

# Views

## Richmond Heights Neighborhood Council

Visit us at [www.richmond-heights.org](http://www.richmond-heights.org) Rock Brown, President • P.O. Box 5253 • Richmond, CA 94805

### quick-takes

#### Library Book Sale

The book sale in the main library is ongoing and we have the grab-a-bag sale on the first Wednesday of every month in the main library.

Select any 10 books and they are yours for just \$2.00. Library hours on Wednesday are 10a.m.-8p.m. The Main Library is at 325 Civic Center Plaza, near the corner of Macdonald Avenue. For info call 235-9056.

#### Wash Water Disposal

All carpet cleaners who conduct a business that generate wash water must perform their operations based on established best management practices (BMPs). With permission from the local sanitary district and the property owner, wash water from a carpet cleaning business can be discharged into a toilet, a drain connected to the sanitary sewer system, a floor sink, utility, or mop sink.

Carpet cleaners need to contact the local sanitary district to procure a discharge permit, if required, before discharging their wash water into the sanitary sewer system.

Wash water should never be discharged to a street, gutter, parking lot, or storm drain. If discharged or disposed of improperly, materials such as solvents, dirt, and soapy water can degrade water quality and creek habitats.

### Helping Hands Program

The City of Richmond implements innovative program to remove blight and provide youth training and employment opportunities while assisting seniors and the disabled with home maintenance projects.

RichmondWORKS and the City of Richmond Community Redevelopment Agency have created a program designed to help low income seniors and physically disabled Richmond residents with minor home repairs while creating jobs for Richmond youth. The "Helping Hands" program will be staffed by Richmond youth and will provide services to those members of the community unable to keep up with basic home maintenance.

The services will be performed by Richmond youth between the ages of 17-24, who are participating in the YouthBUILD training program, which combines academic support with practical work experience.

"We are very pleased to partner with RichmondWORKS to create this opportunity to assist those in our community most in need of these kinds of supportive services," stated Steve Duran, Executive Director of the Redevelopment Agency. "This program will enable us to remove blight, to improve appearances in neighborhoods throughout our community and to provide our youth with much needed training and employment opportunities."

The program "Helping Hands" will provide low income seniors and physically disabled homeowners with the following services:

Repairing and painting fences, trimming shrubs, removing debris, mowing lawns, repairing windows and exterior doors, minor exterior painting, smoke detector installation, and other minor home repairs

Homeowners should contact RichmondWORKS at 510/307-8014 to find out if they are eligible to participate.

### Environmental Note

There is growing scientific evidence that the oceans are in serious trouble. Pesticides and other pollution continue to enter the oceans. Coastal wetlands have shrunk. Nearly 150 oxygen deprived "dead zones" have developed worldwide, some reaching more than 40,000 square miles in size. Fish populations are also in serious decline.

Almost everyone can take part in protecting our oceans, and one organization that offers good advice is the Monterey Bay Aquarium's "Save the Oceans" program at <http://www.montereybayaquarium.org/cr/>. One very helpful feature offers ecologically sound advice on purchasing seafood. The Monterey Bay Aquarium has a special "Seafood Watch" web site feature that includes a chart of the best seafood choices and those to avoid.

**next meeting**

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## quick-takes

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### Motor Vehicle repairs

In residential areas RMC 11.78 states that a person may service, repair or otherwise work on any motor or recreational vehicle, trailer or boat (referred to as the "vehicle") under the following conditions:

The vehicle must be owned by a person who resides on the same parcel where the work is being done or owned by a member of such a person's family.

The work must not be done on the front yard area except on the driveway.

If the work exceeds 24 hours, the work must be completely confined within a garage or carport, or the work must be screened from offsite view.

The work must not take longer than fifteen days.

The vehicle owner must not do the work, or have the work done, on the vehicle as a business. For example: a property owner and/or tenant cannot purchase a vehicle, repair the vehicle at the property, and then place the vehicle for sale.

Vehicle repair businesses are prohibited in any district zoned R-1 (single family residence), R-MD (residential medium density), R-2 (Multiple-family residential), and R-3 (high rise residential).

An inoperable, wrecked or dismantled vehicle may be stored in a completely enclosed building (e.g., a garage), so as not to be visible from the street or other public or private property.

Said vehicle may not be stored on the street nor on an unapproved parking pad (such as front, side or rear yards).

## Richmond Arts Center Update

The Arts Center has made it through the first phase of renovation! The Weaving, Screen Printing, and Kids' Studios have undergone seismic retrofitting and are back in use for classes and workshops. But don't retire your hardhats yet, by the time the clamor of construction quiets this Fall, the Art Center will have all new exterior doors and windows as well.

As the dust settles just a bit for the time being, the Arts Center Staff would like to thank the wonderful students, faculty, and visitors for having good humor and patience during these noisy, dusty days. The staff also would like to give their immense thanks to the Richmond City Council, City Manager, and Redevelopment Agency for their assistance in helping mitigate some of the financial impact of this complex project. The Arts Center Staff looks forward to the renovation being completed this Fall.

For more information about classes go to:

<http://therichmondartcenter.pmailus.com/pmailweb/ct?d=E7c28wBzAAMAAAP EAAHV3w> and click on class schedules.

Through the RAC's Neighborhood Public Art Project, artist Marion Coleman has been successfully working with a group of residents from Parchester Village to form a trans-generational "quilter's guild". They have been working on an exciting group piece for the RAC that will function as a "time capsule", reflecting the history and current cultural climate of the neighborhood. The project is slated for completion in early June, when you'll be able to find a display of the group's work at the Contra Costa County Fair.

This year, in addition to the Parchester Village Community Center, projects are slated to take place in collaboration with Shields-Reid Community Center and the Center for Human Development, the Tent City Peace Movement, the Richmond Main Street Initiative, Familas Unidas, and the Laurel Park Neighborhood Council.

## Graffiti Removal Update

On Wednesday, May 7, 2008 there was another meeting to talk about the "do" and "what not to do" list. One thing to do is to call 231-3031 if graffiti is on a reflective street sign so that the reflective material is not damaged by solvents used by volunteers.

On Saturday, May 10, 2008 there was a graffiti removal party between 14<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> on the Greenway south of Chanselor. The Mayor, City Manager, Trina Jackson, Ralph Lloyd, and other City Staff were there, as well as Ed Paasch with two other employees that work as painters. There were about 20 volunteers to help the City Staff kick off the graffiti clean up program.

If there is graffiti in your area of Richmond you can call 231-3031 to find out about how it might be removed. If you are interested in having a graffiti clean up party in Richmond Heights Neighborhood area contact Owen Martin at [owenlmartin@earthlink.net](mailto:owenlmartin@earthlink.net) and if one location gets enough interest we will try to coordinate a date and time with the City Staff to have a kick off in our area.

So please get involved in your community. With just a little time, many volunteers can make a difference. After the kick off, the volunteers remove graffiti as their time permits.

## quick-takes

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### Non Profit Meetings

It is ok to invite speakers to speak about an issue, but they cannot tell the attending public how to vote on an issue, the meeting is for information purposes only. Whether there is one side or both sides speaking.

In the past our neighborhood has asked the people attending the meeting to pass a resolution asking the City Council to represent our community in a particular way.

Per the **City of Richmond's Senior Assistant City Attorney**, responding to a question of nonprofit meetings discussing items, the actual resolution should not be in the newsletter. The newsletter can advertise a forum where both sides of the issue are discussed but any particular position cannot be advocated in the newsletter.

### Summer 2008 Sports Camp

Preparation and planning is in progress for (hopefully) the first annual Recreation Complex Summer Sports Camp. Children ages 6-14 will be taught the fundamentals of basketball, flag football, soccer, volleyball, golf and baseball in 2 week sessions beginning June 16, 2008.

For more info contact the Parks and Recreation Department.

### Vote in June 2008

Please be informed, involved and vote as often as possible (once per election). Every vote makes a difference.

## Join the Richmond Heights Yahoo! Group

A Yahoo! Group is an e-mail discussion group and can be a fabulous resource for community building. By sending an e-mail to the group e-mail address, it is distributed to everyone who is a member of the e-mail group. You also will receive all messages sent in by other members.

The goal of the Richmond Heights e-mail group is not only to get to know your neighbors, but to build community connections for people who live, work, or spend time in Richmond Heights.

**How to Join?** Unfortunately, Yahoo doesn't make it simple, but here are some guidelines to help walk you through it.

If you already participate in Yahoo! Groups or have a Yahoo e-mail account it is much easier, you just need to:

- 1) sign into your account, 2) click on the following link [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/richmond\\_heights/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/richmond_heights/) and click on
- 3) "Join this Group."

If you do not have a Yahoo ID, then you will need to get one in order to join the group.

To get a Yahoo ID, follow these steps:

- 1) Go to <https://login.yahoo.com>
- 2) Under where it says "Don't have a Yahoo ID" click on "Sign Up"
- 3) Fill out the information that has been asterisked.
- 4) Assuming you do not want to use the new yahoo e-mail address that was just created for you, fill in the e-mail address that you do want to use for the e-mail group where it says "Alternate E-mail".
- 5) When you've completed the form click "Submit." Yahoo will now send you an e-mail link to your alternative e-mail to activate your new Yahoo ID.
- 6) Now go to your e-mail account to open this message, and then click on the link provided and this will activate your Yahoo ID.

Once you have an active Yahoo ID, go to:

[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/richmond\\_heights/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/richmond_heights/) then click on "Join this Group."

- 1) Step 1 (Contact information) Profile: Leave it as it is. E-mail: Choose the e-mail address you wish to receive the e-mails. Note: if there isn't an option to choose your non-yahoo e-mail address, then you may need to click on the link "verify" by your non-yahoo e-mail address. (Comment to owner) write a sentence or two to introduce yourself to the moderator so she knows you aren't a spammer.
- 2) Step 2 (Message delivery) There are 3 ways available for you to receive messages. The first is Individual E-mails, in which every message is sent to you individually. The second is Daily Digest, in which you receive all the day's messages in one e-mail. The third is No E-Mail, in which you will receive no e-mails but can read the messages by clicking on Messages on the home page. Since there is currently very little activity please choose either "Individual E-mails" or "Daily Digest". The third option is really for lists that receive dozens of e-mails each day, but this won't be the case.

## contacts



You'll find many more phone numbers, as well as e-mail links for public services at our website, [www.richmond-heights.org](http://www.richmond-heights.org)

### Emergency 911

Crime in progress, medical

### To report suspicious activity

Richmond Police 233-1214  
Unincorporated area 925/646-2441  
Anonymous tips 232-TIPS

### Community Police Officer

Officer Tim Gard 621-1212 ex 7099  
e-mail [tgard@richmondpd.net](mailto:tgard@richmondpd.net)

### General security concerns, other police services

RP Watch Commander 620-6643  
Michelle Milam 620-6538

### Neighborhood Council issues

Gina Swirsding \*82-232-1675

### Report blight and graffiti

Richmond 231-3010  
Graffiti 715-6422  
CalTrans 925/926-6112

### Report abatement issues

Auto on Private land 621-1278  
Auto on Public land 620-6644  
Alma Munguia 621-1569  
Pot Hole Repair 231-3011

As always we are looking for community events for the newsletter. If you know of an event coming up, let us know at least the first week of the month before. Just e-mail the editor at [owenlmartin@earthlink.net](mailto:owenlmartin@earthlink.net) with any requests or suggestions. If you have something you would like to write yourself, we are also all ears. This is your newsletter.

### Burglary from residence

4/04 51XX Garvin  
4/04 6XX Sonoma  
4/05 6XX Yuba  
4/26 6XX Ventura  
4/28 9XX Sonoma

## Calls for service to the Richmond Police

Calls made to the Richmond Police become statistics provided to us each month by Crime Analysis of RPD, whose support and assistance we continue to appreciate.

**Suspicious person** 31  
**Suspicious vehicle** 12  
**Abandoned auto** 10  
**Recovered stolen vehicle** 10  
**Disturbance** 32  
**911 Disconnect** 9  
**Dumping** 2  
**Stolen vehicle** 19

4/01 124XX San Pablo  
4/01 52XX Esmond  
4/01 55XX Clinton  
4/02 124XX San Pablo  
4/02 127XX San Pablo  
4/02 9XX McLaughlin  
4/03 10XX McLaughlin  
4/05 52XX Garvin  
4/05 52XX Garvin  
4/06 10XX Lassen  
4/06 49XX Macdonald  
4/06 8XX Sonoma  
4/07 9XX Humboldt  
4/09 6XX Yuba  
4/11 10XX Ventura  
4/13 5XX McLaughlin  
4/15 50XX Esmond  
4/16 122XX San Pablo  
4/21 7XX Humboldt

### Carjacking

4/18 Macdonald / San Pablo

### Burglary from auto

4/10 122XX San Pablo  
4/17 50XX Garvin  
4/17 55XX Clinton  
4/17 55XX Clinton X2  
4/17 6XX Humboldt  
4/17 6XX McLaughlin  
4/18 4XX 46th  
4/18 4XX McLaughlin  
4/19 122XX San Pablo  
4/20 6XX Kern  
4/21 8XX Lassen

### Hold up alarm

4/23 128XX San Pablo

### Robbery

4/04 128XX San Pablo  
4/04 54XX Sierra  
4/04 Macdonald / San Pablo  
4/29 125XX San Pablo

### Petty theft / stolen property

4/13 56XX Sierra  
4/21 124XX San Pablo  
4/25 7XX Amador

### Battery

4/05 128XX San Pablo  
4/07 51XX Macdonald  
4/12 48XX Macdonald  
4/14 54XX Sierra  
4/15 56XX Esmond  
4/24 10XX Ventura  
4/24 50XX Barrett

### Hit/Run property damage

4/10 Solano / Humboldt  
4/13 Clinton / San Pablo

### Shooting at occupied dwelling

4/16 126XX San Pablo  
4/21 124XX San Pablo

### Terrorist throw

4/26 6XX Key

### Calls related to juveniles

4/01 57XX Solano  
4/03 9XX Kern  
4/11 57XX Solano

### Vandalism

4/08 7XX Lassen  
4/15 122XX San Pablo  
4/17 55XX Clinton  
4/17 55XX Sierra  
4/20 Garvin / Sonoma  
4/20 Garvin / Yuba  
4/21 49XX Macdonald  
4/23 8XX Yuba  
4/24 49XX Macdonald  
4/24 Barrett / San Pablo  
4/30 9XX Yuba

### Fireworks

4/20 10XX Ventura


**quick-takes**

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**Cinco de Mayo**

Activities over the holiday weekend went very well. Officers only made a couple of arrests for minor violations (i.e., drunk and disorderly conduct). The parade on Saturday went very well, with RPD and San Pablo Officers coordinating traffic control. Chiefs Magnus and Aida both walked the parade route. RPD Explorers and Cadets assisted with this event. Sunday's festival was well attended (crowds estimated to be 15,000 +). RPD officers and civilian personnel were involved in recruiting and crime prevention activities throughout the day.

**4<sup>th</sup> of July celebrations**

The City of Richmond has been celebrating on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July and the SS Red Oak has been selling dinner and a show to enjoy the fireworks even better.

Ship Phone: 510-237-2933

**Juneteenth celebrations**

Saturday, June 21, 2008,  
10:30am - 6:30pm Parade Begins at  
10:30am (11th Street & Macdonald  
Ave - parade ends at Nichol Park)

Grand Marshals: Mother  
Novelean Harris and Ted Smith

Parade entries include: Bay Area  
Black Pilots and Black Cowboys

Juneteenth Festival Begins at  
11:30am (Nichol Park - Richmond,  
CA). Additional performances by:  
The Hartsfield Family and the  
Mekesmo Band, Deja, Delta Alpha  
Sigma Steppers, Nymani Music and  
many more...

For more information please call  
(510) 620-6516

[www.juneteenthrichmondca.org](http://www.juneteenthrichmondca.org)

**Compstat Citywide January to May 7<sup>th</sup>**

From Chief Magnus:

These numbers reflect January 1 thru May 7 of both years.

<b>VIOLENT CRIMES</b>	<b>YTD 2008</b>	<b>YTD 2007</b>	<b>% change</b>
HOMICIDE	11	8	37.50%
RAPE	12	15	-20.00%
ROBBERY	156	212	-26.42%
AGGRAVATED ASSAULTS	137	156	-12.18%
<b>TOTAL VIOLENT</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>391</b>	<b>-19.18%</b>
<b>PROPERTY CRIMES</b>			
BURGLARY	512	637	-19.62%
AUTO THEFT	732	929	-21.21%
ARSON	17	17	0.00%
<b>TOTAL PROPERTY</b>	<b>1261</b>	<b>1583</b>	<b>-20.34%</b>
<b>TOTAL PART I (VIOLENT+PROPERTY)</b>			
	<b>1577</b>	<b>1974</b>	<b>-20.11%</b>

On Monday, May 5, 2008, 12:40 a.m.-700 block of Humboldt Ave.- Officer Bailey stopped a suspicious vehicle in this area and during the contact with the occupants, he smelled the odor of Marijuana emanating from the vehicle. A search of the car yielded 21 grams of Marijuana from the glove compartment and a loaded Imtratec Mac 11 assault pistol under the rear passenger side floor mat. The 27 year old driver was arrested along with the passenger. The report was forwarded to the DOJ Gun Task Force for follow up.

On Saturday, May 3, 2008, 2:00 p.m.-Filbert St. and Vernon Ave.- Officers Lonso and Kaiser initiated a contact with an 18 year old male at this location. The individual agreed to allow the officers to search him and the officers located 21 grams of tar heroin on his person.

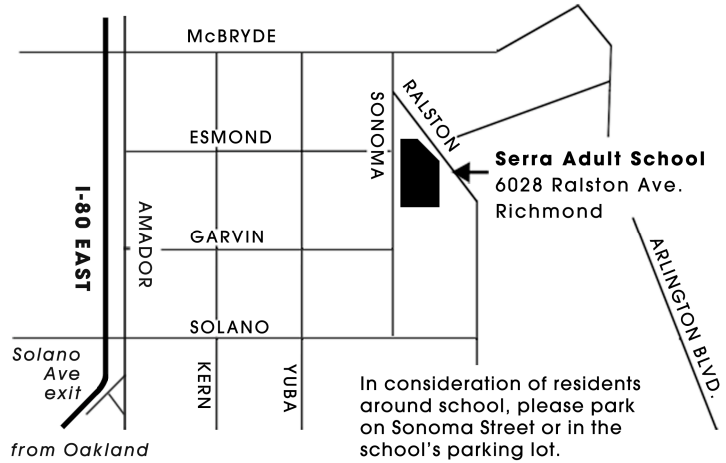
On Saturday, May 3, 2008, 5:15 p.m.-Marina Bay Pkwy and S.27<sup>th</sup> St.- Officer Cantrell assisted San Pablo PD detectives in apprehended a 20 year old homicide suspect who was in Richmond PD jurisdiction. The suspect was taken into custody without incident.

On Friday, May 2, 2008, 11:00 p.m.-S. 49<sup>th</sup> St. and Cypress Ave.- Officer Kaiser was on patrol in the area when he noticed an 18 year old suspect abruptly turn and walk away from him. Officer Kaiser followed the suspect in his vehicle and the suspect broke into a run southbound through the park towards the north fence line of the Hartnett Apt. complex. When the suspect reached the fence, Officer Kaiser watched as the suspect threw a black, semi auto handgun over the fence. Officer Kaiser apprehended the suspect and retrieved the weapon.

**at the next RHNC meeting**

**Topic of next meeting**

*City Councilmember Ludmyrna Lopez is co-chair of the finance committee. Through her RHNC has invited the Finance Committee and some of the City Department Heads to discuss the budget for next fiscal year.*



**Monday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 7 PM**  
Serra Adult School  
6028 Ralston Avenue

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Richmond, CA 94808

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