THE Rockridge News

www.rockridge.org

VOL. 19 ■ NO. 8 ■ ISSUE NO. 204 ■ September 5, 2004 CIRCULATION: 5,100 RESIDENCES; 200 BUSINESSES

Sponsored by The Rockridge Community Planning Council • 5245 College Ave. PMB 311 • Oakland, CA 94618 • 644-4228

Town Hall Meeting Topic

RCPC Presents: Rockridge Public Schools Forum

School reps to discuss programs and opportunities for involvement

by Mike Taylor,
RCPC Schools Committee

The success of Rockridge's public schools depends on many things, including programs, facilities, and interaction with parents and the community. The RCPC Town Hall Meeting will provide residents with an opportunity to meet school leaders and learn more about each of these important factors.

Six of Oakland's public schools are located in the Rockridge area: Claremont Middle School, Chabot Elementary, Far West Arts, North Oakland Community Charter School (NOCCS), Peralta Elementary and Oakland Technical High School. Representatives from each of these schools will discuss plans for the school year and opportunities for community involvement.

One recent school reform bill is the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act. While some provisions of the Act are controversial, one of its lauded aims is to improve the qual-

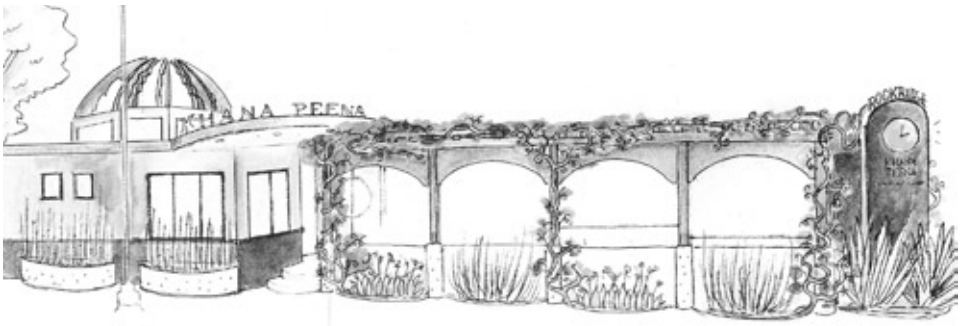
▸ RCPC Schools Forum, page 7

agenda: RCPC Town Hall Meeting

Thursday, September 16, 7:30 p.m.
Rockridge Branch Library
5366 College Avenue at Manila,
Community Room (Upstairs)

■ **Rockridge Public Schools Forum**

Meet representatives from the Rockridge area's six public schools and learn how you can contribute to their success.



Architect's sketch of proposed Khana Peena Restaurant at College and Bryant.

RCPC Drops Opposition to Proposed New Indian Restaurant

by Hiroko Kurihara

Despite early opposition, the Khana Peena restaurant serving Indian cuisine will open at 5316 College Avenue where a former corner convenience and liquor store was located. The restaurant, sister to one on Solano Avenue, will seat 75-100 people, mostly in an outdoor patio. City planning department approval is in the process of being written.

The RCPC Land Use Committee is working with the City and the applicant to render the best possible project, early designs of which were sharply criticized by local architects. The committee members were initially opposed because of the number of restaurants on College Avenue, which has grown by 50 percent over the last seven years, and because the project runs counter to RCPC's long-term goals of encouraging higher intensity mixed-use development along the

▸ Restaurant, page 7

Architects Criticize Design

The proposed design of the Khana Peena restaurant at 5316 College Avenue has been criticized by architects as uninspired and inappropriate for the location. Architect Kirk E Peterson labels the dome a "contraption… with what appear to be giant sci-fi crab pinchers gesturing towards the sky." He argues that since the building is located in a gateway position, it should be an important piece of the neighborhood's urban design. "I'm afraid that this design leaves a lot to be desired."

Ilana Wexler, Rockridge Kid Who Wowed Boston, is Back Home

by Cy Gulassa

After a stratospheric ride on the wings of fame, 12-year old KidsforKerry founder Ilana Wexler, the youngest and spunkiest kid to ever speak at the Democratic National Convention, has landed safely back home in Rockridge. She's glad to be among old friends again, but is still a bit overwhelmed by the standing ovation and dazzling notoriety that followed her fiery, 5-minute speech, which

▸ Ilana Wexler, page 12



Ilana Wexler at home in Rockridge.
Photo: Cy Gulassa

In My Opinion

Local Business Thrown a Curve

by Jessica Pitt, RCPC Board Member

For politically progressive people like me, consumer choices are political statements. We didn't eat grapes in my house for years during the Farm Workers grape boycott. I don't drink Coor's beer, eat Domino's pizza, or wear Nike shoes because I oppose the political values or labor practices of those companies. So, I paid particular attention when I heard that profits from Curves gym, which recently opened a branch in Rockridge, were being used to support pro-life causes.

For those who haven't yet heard about the Curves phenomenon, it is a chain of women-only fitness studios that have taken off like wildfire. Curves is currently the fastest growing franchise in the nation, with over 7,500 locations and more than 3 million members. While I have never been to Curves myself, I have friends and colleagues who rave about what a great way it is for them to get regular exercise.

In April, controversy erupted when two separate editorials in the *San Francisco Chronicle* alleged that Curves founder and CEO Gary Heavin contributed company profits to several pro-life organizations allied with Operation Save America, one of the most militant pro-life groups in the country. I was disturbed that a business in my neighborhood—which is full of progressive people like me—was associated with the anti-abortion movement.

This situation presented a real dilemma for me. I knew that Curves was a franchise, and that the owner of the local branch might have very different political views from those of Mr. Heavin, who is based in Waco, Texas. At the same time, I agreed with many pro-choice feminists, who felt that it was important for women to speak out against the use of Curves profits for anti-abortion causes, and that the most powerful statement they could make would be to boycott the business.

Then, the situation got even more complicated. In early May, the *Chronicle* issued a lengthy set of corrections to the two editorials. It turns out that the charities that Heavin contributed to were not affiliated with Operation Save America; rather, he gave large donations to a pregnancy crisis center, an abstinence-only collaborative, and a Catholic family practice center. While it is true that all three of these organizations are anti-choice and dissuade pregnant women from having abortions, they also provide much needed health care and counseling services to indigent women. Moreover, Heavin's contributions were not a percentage of Curves' profits, but part of his own personal wealth.

A May 19 article in *Salon Magazine* summed up the situation well: "It looked as though the charges against Heavin were not as distressing as they appeared. He had given his own private money to anti-abortion groups, but not the kind that picket and hold bloody fetus posters or encourage violence. A philosophical question had been raised about what it means to be militant, what it means to be anti-abortion, and what it means to patronize a company whose CEO may have radically different beliefs than many of his clientele."

Although Anne and Michael Marx, the owners of the Rockridge Curves, distributed a letter to their members clarifying the inaccuracies in the *Chronicle* columns and explaining why they thought an individualized boycott was ineffective, they nonetheless lost 13 customers as a result of the controversy,

➧ Curves, page 7

GARDEN CLEANERS
$5 FREE *DRYCLEANING with garment orders over $28*
or $3 OFF orders over $15
Dry Cleaning only ☛ Present with incoming order
Expert Shirt Laundering!
Garden Cleaners
5808 College Avenue, Oakland
601-1188
Mon – Fri 7 – 7 • Sat 8 – 6
Across from Albertson's & Zachary's Pizza

ROCKRIDGE BRANCH LIBRARY
5366 College Avenue
597-5017
Hours:
Tuesday: 12:30 – 8 p.m.
Weds, Thurs, Sat: 10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Friday: 12 – 5:30 p.m.
Sunday, Monday: **CLOSED**
Library program details: See Calendar, page 15.

The Rockridge News

The Rockridge News, founded in 1986 by Don Kinkead, is published monthly in Oakland and is sponsored by the Rockridge Community Planning Council, a non-profit public benefit organization founded to: preserve and enhance the unique character of the Rockridge neighborhood; promote the health, safety and quality of life of its residents; furnish a forum for community involvement, and provide leadership and representation of neighborhood interests.

***Rockridge News* Production**
Cy Gulasssa ..... Editor-in-Chief
Ortrun Niesar, Claire Isaacs ..... Writers
Barry Kaufman ..... Food
Jo Ellis ..... Advertising & Community Calendar
Theresa Nelson ..... Neighborhood Merchant
Lydia Gans ..... Photography
Susan Montauk ..... Business Manager
Don Kinkead ..... Graphics & Layout

RCPC Board of Directors, 2004-2005
Daniel Ferdelman ..... Co-Chair
Deborah Weinstein ..... Co-Chair
Jessica Pitt ..... Vice-Chair
Mike Taylor ..... Secretary
Ehab Bandar ..... Treasurer
Jennifer Edmister, Cy Gulassa
Hiroko Kurihara, Susan Montauk, Mike McDonald, Theresa Nelson, John Potis, Camille Reed

Newsletter Subscriptions
Annual subscriptions to ***The Rockridge News*** can be obtained by sending a check for $18, payable to *Rockridge News* Subscriptions to: *Rockridge News* Subscriptions at the address below.

Contacting *The Rockridge News*
- Are there community issues you'd like to see covered in ***The Rockridge News***?
- Do you have questions about newsletter distribution?
- Would you like to volunteer to be a *Rockridge News* block captain?

Contact us at one of the following addresses or telephone numbers:
Editor: editor@rockridge.org
www.rockridge.org
The Rockridge News, 5245 College Avenue, PMB 311, Oakland, CA 94618
RCPC Voicemail: 644-4228

Articles published in *The Rockridge News* may be reprinted only with the permission of the Editor.

Newsletter Advertising/Deadlines
Publication date of the next issue is
☛ October 2, 2004
☛ October deadline is September 16.
Advertising rates are $22/column inch. Six-month pre-pay rate available. To advertise, call Jo Ellis at 653-3210, or e-mail joellis1@hotmail.com.
(RCPC reserves the right to refuse any display or classified ad that it deems inappropriate.)



After hours at The Pasta Shop, Joan Sautter, right, and her friend Maria greet Jose Luis Larios, a retail supervisor. Joan picks up bags of donated baked goods and salads at Market Hall on Thursday and Friday. Other businesses in the Rockridge and North Oakland area also participate in the program. PHOTO JACQUELINE TASCH

Looking at the goodies along the glass counter at The Pasta Shop in Market Hall, most of us ask ourselves which delectable dishes will make up tonight's dinner or whether we can resist a forbidden treat (mine is the coconut *flan*) or, depending on the time of day, how much time will pass before our number is called.

But Joan Sautter wondered what they did with all the leftovers.

Joan is part of an intrepid band called Daily Bread, an all-volunteer organization that gathers leftover food from 19 sources around Berkeley and North Oakland (including La Farine and Star Grocery) and redistributes it to 33 shelters and charitable organizations that provide food to people in need (including Elizabeth House). As a result, people who may occasionally not eat at all get to sample some of the best food the Bay Area has to offer.

Seeing a newspaper story about the group, Joan, who has a full-time job and family responsibilities, nevertheless "thought I would make time to volunteer, because I'm a huge recycler," she says. "I've always hated to see things go to waste," she explains, and on occasion, she had taken party leftovers to area shelters.

Joan and Daily Bread made a great match. When Joan started, she picked up leftover breads and other goodies one night a week from the Market Hall Bakery, which is practically around the corner from her Rockridge home. Soon, Joan arranged more frequent bakery pickups, with other volunteers.

One day, she wandered back to the deli and asked herself where the leftovers went. She asked the deli counter staffers. Before you know it, volunteers were picking up food daily from The Pasta Shop, too.

"It is wonderful to give back to the community," said Sara Wilson, managing partner of Market Hall Foods, which

DAILY BREAD, PAGE 13

Volunteer for Daily Bread

Do you have an extra hour each week to help feed the Bay Area's less fortunate residents? Daily Bread can match you with a food source and needy organization, doing their best to find a convenient time and place for you.

If you have two or three extra hours, Daily Bread is looking for a new food coordinator. Julianne Morris is bowing out after several years at the helm. The job involves connecting new volunteers with assignments and occasionally arranging for a pinch hitter to cover someone's shift. "It's a program that to a great extent runs itself," Julianne says.

Daily Bread also operates the Milk for Kids program, which provides milk donated by the Berkeley Bowl and the Village Market to children in need.

To volunteer, or for more information, call Julianne at 510/339-9811.



RockRidge PRINTING Inc.
Full Service
Commercial & Social Printing
Offset & Digital
Mac/PC or Traditional
Art Work Supported
Friendly & Helpfull Service
rrprint@pacbell.net
5453 College Ave
Oakland, 94618
510-653-7414
fax 510-653-3535

3-Lane Proposal For Claremont Avenue Nixed

by John Potis,
RCPC Traffic Committee Chair

Restriping Claremont Avenue into two lanes with a middle turning lane is not a practical way to reduce accidents and speeding, according to City experts, but ways to tame Claremont traffic are in the works.

At RCPC's July Town Meeting, Joe Wang and Peter Chong of the City of Oakland Transportation Services presented results from a study of traffic volume and flow on Claremont Avenue between Hudson Street and College Avenue, and an evaluation of the potential effect of a three-lane conversion (nicknamed "Road Diet").

Using formulas accepted by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), they determined the effect of a three-lane conversion on the signalized intersections would triple the existing delay to approximately 60 seconds during peak times. This level of delay is unacceptable by City of Oakland standards. Based on delay alone, therefore, a complete three-lane conversion is not a viable option.

Other options offered as possibilities for Claremont were a partial three-lane conversion between Forest and College; reflective dot rumble strips; more visible crosswalk striping; a permanent radar speed sign reading, "Your speed is," along with the posted speed limit; and small refuge islands at crosswalks without signals.

An informal poll of the audience indicated a preference for the radar speed sign and more visible crosswalk striping. If you have a preference for what you would like to see happen to Claremont Avenue, please contact Joe or Peter at Transportation Services, 238-3466 or Jane Brunner's office, 238-7013.

Merchants Invite All to the Rockridge Annual Street Fair

rockridge district association

Sunday, September, 26
11-5:00 p.m.

Get ready for twice the fun! Come to the 6th annual Rockridge Street Fair for a double feature of food, fun, education, live music and dancing. "Out & About in Rockridge" will showcase the area's businesses, while Market Hall's "Picnic in the Street" will transform Shafter Avenue into a culinary extravaganza.

Picnic menu and activities include Oliveto spit-roasted porchetta sandwiches; Rockridge Fish fresh oysters and salmon with salsa verde; Enzo's steak sandwiches and Cajun chicken sandwiches; Market Hall Produce portabello sandwiches; Peaberry's iced coffee, tea and blended drinks; The Pasta Shop flatbread kebab sandwiches and spinach and feta turnovers; Paul Marcus wines by the glass. Especially for the kids, Bloomies offers wreath making and Market Hall Bakery cupcake decorating.

Adding to the festivities, the following Bay Area food writers will sign books and sample recipes and ingredients: • Paul Bertolli, *Cooking by Hand* • Sara Deseran, *Picnics: Delicious Recipes for Outdoor Entertaining* • Janet Fletcher, *Four Seasons Pasta* • Jay Harlow, *West Coast Seafood* • Marie Simmons, *Fig Heaven* • Laura Werlin, *Great Grilled Cheese* • Paula Wolfert, *The Slow Mediterranean Kitchen: Recipes for the Passionate Cook*. There will be a Cookbook Exchange: Bring a used cookbook and exchange it or donate $1 or more and select one. Remaining books and proceeds will be donated to neighborhood libraries.

College Avenue events include a sidewalk chalk art contest, hip-hop dance demonstrations, a 5K Fun Run, and Search and Rescue Dogs. And don't miss: • Diesel—children's drama and story telling in the Levant Rugs parking lot, and a reading by novelist Barry Gifford • Christensen-Heller Gallery — a diamond seminar • The Thelma Harris Art Gallery — a lecture on how to collect art • Namaste Yoga — a free yoga class • Curves — bone density and other health screening by Advanced Medical Diagnostics. Continuous fashion activities will showcase the many designers and clothiers located in Rockridge, and a free cable-car trolley will transport visitors between Broadway and Alcatraz.

For more information, contact Rockridge District Association (RDA) at 604.3125, info@rockridgedistrict.com or visit www.rockridgedistrict.com.

Mon – Fri 9:30 – 6:00
Sat 9:30 – 5:00
CHIMES PHARMACY
Serving Rockridge Since 1909
3210 College Avenue
Near Alcatraz
652-1990

COLLINS ROOFING
Family Owned & Operated
663-6674 Mike
Rockridge resident over 10 years
Quality Work • Free Estimates
Lic # 695711

Brian M. Assael, D.D.S.
General and Cosmetic Dentistry
I am dedicated to providing you with the highest quality dental treatment in a caring environment.
2975 Telegraph Avenue
Berkeley
(510) 848-9796
www. Berkeleydds.com

Birth Professionals of the Bay Area
Samsarah Becknell and Kaye Jarrett
Co-directors / Doulas
• Birth Doulas
• Post-Partum Day and Night Doulas
• Childbirth Education
• Lactation Consulting
• Counseling
• Training and Certification
510-595-5534
www.birthprofessionals.milagros.org
bayareabirthpros@aol.com

Recent College Avenue Homicide Draws Crowd to Crime Prevention Meeting

by Susan Montauk, NCPC Vice-Chair

Drawn by recent incidents of violent crime in Rockridge, a crowd turned out at the Temescal Library on July 20 for the monthly Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council meeting. Among attendees were a woman who was assaulted in her College Avenue chiropractic office, a Barclay's waitress who fled into the middle of traffic to escape a band of youths, and the couple whose Lawton home fronts the scene of a June homicide.

Oakland Police Department Lt. Lawrence Green, assigned to North Oakland, discussed the June 25 homicide of Nyima Sorensen, a recent UC Berkeley graduate who was celebrating his 26th birthday at the Hut, a bar on College Avenue. After Sorensen and his friends left the Hut around 2 a.m., Nyima went to his parked car where he was accosted and shot by an armed robber on Lawton Avenue east of College. Green said that the case was elusive and the department is working on leads.

Residents wanted solutions to the increase in violent crime in the Rockridge area. Some said they were afraid to go out at night even though most recent crimes took place in broad daylight. Members of the Rockridge District Association (RDA), an organization of Rockridge merchants, were concerned for the safety of employees and urged an increase in foot patrol. Officer A. J. Frye patrols College Avenue on a bicycle four days a week during business hours, but the likelihood of his being near the location of a business while a crime is in progress is remote, Lt. Green said.

Green explained that only six beat cops are on patrol in their cars at any given time in the entire North Oakland area (40th street to the Berkeley border and to the hills), and even those may be called elsewhere in an emergency. OPD is stretched too thin to saturate a given area on a regular basis, he said. The Oakland Police department currently has 739 officers, half the number employed by comparably-sized cities.

When several people expressed frustration because they never heard back from OPD after their initial report of a crime, Lt. Green apologized and said he too was frustrated because OPD operates in the "dark ages" of handwritten forms instead of a computer program that allows easy access to information. Green, more in step with technology than OPD, started a Yahoo Group for OPD officers and North Oakland residents more than two years ago. This group has been instrumental in the apprehension and conviction of several criminals.

The NCPC placed College Avenue on its priorities list for the remainder of July and August and will convene a meeting of bar and restaurant owners and citizens to plan for increased safety in the evening hours. Residents concerned about crime are invited to attend the regular monthly NCPC meetings on the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Temescal Library, 5205 Telegraph Avenue.

For more information, visit www.rockridgencpc.com



Photo, caption: Susan Montauk

Dog Bites Mailman; Cops Find Weed

Oakland Police responding to a report of a dog biting a mailman on August 28 at Cavour Street in Rockridge discovered marijuana growing in the vacant lot adjacent to the incident. Officers removed the plants, half of which are shown in the trunk of an OPD squad car.

Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council

The Greater Rockridge NCPC Steering Committee meets monthly to set priorities for the Oakland Police Department in beats 12Y and 13X. Citizens are invited to attend these meetings held on the 3rd Tuesday of most months at the Temescal Library, 5205 Telegraph Avenue. The September meeting will be September 21. Visit www.rockridgencpc.com for further information.

The following priorities are set for beats 12Y (no priorities for 13X) for mid-September/mid-October 2004. Police are requested to be vigilant regarding:

1. College Avenue/Area, 11:30 pm-1:30 am, robberies occurring at time of bar and restaurant closings.

2. 400 block of McCauley and at intersection of Ayala, loitering and suspicious activity during lunchtime hours.

3. WashHouse Laundromat, Telegraph Avenue and 59th Street, drug activity, loitering, and vandalism within one block radius of intersection and McAuley Streets.

The GRUBB Co.
REALTORS
510.339.0400
1960 Mountain Boulevard •Oakland
510.652.2133
3070 Claremont Avenue • Berkeley



While you are Out and About
in the Rockridge on September 26
come by to see our latest collection
"Foods and Food Markets of the World"
Food that lasts!

A DIFFERENT ANGLE Gallery
5833 College Avenue
Oakland CA 94618 510.653.8848
www.adifferentangle.net

Opportunities for Volunteers at *The Rockridge News*

Would you like to spend a pleasant couple of hours in congenial company bundling *The Rockridge News* once a month for delivery? Or, would you rather get 10-20 minutes of exercise delivering *The News* in your neighborhood? To volunteer for either or both types of support positions, contact Susan at 547-3855 or smontauk@juno.com

Here are four delivery routes that need volunteers:

District Captain--Route #16: Drop off 4 bundles on and around Cavour Street.

Block Captains needed to deliver to houses on these routes:

Route 11B: 52 papers, from 5484 College (Citron Restaurant) even numbers up Taft to 5542, across Taft to odd numbers starting 5545, then to 5560 College, a house.

Route 16D: 20 papers, both sides 5200 Claremont, including apartment at 5248

Route 16A: 42 papers, both sides of Miles between Cavour and Clifton.

Brunner Names Susan Killebrew Community Hero

Susan Killebrew and family, pictured at right, display the Community Hero award she received from Jane Brunner at the 2004 North Oakland Summer Picnic. In part the commendation reads: "As the primary force behind the lower Rockridge Parents Group, Susan has, in the words of a neighbor, 'worked tirelessly to bring together the households in North Oakland to support our local elementary school.' The Lower Rockridge Parents Group organizes playgroups, facilitates communication and activism among 100 families and fundraises and volunteers to improve Peralta Elementary. Susans's efforts are remarkable and are emblematic of the community action necessary to strengthen public education in Oakland."

Other Community Heroes honored at the popular summer event were Barry Pilger, Charles Porter, Don Link, and Len Burkhart.



Susan Killebrew and her family enjoy her commendation as a Community Hero. Pictured with Susan are, from left, Ariel, husband Richard Bruehl, Chloe, and Sophia. PHOTO: CY GULASSA

Fire Station 8's firefighters stoked barbecues and cooked burgers at City Councilmember Jane Brunner's 2004 North Oakland Summer Picnic in Temescal Park. Brunner thanked supporters and honored community activists. At right, firefighters Kevin Reed, Brad Pieraldi, Jim Whitty, Chris O'Brien, and Michael Donner join Brunner for a post-event photo.

PHOTO: CY GULASSA



PACIFIC UNION
GMAC Real Estate
Donna DeBardi



Rockridge Specialist
510.338.1374
debardi@sbcglobal.net



The Zoning Counter

The Zoning Counter provides Rockridge residents with an opportunity to review construction project proposals to be undertaken in their neighborhoods. While it is a compilation of recent applications filed with the Oakland Planning Department, it is not necessarily a complete or up-to-date listing. Individuals may contact the Case Planner or the Planning Department for additional information.

6929 Chabot Road

Proposal: To install a telecommunications facility consisting of six rooftop antennas and three equipment cabinets located on the ground floor.

Applicant: AT&T Wirelss

Contact Person: Joanne Gundermann 510/816-8303

Owner: Alameda County

Planning Permits Required: Regular Design Review and Minor Conditional Use Permit to establish telecommunication facility.

Case Planner: Jason Madani at 238-4790 or jsmadani@oaklandnet.com

401 Avon Street

Proposal: To construct a 47 sq. ft. one-story addition to the rear of an existing single-family dwelling.

Applicant/Owner: Stephen Buel

Contact Person/Phone Number: Stephen Buel 510/597-9807

Planning Permits Required: Minor Variance to allow a reduced street side yard setback (10'-0" required, 3'-3" proposed); Regular Design Review for an addition to a single-family dwelling.

Case Planner: Moe Hackett at 238-3979 or mhackett@oaklandnet.com

RCPC Schools Forum

from page 1

ity of our schools through community involvement. An action guide prepared by the Annenberg Foundation entitled "Using NCLB to Improve Student Achievement," lists ideal ways for a community to involve itself with schools.* In keeping with the spirit of the guide, the RCPC Schools Committee hopes that this forum begins a sustained dialogue between schools and the community. To learn more about what's working well for kids and how you can help, attend the RCPC Town Hall meeting on Thursday, September 16, at 7:30 p.m.

*The complete report is available at www.publiceducation.org/pdf/NCLBBook.pdf; the text of the NCLB is available at www.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/esea02/107-110.pdf.

For more information about Oakland schools, go to: www.ousd.k12.ca.us, and to the links on RCPC's website: www.rockridge.org.

RCPC Board of Directors, 2004-05



Following recent elections, members of the 2004-05 RCPC Board of Directors gather for a group photo at a summer meeting. Front row, from left: Jessica Pitt, Theresa Nelson, Camille Reed, Susan Montauk, John Potis, Jennifer Barragan Edmister. Back row, from left: Deborah Weinstein, Mike McDonald, Hiroko Kurihara, Mike Taylor, Dan Ferdelman, Ehab Bandar. Photo: Dan Ferdelman

Curves

from page 2

amounting to approximately $10,000 in lost revenue.

The Marx's have encouraged their members to take action by making donations to pro-choice organizations. Anne has worked with Planned Parenthood Federation of America to create an on-line system so that Curves members, as a group, can make donations that are publicly associated with pro-choice. She wrote, "You may even want to tell Curves International that you are donating in honor of Gary!"

So, where am I on all this? I strongly believe in supporting neighborhood businesses, and want to see independently-owned small businesses in Rockridge thrive. I also continue to believe that consumer choices are political choices. I've made my decision, but I won't tell you what it is. Each of us needs to make our own decisions about how we spend our money. As the Curves story makes clear, it is important that our decisions are based on accurate information and that we carefully consider a range of options for expressing our political views.

Restaurant

from page 7

Avenue, particularly around this location.

RCPC, however, is not going to appeal the project. Instead, it is working to develop long-term policies for the future that will allow city planners and commissioners to direct to our community new development proposals that meet the goals of the Rockridge Neighborhood Area Plan (currently being revised). This will provide a better mix of residential and commercial establishments.

As a side issue, RCPC has been working with the Rockridge District Association to identify improvement projects along College Avenue. One is to install Rockridge information columns (kiosks) along College Avenue. The Khana Peena site is a gateway location into Rockridge and the applicant has agreed to reserve the corner of the site for one of the four columns.

For information, contact RCPC Land Use Committee Chair Hiroko Kurihara at 384.0557 or h2oakland@sbcglobal.net

Rockridge

FROGPark Needs You! Donate Time and/or Money

September 18 named FROG Playground Community Day

by Carroll Moore

On Saturday, September 18, 2004, Friends of the Rockridge-Temescal Greenbelt (FROG) will hold its annual playground work party from 8am to 5pm. Come join your friends and neighbors as we do repairs and maintenance on the play structures and surrounding parks. All adults and kids over the age of 13 (with parental supervision) are invited – there's something for everyone to do.

We'll sand, seal, rake, weed and repair both parks. Volunteers should bring their own gloves, garden rake, broom and shovel if possible. Please mark any tools you bring to identify them. Check in at either the Hardy Park or Redondo (corner of Redondo and Clarke) playstructures before working. FROG will provide bagels and coffee in the morning at Hardy Park (first-come, first-served) and lunch at noon for all volunteers!

We also need a team of skilled workers to build a fence at the Hardy sandbox, repair the Redondo bulletin board and other projects. To volunteer for skilled projects, please contact Carroll Moore at 597-1895.

Thank you, College Prep High School, for your annual commitment of support to the fall maintenance event! We couldn't do it without you!

The play structures will be closed September 18-19 while we work, and to let the wood sealer dry. Thanks for helping us keep the maintenance day safe and productive.

Visit the FROG website at www.frogpark.org for more details, or contact Howard Ferrier at 653-6463. Come support your community-built playgrounds — they won't last without you!

MARCY VOYEVOD
INTERIOR DESIGN
110 LINDEN ST. OAKLAND CA 94607
510.433.0724
voyevoddesign@aol.com
marcyvoyevod.com

Filippo's
Rockridge: 5400 College Avenue
Elmwood: 2930 College Avenue
Weekend Brunch in Elmwood

Health Screening

Sponsored non-profit by Curves in Rockridge in conjunction with the Rockridge District Merchant's Association Annual Street Fair.

Curves is located in Market Hall's Lower Level.
Enter on Shafter, across from the Rockridge BART Station (see notice below)

Sunday, September 12
Hours: 8:30am-noon & 1pm-4:30pm
✔ Bone Density ~ $35
✔ Heart Attack & Stroke risk assessment ~ $35
✔ Cholesterol ~ $35 (no fasting required)
✔ Diabetes ~ $35 (3 hour fast recommended)
✔ Stress Check ~ $ 45
✔ Liver Check ~ $35
✔ Heart Function ~ $75

A licensed MD will be in attendance. Tests will be performed in a mobile unit. Appointments not required, but are recommended. To schedule an appointment, or for more information, please call toll-free 1-866-263-2663

Come celebrate our success with some of your own.

We're celebrating our 1st anniversary.

For a year we've been helping women in our community achieve their fitness goals. And there's a lot of success to celebrate! So stop in and join us for free blood pressure testing[1], prizes, fun, Children's Book Project book drive and health talks all day at our Open House. We'll be there to answer ALL questions related to Curves. It's time to start a success story of your own.

Curves

All new September memberships will benefit The Oakland Firefighters Random Acts of Kindness.[2]

Over 8,000 locations worldwide.

[1] Blood pressure checks will be free. Other medical diagnostic testing has fees and there are discounts for Curves members. Both men and women are welcome at the open house and testing. [2] $25 will be donated from all new 12-month memberships through 9/30/04.



YES, I WANT TO HELP COMPLETE THE ROCKRIDGE–TEMESCAL GREENBELT!

We need to raise up to $25,000 from the community to complete Phase Two of the entire Greenbelt. City and State bond funds will pay for most of this phase, but without community support, we will have to scale back and even eliminate some park elements! You can make it all happen with a general donation or one dedicated to a specific item like a swing.

For gifts over $250, your company or family name will appear on the main park plaque.

Use the coupon on this page. Below is a list of special park elements you may underwrite:

General Dontation Opportunities

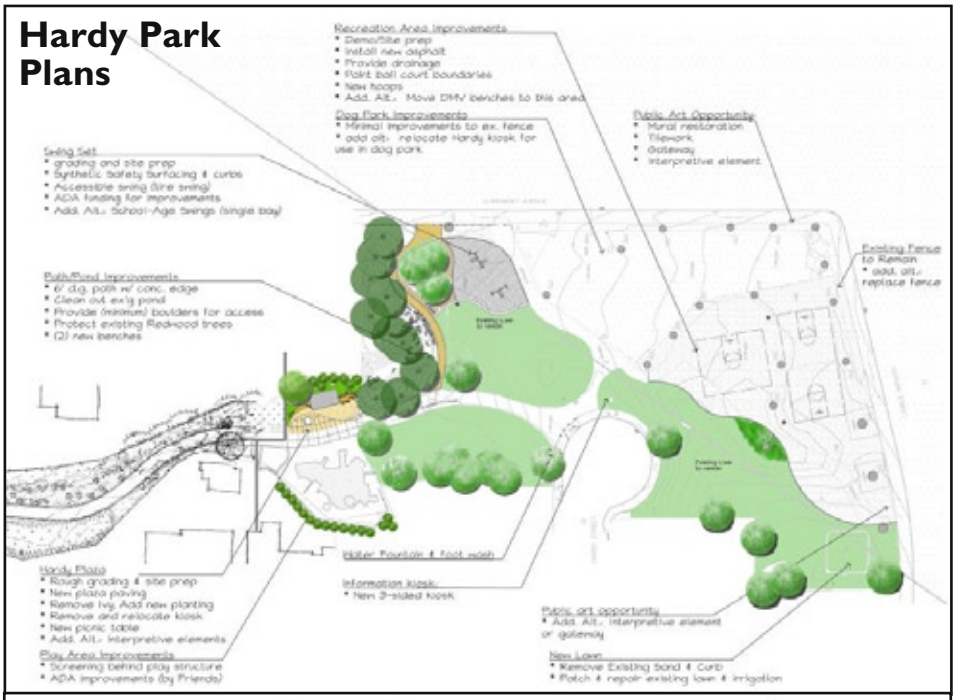
Butterfly Garden	$5,000
Adopt-a-foot ($/ft)	$50

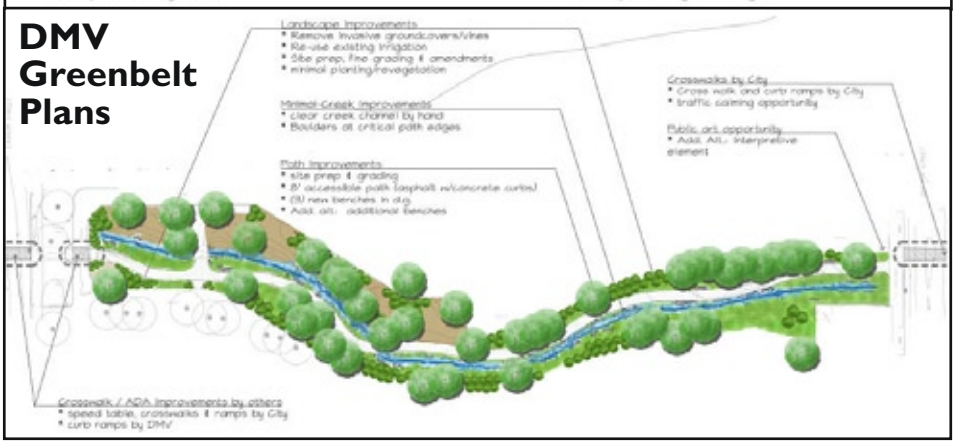
Hardy Park and Pathway Donation Opportunities

Large Basketball Court	$50,000
Small Basketball Court	$25,000
Public art/creek interpretation	$25,000
Native Vegetation at Clifton/Cavour	$25,000
New Dog Park Fence	$15,000
Entire swing set	$15,000
Asphalt Play Area under freeway	$3,000
Swings (3)	$2,500
Drinking Fountain	$2,500
Entry Markers	$1,500
Basketball Hoops	$1,200
Large Pavers	$500
Small Pavers	$250
Boulders	$100

Playground Donation Opportunities

Curly Slide	$3,500
Maze	$2,500
Wheelchair Ramping, Redondo	$2,000
Trading Post	$1,500
Ohlone House	$1,500
Vertical Tire Tunnel	$1,250
Slide	$1,200
Spider Web	$1,000
Fire Pole	$700
Rubber Bridge	$650
Climbing Net	$500
Chin-Up Pipe	$150





The design renderings above show aspects of the Rockridge Greenbelt Phase Two Renovation projects. Top: Hardy Park. Above: The Greenbelt area running from Hardy Avenue to the DMV offices. Volunteers are invited to join the September 18 playground work party. Visit the FROG website at www.frogpark.org to view the plans and for more project information.

FROGPark Donation Form

I'll sponsor/contribute toward the following piece of park equipment (from the list at left): _____ for $_____.

❒ Here's my general donation to the new Greenbelt Park for $_____.

❒ My check is enclosed.

❒ Charge my credit card (circle one) VISA Mastercard

Name on card: _____

Card Number: _____ Exp. Date: _____

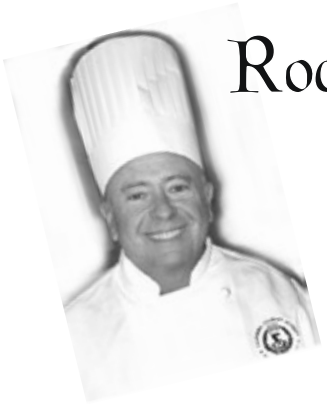
Name: _____ Email: _____

Company or Family Name (for acknowledgment): _____

StreetAddress:_____

City / Zip code: _____ Phone: _____

Send this form with your check or credit card information payable to: RCPC/FROGPark, 5245 College Ave PMB #311, Oakland, CA 94618. All donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. Federal tax ID#94-3011284. For more information, call: 510/644-4228.



Rockridge Cornucopia

Barry A. Kaufman

Shuck and Jive

"He was a bold man that first eat an oyster." — *Jonathan Swift (1667-1745)*

I was raised in a kosher home. Jewish dietary laws of kosher prohibit eating all forms of shellfish — shrimp, lobster, clams, squid, mussels, scallops and oysters. According to Jewish law, shellfish are considered unclean because they are scavengers. Therefore, observant Jews can eat only fish with scales. It was not until I was an adult that I ate my first clam. It was Clams Casino, a classic Italian preparation of chopped clams, bacon, garlic and breadcrumbs baked in the shell. From the first taste I was hooked. But it was not until I tasted my first oyster that I knew that I would be forever devoted to *la reina del mar* — the queen of the sea.

Pearl has come to College Avenue. A metro-sophisticated oyster bar and seafood restaurant in the tradition of New York oyster houses popular in the 19th century among the best class of people in the City. Although lacking in the shuck and jive down-home atmosphere of New Orleans or the intensity of New York's Grand Central Station Oyster Bar, **Pearl** is a welcome addition for aficionados of the royal bivalve.

Whereas some consider lobster or fresh diver scallops the ultimate succulent shellfish, for me the oyster reigns supreme. Slurping ice-cold raw oysters with a glass of chilled Champagne is pure heaven. It is no wonder the Oyster Bar at Grand Central Terminal in New York can sell between four and five thousand oysters a day. When we go out to an upscale restaurant in New York and the waiter appears at our table, it is: "We'll start with a dozen oysters."

I judge an oyster by two factors: plumpness and brininess. I want my oysters fat and juicy, and reeking of the flavor of the sea.

It used to be that we had to follow the famous "r" month rule (September to April). But with advanced methods of farming — the way the vast majority of oysters are produced today — we now enjoy a year-round supply. With modern refrigeration and jet planes, an oyster connoisseur can indulge in oysters from all over the world. Whatever oyster you choose, the key to good taste is temperature: the oyster should be ice-cold. Never eat a room temperature oyster. From the sea to your plate, oysters must be kept ice-cold.

In Rockridge we can get excellent fresh oysters from **Ver Brugge** and **Market Hall Seafood**. Buy oysters with shells that are tightly closed and not damaged. Store oysters as close to 32 degrees as possible but don't put them in water or seal them in a plastic bag. I always ask the fish monger to double bag the oysters with lots of ice between both bags. In the case of oysters, size *does* matter. Large oysters are best for barbecuing but only small or medium oysters should be used when eating them raw. Raw oysters should be consumed in one gulp. When eating raw oysters, aficionados say they should be accompanied only by the French classic *mignonette* sauce and never with the spicy-based ketchup sauces found in most California seafood restaurants.

Oysters, like fine wine and caviar, are identified by the areas where they grow or are farmed. Like French wines, oysters take the name of the place in which they are grown. When you go to **Pearl,** I would encourage you to try two of each oyster they offer. When I am in New Orleans, where oysters are accompanied by a spicy ketchup sauce, I always have beer. But in finer restaurants when they are served with a *mignonette* sauce it must be Champagne.

Opening or shucking oysters requires practice. At my first cooking job at the Hayes Street Grill, I was assigned shucking oysters. You have to get into the Zen of the process. You need a very sharp oyster knife. Insert the tip of the knife into the hinge that holds the top and bottom of the shell together and twist to pop the shell. Slide the knife under the oyster and cut through the valve. Try to keep the oyster liquor from spilling out. Plate each oyster on a bed of crushed ice.

One of the most sought-after and secret recipes in the world is for Oysters Rockefeller. Created in New Orleans' Antoine's, it is considered the most perfect oyster celebration.

Oysters Rockefeller (serves 6)

Ingredients

- Two-dozen shucked oysters on the half shell (oyster liquor reserved)
- 6 tablespoons of butter
- 6 tablespoons finely minced spinach
- 3 tablespoons minced onions
- 3 tablespoons minced parsely
- 5 tablespoons fresh bread crumbs
- Tabasco hot sauce to taste
- ½ teaspoon Kosher salt

Directions

Melt butter in a saucepan and add above ingredients except for the oysters. Cook for 15 minutes, stirring constantly. Line a large pie plate with rock salt and set in oysters in half shells. Cover with topping and broil until brown.

Barry Kaufman is a graduate of the California Culinary Academy. His e-mail is kaufman42@earthlink.net. Barry is available for private cooking classes and fundraising events.

5800 College Ave. at Birch Court 655-4442
Great Harvest Bread Co.
Come by for a free slice

ROBERTS ELECTRIC
COMMERCIAL RECO RESIDENTIAL
INSTALLATION • REPAIR • 220 WIRING
NEW CONSTRUCTION • REMODEL
FREE ESTIMATES
480 - 23rd 843-6161 OAKLAND
SERVING EAST BAY SINCE 1932 CA. LIC# 728215

The Rockridge Muse

by Ortrun Niesar

The Changing Photo Image

As we gear up for the annual Rockridge Photography exhibition, it's apparent that photography is undergoing significant change.

The New

Conventional photography is finally succumbing to the pressure of the digital revolution. This new technique is being perfected so rapidly that even the most stalwart devotees of film admit that counter arguments are weak. Even the prestigious Berkeley Camera Club is experiencing the change. The new PhotoShop classes taught by members of the BCC attract packed audiences. Instead of the weekly standard slide shows, the BCC now schedules exciting print nights and projected digital image shows. Go to www.berkeleycameraclub.org. for more information.

The digital process is thrilling because it is versatile and opens up so many new areas for even the amateur photographer. Editing and printing your own images on all kinds of new papers is fascinating. But it takes a high-end digital camera and the best printer and scanner you can afford if you want top quality results. If you need professional help, The LightRoom in Berkeley (649-8111) is one of the best for LightJet archiving, Masterprint and Giclee printing (artwork reproduction via inkjet printing), as well as classic Ilfochrome printing. AG Photo on College Avenue (652-6433) also offers excellent services.

Veiled Head in Window

— Ted Williams
PhotoShop Manipulated; B&W





Sunset Bottling Company, San Francisco, c. 1914

— Provided by John Bosko, Bosko's Frame Shop

The Old

Does all this negate the old ways of doing things? Agatha Wang, owner of AG Photo, whose business will soon consist of 80% digital and 20% film work, says classic film is not disappearing but simply taking its own unique place. Holding up a large inkjet reproduction of a monotype, she says she rues the absence of the "glorious defect" which can occur in the silk screen process. Students, she says, should learn classic methods first because it will ground them firmly in the basics of photography. If you do plan to go digital, donate your enlarger and darkroom equipment to your neighborhood school.

The Other

John Bosko of Bosko's Frame Shop can't get enough old negatives which he buys at antique shows and flea markets. He develops them using outdated printing techniques like platinum and palladium printing. Together with his friends, photographers John Penn and Rondal Partridge, he designs and experiments with unusual cameras made from parts of discarded equipment. I asked him what one should do with old cameras. "Hold on to good ones, forget the rest," he said, and added, "Don't throw out your lenses yet. Nikon and other companies are now producing digital cameras that can be fitted with these wonderful lenses." However, even John can't wait to get a good Epson printer to do some really large prints of some of the phenomenal images he has collected.

We hope to see you at the exhibition October 5-28 at the Rockridge Library. See if you can tell the difference between film and digital prints. For more information, contact Ortrun Niesar at oniesar@aol.com. or 986-9560.

Rockridge Photography Exhibition

Last Call for Entries

September 10 is the deadline for submitting entries to the annual Rockridge Photo Exhibition which will be held October 5-28 in the Rockridge Library. The non-juried show is open to photographers of all ages and levels of experience. Parent-child teams are welcome. The subject is: Rockrige, how we live, work and play. Participants must live, study or work in and around Rockridge to participate. Film and digital formats welcome. Flyers with details are available at AG Photo on College. For more information, contact Ortrun Niesar at oniesar@aol.com or 986-9560.

Ilana Wexler

from page 1

praised Kerry, told Vice President Cheney he deserved "a timeout" for using the F word, and ended with a fist punched into the air. News networks and newspapers across the nation carried images of the spirited "Orphan Annie," and family phones rang with requests for interviews and even a spot on the Letterman and Leno shows.

Now that the hoopla has quieted down, Ilana has time to remember other special moments aside from the thrill of the spotlight and working with the Kerry-Edwards team. One was discovering Dianne Feinstein sitting "right behind me" and another when she bumped into Howard Dean and "shrieked" like any kid would upon seeing a favorite movie star. She was also surprised when the audience, which had been talking noisily during most speeches, fell silent as she stood at the podium, especially the "California, North Carolina, Georgia and Colorado delegations which all listened, listened, listened" to what she had to say. "But maybe it's because I was only 12," she added. At first she thought she might "freak out" to speak to 20,000 live people and millions on TV, "but I'm kinda proud I didn't." The fact she rehearsed her speech a thousand times helped, along with a previous speech she wrote and delivered to 500 women at a Kerry event.

Her favorite speaker was Bill Clinton, and next was John Kerry who earns a ten on her scale of one to ten. When appraising Bush, she prefers to "talk about his policies rather than him." His No Child Left Behind Act, she says, is too focused on testing, funding is inadequate, and she thinks he's too preoccupied with drilling for oil. She's confident Kerry will do better.



At home: Jonathan, Mori, Ilana, and Heidi Neipris Wexler PHOTOS: CY GULASSA

Whether Cheney gets the timeout she recommended is uncertain, but there won't be one for Ilana, who's busy sorting options and opportunities. This fall she'll be telling kids why they should join her Kids For a Change PAC, which has already netted several thousand dollars. She's also polishing a speech planned for a democratic function in New York during the Republican convention and is getting ready for school, where her favorite subject is social studies. Fame does have its distractions. It'll take time to decide whether she wants to write a book — three publishers have already shown interest — and she's gotten over 3,000 fan letters to answer. When asked whether she had film offers, she giggled a modest "no."

To keep abreast of politics, Ilana watches CSPAN, KTVU, ABC, NBC and CBS, and reads the *Chronicle*, *Oakland Tribune*, *Newsweek* and *Time*. Although she did not specifically say so, this writer assumes she intended to include *The Rockridge News*. While she might swing a bat once in awhile, her favorite sport is swimming. She's a member of the Oakland Baracudas, a competitive team that swims throughout the state and has won its share of trophies.

How did she get started in politics? "One day my parents asked me what I wanted to do and I said, 'I want to go to the phone bank and help John Kerry.' and there I was talking to someone in Wisconsin." Next came Kids for Kerry and then Teresa Heinz Kerry's invitation to the convention. If Kerry wins, will she speak at the inauguration? Well, she hasn't been officially asked, "but if someone does, I might."

Does Ilana have a message for Rockridge kids? You bet! She wants them to please sign the National No Name Calling Day Petition on the website at www.kids4achange.com. "Our goal is to stop negative ads like the Swift Boat Veterans for Truth by the time our generation is able to vote!" Over the next two months she hopes to travel to several swing states — in between swimming and school and public appearances — to "get other kids involved in the petition drive and help register people to vote."

RH SYSTEMS
510.655.5252

- PC Maintenance & Repair
- Network Setup & Tuning
- Wireless Installation
- DSL/Cable Broadband Help
- Security
- Custom programming

I have 25 years experience in Rockridge resolving computer problems for business and home users. Free phone consultation.



Realtor® Specializing in Rockridge

Saraya P. Motley

510-280-2162

RED OAK REALTY

Summer Sales are Sizzling!

Rockridge Sales — August 2004

Address	Bed/Ba.	List Price	Selling Price	Close Date
6030 Colby St.	3/1	$699,000	$700,000	8/5/2004
5340 Broadway Ter.	2/2	$435,000	$481,000	8/6/2004
6092 Hillegass Ave.	2/1	$639,000	$629,000	8/6/2004
5307 Boyd Ave.	2/1	$639,000	$650,000	8/12/2004
5940 Taft Ave.	5/2	$895,000	$1.030,000	8/12/2004
484 Pedestrian Wy.	2/1	$569,000	$540,000	8/13/2004
6022 Colby St.	2/1	$595,000	$675,000	8/24/2004

Please contact me if you are interested in buying or selling.

For outstanding customer service, visit me and my team at my new location on 2099 Pleasant Valley in Oakland.

We now have convenient parking for you!

Visit my website at www.eastbayhouse.com!

If you're thinking of buying or selling, give me a call for a free consultation.

changes ON COLLEGE
by Theresa Nelson

Daily Bread

from page 3

also donates food to other groups. "It is effortless on our part when such generous people give of their time to pick the foods up from our store."

Enlisting The Pasta Shop wasn't the end of Joan's innovations. The pickups at Market Hall take place late in the evening—8:30 or 9 p.m.—after many of the receiving shelters have closed their doors for the day. Wouldn't it be great, Joan thought, if the food could be held somewhere overnight and delivered the next morning?

Joan's neighbor Maria occasionally volunteered space in her refrigerator, but then Joan "got the idea of going onto Craigslist and asking if we could get a refrigerator donated," she says. Two Oakland women who were remodeling their kitchen offered a refrigerator; one of the participating shelters sent a truck to pick it up, and Maria provided lodging in her backyard. Now, food picked up from Market Hall can be left there overnight, and receiving organizations come by to get it in the morning.

"Joan is really something," said Julianne Morris, volunteer food coordinator for Daily Bread. "We have a lot of good volunteers, but she's a standout in the sense that she was willing to look for new food sources and volunteers on her own."

Or as Joan puts it, "They started with a little bread, and I parlayed that into more bread and then the deli." Joan is always on the lookout for new food sources and for new volunteers. "Every time I see people or talk about this work," she says, "I always have the idea that someone might volunteer."

Not surprisingly, it was Joan who contacted *The Rockridge News* about doing an article on the food project. So now she's talking to you, and you can imagine what she's thinking.



New Service
Namaste.
Yoga in Rockridge
5416 College Avenue
510-547-YOGA
www.namasterockridge.com

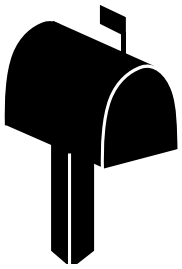
Henry C. Levy & Co.
Certified Public Accountants
and Consultants
A Professional Corporation
• tax preparation • estate planning
• tax planning • business valuation
5940 College Avenue, Suite C
Oakland, California 94618
510.652-1000 FAX 510.654-2363

Christopher's BURGERS
Fabulous Gourmet Beef Burgers. Lamb Burgers. Salmon Burgers & more...
5295 College Avenue (nr Broadway)
Oakland • 510 601 8828

INSIDEOUT
architecture | interiors | landscape
Based here in Rockridge, we specialize in:
- Architectural remodels/additions
- Gardens/outdoor spaces
- New construction
info@aboutInsideOut.com
510.655.7674 T 510.655.7673 F

Jeff Auen
Full Service.
The Difference.
Century 21
North Oak./Orinda/Lafayette
INCREASING PROPERTY VALUES: EXAMPLE #4
5117 LAWTON — A ROCKRIDGE GEM
BEFORE: MARKET VALUE $490-525,000: This unique property was in mixed condition with a high termite report. I was chosen from other agents to take on this project. The house, cottage and grounds needed extensive work and the house needed total renovation.
I assisted the owner in the design and planning and brought in my renovation crew who worked alongside the owner for 3 months. I consulted with the owner 3-4 times a week to make sure the property would be market-ready and attract the best price. The end result was one of the most unique Asian/California designs in Rockridge.
AFTER: SOLD FOR $775,000.
Call for a consultation: 1-800-805-8827
www.HomesEastBay.info JeffAuen@comcast.net

MARICA
SEAFOOD RESTAURANT
Early Dinner Special
3 course meal
$18
5:15–6:15 everyday
Serving a wide selection of seafood from the Monterey Fish Market
5301 College Avenue, Oakland
Open 5:15–9:30 everyday 510/985-8388



Letters to The Editor

The Rockridge News
5245 College Ave., PMB 311
Oakland, CA 94618
or e-mail:
editor@rockridge.org

The Rockridge News *welcomes letters to the editor. Please limit to 200 words and include name, address and a phone number for verification. Only your name will appear with your letter. Letters may be edited for clarity and brevity.*

Actually, We've Been Here Awhile

Editor:

The Peralta Parent Teacher Group (PPTG) and the Lower Rockridge Parents Group (LRPG) would like to thank *The Rockridge News* for all the wonderful coverage you have been providing for Peralta Elementary as well as the other Oakland public schools in the Rockridge area. It is so important that Rockridge families be aware of the strong educational options that exist within our neighborhood!

However, we would like to make one important correction to the article entitled "Peralta Elementary School, an Oakland Success Story," which appeared in your June edition. That article indicated that the Peralta Parent Teacher Group was formed by LRPG members just two years ago. In fact, PPTG was formed over 20 years ago by parents wanting to create a unique, small public school for their children. Peralta school has a long history of very active parents, including Alameda County Schools Superintendent Sheila Jordan, Oakland City Council Member Jane Brunner, and former School Board Representative Ken Rice, all of whom have children that graduated from Peralta.

It's important to recognize that Peralta is not a recent "turn-around" school. Peralta has a rich tradition of providing quality education, and has been referred to as "the best kept secret in the Oakland Unified School District." Thanks to good publicity from sources such as *The Rockridge News*, the secret is finally getting out!

Susan Killebrew
Peralta Parent and
Lower Rockridge Parents' Group Member

Ticket Fees Outrageous

Editor and Councilmember Brunner:

I am a resident of the North Oakland area (65th St. and Telegraph). I would first like to say that I appreciate all you have done, and are doing for the area. I do have a concern that I would like to bring to your attention with regards to parking, specifically 65th Street street sweeping violations.

I just received my second citation (the last one was my mistake), but this one really got to me, as it was issued while I was on vacation. This wouldn't be such a big concern except that the fine is $48! Certain citations have simply exploded into the realm of being unreasonably expensive in the City of Oakland. I understand that keeping the streets clean is a priority, but I don't think that it should warrant such a hefty penalty, should a resident forget. In San Francisco, the fine is much more reasonable for this offense (about $30).

I'm sure you're aware of how expensive it is to live in the Bay Area in general, and these exorbitant fines do nothing to strengthen our community. It's frustrating to feel I am being gouged by the city I live and work in.

It begs the question, is a car-length piece of gutter being dirty for 30 days worth $48? As a resident, I say no.

Matt Ruhstaller

PG&E Butchers Tree

Editor:

I am writing to express my dismay about the street-tree pruning that PG&E crews are doing in Rockridge and around the East Bay. I've noticed others' butchered trees for some time now and thought, "What a shame." Now the huge, gorgeous old tree in front of my house has received a haircut from which it will never recover. The tree is probably about 100 years old, like my house. It once enhanced both the look and the property value of the entire block. But one day while I was at work, its soaring, vertical branches were lopped off, leaving it misshapen and imbalanced. Ironically, the crew cut only the branches that were well above the electric wires, so if the tree ever was a fire hazard, that hasn't changed. My neighbors and I stand in our front yards and shake our heads. "What were they thinking? It will never grow back."

The pruners are clearly not getting the training they need. Since PG&E made a net profit of $372 million in the last quarter alone, it certainly seems possible for the utility to provide basic training for its front-line workers, whether they are PG&E-employed or contractors. It also seems fair for PG&E to compensate ratepayers who must pay a profes-

Continued top of next page

Claremont House
A Retirement Community
"Come Home to Claremont House"
4500 Gilbert St.
Oakland
(Piedmont / Rockridge Area)
RCFE #011440829



Claremont House
Independent & Assisted Living
Month to Month Rentals | Housekeeping
Active Social Calendar | Full Laundry Service
Adult Education Programs | Compassionate 24 hr Staffing
Transportation Services | Walking Distance to Shops
Fine Dining | Dynamic Enrichment Program
www.crmscommunities.com (510) 658-9266

Cotton & Company
Rockridge: 5901 College Avenue • Oakland
Tel (510)653-8058
Fax (510)652-4744
www.cottonandcompany.com
Maternity, Children's Clothing & Shoes, Furniture & Bedding

Letters, from previous page

sional arborist to correct its botched jobs.

Beautiful street trees are one of the defining characteristics of Rockridge and a big reason why our neighborhood is so highly valued. I encourage the Rockridge Community Planning Council to work with PG&E to remedy this situation.

Carol Emert

Instead of an Archway...

Editor and
Councilmember Brunner:

I write to express my concerns regarding the proposal to spend $150,000 to install archways across College Avenue at both ends of the Rockridge district. If the final decision has not been made, I hope that you will consider these thoughts.

This would be a terrible waste of community resources. As beneficial as these symbolic gestures have been in other neighborhoods in the past, there are far higher priorities to consider, such as the following:

1. Widening the sidewalks near the BART station and eliminating some of the parking to create wide sidewalk cafes that could be used by the public. Italy does this with wooden platforms during the summer months, so that the parking spaces can be readily restored in winter months.

2. Hiring a security guard at the BART station and arrangeing with BART to encourage weekend and nighttime parking for restaurant patrons. Those of us who live in the area know that parking is allowed after hours, but most visitors don't; therefore residential streets get clogged.

3. Providing a frequent, free shuttle along College Avenue, to encourage folks to park at the BART station and use the shuttle to visit establishments further along the street.

4. Installing some art at prominent street corners or under the BART station.

5. Installing a sound barrier (glass enclosure) on BART platforms, so patrons don't have to endure thundering traffic noises.

6. Subsidizing AC transit to run more frequent buses on College Avenue.

7. Encouraging a farmer's market adjacent to Market Hall on weekends.

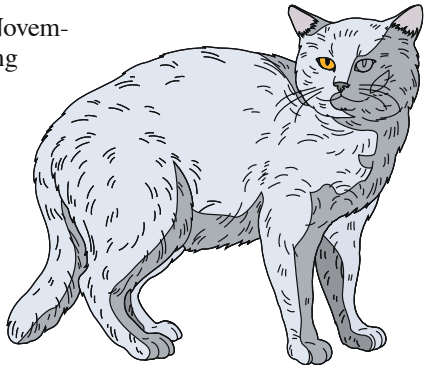
I'm sure there are even more wonderful things to do with the funds, but squandering them on an archway does not seem to be of much long-term benefit to our area.

Thanks for all your good work,

Frederick Hertz

Neighborhood Tails
Betraying Mr. Grey

by Claire Wahrhaftig-Isaacs



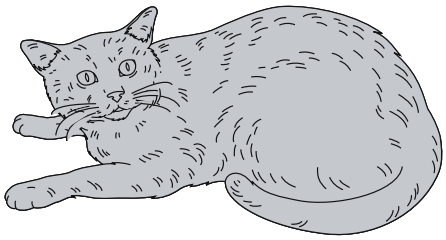
Mr. Grey arrived four years ago in a November drizzle, his hair sticking to his ribs. His left ear was permanently downturned. When he walked, he limped. When he trotted, he ambled sideways. And he yowled, "Nyeowl," nastily, insistently, outside our kitchen door. I put out a little dry food. He gorged it down and came back for more. He knew us for suckers.

Neighbors pointed out that no one had ever caught him. He was a local menace; he needed fixing. Surely one night the raccoons would get him, but he kept turning up, yowling, howling, meowing. He was so thin. I dribbled canned food juice on the dry food to satisfy his appetite. Our aging black Mitzi hissed with spite and jealousy. But Mr. Grey would come around and sun bathe on the patio, snooze on the deck railing, or squat royally in the hillside gazebo.

When he'd disappear for a few days, I was strangely relieved to see him again. In the winter I put up a small shelter, but he probably didn't use it. I added more canned food to the dry, since he seemed to have trouble eating. When four abandoned kittens showed up on the patio, he watched over them. We found homes, keeping little striped Leo.

This spring Mr. Grey was scroungier than ever, and clearly in pain. He'd arrive bleeding and bedraggled. For weeks I accustomed him to getting into a cat carrier, but I wasn't fast enough to shut it and catch the wiley guy.

Finally, motivated by a stern letter from East Bay SPCA to "spay and neuter!" I phoned "Fix our Ferals." Within twelve hours the local catpeople had ensnared me and supplied a trap. I read the elaborate directions, practiced with the spring, and shopped for top quality "human" tuna to bait the trap.



For several days I placed it outdoors, covered with towels, good food inside. I tempted Mr. Grey to go in and get used it. Then came Wednesday, TrapDay. He went half way into the set trap, then backed out. He was very wary.

Suddenly Gravy appeared, a tame local cat, upsetting all my plans. I fed

Mr. Grey, page 17

Cool Tops cuts for kids
www.coolcutsforkids.com
…Not Just a Haircut but an Experience!!
...New at 5697 Miles !
...Phone: 510.601.6502
(@ College Ave., near Rockridge BART)
* Race car, Pony & Other Cool Styling Stations!
* Hair Products,Toys & Accessories!
* Nail Station & Play Area!
…also, visit us in Lafayette and San Ramon!
$2.50 off with this AD!!

Sixth Annual Creek to Bay Day Cleanup

On Saturday, September 18, from 9 to noon, volunteers will give the Rockridge-Temescal Greenbelt a fall cleanup. We'll begin the workday with coffee, juice and morning snacks in the Claremont DMV parking lot at Redondo and Cavour. The first 50 volunteers receive 2004 Creek to Bay Day t-shirts. All ages are welcome, and kids are encouraged to bring their parents.

This is the sixth year that the DMV Neighbors Association and the City of Oakland have sponsored the cleanup along Temescal Creek between Clifton and Clarke Streets. The City of Oakland Public Works Environmental Services Division supplies us with rakes, brooms, shovels, litter pickup sticks, loppers, gloves, and garbage bags. Things you can bring: a water bottle, your own gloves, and your favorite gardening tool. Extra wheelbarrows are always a big help. Please label any tools you bring with your name and phone number.

Please join us. For more information: http://www.oaklandpw.com/creeks, or contact Margaret Pinter, 655-1767.

Tired of Traffic and a Lack of Parking In Rockridge? Stop Driving (So Much)!

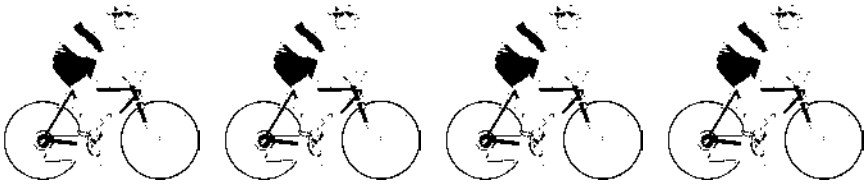
by John Potis

Facetious title, yes, but seriously, one way to beat the traffic and parking difficulties in our popular neighborhood is to walk or bike to do your small errands or pick up that fresh morning bun on Sunday. Do you walk, run or bike for exercise? Why not combine the pursuit of good health with the pursuit of those last few ingredients for dinner by taking a quick stroll or bike ride to the grocery? If you are reading this, then you are likely to be a resident of Rockridge or nearby and well within cycling or even walking distance to any number of hardware, video, or grocery stores in our greater neighborhood.

Not only are you improving your health and shopping locally, but by walking or cycling you are suddenly accessible to your neighbors and visitors and — egads — you might even stop and talk to one of them. Imagine that, interacting with others on the street instead of cussing at them or honking to remind them the light has been green for a half-second.

Hmmm, so altogether that's health, environmental, local business and neighborhood community benefits — so many unselfish reasons to reconsider driving next time you need just a few things from the store.

Thanks. I hope to run into you — figuratively speaking — out biking or walking to the store so we can talk — about what a great neighborhood we live in.



Mimi's Landscaping
Design
Installation
Consultation
Construction
Rockridge Resident
510.595.9090
Quality service

SoulWorks Counseling
Building Lives of Meaning & Purpose
If you are blocked, lonely, or longing ...
Awaken Creativity Reclaim Wisdom
Rediscover Wholeness
Call Lily Myers Kaplan 338.0135

across cultural congregation striving to partner with the Rockridge community in lifestyle and service.
College Avenue Presbyterian Church
5951 College Avenue, Oakland 510 658-3665
SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 AM • VISIT: CAPCCHURCH.ORG

Norman H. Burg, DDS
General Dentistry
(510) 652-1517
5700 Broadway, Oakland
A Prevention Oriented Practice

The CLAREMONT OFFICE
OF PRUDENTIAL CALIFORNIA REALTY



CLAREMONT GROUP AGENTS
Fatima Ali, Di Allen-Thompson, Andrea Arata, Luisa Castillo, Natalie Cuttler, Roy Grigsby, Carmen Grim, Rita Harrington, Amy Hayashida, Sharon Ho, Jay Lean, Julie Lehman, Barbara Levy, Helen Mar, Tamara Nadarajah, Ortrun Niesar, Gaby Olander, Chee-yan Ong, Leo Rachal, Jeff Robarts, Camille Rogers, Steve Ryman, Dan Stone, Michelle Syracuse, Daisy Parrish Tan, Nancy Taussig, Aliky Vasdekis, Lily Yoseff, Ted Normart, Manager
Since 1887
Two Tunnel Road, Berkeley, CA 94705 • Phone 510/845-0211 • www.prurealty.com/claremont

Complete architectural services since 1970

Jarvis architects

5278 College Avenue
Oakland, CA 94618
(510) 654-6755 fax 654-3424

1 Year Anniversary Sale

lapin

September 23—26

5337 College Ave. Oakland
510.595.0724

"SHOULD YOU SAVE FOR YOUR KID'S COLLEGE OR FOR YOUR RETIREMENT? OR BOTH?"

ANNUITIES, MUTUAL FUNDS, LIFE INSURANCE AND A PLAN.

Susan Bernosky 510 450 9050
Anthony Rutz 510 450 9050

Allstate Financial

Allstate Financial is the marketing name for Allstate Life Insurance Company (Northbrook, IL), its subsidiaries and certain affiliates. Securities offered through Allstate Financial Services, LLC. (LSA Securities in LA, and PA). Registered Broker-Dealer. Member NASD, SIPC. Office of Supervisory Jurisdiction: 2920 South 84th Street, Lincoln, NE 68506 877-525-5727.
© 2002 Allstate Insurance Company allstate.com

Betraying Mr. Grey *from page 15*

him heartily and gently kicked him off the property. Mitzi and Leo I shooed inside. I moved the trap to the other side of the house, reset it and walked away. A few minutes later, there was Mr. Grey inside: spitting, thrashing, furious. After nearly four years, I had betrayed his trust. I felt like a total traitor.

With heavy heart, and a very heavy trap filled with a furious feline, I drove gingerly to the VCA Veterinarian Hospital at 45th and Shattuck. There, Dr. Carl Singer asked if I wanted him to test Mr. Grey for Feline Leukemia and Cat AIDS. Why wouldn't I wish Mr. Grey tested? Well, said the doctor, a positive result would suggest one should euthanize the cat, to avoid spreading the disease. Stuffing my feelings inside I replied, responsibly, "Go ahead and test."*

But, once home I suffered, hurt, and cried. I depleted the supply of low carb ice cream. I was frantic. Had I condemned my wild little friend to death? I really loved this messy little fur ball.

The phone rang. Dr. Singer said, "Well, I am amazed; this cat tested negative." So, I could release Mr. Grey into the community without guilt. The doctor had neutered the poor guy, given him the first shots he's ever had, treated a serious bleeding abcess on his shoulder, washed his fur, checked his teeth — broken but usable — and noted that he was blind in one eye. "If he's managed to survive this long in his condition, I think he can survive outside." Whew. Mr. Grey had passed muster.

Back home, groggy, sedated, Mr. Grey meowed softly in his sleep. We were both exhausted.

Three hours later a hissing, scratching, angry pack of energy lept out, ignored the food and water set for him, and bounded across the patio to freedom. I whimpered to Kristen at Fix our Ferals. "I may never see him again."



"I wouldn't count on that, Claire," she said. "He knows where the food is. Give him a few days. He'll be back."

It's Friday morning. I just heard a familiar "nyeowl." Hello, Mr. Grey! He's so busy chowing down he doesn't shrink (a first) when I pet him. Perhaps, after all, I didn't betray Mr. Grey.

* There are free and low cost neutering clinics, but Mr. Grey needed immediate medical help. My cost was about $200. The deposit on the trap was $40 which I donated to Fix our Ferals, which holds monthly clinics. Their hotline is 433-9446.

Rockbottom commissions. Heavenly high sales prices.

Now in Our 18TH year

Realty Advocates
510-428-0757 | realtyadvocates.com
Serving Rockridge Since 1986





RN classifieds

Your Message Could Be Here
Your 36-word message: $18 (phone number counts as one word). Mail to: **RN Classifieds**, 5245 College Avenue, PMB 311, Oakland, CA 94618. *October deadline is September 16.*

Jazz and Classical Piano Lessons
Rockridge jazz pianist with UC Berkeley music B.A. offers lessons in jazz, blues, classical, music theory, ear-training, technique. Experienced, patient teacher, all ages/levels. Janet 653-6783.

Home Repair Expert
Carpentry, remodeling. doors and windows, glass and locks, small electrical, plumbing jobs, drywall, painting, fences, decks and other odd jobs. Good rates. Rick 510.464-5934.

Personalized Weight Loss
Healthy Living Solutions. FREE body analysis and personalized consultation. "Good Health & Wellness through Good Nutrition." Gary Sinick 510.597-1129 www.for-a1health.com. Your local Herbalife Independent Distributor.

Housecleaning
Reasonable rates. Expert & reliable services from local employment cooperative. Call 534-6766 and we'll send someone to spiff up your home. Ask for our references from Rockridge clients.

English Tutor
Rockridge resident tutors students in reading, writing, grammar, college application essays. 20 years of experience as a professional writer, editor and journalist; experience tutoring English, math, ESL. Harvard M.A. Susan 510/466-5502

Nanny Available
…for evening work after 6 pm. Also available for weekend work. Looking for something permanent. Excellent references. CPR Certified. Infant and child care. Safety first aid. Alice 510.547-1463.

Database/Excel Consultant
Get out that mailing, take inventory, keep track of things! Rockridge-based Access programmer and Excel expert working with individuals, small business and non-profits. Excellent references. Datamajig: 510.852-4218.

Cleaning Out Closets to Clean Out the Whitehouse
Multi-family garage & bake sale & register to vote! All proceeds donated to MoveOnPac. Sunday, September 12, 10am-3pm, 5400 block Lawton. Furniture, children's clothes, books and more.



Are you ready for more room?

Let me help you explore the San Ramon Valley and discover a new quality of life in San Ramon, Danville, Alamo, Diablo or Blackhawk. Centrally located to all major cities, fantastic schools and a great value.

COLDWELL BANKER NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Lorri Cutler 925.831.3319



Rockridge Resident

YOU MAY LIVE 30 YEARS PAST RETIREMENT.

ARE YOU PREPARED?

Leila S. Gough, Associate Vice President-Investments
1999 Harrison, Suite 2050 • Oakland, CA 94612
(510) 452-8060
www.agedwards.com/fc/leila.gough

A.G. EDWARDS℠
FULLY INVESTED IN OUR CLIENTS℠

2004 A.G. Edwards & Sons, Inc. • Member SIPC

[24778-v1-0668]RP-260-0805

MAISON NOUVEAU
REAL ESTATE SERVICES

A few of our recent listings in and around Rockridge...

454 Hudson St.

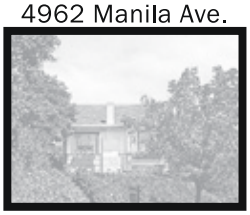
List: $629,000
Sold: $750,000

5408 Lawton Ave.

List: $650,000
Sold: $805,000

230 Mather St.

List: $589,000
Sold: $705,000

4962 Manila Ave.

List: $595,000
Sold: $687,000

4620 Jacobus Ave.

List: $699,000
Pending

2% commission

510.849.9900
2701 COLLEGE AVE, BERKELEY

415.922.8800
2420 POLK ST, SAN FRANCISCO

✔ *Check Your...*

Compiled by Jo Ellis

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

E-mail Rockridge News Community Calendar items to: joellis1@hotmail.com, phone 653-3210, or mail to: Rockridge News Community Calendar, 5245 College Avenue, PMB 311, Oakland, CA 94618. Deadline is the next to the last Tuesday of the month.

Councilmember Jane Brunner's Community Advisory Meeting

10am to noon: Peralta Elementary School: 460 63rd St. (parking on Alcatraz Ave., just east of Telegraph). **No Sept. meeting**. Next meeting on Saturday, October 9. **Meeting topic:** The November Ballot, including Oakland's Violence Prevention Measure with OPD Chief Richard Word. For more information: 238-7001 or www.oaklandnet.com.

Oakland City Council Meeting

Every Tuesday, 7pm, City Hall.

Oakland Planning Commission

1st and 3rd Wednesday each month, 6:30pm, City Hall. Agendas and details at www.oaklandnet.com.

The Greater Rockridge N'hood Crime Prevention Council

Steering Committee meets 3rd Tuesday each month, 7 to 8:30pm. **Note new address:** Temescal Library, 5205 Telegraph Ave. Residents and business members of NCPC's 12Y and 13X areas are invited to voice their concerns about crime and public safety.

Rockridge Branch Library

5366 College Avenue, (510)597-5017

For Children:

- Toddler Story Time: 1st and 2nd Saturday, 10:30am: 9/4, 9/11, 10/2, 10/9.
- Pre-School Story Time: 1st and 3rd Wednesday, 10:30 & 11am: 9/15, 10/6.
- Pajama Story Time: 2nd and 4th Tuesday, 7pm: 9/14, 9/28.

General Reminder: Children who are 5 years old or have started Kindergarten (whichever comes first) can get their own library card. Come in anytime to get your first card, and receive a gift paperback.

For Adults:

- Lawyers in the Library: Free legal advice. First Tuesday of each month: 9/7, 10/5, 6 to 8pm. Advance sign-up 5pm.
- Writing Workshop: Writing for Creative Expression and Spiritual Growth, with Suzanne West. Registration required. Please call 597-5017.
- Saturday, 9/25, 2:00-4:30.

Library Hours: See box, top of page 2

Story Reader Training for Head Start Volunteers

Rockridge Branch Library. Sign up for the Story Reader Training, if you are interested in being a Volunteer Story Reader at an Oakland Head Start Center. Volunteers are asked to commit to 8 training sessions and a six-month weekly assignment at a local Head Start Center. Each volunteer is then assigned to a Head Start Center. For more info, or to sign up, please call Marta Rodriguez at: 238-7453.

College Avenue Street Fair

Sunday, 9/26, 11am to 5pm. Among the many festivites: live music, Market Hall "Picnic in the Street," free cable car trolley between B'way and Alcatraz Ave. For more information contact Rockridge District Assoc. at 604-3125 or info@rockridgedistrict.com.

Writer's Support/Critique Group

Rockridge Branch Library, every third Saturday, 1:30 to 5pm. ALL writers welcome. Bring 8 copies of up to 5 pages of your prose for on-site reading/discussion. Sponsored by the California Writers Club, Berkeley branch (www.berkeleywritersclub.org/) For more information, call 482-0265 or Writefox@aol.com

Diesel Book/Poetry Readings

5433 College Ave. All events are FREE and open to the public.

- Tuesday, 9/7, 7pm. **Book Group #1** will discuss Jose Saramago's novel *Blindness*.
- Wednesday , 9/8, 7:30pm. **Vendela Vida**: *And Now You Can Go*.
- Sunday, 9/12, 2pm. **David Schickler**: *Sweet and Vicious*.
- Monday, 9/13, 7:30pm. **Amnesty International** monthly meeting. All welcome.
- Tuesday, 9/14, 7/30pm. **Book Group #3** will discuss *More Like Wrestling* by **Danyel Smith**.
- Monday, 9/20, 7:30pm. **Maura Conlon-McIvor**: *FBI Girl: How I Learned to Crack My Father's Code*.
- Tuesday, 9/21, 7:30pm. **Arthur Blaustein**: *Make a Difference: America's Guide to Volunteering and Community Service*.
- Thursday, 9/23, 7:30pm. **Melissa Lion**: *Swollen*.
- Sunday, 9/26, 2pm. **UC Poetry Event**. The New California Poetry Series presents readings by their most recently published poets.
- Wednesday, 9/29, 7:30pm. **Chris Baty**: *No Plot? No Problem!: A High Velocity, Low-Stress Way to Write a Novel in 30 Days*.

For more inf. about readings, book/discussion groups and classes: 653-9965 or www.dieselbookstore.com.

Curves Rockridge First Anniversary Open House

Market Hall lower level on Shafter, across from BART, Sunday, 9/12, 12:30 to 4:30pm.

- Free talks and door prizes.
- Free blood pressure tests and physician consultation from 9am to 4:30pm.
- Book drive to benefit Children's Book Project. Drop off new or used children's books through September.
- Fundraiser in honor of 9-11 to benefit the Oakland Firefighters Random Acts of Kindness.

For more information call Anne at 655-8808.

Photographs of Seabiscuit

Rockridge Café, 5492 College Avenue. Wonderful original photos, on loan from Bosko's Framing on College Ave., are on display through October. Mon- Sat, 7:30am to 3pm. Sunday, 8am to 3pm. For more information about the photos call John Bosko: 655-3966.

Frog Park Semi-Annual Work Party

Saturday, 9/18, 8am to 5pm. Improve the parks and landscaping. Volunteers sign in at the registration tables in Hardy Park and near the Redondo Park play structures. We'll provide morning bagels and coffee and lunch in Hardy Park. Sponsored by The Friends of Rockridge-Temescal Greenbelt.

Creek To Bay Day Cleanup

Saturday, 9/18, 9am to noon. Potluck follows at 12:15pm. Meet at Temescal Creek where it runs through the Claremont DMV parking lot, at Redondo and Cavour. Tools provided. Sponsored by the DMV Neighbors Association and the City of Oakland.

Activities and Events for Seniors

- **College Avenue Adult Center,** College Ave. Presbyterian Church, 5955 College Ave. Every Wednesday, from 9:30am to 1:30pm. Light exercise, socializing, travel programs and music. Hot lunch available at noon for $2. For details about upcoming field trips and special programs, call Kathy at 531-6724.
- **North Oakland Multi-purpose Senior Center** 5714 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way. Center Hours: Monday–Friday, 8:45am to 4:45pm. Variety of classes, workshops, educational/social events, walking groups and field trips. Free health insurance counseling and Health Clinic. The Newsletter, "North Oakland Senior Times" provides a full schedule of classes as well as a monthly menu for lunch: (suggested donation: seniors age 60 + $2.00 and $4.00 for those under age 60). Call 597- 5085 to get details about membership, newsletter, class or appointment times, and opportunities to become a volunteer.

Elder Care Support Group

Alta Bates Medical Center, Herrick Campus, 2001 Dwight Way, Berkeley. Free for family/friends caring for older adults. 3rd Wednesday of each month, 4-5:30pm. For information on all support/education groups offered by Alta Bates/Sutter Health: call Monica at 869-4569, or e-mail Monicalcsw@alum.calberkeley.org.

Volunteers Needed

- **Alameda County Community Food Bank**. All welcome, including groups and kids age 10 or older. Assist in the warehouse or office; staff the Hunger Hotline, the Food Bank's toll-free food referral service. Hotline shifts Mon-Fri, 9am-12pm and 1-4pm. Call Volunteer Mgr. Mary Schoen: 834-FOOD(3663) or www.accfb.org.
- **Bambino Thrift Shop**: All Volunteer Shop benefiting Oakland Children's Hospital, 5290 College Ave. Volunteers needed Tuesdays through Saturdays. We will train you to help with pricing, selling and merchandise display. Call manager, Carol Maes: 654-9709.
- **North Oakland Community Charter School (NOCCS)**: tutors to work with 1st to 4th graders, one-on-one or in small groups, on math skills, beginning reading and writing skills. Weekly time commitment of at least one hour. Located at College Avenue Presbyterian Church, (next to Dryers ice cream). Contact Jennifer Bloom, Director: 655-0540 or teachers@noccs.org.
- **Second Start Adult Literacy Program of the Oakland Public Library**. Volunteer tutors to meet regularly with adults learning to read. Some meeting at the Rockridge Branch Library. Free training. Nine month minimum commitment. Call 238-3432 or www.oaklandlibrary.org/services/SecondStart/index.html.



Don Coelho

COLDWELL BANKER

339-4721

28th year serving Rockridge!

Buying or selling real estate in 2004?

Call me... the proven professional

What's Your Home Worth?

Call Me for an Opinion of Value

Fatima N. Ali

510/845-0211

E-MAIL: Buyali@aol.com

Prudential California Realty



Jan Fougner

OWNER – BROKER



BUYING OR SELLING IN ROCKRIDGE? IF YOU NEED THE SERVICES OF A REALTOR, CALL ME. I HAVE 27 YEARS OF ROCKRIDGE SALES EXPERIENCE AND THE EXPERTISE YOU NEED.

655-2330

ROCKRIDGE REALTY

6019 COLLEGE AVENUE

Live ... Work ... Play In Rockridge!

Coming in September

3++ Beds / 2+ Baths

Stunning Retreat on Broadway

&

4+ Beds / 2 Baths

on Coronado Avenue

"YOUR 24/7 REALTOR" LAWTON ASSOCIATES REAL ESTATE BROKERAGE

Ron Kriss, Broker

Lawton Associates

510-547-5970 Ext. 55

ronkriss@jps.net



510 547-YOGA

5416 COLLEGE AVENUE— NEAR THE LIBRARY

www.namasterockridge.com

namaste yoga in rockridge

VAN ERP MICA REPLICAS



510-654-0929

Brass & Glass

5377 COLLEGE AVENUE, OAKLAND

Jeffrey Auen

Buyers, Sellers, Investors



Choose a *Full Service Realtor.* Residential & Investment sales, renovation consulting, proven strategies to increase value. Full Service Pre- and Post-Sale. 26 Years in Rockridge.

www.HomesEastBay.info

1.800.805.8827

Century 21

Flush with Confidence

www. PIPE SPY .com

- **Sewer Pipe Diagnostics**
- **Trouble Shooting & Repair**
- **Trenchless Sewer Replacement**

510/465-3000

Berkeley — Oakland — Rockridge

KEVIN BROWN

Broker

654-8707 or 593-4780

PROVIDING

Professional, Full Service Real Estate Brokerage To Rockridge Clients For Over 25 Years.

SPECIALIZING IN

- ***Residential Sales***
- ***Income Property***
- ***Commercial***
- ***Property Management***

Better Homes Realty

Better Homes Realty

5353 College Avenue

Oakland



Terry Kulka

Proven Results in Selling Rockridge Homes.

Providing top quality service to buyers and sellers of fine homes for 18 years.

A proud supporter of Chabot Elementary School.

Terry Kulka 510/339-4789

terrykulka@att.net

COLDWELL BANKER