The Rockridge News

Sponsored by the ROCKRIDGE COMMUNITY PLANNING COUNCIL, 6225 Ross Street, Oakland California

Vol. 2 No. 6 Issue No. 18 ★ October 16, 1987 ★ Circulation: 4,500 Residences; 200 Businesses

Neighborhood Questionnaire

Library Branch Opens; Poll Seeks New Library Ideas

The temporary Rockridge Branch Library is in place and functioning. Oakland Library staff will now turn their full attention to planning and creating the final form of the new library.

Proposed uses of a public building/parking complex planned for the Art Stone property on College Avenue and discussed in a draft proposal issued by The Bay Area Partnership (**Rockridge News** No. 17, September, 1987) include space for a new branch library and other public uses, but library details need to be developed.

What features should the new library offer?

Inserted in this issue of the **News** is a survey form designed by RCPC Library Committee members and library staff to obtain your ideas for the new branch. Please fill it out, then mail it back or return it to the current Branch before December 1.

Completed surveys will be an important tool for the City staff and planners to use in shaping the final form the library will take, so be sure to fill yours out. Additional copies are available at the Rockridge Branch Library at College Avenue and Birch Court. If you have already filled out a survey, please do not fill out another, but pass this one on to someone else. You may duplicate this for other members of your household.

Library Opening Celebration!

Come celebrate the opening of the Rockridge Branch Library on its temporary site at College Avenue and Birch Court. There'll be cookies, coffee and punch for all on Saturday November 7, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Library Committee and RCPC Board members will be on hand to welcome you and share the latest news of plans for the future new Rockridge Branch Library, and to gather your ideas. (If you can donate cookies, please call Nancy Dutcher, 653-6018.)

When City Planning Comes Home To Roost

The Planning Process At Street Level

Zoning Ordinances and City Plans exist to maintain a pleasant consistency in urban areas but not to stifle individuality.

Every so often, a resident or a developer will propose a project that is upsetting in scope or design to other residents.

In her interview with Planning Commission Chair Doug Jones in this issue, Andrea Gabriel uses a fictitious barn on Chabot Road to illustrate the process a project goes through at the Planning Commission level. But what do **you** do if your neighbor wants to build a barn in his backyard and you DON'T want chickens serenading you while you sunbathe on the patio?

STEP 1: Talk with the applicant/neighbor.

- Call your neighbor, invite him over for a chat.
- Try to persuade him to locate the barn in a more suitable (to you) area of the lot.

STEP 2: Get the facts.

- Call the Oakland City Planning Department, Zoning Section: 273-3911.
- Find out what kind of application your neighbor needs to put up that barn (e.g., Major or Minor Conditional Use Permit, Major or Minor Variance, Design Review, or Environmental Review).
- Find out if a public hearing on the application is to be scheduled or whether the City Planning staff will make the decision "in-house."
- Go down to City Hall, Zoning, 2nd floor, and request a photocopy of your neighbor's application.

STEP 3: Talk with your other neighbors.

- Talk with your neighbors and other interested persons (e.g. merchants) on your block.
- Talk with your RCPC **Rockridge News** distribution block captain. Find out what their views are on the barn. Let them know

See ***Planning****, page 2*

Dates Calendar Events Calendar Dates

• Wednesday	Oct 21	1:30 pm	Planning Commission Mtg.	City Hall, Room 115. Regular meeting.
• Wednesday	Oct 21	7:30 pm	RCPC General Meeting	College Avenue Presbyterian Church Sanctuary.
• Wednesday	Nov 4	1:30 pm	Planning Commission Mtg.	City Hall, Room 115. Regular meeting.
• Wednesday	Nov 7	11 am - 3	Library Opening Party	Temporary Rockridge Branch Library, College/Birch Ct. **Story page 1.**
• Wednesday	Nov 11	7:30 pm	Upper Telegraph Coalition	Temescal Branch Library, 52nd Street and Claremont Avenue. **Page 2.**

Planning, *from page 1*

the facts and applicable laws.

STEP 4: Invite the applicant to a block meeting.

- Invite all interested parties to a block meeting.
- Try compromise.
- Write letter(s) individually or as a group to the Planning Commission, 1 City Hall Plaza, Oakland, CA 94612, referring to the application and explaining your position(s).
- If appropriate, draft a petition stating your position, gather signatures, and send a photocopy of the petition to the Planning Commission.

STEP 5: Attend the public hearing.

- Attend the public hearing if there is one (City Hall, Room 115, every other Wednesday beginning at 1:30 PM. Find out which agenda item.)
- Request that you be notified in writing of the staff's decision if no hearing will be held.
- If the decision does not meet your approval, you may appeal either a Planning Commission decision or an administrative decision by the Planning Staff within a 10-day period.

Because those affected are best equipped to be their own advocates, it is essential that the Neighbors affected by a disturbing proposal be responsible for gathering the facts and getting the folks out in support of their position. Also, RCPC Board members are available at any time to discuss specific proposals, strategy, and planning/zoning matters. (See list of Board Members and telephone numbers on page 3 in this issue.)

Next month: RCPC's role in the planning process.

This article is proposed as part of a Neighborhood Action Package being prepared for distribution by RCPC to anyone interested in participate in the planning process. If you are interested in helping in any way, please call Barbara Anderson at 655-3499.

Do you have your copy of the
Rockridge Urban Studio Report
yet? They are available,
handsomely bound and covered, at
Laser Copy, 5856 College Avenue
at nominal cost. Laser Copy has prepared
the reports as a service to the community.
Get yours while they are still available!

RE–MODELING AND REPAIRS
SENSITIVE RESTORATIONS AND PAINTING
ENERGY CONSERVATION STATEGIES

Call ALEX ST. CLAIR at 547-1697

ADVANCED BUILDING
and Energy Services

In Rockridge since 1980
Bonded and Insured *Lic. # 485180*

Specific Plan Development

Council Extends Telegraph Avenue Moratorium

Oakland City Councilmembers approved an extension of the moratorium on use permits for fast food restaurants and automobile dealerships on Telegraph Avenue between 38th Street and Alcatraz at their October 6 meeting.

First agreed to by the Council in April of this year, the moratorium was requested by the Upper Telegraph Coalition (U.T.C.) to give the Neighborhood and merchant groups time to develop elements of a Specific Plan for Telegraph Avenue.

The group's overall goal is to strengthen planning and guide development of the upper Telegraph corridor.

Granting this thirty day extension, the Council said it is looking forward to U.T.C. demonstrating that the group is prepared to move ahead with a Specific Plan.

Upper Telegraph Coalition meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month, 7:30 p.m., at the Temescal Branch Library meeting room, Telegraph Avenue at 52nd Street.

SCHREIBER
CHIROPRACTIC

NATURAL HEALTH CENTER

Our methods are 100% painless and work with the body to release muscular tension, re-align and balance the musculo-skeletal system, bring deep relaxation and healing.

- Back Pain
- Muscle Spasms
- Disk & joint problems
- Headaches
- Sinus problems/allergies
- Tension/stress reduction
- Pain relief
- Arthritis



- Gentle Chiropractic Manipulation
- Dietary & Nutritional Counseling
- Breema Bodywork
- Corrective Exercise
- Kinesiologic Treatment

By Appointment **Insurance Accepted**

6201 Florio Street
at College & Claremont Avenues
in the First Federal Savings Building

428-1234

Rockridge Branch Library Survey

Oakland Public Library/RCPC Library Committee

The Rockridge Branch of the Oakland Public Library will be temporarily housed at the corner of College Avenue and Birch Court on the grounds of Claremont Middle School. A permanent site must be found, possibly on the old Art Stone property at the corner of College and Manila Avenues. The Rockridge Community Planning Council's (RCPC) Library Committee is working with the Oakland Public Library and City of Oakland staffs to find the best possible site for a new library. As this will be a library for the Rockridge community, it is vital to determine the library needs of the community. We ask for your help; please answer the following questions, writing any additional comments at the end of the survey.

Please return this survey to the address on the back or put it in the box in the Rockridge Library by November 30, 1987. ***Thank you for your help***. Questions? Call Ms. K. Ouye, Administrative Librarian for Branch Libraries: 273-3511.

A. How well does the Rockridge Branch Library serve you?

1. How often do you visit a library?_____

   a. Which branch do you use most frequently?

   _____

   b. What other libraries or Oakland Public Library branches do you use?

   _____

2. When do you usually use the Rockridge Branch Library?

   Day(s) of the week_____

   Time of day_____

3. Are the present hours satisfactory for you?

   (Tues., Thurs., Fri., Sat. – 10:00 – 5:30;
   Wed – 12:30 - 8:00; closed Sun & Mon)

   ❑ Yes ❑ No

   If No, what changes would you like?

   _____

4. How much time do you usually spend in the library?

   _____

5. How many items do you borrow on an average visit?

   _____

6. Why do you use the Rockridge Library?
   (check as many reasons as apply)

   ❑ Close to home ❑ Close to work ❑ Close to school

   ❑ Easy parking ❑ Close to shopping

   ❑ Good public transport ❑ For children's hours

   ❑ Other_____

7. Do you combine a library visit with other shopping/ errands?

   ❑ Yes ❑ No

8. How do you get to the Rockridge Library?

   ❑ Walk ❑ Car ❑ Bicycle ❑ Bus ❑ BART

9. Do you live in the Rockridge area?

   ❑ Yes ❑ No

   If No, what area or city do you live in?

   _____

B. Who in your household uses the library?

1. How many people are there in your household? _____

   How many use the Rockridge Library? _____

   How many have library cards? _____

   How many children are: pre-school age _____

   school age (K-6) _____

   (grades 7-12) _____

   How many people are: 18 to 40 _____

   40 to 60 _____

   over 60 _____

   How many people are retired? _____

2. Are you now attending high school or college?

   ❑ Yes ❑ No

   If Yes, what school?

   _____

3. Is a language other than English spoken in your home?

   ❑ Yes ❑ No

   If Yes, what language?

   _____

Turn sheet over to give your suggestions for the new library.

C. What features should the new library have?

1. List types of books that you would like to see in the new Rockridge Library, in order of choice, such as: travel, art, science, history, large print, best sellers, fiction, children's books, etc.

   1. _____ 2._____

   3. _____ 4._____

2. Which of the following library services would you use if they were available in the proposed new library?

   ❑ Tapes, records ❑ Materials for the visually handicapped

   ❑ Children's programs ❑ Consumer information

   ❑ Copy machine ❑ Employment information

   ❑ Others (list)

   1. _____ 2._____

   3. _____ 4._____

3. What improvements in the services, books, activities, etc. would you like in a new Rockridge Library? List in order of importance.

   1. _____ 2._____

   3. _____ 4._____

4. The library at 5701 College Avenue had 1,731 square feet. The new library will have at least 3,500 square feet. Should the new facility have:

   ❑ a larger children's room?

   ❑ a magazine, newspaper reading area?

   ❑ study carrels, desks for individual studying?

   ❑ parking?

   ❑ meeting room for _____people?

   ❑ outside reading/sitting area

   ❑ public restrooms

   ❑ lounge chairs?

5. Other suggestions:

   1. _____ 2._____

   3. _____ 4._____

Thank you for your help and time!
Please be sure to return to the Library
at 5803 Birch Court by November 30, 1987.

fold for mailing

Stamp

Oakland Public Library/RCPC Library Survey
Rockridge Branch Library
5803 Birch Court
Oakland, CA 94618

The Rockridge Community Planning Council, In Brief

The ROCKRIDGE COMMUNITY PLANNING COUNCIL (RCPC) is a Neighborhood planning association recognized by the City of Oakland. The general purpose of the association is to promote community involvement in Neighorhood planning and zoning, traffic control, area development, and in combatting community deterioraton; and to serve as a liaison between the community and the Oakland Planning Commission. RCPC monitors local activity related to planning, environmental issues, real estate development, transportation and other services and shares its findings with Rockridge Neighbors. Its members communicate regularly with the City Planning Department, the Planning Commission and the City Council, as well as with other Neighborhood groups.

Organized by Residents

RCPC was organized by residents in the early 1970's in response to concerns about our Neighborhood environment. RCPC is a volunteer organization. Any person residing in Rockridge is automatically a member. As there are no membership dues, the organization solicits donations (see coupon below) and puts on occasional fundraisers.

Board of Directors

RCPC is led by an eleven member Board of Directors, including one voting director appointed by the College Avenue Merchants Association (CAMA). Directors serve for two years, but five at a time are elected by the General Membership at the Annual Meeting.

Newsletter

RCPC sponsors the monthly publication and free distribution of **The Rockridge News**. This publication reaches 4,500 residents and 200 businesses, thanks to the volunteer efforts of more than 120 residents who serve as district and block captains throughout our Neighborhood. The **News** is wholly supported by donations from residents (see coupon below) and advertisements from local businesses and local residents.

Telephone Don Kinkead at 655-7474 if you are not receiving this newsletter at your home or business, and/or if you are available to assist with distribution.

General Meetings

RCPC meets monthly on the third Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. at the College Avenue Presbyterian Church (next to Dreyer's). All meetings are open to all residents and business owners. Everyone is encouraged to attend and join in the discussion.

For more information, please call RCPC Chairperson Barbara Anderson, 655-3499 or any of the RCPC Board members:

Marc Beyeler (464-4172)
Nancy Dutcher (653-6018)
Annette Floystrup (652-6794)
John Gussman (654-9269)
Don Kinkead (655-7474)
Brooke Levin (653-7522)
Kerry O'Banion (658-1608)
Ray Perman (658-0536)
Richard Smith (981-6076)
Eddie Zeidan (CAMA, 428-9256)

Letters To The News

Dear Editor and Rockridge Neighbors:

Residents and merchants near McNally's Bar on College Avenue have circulated a petition to ask RCPC to help us cope with the late-night noise and property damage that frequently occurs here.

We're not out to "get" the bar, or its owner. We aren't trying to shut the place down. All we want is some late-night peace and quiet, and to be free from the fear of property (and personal) damage.

The real problems occur late at night, when a lot of young, inexperienced drinkers leave the bar at once and feel a need to flaunt their machismo.

The results include broken windows, destroyed pay phones, damage to parking meters and street signs, and other acts of vandalism.

We'd like to hear from others in the area who want to participate in discussions with the owner to help keep the peace, or from other people who have helped solve similar problems elsewhere.

Please write in care of The Rockridge Community Planning Council, 6225 Ross Street, Oakland, CA 94618.

–A Concerned Neighbor
(Name withheld by request.)

We Want To Hear From You!

Send Letters and Comments on Neighborhood issues to The Rockridge News, c/o Don Kinkead, 5626 Oak Grove Avenue, Oakland 94618

RCPC Registration – Donation Form

Yes! **Enroll Me as a Registered Member** of the Rockridge Community Planning Council!
I have enclosed a check payable to RCPC for my tax–deductible donation for a year's registration and other support areas I have checked off:

Suggested minimum; $10 per category

Name:_____
Address:_____
City/Zip:_____
Phone:_____

☐ $_____ Registration Donation
☐ $_____ Rockridge News Donation
☐ $_____ Legal Fund Donation

Mail to:

Don Kinkead
5626 Oak Grove Avenue
Oakland, CA 94618

Thank you!

Strong Progress Toward Rockridge Specific Plan

Development of the Rockridge Area Specific Plan (RASP) continues to move ahead strongly, according to RCPC Board member Kerry O'Banion.

The first of a long and rich list of ideas, issues, suggestions and concerns on land use, parking circulation, housing and open space was recorded at brainstorming sessions held at the July and September RCPC General Meetings, and will soon be refined into a coherent set of goals for the future of Rockridge, he said.

Mr. O'Banion, chair of the RCPC RASP Committee, stressed the importance and urgency of community-wide participation in this idea gathering process before developing goals to work toward: "The ideas gathered now will be the foundation upon which the Rockridge Specific Plan is based".

When the goals are defined, specific objectives will be developed for each goal. The Specific Plan will be drafted to achieve those objectives.

To ensure that your ideas and concerns are included in the RASP process, attend the RCPC General Meeting Wednesday, October 21, 7:30 p.m. at the College Avenue Presbyterian Church.

If you cannot attend, please take a moment to fill out the Burning Issue coupon below. Mail it (6225 Ross Street) , send it along with a Neighbor to the meeting or drop it off at Chimes Grocery (5642 College Avenue) or Laser Copy (5856 College Avenue).

R • A • S • P S • U • R • V • E • Y

BURNING ISSUE(S)

I feel any Specific Plan for Rockridge should definitely address the following issues (Note – be as general or as specific as you like, and feel free to attach additional pages!):

_____

_____

_____

_____

(Optional)
Name:
Address:
Phone:

Mail completed form to 6225 Ross Street, send it along with a Neighbor to the General Meeting or drop it off at Chimes Grocery (5642 College Avenue) or Laser Copy (5856 College Avenue).

Claremont PTA Seeks Donations

Donations of goods and services from the Rockridge community are requested by the Claremont Middle School PTA to be offered at a silent auction fundraiser in mid-November.

This silent auction and wine-and-cheese tasting party is Claremont Middle School's main fundraiser and you can help!

Items welcomed by the PTA include: gift certificates for services such as plumbing, legal advice, gardening and counseling; and baked goods, unused wedding presents, and other white elephants.

Because of academic improvements, the school has lost $70,000 in State aid. Auction proceeds will help the PTA provide books, sports equipment, audio-visual equipment and computer supplies for the school.

Call Ms. Linda Cohen (654-8911) or Ms. Jean Circiello (654-4186) to arrange your donation and for more information.

THE CENTER OF ARTISTIC COUNSELING

5425 College Avenue
Oakland, CA 94618

Short-term counseling for people encountering difficulty in their artistic discipline.

All aspects of the artistic process addressed.

Margret Elson – Director (415) 654-4462

HALLEY'S
1 HR CLEANERS

• *Under New Management* •

In By 12 Out By 6
We operate our own plant
Specializing in silks

- **Professional Drycleaning**
- **Deluxe Shirt Laundry**
- **Drapery Cleaning**
- **Expert Alterations**

20% OFF
on regular Drycleaning

$1.30 - plain shirt on a hanger

5295 – B College Ave, Oakland
(415) 428-1552

M - F 7:30 am - 7:00 pm
Sat 8:30 am - 5:30 pm

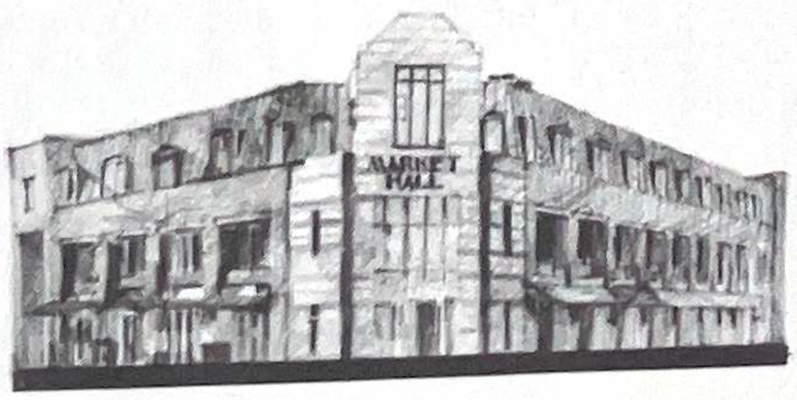
Office Space Rental: Part-Time
Beautiful, unique office on College Avenue
near Rockridge BART.
Flexible hours, reasonable rates.
Ideal for writing, counseling.
Call: 654-4462, or 655-8389

ROCKRIDGE
MARKET HALL
Invites You
to a
HARVEST OPEN HOUSE
Saturday, Oct. 31st.
pumpkin carvings
tastings
demonstrations
trick, treats and costumes

With this ad 10% Discount on purchases in each store. Good Only
Sat. Oct. 31st & Sun Nov. 1st

Thanks For Shopping With Us!

Bloomies
Pasta Shop
E. G. Kroeger
Grace Baking
Oliveto Cafe
Paul Marcus Wines
Rockridge Fish Market
Country Fresh Produce



If you would like to see the
upper courtyards of the
Market Hall, feel free to walk up
the Shafter stairway between 12-4 pm
and look around on Sat. Oct. 31st

5655 COLLEGE AVE.

RASP Funding Report

RCPC has submitted two grant applications to the Oakland Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) for funds to support the Neighborhood's development of a Specific Plan.

• A request for $8,500 was submitted in July 87 and is pending. The project – "Building Community Consensus in the College Avenue/Rockridge Area" – is designed to enhance citizen involvement in the planning process.

• A request for $47,000 from the 14th Year CDBG program to fund the Rockridge Area Specific Plan and to develop an implementation program. The North Oakland Community Development District Board recommended funding 50% of the request. Further reviews are scheduled for this request.

RCPC is currently in the process of seeking funding from other local sources, private foundations, and corporations. If you have ideas or suggestions for RASP funding, contact Brooke Levin, RCPC Boardmember, 653-7522 (eves).

Tech Hi Program Builds Winners

A new pre-engineering program at Oakland Technical High School garnered more than twenty awards at recent state and county fairs. The awards honor excellence in preparing engineering drawings created by students in descriptive geometry and physics classes. Many of the award winners are Rockridge Area students.

The pre-engineering program, the only one of its kind at the high school level in Oakland, "...is intended to provide a competitive advantage to Oakland students in math and science due to the stiff competition in entrance to today's engineering schools", according to Tech principal Dennis Chaconas.

The best of show award was won by John Szeto, a 1967 graduate of Tech, at the Alameda County Fair, while the best of class awards were won by Veronica Yank, Mary Leung, and Chris Campbell. Their projects also won second place awards in the California State Fair.

First place winners at the County Fair were Kerry Tang, Nina Lindsay, Ann Collins, Min Liu, Helen Trieu, Kong Suaw, Chris Campbell, and Cuong Huynh. Second place awards went to Mai Hua, Hoa Khuu, Mary Leung, Charlie Newens, Josh Kahn, Manh Rattanamongkho, Derick Yu, and Stefan Gulassa. Third place went to James Szeto, Quyen Tran, Anjanette Hurt, and Cahn To.



RICHARD H. MOGENSEN, D.D.S., INC.
#312 ROCKRIDGE MARKET HALL
5655 COLLEGE AVENUE, OAKLAND, CA 94618
(415) 653-6677

FAMILY DENTISTRY WITH A GENTLE TOUCH

- COSMETIC, RESTORATIVE AND IMPLANT DENTISTRY
- PERSONALIZED, COMFORTABLE FAMILY DENTISTRY
- SENIOR COURTESY
- PAYMENT PLANS

NEW PATIENTS WELCOME

- CONVENIENTLY LOCATED IN ROCKRIDGE MARKET HALL
- EASY ACCESS FROM BART

In Practice Since 1973

Of General Interest:

City: Marge Gibson Haskell

Priorities and Projects

I have been asked about my priorities and directions for the next four years. The following projects are those which I presently believe will receive much of my attention.

The Specific Plan for College Avenue and Rockridge must be completed in order to create meaningful consensus in the Rockridge Community and so that projects proposed can be evaluated in light of overall community directions. Similarly, Telegraph Avenue will need a workable plan in order to avoid ad hoc decisions as to the propriety of particular uses.

The proposed Martin Luther King Plaza (the old Merritt College Campus on Martin Luther King, Jr., Way) needs to be developed for shopping, housing, community services, office space and, above all, it must cease to bu used as the Community dump. The San Pablo Association is defining its community needs and with the City's help, it will be able to work to set its priorities. The North Oakland Hills area will need assistance in the implementation of its Specific Plan.

Projects such as these cut through the rhetoric that City Hall ignores the neighborhoods in that they will enable neighborhoods to speak with a clear coherent voice concerning their very specific requirements.

Another interest is of a City-wide nature. I believe that the encouragement and development of Arts and Culture must be a high priority for this city. Instead of worrying about our "image", we must do something concrete about it which is, we support and assist arts organization and individual artists who contribute much to the quality of life in Oakland. I believe we must produce a cultural plan that will increase public participation, develop new marketing and funding programs and create an environment to stimulate Oakland's arts and culture; and thus, support a strong, diverse city life.

These are my pet projects.

Let me know what you think.

RCPC and **The Rockridge News** present these columns to assist regular communication from local officials. Give some thought to what you read here, then give a call:

Marge Gibson-Haskell – 273-3266
City Council District 1
Doug Jones – 273-3941
Chair, Oakland Planning Commission

City: Doug Jones

Chair, Planning Commission

An Interview By Andrea Gabriel

O.K.... so you want to build that barn behind your house on Chabot Road. What's the first thing you do? Check the zoning ordinances. If you're zoned for a barn, fine – that's half the battle. If not, then...there's always trying to convince the Oakland Planning Commission to give you a variance to existing zoning laws.

Oakland's Planning Commission is composed of seven members – each appointed by the Mayor and approved by the City Council to serve a four-year term. As Chairman of that Commission, one of Doug Jones' tasks is to make sure that Commission meetings run smoothly. "I don't know if you've ever been to a Planning Commission meeting," says Mr. Jones, "but they can be very emotional when the issue directly affects people's property." Mr. Jones, who succeeded José Arce as Chairman, has been a member of the Commission for over five years. His knowledge of land use planning comes through his experience in real estate development and investment for Pacific Bell.

According to Mr. Jones, the general purpose of the Commission is to "make sure the City develops in a coordinated manner in the best interest of all citizens – to maintain continuity and conformity within communities". To that end, the Commission concerns itself with three critical areas – zoning, design review and environmental impact studies. Zoning ordinances – voted into law by the City Council upon the recommendation of the Commission – define the character and intensity of land uses within a specified area. The design review process considers how the proposed facility will look and fit in the existing surrounding community. Environmental impact reports are when communities can get involved. EIR's are done by an outside consultant in cooperation with the developer and the Commission staff. During this process, the Commission examines the EIR to make sure it is complete in areas of environmental impact. If incomplete or inadequate, the Commission recommends changes or alterations. When completed, the EIR goes to the community for review by groups and individuals.

So how does this apply to the barn you want to build? If your lot is not zoned for a building of that type or use, you file a request for a zoning variance with the Commission staff. The Zoning Ordinance specifies whether a proposed use requires a Major or a Minor Variance. Minor Variances are handled by the Planning Commission staff, but Major Variance applications are heard by the Commission in public hearings in the Commission chambers at City Hall. Mr. Jones says that if the Commission knows that the hearing might be controversial or length, special meetings will be held in the affected Neighborhoods, affording residents the fullest opportunity to present their point of view. In either case, the community and recognized community organizations are notified of the hearing where all sides of the issue can be aired. After hearing testimony from

(continued top of next column)

"Jones", continued from previous page.

the applicant and the community, and after reviewing the Planning Staff report and recommendations, the Commission makes its recommendations. A Commission decision can be appealed to the City Council which may uphold or reverse the recommendation. Although City Council members might be more responsive to the people they represent, the Planning Commission – an appointed body – is not bound by such restrictions. Although Commission members are appointed by the Mayor, Mr. Jones is firm in stating his feeling that the Commission is impartial: "I don't think that the Commission represents a particular bent." In fact, he says, the Council and Commission are often at odds over proposed construction.

But back to the barn. If the barn is within zoning regulations or if a variance is applied for and granted, the next step is securing a building permit. Next, the Fire Marshall and the Office of Public Works (streets and street access) must check to see that all safety regulations are met. When safety regulations are satisfied, the application is signed off and a fee paid. During particular phases of construction, city inspectors examine the construction and surprise inspections can occur at any time. When construction is complete, a final inspection is required before occupancy clearance is granted. Time to move in those goats and llamas.

While it is a good guess that nobody in Rockridge is planning to build living quarters for chickens and cows, the area has seen tremendous commercial construction along College Avenue since the early 1980's. Doug Jones is enthusiastic about the Rockridge Area Specific Plan (RASP) now underway in the Neighborhood, and stresses the importance of community involvement in producing "guidelines" for future development and design, because they are guidelines the Planning Commission takes seriously.

While the idea for a community "master plan" is not new, RASP – pinpointing specific problems and solutions to specific regions in the Neighborhood – is unique to Rockridge. The study will be closely examined by the Commission to see if it is balanced. And balance is important to the Chairman of the Planning Commission: "There has to be proper balance between growth and no growth. The City will become stagnated if there is no growth, but it must be growth that respects the interest of the environmentalist, growth that provides open space and growth that provides a tax base so that our City can thrive."

Rockridge Residents Map East Bay's Tasty Take-Outs

Good news for hungry people who hate to cook but don't want to starve!

Rockridge residents Mr. Kerry O'Banion and Ms. Margie Gelb have put together a book titled "Dinner to Go", the first and only guide book to the best take-home food in the East Bay.

Published as a means to raise funds for Park Day School – which receives all proceeds from the its sale– the book also provides a way to eat out at home.

Not only are restaurants discussed in the book, but directions to them are fully mapped! Mobile food enthusiasts can follow a map once a week for nearly a year and sample a different restaurant's fare each time. Rockridge residents will find many local favorites as well as the finest take-home food in nine other East Bay neighborhoods (no fast-food franchises, thank you).

Mr. O'Banion, author of "Dinner to Go", spent a year ferreting out the best of the East Bay take-out foods. Patricia Unterman, restaurant critic for the San Francisco Chronicle, found the book to be "lively…well researched…looks like a real best seller to me!"

Rockridge residents can find the book locally for $5.95 plus tax at Such A Business and certain Rockridge restaurants. Books can also be purchased directly from the school. Send a check for $6.37 to Park Day School, 368 42nd Street, Oakland, CA 94609 with your name and address. There is no charge for mailing.

Active Neighbors...

Congratulations and thanks to these Neighbors for their recent work in behalf of Rockridge and the City:

- Sylvia de Trinidad –
  Installed on the Board of Directors of the North Oakland Community Development Commission.
- Mara Duffy –
  Represented RCPC at an information booth at the Preservation Fair in September.

Enjoy Your Meal In Our Garden Patio
Or Order To Go

Pizzeria

• Calzone • Pizza • Salads •
• Wine & Beer •

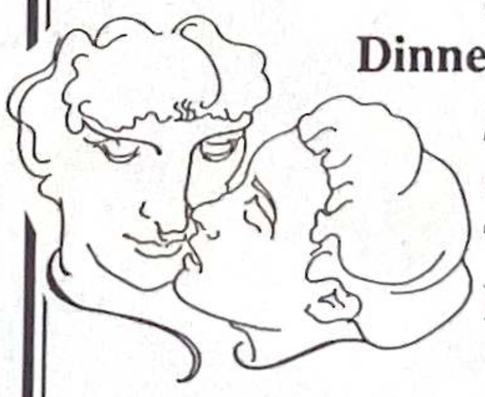
Guglielmo

5 p.m. – 10 p.m.
5461 College Avenue • 653–2911

Ti Bacio Ristorante

offers

Dinner for 2 to go



Spaghetti Bolognese
(fresh tomatoes & ground turkey)
Tossed Green Salad
Extraordinary Garlic Bread
Special • $9.95!

CALL AHEAD for your TO GO ORDER
20% Off Menu Prices On Other To Go Entrees
5301 College Avenue (at Clifton) • Oakland • 428-1703
• with this coupon • Expires November 13, 1987

College Avenue Presbyterian Church To Collect Used Eyeglasses

During October and November members of College Avenue Presbyterian Church will be going door to door in the Neighborhood to collect unwanted prescription glasses. These glasses will be given to Medical Group Missions, Christian doctors and volunteers who provide eye care to needy people in Central and South America. An important part of their service is fitting people with used prescription glasses donated by concerned individuals in the U.S. If the church members miss connecting with you, they ask that you call the church at 658-3665.

On Sunday, October 25 at 6 p.m., Dr. Byron Chong from the Medical Group Missions will have a 20-minute slide presentation that shows the clinics set up in Central and South America. It will show how the used eyeglasses are given to people. Join the members of College Avenue Presbyterian Church in the sanctuary at 6 p.m. to learn more about Medical Group Missions.

–Matt DuPlessis

Got something planned you'd like to have ***The Rockridge News*** *tell about? Call Don Kinkead at 655-7474 or write to 5626 Oak Grove Avenue, Oakland 94618 (of course!) and let us know.* ***November issue deadline is November 5th.***

Compuserve number 76527, 35

LASER COPY

The Full Service Copy Centers

5856 College Avenue
Oakland, CA 94618
(415) 654–6504

M - F 8:00 am - 9:00 pm
SAT 9:00 am - 7:00 pm
SUN 10:00 am - 6:00 pm

FAX: (415) 654–1133
TLX: 9102503343

Featuring:
- HIGH QUALITY COPIES
- BINDERY SERVICES
- DESKTOP PUBLISHING
- WORD PROCESSING
- COMPUTER/GRAPHIC DESIGN
- FAX & TELEX
- PRIVATE MAIL BOXES
- STATIONERY SUPPLIES
- UPS & FED. EX.

& MUCH MORE

MAC/IBM DESKTOP PUBLISHING!

HUDSON BAY BEANS

Now open until 4 on Sundays!

FEATURING
GRAFFEO COFFEES
5405 College Ave • Oakland • 658-9622
Open M-F 8-6 • Sat & Sun 8-4

Chimes Grocery

FOR ALL YOUR URBAN PROVISIONS

7 AM to Midnight 7 Days A Week
5642 College Avenue At Rockridge BART
428-9256

Happy Halloween!
Trick or Treat

Attention all kids...

Stop by ***in costume*** for your candy treat after 7 p.m. on Halloween!

For those of you who get to pass out the treats at home, we've got supplies of:

Candy (loose and bagged)

Snacks

Pumpkins

Candles

And for **all** your party planning for the Holiday Season, come in for:

Champagne Wine
Liquor Beer
Beverages Mixers
Snacks Gift Packs

See you soon, Goblins!