



# THE FOPABL HOOT

ALL THE NEWS THAT'S FIT TO HOOT!



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## Reporting In – Our Campaign for a Permanent Library

We have four years left on our lease on the building on Echo Avenue that houses the Piedmont Avenue Branch Library. That's about how much time it will take to secure a permanent home – all things considered – and we have started.

Our five teams have begun their research. The **Finance Committee** has submitted a substantial list of insightful questions to OPL's fiscal Officer. For example, they asked what funding is available to help us in the planning and development phase and what funding is available to help build a new library – matching funds, grants, etc. The **Development Committee** has researched the use of the parking lot near CVS, the **Political Committee** has contacted Councilperson Kalb, the **Site Committee**, will contact the Oakland Unified School District Facilities Department to ask about their plans for the now-abandoned Piedmont Avenue Early Childhood Development Center property that sits next to the library. The **Outreach Committee** will be present at the Halloween parade to distribute our colorful buttons and literature.

Our neighborhood is rich in experienced, talented activists! Join us - [contact@fopabl.org](mailto:contact@fopabl.org). Together we will gather information and prepare a report to the neighborhood in January 2019. Well informed, we can decide the next step to secure a permanent home for our library.

**PIEDMONT AVENUE  
BRANCH LIBRARY**



**OUR BOOKS NEED A  
PERMANENT HOME!**

## Hallowe'en on the Avenue



Wear a costume, act silly, collect candy and hear a spooky story. That's Hallowe'en on Piedmont Avenue.

Get your costume ready, because anyone can be in the parade. That means you, your children, your parents, your dog, any creature that can walk or ride in a stroller, wagon or wheelchair. Age and species are not a limit. Except please no elephants, giraffes or tigers.

Feeling overworked? Dress as a zombie and join the parade. Feeling trapped at home? Put on a prisoner's outfit and march along. Everything's wonderful? Don a tutu and dance the route. But don't sit at home when you could be laughing and having fun with your neighbors.

At Piedmont Avenue Elementary School there will be Hallowe'en crafts like buttons you can make yourself and a visit from the Oakland Public Library's Bike Library. While their supplies last, there will be free books you can take home and call your own.

The library will be open, and if you can't come to the parade, you can check out what tricks or treats the library has to offer. You might want to use one of the computers (reserve a time) or read the New York Times, either online or hard copy. Don't forget to attend the Financial Planning presentation scheduled for November 3 and to take the kids to the children's gardening program on November 15 at 10:30 am by master gardener Kristen Smeal. There's something for everyone.

It's not your grandma's library.

*by Ruby Long, a neighbor whose work has appeared in local and national publications*



### Storytime And Other Library Activities Help Build Reading Skills And More

Phonological awareness – that's what you're looking for when you take your child to storytime, isn't it? Well, sure.

Public libraries offer a variety of fun and entertaining activities for infants and toddlers that promote early reading skills, such as open-ended creative playtime with blocks or puzzles. And storytime, of course.

Phonological awareness is recognition of spoken words, sounds and syllables, often learned through rhyming books and songs such as those highlighted during storytime. Talking, singing, reading, writing and playing are common parts of early reading activities.

Here's a link to an article featuring Annabelle Blackman, who was the Children's Librarian at our branch before Margaret Rodriguez. It describes some of the library activities the youngsters in your family will very likely enjoy:

<https://edsource.org/2018/baby-and-toddler-storytime-can-create-a-lifetime-love-of-reading/601079>



## The Book Worm Recommends

### Red Sparrow by Jason Matthews

#### Forbidden Passion: A Plot Twist that Always Satisfies

The book opens with an American CIA agent crisscrossing snowy streets and alleys in Moscow as he meets and then saves a saintly “mole” who works deep within Russian intelligence. The description of his maneuvers as he hides, changes directions, outsmarts his pursuers, and even uses a reversible coat, are the stuff of which good spy novels are made.

Then this dedicated young American meets a beautiful but disillusioned Russian female spy! Each of these young people is assigned by their own national intelligence agency to befriend the other as a way of gathering vital, top secret information. Will they be able to seduce each other? If so, what happens then? And what about the admirable, elderly mole who badly needs protection while the two of them are busy?

The author, a long time CIA agent, excels at describing secret intelligence actions and strategies in cinematic terms that we can all envision. The two spies perform a slow circling dance which is described in terms of espionage tradecraft. Bumbling American CIA and FBI operatives step on each other's operations so that they can take credit for success and bumbling Russian operatives sabotage each other's efforts so that they can avoid blame.

There's plenty more where this came from. The book has been made into a movie starring Jennifer Lawrence and the author plans two sequels--*Palace of Treason* and the *Kremlin's Candidate*. With all this narrative riding on them, it is unlikely that this couple will settle down soon.

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 – every week

**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 October 15 & November 30th:

#### **Saturday, October 20th at 10:30 am Choosing a Preschool: Q&A with Claire**

Curious about preschool options for your little one? Bring your questions to this Q & A with Claire Moore. It is best if you can email your questions ahead of time to Margaret (Piedmont Ave Branch Library Children's Librarian) at [mrodriguez@oaklandlibrary.org](mailto:mrodriguez@oaklandlibrary.org)

Claire is a teacher, musician, and neighborhood mom with many years of experience in preschool education. You can check out our Saturday morning playgroup at the same time, so bring the kids.

#### **Saturday, October 27 at 10:15 am Spooky Storytime at the Piedmont Avenue Halloween Celebration**

Join us at MoveMe Boutique at 10:15 am for a slightly spooky storytime, appropriate for toddlers. MoveMe Boutique is located at 3966 Piedmont Ave., near Montell Street.

After storytime, families are invited to join the festivities and march in the Piedmont Avenue Halloween Parade. The parade begins at 11am at the corner of Montell Street and Piedmont Ave.

#### **Saturday, October 27 at 11 am – 3 pm Piedmont Avenue Halloween Parade and Celebration**

The parade begins at 11 am at the corner of Montell Street and Piedmont Ave.

At the end of the parade, please join us at Piedmont Avenue Elementary School for Halloween crafts and treats. You can make a Halloween button to decorate your costume.

The Oakland Public Library's Bike-powered Bookmobile will be making an appearance. Come pick up a FREE book (while supplies last) at the Piedmont Ave Elementary School, 4314 Piedmont Ave.

#### **Saturday, November 3 at 1 pm Financial Planning for People who Hate Financial Planning**

This free 60-minute workshop on the basics of financial planning will cover how to save when you're broke, how much you should be saving, becoming a millionaire on \$20 a day, killing credit card debt, slaying your student loans, 401(k) & 403(b), IRA and Roth IRA, stocks and bonds and mutual funds.

**Thursday, November 15 at 10:30 am Gardening Workshop for Toddlers**

Gardening is a perfect sensory activity for all ages! From the smell of the soil to the sight of beautiful flowers and the taste of herbs, all senses will be engaged in this class. The workshop will include storytime, songs, and a hands-on activity. Kids have the opportunity to get a little dirty, so please dress appropriately.

If it's rainy we'll hold the workshop indoors.

**Unless noted, all these activities and events take place at the Piedmont Avenue Branch Library, 80 Echo Avenue, Oakland CA 94611**

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Free  
with your library card!

