



A Message from Friends of the Piedmont Avenue Library



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Survey About The Piedmont Avenue Branch Library

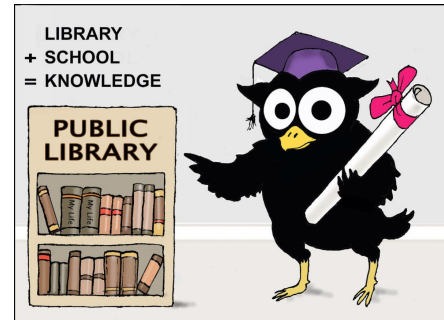
How important is it to you to have a branch library in the Piedmont Avenue neighborhood?

Last month, we reported that Friends of PAL was preparing a survey of all the residents of the neighborhood because Friends of PAL needs some evidence of what the community wants and what residents in this neighborhood are willing to support.

The survey is ready now and it will arrive in your email soon. You'll also see volunteers handing out copies at different places in the neighborhood.

Do it. Take it. Return it. It is important to get the largest number of responses possible. Thank you.

The next meeting is Wednesday, September 25th, beginning at 6:30 pm in the library, and you are invited.



"Reading shaped my dreams, and more reading helped me make my dreams come true."

- Ruth Bader Ginsberg

Great Things in Small Places



The Piedmont Avenue Branch Library -- that's the modular building next to the school on Echo Avenue - probably has more going on per square foot than any other branch in Oakland's system, especially now that it's open on Mondays.

Six days a week it hosts programs for a wide range of ages and interests. Every Wednesday there are two activity groups, one following the other, for those too young for school. Fridays are build days, using big blocks, Legos and other building materials. Saturdays, there's Baby Cafe, sometimes

at the library, sometimes at Piedmont Gardens, often with performances by live musicians.

In between, you'll find the library furniture rearranged to accommodate the knit and crochet class with students from elementary school age to seniorhood. The recent class just finished, so check with the librarians to see when the next one will be and if there is a waiting list.

Another service is about a less traditional activity than knitting and crocheting: it is about E-books and Downloadable Audiobooks. With your library card and the "app", you can download titles to a computer or a mobile device. To get help with this, you can get one-on-one assistance -- thirty minutes with the tech savvy librarian -- on Saturdays between 2:30 and 4:00 pm, but you must make an appointment. Appointments can be made online

at www.oaklandlibrary.org/online-resources-e-books-and-digital-content or by calling the Piedmont Avenue branch at 510-507-5011.

Other recent programs have included a magic workshop where you learned how to do magic tricks, a chocolate tasting experience with actual samples, book making, terrarium making and a clown class. Then there was the outdoor petting zoo on National Night Out, with actual farm animals available.

Whether you're a theater buff or a novice, you might want to check out the preview presentation Berkeley Rep brings just prior to each new production.

You get the idea - this is a busy place in a small space, and we didn't even mention the books. More on that later.

by Ruby Long, a neighbor whose work has appeared in local and national publications



Volunteer with Friends of the Oakland Public Library at the Bookmark Bookstore, 721 Washington St.

Interested in volunteering? You can work in the bookstore that raises money for the Oakland Public Library. **Friends**

of the Oakland Public Library (FOPL) operates a used bookstore in Old Oakland at 721 Washington Street between 7th and 8th Streets. There, you'll see a wide variety of used books, interestingly displayed and available for sale at good prices. You can donate books there, giving your books a second and third life.

Please note that training and a 6-month commitment are required for bookstore volunteers. In the training, you'll learn about a variety of tasks such as cash register operation, pricing books, shelving, straightening shelves, assisting customers, and accepting incoming donations. Each volunteer shift is 3 hours per week.

Stop in any day the Bookmark Bookstore is open and talk to the current volunteers. The store is open Monday through Friday from 10:30 am to 5:30 pm. Saturdays it is 10:30 am to 3:30 pm; Sundays it is 10:30 am to 2:00 pm.

For information about the Bookmark Bookstore and to get a volunteer application, write to bookmark_bookstore@yahoo.com or call 510-444-0473.

The Book Worm Recommends

The Girl Next Door

by Ruth Rendell



Challenging Assumptions About Old Age

Tired of novels about first love and coming of age among beautiful young people? Had enough of “deep and abiding love after midlife crises” narratives? Maybe this novel is for you. In *The Girl Next Door*, Ruth Rendell gives us a story about a group of childhood friends reunited in their seventies who are just as interesting, passionate, and reflective as their patronizing children and grandchildren.

When London builders discover a long-buried cookie tin containing two human hands, the police reunite and question a group of people who played at the site as children in the early 1940s. These men and women reflect upon their memories of uncles who mysteriously disappeared, mothers who abruptly ran away, fathers who were cruel, and neighbors who were said to have died in the war time bombing. They also take a look at each other and the choices they’ve all made and, in some cases, they make changes in their lives. This is a novel about reflection. There are no car chases or daring escapes but there is plenty of insight into the nature of marriage, the need to relinquish disappointment, and the censorious attitudes of the young toward the old.

Perhaps we have so few novels about this age group because few authors write into old age but Ruth Rendell wrote the last of her 60 books when she was in her 80s. Earlier she also wrote a wonderful series about a detective named Reg Wexford and a series of stand-alone psychological thrillers. In this book her plotting is well-paced, her characters are fascinating, and her humor is sharp.

by Ann P. McCauley

Ann studied Anthropology at Cal and works in international health. She loves stories with sympathetic, wise characters who engage in humorous conversations and travel to exotic places.

What's Happening at the Library

Ongoing Events – every week

Tuesdays & Wednesdays afterschool – fun stuff mostly crafts

Wednesdays at 10:15 am – Toddler Storytime

Wednesdays at 11:00 am – Pre-School Storytime

Fridays at 3:30 pm – Build Fridays, Legos & More

Saturdays at 10:30 am – Baby Café

Saturdays at 2:30 pm – eBook Help

Hoot Happenings September 15 – October 31, 2019

Super Smash Bros Preliminary

Tournament! Thursday September 12 at 3:30pm



Nintendo Switch Super Smash Bros In-House Tournament!

Do you play Super Smash Bros? The library is having a Super Smash Bros Tournament! Think you have what it takes to win it all?

The top two finalists will receive preliminary prizes and will get a chance to compete in the **Final Tournament on October 12th in the Main Library's TeenZone** where they'll battle it out against contestants from the other libraries.

Snacks will be provided! Contestants must be ages 12 to 18.

Berkeley Rep Talk: *The Great Wave* Saturday September 21 at 1pm

Join us for a docent talk about the latest play to hit the stage at the Berkeley Repertory Theater. It is an epic new thriller.

Spanning over 20 years and the two vastly different countries of Japan and North Korea, *The Great Wave* is at once a riveting geopolitical thriller and a powerful story of the unshakable bonds between a mother, a daughter, and a sister who refuse to give up hope.

Friends of Piedmont Avenue Library PAL Meeting Wednesday September 25 at 6:30pm

Join us in our work for a permanent home. There is a lot going on and we could use your help.

Cauldron Slime Program Thursday October 10 at 3:30pm

Get crafty with making your own Cauldron Slime! For witches, warlocks and black cats, alongside mere mortals: cast a slimy spell in a mini-cauldron. Every one loves slime and this slime is extra spooky. All materials provided. For ages 12 to 18.

**Baby Café at Piedmont Gardens Saturday October 12 at 10:30 am
Meet in the lobby at Piedmont Gardens, 33 Linda Ave.**

Bring your baby or toddler to Baby Café for coffee and playtime!

Berkeley Rep Talk: *White Noise* Saturday October 19 at 1pm

“Racism is a virus. And we’ve all got it. Ok, some more than others, ok. The workings of the virus are getting more complicated and the rewards are getting more sophisticated.”

Leo, Dawn, Ralph, and Misha are old friends. The two 30-something couples are educated, progressive, and cosmopolitan. But when a racially motivated incident with the police leaves Leo shaken, he makes a radical proposition to Ralph that forever alters the relationship between these four friends—and their view of the world.

Brave, intelligent, and eviscerating, *White Noise* by Pulitzer Prize winner Suzan-Lori Parks is one of the most talked about new plays tackling our rapidly unraveling social contract. We’re proud to be the only regional theatre outside New York to present *White Noise* this year. Join us for a docent talk.

**Piedmont Avenue Halloween Celebration -- Saturday, 10/26
Slightly Spooky Toddler Storytime at 10:15am -- will take place at MoveMe Boutique, 3966 Piedmont Ave**

Piedmont Avenue Parade beginning at Montell & Piedmont Ave. at 11am
The bike library will roll in the parade and then park in front of Piedmont Ave Elementary to give away books.

Piedmont Avenue Elementary School Carnival Piedmont Avenue & Echo at 11am
Come to the library’s Button Making Booth.

Unless noted, all these activities and events take place at the **Piedmont Avenue Branch,**
80 Echo Avenue, Oakland CA 94611

