

Views

East Richmond Neighborhood Council

www.eastrichmond.org

Gina Swirsding, President • P.O. Box 5253 • Richmond, CA 94805

quick-takes

Police Commission, Subject of Next Meeting

Richmond's Police Commission was established to investigate citizens' complaints of excessive or unnecessary force and racially abusive treatment, and to handle appeals from the city's Professional Standards investigations.

The commission is an active part of the City. To read up on its complaints and investigations, anyone can click to

<http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/index.asp?NID=407>.

In addition, meetings are open to the public. The Police Commission meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm, in Conference Room 1 at the Police Commission, 330 25th Street, Richmond.

Education Benefit at Hotel Mac

The West County Education Fund, which raises money for special programs at West County's public schools, will hold its annual benefit dinner on Sunday, September 24, 2006 at the Hotel Mac, 50 Washington Ave., Point Richmond. Dinner will be served from 5:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m., and costs \$35 (tax and gratuity not included). Main course choices will include prime rib, salmon, chicken, or vegetarian. Coffee, tea and dessert are included.

Continues on page 2

Neighborhood Watches: What They Are and How To Start One

A neighborhood watch is a citizens' organization devoted to crime and vandalism prevention within a neighborhood. It is not a vigilante organization, since members are expected not to directly intervene in possible criminal activity. Instead, neighborhood watch members are to stay alert to unusual activity and contact the authorities.

Around the country, neighbors for three decades have banded together to create Neighborhood Watch programs. They understand that the active participation of neighborhood residents is a critical element in community safety - not through vigilantism, but simply through a willingness to look out for suspicious activity in their neighborhood, and report that activity to law enforcement and to each other. In doing so, residents take a major step toward reclaiming high-crime neighborhoods, as well as making people throughout a community feel more secure and less fearful.

Two websites on the neighborhood watch's movement are <http://www.citizencorps.gov/> and <http://www.usaonwatch.org/>. The first is a Federal site, the latter, a site of the National Sheriff's Association.

If you live in Richmond and would like to start a Neighborhood Watch, step one is to contact the Crime Prevention Coordinator, Marie Reis, at (510) 236-4052. Ask for a citizen's handbook which will teach you how Neighborhood Watch works and how you can become actively involved in the program.

Richmond General Plan Workshops:

General plans aren't just a nice idea, they're the law. Every city in California has to have one.

Richmond is creating a general plan that it hopes will reflect the ideas of everybody in Richmond.

In order to make sure that this happens, the plan's team wants to hear from you. Community workshops are a great way for everyone to come together and get involved. Workshops will be held throughout the city at key points in the planning process to give residents a forum to voice their questions, ideas, and concerns and to learn more about what is happening with the plan.

Photos and summaries from these workshops will be made available to the public on the General Plan website, at future community workshops, and through the City Planning Department.

The General Plan Advisory Committee Meeting will next meet on Wednesday, September 13, 2006, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, Richmond City Hall, 1401 Marina Way South.

Continues on page 4

next meeting

See back page for agenda

quick-takes

continued from previous page

Education Benefit at Hotel Mac

Funds raised by the event will benefit the Ed. Fund, a non-profit public education fund that has been providing grants, scholarships and other opportunities to WCCUSD students since its inception in 1983. To make reservations please contact the Hotel Mac at (510) 233-0576. For more information, please contact the Education Fund at (510) 233-1464, or go to the Ed. Fund website at <http://www.edfundwest.org>.

Resident Schools Web Site

Want to settle a bet as to what our neighborhood elementary, middle, and high schools are? The best place to go is the Resident School listing on the WCCUSD website: Directory-
http://www.wccusd.k12.ca.us/school/resident_school_directory/index.shtml

In case you have questions about that or other school topics, the district has a new phone number: (510) 231-1100.

Point Richmond Music Schedule

The year hasped up to be their best ever schedule, including the best of the Bay area's roots music. The program which featured three great Friday night concerts during June and July, caps off with a day-long Saturday festival. In addition, you'll see 50 artists displaying and selling cool art, and lots of food and drink.

The wrap up event features the following concert marathon on Saturday, September 9, 11:10-11:30 a.m., Crunchy Frog, kids; 11:45 a.m. - 12:35 p.m., Ron Matthews, top 400; 12:50-1:40 p.m., [Dave Crimmen Band](#), Rockabilly; 1:55-2:45 p.m., Andre Thierry and Zydeco Magic; 3:00-3:50 p.m., Lava.

Macdonald Ave. A New Work in Progress

Most of us have noticed the combination of new curbs, streetlights, and shrubbery moving in on the eastern end of Macdonald Ave., and asked yourselves, "what the heck is going on here?"

The answer is, a \$3 million project that will boast new lighting, sidewalks, landscaped trees and pedestrian-friendly traffic-calming features.

The project is the first phase of the Macdonald Avenue Economic Revitalization Plan, which seeks to bring Richmond's central artery back to life along its entire length from San Pablo Avenue to Garrard Boulevard. The east-end portion of the plan runs from 38th Street to San Pablo Avenue and is expected to be completed by December. A Target store is scheduled to open at 4400 Macdonald Ave. by the fall of 2007.

Meanwhile, a \$10 million project is in the planning stages for the west end of Macdonald Avenue.

A million here, a million there, pretty soon, Macdonald Ave. could be looking pretty fine.

Macdonald, Back in the Day

From its World War II heyday to its worst blight, Macdonald Ave. has been a major thoroughfare. As the city moves along its 10-year revitalization plan (see previous item), a companion initiative is under way to ensure that the avenue's historical significance is preserved.

"Memories of Macdonald" is a six-month project that hopes to attract participation from every aspect of the community to give as complete a reflection of the avenue and its different eras. During August, to kick things off, anyone and everyone was invited to share their memories of Macdonald at Richmond Museum of History. Information from the project gathers will be used to create permanent interpretive markers along the avenue that will be a component of the Rosie the Riveter/WWII Home Front National Historical Park.

But the project is not confined to the World War II period, and organizers want to gather recollections old and new, good and bad. That can include memories of Macdonald as the main street of a much smaller Richmond prior to World War II, its wartime heyday and the postwar period up to the present. The goal is to tell a complete story of Macdonald -- both reminiscences and hopes for the future -- in the community's own words.

People also are encouraged to bring any printed material or other items (photographs, postcards, news clippings, union and work badges, signs, etc.) the museum can photograph or scan, or that can be donated to the museum's collection.

The six-month project is funded by the city redevelopment agency and is a collaborative effort among the agency, the Rosie the Riveter/World War II Home Front National Historical Park, the East Bay Center for the Performing Arts, Richmond Main Street Initiative and the Richmond Museum of History.

Upcoming components of the project will include a youth arts and history project, walking tours, a community event at the East Bay Center for the Performing Arts, a "dance swap" at the historic Winters Building incorporating dances of different generations and continued outreach for memories through a variety of outlets.

contacts



You'll find many more phone numbers, as well as e-mail links for public services at our website, www.eastrichmond.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 Joe Avila 621-1212 ex 7115

e-mail javila@richmondpd.net

General security concerns,

other police services

RP Watch Commander 620-6643

Neighborhood Council issues

Gina Swirsding *82-232-1675

Report blight and graffiti

Richmond 321-3010

CalTrans 925-926-6112

And as always we are looking for community events for the Newsletter if you know of an event coming up in the future let us know at least the first week of the month before. Just drop a line to the Editor at APASTERNA@jbp.com with any requests or suggestions. If you have something you would like to write yourself, we are also all ears.

New Souper Center Location

The Greater Richmond Interfaith Program, or GRIP, recently held a grand opening for its newly constructed Souper Center Family Housing and Supportive Services Center, located at 165 22nd St., coinciding with GRIP's 40th anniversary celebration.

The new facility will operate 24 hours a day year-round and house the Souper Center.

Calls for service to the Richmond Police

Calls made to the Richmond Police from June 1- July 31. Statistics are provided each month by Perry Austin of RPD, whose support and assistance we continue to appreciate.

Suspicious person 28

Suspicious vehicle 23

Abandoned auto 55

Recovered stolen vehicle 10

Vehicle tampering 1

Disturbance 58

911 Disconnect 19

Dogs 2

Stolen vehicle 22

6/1 6XX Amador

6/1 52XX Solano

6/3 123XX San Pablo

6/4 6XX Yuba

6/7 9XX Lassen

6/12 4XX Mount

6/12 6XX Key

6/14 6XX Kern

6/17 7XX Amador

6/24 5XX Mount

6/26 52XX Esmond

7/3 52XX McBryde

7/11 8XX Humboldt

7/13 6XX Sonoma

7/14 50XX Solano

7/15 6XX Sonoma

7/18 50XX Clinton

7/22 55XX Solano

7/24 50XX Barrett

7/25 8XX Lassen

7/27 55XX Sierra

7/27 9XX Lassen

Hit/Run Property Damage

6/16 51XX Clinton

6/24 Macdonald / San Pablo

6/24 Bissell / San Pablo

6/24 56XX McBryde

6/26 Macdonald / San Pablo

7/10 49XX Macdonald

7/31 9XX Lassen

Burglary from Residence

6/19 53XX McBryde

7/12 54XX Esmond

Burglary from auto

6/6 52XX Solano

6/19 23XX Humdoldt

6/30 6XX Ventura

7/10 51XX McBryde

7/11 8XX Kern

7/11 49XX Clinton

7/13 9XX Kern

7/29 7XX McLaughlin

7/31 55XX Solano

7/31 52XX Clinton

Burglary from business

6/21 52XX Solano

6/24 124XX San Pablo

6/24 124XX San Pablo

7/17 124XX San Pablo

7/20 Macdonald / Key

Shots fired

6/1 52XX McBryde

6/17 Esmond / Kern

6/17 8XX Lassen

6/21 51XX Clinton

6/27 Macdonald / San Pablo

6/29 Bissell / San Pablo

7/3 56XX McBryde

7/15 Macdonald / San Pablo

7/23 49XX Macdonald

7/29 9XX Lassen

Shooting at occupied dwelling

6/12 9XX Kern

6/30 10XX Ventura

7/2 51XX McBryde

Shooting at occupied vehicle

7/18 51XX Clinton

Battery

6/20 10XX McLaughlin

6/28 6XX McLaughlin

6/30 7XX Ventura

Hold up alarm

6/1 123XX San Pablo

Continues on next page

quick-takes

continued from previous page

New Souper Center Location

The center, which serves hot noonday meals to more than 1,000 homeless and other needy individuals and families. The center has served meals for more than 20 years.

The Family Housing and Supportive Services Center will include a 75-bed (18 dorm rooms) emergency and transitional shelter for homeless families. In addition, the facility will provide on-site assistance in obtaining long-term housing and jobs.

GRIP is an interfaith, interracial coalition of 39 member congregations -- Catholics, Protestants, Jews, Muslims and Sikhs -- working together to address the needs of West County's homeless population. The program has more than 400 volunteers from member congregations.

Call Arthur Hatchett, the center's director, at (510) 233-2141 for details.

Inmates' raise \$13,000

Here's an interesting way to make people contribute money: put them in jail. That's what happened to 20 people, who came up with \$13,000 for the privilege of incarceration.

City officials, community members and the board of the Richmond Police Activities League were put behind bars Thursday at the Richmond Auditorium as RPAL held its first Jail and Bail fund-raiser. The benefit raised funds for a one-stop youth center and gymnasium under construction at 22nd Street and Macdonald Avenue.

Continues on next page

Calls for service to the Richmond Police**Grand theft**

6/4 10XX Lassen

Petty theft/stolen property

6/7 56XX Esmond
6/7 125XX San Pablo
6/13 7XX Ventura
6/14 49XX Macdonald
6/16 49XX Macdonald
7/4 126XX San Pablo
7/6 7XX Kern
7/8 54XX Solano
7/13 129XX San Pablo
7/15 52XX Solano
7/22 7XX Kern
7/27 9XX Yuba

Calls related to Prostitution

6/16 125XX San Pablo
6/17 125XX San Pablo
7/20 49XX McBryde

Carjacking

6/21 49XX Macdonald

Drug activity

6/15 Nevin / Key

Calls related to Juveniles

6/8 8XX Lassen
6/9 9XX Amador
6/9 8XX Lassen
6/10 54XX Esmond
6/23 8XX McLaughlin
6/26 5XX Dim
6/26 7XX McLaughlin
7/11 10XX Ventura
7/13 9XX Kern
7/18 48XX Macdonald
7/26 9XX Kern

Vandalism

6/2 52XX Solano
6/9 125XX San Pablo
6/23 124XX San Pablo
7/3 Clinton / Key
7/12 123XX San Pablo
7/18 54XX McBryde
7/20 7XX Ventura
7/21 54XX Solano
7/25 52XX McBryde
7/27 10XX Ventura
7/31 10XX Lassen

Richmond General Plan Workshops: *Continued from page 1*

The next meeting of General Plan Advisory Committee will be Wednesday, October 11, 2006, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., again at City Council Chambers, Richmond City Hall, 1401 Marina Way South.

Masquer's Playhouse Production

Diary of a Scoundrel, written by Alexander Ostrovsky and directed in this production by Carlene Collier Coury and Marilyn Kamelgarn, will be running at Masquer's Playhouse in Point Richmond from until September 30. The plot is Russian tragedy, so to speak. It's 1867 in Moscow. The Gloumov family fortune is gone and Yegor Gloumov is going to get it back—although not by working. But when the diary of this manipulative young man is discovered, his aristocratic friends are faced with the not-so-hidden truth about themselves. This play by Alexander Ostrovsky is the most popular work by the playwright who introduced realism to the Russian theatre.

The Playhouse is located at 105 Park Place, Richmond. For more information or to get tickets, call (510)232-3888.

quick-takes

continued from previous page

Inmates' raise \$13,000

A judge gave the 20 participating "prisoners" bails of \$500 or \$1,000 they had to raise to get sprung from their cells. Their time in the clink was softened with meals from Chevys and Applebees, which both contributed catering services for the event.

Work on the 20,000-square-foot, two-story gymnasium began in March and should be completed in December. The gym will accommodate basketball, boxing and indoor soccer, along with fitness and home-work rooms. It will also have a conference room, and be available for community meetings and events.

Future fund raisers will be needed to raise the \$400,000 needed to finish the building. For more information, or to make a donation, call (510) 621-1226.

Richmond Art Center Classes

If you've been waiting for the kids to go back to school so you can get back to your art, then hurry on over to the Richmond Art Center. Registration for fall classes has begun and adult classes will run Sept. 12 – Nov. 18. Classes for youth run Sept. 19 – Nov. 18.

Classes are available in metal studio, screen printing studio, and painting studio

Scholarships are available for teens. For more information or for details, call (510) 620-6772.

Here's news: Student discount cards are now available for enrolled students. You can pick one up from the front desk or your instructor. The RAC must stamp your card each quarter to prove your enrollment.

Richmond Art Center Exhibition

As the Richmond Art Center celebrates its 70th anniversary this fall, a survey of emerging artists is appropriate given the Center's longtime record as a leader in introducing the most promising emerging artistic visions to the region. From more than 200 nominations, the Richmond Art Center's curatorial committee carefully sifted through the field of artists over a period of months, finally selecting just 15 to appear in Geographic Premonitions. Many of these artists are creating new and site-specific pieces for this important exhibition. The exhibition runs through November 11.

The Center is also holding a benefit art auction. The auction preview will be September 5 through September 29. The Live Auction will be held Saturday, September 30. First will be a preview Party: 6:00 - 7:30 p.m., followed by the auction at 7:30 p.m.

This is a chance to join more than 150 members of the City of Richmond and Greater Bay Area arts communities for a social mixer and live auction to benefit the Richmond Art Center and celebrate our 70th anniversary. The evening will feature a live auction of artwork by some of the Bay Area's best-respected artists who found an early venue for their work at the RAC. For tickets and more information call (510) 620-6772

CD to benefit Richmond teens

Sometimes you overhear a friend singing and think, "that person should make a CD." That's exactly what happened when Mike Warwick of the Richmond Works Program heard his colleague Malinda Claiborne sing. Soon, he was producing her and a growing group of friends and volunteers with tracks that are not being released as "The City of Richmond Sings Gospel."

A group of volunteers led by Contra Costa College Music Director Wayne Organ volunteered more than 200 hours of recording, mixing and mastering to produce "The City of Richmond Sings Gospel." The CD showcases 45 voices, including the Contra Costa College Gospel Choir and Consonance, a group led by McKinley (Mac) Williams, who, when he's not belting notes to heaven, moonlights as president of the college.

Proceeds from the CD benefit the Richmond Summer Youth Jobs Program. The Summer Jobs program aims to find meaningful work for 250 youths, who each will earn \$1,000 for their work.

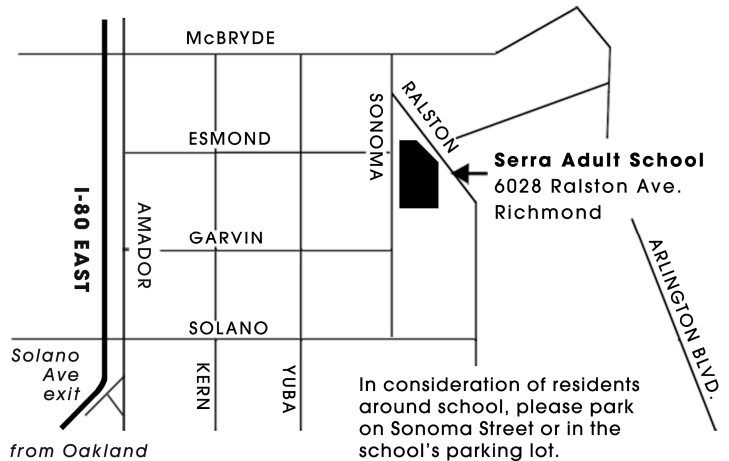
You buy the \$17.95 CD at the city of Richmond Business License Office, 1401 Marina Way; the Richmond Chamber of Commerce office at 3925 Macdonald Ave.; or on the Internet at www.RichmondWorks.org. For information about the CD or the program, call (510) 307-8006.

The CD includes the chorale, choir, and soloists (variously) on numbers such as Order My Steps, Amazing Grace, Wade in the Water, Stand by Me, and I'm a Pilgrim, with 13 tracks in all.

at the next ERNC meeting

Police Commission, Subject of Next Meeting

At the September meeting, two members of the commission, Naomi Williams and Glen Stephenson will come and explain the commission's work and answer your questions. Given our neighborhood's interest in the local police presence, it sounds like a meeting none of us should miss.



Monday, September 11, 7 PM
Serra Adult School
6028 Ralston Avenue

RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD COORDINATING COUNCIL
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Richmond, CA 94808

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