



THE FOPABL HOOT

ALL THE NEWS THAT'S FIT TO HOOT!



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Library Supporters are Powerful



We passed measure D and have protected Oakland libraries. Now we can use our energies, our skills and our love of libraries to work for a permanent home for our branch library. The Friends of Piedmont Avenue Branch Library will meet in September to plan its campaign for a new, permanent library in our neighborhood. It will take a concerted, multi-year community effort.

We will work with Oakland Unified School district, our council member, Dan Kalb's office, and Oakland Public Library administration.

Our first step will be to explore whether there is any chance the empty and derelict CDC building next to the library could become the new permanent home.

When the library administration considers how and where to invest its funds throughout the whole district, they will have to make choices. We know that the City pays attention to our branch library's circulation statistics. How many people does this branch serve? You can help show them by using the library and by ordering books on line to pick up at the library. Are you aware that you have free access to millions of books, DVDs, audio books, and CDs from over 60 libraries? Read how [HERE](http://oaklandlibrary.org/online-resources/e-books-and-digital-content): <http://oaklandlibrary.org/online-resources/e-books-and-digital-content>.

Join us in the effort to get a permanent brick and mortar home for our library. Email us at contact@fopabl.org.



Bubble Party



Clown Day



Big Blue Blocks

Clown Day at the Library

Real clowns, two of them, were teaching clown skills at your library last week. They even brought enough props that everyone in the crowd -- and there was a good-sized crowd -- could have his/her own.

First the scarves, two per person, each different color. Pink in left hand, green in right hand. Toss one, immediately toss the other and catch, pink in right hand, green in left. After everyone had practiced the throw, throw, catch, catch rhythm, the adult clown handed out a third scarf of another color. For some of the youngest kids (three-and-four year olds) it was one scarf, and they had fun tossing the one scarf in the air and catching it or picking it up off the floor, but the older kids and one adult, who shall remain nameless, became fairly adept, able to catch two scarves while the third was still in the air.

Then the plate on a stick trick. Participants were divided into two groups: first grade and younger in one and older in the other. They were each given a plastic plate and a small dowel 15 to 18 inches long on which to spin the plate. And when you bend over to pick the disk off the floor, you had to be careful not to poke your neighbor with the stick. Some people became somewhat adept at spinning the plate on the end of the stick, including the unnamed person mentioned above.

There were other tricks, too, but the favorite one was Washing the Dishes. Each person got a plastic plate except the Boss. Each round had a different Boss, all volunteers from the group. All others lined up holding their plate. The Boss said, in a bossy voice, but sometimes also giggling, "I'm leaving and when I come back all those dishes had better be washed."

Everyone pretended to wash his dish and passed it to the next person who passed it to the next one till the end person had a tall stack. Then the Boss returned. "Now take them to that table," she commanded, pointing. But every one of those end people dropped the plates before getting to the table, scattering them all over the floor, creating a great clatter and making everyone, including observers and adult library patrons, burst into laughter. As the game went on, the number of participants grew and volunteers for the parts of the Boss and the end person increased.

But after too short a time the clowns had to pack up and leave. So they, with the help of the children, gathered the plates and the sticks, put them in their big bags already stuffed with other game things, and said goodbye.

None of this would have happened in your grandma's library.



The Book Worm Recommends

***Sisters in Law: How Sandra Day O'Connor and Ruth Bader Ginsburg Went to the Supreme Court and Changed the World* by Linda Hirshman**

This terrific book uses the lives of two women to show how each one broke the glass ceiling, with details about how it was done.

The author details the lives and judicial decisions of Sandra Day O'Connor and Ruth Bader Ginsburg, the first two women appointed to the Supreme Court. We see that they had some common experiences. Both had powerful mentors as undergraduates at prestigious schools—Stanford for O'Connor and Cornell for Ginsburg. Both attended top tier law schools, served as law review members, and married lawyers who earned high salaries. Ginsburg's current net worth is estimated as 45 million dollars and the O'Connors are wealthy enough to belong to Phoenix's best country clubs.

Both women learned how to work the system. They befriended people in positions to help them, did favors for influential leaders, and *never* openly criticized those with whom they disagreed. They obtained clerkships for their supporters' children and gave presentations for organizations headed by powerful men.

Both are energetic women. O'Connor gave so many speeches that people joked that she had a secret

twin sister giving speeches for her.

We learn that O'Connor, in Arizona, faced more obstacles than Ginsburg did and advanced partly because she willingly took any position available to a well-connected Republican woman in Phoenix. She volunteered to head the Junior League, was a tireless organizer for Barry Goldwater's Republican Party, was appointed to a vacated seat in the State legislature, and became the first female leader of the Arizona State Senate.

Ginsburg graduated from law school seven years later than O'Connor did, and in New York where there were more opportunities for female lawyers than in Phoenix. Ginsburg served as a law professor and worked with the ACLU to develop a legal strategy to win equal treatment under the law for women. The author details the multiple Supreme Court cases prepared and argued by Ginsburg.

But Justices are political appointments and so these two women served the political aims of the presidents who appointed them. To attract female voters, candidate Ronald Reagan promised to put a woman on the Supreme Court and he needed a female candidate who was a loyal Republican, a lawyer, and acceptable to justices who doubted that a woman would fit in. O'Connor interviewed with a Washington delegation in her Phoenix home and then charmed the men with a delicious lunch of salmon salad that she had prepared. Ginsburg was appointed by Bill Clinton who was looking for an experienced, liberal legal scholar with the social skills to operate as a cooperative colleague with the other justices. Each woman had the qualifications needed by the president who appointed her, but neither would have been chosen by the president who chose the other woman.

Both women ended up writing articulate dissenting opinions on a conservative, male court. The author claims that appointing women to the Court has given women greater legal protection, but the reader will have to watch the outcome of the cases they participated in to see whether their influence is lasting.

by Ann. P. McCauley

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

What's Happening at the Library

Ongoing Events

Wednesdays at 10:15 am – Toddler Storytime

Wednesdays at 11:00 am – Pre-School Storytime

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

Saturdays at 10:30 am – Baby Café

Saturdays at 2:30 pm – eBook Help

Events between July 15 – August 31:

Thursday July 19 at 3 pm - Scientific Adventures

Explore tower escapes; build zip lines, parachutes and more with local scientists.

Tuesday July 24 at 6 pm – Big Blue Blocks

Thursday July 26 at 3 pm - Fur, Scales and Tails Animal Show!!!

It is Summer Reading so it is time for an animal show! *Fur, Scales and Tails Animal Show* will be bringing Guinea Pigs, Rabbits, Tortoises, Lizards, Snakes, Baby Chicks, Frogs, and more to the Library! Guaranteed to be a hit for both kids and adults!

Tuesday July 31 at 6 pm - Cardboard Creatures

Make a sweet or scary creature and a wardrobe of clothes, socks, shoes, and hats to keep it looking good.



Thursday August 2 at 3 pm – East Bay Parks Naturalist Visit

Come discover what hops, crawls, hides, flies and grows from the hills to the bay with a naturalist from the East Bay Regional Park District. You'll meet live animals and get to touch skulls, pelts and more!

Saturday August 4 at 1 pm - The Magic and Mystery of Vincent Van Gogh

Discover the joy, beauty, sorrow, and genius of this amazing artist. View over 80 slides of Van Gogh's art - paintings, drawings, lithographs, etchings - including rarely seen childhood drawings, those from his early Dutch years, and photographs of him with his family. Hear stories about his life, his childhood places he lived and jobs he held before he became an artist. Learn about his early artistic, literary and personal influences.

Artist, lecturer, and Van Gogh scholar Marlene Aron will present.

Tuesday August 7 at 6 pm – National Night Out

Ice cream, photo booth and goats! NNO is Oakland's block party and a time to get together to build neighborhood spirit. Let's start at the library.

Thursday August 9 at 3:30 pm – Teen Pop Up Program

Ages 12-18. All supplies provided

Do you like to make crafts? Want to tell us about your favorite book? Please join us very second Thursday of the month from 3:30-4:30 pm.

All these activities and events take place at the [Piedmont Avenue Branch](#)
80 Echo Avenue, Oakland CA 94611



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