**People’s Park Celebrates 40 Years**

By LYDIA GANS

Special to the Planet

Sunday’s 40th anniversary celebration of People’s Park reflected Berkeley in all its passionate quirkiness. More than 1,000 people joined the party, from old-timers who remember the riots when it all started, to students for whom it is all ancient history—and everyone in between.

There was music and dancing, drinking and eating, hanging out with old and new friends. The mood was one of exuberance, people celebrating the existence of the park and being together to enjoy the occasion. Even the weather cooperated; despite forecasts of possible rain, the day was clear and sunny.

Devin Woolridge, a site coordinator for the park who experiences it daily with all its ups and downs, with all the contentiousness and occasions of cooperation among its denizens, was ecstatic Sunday. “This is Utopia—so much positive stuff going on here... This event is what I’ve been told and what I believe People’s Park is all about.” This is the biggest anniversary celebration Woolridge has seen in his 10 years working at the park.

There was action on and around the stage throughout the day. A wildly diverse mix of performers appealed to an audience of all ages. A Berkeley High School band called “Is,” the Shelley Doty X-Tet, Jonathan Richman’s group and others with exotic names and music styles had people up and dancing with abandon. The graceful Nefer Tem belly dancers had a routine all their own. Older folks were content to sit and listen or join in song with Phoenix and Country Joe McDonald. It’s been a long time since a crowd sang “This land is your land, this land is my land” with such enthusiasm. There was also a stage out on Telegraph Avenue featuring bands such as Antioquia and Outlaw Dervish which had people dancing in the streets.

Not surprisingly, there were people who took the stage with a message. City Councilmember Kriss Worthington touched off the celebration by expressing how much he’s touched by what is going on here. “This is Utopia—so much positive stuff going on here... This event is what I’ve been told and what I believe People’s Park is all about.”

There was music and speechifying, dancing and eating, hanging out with old and new friends. The mood was one of enthusiasm. There was also a stage out on Telegraph Avenue which had people dancing in the streets.

Aretha Franklin’s hat. Three little words that stirs up a lot of excitement for avid hat buyers in Berkeley last week.

The attention revolved around Luke Song, the Detroit milliner who created the gray felt rhinestone-studded big bow hat that became an instant sensation when the Queen of Soul took to the stage at President Obama’s inauguration. Luke Song designed the hat Aretha Franklin wore at President Obama’s inauguration.

Continued on Page Eight

Aretha’s Designer Visits Berkeley Hat Company

RIYA BHATTACHARJEE

Aretha Franklin’s hat. Three little words that stirs up a lot of excitement for avid hat buyers in Berkeley last week.

The attention revolved around Luke Song, the Detroit milliner who created the gray felt rhinestone-studded big bow hat that became an instant sensation when the Queen of Soul took to the stage at President Barack Obama’s inauguration.

Song was in the Bay Area for two days and visited Telegraph Avenue’s Berkeley Hat Company Friday, April 24, to meet owners Carol Lipnick and Ed Dougherty and their customers. Lipnick and Dougherty have been buying hats from Song for 10 years.

The hat made quite a splash in the world of headgear and sold for $200. The hat was a custom order and was made particularly for Aretha Franklin to help her with the family store, Mr. Song Millinery.

His first hat was made from chicken wire he bought at Home Depot. The hat made quite a splash in the world of headgear and sold for $200. Song wanted to leave Parsons and complete his studies in Paris, but the burden of student loans deterred him. Instead, Song took a six-month hiatus to help his mother with the family store, Mr. Song Millinery.

His first hat was made from chicken wire he bought at Home Depot. The hat made quite a splash in the world of headgear and sold for $200. “I wanted to make something beautiful out of something that was not,” he said. “As soon as I saw the chicken wire, I knew it was going to be a hat. I sold 10 of them in a week.”

Within six months, Song was able to pay off his student loans for six years of college.

Continued on Page Five

Lake Song designed the hat Aretha Franklin wore at President Obama’s inauguration.
First Two Berkeley High Grad Tickets Now Free, Rest: $15

By RIYA BHATTACHARJEE

Berkeley High School announced Friday it will not charge for each of its students' first two tickets to this year's graduation ceremony at the Greek Theater.

The Daily Planet reported April 23 that the school had decided to charge $10 each for the first two tickets and $15 for every additional ticket, a departure from the school's earlier custom of giving out two free tickets to every graduating senior and charging $5 for each additional ticket.

Berkeley Unified District officials and members of Berkeley High's Associated Student Body had attributed the hike in ticket prices to increased expenses for the ceremony, estimated to be more than $100,000 this year. Some parents criticized the change in ticket prices, saying they could not afford the increase amid the economic downturn.

Others pointed to Oakland's public high schools, which have a much smaller budget for graduation ceremonies and do not charge for tickets, though the Oakland Unified School District does restrict the number of tickets per student depending on the ceremony's venue.

In an April 24 e-mail message, Berkeley High School administration informed the school community that each senior will receive two free tickets for the June 12 ceremony at UC Berkeley's Greek Theater.

"After that," the brief note said, "seniors may purchase as many additional tickets as they want for $15 each." It went on to explain that, "due to the cost of holding the ceremony at the Greek Theater—Berkeley High's graduation venue for over four decades—the student leadership, working with the administration, had initially decided that there would be no free tickets.

The administration decided to increase the amount budgeted for the ceremony in order to ensure that each student receives the initial two tickets at no cost.

District spokesperson Mark Coplan told the Daily Planet that Berkeley High Principal Jim Slep had stepped in to make the decision.

"When the discussion came up, probably prompted by the Planet article, he intervened and said the school would find a way to accommodate our initial two tickets at no cost," Slep said. "He said they had found more money in the General Fund."

Calls to Principal Slep and Vice Principal Richey were not returned before press time.

Last year the Greek Theater charged Berkeley High a little over $19,000 for the venue, including university police, security, parking and staff.

Cost of Oakland Grad Tickets: $0

By RIYA BHATTACHARJEE

Despite budget constraints, Oakland Unified will stick with the school district's traditional policy of not charging for high school graduation tickets this year, district officials said Thursday.

The Daily Planet reported April 23 that some parents and relatives of Berkeley High School seniors were upset that BHS had raised ticket prices for the June 12 graduation ceremony at UC Berkeley's Greek Theater to meet increased expenses, estimated this year to be more than $100,000.

This year, funding cuts and other economic uncertainties have drained the school's budget, leaving it with Berkeley Unified to host a big celebration. Thus, the school decided to charge $10 for the first two tickets and $15 for every additional ticket.

Until last year, the first two tickets were free and every ticket thereafter cost $5.

Berkeley High has since decided to make the first two tickets for this year's ceremony free of charge, announcing the decision a day after an earlier version of this article was published on the Daily Planet's website.

Many parents had said they would not be able to afford the new prices during these bleak economic times.

Berkeley Unified District spokesperson Mark Coplan said student leaders at the school had made the decision to charge for public tickets in order to maintain a 40-year tradition of accepting diplomas on the stage of the Greek Theater.

Oakland Unified School District spokesperson Troy Flint said Oakland graduation tickets this year were still charged for to graduation event.

"It's a momentous occasion for a lot of people—especially for students and many people attend as possible," he said.

Flint said the district limits the number of tickets per student. Students receive between six and 10 tickets, depending on the size of the school and the venue.

Last year Berkeley High sold 1,109 to UC Berkeley for using the Greek Theater, including $940 for the facility, $4,000 for event staff, $9,942 for public transit and other miscellaneous expenses, according to numbers provided by university staff. The university increased this year's charges to $4,000, or 4 percent, which they attributed to wage negotiations with workers.

Berkeley High spends additional money on sound equipment, Berkeley Police Department security services, diploma covers and stadium rentals, among other expenses, but school officials did not return the Planet's calls by press time regarding what expenses

Council to Revisit Climate Plan

The Berkeley City Council on Tuesday will once again vote on whether to approve the Climate Action Plan for the purpose of environmental review.

A reading of the Climate Action Plan, as well as the city's initial environmental study and proposed negative declarations, are already available for public review online.

The California Environmental Quality Act would require public agencies to review the project’s "potentially significant effects on the environment" and to mitigate those effects whenever possible.

According to an April 28 e-mail sent out by Timothy Burroughs, the city's climate action coordinator, the "city proposes to adopt a negative declaration" instead of carrying out an environmental impact report, because the Climate Action Plan would not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts.

The plan seeks to help Berkeley comply with Measure G, which aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 80 percent by 2050. Although the Climate Action Plan was on the City Council agenda for April 21, the council was unable to vote on it because of a packed agenda.

At least 47 people spoke in favor of or against various aspects of the plan, starting at 11 a.m., and it was midnight by the time the council took it up for discussion.

After extending the meeting several times, including Kris Worthington, Linda Maio and Jesse Arreguin, who wanted to make amendments to the plan.

There was also confusion about whether motion should be voted on first, and the meeting was finally rescheduled for May 5.

Worthington, who has proposed 14 amendments, said that he hoped the climate plan would be on the early part of the next meeting.

"I believe my amendments will make a stronger and more robust Climate Action Plan," Worthington told the Daily Planet Wednesday. "I have added some practical and effective tools that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Berkeley."

Worthington's proposals include "having the city adopt a "local hire" ordinance, which would give preference to local residents. It would also ban private transit "eco pass" for the downtown and Telegraph and San Pablo avenues. He would also like to create the Art Zero Waste Facility and phase out parking for city councilmembers.

Other improvements he suggested include partnering with Berkeley to assess and address the unmet housing needs of its employees and students, encouraging the adaptive reuse of historic buildings near public transit and preserving trees on public streets.

Maio did not return calls for comment by press time.

Berkeley citywide pools master plan

City Manager Phil Kamlarz will also ask the City Council to vote on whether the city should proceed with an environmental review of plans to expand and improve the city's pools.

Berkeley citywide and the Berkeley Board of Education joined forces last year to create a citywide pools draft master plan, which would help them get an independent environmental review to public swimming pools and aquatic programs need to be upgraded or replaced.

The Berkeley Board requested city staff to approve the environmental review of the pools master plan at a public meeting April 16.

For more information on the pool's master plan and what the city is proposing as a replacement for the warm water pool at the Berkeley High Old Gym, see the Daily Planet's April 16 story.
Safeway Unveils New Plans for College Avenue Store

By RIYA BHATTACHARJEE

Safeway was set to unveil the latest design for its College Avenue store at a public meeting at the Claremont Hotel Wednesday, April 29, after the Daily Planet went to press.

The grocery chain’s proposal to remodel and expand the 25,000-square-foot ’60s-era store has met with fierce opposition from neighbors since the plan was first announced in July 2007.

Area residents complained that the new supermarket would take business away from the neighborhood’s small, locally owned shops, several of which specialize in the products and services Safeway wants to introduce in its expanded operation.

Other concerns included traffic, congestion on College Avenue and the supermarket chain of pulling a fast one.

After trying out two different architecture firms, the company brought in local architect Ken Lowney, who the company said would be more sensitive to neighborhood concerns. Lowney met with a group of local architects last month to discuss the project and get feedback.

In a recent e-mail to neighbors, Elisa Jewel, of Aroner, Jewel and Ellis, the political consultants hired by Safeway to coordinate community outreach, said Safeway will show “updated and modified plans” for a new store and retail space at the April 29 meeting.

She called the new building a “new, light-filled, energy-efficient building with lots of free parking for everyone.” Jewel did not return calls for comment by press time.

Susan Shawl, of Concerned Neighbors of College Avenue, said Safeway’s(reply) approval of the supermarket chain of pulling a fast one.

“We don’t know diddly about the meeting, except for what’s on the website,” she said. “I expect they are going to wine and dine everybody a bit and really just show the drawings. I don’t think they are going to give us a chance to comment. In the past they have been so not interested in listening to people, or allowing much communi-

Safeway’s Northern California division, did not return calls for comment by press time. Safeway plans to submit a formal application to the City of Oakland to begin the entitlement process after the meeting.

“Our fear is they are going to go to the City with no local comment,” Shawl said.

Continued on Page Twenty-Three
District Gets Federal Grant to Study Solarization of Schools

By RIYA BHATTACHARJEE

A coalition of East Bay school districts and two local organizations was awarded a Solar America Showcase grant to explore energy independence, the U.S. Department of Energy announced April 28. Berkeley, Oakland and West Contra Costa Unified School Districts are set to receive up to $400,000 in technical assistance from the Department of Energy (DOE) to figure out which of their buildings have the potential to go solar. The coalition includes the Sequoia Foundation and its sponsored project, KyotoUSA, and Moore Jacobson Gottsman, Inc., a Berkeley consulting firm. Tom Kelly, who heads KyotoUSA, said the schools themselves would not get the money, but would instead receive support from national labs and financial corporations to develop comprehensive solar master plans which would speed up the process of solarizing schools across California.

Experts from the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, Sandia National Laboratories, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, DOE's Southeast and Southwest Regional Laboratories, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, DOE's Southeast and Southwest Regional Laboratories, Sandia National Laboratories, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, DOE's Southeast and Southwest Regional Laboratories, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, DOE's Southeast and Southwest Regional Laboratories, and the Berkeley Energy Center, and New Mexico State Experiment Stations at the Florida Solar Laboratories, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, DOE's Southeast and Southwest Regional Laboratories, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, DOE's Southeast and Southwest Regional Laboratories, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, DOE's Southeast and Southwest Regional Laboratories, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, DOE's Southeast and Southwest Regional Laboratories, and Sandia National Laboratory, DOE's Southeast and Southwest Regional Laboratories, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, and Sandia National Laboratory, DOE's Southeast and Southwest Regional Laboratories, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, DOE's Southeast and Southwest Regional Laboratories, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, DOE's Southeast and Southwest Regional Laboratories, will guide the schools through the process.

"It's a way of creating a template for all school districts to do something similar," Kelly said. "We saw that this grant was instrumental in getting solar energy to Berkeley Unified School District's Washington Elementary School, which is located in a low-income neighborhood. Whole Foods had planned to convert the family-owned flower shop's small retail space, located in the grocery store's Berkeley property at Ashby and Telegraph avenues, into a coffee shop or a juice bar. Public outcry forced it to reverse its decision a week later. Stacey Simon, spokesperson for Whole Foods, said the shop's owners were thrilled with the news. She said the lease would not have been possible without community support and help from councilmember Kris Worthington. Whole Foods company officials could not be reached for comment by press time.

Fate of Cerrito Theater to Be Decided

The El Cerrito City Council is expected to decide the future of the Cerrito Theater this Monday night, May 4. The council's first public meeting on the theater was held March 22, citing the economic challenges of keeping the theater a flagship operation, Oakland's Parkway Theater, March 22, citing the economic downturn and disputes with the landlord owners, the Berkeley Board of Education. The meeting will take place at 7:30 p.m. Monday night at City Hall, 10890 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito. The agenda for the meeting, with a staff report outlining the issues and the background, will be available Thursday, April 30, at www.el-cerrito.org/gov.

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 Correction

The year from which figures regarding the Berkeley Unified School District's Washington Elementary School, which is located in a low-income neighborhood, were cited was incorrectly reported. The figures were from 2008.
Areta’s Designer Visits Berkeley Hat Company

continued from page one

“that woke me up,” he said, and as one success after the other followed, Song forgot all about school and about Paris, though he frequently haunted its Louvre or at Porte de Versailles fashion shows to meet hat designers from all over Europe.

“When Areta Franklin, one of Song’s longtime customers, called him this year before visiting his store, he knew something was up.” Song said that he had expected reactions to range from “Wow, look at that hat,” but he was quite unprepared for the amount of interest it sparked.

“It’s almost like everyone woke up the next day and realized there are hats in the world—that it can be a fashion statement,” he said. “And now we can’t keep up with the demand.”

Song has so far had more than 5,000 orders for the Areta Hat, and orders continue to flood his store every day, where he works with his parents and his sister.

First Person

I t’s the corner of Ellis and Woolsey Street in the heart of South Berkeley. A young black male with dreadlocks opens the door of his grey BMW and unloads four plastic bags from the front floor of the car, as his counterparts in the back seat tell jokes and the radio blasts rap music. Wearing dirty jeans dangling from his thighs, he generally grunts or ignores me when I say hello. Midwestern girl-next-door type neighbors ask casually. “What dudes?” I wonder aloud. “You know, those guys stash –ing the bags,” he elaborates. “Oh, them,” I say, realizing he didn’t just come over to say hi. “They’re youth artists painting wooden art benches down the street. The group I work for is painting art benches on Adelaide. They’re storing art supplies in our back yard.” “Art supplies?” he asks. “Yea, you know, paint brushes, tubes of paint, plastic tarps.” “Right, you told us about that group… I’m just curious.” He ends the conversation a bit abruptly and returns to his mental monologue: “Oh, painting, that’s a good pursuit to keep you off the street.”

I leave the house this particular morning, one of the men from across the street gets up from his log seat and crosses Ellis Street to approach me. He poorly pretends to laugh. Finally the neighbors are reciprocating my friendliness! “Hey, what are those dudes doing in your yard every day?” the neighbor asks casually. “What dudes?” I wonder aloud. “You know, those guys—”

“the bags.” he elaborates. “Oh, them,” I say, realizing he didn’t just come over to say hi. “They’re youth artists painting wooden art benches down the street.”

When we started Youth Spirit Artworks with the support of the City of Berkeley Technology Academy, we set out to “compete with the Church” on the corner of California and Harmon Street in South Berkeley. Areta’s achievement gap, and the innovative emphasis of Berkeley Technology Academy (fueled most recently with the exciting injection of California Dept. of Edu- cation 21st Century grant funds), as well as steps taken by the City of Berkeley for its 2020 Vision Plan to close the achievement gap, and the impassioned Emphasis of Berke- ley Community Fund’s new college scholar- ship program, have together already had a palpable impact.

At a community art making day on the corner of California and Harmon Street two weekends ago, I was giving a tour of our South and West Berkeley youth artists casually “talked college.” Two had just returned from a “college fair” and were telling the local dealers thought we might be encroaching on their “turf.” We were not in the way they thought we were!

Support by the City for the interfaith community making and job training efforts of Youth Spirit Artworks (first called YaYa California), through grant money and provi- sion of Youth Works teen employees is one of the hip, very creative, and even GREEN vehicles the City has committed resources to in its nonviolent war on drugs. As an example, the City High school, go on to college, or vocational training—and get off the streets and continue on their way. For all his celebrity status—interviews on CBS, the Wall Street Journal, the New York Times and Spanish Vogue—Song retains his unassuming demeanor, chat- ting easily with the women who came to see him at Berkeley Hat Shop, to parties and fashion shows.

The first time we sold hats was at the Live Oak Fair in 1977,” Dougherty said. “The neighborhood was self-sufficient, but reception was great..." Song promised to ship it to her in two weeks.

BERKELEY FIGHTS THE WAR ON DRUGS WITH PAINTBRUSHES

By SALLY HINDMAN

Areta’s Designer Visits Berkeley Hat Company

THE EAST BAY’S INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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THURSDAY, APRIL 30

“Girls Rock!” screening and director Q&A at 7:15 p.m. at Circle Dancing, 1414 Walnut St. For ticket information visit www.entrepreneurship.berkeley.edu or call 510-643-4255.

Buddhist Class on Shikan Zori at 7 p.m. at the South Berkeley Senior Center, 2720 San Pablo Ave. Donation is $3. For more information call 843-7308.

Finnish Brotherhood Hall, 1970 Chestnut St at University Ave. Donation at request $5. 510-548-8700.

SATURDAY, MAY 2
Bay Area Community Land Trust’s 14th Annual Spring House Tour from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 30 potatoes, 44-2011.

Tian Gong Open House Celebration at 11 a.m. at Tian Gong Open, 4607 Shattuck Ave. Donation is $3 for members, $5 others. For more information call 841-1418.

Tian Gong Open House Celebration at 11 a.m. at Tian Gong Inter- national Center, 5502 Shattuck Ave, Lotus Room 114. 883-1921. tiangong.AdapterView.com

Tuesdays, Viking Library, 3801 Hearst Ave. Meet every Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the Viking Library, 3801 Hearst Ave. Free. Information: 841-2174.

FRIDAY, MAY 1
Golden Gate Audubon Society Field Trip to Wildlake In the North Bay at 7 a.m. at Kauffman Park, 5032 Solano Ave. Visit 5032 Solano Ave. Call 510-548-8700.

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**Paws to Help** to read your child practicing reading with a friend. Meet on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. at the Albany Library, 1247 Main Ave., Albany. Dogs and handlers are encouraged to volunteer for Paws to Help. Children under the age of 7 should sign up for 25 minutes with tested therapy pets. To reserve a session, contact 528-4253. www.circledancingsf.com

**Benefits of Meditation and Spiritual Lifestyle** with Austin S. D. Posch, at 7:15 p.m. at First Congregational Church of Oakland, 2150 Adeline St, Oakland. To schedule an appointment go to www.BEAOnor.com

**Love and Light Empowerment** with Master Thien Tao at 7:15 p.m. at 830 Barron Way, Lotut Room 114. Donations accepted.

**North Berkeley Community Calendar**

**FRIDAY, MAY 8**

**City Commons Club Noon Meeting**

**Hilltop Community News**

**Hilltop Community News**

**Hilltop Community News**

**Hilltop Community News**

**THURSDAY, MAY 7**

**Berkeley Democratic Club with the Women’s Action Network and Skinner on the state of the State, and the League of Women Voters - Berkeley on the propositions for the May 19 Special Election, at 7 p.m. at the North Berkeley Community Church, 941 The Alamedas. Salisbury Hall. It’s your state, your music, and information about the salmon at 7:30 p.m. at 2712 Stockton St. Fee is $25. 849-2568. www.lape- na.org

**Inquiries into the Nature of Slow Money** with author William B. Doherty. How the world of capital markets and sustainability are at the 7 p.m. at the Ecology Center, 2530 San Pablo Ave. 348-3402.

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California sun. Sitting on remarkably well-tended and clipped grass, with the unmistakable sweet odor of that other grass thick in the air. Just like I remember.

Building People’s Park led to Berkeley’s largest community uprising of 1969. And gave Ronald Reagan a platform on which to build his greed-driven, free-market, larceny-capitalism-loving presidency—whose upshot is, at least in part, the global financial crisis we suffer today. The economic “chickeys” that Malcolm X first warned us about at the time of the Kennedy assassination have "come home to roost."

In April 1969 a few thousand of us, including my late husband Stewart Albert and I, along with many, many others, created a green, eco-before-it-was-fashionable community out of a muddy parking lot owned by the University of California. We dug the earth, laid sod, planted gardens, cooked food, played music, built stuff, and just enjoyed. There were no official or elected leaders, just strong persons; most of us felt empowered to be our own keepers of the park's flame.

Toward the end of our time there was a billboard on the 10-point Platform and Program of the Black Panther Party. “The people of Berkeley,” I begin, “passed the concept of the park through the years there was a constant crowd of young people who appeared intensely interested in its history. A lady calling herself "Maid Marion," who now lives back east, was here "at the beginning." She had spent the day before in Big Sur at a celebration of Nepthens’s 60th anniversary. "This is more of the same," she said. No doubt many people there would disagree with her on that.

Near the basketball courts a young Berkeley activist severely injured while participating in a protest at the dividing wall in Israel. Slingshot newspaper, which has extensive coverage of Tristan’s case, was being given away at a table nearby. The Naked People were there too, but far fewer of them than in the past.

While all that was going on, Food Not Bombs volunteers were set up tables under a canopy and all day long they cooked rice and beans and chopped vegetables to stir-fry in an oversize wok. They also provided bread, salad and an endless supply of Cliff Bars. There was not a moment in the whole afternoon when there wasn’t a long line waiting to be served. It was a glorious day of Berkeley at its best. Years ago during the earlier confrontations there was a flyer circulating, asking "Who owns the park?" That question is still being asked. The university may have the formal deed to this piece of land, but it was clear on this day who really owns People’s Park. Someone noted that there was not a single police officer in the park all day.

The anniversary attracted celebrants of all ages. The crowds were treated to music and food at People’s Park for its 40th anniversary.

Judy Gumbo Albert was an original member of the 1960s counter-cultural protest group known as the Yippies, along with Abbie and Anita Hoffman, Jerry Rubin, the journalist Paul Krassner, the folk singer Phil Ochs and her late husband Stewart Albert, who died Jan. 30, 2006. Judy co-authored The Sixties Papers: Documents of a Rebelious Decade (Greenwood Press, 1984) and The Conspiracy Trial (Bobbs-Merrill, 1970). Judy currently lives in Berkeley and is writing a memoir titled Yippie Girl: My Remarkable Adventures with the Yippies, Black Panthers, North Vietnamese and Weatherman. Judy can be reached through her website www.yippiegirl.com.

The Berkley Spade Daily
April 30- May 6, 2009

First Person

Lydia Gans

Celebration

Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory’s plan to dismantle the Bevatron and ship thousands of truckloads of radioactive waste through Berkeley streets. And as always, the diminutive figure of artist and writer Claire Burch could be seen, recording the event with a video camera.

Near the basketball courts a young Berkeley activist severely injured while participating in a protest at the dividing wall in Israel. Slingshot newspaper, which has extensive coverage of Tristan’s case, was being given away at a table nearby. The Naked People were there too, but far fewer of them than in the past.

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What Democratic Vote Means for May Special Election

EDITOR’S NOTE: Paul Hogarth was a delegate to the Democratic Party’s convention and gave one of the floor speeches against Proposition 1E.

The Democratic Party Convention "split the baby" on the six proposi-
tions for the May 19 ballot—endors-
ing Propositions 1B, 1C and 1F, while not supporting Propositions 1A, 1D and 1E.

This shifts the dynamic for the last three weeks. No longer can Prop. 1A’s defeat be a mandate against tax increases—because the same voters who supported income tax increases also oppose it. Likewise, "no" on Propositions 1D and 1E is now a vote for favor of Proposition 1A were: (a) our Proposition 1A: The Taxpayer’s Association opposed it, and (b) if it fails, it will send a message that the public now understands. Of course, the latter is only true if the sole opposition is right-wing zealots and the Republican governor. Prop. 1C is a lot more about extending a few temporary tax increases. It gives the state—which already has lay-
offs and cuts—more traction on the spending side.

The Democratic Convention vote on Sunday, press coverage on Prop. 1A started to change. The Los Angeles Times called Prop. 1A a “spending cap,” while the San Francisco Chronicle said it was a “pro-
posed spending cap and rainy-day fund.” Because Prop. 1A, the media only focused on tax increas-
es—even though these temporary mea-
ures will stay on the books for two years if Prop. 1A fails. That’s because the only ones complaining about 1A were Republi-
cans like Steve Poizner and Meg Whitman, and the “tea party” crowd.

Rather than allow right-wing zealots to "own" the opposition, liberals began to articulate a fiscal agenda to drive the post-
May 19 debate. If our ultimate goal is to scrap the "two-thirds rule," it is smart poli-
tics to influence what happens when the governor and legislature go back to the drawing board. Because the state will have an $8 billion deficit even if all measures pass, making the progressive case against 1A is a sound strategy.

Going back to the drawing board will mean choosing what budget priorities need to be fought for. If the Democratic Party had endorsed Propositions 1D and 1E, it would have sent the message that children and the mentally ill are expendable. And the combined “savings” from diverting these funds to help balance the budget is less than one billion dollars—or about one percent of the entire budget. Nonprofits who directly work with these constitu-
tion-diluting measures are anxious and fearful about the next round of painful budget cuts. It’s understandable that many delegates at the Convention felt libera-
s at our Proposition 1A: The Tax-

By Bob Burnett

California’s finances are in shambles because the budget process makes no sense. Neither the Republican nor the Democratic Party is requiring a two-thirds legislative major-
ity to pass a budget. Year after year, Republicans are able to highjack the process.

The latest California registration statis-
tics show both moderates waning their lead over Republicans, 44.6 percent to 31.1 percent, with 20 percent “decline in major-
to-state” and 4.4 percent scattered among other parties. Republicans don’t have a majority of registered voters in a single major party. In the San Fran-
cisco district and Washington Dems are talking about picking up eight new California congressmen. Given the rising tide of voter support, why have state Democrats been so timid?

The answer stems from February’s draconian budget tidy budget battle. After weeks of stalemate, during exclusive all-night sessions, on Feb. 19 the California Legislature reached a two-
week public budget agreement. It closed the state’s $41 billion deficit through a com-
bination of temporary tax increases, revenue when California comes out of the recession and, instead, subjects serv-
ices to an impenetrable equa-
tion that locks spending to a baseline that is already too low to guarantee pro-
vision of adequate services. In addition, Proposition 1A shifts responsibility for future budget decisions away from the legis-
lature and onto invisible state employees who would have to decipher the proposition’s abstruse language and perform the linear regression analysis required to determine the revenue cap.

And Proposition 1A allows the gover-
nor to make unilateral mid-year budget cuts.

If Proposition 1A passes, most ob-
servers expect painful degradation of service. Jean Ross, executive director of the California Budget Project, notes, “The baseline established by the pro-
posed formula would be $14.2 billion below the amount needed to support the 2010-11 budget based on the gover-
nor’s long-term forecast.”

It’s clear that California’s Democrati-
cic leaders were between the proverbial rock and a hard place and tried to do the best they could. But that’s no excuse. It’s not enough to put a temporary budget fix in place. The fundamental problem needs to be addressed.

In the June 2010 primary election, voters will be given the opportunity to change the rules governing the Califor-
nia budget process. In the meantime, Proposition 1A should be rejected.

Bob Burnett is a Berkeley writer. He can be reached at bobburnett@comcast.net.
Editorial

Fast Track to Obliteration

The long knives are starting to come out in West Berkeley. Downtown has been carved up. Two harbingers this week: There was a special meeting on Monday and another special meeting board which gave the new West Berkeley Bowl carte blanche to open even though there were no funds for construction, which called for changes to mitigate the project’s dire impacts on traffic have never been carried out. And there was another special meeting on Tuesday, so special that some of those neighbors stakeholders didn’t know it was happening. In other words, the-----minute, a “workshop” for the City Council wearing both of its hats (Redevelopment is the other one) to discuss speedy zoning and traffic changes to the area covered by the West Berkeley Plan. We don’t know about it in蓬 either (just a fax late on Thursday with no detail about the agenda), so we didn’t go to the Tuesday meeting, but conversations with those who suffered through it indicated that it was just more of the same—old, same-old.

It sounds like the mayor’s bad case of old-thing is getting worse and worse—he just can’t resist cutting off anyone he disagrees with any more, even when he’s trying to speak up for their constituents, and in the worst case even when the council members he generally agrees with.

The Brown Act requires members of the public to be given a reasonable opportunity to comment. Why don’t they invite some courtesy to elected officials? Evidently not, or else we’re just continuing our hallowed local practice of ignoring the Brown Act until someone sues.

Some home-based reviewers told us that the discussion at the council’s regular meeting last week of that great PR extravaganza, the Berkeley Gender Action Plan, was even more comic. Poor Carolen Jones at the Chronicle made the fatal mistake of assuming that the way of words produced by the planners for the occasion meant what they said, and what the words said caused enormous consternation to the long-maligned Because which still read the Chron. Some of us listening to KPFB at home fell asleep before the meeting was over and the real work of that meeting, which featured feverishly back-pedaling council members and an out-of-control mayor abusing everyone’s sight, but luckily it can be savored in all its foolish glory in the online video—when we have time to watch it.

Our small staff of reporters does its best to keep up with all of this, but there are only 24 hours in a day, and good grief, there are so many meetings to cover now that the skids are really being greased on the fast track. Here’s a quick summary: climate change coupled with economic stimulus are being used (all over the country, not just here) as the latest excuses for rationalizing the most exotic fantasies of the building industry, and Berkeley’s planning department, the mayor, and a majority of council members are eager as ever to build.

One disbelieving spectator at Tuesday’s special meeting reports that Bates repressed B. The Mayor’s famous Enlightenment to dictate that what’s good for General Motors is good for the country. Bates has been known to call for several occasions as various ways that we should do anything necessary to persuade new businesses to locates there. Not a very good city for the good. He applied that same logic, for example, to ground floor housing and public greenery. The recent fate of General Motors is a graphic illustration of the failure mode for that kind of simple-minded boosterism.

It looks like a greenwash that green is the new dot-com. Almost any enterprise that looks lucrative is green-washed as a matter of course, in exactly the same way that all kinds of foolishness were once thought to of course were once thought to be good to think about. That’s the mindset that has hunches in Berkeley’s planning department, which is funded exclusively by permit fees, salivating over the prospects for the reconstruction of war zone in West Berkeley, now a pleasant mixture of older buildings with sunk environmental costs, now a green zone (in a brown way) with the mad rash to cut down all the trees and cover it with concrete which seems to be in the works for each building.

No one who paid much attention to the math believes that we can build our way out of global warming. Economic con- struction is well-regarded as an economic stimulus mechanism. My friend in Bloom- ington reports that a long opposed freeway project with dire consequences for India is being tagged for stimulus fast-tracking, to the consternation of local environmentalists who fear that it will cause irreversible habitat destruction and other bad effects.

The trick here is that an honest environment impact study for the myriad changes now being proposed will certainly show that the promised environmental benefits, particu- larly traffic catastrophes, which simply can’t be mitigated. Unmitigable environment effects will require the council to adopt a “statement of overriding considera- tions”—that is to say, something else, for example economic impacts, which is more important than the identified bad environment- related consequences of the plan. If Berkeley is to be an example of what should be done when building big bucks to build bad stuff, in West Berkeley, Central Berkeley and elsewhere, there needs to be an environmental impact study which in effect nealizing Berkeley’s carbon footprint instead of shrinking it as Measure O specified.

Keep an eye out for an accelerated schedule of special and unpublicized meet- ings pushing toward the desired EIRs between now and the council’s July 15 departure for its long, long vacation.

---Beverly O’Malley

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

UN CONFERENCE ON RACISM

Editors, Daily Planet:

The United Nations Racism Conference in Geneva, Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad called Israel “a cruel and inhumane racist regime.” The conference was attended by delegates from European nations to write, and I am not a fan of the Iranian president and his government, but I am sure that Mr. Ahmadinejad did make a point. Why doesn’t Israel’s treatment of the Palestinians belong at a forum on discrimination and xenophobia?

Consider, Israel has erected a wall or fence, which cuts deep into Palestinian territories, and large Jewish settlements. The Israeli government is now being proposed will certainly show that the economic blocade has decreased the stimulus. In short, the Israeli government is well-regarded as an economic stimulus. It’s effects are more destructive than all kinds of foolishness were once thought to be good to think about. That’s the mindset that has hunches in Berkeley’s planning department, which is funded exclusively by permit fees, salivating over the prospects for the reconstruction of war zone in West Berkeley, now a pleasant mixture of older buildings with sunk environmental costs, now a green zone (in a brown way) with the mad rash to cut down all the trees and cover it with concrete which seems to be in the works for each building.

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Editor, Daily Planet:

As a former high school teacher in Philadelphia and Oakland, and junior high teacher in West Berkeley, I have been threatened with dismissal. Juarez was a lone voice campaigning that these tests be administered, just as they are for non-English speaking students. He believes that without them, students cannot receive the education they deserve.

When his pleas were ignored by the Berkeley High School administration he appealed to the community for support, wrote letters to newspapers and handed out flyers and postcards to parents.

Now, finally, the high school has managed to get the tests to the students, but testing will take place in the spring, as well as two or three weeks prior to the start of the year. Of course, the Berkeley High School administration still wants to fire Mr. Juarez. He feels that he is being targeted because his only alternative is to appeal for federal assistance because his rights are being vio- lated.

I urge the superintendent, and principal of Berkeley High School to reconsider their actions against Eugenio Juarez, and keep a teacher who has demonstrated a strong devotion to the education of Spanish- speaking minority students.

Daniel Rudman

BERKELEY MEADOW

Editors, Daily Planet:

If Pete Najarian were being honest, he would admit that the previously unfenced area will be next. We have already been thoroughly abused by dog owners too lazy to take their pets to the area created. We could have provided a hygiene of the center of Cesar Chavez Park.

The fences are a small price to pay for the opportunity, finally, to see the wildlife which now can watch a moment’s respite from a long migration, or a moment in the sun without being set upon by off-leash dogs whose guardians don’t mind seeing wildlife treated like chew toys.

Carol Denney

SENIOR POWER

Editors, Daily Planet:

My April 24 e-mails included this from Joanne Donahue, chair of the Berkeley Human Relations Commission:

“Today, my proposal “Honoring Senior Volunteers in May,” SCR 28 (Senate Concurrent Resolution) passed on a voice vote of 40-0. I went to the Senate Floor this morning to see how things are going. After some time, I asked Senator Correa who is the author introduced me to the Senate Floor and my Senator Lori Hall tracks:

I am really happy because we cannot do our work without our senior volunteers. We have met with Joanne Donahue to discuss the need for additional funding for the Berkeley Meadow this year. Thanks for your support.

Continued on Page Fourteen
New Housing Isn't a Solution for Downtown

By RANDY SHAW

A ccording to the April 23-29 Planet, Patrick Kennedy recently told a Berkeley audience that “downtown is on life support” and only new housing construction will save it. I once agreed with Kennedy’s assessment— but that was before the new build- ings that he and other developers con- structed in the past decade failed to improve the Berkeley downtown business climate.

Kennedy’s logic was impeccable. Adding hundreds and even thousands of residents, many of whom should have dramatically increased demand for area restaurants and shops. It should also have improved public safety.

Unfortunately, Kennedy’s prescription for revitalizing downtown Berkeley— which at the time I strongly shared— did not. Much of the new housing was inhabited by UC Berkeley students who lack the disposable income to boost downtown. This failed, where is the political will to try

Randy Shaw is Editor of Beyond Chron and author of Beyond the Fields: Cesar Chavez, the UFW and the Struggle for Justice in the 21st Century (beyondthefields.net).
By STEVE WOLLMER

On Tuesday, May 5th, the City Council will consider two appeals of the Zoning Adjustments Board (ZAB) approval of the development at 1200 Ashby Avenue. The project, at the corner of Ashby and San Pablo Avenue, is the subject of a three-year battle between development interests and according to planners, it will have a profound impact on the Berkeley community. The project was granted a conditional-use exemption by the Berkeley City Council in 2006. The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires a project to be analyzed or mitigated under CEQA. The ZAB granted a conditional-use exemption for this project, but the project requires permits and plans to be reviewed by the Berkeley City Council.

State Density Bonus Law

In the Ashby Art's approval, staff used a "short-form" of environmental analysis (categorical exemption) reserved for infill projects that comply with all General and Area Plan policies and Zoning Ordinance development goals.

City Council hearings are held to determine whether a project complies with the State density bonus law. This law means that no matter what modifi- cations are made to the general plan, the project requests, the impacts no longer need to be analyzed or mitigated under CEQA.

The ZAB justified the project's added height and the density bonus by allowing for new amenities (high ceilings, a courtyard, and sidewalk cafe), which are not currently allowed for new projects (categorical exemption) and the General Plan and Zoning Ordinance differ. It would be foolish to write a zoning ordinance that reflected what the ZAB thought was the right thing for the Berkeley City, because that's what the ZAB is supposed to do. It's supposed to be the community's collective decision about what's appropriate for the Berkeley City.

Hope to advance our collective thinking. I hope to help the neighbors, I decided to appeal.

Unless better minds prevail, this hulk will be plunked down at Ashby and San Pablo with the residential parking garage and entrance on Carrison Street. Even the "deliberate contemporary" style is not R-3 allowed.

Create a climate in Berkeley where the developers promised the community condos and ample retail but changed the plans before the December 2006 deadline. The parking garage was eliminated, retail space reduced, the commercial parking entrance located on the east side of the building, and the condos were rented.

The building interior is just as alienating as the outside, overcrowded with small apartments, 36 surrounding a long shady courtyard; at bottom the units will be dim, noisy, and lack privacy. There are no common rooms nor child care play space.

To make it more neighborhood friendly, the ZAB approved the reduction of nine spaces would make that 22 parking spaces.

The "deliberate contemporary" style project will shadow seven existing apartment buildings at a critical intersection, and create a parking and traffic nightmare on a quiet working class street. The new residents will be able to get preferential parking rights.

Stephen Woller is a member of the Housing Advisory Commission.

Unpacking Stimulus Funds for BUSD

By MARK CHEKAL-BAIN

Congratulations to Berkeley Unified School District for the award of federal stimulus funds serving low income and special needs students (Daily Californian April 9). As the former student school board member when I was a high school senior and a BUSD parent, I urge Superintendent Human to use the stimulus money wisely. If you are not able to come to a meeting, but you want to see what is going on, check out the Berkeley Unified School District Facebook page.

Reaffirm BUSD legal costs and set-tlement agreements requiring BUSD to pay for private school and other private services outside the district. The latest settlement agreement between the city and BUSD includes a special education to all eligible special needs students in the District in the least restrictive environment. The city is responsible for paying the costs associated with a student's IEP. This is required under state and federal law, however, more than 100 families showed up at a meeting last fall to complain to the state that Berkeley Unified was not delivering special education services as mandated by law. These same parents end up pre-vailing when they seek restitution for BUSD's failure to comply with the law costing millions of dollars. BUSD must hire a competent special education director who is seasoned in providing legally required services.

Read the City's report on the final 20082009 budget and the campaign coffers of Council member where there is a categorical exemption if the plans and the developers were in deep cabs.

It's true that only three Carrison Street residents had stuck it out for the first two late night hearings, but they were represent-ative. After Steve Woller got the approval on January 22, a couple of us organized a car protest Solidarity to the neigh-bors came out in force for the decision. They got clobbered in a 7 to 1 vote to approve followed by a weak recommen-dation for a traffic divert.

Bob Allen pinpointed ZAB's dilemma: "I'm not here to set planning policy. I'm here to interpret the zoning rules as rea-sonably and accurately as I can. We don't have to make a decision on whether to build that project or not."

Deborah Matthews, now the Chair of the ZAB, summed up her position: "When you are sitting on a board trying to interpret, it lends itself to supporting this kind of development. That's the compromise you make. I hope more of you can do that as a homeowner take in choosing to purchase your property where you do."

Terry Doran said the building would help to reverse global warming, absorb the increase in Bay Area population and "not force you to move to the country."

Big apartment buildings like this are supported by advocates of "smart growth" who argue that increased density creates demand for public transit and a vibrant, pedestrian centered urban envi-ronment. Berkeley is a city of contrasts. Berkeley is a land of high rents and high crime rates. Residents and visi-tors drive for safety, especially at night, and treat each other as enemies. The flawed traffic study, commissioned by the applicant, ensured that even small changes would drive and that neighbors would not notice the increase in traffic. The study failed to consider second and third order effects or the necessity of driving at night. The building sits directly on Carrison Street without the required 15-foot setback, so the parking garage entrance is in the face of the opposite homes.

The developers promised the community condos and ample retail but changed the plans before the December 2006 deadline. The parking garage was eliminated, retail space reduced, the commercial parking entrance located on the east side of the building, and the condos were rented.

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The "deliberate contemporary" style project will shadow seven existing apartment buildings at a critical intersection, and create a parking and traffic nightmare on a quiet working class street. The new residents will be able to get preferential parking rights, which is not available west of California Street.

Mark Chekal-Bain is Berkeley resident.

Opinions expressed in Daily Californian commentary and letters to the editor are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Daily Californian or its staff.

Why We Appealed 1200 Ashby Ave.

By TONY MESTER

When I encountered Planning Director Dan Marks at a workshop in December, he told me that “every two months we’ve awarded a categorical exemption if the plans and the developers were in deep cabs.” That’s a dead giveaway.

Big increased density along San Pablo Avenue, the last major arterial, draws a gridlock due to the geographic centrality of West Berkeley in the Bay Area, the garages of the freeway and auto-stuck and a high crime rate. Residents and visi-tors drive for safety, especially at night, and treat each other as enemies. The flawed traffic study, commissioned by the applicant, ensured that even small changes would drive and that neighbors would not notice the increase in traffic. The study failed to consider second and third order effects or the necessity of driving at night. The building sits directly on Carrison Street without the required 15-foot setback, so the parking garage entrance is in the face of the opposite homes.

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Mark Chekal-Bain is Berkeley resident.
Preparing for the Next Big Quake

By CRAIG HOOPER

When the next big quake hits the Bay Area, CORE volunteers—first responders—can count on being there for nearby volunteers.

In past Bay Area earthquakes, a good proportion of those volunteers were military personnel who lived nearby and did what they could. In the East Bay military volunteers responded after the 1989 Loma Prieta tremor, providing medical care, translation support, search and rescue and firefighting support.

But today, the military has vanished, and the region is still struggling to recruit a civilian substitute.

In Oakland, a centerpiece of this effort, “Citizens Organized for Resource Exchange” (CORE), trains civilian volunteers in basic disaster-preparedness techniques. CORE’s volunteers help their neighborhood and bolster over-whelmed first responders.

CORE got its start in 1990, after Loma Prieta and just as the region’s post-Cold War military Exodus was underway. The CORE program got an additional boost after the 1991 Oakland Hills firestorm and has been busy training residents ever since.

The program is popular, with training sessions booked months in advance. But municipal support for CORE is uneven, according to Sonja Fitz.

Oakland leaders still hope that after a big emergency, the military will help. The US Navy’s Task Force West has its headquarters at Travis Air Force Base, 40 miles away.

The Navy, dispatching ships from San Diego, is a day away in the best of circumstances.

The Army will be hard-pressed to fix, open and utilize local airports. The California Highway Patrol snatched Oakland’s overcrowded first-responders.

With the military gone, urgent post-earthquake tasks of reporting major emergencies, cataloguing damage, shutting off utilities, providing light search and rescue or basic transportation will have to be done by CORE volunteers. These basic, labor-intensive jobs are important and can be done by any neighborhood-based CORE volunteer.

But CORE volunteers cannot do everything. Armed with nothing more than 20 hours of basic disaster training, an official ID, reflective vest and hard hat, volunteers have little else to offer.

In contrast, the military, hours after Loma Prieta earthquake, directed Bay-based Navy frigates, the USS Lang and USS Gray, to support the crippled electrical grid, while a local cruiser, the USS Giri-dley, produced fresh water for a cutoff Treasure Island. A nuclear-powered warship at Treasure Island, the USS Nimitz, provided vital communications, while overhead, Marine Corps helicopters moved heavy equipment to block traffic from San Francisco Bay Bridge and transported the injured from the collapsed I-80 freeway.

Rather than acknowledge the limitations of this volunteer force, CORE volunteers are being encouraged to fill post-earthquake tasks that traditionally have been done by military volunteers. Rather than urge a rapid influx of military personnel or police law enforcement, Oakland CORE training material suggests local volunteers help keep order by organizing neighborhood chipping, cleaning and law enforcement.

In East Oakland, people get shot for less.

Oakland officials oversell the volunteer program, Fitz says. Many people have received CORE disaster training. A closer look at the statistics shows that less than half the trainees actually participate.

Only about 2,000 have completed train- ing and held official credentials.

Funding is a constant struggle. Budget cuts have shrunk the CORE management to a single overworked staffer, hindering expansion from the tony Montclair and Temescal neighborhoods into high-density, low-income districts. Without money, data and training, CORE volunteers feel their Office of Emergency Services does not even know where CORE teams are set to operate.

Basic planning has gone undone. Oak- land volunteers are trained to spare over-taxed phone lines by hand-carrying aid requests to local fire stations. According to plan, firefighters or volunteer radio opera-tors would then relay that information to city officials. But backup radios, bought years ago, still sit in boxes, undistributed.

Like the soldiers that ran to help in 1906 and 1989, CORE volunteers will do amaz-ing things. But the idea of a CORE volunteer being the first thing fire departments see seems out of reach, a modern-day fairy tale.

Sonja Fitz is a Berkeley resident.

Continued on Page Twenty-Two

The Homeownership Housewobble

By SONJA FITZ

When Secretary Alfonso Jackson in the Bush administration proposed ending Sec- tion 8 assistance to lower-income people in neighborhoods with low populations, I objected that this would leave poor people with no affordable housing after five years. When President Obama’s program was planned to do for those who would find themselves in this situation if his five-year cap was extended, I wrote to him. I was through, his reply was that we would help those recipients become homeowners.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Continued from Page Ten

Joanna

I first met Joanna Kim Selby when we both served on the Alameda County Area Agency Advisory Commission on Aging. She has since been nominated to serve on California’s own Commission on Aging. Lately she’s been regularly trekking from the East Bay to Sacramento, as an elected member of the California Senior Legislature. Elections held for the Senior Legislature take place in senior centers. When the Senior Legislature is in session in Sacramento, sessions are televised on Channel 15.

So, I ask, why for 31 days honor seniors who volunteer to do things that likely wouldn’t otherwise get done, largely in behalf of other seniors? And why aren’t more seniors willing and able to volunteer good works on behalf of their peers? Several explanations include lack of transportation, stereotypes that handicap some volunteers, and that someone might go on to find more work and eventually get off the streets. Through this work, it seems likely that homeless individuals so that they can earn a living. Through this work, it seems likely that someone might go on to find more work and eventually get off the streets. Helen Ripper Wheeler

* STACY ROSS AS HEDDA GABLER
Editors, Daily Planet:

In his favorable April 16 review of Aurora’s Miss Julie, Ken Bullock reminds us that Lauren Grace, who plays Miss Julie, was Hilda Wangel in the 2006 Aurora presentation of The Master Builder, and he goes on to say that “maybe it’s time for her to play Hedda Gabler.” She would indeed be excellent in that role, too, but for me, a performance as good as any I’ve ever seen was that of Stacy Ross as Hedda Gabler in an Aurora production. How well the subtlety of her acting would reach a large audience I don’t know, but in the front row in the Berkeley City Club, it was stunning.

Richard Wiebe

* CRIMINALIZATION OF POVERTY
Editors, Daily Planet:

For yet another of its popular “Arts in the Afternoon” events, the Women’s Faculty Club on the U.C. campus presented a very special program this past Thursday—a celebration of William Shakespeare’s birthday, his 445th! In honor of this auspicious occasion, Professor Davitt Moroney, a faculty member of the University of California, provided a concert perfectly suited for such a celebration. As director of the University Baroque Ensemble, he brought together 17 gifted young musicians who performed selections from composers of Shakespeare’s era—Henry Purcell, Marin Marais, Matthew Locke and Antonio Vivaldi.

These brilliant young musicians in some instances played on original 18th-century instruments. According to Professor Moroney, this is the only student group in the world performing on such antique instruments, all of which were donated to the Women’s Faculty Club by the A. Salz Collection. The more imaginative of us almost sentido the presence of W.S. in our midst. Prof. Moroney gave a brief history of the Baroque Music Endowment Fund, established in 2004, this at a time when other programs have had to slim down because of the university’s budget cuts. Anyone wishing to donate to the fund, donate an instrument or sponsor the restoration of an old instrument should contact him at the Music Department.

After the concert, guests were treated to a reception in the dining room for a light buffet and a large birthday cake for Will—but without 445 candles! So, once again, the Women’s Faculty Club is deserving of warm thanks for this memorable event, enjoyed by an overflow of appreciative guests.

Dorothy Snodgrass

* TORTURE
Editors, Daily Planet:

Our country is currently absorbed with the question of how to deal with the fact that United States government personnel tortured suspected “terrorists.” The primary
Five Berkeley Authors Win Northern California Book Awards

By KEN BULLOCK Special to the Planet

A n East Bay Swept!" reads a press release for the Northern California Book Awards, presented last Sunday in the 28th annual ceremony in the Koret Auditorium in the San Francisco Main Library.

In fact, of the eight awards presented, seven went to East Bay authors—five of them Berkeley residents—with the Fred Cody Award for lifetime achievement going to Berkeley’s Dorothy Bryant (see the Daily Planet’s April 16 story).

In fiction, the winner was Sylvia Browning of Berkeley, with Delivery Room, her third novel, about a Serbian psychotherapist practicing in London, concerned about her family’s fate in the fighting in former Yugoslavia, where “delivery” takes on the added meaning of NATO air strikes in Kosovo.

In general nonfiction, UC Berkeley professor and Berkeley resident Richard A. Muller won for a book based on the textbook he wrote for his class in Physics for Future Presidents: The Science Behind the Headlines, billed as “the knowledge needed to survive the ... political and increasingly nuclear contemporary world.”

Well-known composer and Berkeley resident John Adams won the award for creative nonfiction with Hallelujah Junction: Composing an American Life.

Named after the meeting of roadways in Berkeley that is the junction of Piedmont Avenue and University Avenue, Hallelujah Junction is Adams’s story of his upbringing in Madison, Wisconsin, and his musical mentorship with American composer Philip Glass.

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Tickets are $20.

and Alison Lopatin-Podobedov, Rubenchek from Minsk

Culture on the American Home

Architecture, Planning, and Consumer

$11-$18.

p.m. Cost is $10.

Swing/blues dance lesson at 8

Freight and Salvage. Cost is

with gay, straight and

vikateicher@yahoo.com

Page 16 April 30- May 6, 2009

$35-$102.50. www.trinitychamberconcerts.com

www.trinitychamberconcerts.com

Hana Matt

with Squeak Carn-...
In the wake of the 1992 riots in South Central Los Angeles, the city sought to mitigate the damage to the social fabric with a series of community projects. One project was a community garden on a dormant plot of land. What developed was a 14-acre oasis in the midst of a blighted urban landscape, the largest community garden in the nation, sustaining more than 350 families, most of them Latino. The garden flourished for nearly a decade, until the city notified the gardeners in 2003 that in two months they would be evicted and the garden destroyed to make way for warehouses and a soccer field.

Berkeley native Scott Hamilton Kennedy's documentary, The Garden, traces the tale of the farmers' attempt to retain their oasis. The film opens Friday, May 1 at Rialto's Elmwood Theater on College Avenue and at the Lumiere Theater in San Francisco.

The city had originally acquired the land from owner Ralph Horowitz through eminent domain, paying him $5 million. In 2003 the farmers discovered that the Los Angeles City Council, in a secret, closed-session meeting, had sold the land back to Horowitz for $5 million—a price far below market value. Horowitz announced his intention to build warehouses on the land, as well as a soccer field.

The soccer field was a pet project of Concerned Citizens of South Central L.A., a group that had previously spent several years and millions of dollars to develop another soccer field. Promised a grass field with seating for 800 spectators, the community was ultimately left with little more than a dusty lot with two lonely goals and shaky lines etched in white chalk.

Though many of the questions behind the battle over the garden remain unanswered, and the nature of the corruption at play unexplained, the film touches on a host of issues, from racism to development to corruption to what one farmer refers to as “poverty pimping.”

In the end, the district’s city councilman still manages to get re-elected, as does the mayor; the head of Concerned Citizens of South Central L.A. dies of a stroke; a few of the gardeners accept compensation in the form of a smaller, less desirable plot of land beneath power lines; others lay down roots in Bakersfield; and Horowitz never constructs any warehouses or a soccer field, the lot remaining a fenced-off, dusty expanse in the middle of an urban neighborhood.

Scott Hamilton Kennedy credits “quite a bit of Berkeley spirit” for giving him “the confidence to talk to all the players in a story like The Garden,” recalling “all the wonderful types of people you meet in Berkeley—rich, poor, homeless, politicians—they’re all people, and I was taught to treat people with respect, as individuals. There aren’t too many situations where I feel out of place.”

Kennedy cut his teeth in documentary filmmaking “the first summer after college, making a documentary on Long Island, then cutting it in New York City” with his mentor and friend, the late filmmaker and teacher Richard P. Rogers, to whom Kennedy dedicated The Garden. “Then I got away from doing documentaries for a long time, making music videos instead. With the digital revolution, I had the chance to make my own movies without having to raise money, without waiting for someone else to say, ‘Go ahead.’”

The compactness of digital filmmaking makes a difference, too. “Many, many days it was just me and my camera with the microphone on top. You can’t underestimate how far that intimacy, that amateur quality, gets you with people: they think, ‘I can talk with this guy!’”

Kennedy’s friend and co-producer Domenique Derringer saw “a piece on TV that led us to do The Garden. We

Visions of Utopia: Experiments in Sustainable Culture
A Documentary by Geoph Kozeny - Part Two

World Premiere
7 PM, Tues, May 5
7211 Club, 2286 Cedar St. @ Spruce, Berkeley
Features The Farm, Affordable Co-ops, Catholic Worker House, Retrofit Cohousing
Benefit for Fellowship for Intentional Community (FIC)
East Bay Cohousing: (510) 868-1627 www.ebcoho.org

continued on page nineteen
later developments of Minimalism, examines his "love/hate" feelings about other composers' music, is an exploration of his "apartheid," and the poem's narrator reconciles himself to loss in the aftermath of her father's death. The book won the 2007 James Laughlin Award. For translation, Katherine Schef was chosen for her book the true keeps clear hid ing her story, billed as "the silvery voice's elegy," here: the editor, the Wild Geese, 2007 Poetry Prize and the 2008 James Laughlin Award.

For peace, for poetry, and resident Rusty Morrison was chosen for her book the true keeps clear hid ing her story, billed as "the silvery voice's elegy," here: the editor, the Wild Geese, 2007 Poetry Prize and the 2008 James Laughlin Award. For translation, Katherine Schef was chosen for her book the true keeps clear hid ing her story, billed as "the silvery voice's elegy," here: the editor, the Wild Geese, 2007 Poetry Prize and the 2008 James Laughlin Award. For translation, Katherine Schef was chosen for her book the true keeps clear hid ing her story, billed as "the silvery voice's elegy," here: the editor, the Wild Geese, 2007 Poetry Prize and the 2008 James Laughlin Award. For translation, Katherine Schef was chosen for her book the true keeps clear hid ing her story, billed as "the silvery voice's elegy," here: the editor, the Wild Geese, 2007 Poetry Prize and the 2008 James Laughlin Award.
It is the charm for the other versions, too, both as discrete theatrical phenomenons, and as what links the local colors (and each pair of them) with each Fingalising chain—or spectrum of a rainbow.

Each truly has its own slant. The stage version doesn't have a single human for them in every sense. Benjamin Grubb as Milt is that guy from back in school who knows what he's doing, but still treats them in a bouquet he graciously accepts—then tosses away. Eric Carlsson realizes diziness, and becomes magically hilarious. Harry, abetted by forlorn, seductive Danielle Martino as Ellen, on a search-and-backtracking—to find that elusive monosyllable, the homophone of which entitles the play.

In the lesbian version, Catherine Lerza plays ambitious, micromanaging Mel, Sandy Sanders the quizzically nutty Harriet (with a great, outlandish strut in Act Two), and Crystal Bush plays a plaintive Ellen, with honeyed voice like an ingenuously turned-torch singer.

(And in one final twist, the deeply-challenged designers beg for, Norman de Veyra (set), Jeremy Cole (lights), and ever-creative costumer Helen S肿mowitz put together the look of these shows. Producer Jennifer Rice presented. Given performances she might look like an offbeat collection of burlesque gags and routines refashioned to reflect (or are they?) the other possibilities: the polygamist case (“societalism”), half Henny Youngman, half Woody Allen: “Take my wife ... please!” become a kind of maladroit sexual swing.

But Alan Barkan stated that he struggled. But he was able to insist on the characters as “real people, just wacky ... My thing was to get a sense of people real enough so you like them. Will we allow a sense of other possibilities, for them to pop out of us? We all have our own ridiculous, licentious reactions. What came out of each cast was the outcome of how the characters interacted with each other, what the characters wanted from each other—what was germane to each character. It breathes new life into the play, which is so timely to the questions each version invokes, which are sweep- ing and timely, especially to the Bay Area.”

DOUBLE DIGITS: A MUSICAL

Double Digit's, an original musical about the "jumping-off point that is 5th Grade," written by Berkeley High students Abby Simon (book and lyrics) and Nathan Kersley-Wilson (music, scored for nine-piece student ensemble), will be performed by 60 students, with choreography, at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday at Florence Schwimley Little Theater, 1930 Allston Way, $5-12. www.bhs.berkeley.org.

LUV

A comedy by Murray Schisgal, presented by Actors' Playhouse in straight, gay and lesbian versions, rotating nightly.

8 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays through May 23 at Live Oak Theater, 1301 Shattuck Ave. $12. 649-5999. www.aeofberkeley.org.

LUV is a comedy with feelings, and a large chorus. As Berkeley's Bardic thespian, Julian Lopez-Morillas, will say on "The Legacy of Forgiveness in Shakespeare's Late Plays" Wednesday night, May 6, at Northbrae Community Church. At the University of Colorado, he will make a very special "Shakespearean" move when he plays Cardinal Wolsey in the Colorado Shakespeare Festival: he’ll have a role older than the one he played in the Shakespearean cannon. He’s been blogging about that event and has headed up to 7:30 p.m.

focus, perhaps narrowly framed by the mass corporate media, seems to be what to do with those public officials who approved torture, either by legal convention or offi- cial statement. It is indeed not enough to contribute one hundredth of an inch to that important one and goes to our very identity as U.S. citizens, some of the very politi- cians, police, military and intelligence and pursuing officials of the Bush admin- istration on the one hand, vote with the other hand. The billions of dollars of funding to prop up the security forces of Latin American governments who routinely practice torture and other human rights violations. I refer specifically to the Merida Initiative (Plan Mexi- co) and Plan Colombia, two “plans” to allegedly fight drug trafficking.

Why do we believe it is wrong for the United States to practice torture, but give funding and equipment to countries whose security forces regularly practice torture upon their own citizens? In contrast to our senators and congresspersons, who receive lots of classified information, we ordinary citizens rarely receive accurate news reports on the activities of Merida in Colombia in English through the corporate news media in the United States. Those of us who have both the right and the interest have to seek alternative media or read Spanish language media to find such information.

I was very interested to come and see Mexican security forces in action in a video documentary filmed in San Salvador Atenco, Mexico. It will be shown at the Niebyl Proctor Marxist Library, 6501 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, at 6:30 p.m. Sunday, May 3. Admission is $3.

Mary Ann Tenuto Sánchez
Chiapass Support Committee

BANKS
Editors, Daily Planet:

It’s time the government stopped all efforts to prop up irresponsible financial institutions. The decisions of various government’s equally irresponsible deregulation and reframing of key economic safeguards that have been in place since the insolvent banks, with toxic assets of their own creation, eliminate the responsibility that comes with risk and creates a totally unwarranted debt to taxpayers that will only feed the economic spiral even worse. The government has already bailed out banks that are bailing out themselves need to be put into receivership immediately and their assets immediately identified and dealt with responsibility. Then we need to rebuild our nation on a real econo- my of productive human endeavor, strong financial institutions and junk products that add to environmental malaise. A frac- tion of the double talk, putting our money into banks that are bailing out themselves instead of helping the nation.

David Lerman

FERLINGHETTI
Editors, Daily Planet:

This week, the University of California at Berkeley’s Greek Theater may be free, but UC Berke- ley does not provide advance notice of its “special” fees. Why can’t they simply charge normal prices? Aren’t they high enough already? Why does UC’s parking department feel the need for such exorbitant fees, when the only real cost is the imaginative process of finding parking lots, without advance notice, just like they did for the Dalai Lama?

I’d like to see a story about UC Berke- ley’s horrible and unethical practice of gouging the elderly, disabled and infirm who once filled the stands of the Greek. UC Berkeley does not provide advance notice of its “special” fees. Why can’t they simply charge normal prices? Aren’t they high enough already? Why does UC’s parking department feel the need for such exorbitant fees, when the only real cost is the imaginative process of finding parking lots, without advance notice, just like they did for the Dalai Lama?

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MEETING MALFEASANCE?

Editors, Daily Planet:

If ticket scalping is ille- gal, gouging for parking should be too! They should be required to stick to their posted rates.

David Lerman

MEET ME IN THE MEADOW

Editors, Daily Planet:

I couldn’t disagree more with Joe Eaton’s recent column on the North Mead- ow at the Berkeley Marina. I remember going there for years, when it was admit- tedly overcrowded by the homeless; but it was less camps. But it was fun, free-wheeling, and dog owners could go there and enjoy it. I agree with Joe Eaton that as sports fans have made it really something so much as a reform school, with insulating fences to remind you that you are not wor- thy to share this area with nature, but only to look at its superiority.

It breaks my heart that the current economic climate, students like the ones I worked with are likely to lose funding for their education. I believe that all graduating seniors in California should be 100 percent prepared to succeed in college or a mean- ingful career, regardless of race or socio-economic status. Even in an econo- nomic times, we can—and must—invest in our state’s most precious resource: our stu- dents.

As a future inner-city teacher, I hope to provide students like the ones I met in Berkeley with the opportunity to succeed in school and in life. Until the state government provides adequate funding for our education system, our students will continue to fall behind. We must let Gov. Schwarzenegger know that this is unacceptable.

William Daly

MORE ON THE MEADOW

Editors, Daily Planet:

This week, the University of California at Berkeley’s Greek Theater may be free, but UC Berke- ley does not provide advance notice of its “special” fees. Why can’t they simply charge normal prices? Aren’t they high enough already? Why does UC’s parking department feel the need for such exorbitant fees, when the only real cost is the imaginative process of finding parking lots, without advance notice, just like they did for the Dalai Lama?

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**GEMINI**

Don't take it personally, of course. Realize that someone is playing a joke. Don't remain positive. News simply by taking it in the right way; one is willing to go with you.

**CANCER**

Avoiding the long-term effects of bad store for you that is likely to take you down a strange and unfamiliar road. A friend or loved one is waiting for an opportunity, but not in a rash manner. You can jump the gun; you'll want to take advantage of it.

**TAURUS**

As they arise, paying full attention to situations immediately individual progress to accommodate changing circumstances. To some, the week may seem like a bobsled run, swift and inevitable, turning this way and that. It will either be a bumpy, stop-and-start affair or an exciting thrill ride of swift progress -- but in any event it will be the changes that will require the greatest attention all week long.

**LEO**

Warning and lurking will not be as apparent as it often is, so who may not see you, and someone who may well think, pout, protest, and whine. The week may seem something rather topsy-turvy about the week to many -- especially those who are not paying full attention to situations immediately.

**VIRGO**

July 20-26: You may receive an offer of some sort that you are unable to accept. A compromise may be struck, however. July 26-Aug. 2: A disagreement early in the week sets the tone for the days to follow. It's up to you to smooth things out for all.

**LIBRA**

Early in the week, it will be the changes that will require the greatest attention all week long. Unexpected and sudden events may come out of the blue. Take care not to jump to the wrong conclusion, however, because you may not be as quick-witted as you think.

**SCORPIO**

This week the heavier load and look ahead to greater success. Small things that are not usually important may have a great deal of impact, and all must be prepared to shift gears. Plans, hence, will be necessary. Know what is most important and stick to it through thick and thin. When the going gets tough, the tough get going.

**SAGITTARIUS**

Taking care not to show off some of your know-how and expertise. Take care, however, that you don't get overconfident too much, making a simple problem far more complex than it really is.

**CAPRICORN**

July 20-26: You'll want to do all to your own knowledge and expertise. The coming week is likely to involve a good deal of waiting, you are likely to find that your turn is fast at hand. What you may notice this week is that others are responding to your efforts.

**AQUARIUS**

A disagreement may be the result of interrupted progress and unexpectedly, -- which will make things far more difficult than it really is. Winning and losing will not be as apparent as it really is.

**PISCES**

July 20-26: After a good deal of effort, you'll want to turn your attention to something rather topsy-turvy about the week. Pay attention to the small things that ultimately have the greatest impact, and all must be prepared to shift gears.

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We need thousands more rental housing units. We need them now. And we need them to be affordable. (And yes, Mr. or Ms. Developer, that means affordable to someone on poverty. There are developments that define “affordable”, for the purpose of satisfying urban construction mixed-use mandates, as targeted to tenants with $40K incomes—four times what an SSI recipient receives.)

Homelessness is the most visible symptom of the housing crisis, but there are also thousands of hidden homeless who desperately need rental housing. According to “Priced Out,” “A crisis of much larger magnitude remains hidden within institutions where tens of thousands of people with disabilities live, simply because they cannot afford decent housing in the community. Over 420,000 people under the age of 65 live in nursing homes, many of them residing there unnecessarily because of the lack of community-based housing. Hundreds of thousands of other people with disabilities, including people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, mental illnesses, and physical disabilities, live in group quarters, such as Intermediate Care Facilities for the Mentally Retarded (ICFs/MR), mental hospitals, community residences, halfway houses, shelters, transitional living facilities, and board and care homes.” That’s tens of thousands of people living in institutions, dependent on the system, dignity and quality of life impaired—because they cannot afford an apartment.

Yet we have done a disastrously poor job of creating rental housing for over three decades—in California, rental housing production fell roughly 70 percent between 1970 and 1990, and while it rebounded somewhat in the 2000s, the number of units created annually is still 50 percent of former levels: we remain far behind in terms of having adequate units to meet demand. To that end, the “Priced Out” authors recommend some concrete steps to help us create more rental housing for the people who need it, and hopefully nudge our ownership-obsessed national psyche towards a bit more reality, by enacting legislation to create at least 5,000 new units of permanent supportive housing (rental housing with onsite services for the disabled) each year, providing 10,000 new HUD-funded housing vouchers for people with disabilities,
Safeway Unveils New Plans For College Avenue Store

Continued from Page Three

planning commission without taking in comment from the community who have been involved all along,” Shwal said.

She said neighbors weren’t necessarily opposed to an upgrade, but wanted to see a smaller store than the one proposed, and one which would not cause traffic problems.

“We have enough congestion there already,” Shwal said.

The Safeway on College website says the new building will have accompanying shops, something Rockridge Community Planning Council Chair Stu Flashman said his organization had mixed feelings about.

“If there weren’t small stores already, it would be different,” he said. “But just didn’t do proper planning. If they had brought it to the parents before, maybe something could have been done. They have changed that perspective. But I’ll be at the meeting to find out.”

Safeway was expected to display the new drawings and architectural renderings for the College Avenue neighborhood store from 7-9 p.m. at the Claremont Hotel. Check www.berkeleydailyplanet.com for updates.

BHS Graduation Tickets

Continued from Page Two

Coplan said the school spent additional money toward other expenses, such as $10,000 for the sound equipment, rental furniture and chairs, a truckload of bottled water, and overtime for safety officers and teachers.

“If you had it at Berkeley High and not the Greek, you could probably cut the expenses down by half,” he said. “But if we had it at Berkeley High, we’d probably have to limit each student to three tickets, whereas at the Greek Theater, we can have more than 7,000 guests.

Not everyone, however, is happy about the school’s decision to give out two tickets for free and still charge $15 for the rest.

“That’s not fair,” said Guin Irvine, the mother of a Berkeley High senior. “I’m just thinking about the parents that didn’t make that much money. If they had brought it to the parents before, maybe something could have been done. They should have talked to parents before asking the students what they want. Give the young people a voice and I’ll say I want to have my graduation at the Greek.” But it’s the parents who are paying for the ticket—I know people who are almost losing their job.”

OAKLAND GRAD TICKETS

Continued from Page Two

account for the remainder of the $100,000.

Oakland Unified’s three big high schools — Oakland High, Oak- land Tech and Skyline — rent $10,000 each to rent the Paramount Theater for graduation.

“It’s steep, but paid for by the schools,” said OUSD Network Executive Officer Alison McDonald in an e-mail to the Planet. The Paramount’s fee includes ushers and security.

Flint said that in the past, the district used to pick up the tab for the venue, but for the last few years the money has come out of individual school budgets.

“The principal reserves money from the school’s budget every spring,” he said.

Oakland Unified picks up the cost of diplomas and diploma covers for the district’s 25 high schools, Flint said, as well as printing expenses for tickets for the three big schools, which comes to about $30,000.

The total number of students in the senior graduating class of Oakland’s three big schools is 963. Berkeley High has around 800 students graduating this year.

McDonald said that many of the smaller high schools in Oakland Unified, such as Manchela, Media, Architecture, Life and Metwest, rent the auditorium at Holy Names College for about $1,600.

Some smaller schools also use spaces for free. Dewey and Far West will use the auditorium at Oakland Tech this year. Last year they went to Oakland High.

McDonald said she didn’t know how much the Mormon Temple and Laney College were charging for graduation events, but that the cost was higher.

By cutting costs, the district hopes to save about $20,000 for the three big schools.

Sudoku

To the preceding page.

Answers to the Sudoku puzzles from the preceding page.

1.

4 5 3
2 5 6
9 8 2

5 6 4
8 6 2
9 8 2

4 9 1
5 1 6
8 9 4

5 8 3
7 4 5
9 8 1

2.

4 5 3 9 6 8 7 2
2 5 1 6 4 9 8 3
9 8 2 6 2 3 4 1 5
8 1 9 6 4 2 3 5 7
6 7 2 8 3 5 1 4 9
3 8 1 9 2 1 6 5 8
6 9 8 2 7 5 3 1 6
7 2 4 3 5 1 8 9 6
3 5 1 9 3 6 8 7 2

5 2 9 6 3 5 2 4
4 5 8 9 4 1 7 6 8
8 1 5 9 6 2 3 8 5
3 3 6 1 8 6 7 2 9
4 5 1 6 9 4 1 5 7
5 9 1 8 7 4 2 3 5
2 3 4 5 8 6 1 7 9
6 8 4 1 7 2 9 6 8
3 6 7 5 9 8 9 4 1

Sudoku.

Housing Hornswoggle

Continued from Page Twenty-Two

providing additional funding to the National Affordable Housing Trust Fund, reinvigorating housing (affirmative action) protections, and coordinating a national Disability Housing Policy across federal agencies.

Housing needs necessitates higher housing density to pack us all in, and not everyone even wants the headache of fixing their own plumbing, mowing their own lawn, and property taxes, and most of all, no one wants to afford a mortgage—the Bush administration, and the Clinton administration before that pushed ownership upon us as the salvation for all of our housing woes. The result? Subprime mortgages and a worldwide economic meltdown.

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Fictitious Business Names

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**

FILE NO. 423115

1415 Telegraph Avenue
Oakland, CA 94612

Registrant(s) and Residence
Elyas R. Keleta
Oakland, CA 94610

Corporation or LLC Name: Keffa International

The registrant commenced to conduct business under the above-listed fictitious name or names on:

- April 16, 23, 30, 2009
- May 7, 2009

**ARCHIVE INTERNSHIP (Paid)**

Work with director of former international non-profit and in her home 8 blocks N of UC Berkeley. Hours negotiable. Will do 7 days a week. Phone: (510) 256-7457. One weekend shift required. Must be reliable, organized, accurate, a good writer, and available evenings. Email: evarooz@yahoo.com. Great view and free food.

**HELP WANTED**

**WEST BERKELEY BOWL**

Continued from Page One

address the six-month delay for the traffic light at Heinz. Michael Vecchio, the city’s associate traffic engineer, said that a sign will go up at the Berkeley Bowl exit at Ninth and Heinz, directing drivers to turn either left or right on Heinz and not head straight on Ninth. There will also be another sign on the left side of Ninth and Heinz requesting northbound traffic to use Seventh Street. A sign at Heinz and San Pablo will tell drivers not to make northbound left turns onto San Pablo.

The city will also prohibit left turns from westbound Ashby to southbound San Pablo. CalTrans does not normally allow a left-hand turn signal in one direction on a state highway without a corresponding left-turn signal in the opposite direction. To add to that signal, they also want to allow a turn signal for traffic turning left from eastbound Ashby onto southbound San Pablo. The city plans to create a corresponding left-turn lane from westbound Ashby onto southbound San Pablo once the 1200 Ashby condo project at the intersection’s southeast corner dedicates land for the new lane. Since that project has been approved by ZAB, but is still under review. Aaron Sage, the city’s senior planner working on the project, said that the left turn lane was expected to be completed by 2012.

West Berkeley business owners and residents said they recognized the mitigations for Heinz and San Pablo will only exacerbate the problem by bringing more traffic into the neighborhood, particularly to Eighth, Ninth and Tenth streets.

The grocery store will open on May 14, right across the street from Ecole Bilingue, which enrolled about 500 students, ranging from pre-school to eighth grade.

Traffic engineer Rob Rees, representing the Bowl with consultants Fehr and Peers, said traffic estimates show there will be one car coming from Berkeley Bowl every minute at peak hour. Rees said the city must install the traffic lights at Heinz and San Pablo. CalTrans requested further documentation to consider the changes.

“CalTrans also wants an analysis, which we don’t know about until two months ago,” Rees said.

Carey Robbins, who works at the corporate office of Meyer & Associates, one of the former consultants at Heinz and San Pablo, called the temporary improvements a disaster.

“There are ongoing problems on Heinz Street. What we are proposing now is not going to help the neighborhood. Better just let it be until the mitigations are put into place.”

John Curl, chair of West Berkeley Arts and Industrial Companies (WEBAC), said the Bowl was not acting like a good neighbor.

“They are not coming in humbly, they are coming in with arrogance,” Curl said. Ecolle Bilingue Principal Walter Portales said the proposal to amend the use permit had taken place “too fast,” adding that he was concerned about the safety of his students.

“Maybe if we had a little bit more time to meet with the Bowl – we don’t want to see an accident on the first day of the opening,” Portales said.

Some area residents said the redirected traffic from the Bowl would congest their streets and infringe on their quality of life.

“Imagine how fast that light would be in place” if they prevented the Bowl from opening without it, said neighbor Barbara Newman. “Propriety you should say, ‘you didn’t do the mitigations, so you don’t have your permit until it’s done,’ as you would to any project that is not a cash cow.”

Wareham Development, which owns 2410 San Pablo, a new West Berkeley and four in the immediate vicinity of the new store, asked the city to make sure there were proper penalties in place if the Bowl did not make the required changes by the deadline.

“I told Berkeley Bowl that they would post a $250,000 bond—the cost of the traffic safety lights—which would go to the city if they didn’t complete the project by the end of 2009. Zoning board member Bob Allen said there was a good chance they were kicking up a fuss about nothing.

“This kind of handwringing was done when Martin Avenue went from four lanes to two,” he said, explaining that the community’s concerns had turned out to be unfounded in that case. “I don’t think this is the end of the world.”

Board member Michael Alvarez said the concerns should be given some importance, saying, “We don’t want to delay the opening, but once it’s open, we won’t be able to shut it down for the six months.”

Sara Shumer, another board member, questioned Berkeley Bowl’s diligence.

“I supported the Bowl when it first came before us, but I am disturbed that it is coming to us in a special Monday night meeting two weeks before opening,” she said. “There is no way the Bowl did not know they would not get those lights before May 15.”

Board member Terry Doran suggested that the city carry out a traffic analysis of the temporary mitigations to find out if they were working.

Sage pointed out that the city had required Berkeley Bowl to conduct a traffic study before the store opened and six months after its opening. Under thebow new direction, the city’s Planning Department will change the schedule to assess traffic three months after the opening and then again six months after the traffic lights are installed at Heinz and San Pablo. The board asked Berkeley Bowl to pay for these studies, estimated to cost as much as $20,000.

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Bernard and Annie Maybeck were always attracted to open land. Rather than build next to other houses, they repeatedly ventured to the edge of town for their home site. In 1892, when the Maybecks purchased a double lot in northwest Berkeley, on the corner of Grove and Berryman streets, there was no other house on the block.

East Bay: Then and Now

By Daniella Thompson

This remained the case for over 10 years. By the time Berkeley began growing in earnest in the aftermath of the 1906 earthquake and fire, the Maybecks were ready to find new frontiers.

“As the town grows, homes climb the hills,” Maybeck famously said. The architect’s insight, combined with his wife’s business acumen, led the couple to La Loma Park, the former estate of Captain Richard Parks Thomas of the Standard Soap Company. Following the Captain’s death in May 1900, his widow subdivided La Loma Park into building lots which were sold in October—some to professors such as the geologist Andrew C. Lawson, others to speculators who resold them.

The Maybecks were not among the first wave of land buyers in La Loma Park, but they ended up purchasing five large, irregularly shaped parcels east of La Loma Avenue. Three of those lots—18, 19, and 27—lay above (or north of) Buena Vista Way. The other two—lots 21 and 22—were situated below, on the south side of the street. Incomplete records indicate that their acquisitions took place in 1906 and 1907.

The Maybecks’ first Berkeley home had been a simple one-story cottage that the architect transformed with the help of his students into a two-story house with a chalet-like roof, prominent sleeping porch, and a great variety of windows. Charles Keeler later described the house as “a distinctively hand-made home.”

The new house, built in 1907 on the northeast corner of Buena Vista and La Loma, was a much grander affair. The Maybecks’ daughter-in-law, Jacomena, described it as “a glamorous place, a sleepythink of gigantic Corinthian columns set on a radiantly heated concrete platform and screened by canvas draperies. Owing to conflicts over budget and rights of way, Maybeck withdrew from the project, which was completed by another member of the Hillside Club.

In 1915, Maybeck designed two houses across the street from his own—one to the west, the other to the south. The first was built at 2683 Buena Vista Way for Professor Charles L. Seeger, head of the UC music department and father of folk singer Pete Seeger. The second is the marvelous Swiss-Japanese studio house constructed at 2704 Buena Vista for Richard and Gertrude Mathewson, the Berkeley High School librarian, reportedly brought Maybeck a Japanese plate and said, “Please match a house to it.”

In 1911, the Boyntons purchased from the Maybecks a lot at the eastern end of Buena Vista Way, where Maybeck built them a temporary shelter in which they lived while their ideal home was being designed. The “model camp,” as Mrs. Boynton called it, consisted of two pergolas, one for living and sleeping, with a canvas roof, the second for cooking and dining, screened and surrounded by glass windows.

The permanent residence, to be named “Temple of Wings,” was a circular portico of gigantic Corinthian columns set on a radiantly heated concrete platform and screened by canvas draperies. Owing to conflicts over budget and rights of way, Maybeck withdrew from the project, which was completed by another member of the Hillside Club.

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The Maybeck house was going up, and Professor Lawson’s renaissance interest in Japanese culture was on the rise. Along with his renowned friend and fellow professor Charles Seeger, Lawson turned to Japanese culture and architecture as a means of escape and a means to express his personal philosophy of life.

As advocates of living with nature and lovers of the theater, the Maybecks found a kindred spirit in Florence Treadwell Boynton. A schoolmate and disciple of Isadora Duncan who went far beyond the Maybecks in her practice of open-air living, Mrs. Boynton was the subject of considerable press attention. In December 1909, the San Francisco Call devoted an entire illustrated page to her with the headline “Back to Nature and the Greek.” The subhead proclaimed, “This Alameda society woman, friend of Isadora [sic] Duncan, sleeps with her children on the roof, dances, plays and studies with them among the flowers, lives outdoors, banishes tight clothes and close rooms—all to arouse the souls of her Babes.”

The article went on to describe Mrs. Boynton’s views and practices:

She is the moving spirit in several circles of reform—dresses, food, education, social culture, etc., the most notable being that of dress. Taking the view that woman should clothe herself to represent the finer qualities, purity, fidelity, love and patience, she urges the adoption of the loose, flowing robes of the ancient Greek, “garments that attract no attention in themselves,” but reveal all the beauties granted woman by the Creator, without being vulgar or crude. […]

The Boynton family sleep every night, regardless of temperature or condition of the elements, upon the roof of their home. When they awake at 6 o’clock, their eyes first greet the blue sky. Mrs. Boynton gives the children their first lesson. As they sit there in their little nightgowns gazing at the new morning the mother points out to them the pretty things of nature, the clouds, the trees, the distant mountains […] Drees gives them no trouble, and they are quickly downstairs and out upon the lawn with bare legs and feet, if the weather permits, the mother leading them in a dance of ecstasy, interpreting all the joys of the morning.

It was inevitable that two crusaders like Maybeck and Florence Boynton should meet, especially since both lectured at the Hillside Club. In 1911, the Boyntons purchased from the Maybecks a lot at the eastern end of Buena Vista Way, where Maybeck built them a temporary shelter in which they lived while their ideal home was being designed. The “model camp,” as Mrs. Boynton called it, consisted of two pergolas, one for living and sleeping, with a canvas roof, the second for cooking and dining, screened and surrounded by glass windows.

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With the exception of the Temple of Wings, all the neighboring houses men- teacher Monro, a young draftsman and another member of the Hillside Club and participant in amateur theatricals alongside Maybeck.

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continued on Page Twenty-Seven

The Mathewson house, built in 1915.

Shuppoff collection, BAHA archives
I have suffered that you don’t have to. I’m going to share a plumbing secret. The desire for knowledge of some basic plumbing facts has suffered so that you don’t have to.”

By MATT CANTOR

Maybeck Country

Continued from Page Twenty-Six... design. The Maybecks’ own house was reduced to ashes. About the same time, Annie’s brother (and Maybeck’s partner) Mark, already close to 50, was married. His widowed mother, Eleanor White, nicknamed “Blumey,” moved out of the house they had shared and rented a flat at 1518 Henry St. The homeless Maybecks went to live with her.

Their son Wallen soon tired of the arrangement and roomed in with Frances in Berkeley Vista Way, camping on the concrete floor of his former workshop. In 1924, wishing to provide Wallen with shelter, Maybeck resolved to build a roomy two-room apartment on the foundation of the lost family home.

Even before the fire, Maybeck had begun to experiment with a different kind of wall surface, one that would allow a unified wall surface to be applied on the roof. This was achieved by covering the wall with a mixture of concrete and sand, which was applied in a single operation across the entire face of the wall. This method allowed the architect to achieve a uniform wall surface that was both durable and aesthetically pleasing. The technique was later used on the Maybecks’ own house, where it was applied on the roof.

I am going to share a plumbing secret. The desire for knowledge of some basic plumbing facts has suffered so that you don’t have to. The secret is that, once putting it back as it was, only without the hood that you will be welcomed at the door. I’m going to share a plumbing secret. The desire for knowledge of some basic plumbing facts has suffered so that you don’t have to. The secret is that, once putting it back as it was, only without the hood that you will be welcomed at the door. The secret is that, once putting it back as it was, only without the hood that you will be welcomed at the door. The secret is that, once putting it back as it was, only without the hood that you will be welcomed at the door.
Return of the Painted Ladies

By Joe Eaton

The painted lady (Vanessa cardui) also stages mass migrations in Europe. Two other closely related species, the American lady (V. virginiensis) and the West Coast lady (V. annabella), are strictly North American, and non-migratory. Distinguishing the three can be tricky, but the painted lady tends to fly in a northwesterly direction. That would have been the painted lady flying in a northwesterly direction. That often blankets the state. In peak years, numbers have been estimated in the billions.

Wild Neighbors

The painted lady (vanessa cardui) also stages mass migrations in Europe. Two other closely related species, the American lady (V. virginiensis) and the West Coast lady (V. annabella), are strictly North American, and non-migratory. Distinguishing the three can be tricky, but the painted lady tends to fly in a northwesterly direction. That would have been the painted lady flying in a northwesterly direction. That often blankets the state. In peak years, numbers have been estimated in the billions.

If you were paying attention last month, you may have noticed a number of small pale-orange butterflies flying in a northwesterly direction. That would have been the painted lady migration, a not-quite-annual phenomenon that sometimes blankets the state. In peak years, numbers have been estimated in the billions.

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