were then ordered out of the home and taken into custody. This is an ongoing investigation. Anyone with information about the burglary is asked to contact the Oakland Police Department's Criminal Investigation Division at (510) 238-3951.

All the more reason to form a [Neighborhood Watch](#) group on your block and to keep the OPD phone numbers handy:

**911 for emergencies**

**777-3211 for emergencies from your cell phone**

**777-3333 for non emergencies**

**[2011 Free Child Safety Events at Habitot Children's Museum, 2065 Kittridge Street, Berkeley:](#)**

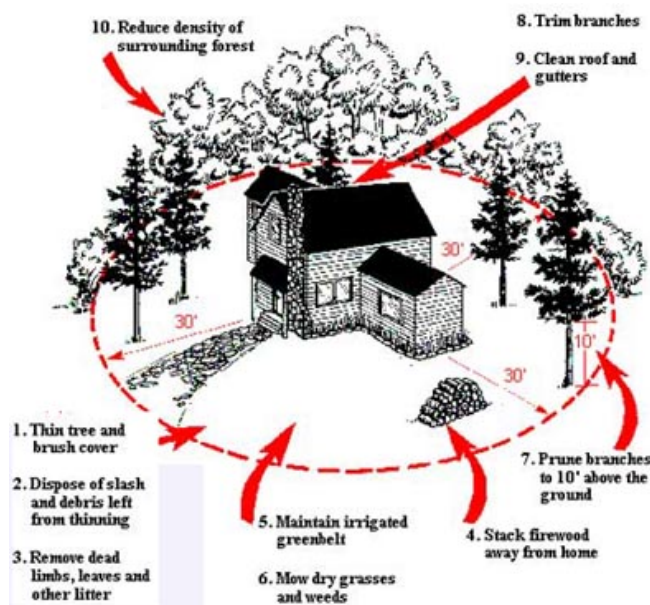
- Helmet Safety, July 12, 10 am-Noon, Helmets on sale for \$9
- Earthquake Safety, July 21, 10 am-Noon, American Red Cross tips
- Poison Control, August 3, 10 am -Noon
- Water Safety, August 15, 10-11:30 am, sponsored by the YMCA
- Choke Saving Skills-- Spanish, September 20, 1030 am-Noon; English, September 21, 10:30 am-Noon

For more information, contact Racel at 647-1111 ext 16 or [parented@habitot.org](mailto:parented@habitot.org)



**Sign up for National Night Out, Tuesday, August 2, 2011:** Last year Oakland residents held 457 block parties to celebrate National Night Out, an opportunity to build community in your own neighborhood. This year, the city hopes to reach 500 parties! The premise behind community policing is that strong neighborhoods are safe neighborhoods; and when neighbors work together with the city and police, we can make a real difference in the quality of life in the neighborhood. Sign up today so that you can ensure that I, the City Administrator or other city staff will stop by your party to say hello and answer questions. Hosts receive a free thank you gift! Call Brenda Ivey at 238-3091 or [sign up online](#).

**IT'S FIRE SEASON, INSPECTIONS UNDERWAY** Part of Oakland's unique beauty is that our diverse terrain includes urban forests. One of my first projects as a Council Member was working with hill residents to establish the Wild Fire Prevention District.



**One of the main features of that district is a program of annual inspections by the Oakland Fire Department. For residents living within the District, annual inspections started June 15.** Go to the [City website](#) for more information: a map of the district, the phone numbers of the Fire Inspectors and tips on protecting your home.

**County Community Wildfire Protection Plan Workshops:** The public is invited to help develop a community wildfire protection plan for Alameda County. While Oakland has a plan for the Wildfire Prevention Assessment District, there is no such plan for wildfire prone areas outside of Oakland. The workshops will focus on wildfire risks and hazards from Berkeley to Fremont. Please share your concerns and local knowledge. [Register here](#). For questions, contact [Cheryl Miller](#).

- **Saturday, July 16, 9 am-Noon,** Fremont Fire Administration Building, 3300 Capital Avenue, Building A, Fremont.
- **Saturday, July 23, 9 am-Noon,** Oakland Trudeau Center, 11500 Skyline Blvd., Oakland

- o **Saturday, July 30, 9 am-Noon**, Dublin Regional Meeting Room, 100 Civic Center Drive, Dublin

**OPD Email for Homicide Investigations:** The Oakland Police Department Homicide Section has a new email address for citizens to provide information to investigators about any homicide that has occurred. **Tips can always be submitted by calling 238-3821, or [Oaklandhomicide@oaklandnet.com](mailto:Oaklandhomicide@oaklandnet.com)** Homicides continue to run ahead of last year but lower than two years ago.

## 9. Circle Your Calendar.

Opportunities at [Chabot Space & Science Center](#) This Summer:

- **Summer Science Savings** \$10 Every Tuesday in July, 10 am-5 pm.
- **Summer Movie Nights**, Fridays and Saturday in July and August, Chabot's Giant Screen MegaDome theater is the ideal space for documentary films on Friday nights & classic science fiction on Saturday nights. Free with General Admission. Check website for weekly shows and times.
- **Space Explorer Summer Camps**--week-long camps run from July 5- August 5, 9 am-4 pm: Camps include hikes in the surrounding redwood ecosystem, a planetarium show, science thrills and more. A different theme each week for kids entering Kindergarten through 8th grade. Register today while space is still available! [Watch the Summer Camp Video](#)



**[Oakland Symphony Chorus Summer Sing Ins](#), Tuesday's, 7:30-9:30 pm, St. Pascal Baylon Church, 3700 Dorisa Avenue: \$10 per evening, \$45 for 5 evening series pass.**

July 19, Vivaldi: *Gloria*, Ming Luke, Conductor

July 26, Mozart: *Grand Mass in c minor*, Martha Stoddard, Conductor

**August 2 7-9 :30 pm, Mozart's *Requiem* --Maestro Michael Morgan, Oakland East Bay Symphony, conducts this special event, proceeds will help fund the free 10th Anniversary Remembrance of September 11, 2011 event at the Cathedral of Christ the Light on Sunday, September 11. First Covenant Church, 4000 Redwood Road \$15 Special Event/\$60 for evening series pass including the Special event.**

- August 9, Orff: *Carmina Burana*, Vance George, Conductor

Call 207-4093 for details

**Oakland Municipal Band 100th Concert Season, July 24 & 31, 1-3 pm, Lakeside Park:** The Free Concerts are conducted by Troy Davis and performed by 35 musicians featuring an array of jazz, contemporary, pop, big band, international, classical, marches and show tunes. Bring a lawn chair or blanket. Picnics welcomed and Flag waving encouraged. For more information, please call 339-2818.

**9th Annual Block Party, Melrose High Hopes Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council Beat 27x, Saturday, July 23, 2011, 11 am-3 p., Foothill Blvd. and Fremont Way, next to the Melrose Branch Library at 4805 Foothill and in the library courtyard.** Celebrate community at this fun-filled annual event. Join in the music led by Preston Turner, be a part of the community paper-quilting bee with artist Linda Lawson, bring a book to swap with Children's Librarian Adina Leitner Aguirre. Much more including kids bike-check booth, Discovery Science Center, Green booths, Child car-seat safety checks, fingerprinting for child safety, talking police car, food. Come join your neighbors for the 9th year of this enjoyable community event. All welcome. Free, but donations to defray expenses are more than welcome. See their Web site. <http://www.ncpcbeat27x.org>



**Inaugural Oakland Jazz Festival, Saturday, July 23, Dunsuir-Hellman Historic Estate:** KBLX and OPR sponsor what we hope will become an annual musical event celebrating Oakland's musical roots. Tickets (\$57.75+ convenience fee) go on sale starting Friday, May 13. General Admission (Picnic style seating-No reserve seats). Advance tickets available at the Paramount Theatre Box Office and all Ticketmaster outlets and [ticketmaster.com](http://ticketmaster.com). Pre Sale Code word: **JAZZ**. [LINK TO](#)

**West Oakland Garden Tour, Saturday, July 23, 2-5 pm:** Starts at Marston Campbell Garden, Lafayette Elementary, 1700 Market, \$20 to \$40, children free.

Discover West Oakland by bicycle (or van-pool) through a tour of lovely streets and edible gardens, with art at every stop. Wrap up with a block party, full of art, music, and fresh, delicious food and drink from local culinary luminaries. And enter the raffle for prizes like a night's stay at The Huntington, dinners at fine local restaurants, or dinner and a boat trip down the American River.

FOOD from Picante | DRINK from Linden Street Brewery | ENTERTAINMENT by TURF FEINZ



**East Bay Food Fight--Eat, Drink and Battle to End Poverty, Saturday, July 23, Jack London Square Pavilion:**

Top chefs, sumptuous food and drink, celebrity VIPS and those who love food come together on Saturday, July 23 to support St. Vincent de Paul's Kitchen of Champions Culinary Training Program. In its first 3 years, the program has graduated more than 200 students; 70% have gained jobs in the food industry. At the East Bay Food Fight, six of the East Bay's most noted executive chefs will battle it out on stage for a panel of VIP judges with discriminating palates. Taste your way through summer signature menu offerings from 40 of the east Bay's finest restaurants, breweries and wineries. Sample the special Food Fight signature cocktails, gaze height-of-the-summer produce from local farms and delight at culinary demos. Live auction as well. Sponsored by Oakland Restaurant Association KTVU-2, Jack London Square/Port of Oakland, KFOG and Yelp. For tickets and information, go to [www.eastbayfoodfight.org](http://www.eastbayfoodfight.org).

Early bird prices are available through June 30.

*Above) I met with the students at St. Vincent de Paul's Kitchen of Champions Culinary Training Program.*

**CDS Dressage Show, Sunday, July 24, Sequoia Arena in Joaquin Miller Park:** Come watch equestrians and their horses in the great outdoors. Sponsored by the Metropolitan Horsemen's Association. For information about other upcoming events, visit [www.mhaoakland.org](http://www.mhaoakland.org).

**California Writers Club (CWC) Picnic in Joaquin Miller Park, Saturday, July 30, 1- 4 pm Fire Circle in Joaquin Miller Park:** Join the [California Writers Club](http://www.californiawritersclub.org) for their annual picnic that celebrates the legacy of California's great writers: Jack London, John Muir, Joaquin Miller, and California's first poet laureate Ina Coolbrith, who was also an Oakland city librarian. Please bring your own drink and a dish to share. RSVP to Linda Brown by July 27 at 530-1261.



**I Choose Oakland Celebration @ Art Murrum, Friday, August 5, 7:30-8:30 pm, Classic Cars West, 411-26<sup>th</sup> Street, btwn.**

**Telegraph and Broadway:** Please join me as we showcase the finalists from the "I Choose Oakland photo" and video contest. Food, drink and multimedia show at 8 pm. A new member of Art Murrum, Classic Cars West is an eclectic vintage car showroom and art gallery. The space is very cool - with great wall space for the multimedia show and an outdoor patio with huge Burning Man sculpture, tiki lights, etc. It's a cool space and will generate good foot traffic independent of our event.

## 10. Oakland Celebrates Its Neighborhoods: Plan Your Summer Staycation



**Mark your calendar for the 2011 Street Festival Season. Each neighborhood reveals its own special Oakland vibe. Spend a few hours exploring Oakland's rich cultural heritage!**

- Saturday, July 23, [First Oakland Jazz Festival](#), Noon, Dunsmuir Hellman Historic Estate
- Saturday, July 23, [4th Annual Art & Garden Tour](#), Discover West Oakland, 2 pm, Children under 18 free, \$20-\$40 donation supports [OBUGS](#): Kids Cultivating Health Futures.
- Saturday, August 13, [Laurel Street Fair](#), featuring the John Santos Sextet, creative crafts, merchants and more
- Saturday-Sunday, August 20-21 [Art & Soul](#), Civic Center
- Saturday-Sunday, August 27-28 [Chinatown Street Fest](#), Chinatown
- Sunday, September 4, [Oakland Pride Festival](#), Uptown
- Saturday, September 10, Noon - 5 pm, [Day in the Park, Maxwell Park](#)
- Sunday, September 18, [Sundays in the Redwoods](#), Woodminster Amphitheater, Joaquin Miller Park
- Sunday, September 25, [Sundays in the Redwoods](#), Woodminster Amphitheater, Joaquin Miller Park
- Sunday September 25, 7th Annual Oakland Grand Prix of Cycling, Civic Center
- Sunday, September 25, [Out & About in Rockridge](#)
- Saturday, October 1, [Black Cowboy Parade](#), DeFremery Park
- Saturday, October 1, 11 am-6 pm. [Oaktobefest](#) in the Diamond
- Sunday, October 2, [Oaklavia!](#), Over 4000 people attended [Walk Oakland-Bike Oakland](#) (WOBO)'s first [Oaklavia](#) in June of last year. This year, the event has been moved to September, where pedestrians, and bicyclists can enjoy a no-auto Broadway and parts of Telegraph from Old Oakland to Uptown. There will be alking, running, biking, eating, shopping, dancing and playing in the street.
- Sunday, October 2, [Sundays in the Redwoods](#), Woodminster Amphitheater, Joaquin Miller Park
- Sunday, October 9 [Sundays in the Redwoods](#), Woodminster Amphitheater, Joaquin Miller Park
- Saturday, October 22, 20th Anniversary of 1991 Firestorm-- 9 am Rockridge BART Tile Wall; 10:30 am Remembrance Ceremony Gateway Exhibit Center; Emergency Preparedness Fair, Noon - 4 pm, Lake Temescal

