

# Oakland Magazine

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## Best of 2009

### Our Multiculti Metropolitan Mashup

By George Shirk

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So we're on this plane, flying into Oakland, close enough to home that we can see the East Bay hills rolling in lush green waves beneath us, and a woman in the aisle seat says, literally out of the blue, that this is the first time she's ever been to Oakland and, um, "What's it like?"

Ah. Loaded question.

"It's a very unusual place," was about the best we could come up with on short notice, "and it rocks."

The trick in any such answer to a question like this is to somehow encapsulate the city's wild diversity, and that's also the trick in putting together a Best of Oakland issue. We're all about taco trucks in Fruitvale and upscale restaurants in Rockridge; we routinely despair of downtown but lately find ourselves hanging in Uptown, and having a fine time of it, too; we agonize over the Raiders, Warriors and A's, but we wouldn't trade them for anything.

We are a muddle of contradictions and inconsistencies—one of two of the most ethnically diverse cities in the U.S. (along with Long Beach), with more than 150 languages floating on the Bay breezes, so says the 2006 U.S. Census.

In all, there are 377,256 of us here—34.1 percent white and 30.3 percent African American. Hispanic or Latino of any race comprises 25.9 percent of our population. Among the rest of us, 15.6 percent are Asian American, 0.9 percent Native American, 0.7 percent Pacific Islander, 14.6 percent from other races and 3.8 percent from two or more races.

No wonder, then, that this year's Readers Poll yielded votes for 62 different favorite restaurants, 29 new restaurants, 32 different annual events, 23 grocery stores and 39 different places to people watch. The lesson? Keep a copy of the magazine with you next time you're on a plane. Saves on the head scratching and stammering when you get hit with, "Oakland, eh?"

What's it like?"

# Readers' Picks

## New Restaurant



### **Camino**

New restaurants have been opening so quickly that it's a little hard to keep up. But readers didn't have any problem naming Camino, with its two long-planked communal tables, simple candles, four big chandeliers and rustic décor as their favorite new restaurant in Oakland. But the game-changer isn't in the scene sets. Here, it's all about the food. O ... M ... G ... the food. Chef/owner Russell Moore creates masterful menus daily, while mixologist Thad Vogler spins his magic behind the bar. As restaurant critic Derk Richardson wrote in these pages last November, "Dining at Camino can feel like attending a well-managed retreat, but it need not be approached—nor cynically dismissed—as a religious experience, even if the exquisitely tender grilled and roasted duck (\$24) I savored on our first visit did almost have me speaking in tongues."

3917 Grand Ave., (510) 547-5035 | [www.CaminoRestaurant.com](http://www.CaminoRestaurant.com)

## Soul Food

### **Brown Sugar Kitchen**

It hasn't taken Tanya Holland and her Brown Sugar Kitchen long to establish itself as the go-to soul food restaurant in Oakland, and no wonder. This is Southern cooking with a bit of Africa thrown in, along with Caribbean influences, in a bright, spacious room in West Oakland. This is the real deal, with O-Town pizzazz, and it's no surprise that this place fills up at breakfast, brunch and lunch times. One of the many reasons just might be the hominy grits, topped with cheese. Wow.

2534 Mandela Parkway, (510) 839-7685 | [www.BrownSugarKitchen.com](http://www.BrownSugarKitchen.com)

## Beer Selection

### **The Trappist**

In just a little over a year, this small, narrow cathedral in honor of Belgian beer has become far and away the favorite suds stop among the, shall we say, more sophisticated of Oakland Magazine readers. One reason that the brew cognoscenti adore this place is that owners Aaron Porter and Chuck Stilphen feature 15 rotating taps at any given time, along with 140 specialty beers in stock. On their Web site, these guys say three magic words: "No Corporate Beer," so if it's a Bud you're after, don't bother. But if it's the Koningshoven Trappist Quadrupel or the Chimay Cinq Cents Triple, by all means, belly up to bar, if you can get there, and have a pint. "Op uw gezondheid!" for you Flemish, and for the French among you, "A votre sante!"



460 8th St., (510) 238-8900 | [www.TheTrappist.com](http://www.TheTrappist.com)

Annual Event

## Montclair Pet Mayor's Contest

This isn't an ordinary event. The Montclair Pet Mayor contest is righteous, hilarious fun. Gracie (Montclair Vet) won the voting last year, but it wasn't all Gracie's show. Houdini, from the Silver Palace, was named Vice Mayor in the new administration, while Bella, from Someone's In The Kitchen, was appointed Canine Commissioner. Gidget, a duck from Pet Food Express, was named, naturally, the new Sitting Duck, while Charley (Someone's In The Kitchen) was named Cattorney General, Kai (Montclair Village Wines, Spirits 'n Brews) assumed the duties of Secretary of Steak. Drake (Loh Realty) was named Bark Ranger and finally, Bayly (Pacific National Bank) assumed duties as Deputy Dog. The silliness has a purpose, of course. Proceeds go to the Montclair Pet & Wildlife Fund, administered by Montclair Vet. Last year this event raised \$15,000 on behalf of all the grateful critters.

Montclair Veterinary Hospital, 1969B Mountain Blvd, (510) 339-2400 |

[www.petandwildlifefund.org/mayor/](http://www.petandwildlifefund.org/mayor/)

Veterinarian

## Montclair Veterinary Hospital

Tucked into a lower-level space off Mountain Boulevard in Montclair is the paws-down winner of this year's readers' poll in the category of veterinary medicine. It is the Montclair Veterinary Hospital, which has been handling cool cats and hot dogs (along with just about every other animal) since 1962. Moreover, the hospital is extremely active in helping wildlife through its Montclair Veterinary Hospital Pet & Wildlife Fund, which since 2004 has raised more than \$240,000 in vet care and services. One of the major sources of funding comes via the Montclair Pet Mayor's Contest, winner of this year's Best Annual Event.

1969 Mountain Blvd., (510) 533-0700 | [www.MontclairVetHospital.com](http://www.MontclairVetHospital.com)

Hike



## Redwood Regional Park, Skyline Gate Trailhead

The coolest thing about the Skyline Gate trailhead in Redwood Regional Park is that it offers so much, so close. A main entrance to the park, off Redwood Road, has more parking, but the Skyline Gate is the favorite among the readers. That's probably because that is so dang'd multi-useful. Mountain bikers, hikers, dog walkers and trail runners love the West Ridge Trail, and the choices off this trail are myriad on an afternoon's hike, including the closed-to-mountain-bikers Tres Sendas trail.

11500 Skyline Blvd., (888) 327-2757 | [www.EBParks.org/parks/redwood](http://www.EBParks.org/parks/redwood)

## Editors' Picks

Best Oakland Sky Tour

## **Chabot Space & Science Center**

### **Free Telescope Viewing**

We're locked in by haze, atmosphere and light, so it's no surprise that we urban, sea-level creatures don't get to see what's directly above us. That would be the sky. Fortunately, we have the Chabot Space & Science Center, and even more fortunately yet, the convivial people at the center offer free (free!) telescope viewing each Friday and Saturday nights. This is a fabulous thing, great for the family and great for anyone who wants to get to know his or her celestial surroundings. In the dark months, the shows begin at 7:30 p.m., but during the summer, the sky tours begin at dusk.

10000 Skyline Blvd., (510) 336-7300 | [www.ChabotSpace.org](http://www.ChabotSpace.org)

Best Trip Abroad Without Leaving Town

## **International Boulevard**

### **1.5-mile to 2-mile stretch between 22nd Avenue to 42nd Avenue and beyond**

The backbone of East Oakland's Fruitvale district is four lanes of Mexico, El Salvador, Guatemala, Laos, Vietnam, China, Thailand, and, since press time, probably about a dozen other countries. This is the corridor along and on either side of International Boulevard (East 14th Street). It's noisy, disorganized and wonderful. Close your eyes and listen. Where the heck are yez? One of our favorite places to take it all in is World Cup Coffee, an espresso bar at 1212 Fruitvale Ave., just off International down toward Jingtown. It's just weirdly out of place, but given the mixed bag of diversity around here, it manages to make sense. That's because World Cup Coffee pairs its coffee drinks with scrumptious tamales, and for a foreign experience, that would just about cover it.

Best Old Place Made New Again

## **The Fox Theater**

What a difference a couple of decades make. We were standing outside the refurbished and renovated Fox Theater last February at the big re-opening gala, gazing across Telegraph toward Flora, and thought for a second we'd landed in deco paradise. As it turns out, we had. This is a serious piece of restoration, enough so that we were a little bit sore we hadn't stopped by the Hat Guys on the way over for a snappy fedora or pork pie. By day, it's home to the Oakland School for the Arts, and by night it is the flagship live music venue for Another Planet Entertainment, run by many of the old gang at Bill Graham Presents. Good pedigree, great re-do, and the sound is good, too.



1807 Telegraph Ave., (510) 548-3010 | [www.FoxOakland.org](http://www.FoxOakland.org)

Best Handy as Heck Place to Know

## **Glenview Key and Lock**

Glenview Key and Lock isn't what you'd exactly call a tourist trap. A locksmith? Even so, we're going for it. It's in a rather nondescript building in the commercial strip of Glenview along Park Boulevard. But when a lock or a hard-to-find key—including antique keys—is on the Saturday things-to-do list, this is the place. Key duplications, custom pet tag and key engraving, re-keying locks, master keying, deadbolt installation, window locks, patio door locks, Glenview Key and Lock does it all. But most important, the crew at Glenview Key and Lock are great at emergency lockouts, which can turn a disaster into a manageable crisis.

4197 Park Blvd., (510) 530-6141 | [www.GlenviewKey.com](http://www.GlenviewKey.com)

Where Old Oakland Housewives Deal

### **Housewives Market**

It ain't like it used to be, but the white-bricked Housewives Market in Old Oakland is still a hoot and a half. An open seating area serves as more or less a down-home food court for a manageable variety of butchers, wineries and seafood mongers. On Friday, the Old Oakland Farmers Market extends right up to the door—the best of both worlds. Older Oaklanders recognize this building as the old Swan's building, much smaller than the original Housewives Market, which was torn down in 2003. For the architect crowd, the market is on the National Register of Historic places, and it won a major design award in 2001 for rehabilitation and adaptive reuse. Cool.

907 Washington St. | <http://OldOakland.org/map.cfm?vid=3&bid=1>

Taco Truck Cielo

### **Sinaloa**

In the unending quest for lonchero cielo along International Boulevard's Comida Corridor, it might not be a bad idea to stop right at the beginning—at the twin trucks that dominate the corner at 22nd Avenue. That would be Tacos Sinaloa and Mariscos Sinaloa, the opening acts of a roughly 2-mile swath of taco trucks, Latin American restaurants of all stripes, grocery stores, auto-body shops and lots of neighborhood establishments that stretch to 48th Avenue and spill over into the side streets. What's more, there are plenty of tables and chairs on the asphalt that separate the two Sinaloa trucks, and what better setting to wolf down the chorizo

tacos (!) or the tacos de pescado before making your way to an A's game? This is Oakland, amigos, and it's hard to make a wrong choice here.

2138 International Blvd., (510) 535-1206

Seriously Organic Music

### **Jim Riggs, the Wurlitzer player at the Paramount Theatre**

As entrances go, few entertainers can match Jim Riggs. Sitting atop a moveable platform, Riggs rises



from the depths of the Paramount Theatre, situates himself in front of the Mighty Wurlitzer, and begins to play. The crowd at Movie Night goes nuts, of course, as Riggs, 44, begins to navigate his way across the organ's 244 keys and 32 foot pedals. This is a theater organ, mind you, and it's supposed to emulate each tone that normally one could find in an orchestra. It's a difficult piece of business, which is one reason why Riggs is one of the very few Wurlitzer players around. He played at the Castro Theatre in San Francisco for many years, and he plays the Stanford Theatre Wurlitzer in Palo Alto. "Combining both current and previous positions," he says on his Web site, "I've estimated that I've performed for over 750,000 Bay Area movie patrons over the last 10 years. For my money, there's simply nothing like hearing (and playing!) a good Wurlitzer in the setting for which it was intended. Period!" The Oakland crowd, obviously, agrees.

2025 Broadway, (510) 465-6400 | [www.ParamountTheatre.com](http://www.ParamountTheatre.com)

Best Reason to Take the Ferry

### **The Last Friday Ferry Ride**

On the last Friday of each month there tends to be a phenomenal little party on the altogether charming Oakland-Alameda Ferry. This slap-dash, rider-inspired fiesta isn't organized, and in the dark months or in rainy weather, the party might not happen at all. Having said that, when the Last Friday party happens, it's a hoot. Regular riders bring snacks, local musicians may (or may not) bring their musical instruments on board, and things get so convivial that riders might take one, two or sometimes three roundtrips. (You give your ticket when you disembark, not when you board, so riders can just make a continual loop between San Francisco and Oakland or Alameda.) The party begins on the 5:20 p.m. boat out of San Francisco. Pick up the ferry on the East Bay side at 5:40 p.m. in Alameda and 5:50 p.m. at Jack London Square, and don't forget to have a great ol' time.

[www.EastBayFerry.com](http://www.EastBayFerry.com)

Best Industrial Outdoor Entertainment

### **Middle Harbor Shoreline Park**

Middle Harbor Park is so tucked away, so unapparent, that the only people who really know about it are the ferry riders who ride the boat in and out of the Oakland Estuary. But wow, huh? It has great views from a dramatic observation tower, an amphitheater, free viewing scopes, three miles of pedestrian and bike paths, parking, restrooms and water fountains. What it also has is one of the dangdest views of the Port of Oakland at work. The big cranes swing this way and that, lifting containers to and from the ocean-going vessels, while shorebirds shriek along Oakland's only beach. Betcha didn't know we had a beach. Middle Harbor Road, Oakland

(510) 272-4810 | [www.ebparcs.org/parks/middle\\_harbor](http://www.ebparcs.org/parks/middle_harbor)

Best Tats for Us

## **Temple Tattoo**

Tattoos have served as rites of passage, marks of status and rank, symbols of religious and spiritual devotion, decorations for bravery, pledges of love, punishment, amulets and talismans. The symbolism and impact of tattoos vary in different places and cultures, but if it's the United States we're talking about, California is at Ground Zero. What's more, the Bay Area has emerged as the leader of the Tat Pack, and Temple Tattoo in downtown Oakland is among the leaders of the leaders. Affable owner Freddy Corbin and his talented crew bring state-of-the-art ink to anybody's skin, and they have a great eye for color and design. The shop itself serves somewhat as an ornament to the tree-lined and leafy 17th Street, and passersby just can't help stopping to peer inside. The studio is festooned with Christian art, but it's not a one-dimensional deal. Also, the business has a pretty rockin' YouTube video online, and it's worth a look-see to learn about Corbin's method.

384 17th St., (510) 451-6423 | [www.TempleOakland.com](http://www.TempleOakland.com)

Favorite Place to Find Three-Wheeled Scooters

## **Rockridge Two Wheels**

It's possible to see College Avenue traffic slow noticeably when the gang at this small motorcycle and scooter shop are moving their three-wheeled Piaggios onto the street from the show room. "What the heck is that?" the rubberneckers exclaim. It's a scooter, kind of. But wait! Those are two wheels in the front, and you're just going to have to stop in the shop and talk to friendly store manager Darren to find out exactly how they work. Short answer: For road grip, stability, safety and ease of handling—yes, handling—these scooters rock. Moreover, they're powerful, ranging from 250cc neighborhood-friendly models to a 450cc model that's good to go on roads that have fast traffic, including freeways. The shop also sells the more conventional two-wheeled variety of scooters (Vespa, Kymko, Aprilia) and some truly imposing racing motorcycles.

3325 College Ave., (510) 594-0789 | [www.RockridgeTwoWheels.com](http://www.RockridgeTwoWheels.com)

Best Place To Find a Lid

## **The Hat Guys (Men and Women)**

These guys have been around on Broadway since 1988, and they can get you fixed up with all manner of hats and caps. Mostly this is a men's shop, but there are plenty of lids for women, too. Where to start? When we were looking, we had in mind something along the lines of an Australian Drover, perhaps a fedora, maybe a pork pie or a trilby. We got sidetracked by the collapsible top hats ("Hullo, Hugh Jackman"), then got steered toward some Homburgs and teardrops and finished up by trying on a bowler. Whew! The good brands are all here, such as Borsalino, Lagomarsino, Akubra and, yes, cowboy brands, too, such as Stetson. For the warmer months, try on a few Panamas or, our own favorite, the Stetson Milan straw two-tone fedora. Traveling? Yup, the Hat Guys have hat travel cases, too. And walking sticks. And ... and ... and ...

1764 Broadway, (510) 834-6868 | [www.HatGuys.com](http://www.HatGuys.com)

### **The Hat Library (Women)**

There's a time for a hat and then there are times for really seriously fashionable women's hats. There is church, of course, and weddings. And then there are the going-out-on-the-town hats, the Victorian hats and, once a year, the Easter bonnet and the Kentucky Derby hat. What to do and where to go? Our pick for the ladies is The Hat Library, which coincidentally is situated just two blocks away from The Hat Guys. These are one-of-a-kind designer original hats, and the Hat Library also has lots of accessories, including jewelry and gift items.

1946 Broadway, (510) 465-6523 | [www.TheHatLibrary.net](http://www.TheHatLibrary.net)

Best Walk-Up Oysters

### **Rudy Figueroa's Oyster Stand Montclair Farmers Market (Sunday Only)**

Every single Sunday is "Oyster Sunday" for the lucky gang of aficionados who gather on La Salle Avenue to pay homage to Rudy Figueroa. Figueroa is the self-effacing oyster shucker at the Montclair Farmers Market, where he sells the delicious bivalves for \$1.75 apiece or \$5 for three. He also sells clams, but the oysters are what keep people coming back. Nobody can shuck an oyster as fast or as cleanly as does this Santa Cruz-based monger, and his touch is so good that he never-ever-ever spills the "liquor" (or "soup") from the shell. As a bonus, you might just run into Oakland best-selling author Mary Roach, (Stiff and, most recently, Bonk) who profiled Figueroa in a New York Times dispatch that ran shortly before Christmas last year. "He never says much, this Rudy Figueroa," Roach wrote. "Once I asked him how Miyagis differ from Kumamotos, and he said, 'One's like macaroni and cheese, and one's peanut butter and jelly.' Figueroa is part of the luxury."

La Salle Avenue between Moraga Avenue and Mountain Boulevard, 9 a.m.–1 p.m. Sundays, (510) 745-7100

Restaurants

### ***Favorite Restaurant***

#### **Zachary's Pizza**

5801 College Ave.

(510) 655-6385

Also: Berkeley, San Ramon

[www.Zacharys.com](http://www.Zacharys.com)

### ***Established Restaurant***

## **Baywolf**

3853 Piedmont Ave.

(510) 655-6004

[www.BayWolf.com](http://www.BayWolf.com)

## ***Romantic Restaurant***

## **Baywolf**

3853 Piedmont Ave.

(510) 655-6004

[www.BayWolf.com](http://www.BayWolf.com)

## ***Bakery***

## **La Farine**

6323 College Ave.

(510) 654-0338;

3411 Fruitvale Ave.

(510) 531-7750

Also: Berkeley

[www.LaFarine.com](http://www.LaFarine.com)

## ***Barbecue***

## **Everett & Jones**

126 Broadway

(Jack London Square)

(510) 663-2350;

2676 Fruitvale Ave.

(510) 533-0900;

3415 Telegraph Ave.

(510) 601-9377

Also: Alameda, Berkeley, Hayward, South Sacramento

[www.EandJbbq.com](http://www.EandJbbq.com)

## ***Breakfast***

## **Rick & Ann's**

2922 Domingo Ave., Berkeley

(510) 649-8538

[www.RickAndAnns.com](http://www.RickAndAnns.com)

## ***Burger***

### **Barney's Gourmet Burgers**

4162 Piedmont Ave., (510) 655-7180;

5819 College Ave., (510) 601-0444;

Also: San Francisco, Berkeley, San Rafael,  
Santa Monica, Brentwood, Sherman Oaks,

[www.BarneysHamburgers.com](http://www.BarneysHamburgers.com)

## ***Burrito***

### **Cactus Taqueria**

5642 College Ave., (510) 658-6180

[www.CactusTaqueria.com](http://www.CactusTaqueria.com)

## ***Brunch***

### **Jordan's**

The Claremont Hotel & Spa

41 Tunnel Road, Berkeley

(510) 549-8510,

[www.ClaremontResort.com](http://www.ClaremontResort.com)

## ***Caterer***

### **Miraglia Catering**

2096 Burroughs Ave.

San Leandro, (510) 483-5210

[www.CateringAndMore.com](http://www.CateringAndMore.com)

## ***Chef***

### **Alice Waters**

### **Chez Panisse**

1517 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley

(510) 548-5049

[www.ChezPanned.com](http://www.ChezPanned.com)

## ***California Cuisine***

### **Chez Panned**

1517 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley

(510) 548-5049

[www.ChezPanned.com](http://www.ChezPanned.com)

## ***Chinese***

### **Little Shin Shin**

4258 Piedmont Ave.

(510) 658-9799

<http://littleshinshin.com/>

## ***French***

### **La Note**

2377 Shattuck Ave.

Berkeley (510) 843-1535

[www.LaNoteRestaurant.com](http://www.LaNoteRestaurant.com)

## ***Ice Cream***

### **Fenton's Creamery and Restaurant**

4226 Piedmont Ave.

(510) 658-7000

[www.FentonsCreamery.com](http://www.FentonsCreamery.com)

## ***Italian***

### **Italian Colors**

2220 Mountain Blvd.

(510) 482-8094

[www.ItalianColorsRestaurant.com](http://www.ItalianColorsRestaurant.com)

## ***Mexican***

## **Doña Tomás**

5004 Telegraph Ave.

(510) 450-0522

[www.DonaTomas.com](http://www.DonaTomas.com)

## ***Pizza***

### **Zachary's Pizza**

5801 College Ave.

(510) 655-6385

Also: Berkeley, San Ramon

[www.Zacharys.com](http://www.Zacharys.com)

## ***Small Plates***

### **À Côté**

5478 College Ave.

(510) 655-6469

[www.AcoteRestaurant.com](http://www.AcoteRestaurant.com)

## ***Sushi***

### **Kirala**

2100 Ward St., Berkeley

(510) 549-3486

[www.KiralaBerkeley.com](http://www.KiralaBerkeley.com)

## ***Thai***

### **Soi 4 Bangkok Eatery**

5421 College Ave.

(510) 655-0889

[www.SoiFour.com](http://www.SoiFour.com)

## ***Vegetarian***

### **Golden Lotus**

1301 Franklin St.

(510) 893-0383

[www.GoldenLotusVege.com](http://www.GoldenLotusVege.com)

## ***Vietnamese***

### **Le Cheval**

1007 Clay St.

(510) 763-8495

[www.LeCheval.com](http://www.LeCheval.com)

Drink

## ***Cocktails***

### **Flora**

1900 Telegraph Ave.

(510) 286-0100

[www.FloraRestaurant.com](http://www.FloraRestaurant.com)

## ***Coffee***

### **Peet's**

Numerous Locations

(800) 999-2132

[www.Peets.com](http://www.Peets.com)

## ***Margaritas***

### **La Piñata No. 3**

1440 Park St., Alameda

(510) 769-9110

[www.LaPinata.com](http://www.LaPinata.com)

## ***Overall Bar***

### **Garibaldi's**

5356 College Ave.

(510) 595-4000

[www.GaribaldiRestaurant.com](http://www.GaribaldiRestaurant.com)

## ***Wine Shop***

### **Farmstead Cheeses and Wines**

6218 Lasalle Ave.

(510) 864-9463;

Also: Alameda

[www.FarmsteadCheesesAndWines.com](http://www.FarmsteadCheesesAndWines.com)

## ***Wine/Spirits Producer***

### **St. George Spirits**

2601 Monarch Ave.,

Alameda, (510) 769-1601

[www.StGeorgeSpirits.com](http://www.StGeorgeSpirits.com)

## ***Sports Bar***

### **Crogan's**

6101 La Salle Ave.

(510) 339-2098

[www.Crogans.com](http://www.Crogans.com)

Lifestyle

## ***Bike Shop***

### **Wheels of Justice**

2024 Mountain Blvd.

(510) 339-6091

[www.WOJcyclery.com](http://www.WOJcyclery.com)

## ***Bookstore***

### **Barnes & Noble**

98 Broadway

(Jack London Square)

(510) 272-0120

<http://Tinyurl.com/Dxtsmg>

## ***Chiropractor***

### **Greg Vrankovich**

Healthfit Chiropractic Center

311 Oak St., Suite 115

(510) 655-3456

[www.MyHealthFit.com](http://www.MyHealthFit.com)

## ***Chocolatier/Chocolate Maker***

### **Charles Chocolates**

6529 Hollis St. Emeryville

(510) 652-4412

[www.CharlesChocolates.com](http://www.CharlesChocolates.com)

## ***Dentist***

### **Melinda Chan, DDS**

#### **Rockridge Smiles**

5277 College Ave.

(510) 654-2226

[www.RockridgeSmiles.com](http://www.RockridgeSmiles.com)

## ***Eyeglasses***

### **Moderne Eye Optometry**

5802 College Ave.

(510) 653-4242

[www.ModEyeDocs.com](http://www.ModEyeDocs.com)

## ***Farmers Market***

### **Jack London Square**

Water Street

(near The Embarcadero)

(866) 295-9853

[www.pcfma.com](http://www.pcfma.com)

## ***Garden Center***

### **Grand Lake Ace Garden Center**

4001 Grand Ave.

(510) 652-9143

[www.AceHardware.com](http://www.AceHardware.com)

## ***Gift Shop***

### **Pelago**

6134 Medau Place

(510) 339-7090

[www.PelagoGifts.com](http://www.PelagoGifts.com)

## ***Golf Course***

### **Tilden Park**

Berkeley, (510) 848-7373

[www.Ebparks.Org/Parks/Tilden](http://www.Ebparks.Org/Parks/Tilden)

## ***Grocery Store***

### **Whole Foods**

230 Bay Place

(510) 834-9800

[www.WholeFoodsMarket.com/Stores/Oakland](http://www.WholeFoodsMarket.com/Stores/Oakland)

## ***Gym/Health Club***

### **Club One**

1200 Clay St.

(510) 895-1010

[www.ClubOne.com](http://www.ClubOne.com)

## ***Yoga Studio***

### **Namaste**

5416 College Ave.

(510) 547-9642

[www.NamasteRockridge.com](http://www.NamasteRockridge.com)

### ***Hair Salon***

#### **Alexander Pope**

5413 College Ave., (510) 601-5220

[www.AlexanderPope.com](http://www.AlexanderPope.com)

### ***Hardware Store***

#### **Grand Lake Ace Hardware**

4001 Grand Ave.

(510) 652-9143

[www.AceHardware.com](http://www.AceHardware.com)

### ***Health Food Store***

#### **Whole Foods**

230 Bay Place

(510) 834-9800

[www.WholeFoodsMarket.com/ Stores/Oakland](http://www.WholeFoodsMarket.com/Stores/Oakland)

### ***Home Furnishings***

#### **Ikea**

4400 Shellmound St., Emeryville

(510) 420-4532

[www.Ikea-Usa.com](http://www.Ikea-Usa.com)

### ***Jewelry Store***

#### **Pavé Fine Jewelry Design**

5496 College Ave.,

(510) 547-7000

<http://www.PaveFineJewelry.com>

### ***Live Music Venue***

#### **Yoshi's Jazz Club and Japanese Restaurant**

510 Embarcadero W.  
(510) 238-9200  
[www.Yoshis.com](http://www.Yoshis.com)

### ***Massage***

#### **The Claremont Resort & Spa**

41 Tunnel Road, Berkeley  
(510) 549-8510  
[www.claremontresort.comspa/treatments/massage](http://www.claremontresort.comspa/treatments/massage)

### ***Movie Theater***

#### **Grand Lake Theater**

3200 Grand Ave.  
(510) 452-3556  
[www.RenaissanceRialtocom/Current/Grandlake.htm](http://www.RenaissanceRialtocom/Current/Grandlake.htm)

### ***Nail Shop Manicure/Pedicure***

#### **The Nail Shop**

3326 Grand Ave.  
(510) 832-6245  
[www.TheNailShop.com](http://www.TheNailShop.com)

### ***Politician***

#### **Jerry Brown**

##### **Attorney General**

2633 Telegraph Ave., Suite 406  
[www.JerryBrown.org](http://www.JerryBrown.org)

### ***Outdoor Sporting Goods***

#### **REI**

1338 San Pablo Ave.  
Berkeley (510) 527-4140  
[www.REI.com](http://www.REI.com)

## ***Picnic Spot***

### **Tilden Regional Park**

600 Canon Drive, Kensington

(510) 525-2233

[www.EBParks.Org/ParksTilden](http://www.EBParks.Org/ParksTilden)

## ***Place to People Watch***

### **Jack London Square**

(866) 295-9853

[www.JackLondonSquare.com](http://www.JackLondonSquare.com)

## ***Radio Personality (Female)***

### **Sarah (Alice Radio)**

KLLC-FM, 97.3-FM

865 Battery, San Francisco

(415) 765-4097

[www.RadioAlice.com](http://www.RadioAlice.com)

## ***Radio Personality (Male)***

### **Ronn Owens, KGO**

KGO-AM, 810, (Toll Free) 808-0810

[www.ronn.com](http://www.ronn.com)

## ***TV Personality (Female)***

### **Julie Haener**

KTVU-TV, Channel 2

P.O. Box 22222, (510) 834-1212

[www.KTVU.com](http://www.KTVU.com)

## ***TV Personality (Male)***

### **Frank Somerville**

KTVU-TV, Channel 2

P.O. Box 22222, (510) 834-1212

[www.KTVU.com](http://www.KTVU.com)

***Women's Boutique***

**Jeremy's**

2967 College Ave.

(510) 849-0701

[www.Jeremys.com](http://www.Jeremys.com)

Kids

***Children's Clothing Store***

**Ruby's Garden**

5095 Telegraph Ave., Suite C

(510) 595-5325

[www.RubysGarden.com](http://www.RubysGarden.com)

***Children's Toy Store***

**Rockridge Kids**

5511 College Ave.

(510) 601-5437

[www.RockridgeKidsEvents.com](http://www.RockridgeKidsEvents.com)

***Kid-Friendly Restaurant***

**Fenton's Creamery and Restaurant**

4226 Piedmont Ave.

(510) 658-7000

[www.FentonsCreamery.com](http://www.FentonsCreamery.com)

***Place to Throw a Birthday Party***

**Pump It Up**

2500 Embarcadero, Suite A

(510) 533-7867

[www.PumpItUpParty.com](http://www.PumpItUpParty.com)

Pets

***Pet Shop***

**Redhound**

5523 College Ave., (510) 428-2785

[www.RedhoundPets.com](http://www.RedhoundPets.com)

***Dog Care/Pet Spa***

**Happy Hound**

1695 34th St.,

(510) 547-4067

[www.HappyHound.com](http://www.HappyHound.com)

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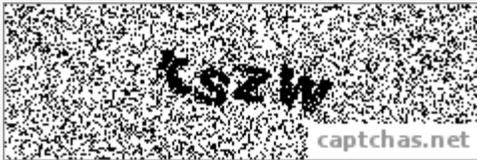
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