



# OFF THE SHELF

March/April 2009 Edition

## CELEBRATE NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK APRIL 12 - 18 IT'S "FREE2ALL"



### LIBRARIES PLAY A VITAL ROLE IN ECONOMIC RECOVERY

The National Library Week theme in Oakland this year is "Free2all." As our community struggles with the difficult economy, library usage has gone up as individuals and families seek out low-cost alternatives for recreation, job-seeking, lifelong learning, financial aid, and other support. The National Library Week theme reminds people that their public library is still proudly "Free2all."

Our Oakland Public Library continues to be the place where you can find these free services and materials:

- \* Internet access computers and computer training classes
- \* Reference assistance from a professionally trained librarian not only in-person, but via e-mail and 24/7 live chat

- \* Legal information and tax assistance through our Lawyers in the Library and AARP tax help programs
- \* A wide variety of materials for research and entertainment, including DVDs, e-books, career and job resources, practice tests, even tools
- \* Powerful databases that give you access to thousands of newspaper and magazine articles
- \* Children's story hours and after-school homework help
- \* Tutoring for adults who need help reading and writing
- \* Special events for all ages, featuring authors and professional performers that you usually have to pay admission to see at other locations

Of course, libraries are not really "free." You pay for the service with your taxes and many libraries depend on supplemental support from the Friends and other donors to pay for programming and special materials. But at an annual cost of approximately \$54 per capita in Oakland (or roughly the cost of two new hardbound books), it's still a bargain.

So, check out your Library. It's the best thing you're already paying for.

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## FREE WI-FI “HOT SPOT” AT THE LIBRARY



Are you searching for a Wi-Fi hotspot in Oakland? Then look no further than your local public library. The Oakland Public Library now offers FREE wireless access (Wi-Fi) for public use at all of its fifteen branches, the Main Library, and the African American Museum and Library at Oakland (AAMLO). You can use the wireless connection from your own laptop computer without a library card! Just bring your laptop and wireless card or wireless-enabled device, as well as your own fully charged battery, to any of these Wi-Fi “hotspots” during regular business hours.

“We are pleased to expand our services by offering Wi-Fi access to laptop owners,” states **Carmen Martínez**, Library Director. “As with our public Internet pc’s, this service is free and brings greater flexibility for users who won’t have to reserve a computer in advance and can use their own laptops any place in our libraries.”

Wi-Fi allows appropriately equipped and configured laptop computers to access the Internet. If you don’t have a fully charged battery, you may only use designated electrical outlets to connect your computer. For more information about this service and a list of locations and hours, please consult the Oakland Public Library’s Website at [www.oaklandlibrary.org](http://www.oaklandlibrary.org) or call your nearest branch of the Oakland Public Library.

### BOOK SALE!!

30% Off April 8-12

*"Members First Choice"* Sale Day is

**Wednesday, April 8th, 10:30-5:30**

Most of our **17,000** books are **\$3.00 - \$6.00**

Thursday through Sunday our **30% Off Sale** is open to non-members and members alike.

Hours are: **10:30-5:30** each day.

Note our first-ever SUNDAY sale day!!

When you shop The Bookmark you're supporting the Oakland Public Library:

- \* After-School Youth Programs
- \* Children's Reading Programs
- \* Collection Development
- \* Cultural Events
- \* Furniture and equipment for Library improvement projects
- \* Second Start Adult Literacy Program

The Bookmark Bookstore, 721 Washington Street  
Old Oakland - (510) 444-0473

**Tell a Book-Loving Friend!**

### NEW! BOOKMARK E-NEWS

Join the Bookmark’s E-news mailing list for advance notice of sales and other Bookmark news. Send your email address to: **bookmark\_bookstore@yahoo.com**. You can opt out at any time and we will not share your email address with anyone!.

## “TRANSFORMING YOUR WORLD”

The Oakland Public Library’s Annual Report for 2007-2008, “Transforming Your World,” was mailed to all members in early March. We hope you will learn more about the institution we support through your membership in the **Friends of the Oakland Public Library**. If you missed it, ask at your local library or call **(510) 238-6932** to request a copy.

You can see transformation in progress online! View photos and two live webcams of construction of the new library in East Oakland in progress. Visit the Oakland Public Library’s website, [www.oaklandlibrary.org](http://www.oaklandlibrary.org), and click

on the East Oakland Community Library icon. FOPL published a special feature about OPL’s joint venture with the Oakland school district to build the first public/school

library in Oakland (July/August 2008 edition). For more information, please contact **Winifred Walters**, OPL’s manager of grants and development, at **(510) 238-6932**.



*Artist's rendering of the East Oakland Community Library @ 81st Avenue*

## GIVING

FOPL is grateful for the following tribute donations:

In memory of **Joel Brooks**--

--from Judith Bodenhausen, James Byrd, Karen Bauer and Nancy Wright

In honor of **Debbie Ross** on her birthday from Nancy Suib

In honor of **Gen Katz** from Tamra C. Hege

In honor of **Lillian H. Baranco** from Gordon Baranco

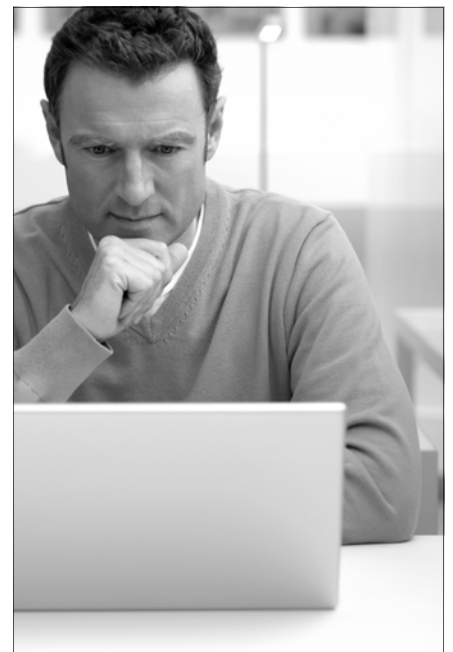
In honor of **Winifred Walters** from Virginia and Rick Newton

In honor of **Fay S. White** from Peter J. White

In honor of **the wonderful librarians** from Carol Haskell and Jon, Michael and David Seide

## NEED WEBMASTER

If you've visited our website lately, you may have noticed that it has a fresh new look but the content is lagging behind... we really need a volunteer to provide an hour or two of "maintenance" work each month - - uploading the newsletters as they are published, updating bookstore and other news, and occasionally tweaking the links. If you are comfortable with HTML and would like to participate in this way, please contact us at [info@fopl.org](mailto:info@fopl.org). Thanks!



**FRIENDS OF THE  
OAKLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY**

721 Washington Street  
Oakland CA 94607

Forwarding Service Requested

[www.fopl.org](http://www.fopl.org)

Non-Profit  
Organization

U.S. Postage

**PAID**

Oakland, CA

Permit# 4544

**OFFICERS:**

- Julie Waldman, President
- Ellen Moyer, Vice-President
- Judy Toll, Secretary
- Carl Alexander, Treasurer
- Winifred Walters, Asst. Treasurer

**Newsletter Staff:**

- Ellen Moyer
- Terry Preston
- Sophie Souroujon
- Kathleen Hirooka, OPL Community Relations

If your membership has expired,  
**PLEASE RENEW!**

*More ways to support the Friends...*

Share this newsletter. Ask a friend to join a growing organization-- **800** strong-- dedicated to supporting the Oakland Public Library!

Donate your gently-used books and DVDs to the Bookmark Bookstore. Call **(510) 444-0473** for more information.

Do you have a few hours per week or month? Visit [www.fopl.org](http://www.fopl.org) or call **(510) 444-0473** to learn more about volunteering.

Donate your vehicle. Charity Connection, a service of Volunteers of America, will sell your vehicle with a portion of the proceeds going to FOPL. Call **1-(800) 559-5458** and be sure to say you want your tax-deductible gift to go to the Friends.

**Join Us!**

Yes, I want to support the **Friends of the Oakland Public Library!**

Enclosed is my check payable to FOPL for \$\_\_\_\_\_

New (1 year membership)     Renewal (1 year membership)

Donation (\$\_\_\_\_\_ in addition to my membership dues)

Supporting membership levels:

\$1,000 Book Angel

Name(s)\_\_\_\_\_

\$500 Bibliophile

\$250 Book Conservator

Address\_\_\_\_\_

\$100 Book Worm

City/Zip\_\_\_\_\_

\$50 Book Friend

My gift is in honor/memory of\_\_\_\_\_

Basic membership levels:

\$35 Family/Household

\$25 Individual

\$15 Senior (65+)/Student

Contributions are tax-deductible (tax ID 94-2553734).

Make your Credit Card donation at [www.fopl.org](http://www.fopl.org).

Call **(510) 238-6932** for membership information.

**Mail to: FOPL, 721 Washington St., Oakland, CA 94607**