

# 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

#### Neighborhood Election

At our November meeting we will be nominating and voting for four people to lead our meetings for the next year.

Although we usually vote in October we had a very informative discussion about Point Molate that lasted until 9:00 P.M. and is sure to continue within our City until the end of time.

#### National Elections

On Tuesday, November 4, 2008 those registered to vote who do not choose to vote by mail will have the opportunity to **go to the polls and VOTE.**

Please do not miss this important opportunity to let your voice be heard. No matter how you vote, it is always important to go to the poles.

#### Team Athletics

Coach Kinney is teaching Richmond High School students how to provide support services for all of the different sports played at the school.

Sports Industry Portal (SIP) is an after school program that brings awareness and training opportunities to students at RHS and provides them hands on applications of various industry skills alongside RHS sports teams throughout the year.

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## In Memory of Officer Brad Moody

Richmond Police Officer Brad Moody, 29 years of age and an 8 year employee with the Richmond Police Department, was involved in a single patrol-car accident Saturday morning (Oct. 4), shortly before 8 a.m. on Marina Bay Parkway just north of Regatta Blvd. in the City of Richmond. Officer Moody's vehicle struck a utility pole in the median while responding to a call that involved a felony assault with injuries. It had been raining a short time before the call and roads were slick. After heroic efforts at the accident scene involving several members of the Richmond Police and Fire Department, as well as several PG&E employees, Officer Moody was transported to John Muir Trauma Center in Walnut Creek.

His preference was to be an organ-donor, so his family has instructed the hospital to move forward with that process. In accordance with his and his family's wishes, Brad's organs were donated, enabling him to save the life of a San Francisco man who had less than 24 hours to live.

Officer Moody is survived by his wife, Susan, and his two young daughters. Officer Moody was a K-9 officer with the department and his dog "Rico" survived the accident and is recovering from minor injuries. Officer Moody was also a member of the RPD SWAT Team. Brad was held in the highest regard by his peers. His work ethic was extraordinary, and his commitment to the community of Richmond and his profession unparalleled. Needless to say, this is a very difficult time for RPD, Brad's family, and many friends in the community.

## City Opens Escrow Account for Funds

Several weeks ago, the United States Navy deposited \$28.5 million in an escrow account (prior to the start of its October 1 fiscal year) for the City of Richmond to use for the Pt. Molate cleanup. The City can access this money as soon as the remaining parcels are transferred to the City, which staff estimates should be in early 2009. The interest that accrues on the money in escrow before the property transfer takes place is returned to the Navy. Currently, staff is working on obtaining insurance for the project, with AIG as a contender. Supposedly, with the recent federal rescue of AIG, it will be more capable than ever of insuring this project.

## Meet with the Mayor

Every Friday, 5:30P.M. - 6:30P.M. At the Madeline F. Whittlesey Rm. (next to the Main Library), 325 Civic Center Plaza.

No meetings will be held on October 31, November 28, December 26, 2008 or on January 2, 2009.

**next meeting**

See back page for agenda

## quick-takes

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### Team Athletics

**SIP** serves as a portal which exposes all interested RHS students to many aspects of employable opportunities in the sports industry. Some of these are: bringing Bay Area college students as mentors, bringing professional sports industry reps to present their opportunities, to give **SIP** students the opportunity to develop their skills and interests in conjunction with the teams as they practice and play different sporting events

Some of the tasks they learn are: Sports Team Trainer, Sports Media Team, Sports Management Team, and Sports Financial Management.

### Distressed Property Info

From the Article to the lower right.

#### Pre-Fore-closures

Number of SFD's in 94801	397
<u>Percent of SFD's</u>	<u>9.4%</u>
Number of SFD's City wide	1,010
Percent of SFD's	4.3%

#### Auction

Number of SFD's in 94801	119
<u>Percent of SFD's</u>	<u>2.8%</u>
Number of SFD's City wide	317
Percent of SFD's	1.4%

#### Bank Owned

Number of SFD's in 94801	567
<u>Percent of SFD's</u>	<u>13.4%</u>
Number of SFD's City wide	1,640
Percent of SFD's	7.0%

#### Sheriff Sales

Number of SFD's in 94801	25
<u>Percent of SFD's</u>	<u>0.6%</u>
Number of SFD's City wide	100
Percent of SFD's	0.4%

#### Total Distressed SFD

Number of SFD's in 94801	1,108
<u>Percent of SFD's</u>	<u>26.3%</u>
Number of SFD's City wide	3,067
Percent of SFD's	13.1%

## Funding for Marina Way Grade Project

As previously reported to you, in August, the California Transportation Commission (CTC) approved a grant application for \$5 million in funding assistance in support of a \$37.5 million grade separation project on the Marina Bay Parkway. More recently, staff has been pursuing an additional funding opportunity involving State Proposition 1B money which may yield as much as \$15 million. This \$15 million in funding requires a 50% non-state match, and approval from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC). All of this funding is contingent on the development of a full funding plan being in place before the end of November.

As it stands now, these \$20 million dollars in state grant funds, combined with other committed local sources, leaves the City approximately \$11 million dollars short in its current funding plan. As a result, City and Redevelopment Agency have been meeting with the staff members of the Water Emergency Transportation Authority, the West Contra Costa Transportation Advisory Committee (WCCTAC), the Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA), and MTC to shore up this funding gap. Today, Redevelopment Agency staff members Alan Wolken and Chad Smalley, and I met with WCCTAC, CCTA, and WETA staff to brainstorm how to use CCTA Measure J funds to close this gap. We expect to be coming to the City Council on October 28th with what we believe will be a workable financial approach for funding the Marina Bay Parkway grade separation project, although a number of details are yet to be worked out.

## HALLOWEEN Oct. 31st, 2008

Noon until 3PM. at Point Molate. Costumes encouraged.

LUNCH Food & brew by Marsha Tomassi of The Ultimate Inner Cook includes "Witches Winhaven Brew"

PRESENTATION & TOURS History of Winehaven presented by Tom Butt Historic pictures courtesy of the Pt. Richmond History Association Docent led tours of the Winehaven Building and the Wine Master's Cottage.

WINE AUCTION Organized by Draper & Esquin Wine & Spirits, and Upstream Point Molate LLC

TICKETS \$35 purchase online, or by mail RICHMOND ROTARY,

P.O. Box 263, Station A, Richmond, CA 94806

Your name and the ticket quantity will be added to a door list at the event. Proceeds benefit the RICHMOND ROTARY PEACE PROJECT

For more information call Margaret, 510 234-4219

## Distressed Property Information

There is a great deal of erroneous information being bantered about regarding foreclosures and distressed properties in Richmond. The City Manager thought that it would be important to provide people with some key "distressed property" data gathered from sources that are deemed to be reliable, although data from sources may vary somewhat.

Staff examined the City's hardest hit zip code, 94801, and the City as a whole. According to MetroScan, Richmond's zip code 94801 represents 26% (7,956) of all parcels (31,000) and 18% (4,221) of all Single Family Dwellings (SFD's) (23,395) in Richmond. 36% of the distressed properties are in zip code 94801. The actual detail can be found in the column to the left.

## 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 231-3031  
CalTrans 925/926-6112

### Report abatement issues

Auto on Private land 621-1278  
Auto on Public land 620-6644  
Alma Munguia 621-1279  
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.

### Carjacking

9/01 128XX San Pablo

### Person w/ a gun

9/02 123XX San Pablo

### Grand theft

9/21 7XX McLaughlin

## 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** 37  
**Suspicious vehicle** 12  
**Abandoned auto** 17  
**Recovered stolen vehicle** 6  
**Vehicle tampering** 1  
**Disturbance** 36  
**911 Disconnect** 12  
**Dogs** 3  
**Dumping** 1  
**Stolen vehicle** 11

9/01 6XX Ventura  
9/01 7XX Humboldt  
9/08 56XX Marin  
9/09 5XX Dimm  
9/10 50XX McBryde  
9/13 7XX Courtland  
9/15 6XX Amador  
9/17 122XX San Pablo  
9/24 122XX San Pablo  
9/27 6XX McLaughlin  
9/28 6XX Amador

### Hit/Run property damage

9/15 127XX San Pablo  
9/22 4XX Mount  
9/29 123XX San Pablo  
9/29 10XX McLaughlin  
9/30 Barrett / San Pablo

### Burglary from residence

9/12 6XX McLaughlin  
9/13 51XX Solano  
9/23 5XX Dimm  
9/23 52XX Solano  
9/26 9XX Humboldt

### Burglary from auto

9/04 Garvin / Humboldt  
9/17 10XX McLaughlin  
9/19 48XX Barrett  
9/20 51XX Roosevelt  
9/23 7XX McLaughlin  
9/26 128XX San Pablo  
9/28 128XX San Pablo  
9/29 4XX Mount

### Battery

9/01 49XX Macdonald  
9/03 49XX Macdonald  
9/04 49XX Macdonald  
9/15 7XX Kern  
9/19 6XX Key  
9/19 6XX Key  
9/21 9XX Ventura

### Petty theft / stolen property

9/01 49XX Clinton  
9/04 6XX McLaughlin  
9/07 7XX Courtland  
9/10 50XX Barrett  
9/10 50XX Barrett  
9/10 49XX Macdonald  
9/13 51XX Prather  
9/20 49XX Macdonald  
9/21 7XX Humboldt  
9/24 49XX Macdonald  
9/25 124XX San Pablo  
9/27 Macdonald / San Pablo  
9/30 125XX San Pablo  
9/30 8XX Ventura

### Calls related to juveniles

9/04 6XX McLaughlin  
9/04 Macdonald / San Pablo  
9/19 7XX Amador  
9/21 6XX Humboldt  
9/21 55XX Esmond  
9/26 7XX Kern  
9/28 7XX Kern  
9/28 7XX Kern  
9/29 7XX Kern  
9/30 7XX Kern

### Vandalism

9/06 9XX Ventura  
9/07 6XX Sonoma  
9/10 48XX Macdonald  
9/11 10XX Lassen  
9/11 10XX Ventura  
9/12 50XX McBryde  
9/13 50XX McBryde  
9/16 54XX Solano  
9/16 122XX San Pablo  
9/20 Garvin / Amador  
9/20 7XX Amador  
9/22 124XX San Pablo

## **Calls for service to the Richmond Police**

Continued from previous page

### **Theft**

9/13 48XX Macdonald

### **Drug activity**

9/21 6XX Ventura

### **Partnering with the Community**

Richmond Police Department has a 12 page handbook to provide resource information to address some of the neighborhood concerns within the City of Richmond.

You may receive a copy of this booklet by contacting Michelle Milam at 620-6538.

The booklet mentions reporting crimes, remaining anonymous or to testify with protection if needed.

Neighborhood problems including abandoned autos, graffiti, garbage dumping, loud noises, drug dealing, ending with contact numbers and a statement from Chief Magnus.

Limits on Parking (page 4); the RMC makes it illegal to leave a car parked on the street for more than 72 consecutive hours. (14.40.050 RMC)

The RMC makes it illegal to park a vehicle loaded with garbage or debris on the road or on private property if it is visible from the roadway. (14.44.130 RMC)

If you find a vehicle parked on your street ask your neighbors if they know who the vehicle belong to. If vehicles are “dumped” on your street report them to RPD at 620-6644 giving the description of the vehicle and the license plate number. Some of these vehicles are reported stolen and unless you call them in they will not be found for awhile.

Lights Prevent Crime (page 5); lighting helps prevent crime at night. Report malfunctioning street lights by calling 231-3011.

### **Shots fired**

9/01 10XX Lassen

9/16 Clinton / Ventura

9/24 8XX McLaughlin

### **Robbery**

9/18 Macdonald / San Pablo

9/21 Esmond / McLaughlin

## **Campus Bay**

From the web site, <http://campusbayrichmond.com/background.html>.

Our guest speakers in November will be giving us an update on the status of the clean up of the Campus Bay site.

Campus Bay’s history goes back more than 100 years when it became home to a succession of chemical manufacturing companies, the last of which ceased manufacturing operations more than 10 years ago. Zeneca, the former owner, initiated a voluntary \$20 million cleanup under the oversight of the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB). By 2003, the cleanup was largely complete on the upland portion of the property.

In late 2002, Cherokee Simeon Venture I, LLC (CSV), a joint venture between Cherokee and SIMEON Properties, acquired the 87-acre Campus Bay property. Cherokee is the leading private equity firm investing capital and expertise in brownfield redevelopment. Since 1990, Cherokee has acquired more than 525 properties, many that required substantial environmental cleanup prior to redevelopment. SIMEON is a family of real estate companies dedicated to responsible residential and commercial development in the Bay Area and throughout the Western states.

In 2005, complete regulatory oversight of the Campus Bay investigation and cleanup was transferred to the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC). The DTSC brings decades of experience overseeing the cleanup of polluted properties throughout California. The collaboration between the DTSC, the community and CSV has led to significant progress in the investigation, characterization and cleanup of the property.

## **Art in El Cerrito**

El Cerrito’s newest art event, the Stockton Stroll, has been growing by leaps and bounds. The next one will be held on Friday, November 14, from 7 to 9 p.m. It ranges from Stockton and Ashbury, down to San Pablo Avenue, a distance of less than half a mile. Artists will be on hand at a variety of locations along the street to show and talk about their work.

Other venues include the Open House Senior Center, the El Cerrito Library. Some locations will have music and/or refreshments in addition to art.

The Open House Senior Center (behind the library) will again host an art salon, as well as other art and creative writing presentations.

The event is held on the second Friday of odd-numbered months. Check it out!

# Richmond Rotary Peace Project

The Richmond Rotary Peace Project is dedicated to the goal of reducing violent crime in Richmond. The Project applies our organization's considerable resources—our money, our influence, our readiness to pitch in—toward achieving that goal.

We understand that the causes of violence are many. They can be as spontaneous as a verbal insult that triggers a shooting, or as deeply rooted as lack of job opportunities that stem from poor reading skills. Accordingly, we've shaped this proposal to work at many different levels: from the kindergarten classroom to the city council chamber, from computer-based reading programs to weekly workshops that promote positive mental attitudes among minority youth.

The Peace Project has three components: one addresses the needs of young adults, one presents a conflict-resolution approach to elementary grade students, the third strives to influence business and governmental leaders in our city.

## Positive Minds Group

Positive Minds Group (PMG) is a 3-hour weekly dinner session for young adults, conducted by mentoring experts who lead transformational meetings that dispel common myths and perceptions about the world that prevent growth and change. These culturally specific work shop address individual barriers, attitudes and biases put up by youth that inhibit their ability to understand and grasp opportunities for their own development, education and employment.

Approximately 30 youth attend each session. Richmond Rotary will fund the cost of professional staffing (The Mentoring Center, in Oakland), food, and a weekly stipend of \$10 per youth which serves as both incentive and a basis for discussion of personal finance. Young men or women with children can come and child care is provided. PMG is hosted by Opportunity West at the Nevin Community Center and primarily invites youth from the Iron Triangle neighborhood.

## Saturdays at Opportunity West

In order to actualize the ideas learned at the PMG training through practical experience, Opportunity West will open the Nevin Community Center for 8 hours on Saturdays (10 to 6). Professional staff and Rotary volunteers will work with young adults on job search and resume writing, cooking classes, field trips and other opportunities that help them meet their personal goals.

Four two-person teams of Rotarians, volunteering once-a-month, can offer a variety of services and experiences. Some examples:

Rotarians can help youth when they hit problems mastering the reading and math exercises during the Auto skills lab (computer-based learning).

Rotarians can lead tours to local businesses and acquaint them with diverse work environments and career paths.

Rotarians with gardening savvy can accompany youth to the Peace Garden. Planting, tending to, and harvesting vegetables involves a cycle of care and responsibility that carries powerful lessons.

## Promoting conflict-resolution in elementary grades

Many of the same young adults participating in the Positive Minds Group at Opportunity West are parents whose children attend Richmond schools, particularly Peres Elementary.

That fact presents Rotary with a tremendous opportunity to affect the roots of conflict within families. Rotary will purchase an age-appropriate conflict resolution book for kindergarten teachers and school libraries in each of the 6 schools where we already have a presence through Read Aloud Programs and other volunteer projects (approximately 35 books, distributed to 6 kindergarten classrooms plus the school library in Washington, Peres, Coronado, Stege, Chavez, and Dover Elementary schools).

Some teachers in these schools are eager to bring a more focused conflict-resolution approach to their classrooms. We will provide them with curriculum packages (two 30-minute lessons, English or Spanish) that use the "peace rug" process described in the children's book.

Because teachers and children forge new relationships at the start of a new school year, we wish to make these materials available as soon as possible.

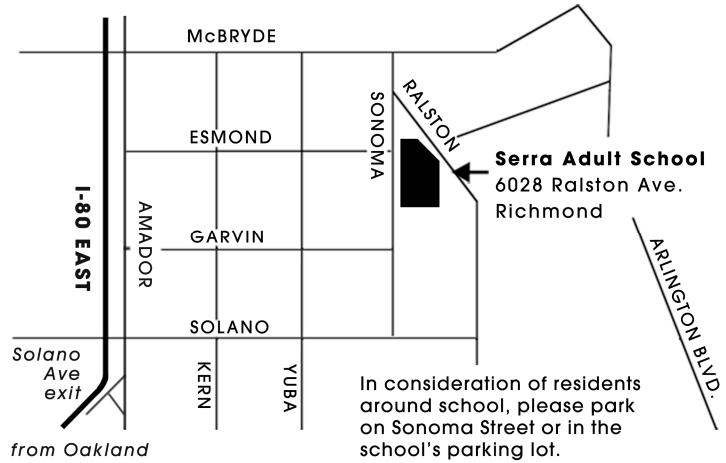
**at the next RHNC meeting**

**Campus Bay Cleanup Update**

*Mr. Tom Camby will be our guest speaker updating us on the progress of the Campus Bay Cleanup project. (article on page 4)*

**Council Elections in November**

*Think about nominating officers and voting for them at our meeting in November. Having Executive meetings occasionally and 10 regular meetings each year with a couple of parties like National Night Out, Halloween, just to name two.*



**Monday, November 3rd, 7 PM**

Serra Adult School  
6028 Ralston Avenue

RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD COORDINATING COUNCIL  
P.O. Box 485  
Richmond, CA 94808

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