

LAKESHORE Homes Association

Incorporated 1917

June 2015

What's Up

Family Sundown Safari Grab your tent, sleeping bag, your family & friends and get ready for an overnight adventure at **Oakland Zoo**. This unique summer program includes dinner, a nighttime and morning guided tour of the Zoo with behind the scenes, live animal presentations, interactive activities, Wildlife Theater show, a hot morning breakfast, and s'mores! Available to all families. http://www.oaklandzoo.org/Family_Sundown_Safari.php

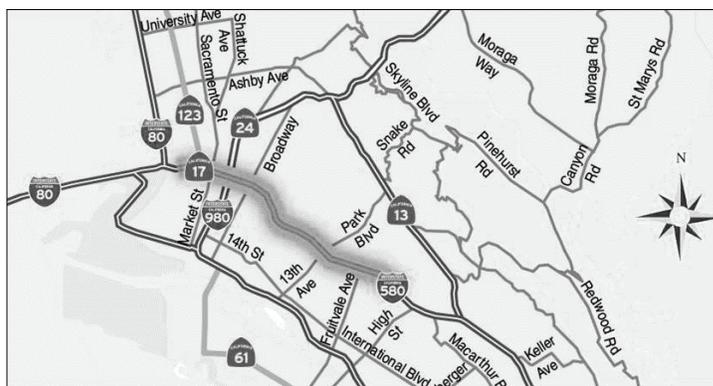
Visit Presidential Yacht Potomac: F.D.R.'s "Floating White House" Thursday, June 18, 2015 at 7:00 for a fascinating look at the storied river getaway used by FDR, with Steve Teel. After the talk, tour the yacht led by USS Potomac docents. Call Oakland Heritage Alliance office at 510-763-9218 or email info@oaklandheritage.org. Oakland Heritage Alliance serves as a bridge connecting Oakland's past to its present and future, working to protect, preserve and revitalize Oakland's architectural, historic, and cultural resources.

Bike Tour | Oakland on Two Wheels On Sunday, June 19, 2015, explore Oakland's rich patchwork of neighborhoods by cycling through them with an experienced guide from Oakland Museum of CA. The third Sunday May - October, **OMCA** docents lead bike tours of this eclectic city; destinations include downtown Oakland, the port area, Lake Merritt, and Fruitvale. Free. Meet 10:00 at the Museum's Oak Street front entrance. Bring own bikes, helmets, repair kits, water. For info/reservations call 510-318-6470

docentcenter@museumca.org.

I-580 Resurfacing Project in Oakland

The resurfacing phase of the project starts May 2015 on I-580, from west of I-80 to just east of Boston Avenue in Oakland, approximately 6 miles.



The project also includes resurfacing the on/off ramps, modifying the drainage systems, installing guardrails, curbs and dikes, replacing overhead sign panels and loop detectors, and upgrading ADA curb ramps.



Resurfacing the freeway is scheduled for completion September 2015. Other parts of the project will be underway next year. Read the insert in this newsletter to learn how LHA's Board and others are working with Caltrans for the best possible plan and result.

COMMUNITY UPDATES



Little Free Libraries come to the Neighborhood

by Robyn Jagust, Chair of LHA CARES

Many of you may have seen my Little Free Library at 857 Sunnyhills Road and the Little Free Library at 1036 Sunnyhills, home of Karyn and Noah Veneklasen. I learned about Little Free Libraries on National Public Radio and my husband gave me one for my birthday. Karyn saw a Little Free Library in Portland, OR and her husband built her one for Christmas last year. Since installing, both of the libraries have been well used. The most popular books are children's and contemporary fiction and nonfiction. If you are cleaning off a bookshelf, consider donating a book(s) to either library. Please remember to leave books you think your neighbors would enjoy. To learn more about Little Free Libraries, go to the official webpage at <http://littlefreelibrary.org>. You can also read the article, "5 Reasons to Love Little Free Libraries" by Margret Aldrich, at http://www.huffingtonpost.com/margret-aldrich/reasons-to-love-little-free-libraries_b_7066164.html.

Karyn and I hope to see you at our Little Free Libraries! *Take a Book. Leave a Book.*

Clear off your *children's* bookshelf and help a good cause – Children!

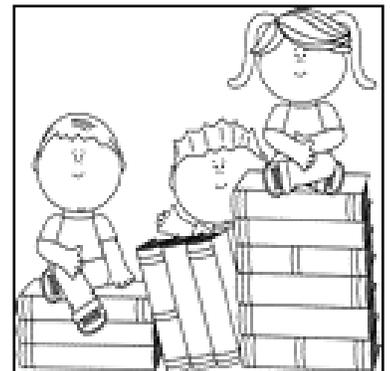
EAST BAY CHILDREN'S BOOK PROJECT (EBCBP) helps build literacy by putting books into the hands of children who have little or no access to them. Working through individuals and organizations who help children in need, EBCBP has given out over 1,000,000 books since opening in May 2005.

Books are given directly to children in need by teachers, social workers, health care professionals, and community outreach groups. Some are used by schools, daycare and community centers, homeless shelters, and hospitals to create on-site libraries.

There is a drop-off bin for your *children's* gently used or new books at the LHA office. (Please only **books** that are **for children**.)

You can also help EBCBP build literacy with a tax-deductible contribution.

Donate online at EBCBP.org. Mail checks payable to East Bay Children's Book Project, 2008 Park Blvd, Oakland CA 94606.



ASSOCIATION UPDATES

Carlston Triangle project update and Parks vs. the drought

by Chris Metcalfe, Parks Committee Chair

The drought has altered our design and timing for our park updating. Carlston Triangle (at Longridge & Carlston) will get its hardscape remodeled this summer; however, its plantings will be postponed due to the water shortage. No new lawn will be planted there. Where lawn is removed, mulch that is pleasant underfoot and good to play on will be laid. The sequoias are being well-cared for now.

Plans to reduce lawn size or eliminate altogether are being formulated for all the parks. LHA is serious about reducing water usage yet maintaining the parks in a user-friendly style. You may see grass disappearing in the coming seasons. Certainly, in the meantime, it will be turning brown, just like yours at home.

Treehouse

LHA and the owners of 894 Longridge Road have resolved the tree house issue raised at the 2014 Annual Meeting. The following is the joint statement:

“This statement is being issued jointly and with the agreement of the Lakeshore Homes Board of Directors and also Bret Dickey and Marci [sic] Gutierrez, owners of the home at 894 Longridge Rd. Mr. Dickey and Ms. Gutierrez constructed a tree house in an area that encroaches into the Oak Grove Park, to which the Association objected, and a dispute resulted. The parties have participated in mediation, in which the parties have acted in good faith in attempting to resolve this matter. Mr. Dickey and Ms. Gutierrez appreciate the efforts of the Board in working fairly to resolve this matter. The Board likewise appreciates the efforts of Mr. Dickey and Ms. Gutierrez. Mr. Dickey and Ms. Gutierrez regret any previous inflammatory statements made regarding the Board or the Association. The parties are happy to report that they have now resolved this dispute in a manner believed to be fair to the Association and to the Dickey-Gutierrez family.”

Home and Car Burglary Prevention Reminder from OPD

Leave nothing in sight in your car. Nothing.

Lock your doors.

Don't leave electronic devices or purse/wallet in view through home windows. (E.g., mobile phone on the kitchen table by patio window.)

Be aware, look around. Report suspicious activity/persons to OPD non-emergency 510-777-3333.

Let's Respect Our Newly Painted Light Poles

Notice how much spiffier the light poles look newly painted? The painting of the light poles is progressing throughout our neighborhood. Let's enjoy them and not post signs. Posting on light poles, sign posts, street trees, traffic signs, or power / telephone poles violates City law and LHA's rules. The tape permanently mars the pole/post/tree. Posted signs may be removed by LHA staff - before the missing pet is found or the garage sale occurs. Homeowners are subject to fine from the City and/or LHA. Perhaps consider posting these items on NextDoor.com.



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ASSOCIATION UPDATES

Hello, Lisa! Thank you, Claudia!

Lisa Ray is LHA's new Administrator. She trained with Claudia before Claudia's retirement May 31. Please welcome Lisa. Claudia Skapik is on to new adventures (grandkids and gardening perhaps) after 26 years with LHA. We all thank her for the help, insight, guidance, and laughs. See you around the neighborhood, Claudia.

Follow us on FaceBook

LHA is on FaceBook! Like us. Follow us.
Check out Throwback Thursdays.

Lakeshore Homes Association

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finance@lakeshorehomes.net

Committees (meetings at LHA office 7:30 p.m.)

Neighborhood Preservation	1 st Wednesday
Parks	2 nd Wednesday
Board of Directors	3 rd Wednesday
Membership	4 th Wednesday

Board of Directors

Board President	Peter Turner
Vice President	Chris Metcalfe
Vice President	Jack Backus
Secretary	Ron Shapiro
Treasurer	Liz Sterns

Staff (office hours 10 – 1 M – F)

Lisa Ray and Patty Montmorency
Follow us on Facebook

Highway 580 Resurfacing – May 2015 to Sept 2016 by *President Peter Turner*
For more information, please see www.dot.ca.gov/dist4/580resurfacing

Dear Neighbors,

When our Board learned that a 6-mile stretch of I-580 would be resurfaced, our initial reaction was positive. No one is satisfied with the condition of our infrastructure, so at first glance this seemed like a meaningful benefit for our neighborhood. However, looking at details, we learned that the 1st phase (ending in September 2015) of the 16 month project would be carried out during common sleep hours from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. For that inconvenience, we assumed the project would improve I-580. No! Caltrans planned only a modest improvement in ride quality.

This didn't make sense, so we called our politicians: Governor Jerry Brown, State Senator Loni Hancock, Assemblyperson Rob Bonta, Mayor Libby Schaaf, Councilperson Abel Guillen and U.S. Representative Barbara Lee. Rob Bonta and Abel Guillen have been advocates on our behalf. Representative Lee's office made contact with Caltrans to present our concern, as 88.5% of the funds are Federal. We also met with Caltrans 3 times and still continue a personal dialogue with the District Division Chief overseeing the project. Our goal was to do construction during daytime rather than sleep hours, reduce overall construction noise and use quieter rubberized asphalt.

Caltrans did not change the hours of work, as it would cause enormous traffic delays, and will not resurface with rubberized asphalt where it is not already laid as the cost would exceed \$30,000,000 to do the entire 6 miles. The westbound lanes between Park & Lakeshore will again be surfaced with rubberized asphalt concrete. Our review of industry research (and personal experience) examining stretches of I-880 surfaced with rubberized asphalt concluded it is a superior product resulting in a significantly quieter roadway.

On May 15th, Caltrans posted 15 pages of answers to 38 questions we posed. See their project web page www.dot.ca.gov/dist4/580resurfacing for detailed timeline and when/where the greatest noise will occur.

A small concession on construction noise - we brought to Caltrans' attention portable, lightweight, sound-deadening curtains proven to reduce construction noise. Caltrans has never used the product, but agreed to test the curtains on I-580. We asked to be told when and where the tests will take place and to access their test results; we can judge for ourselves whether it reduces noise.

Candidly, Caltrans has a thankless job. Its funds are not endless, the work needed to maintain crumbling roads is enormous and making progress with everyone asking for changes and criticizing their work is disheartening. However, remember the rule of the squeaky wheel. To share your discomfort with Caltrans, call the Caltrans Public Information Officer, Myeast McCauley at 510-286-5522 (office), 510-715-9397 (cell). If you want to take it a step further, Assemblyperson Bonta's assigned staff member assigned is Jim Oddie, District Director, jim.oddie@asm.ca.gov.

Your Board members have been joined in this outreach to Caltrans by communities adjacent to Lakeshore Homes. These neighbors have been invaluable, bringing cogent analysis, scientific data and persistence to the cause.

WANT TO REMOVE A TREE? MAJOR PRUNING?

The Lakeshore Homes Association has, since its inception in 1917, had a Policy requiring homeowners get **permission from LHA to remove any tree** that measures **12” in diameter or greater at a height of 4’ above the ground.**

Even given this long-standing policy, every year there are a few people who remove their trees without first coming before the Association. At times there are legitimate reasons for the trees to be removed. However, because the procedures are not followed, the Association is left with no recourse but to fine the property owner.

The **Policy**, in a nutshell, requires anyone wishing to remove a tree to:

1. Make application with LHA (forms are available on-line or at the office).
2. Pay a refundable planting fee of \$100 per tree to LHA.
3. Obtain a permit from and pay a \$250 (currently) fee to the City of Oakland.
4. Inform neighbors of your intentions to remove the trees.
5. Submit the above information to the Neighborhood Preservation Committee that meets the first Wednesday of every month at the Association office.

Failure to comply with the Policy will result in a fine of at least \$500 per tree depending on the stature of the tree. We are serious. Since 1999, we have collected \$5000 in fines which fines go to replanting trees in our neighborhood. But we’d really rather have the desirable mature trees than the money.

One of the many attractive features of our neighborhood is the abundance of majestic trees that grace our properties. While there are legitimate reasons to remove trees, it is the goal of this Policy to encourage the overall maintenance of desirable trees and to enhance the aesthetic quality of the neighborhood.

Thank you for complying with the CC&Rs of your Association. If you have any questions, please call the LHA office (510-451-7160) or check our website (www.lakeshorehomes.net).