The Rockridge News

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

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Save The Date— Saturday, May 19: Rockridge Rummage Sale

Hello Springtime! RCPC Plans Gala Neighborhood Fundraising Sale At Market Hall Parking Lot

Remember our Neighborhood Block Party Extravaganza on Chabot Road four years ago? Well, folks, it's here again! So hang on to your hats. And let go of your old kitchenwares, your old hi-fi equipment, books, and other relics for our old-fashioned fundraiser sale and drawing.

Partial List Of Prizes For May 19 Drawings

Business	Item	Value
Zia	Painted Wooden Mirror w/Goats	$200
Chimes Market	(2) 1 Free Video/week for 1 Year	$200
Armen Gallery	Baluche Salt Bag	$150
Fit Lab	Enrollment + 1 Month's Dues	$125
Color My World	Handwoven Tailored Vest	$75
Snips	Haircuts For Family of 4	$60
Hank & Frank Bicycles	Gift Certificate	$50
Pasta Shop	Gift Certificate	$50
Noah's Art	Native American Wedding Vase	$50
Noah's Art	Gift Certificate	$50
Noah's Art	Gift Certificate for Earrings	$50
Orb Weaver	Gift Certificate	$50
The Moon and Star	Gift Certificate	$50
Bizarre Bazaar	Gift Certificate	$35
Cosmos Flowers & Vases	Gift Certificate	$35
Hazara Oriental Rug Gallery	Written Appraisal	$35
Home Video	Gold Card Membership	$30
Transports	Sports Bag	$30
Enzo's Meat & Poultry (Market Hall)	Gift Certificate	$30
Such A Business	Gift Certificate	$25
dba Brown Records	Gift Certificate	$25
Del Tomaso (Market Hall)	Gift Certificate	$25
Ideas 4 Sweats	Gift Certificate	$25
Bloomie's (Market Hall)	Gift Certificate	$25
Paul Marcus Wines (Market Hall)	Gift Certificate	$20
Peaberry's Coffees & Teas (Market Hall)	Gift Certificate	$20
Rockridge Fish Market (Market Hall)	Gift Certificate	$20
Katrina Rozelle Pastries & Desserts	Gift Certificate	$20
Double Rainbow	2 Hot Fudge Sundaes + T-Shirt	$15
Leaven & Earth Bakery	8" Cake	$12
Pendragon	Book Bag	$10

This year, half of the parking lot behind Market Hall (next to Shafter Avenue) will be laden with all those items that make life worthwhile: the elbow-grease powered lawnmower, books, hassocks, frosted mint julip glasses, exercycles and baby gyms, and much, much more. You name it and you'll probably find it there... especially if we all clean out our garages, attics and basements and come through with lots of tax-deductible donations. (Names and numbers to call to make your donation are listed below and on page 2.)

Avenue Merchants Donate Prizes For Drawing

Drawings throughout the day for dozens of valuable prizes (see partial list at left) will highlight the sale. All of the prizes have been donated by College Avenue merchants, food purveyors and restaurateurs. Watch the May issue of The Rockridge News for even more prizes. Tickets for the drawing go on sale Wednesday, April 18 at the RCPC general meeting (College Avenue Presbyterian Church, 7:30 pm). Neighbors also will be selling tickets ($1 donation per ticket).

Proceeds to Benefit RCPC

All proceeds benefit the work of the Rockridge Community Planning Council and will be used to meet the organization's operating expenses.

See "Sale," page 2

Dates Calendar Events Calendar Dates

Wednesday	**Apr 18**	**7:30 PM**	**RCPC General Meeting.** College Avenue Presbyterian Church 5951 College Avenue. Tickets.
Monday	**Apr 30**	**7:30 PM**	**RCPC Board Meeting**
Tuesday	**May 8**	**7:30 pm**	**City Council Meeting** 666 Bellevue Avenue: Library Assessment District.
Wednesday	**May 16**	**7:30 PM**	**RCPC General Meeting.** College Avenue Presbyterian Church.

Tickets for the drawings: Six for $5 donation; twelve for $10 donation; twenty-five for $20 donation. Get 'em now!

Say! This Rummage Sale Fundraiser Sounds Like Fun! How Can I Help?

There is lots you can do to help make the RCPC Fundraising Rummage Sale a success. First and foremost, of course, is to empty your garage, attic and basement of all those useable things you've been wanting to do something with, and call to arrange your donation today. You can also donate your time. Listed below are the types of sales items and tasks necessary for the event. Call the phone numbers in the article and below to offer your help or your goods.

- **Donate used goods** for the Rummage Sale, especially:

sporting goods	clothing in good condition
jewelry and accessories	books, records, tapes, CDs
building materials	plumbing fixtures
furniture, lamps	art, kitsch
housewares, glass	dishes, small appliances
baked goods	computer and phone stuff
crystals, minerals	children's toys, clothes, equip.
tools, gardening	plants, bulbs

- **Sell** drawing tickets
- **Help get ready** for the Sale (prior two weekends). Work on:
  advertising, flyers, publicity
  sort, price, organizing
  transport items on day of sale
- **Sell goods** and drawing tickets at Rummage Sale
- **Set-up and clean-up** on the day of the sale

MAKING YOUR DONATION

TO DONATE TEMPORARY GARAGE/BASEMENT STORAGE SPACE:
CALL SHELLEY POTICHA AT 655-7463 OR RONNIE POLONSKY AT 601-6407.

TO DONATE SALES ITEMS:
CALL ANNETTE FLOYSTRUP AT 652-6794, SHELLEY POTICHA AT 655-7463 OR RONNIE POLONSKY AT 601-6407.

RCPC Nominated For Orchid Award

The Rockridge Community Planning Council (RCPC) has been nominated for an Orchid award in the third annual Oakland Orchids and Onions awards program sponsored by the Oakland City Assets Committee.

RCPC's nomination was for its work on the first phase of the Rockridge Area Specific Plan (RASP).

A distinguished jury will select orchid and onion winners in a variety of civic improvement categories. Winners will be announced Monday, April 16, 1990, in ceremonies at the Calvin Simmons Theatre, 10 Tenth Street, from 5:30 to 8:30 pm.

Reservations at $10 apiece can made by calling 464-3602.

The Oakland City Assets Committee, organized in 1986 by the Bay Area Partnership, is a coalition of sixty key leaders from private, public and non-profit sectors, all actively involved in furthering the historical, cultural, architectural, environmental and economic quality of the city.

Sale

from page 1

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Your help is needed to gather donations and prepare them for sale. Storage space is needed. Trucks or vans are needed. To offer any kind of assistance, please call Barbara Anderson, 655-3499 or Shelley Poticha, 655-7463.

RAIN POSTPONES TO MAY 26

In case of rain, the event will be postponed to the following Saturday, May 26, same location.

Library Petitions Exceed Goal

by Nancy Dutcher, Co-Chair
Rockridge Library Committee

The Library Assessment District petitions are in... and we've gone over our goal. We had aimed for 1,000 signatures — somewhat more than 10% of the 9,065 registered voters within the assessment district boundaries. As of April 7, 1,214 signatures have been collected.

To all those who collected signatures on the petitions and to those who signed... a big Thank You. You've helped us get one step closer to a new library.

On Tuesday, April 3, Assistant City Manager Ezra Rapport presented the assessment district proposal to the Cultural Services committee of the City Council where it was approved for presentation to the full Council on April 17. On May 8, the Council will vote on proceeding with formation of the district. Rockridge Neighbors are encouraged to attend that meeting as a show of support. Assuming approval, a public hearing will be held in June; in July the Council is expected to vote to place the proposal on the November ballot.

Assessment district funds will be raised by a special tax of up to $25 per year for up to 30 years on each residential parcel in the assessment district. Residential parcels include any single parcel and each unit of a multi-unit building, as indicated on the assessor's rolls. Commercial buildings are excluded. There will be provisions for low-income exclusion from the tax.

The boundaries of the assessment district do not follow exactly the RCPC boundaries. They will extend up the Northeast side of Broadway Terrace to Highway 13, and, to avoid splitting voting precincts, will also include the streets between 62nd Street and Woolsey to Telegraph Avenue.

The district is expected to raise approximately one million dollars of the three million needed to buy the land and build a new branch library. However, it will only go into effect if city and state funding is approved for the

See "Library," page 8

From The Zoning Counter

College Square
5940 College Avenue
(D 90-52)

The director of City Planning approved a new handicap ramp, provided that accompanying railings match the existing railing. Some other proposed building improvements not approved included a redesign of the building façade and a tall roof-mounted tower with a red light.

6076 Claremont Avenue
(next to the Shell station)
(D 90-26)

As described in the February 17 Rockridge News, the applicant proposes to rebuild a one-story tin shed at the rear of an existing building into a two-story area for office use. City Planning staff found that one of the required parking spaces were located within an easement. No decision has been made as of this publication date.

6121 Margarido Drive
(near Ocean View)
(TPM 5803)

An application has been filed to create two lots where one house currently exists. The applicant proposes dividing the 14,208± square foot lot into a 7,405 sq. ft. vacant lot and a 6,803 sq. ft. lot for the existing house. According to Planning Department staff, both proposed lots meet the standards set forth by city zoning regulations. The applicant has submitted two sets of plans showing possible siting of a house and a garage on the "new" lot, either of which would require removal of significant tree(s) as well as construction and or grading very close to the drip line and roots of a large redwood and other species on a contiguous lot. Nearby residents have asked RCPC to take a position on the application.

6016 Harwood Avenue
(CMD 90-33)

This is an application for a major conditional use permit to allow non-retail use in the C-31 zone. The property consists of a single family residence located up Harwood from Studio 6000. The applicant is seeking permission for an office use within the first 20 feet of the ground floor of the building, reserved for retail use by zoning regulations. Actual use of the space will depend on the tenant.

The application will be heard before the Planning Commission on April 18. 1990, at 6:30 pm, Lakeside Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Avenue, across from Fairyland at Lake Merritt.

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Update: Dreyers

Hazardous Materials

A Rockridge resident contacted RCPC regarding possible problems at the Dreyers construction site resulting from underground fuel tanks which had been on the property.

Responding to the inquiry, RCPC contacted the hazardous materials division of the County Department of Envirinmental Health (DEH) concerning the status of the site. The following information was provided by Dennis Byrne, Hazardous Materials Specialist with DEH:

Last December seven fuel tanks were removed from the Dreyers site — one 8,000 gallon gasoline tank, two 4,000 gallon diesel tanks, two 1,000 gallon waste oil tanks, and one 2,000 gallon diesel tank. The tanks were located in two tank pits; a gasoline pit near the College/Chabot intersection and a waste oil pit behind the now-demolished houses.

Soil analysis of the excavated pits indicated that petroleum contaminants had been released into both pits, resulting in contamination sufficient to require a ground water quality investigation. The DEH notified Dreyers of this requirement in a letter dated January 22, 1990, stipulating "Three ground water monitoring wells will have to be installed to gauge whether or not ground water has been impacted by the soil contamination associated with these former tank locations and to define the ground water flow gradient. Should a contaminant plume be found in the soil or water, further borings will be required to determine the vertical and lateral extent of this plume."

On April 3, Dennis Byrne wrote to RCPC that his office is "currently reviewing the actions proposed [by Dreyers] to address the issue of ground water quality." The letter further stated that, "It is the opinion of this agency that the on-going construction activities at this site do not subject workers or the surrounding community to any adverse health risk."

In a letter dated March 12, 1990 to Dreyers, Byrnes identified gasoline contamination under the intersection of College Avenue and Chabot Road adjacent to a former tank pit. Citing evidence of an "unauthorized release" from the tanks, he presumed that the tanks on Dreyers property were the source. At this writing, it is not known if Dreyers will assume responsibility for this problem.

EIR Suit

RCPC v. City of Oakland (challenging the EIR prepared for the Dreyers headquarters project) is still pending a court hearing on the merits of the case. Construction is moving forward and will continue unless and until the courts decide otherwise. RCPC continues to press the suit.

Rockridge News Production Committee Members:

Kate Crawford	Word processing Research
Lisa Curet	Advertising
Mark Grissom	Word processing, Layout
Don Kinkead	Editing Layout

Call 655-7474 for information

Are You Prepared For The Next Earthquake?

Where Were You On October 17?

The RCPC Community Earthquake Preparedness Committee has recently formed to prepare the community for a major quake. Get involved and prepare! Your survival (or the survival of your home, family, or shop) may very well depend on your involvement and preparation. A city official will come to the next meeting to show us the "ideal" household preparation kit, so come bring your ideas (and anything else of interest for earthquake preparedness) to the Sunday School Room upstairs at the Presbyterian Church on College Avenue on Monday, May 14 at 7:30 pm. And tell your neighbors about the meeting, too. Questions? Call Drew Shagrin at 653-7376.

Chabot School Sets Spring Carnival

On Saturday, May 12, 1990, the Chabot School PTA will sponsor its annual spring carnival which is open to the entire Rockridge community.

Included in the festivities will be game booths, artists selling their wares, a cake walk, flea market, food booths for the sophisticated palate (and the not so sophisticated, too), a bake sale and a terrific auction.

The game and food booths are very reasonably priced to encourage all in the Rockridge area, especially families and their children, to attend and enjoy the wide range of attractions.

Included in this year's auction are a breakfast for two donated by Ron Breland Catering, dinner for two at Broadway Terrace Cafe, meals at other fine neighborhood restaurants, cases of premium wines, and other goods and services from area merchants.

The auction, which will begin at 1 pm, offers carnival goers the opportunity to acquire these extraordinary items to benefit an extremely worthy cause — Rockridge's local public elementary school.

Plan on spending your day at the Chabot School Spring Carnival, Saturday, May 12 from 11 am to 3 pm.

The school is located at the corner of Chabot and Patton Streets, just north of where Broadway crosses Highway 24.

Rockridge Soccer Club Seeks Players For 1990 Fall Season

The Rockridge Soccer Club is now accepting player applications for youth soccer for the fall season. No experience is necessary, and all kids play.

Teams are organized by age groups, with ages ranging from 6 through 13.

Cost is $25, plus $16 for a uniform, if needed.

Application forms with details are available at the Chabot Elementary School office. If you have questions, call Registrar Vikki King at 547-2448.

The deadline is May 4.

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Neighborhood News, Projects Lead Readership Poll

Rockridge News readers want more news about the neighborhood, project proposals in Rockridge, merchant reviews, and news about other neighborhood organizations, according to the results of the readership survey. In addition, readers want more information about recycling and Rockridge historical perspectives.

Interestingly, a number of respondents also asked for more letters to the editor. All readers, always, are invited to write about their views and concerns at any time. So far, there has not been a deluge of letters. When you write, please include a signature and a phone number in case any pre-publication contact is necessary.

The fifteen respondents to the survey also suggested new topics for coverage. These are listed in full along with a complete tally of the responses in the chart at right.

Thanks to all who took the time to fill out and return a survey form. Your responses will help guide the Rockridge News content over the coming year.

— Don Kinkead, Editor
The Rockridge News

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ROCKRIDGE NEWS READERSHIP SURVEY RESULTS

TOPICS/FEATURES	MORE	LESS	THE SAME
Articles from Public Officials	3	2	9
Calendar Listings	6	-	8
City News	2	4	7
Downtown Development Updates	3	3	7
Letters to the Editor	6	1	7
Marge Gibson-Haskell Report	1	5	8
Merchant Reviews	8	2	3
Neighborhood News	13	-	2
Other Neighborhood Organizations	8	-	6
Permit Parking	4	-	9
Photographs	1	2	8
Planning Commission Activities	5	1	7
Project Proposals in Rockridge	9	-	4
Recycling Information	7	1	7
Rockridge Historical Perspectives	7	1	6
Rockridge Area School News	3	3	7

Other topics or articles suggested:

- permit requirements for home improvement projects
- neighborhood activities for children
- more discount coupons
- list of seniors' groups meeting at College Avenue Presbyterian
- ecological concerns, green preservation
- news of local associations promoting conservation issues

Michael Kilian, CPA

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In My View...

Comments by Marge Gibson-Haskell
City Council, District 1

Downtown And Neighborhood Development

A healthy downtown and vital neighborhoods are complementary. They strengthen each other by diversifying the economic structure of the City and bolstering the tax base. We have always assumed that there is and will be a downtown retail commercial core, and that the issue is to assure even-handed allocation of scarce resources.

Now is the time to question that assumption. Media reports of proposed downtown development projects have not taken into account two key questions that may determine whether or not that development is possible.

The Earthquake

Approximately 50 downtown development projects need major earthquake rehabilitation. It is very uncertain that money will be available to carry this out. The costs for rehabilitating existing buildings are high, and insurance coverage is insufficient. Due to existing encumbrances, building owners cannot obtain private loans to do the work. If loans were made from redevelopment funds, many owners have an income stream insufficient to amortize the additional debt. This possible allocation of redevelopment funds leads to the other question.

Insufficient Resources

If redevelopment monies are spent for earthquake repair, will there be enough to complete the Rouse project, the regional shopping center proposed for downtown? Presently, the City faces a perhaps terminal shortage of funds for the endeavor. If the project can be started, future sales tax revenues from the center will have to finance a significant portion of its construction. Even with these, there may be insufficient funds. Difficult choices will have to be made soon to begin rebuilding Oakland's downtown core.

Question For Neighborhoods

The question for neighborhoods is whether they want a downtown. It is time to reopen debate on this issue and discuss fully and publicly the benefits that neighborhood and downtown commercial areas confer on each other and on Oakland. The areas serve different customers, keep sales tax dollars in the City, and can stimulate additional growth. Do we use scarce capital and borrowing ability to rehabilitate earthquake-damaged buildings or provide seed money for new revitalization projects? Where can these monies best be leveraged for greatest returns? What are the most critical development needs facing Oakland? The City Council will be debating these and related questions over the next few months, in an attempt to come up with an achievable development plan that will best serve the greatest number of citizens, and remain within our means.

I invite your questions and comments. Write to me at 505 14th Street, Room 642, Oakland, CA 94612, or call me or my assistant Winkie Campbell-Notar at 273-3266.



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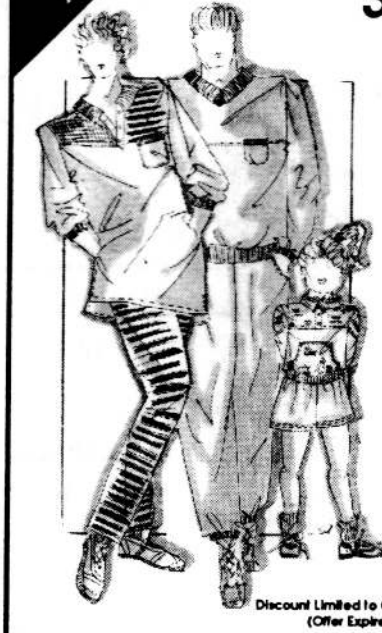
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News From Other Neighborhoods

Results of the reader's survey (see page 5) published in the March Rockridge News indicate an interest in the activities and concerns of other neighborhood organizations.

Presented here, courtesy of ***The MacArthur Metro****, are reports from two groups — The MacArthur Coalition and Leona Heights — in the vicinity of MacArthur and High Street. They have been edited to highlight the issues and the actions taken by the group. Other groups in the area include the Redwood Heights Improvement Association, the Upper High Street Terrace Association, and the Laurel Planning Group, to name a few.*

From time to time in the future, the Rockridge News will provide similar reports from other parts of Oakland.

— Editor

The MacArthur Coalition

by Suzan Lorraine

Bret Harte After-School Security

Parents, teachers, school administrators and security personnel are working together to provide a safe place for Bret Harte students to wait for their after-school transportation at the corner of Coolidge and MacArthur. With the Coalition's assistance, the situation for the 300-plus kids is getting better and problems, such as fights, have sharply decreased. Discussions are also being held with AC Transit to involve the transportation system in the solution to the problem.

NO! On Raiders

The Coalition has agreed to support Oakland's Citizens' Budget Committee in their decision to oppose the return of the Raiders due to the perceived financial risk and inappropriate use of city funds.

Clean Up Day

April 21 is designated as the next MacArthur Coalition Clean-up Day. All interested people should meet at Bret Harte School with clean-up tools (brooms, gloves, etc.) at 8 a.m. to help clean up litter and graffiti along MacArthur Boulevard between Fruitvale Avenue and High Street.

Panhandling

Several merchants have approached the Coalition to discuss the problem of panhandling on MacArthur Boulevard. The issue is to be reviewed in depth at the next meeting on May 9.

West Oakland Support

The Coalition has provided West Oakland community organizers with a letter supporting their efforts to reroute the destroyed Cypress section of I-880.

Leona Heights

by Gordon Laverty

New Development

New development at Mountain Boulevard and Calaveras is underway. The mix of single and multiple units represents several years of planning, including discussion between developer Nai Kang Chang and the Leona Heights Improvement Association leaders that resulted in creating good faith between the parties before going to City Hall. This approach led to mutually understood and acceptable compromises which improve the neighborhood. Kudos to Mr. Chang.

Call For Police Patrols

Car break-ins in the area during February led to requests for more police patrols and advice to residents to lock vehicles and remove attractive articles from sight. Residents should report to 911 suspicious activity around local cars.

Recycling Plans

Marilyn King continues plans for Leona Heights recycling of paper, aluminum and glass waste.

Trash dumping is again rearing its ugly head along local streets. Residents who observe illicit dumping should get license numbers of dumpers, if possible, and notify the police.

Thanks Sylvia, Welcome Annette

Sylvia deTrinidad, RCPC's designated representative to the North Oakland Community Development Committee (NOCDC), has served Rockridge well for more than two years. Ms. deTrinidad is leaving her position and will be replaced by Annette Floystrup.

The NOCDC oversees the allocation of Community Development Block Grant funds (CDBG), and makes recommendations to the Council of Seven Chairs, the Community Development Advisory Commission (CDAC), and the City Council.

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RCPC Committee List

Listed below are standing committees of the Rockridge Community Planning Council with their respective Chairs and Co-Chairs. Please call any of the individuals listed if you have questions or problems with what's going on:

Committee	Chair/Co-Chairs	
Clean Rockridge	Gity Baxter	652-8419
Design Review	Bill Dutcher	653-6018
	Glen Jarvis	654-5953
Earthquake Prep	Drew Shagrin	653-7376
	Alisa Metzner	652-6620
Fundraising	Barbara Anderson	655-3499
Library	Nancy Dutcher	653-6018
	Andy Young	653-7686
RASP	Shelley Poticha	655-7463
	Andréa Walhof	420-1593
Rockridge News	Don Kinkead	655-7474
Safety	Beth Allen	652-3965
Traffic	Bill Manley	658-2419
	David Reinke	653-5312
Zoning	John Gussman	655-8817
	Andréa Walhof	420-1593

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1550 Oakview Ave., Kensington, CA 94706, 526-1010

Library

from page 1

balance of the costs.

Return any remaining petitions to RCPC, 5856 College Avenue, Box 130, Oakland, CA 94618. They will be presented to the Council on May 8 as a show of commitment to the library.

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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.*

May issue deadline is May 7th.