

Thousand Oaks Neighborhood Association

February 2019

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

WE CAN MAKE BERKELEY SAFER BY...



Sophie Hahn

TONA General Meeting

Thursday, March 7, 2018, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Thousand Oaks Baptist Church Auditorium, Catalina at Colusa
Enter on Catalina about half a block east from the main church entrance.



Agenda:

- Golden Acorn Award
- TONA Board Elections

Traffic Safety

Invited Speakers:

Farid Javandel

KEEPING YOU SAFE!

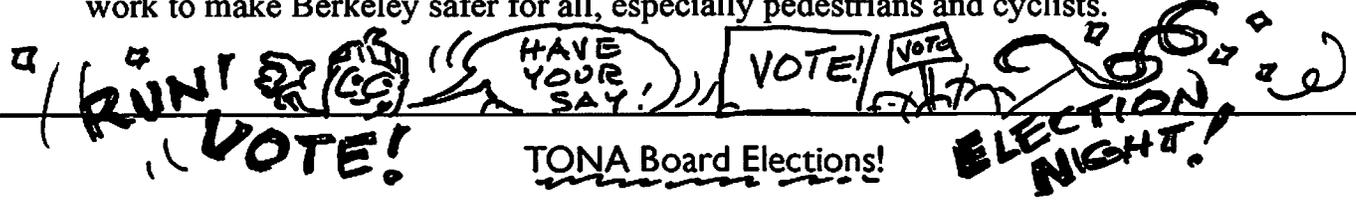


BPD Traffic Rep

Berkeley has had an epidemic of vehicle-pedestrian accidents in January, in which more than a dozen pedestrians were hit by vehicles in eleven accidents, resulting in many critical injuries, including the president of the Berkeley Unified School District, Judy Appel, and her wife, Alison Bernstein, who remain hospitalized.

According to an AARP study, "Walking can be risky in cities and towns across America, where a pedestrian dies in a traffic crash every two hours. Between 2003 and 2012, crashes killed 47,025 pedestrians nationwide and injured another 676,000. Cutting those numbers has proved difficult: Distracted drivers increasingly look at phones instead of the road; people cross streets when and where they shouldn't; cities and suburban areas have been built to move cars, not to keep pedestrians safe." Senior drivers accounted for seven of the eleven pedestrian accidents in Berkeley as of January 17.

Councilmember Sophie Hahn, representatives from Berkeley's Police Department Traffic Division, and the City of Berkeley Traffic Division Manager, Farid Javandel, will head up a panel to discuss and answer questions about how we as a community can work to make Berkeley safer for all, especially pedestrians and cyclists.



TONA Board Elections!

Our annual board elections will take place at our March 7 meeting, following the presentation of the Golden Acorn. We have two board vacancies to fill; we were already short one, and current member Jonathan Marr is retiring to spend more time with his four-and-a-half-year-old son. Thank you, Jonathan. You will be missed! Any TONA member can run for one of the open positions, and all TONA members are encouraged to come vote. We have four board meetings a year (wine is available but consumption is not required) and three general meetings.

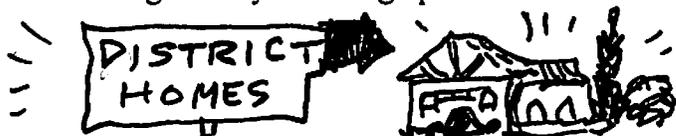


On the Avenue

by Tanya Grove



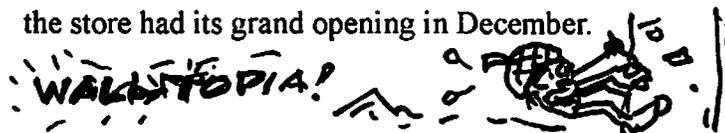
I'm happy to report that one business has re-opened—**La Bedaine** (1585, between Peralta and Tacoma). Due to health issues, French-born chef Alain Delangle had temporarily shuttered his pastry and take-out shop, but he is gradually resuming operations.



Anna Bellomo opened **District Homes**, a real estate company, at 898 The Alameda, where **Clean Cleaners** closed shop earlier last year after 30 years of business. Welcome to the neighborhood, Anna!



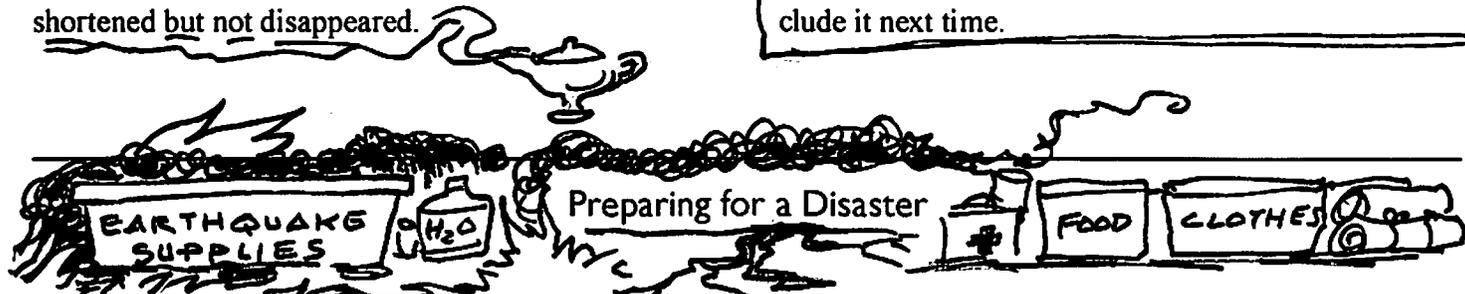
As reported in the last newsletter, **Noor & Sons Rug Gallery** (1898, at the Alameda) had planned to clear out its inventory by December. However, many rugs are still in residence, and the posted hours have shortened but not disappeared.



Lastly, an update on **Oaks Climbing**: most of the demo work inside the building is done and **Walltopia** is working on the wall design. Plans will be sent to the building department soon.

Note:

If you know of a new business that I missed, please let me know at tona.board@gmail.com so I can include it next time.



As deadly wildfires become regular occurrences in the age of global warming, and the threat of a catastrophic quake increases, the effort to prepare for a disaster can feel overwhelming. Fortunately, there are some resources that can help.

Berkeley offers **CERT** (Community Emergency Response Team) classes on subjects such as general disaster preparedness, fire safety, light search and rescue, even animal response (I and III). For more info visit cityofberkeley.info/CERT, a schedule of upcoming classes, and lots of online resources.

The city also offers an emergency cache program. Neighborhoods that have worked together to prepare for disasters can be awarded with a cache of supplies and emergency equipment. This year's program application deadline is May 31. You can find out more info at www.cityofberkeley.info/DisasterCaches.

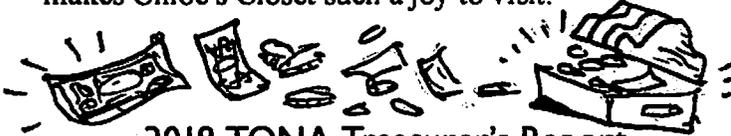
The nonprofit **Berkeley Disaster Preparedness Neighborhood Network (BDPNN)** is devoted to helping neighborhoods and individuals prepare for disasters. Its website (www.bdpnnnetwork.org) is full of helpful information, and BDPNN has quarterly presentations on helpful topics such as disaster first aid, quake insurance, wildfire evacuation, and communications in a disaster. It also periodically offers emergency GoKits, solar emergency lights, and other supplies.

In addition to preparing your home for a disaster and getting emergency supplies, the best way to create a resilient community in a disaster is to get to know your neighbors and share information, including what your needs are. And here in Thousand Oaks, that's not just a safety issue—that's a fun thing to do!



And the Golden Acorn Award Goes to...
by Tanya Grove

Chloe's Closet! This year the TONA Board decided to bestow the coveted Golden Acorn Award to this popular consignment store across from Safeway at 1545 Solano Avenue. It is one of three Chloe's Closets, the other two being in San Francisco. Chloe's Closet is no stranger to awards, having won the *Bay Guardian's* Reader's Poll for Best Children's Clothing Store almost every year since 2005. The store—which also sells toys, baby gear, and maternity clothes—was recognized for its sense of community, providing a spot in the neighborhood where children can visit Santa every December. Congratulations to everyone who makes Chloe's Closet such a joy to visit!



2018 TONA Treasurer's Report
Jane Tierney, Treasurer

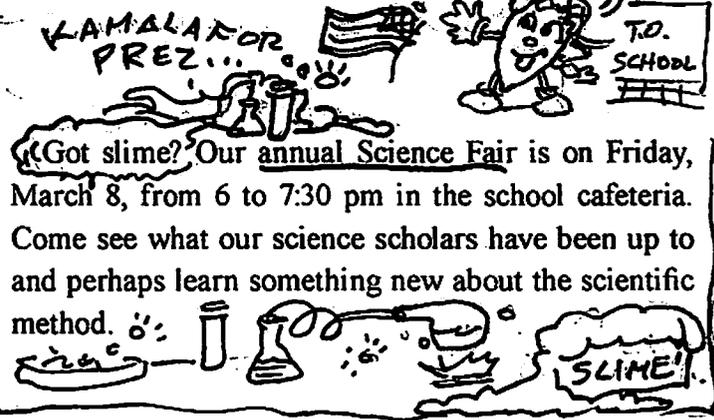
In 2018 TONA had 197 dues-paying member households. Dues and donations totaled \$3,003.37. TONA's major annual expense is the production of our periodic newsletters. In 2018 the cost of three newsletters (1,850 copies each) totaled \$2,042.78. This covers the paper and the copying and folding of the newsletters. Everything else involving the newsletters (layout, proofreading, artwork, and distribution) is done by a network of neighborhood volunteers. The distribution by itself requires 52 people, each responsible for a block. We expect an increase in 2019 for the printing of the newsletters at Berkeley-based Copy Central on Solano Ave in 2019 due to the minimum wage increase. Because of this, we are increasing membership dues for the first time in many years: \$5 for seniors, \$10 for individuals, and \$15 for families. Expenses for the three meetings were \$167.09, which covered the honorarium to the meeting hall at Thousand Oaks Baptist Church (\$150.00) and the ice cream social. Other expenditures include \$74.25 for membership envelopes sent with the winter newsletter and \$134.00 for the Landscape Station P.O. Box. Total expenses for the year were \$2,568.12.

School Corner
by Karen Tompkins, VP of Programs

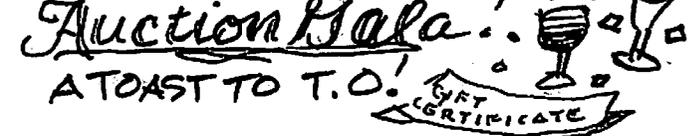


Greetings from Thousand Oaks Elementary! There are lots of exciting events scheduled for the coming weeks. Come join us!

Have you visited Thousand Oaks Elementary lately? Come enjoy our stunning new mural celebrating exceptional women and girls. It's on the north wing of the school nearest to Tacoma. See if you can recognize and name all the powerful women featured in the mural. Need a hint? Check out Senator Kamala Harris's tweet from January 16 when she gave a shout-out to her alma mater!



Want to support our Thousand Oaks Elementary 2019 Spring Auction/Gala (formerly known as A Toast to T.O.)? The big event is March 16, 2019, from 6 to 10 pm at the Albany Community Center.



Donations from the Thousand Oaks Neighborhood make the auction unique and profitable. Please consider donating today! Donations could include seats from season ticket holders (e.g., Giants, Warriors), services from contractors, professional massages, or just about any service from a local business. Gift certificates from restaurants, family vacation rentals, and art also do well at the auction. Another way to support our school is via a cash donation. The deadline for donating an auction item is February 22, 2019. Thank you for your ongoing support of Thousand Oaks Elementary. Please contact Hannah Creasy (creasy.hannah@yahoo.com) or Laura Wilson (lauraw@gene.com) if you have items for the 2019 Spring Auction.



Urn Project Still Needs New Leaders

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



Long-time Urn champions Trish Hawthorne and Elizabeth Sklut are retiring from finding sites and installing additional new urns, but they are still hoping that TONA neighbors will come forward to continue this project. It would be great if more new urns could be added to the four installed between 2011 and 2018.

Funds are in the bank and valuable expertise is available to those who volunteer. In the meantime,

Trish and Elizabeth are planning to place a historical marker near the new urn at Frederick Hink Park and are looking into the possibility of an urn painting on the utility box at Solano and The Alameda to mark the entry into the neighborhood.

Anyone who wants to work toward replacing more of the distinctive urns that once graced Thousand Oaks may contact Trish or Elizabeth for further information.



WANTED: Newsletter Deliverers

The TONA delivery system is made up of 52 routes, each covering one block or several short blocks. We usually publish three issues a year. That doesn't sound too difficult or time-consuming, does it? Some of our volunteers have been delivering the newsletter for ten years. The delivery provides exercise and is an occasion to meet your neighbors. It's a great opportunity for community building. So please consider being a part of our team. We are particularly short on folks covering the hilly streets above The Alameda. It's good aerobic exercise! Just check the "I will deliver" box on the dues form, below. Thank you.

TONA Board of Directors

David Peattie	510-508-7619
<i>President</i>	
Jane Tierney	510-289-9057
<i>Treasurer</i>	
Virginia Logan	510-528-9993
<i>Secretary</i>	
Lucia Blakeslee	510-701-9386
Brennan Cox	510-701-9386
Warren Keller	510-524-0571
Diane Perea	510-434-4438
Martha Salzman	510-524-9795
Elizabeth Sklut	510-527-5512



Acorn Illustrations: Nancy Gorrell

Editing: Tanya Grove

Layout: David Peattie

TONA Membership Form

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

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

Comments: _____

Yes, I will deliver newsletters in my neighborhood