



Thousand Oaks Neighborhood Association

October 2018



P.O. BOX 7572 • BERKELEY, CA 94707
Facebook: Thousand Oaks Neighborhood Association
tona.board@gmail.com • Website, with newsletters online: www.tona.org

TONA General Meeting

Thursday, October 25, 2018, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Thousand Oaks Baptist Church Auditorium, Catalina at Colusa

Enter on Catalina about half a block east from the main church entrance.

Agenda:

BUSD School Board Candidates Forum

Invited Candidates:

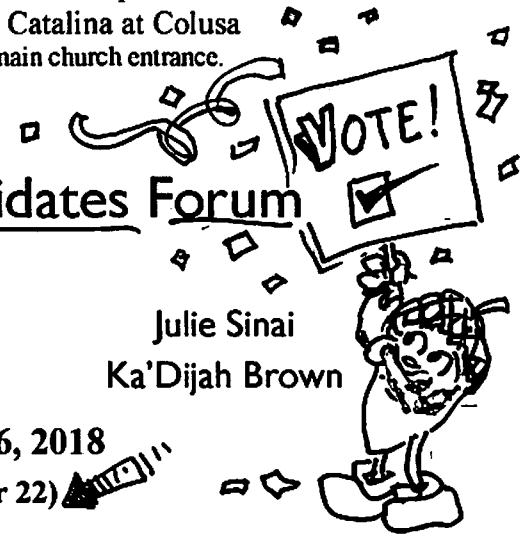
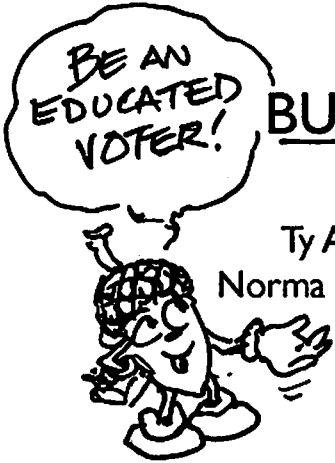
Ty Alper
Norma Harrison

Dru Howard
Abdur Sikder

Julie Sinai
Ka'Dijah Brown

Election Day Is November 6, 2018

(last day to register: October 22)

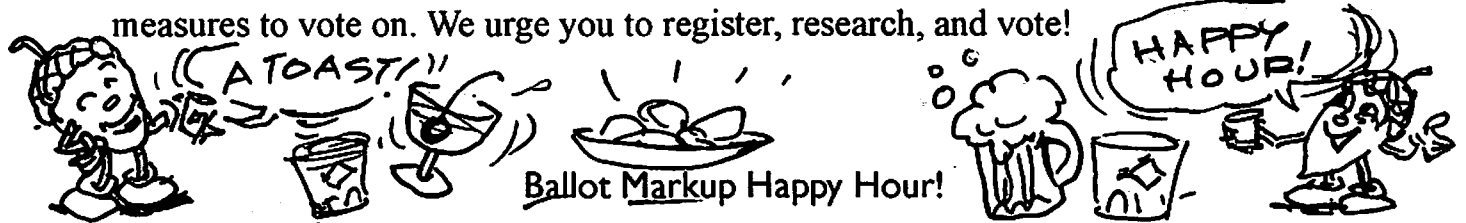


We've invited the school board candidates for Berkeley Unified School District to our election forum. Join us!

We will be taking questions from the audience that evening (via note cards), but you can also send in your questions ahead of time via email (tona.board@gmail.com), our Facebook page, our Nextdoor group, or our P.O. Box (P.O. Box 7572, Berkeley, CA 94707). Questions should be concise and directed to all the candidates.

We will try to have more information about the candidates at the voter information table at our meeting. In the meantime visit the city's website for more information on candidates and measures: cityofberkeley.info/Candidate_Information_Page.aspx.

Please note that other Berkeley public offices are on the ballot as well: city auditor, rent stabilization board commissioners, and 4 other city council district reps (not District 1, which is the district for Thousand Oaks). In addition, there are four measures to vote on. We urge you to register, research, and vote!



Ballot Markup Happy Hour!

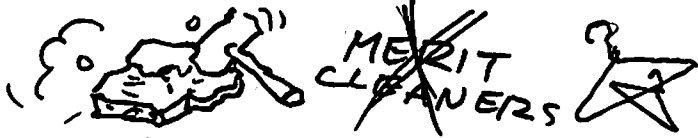
Indivisible Berkeley is hosting a Ballot Markup Party on October 10th from 7 to 10 pm at Spats at 1974 Shattuck Avenue. Come get a drink and you have the option of giving a 1-minute toast to the candidate/item of your choice, helping others inform their decisions. The last one, held at the Hotsy Totsy Club was so successful, they had to find a larger venue! Space is limited so be sure to RSVP (indivisibleberkeley.org/event/sample-ballot-mark-up-party).



On the Avenue

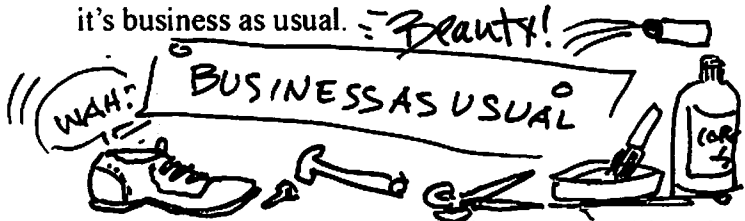
by Tanya Grove

Heading east from Peralta, I began my journey to discover what's new on Solano Avenue. Where the UPS Store (1663) used to be is still empty, as is the former storefront for William Stout Books (1605).



Merit Cleaners (1779) had what looked like a demolition team gutting its insides when I strolled past, and their business phone has been disconnected. No sign of what will take its place.

The Beauty Center (1821) has a For Lease sign up in the window, but it isn't necessarily going anywhere. It is still in negotiations with the landlord, so for now it's business as usual.

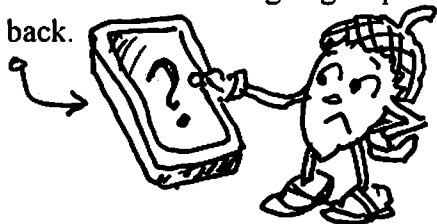


Jay's Shoe Repair (1869), where you could get keys made while your boots were getting fixed, is gone, the windows are covered with butcher paper, and nobody answers the phone. **CLOSED**

Next door in the shop that used be Hannah's (1871), there is still no sign of life.

Allure Hair Studio (1877) has also disappeared.

So three businesses that were in the same building as the Oaks Theatre have closed. Is Touchstone's remodel of the theater in order to build a climbing gym a factor, or are these closures unrelated? We reached out to Touchstone about this but as of going to press, we have not heard back.



New to Solano is Lola (1887), a hair salon named for its owner. A sidewalk sign beckoned passersby to come through the slanted entrance to meet the stylists, who all had clients in their chairs. I suppose when one salon goes away, another springs up nearby to restore order in the universe.



Although it's not brand new, Venus (1889) began its residency at Main Street Pizza back in June and has a booming brunch business, if the people waiting outside are any indication.



Solano Jewelers (1895) bids farewell after 41 years in Berkeley to move to Lafayette, where rent is cheaper. Their last day of business will be October 20.



Noor & Sons Rug Gallery (1898) at the top of Solano is currently clearing out its inventory in preparation to close at the end of the year. After nine years of selling, repairing, and cleaning rugs, the owner is returning to his homeland of Afghanistan to tend to his aging parents.

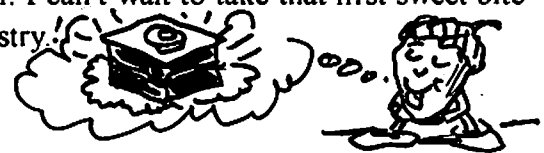
On the south side of the street heading back west, I pass the empty space where Five Star Video used to be (1882). How many times had I perused those shelves for movies? Apparently not enough...



On a happier note, I saw that Vanessa's Bistro is celebrating its twelfth year of serving Thousand Oaks diners, while The Xocolate Bar has provided the neighborhood with mouth-watering chocolate for a solid decade.



Along the way, I stuck my head in at the door at Lavender Bakery and Café and asked when it would open. I was assured it would be no later than the end of September. I can't wait to take that first sweet bite of French pastry.



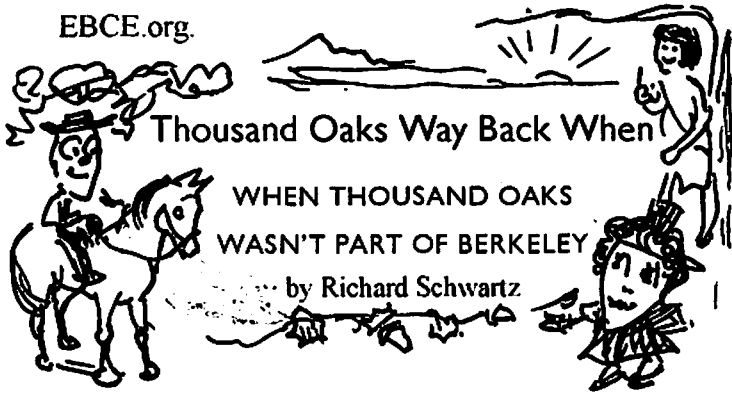


Cleaner Energy
by Martha Salzmann

The Community Choice Energy Program is about to be implemented in Berkeley! The residential rollout is scheduled to begin on November 1. Just as a reminder, this green program was approved by the Berkeley City Council nearly two years ago. The decision to participate was driven by the opportunity to get cleaner energy at lower costs. Residents should expect about 1.5% rate reduction from current PG&E bills.

Energy to our communities will now be provided by 38% renewable (wind and solar) and 47% carbon free (large hydro power plants). Expect your new bill to present two charges: one to PG&E for delivery of the energy, and the other to East Bay Community Energy for the generation of the energy.

For more information, check the EBCE website: EBCE.org.

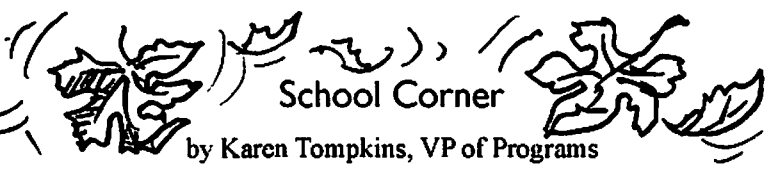


Thousand Oaks Way Back When

WHEN THOUSAND OAKS
WASN'T PART OF BERKELEY
by Richard Schwartz

The Spanish-born Peralta family took over this land from the Ohlone at the beginning of the nineteenth century. When the Mexican-American War ended in 1848, California became an American Territory. By the time California became a state in 1850, men returning from the gold rush squatted here. Thousand Oaks was then part of Contra Costa County, but when Alameda County was formed in 1853, its northern boundary was Cerrito Creek. Thousand Oaks became part of Oakland Township, which was what they called the area within Alameda County that was north of the City of Oakland. By 1867, voting precincts changed, causing everything in Alameda County that was north of Oakland's Temescal District to be known as North Temescal, as seen in newspapers of the time.

For more local history, read Richard Schwartz's book *Eccentrics, Heroes and Cutthroats of Old Berkeley*.

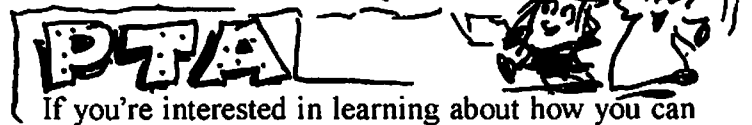


School Corner
by Karen Tompkins, VP of Programs

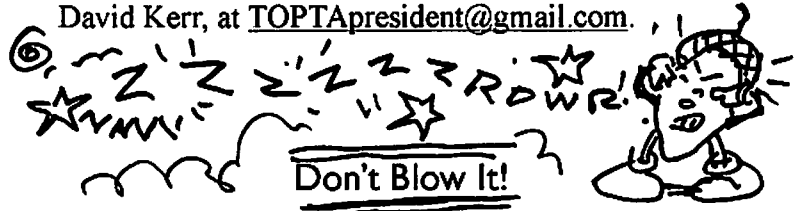
Fall is in the air and students are back to school. Thousand Oaks school welcomes a new principal to T.O., Jacqueline Parker. Please join us in welcoming her to our community!



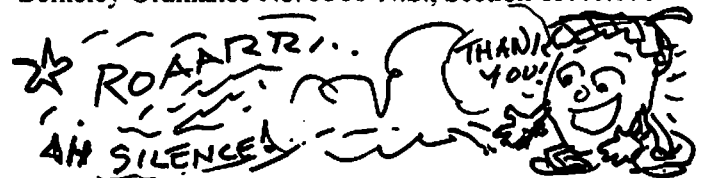
As the new year gets underway, lots of exciting events are in the works. Walk & Roll to School Day is Wednesday, October 10, when hundreds of kids will be walking and riding bikes to school. So drive with care. Mark your calendar for Thousand Oaks Elementary's most beloved tradition: the Halloween Parade. Catch a glimpse of a goblin, witch, dinosaur, or superhero as students march along Solano Avenue to the beat of the Cal Band at 10 am on 10/31.



If you're interested in learning about how you can get involved at T.O., please visit the school's PTA website (to.berkeleypta.org) or contact T.O. PTA President, David Kerr, at TOPTApresident@gmail.com.



Berkeley Ordinance No. 5500-N.S., Section 13.40.070



English: It shall be unlawful for any person, including any City employee, to operate any portable machine powered with a gasoline engine used to blow leaves, dirt, and other debris off sidewalks, driveways, lawns, or other surfaces within the City limits.

Spanish: Es ilegal para cualquier persona, incluyendo los empleados de la Ciudad, operar toda máquina portátil equipada con motor de gasolina para hacer volar hojas, tierra y otras basuras de las aceras, las entradas de las casas, las céspedes, o otras superficies dentro de los límites de la Ciudad.



Urn Project Needs New Leaders

by Elizabeth Sklut and Trish Hawthorne
Co-chairs TONA Urn Project



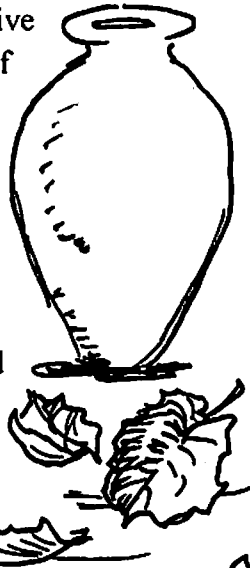
We would like to thank the many TONA donors who supported our project. We are thrilled with our success and gratified by the positive response to our attempt to recreate some of the neighborhood's original civic art. The Urn Project has now installed a total of four new urns and restored the one remaining urn at the bottom of Indian Trail on The Alameda.

Phase I urns, installed in 2011, are located at the little triangular park (The Alameda and Yosemite Rd.) and in Stone Face Park. Phase II urns, installed in 2018, are in the median at Arlington Avenue and Thousand Oaks

Boulevard and in Frederick Park (Yosemite Rd. and Arlington Ave.).

To commemorate the new urns, we have printed notecards featuring a painting of the original urn done by Alesia Connelly (architect extraordinaire of our project). These notecards will be available for sale at all TONA meetings.

After 15 years, we are ready to step down and hand over the project to new leadership. The molds for more urns, some start-up funds, and a great deal of personal guidance are readily available to create more civic art. Are you ready to step up?



Connect to TONA via Email!

You can receive TONA news and updates by signing up for our email distribution list at www.tona.org. Just look for the mailing list link on our homepage. In addition to sending the TONA newsletter electronically, we'll occasionally notify you of important community news and events. We expect to send only one or two emails per quarter. **Hear the latest Thousand Oaks news first!**



Acorn Illustrations: Nancy Gorrell

Editing: Tanya Grove

Layout: David Peattie

TONA Board of Directors

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| David Peattie..... | 510-508-7619 |
| <i>President</i> | |
| [To be determined] | |
| <i>Vice President</i> | |
| Jane Tierney..... | 510-289-9057 |
| <i>Treasurer</i> | |
| Virginia Logan..... | 510-528-9993 |
| <i>Secretary</i> | |
| Lucia Blakeslee..... | 510-701-9386 |
| Brennan Cox..... | 510-701-9386 |
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| Jonathan Marr..... | 617-306-3938 |
| Diane Perea..... | 510-434-4438 |
| Martha Salzman..... | 510-524-9795 |
| Elizabeth Sklut..... | 510-527-5512 |

TONA Membership Form

Dues per year: \$5 Senior, \$10 Single, \$15 Family.

Send dues to: TONA, P.O. Box 7572, Berkeley, CA 94707 or via Paypal at www.tona.org!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Comments: _____

Yes, I will deliver newsletters in my neighborhood