The Rockridge News

Sponsored by ▪ The Rockridge Community Planning Council ▪ 5856 College Avenue #130 ▪ Oakland, California ▪ 94618

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Thank You, Ray & Steve

(Page 3)

RCPC Board Election On January Agenda

Membership of five of the ten member RCPC Board of Directors for 1989-90 will be determined by Neighborhood voters at the General Meeting to be held Wednesday, January 18, 7:30 pm, at the College Avenue Presbyterian Church, 5951 College Avenue.

Voters will cast their ballots for a total of five Board members from candidates presented by the Nominating Committee. Names of nominees entered to date and their statements of interest are listed on page 2.

Voters must be at least 18 years of age and will be asked to verify their residence in the Rockridge Area as defined in the By–Laws of the Rockridge Community Planning Council. The boundaries and a boundary map also are on page 2.

Welcome Carter Gilmore, City Councilmember for District 6, our honored guest for the General Meeting.

Rockridge's Secret Ingredient

by Barbara Anderson, Chairperson

Rockridge is a **special** place, we all agree on that. But why? What makes it so special? Is it the "village-like" character of its shops and streets? Or is it the diversity of its population? Is it the richness of its urban ways combined with the familiar and neighborly residential areas? We each will have some answers to these questions.

For me, after ten years in Rockridge and several years of involvement with RCPC, I believe Rockridge's **secret ingredient** is the extraordinary number of people who care enough about our community to become involved, to spend time and energy to work together to find solutions.

In 1988 more Rockridge citizens than ever before shared their concerns in the public forum. More Neighbors than ever before participated in community deliberations about local development projects, city management priorities, and long-term planning issues.

RCPC completed the first phase in the development of a Rockridge Area Specific Plan. Hundreds of residents, merchants, and property owners in our community took the time to fill out surveys asking about Rockridge today and tomorrow. Scores more gave up four long Thursday nights in November to begin the task of defining our community goals and making hard choices or compromises to realize those goals. Many of the same Neighbors have signed up to continue working on the challenge of long-range planning for Rockridge within the RASP Study Groups scheduled to get underway in the next months.

More and more Neighbors are sharing the work of staying in touch with city government and monitoring the work of city offices and elected officials. Many Rockridge citizens attended city deficit-crisis meetings, and budget hearings, and rallied in support of Measure M to say "no" to cuts in essential neighborhood services.

Neighbors put in long hours deliberating over pending zoning applications. They took time from their work and family commitments to appear many times before the Planning Commission and the City Council in order to uphold the integrity of our residential land use zones. And most recently, two dozen Rockridge neighbors are committed to meeting every other week with City staff and others to develop a program and funding plan to realize our community's number one goal of building a new Rockridge Branch Library.

Rockridge Neighbors **are** special. Rockridge Neighbors really care about where they live. Remember the folks who rode the pick-up trucks last March and helped collect over 150 cubic yards of garden trash in our now annual Spring Clean-Up? They'll be back in 1989 with an expanded program because even more volunteers are lined up this year.

See Secret, page 5

Dates Calendar Events Calendar Dates

Wednesday	**Jan 18**	**7:30 pm**	**RCPC General Meeting**	College Avenue Presbyterian Church. Annual Election of RCPC Board of Directors; Councilmember Carter Gilmore
Thursday	**Jan 19**	**7:30 pm**	**Open Forum on Budget**	Vet Mem Bldg., 200 Grand, sponsored by League of Women Voters
Tuesday	**Jan 24**	**7:30 pm**	**City Council**	City Hall. Staff Report on Boarding House Conversions
Wednesday	**Jan 25**	**1:30 pm**	**Planning Commission**	City Hall, Room 115. Regular meeting

RCPC Board Nominees State Interest, Qualifications

Current nominees for the RCPC Annual Board Elections are listed alphabetically below with their campaign statements. *(Nominees were invited to submit a brief statement of their interest in being on the RCPC Board. Some statements have been edited for brevity.—Ed.)*

Glen Jarvis
6400 block of Benvenue
Incumbent; Co-Chair, RCPC Design Review Committee

I have been a Rockridge resident since 1971, and participated in the commercial and residential rezonings in 1974. I have been active in the RCPC Design Review Committee and a Boardmember this last year. I am an architect working locally.

Don Kinkead
5600 block of Oak Grove Avenue
Incumbent; RCPC Treasurer; Editor, Rockridge News

A Rockridge resident for 18 years and a Boardmember for three, I am pleased to work with friends and Neighbors to ensure the vitality of a part of Oakland's urban scene. I would like to continue to do so.

Michael Kraszulyak
6400 block of Colby
Rockridge resident since August, 1988

No statement submitted.

Brooke Levin
300 block of Clifton
Incumbent; RCPC Vice-Chair; Co-Chair, RCPC Zoning Committee

I am motivated by a desire to improve the quality of life throughout the community. Zoning issues, retention and improvement of City services, crime prevention and a new Rockridge library are of primary concern.

Bill Manley
5400 block of Locksley
Co-Chair of the RCPC Traffic and Circulation Committee

I have lived in the Rockridge area for six years and am Co-Chair of the RCPC Traffic and Circulation Committee. We need to improve transportation and parking, promote civic amenities, and keep the Neighborhood clean and crime free.

John D. Steuart
6400 block of Colby

Rockridge needs competence and leadership for the 1990's. A resident since 1985, John Steuart can provide financial expertise and dedicated service to improve this community. John will work to preserve diversity and vitality, bring a library and cultural center to the area and solve housing, traffic and parking issues.

I will work for everyone's interests in Rockridge.

Andréa Walhof
5200 block of Shafter
Member, RCPC Art Stone/Library Committee

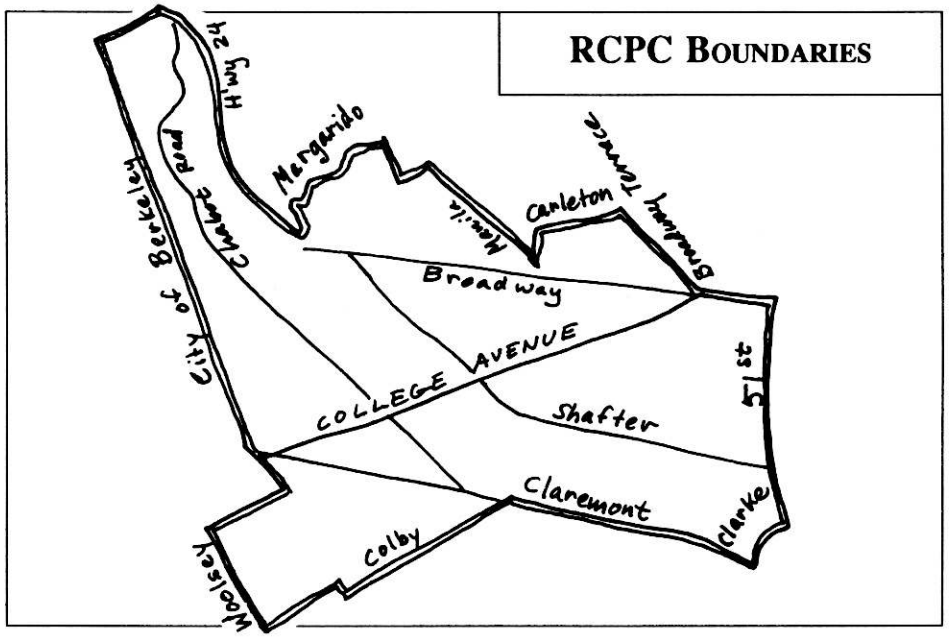
I have lived in the Rockridge area for three years. My profession is Architecture. I believe that RCPC should continue to be a strong organization for planning and community involvement. The RASP Community Forums were great; we must continue the important work begun there.

Jolyon Wurr
400 block of Hudson

Tried talking to the RCPC and felt your opinions stifled to 35 words? That's how many candidates can use in this paper. Jolyon Wurr for change!

Additional nominations may be entered until declared closed by the Chair prior to the time of the vote at the General Meeting. Names may be submitted by mail or in person to the following Nominating Committee members: Mr. Ray Craun (655–6589), Mr. Steve Belcher (658-9608) and Ms. Ethel Ruymaker (658–3912). Nominations should include the addresses of the nominee and of the nominator. Send your nominations to:

RCPC Board Nominations
c/o RCPC
5856 College Avenue #130
Oakland, CA 94618.



Begin at the intersection of College Avenue and Woolsey Street in the City of Berkeley and proceed in a direct line to the end of Chabot Road in the City of Oakland; then along Broadway to the intersection of Broadway and Margarido Drive; then along Margarido Drive, to the intersection of Margarido, Acacia Avenue and Lawton Ave; then to the intersection of Lawton Avenue and Manila Avenue; then along Acacia Avenue to the intersection of Manila Avenue and Monroe Avenue; then to the intersection of Monroe Avenue and Carleton Avenue; then to the intersection of Carleton Avenue and Broadway Terrace; then to the intersection of Broadway Terrace and Broadway; then to the intersection of Broadway and 51st Street; then to the intersection of 51st Street and Clarke; then to the intersection of Clarke and Claremont Avenue; then to the intersection of Claremont Avenue and Colby Street; then to the intersection of Colby Street and Woolsey Street; then returning to the intersection of Woolsey Street and College Avenue. *(See map, this page.)*

Thank You And Farewell To A Work Horse And To A War Horse

Special thanks to retirng RCPC Board member Ray Perman who has been with RCPC for more than six years, as past Chairperson and as Secretary.

Ray stayed with RCPC through the lean years when community apathy threatened to swallow up the organization. He has had a continuing vision for our Neighborhood combined with a sense of personal commitment and responsibility. Ray helped to get RCPC established as a non-profit organization. and to start our network of block captains which is now over 150 strong.

Thanks also to retiring RCPC Board member Steve Belcher, Emeryville's newest Assistant City Manager.

This past year Steve foresaw the ever-increasing load of work for RCPC and helped to get us on a firm footing of "work by committee." He will be continuing as Block Captain for Locksley Avenue.

— RCPC Board

How Does Oakland Pay Its Bills?

"Policies, Priorities and Process in Oakland's Budget" will be the topic of a League of Women Voters' forum open to the public on Thursday, January 19, 1989, from 7:30 to 9:30 PM at the Veterans Memorial Building, 200 Grand Avenue at Harrison.

Joining Rockridge Neighbor and Economic Development Advisory Commissioner Annetta Floystrup on the speakers' podium will be Ezra Rapport, Assistant to Oakland's City Manager, and Victor Rubin, Associate Director of the University/Oakland Metropolitan Forum.

Discussion will focus on where city budget monies come from and where they go, how budget policies and priorities are determined when money is tight, and how the community can have a voice in Oakland's budget-planning process. A question and answer period is planned.

The event offers free parking, wheelchair access, and a $1 donation is requested.

For further information, please call 834-7640.

Do it now while you're thinking about it. Use the blank below to make your donaton to RCPC.

RCPC Committees

Dreyer's: City Completes Review Of Ice Cream Company EIR

The City Planning Department review of the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for Dreyers' proposed College Avenue office building is now complete and the document has been returned to the EIR consultant for final revisions, according to Mr. Willie Yee, Associate Planner.

Mr. Yee estimated the document might be ready for public release in late January or early February. The variable is the length of time the consultant needs to complete revisions called for by the City.

When the revised document is received and approved by the City, it will be released for publication.

This will start the 45 day period of public hearing and comment on the document and its findings.

Parking: Residential Permit Parking (RPP) Update; Parking Limits

Residential Permit Parking

- Mystic and Manoa have been approved by the City Council as RPP areas.
- An anonymous flyer being put on car windows at the Rockridge BART station urges commuters to protest RPP on neighboring streets by writing to the Mayor, Councilmember Marge Haskell and the Public Works department. Neighbors who want RPP on their streets and who have signed petitions should emphasize their support for the program by letters and/or phone calls to the Mayor, Ms. Haskell, and Public Works.

72 Hour Parking Limit

- Abandoned automobiles or cars stored on public streets continue to be a problem in several neighborhoods. There is a law limiting parking on the street to 72 hours. If you feel someone is in violation of this ordinance, call the Police Department for enforcement.

— Bill Manley (658-2419)
Parking Committee Co-Chair

Rockridge Community Planning Council Donation Form

Yes! **Enroll Me as a Supporting Donor** to 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

Mail to:

Don Kinkead
5626 Oak Grove Avenue
Oakland, CA 94618

Thank you!

Traffic Disruption Predicted

Sewer Construction Slated For College, Monroe Avenues

The Oakland Office of Public Works has notified Rockridge Neighbors that work will begin June, 1989 to replace the sanitary sewer line for Broadway Terrace (from Harbord to Margarido), Margarido (from Broadway Terrace to Monroe), Monroe (from Thomas to Broadway Terrace) and College Avenue (from Miles to Manila).

According to City Engineer, Kenneth Wong, it may be necessary to divert traffic from the project area. During construction of sewers on College Avenue, it is planned that one north bound traffic lane will remain open. South bound traffic will be diverted from block to block, which may impact through cross-streets such as Miles, Forest, Shafter, Lawton, and Manila. The anticipated construction time of the project is four months.

City representatives from Public Works and Traffic Engineering will be present at the RCPC General Meeting on January 18 to explain the project and to answer questions. Neighbors may also contact City Engineer Al Pohl at 273-3437 for further information.

North Oakland Recycling Center To Relocate

Since mid-1985, the neighborhood Recycling Center has been at 5901 Telegraph Avenue. A nearby business is planning a three-story building on the property and the Recycling Center will be moving.

Several sites in the immediate area are under consideration, but no final plans have been made.

The Center remains open seven days a week to receive newspapers, glass, tin and aluminum cans, magazines, cardboard and many other materials.

Call 655-5373 for hours and details.

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Developer Courts Upper Chabot Road Tennis Property: Neighbors Rally

Club members and residents living near the Chabot Canyon Racquet Club recently were surprised to learn that the court club owners have entered into an agreement to sell the Club and its land to Rockridge-based developer Tony Wilson.

The Racquet Club, owned by a partnership of private investors since its development in 1973, has six courts, a club house and a membership of approximately 200 individuals and families. It sits on about an acre of land between Chabot Road and Highway 24, with a portion of the courts extending onto an additional parcel leased from BART. The site is zoned for single family houses at 5,000 square feet minimum lot size.

Although no plans for the site have been proposed, development concerns prompted Club members and neighbors to organize meetings and committees to explore alternatives to development, including having the members of the club purchase and operate it as a member-owned non-profit club. Immediate neighbors of the Club reactivated the Chabot Canyon Neighborhood Association, originally established when the freeway was constructed.

Contacted by The Rockridge News, Mr. Wilson confirmed his association's interest in the property but pointed out that many variables remain to be resolved before any development decisions are made. For example, he said, if the membership puts together an acceptable offer to buy and operate the Club, the Wilsons will sell it to them. Also, the BART lease is included in the purchase agreement but comes with easements and encumbrances that make development on that portion problematic. It is possible, he concluded, that four to six houses could be built on the Club-owned property.

In addition to the possibility of private development, the City is studying the BART land for possible public use. If BART decides to sell its parcel, it must first offer the land to public agencies before offering it for sale on the open market. Councilmember Marge Haskell has asked staff to research and report on BART's intentions for their parcel and on how the land may best be used

Additional information is available from Mr. Frederick Hertz at 654-8829.

Nice Work, Guys!

A hearty thanks for a good job well done to seven-year olds Austin Payne and David Anderson for starting off the New Year with an enthusiastic sweep of the park at Hudson/Claremont and of the streets on the way home along Hudson and Lawton Avenues.

"This is fun!" they enthused as they handed over supermarket bags brimming with trash to a surprised and pleased Oakland Scavenger Company crew.

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CUSTOM DESIGN
REPAIRS
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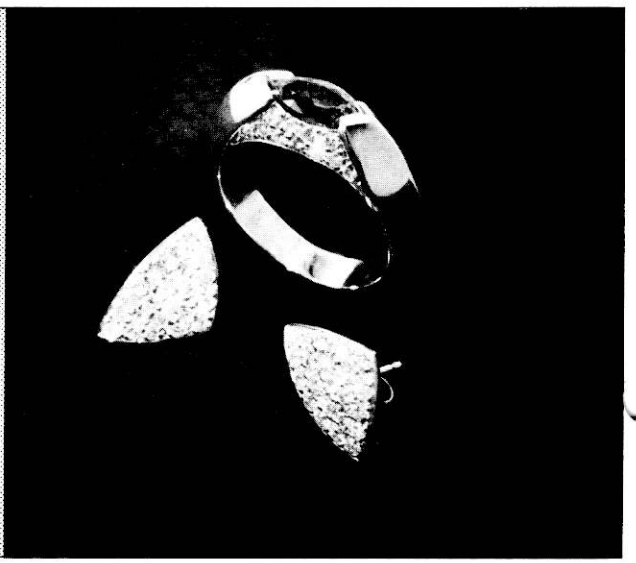


CAMA Report

For several months, CAMA has been working with the City to place more garbage cans on College Avenue.

We'd appreciate your comments about where to place them on the Avenue. (They can only go in red zones.) Please call me with your suggestions.

Thank you.

— Eddie Zeidan, President 428-9256

Zoning Update

Alcatraz Avenue Variance

Ladner-Kampel Properties,
363-367 Alcatraz Avenue
(Zoning File No. V88-460)

The application is for a zoning variance to build a duplex at the rear of the property with an existing 4 unit building.

The current project as designed would not meet the City's off-street parking, side and rear yard setback requirements.

The RCPC Board of Directors recommended that the application be denied because, first, the proposed project with design alterations apparently could be built within the zoning standards, and, secondly, the current proposed design cannot make the required findings for a variance.

The City Planning Staff will make an administrative decision on the application in mid-January; the staff decision is appealable by applicant or protestant within a 10 day period.

Secret,

from page 1

Community involvement is growing in Rockridge and in Oakland generally. 1989 promises to provide lots of opportunities for all of us to shape our future, to make a difference! If you are one of Rockridge's secret ingredients, **thank you** for all the time and energy you've committed in the past and will continue to give in the coming year! If you're new to our community, **Welcome!** And join us! There's lots to be done and great people to get to know!

Work In Rockridge

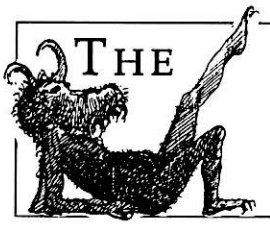
Two part-time positions available:

1) administrative assistant to perform secretarial, word processing and administrative functions; and,
2) bookkeeping assistant to do computer input, accounting and miscellaneous administrative work.

- Hours flexible for both positions to accommodate someone interested in making own schedule.
- Typing skills a must
- Demonstrated organizational skills required.

Send resumé with professional references to:

Inman News Features 5321 Manila Avenue
Oakland, CA 94618 Phone: (415) 658-9252



The Rockridge MUSE

College Ave Cafés Host Photography Exhibits

Out and about on College Avenue recently, the Muse perused two café exhibits by local photographers. Depicting subjects that at first glance seem wildly different but that at second thought are seen to be clearly related, the artists show us both sides of the same coin: life in the foreground nestled against its varied backgrounds...

Rick Lewis *The Edible*
Wildlife Photographs
261-7626

A birder and backpacker, Oakland resident Rick Lewis got involved in photography five years ago and has won a number of awards for his wildlife images. He feels that conservation begins at home and points out that all the photographs in this exhibit were taken within a ninety mile radius of Oakland. "My focus," he says, "is to instill in people an awareness of the abundance of regional wildlife in the Bay Area and surrounding counties."

Ken Exum *Rockridge Café*
Urban Scenes
845-9569

Presenting a collection of views of the urban scene, Ken Exum of Berkeley shows us the faces of individuals and the façades of streetscapes in a vivid arrangement of color and black and white photographs. Mr. Exum has been a photographer for eleven years. Most of the images in this exhibit were taken and printed over the last two years.

— Don Kinkead

■ *Readers please note: The Rockridge News is published the week-end before the third Wednesday of each month except August. Events scheduled before that week-end should be received not later than the first of the preceding month. Send to: Margret Elson, Center of Artistic Counseling, 5425 College Avenue, #2, Oakland, CA 94618. While every effort will be made to accommodate all announcements received, The Rockridge News cannot guarantee space in every issue nor assume responsibility for errors.*

to the

New Kid On The Block

Eddie & Renee Zeidan are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Matthew, born January 7, 1989. Matthew weighed in at 7 lbs., 14 oz.

In My View...

Comments by Marge Gibson-Haskell
City Council, District 1

Three For The New Year

Now For The Hard Part

The goals for Rockridge have been developed by a hard working group as part of the Specific Plan effort (Rockridge News, December 17, 1988) and they are easy to digest. After all, who could oppose something like "Increase and improve access to recreational and passive open spaces"? But now comes the tough part. The real decisions must be framed: What open spaces? What access routes? And who is to work on these issues and for which specific objectives? Who will supervise their accomplishment?

I know the Rockridge community has the ability to pull this together, but now a commitment must be made to the more tedious work.

I sometimes hear complaints that only a small group is interested in this process and that it represents a very parochial view of Rockridge's future. I can only ask the question back: "Who is responsible for such a state if this is your perception?" The buck stops with all of us.

House Conversions

The City Council has received the Rockridge Community Planning Council's letter concerning house conversions and has requested City staff to provide a full report with recommendations to the City Council for the meeting on January 24, 1989.

I have requested staff to release their recommendations as much in advance of that meeting as possible for community review. Written comments addressed to me would be very useful and effective and I will share them with the rest of the Council.

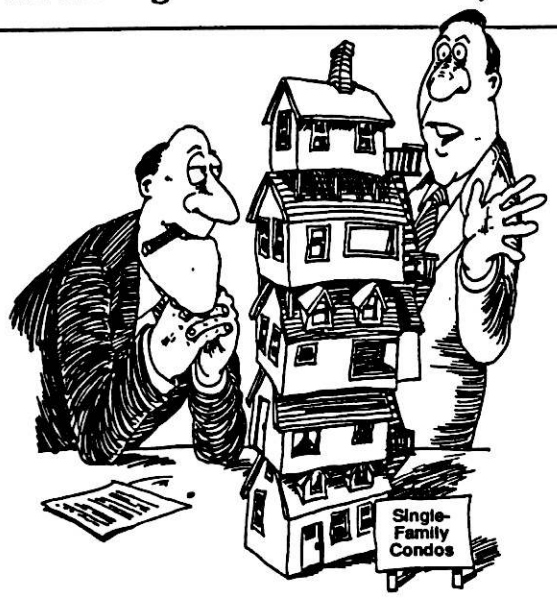
Municipal Tax

Yes, you do need to pay it!

I am commenting on this matter here because I have received numerous calls. Disregard any confusion between Measure M and this tax. It is now due and payable. There are exemptions for Section 8 units, but these need to be specifically applied for. For those who missed the first payment, there is an amnesty program extending the permitted payment deadline to January 31, 1989.

For further information, call me at 273-3266 or Richard Digre, our Finance Director, at 273-3201.

Rockridge Avenue/Inman & Doty



I understand what you're trying to do, Earnest, but I still think your idea stinks!

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Keeping Your Child Safe In A Sometimes Unsafe World

Ed. Note: The Rockridge district has been bothered by crime of the more understandable sort (if there is truly such a thing) but has so far escaped the horrors of criminal child abduction that have troubled some other cities. Still, precautions are always important.

Perhaps these hints from the Kevin Collins Foundation will help Rockridge continue to avoid this plague.

In order to teach your children important principles without making them unduly frightened, the Kevin Collins Foundation for Missing Children has prepared the following list as a common sense "do's" and "don'ts" approach to keeping your children safe:

CHECK to make sure your children know their address, including the town, as well as their phone number and area code.

WARN your children to beware of strangers - adults who ask to take their photograph, offer them rides, candy or other presents.

ALERT your small children that adults shouldn't ask them for directions and that if someone does, they should stay away from the car and be prepared to run.

AGREE on a secret code word that only you and your children know; this will allow your children to verify that someone identifying him/herself as one of your friends *is* one of your friends.

CAUTION your children against looking for you if they become lost. They should go to a store employee or police officer instead.

ESTABLISH a safe meeting place, such as a checkout counter, for reuniting should you and your child become separated.

REMEMBER never to leave your child alone in your car, even for a very brief period.

POINT out that strangers cannot order children around and that they every right to say "No" if someone tries.

EXPLAIN to your children that no one has the right to touch them in places or ways that make them uneasy or uncomfortable.

TELL your children that no one should ask them to keep secrets from you and that they should tell you any secrets that adults have asked them to keep.

LISTEN when your child doesn't want to be with someone; there may be a good reason!

ASSURE your children that they shouldn't fear threats and that you will protect them from anyone who makes threats.

ASK your children to tell you about any strangers they meet.

INSTRUCT your children never to answer the door when home alone and never to tell anyone over the phone that you are not home. (A good alternative is to have them say "my mom/dad is busy.")

AVOID buying clothing, lunch boxes, etc. with your child's name on them to prevent strangers from calling them by name.

URGE your children to use the "buddy system" whenever possible and to avoid becoming a straggler from a group or walking dark streets alone if at all possible.

For further information, call 863-6333; donations in support of the work of the Kevin Collins Foundation are gratefully accepted. Send to P. O. Box 590473, San Francisco, CA 94159.

■ ***Spring Semester Music and Art***

MUSIC	Orff–Schulwerk, Choir, Group and Private Instrumental Lessons *Piano, Percussion, Brass, Woodwinds, Strings, Guitar, Jazz Ensemble*
DANCE	Creative Movement, Pre–Ballet, Modern Dance, Jazz Dance
ART	Comprehensive Art *Painting, Drawing, Clay Work, Sculpture, Collage, Print–Making* Jewelry Making Cartooning/Animation Ceramics
DRAMA	Theater, Musical Theater, Swashbuckling (fencing for the stage), Mask Plays, Storytelling
CIRCUS ARTS	Juggling, Tumbling/Acrobatics, Balancing, Tightrope, Unicycle
VIDEO	

CALL 652–3727 FOR SPRING SEMESTER AND SUMMER CAMP INFORMATION

FAMILY OPEN HOUSE

Sat., Jan. 21 1:00 -4:00 PM

All Ages Participate in Arts Activities

Storytelling • Circus Skills • Swashbuckling
Video • Jewelry Making • Open Art Studio • Cartooning
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5642 College Avenue At Rockridge BART
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The Rockridge News *is published monthly in Oakland except in August and is sponsored by The Rockridge Community Planning Council.*

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.*

☛ **February issue deadline is February 6th.**