

# Building Unity IN OAK PARK

**COMMENTARY**

## Oak Park is Changing

By Ken Cross

Oak Park is returning to its former glory as a vital, urban neighborhood. Each month, Building Unity conducts several tours of Oak Park. It's amazing to share how the neighborhood has changed in recent years.

New homes are being built and remodeled by Habitat for Humanity, Rebuilding Together and private infill home-builders. The Oak Park Community Center is expanding. The business corridor is being revitalized by the Oak Park Business Association, St. Hope Corporation and SHRA. The Drug Free Zones



**Ken Cross,**  
Chief Operating  
Officer,  
Sacramento Habitat  
for Humanity

and the POP (Problem Oriented Policing) officers are removing the blight of drugs, crime and prostitution. Social service agencies at the County of Sacramento Multi-Service Center and local non-profit organizations are meeting the needs of

the poor for healthcare, food, clothing, shelter, and counseling.

Over 50 churches provide the spiritual nourishment to give their congregations the hope and confidence to live their lives with faith and purpose. With over 50 languages spoken by its students, the Sacramento City Unified School District is raising the educational standards for our future adults who will lead this community. Oak Park helps make Sacramento one of the most integrated cities in the United States. We are setting the standard for learning how people can live and work together in harmony and unity.

## HIV/AIDS Education and Prevention in Oak Park

By Elizabeth Weintraub

"Treat people the way you want to be treated, but even BETTER" is the motto of Golden Rule Services, a nonprofit, minority based organization in Oak Park. Founded in May 2003, Golden Rule Services is on a mission to reduce health, education, employment and juvenile justice disparities between people of color and the general population.

Clairmundo Sullivan, the founder of Golden Rule Services, says, "Our current focus is addressing the disproportionate rate of HIV within the local African American same gender loving community. To respond, we created the 'Men's Soul Food Project,' Sacramento County's only HIV prevention program created by and for local African American same gender loving men." The project provides local African American same gender loving men with multisession, group-level HIV prevention interventions. Participants are provided authentic soul



**Clairmundo Sullivan,**  
founder of Golden Rule Services

food, raffles and gift certificates for their participation and support of the project. Golden Rule Services is also currently subcontracting with the County of Sacramento to design posters, handbills, and brochures for the local African American same gender loving community, and has increased its HIV outreach to include bar outreach and HIV prevention via the Internet. For more information, call 916.456.1111.

Elizabeth Weintraub can be reached at Lyon Real Estate, (916) 233-6759 or [www.golygon.com/elizabeth](http://www.golygon.com/elizabeth)

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Saturday, June 19**

Oak Park Summer Concert Series  
Gospel Concert  
McClatchy Park  
For information, call (916) 808-7005

**Thursday, June 24, 6 – 8 pm**

Oak Park Neighborhood Association  
Stockton Blvd. Partnership  
Community Room  
5625 Stockton Blvd  
Contact: Bud Aungst  
(916) 456-6911

**Wednesday, July 7, 6:30 pm**

Oak Park Planning Advisory Committee  
Father Keith Kenney Elementary School  
Contact: Chris Pahule  
(916) 440-1322

**Thursday, July 8, 6 – 9 pm**

Cops and Coffee  
Call for location!  
Contact: Tom Sumpter  
(916) 454-9717



**BUILDING  
UNITY**

**Sacramentans joining with community groups to restore neighborhoods. For more information go to [www.newsreview.com/buildingunity](http://www.newsreview.com/buildingunity), call (916) 498-1234, ext. 1388, or email [buildingunity@newsreview.com](mailto:buildingunity@newsreview.com)**

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