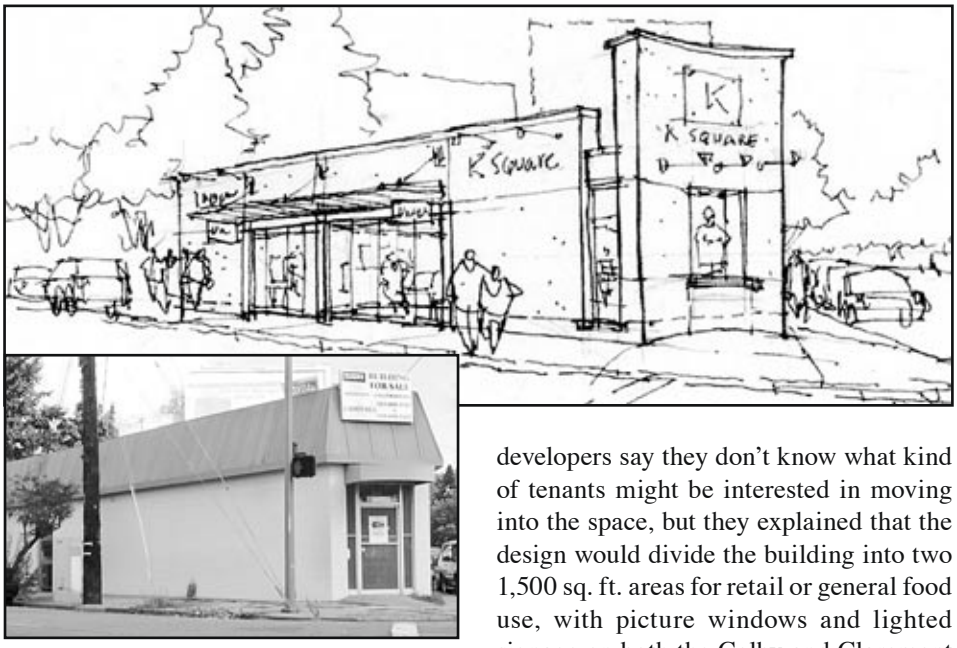
THE Rockridge News
www.rockridge.org
VOL. 19 ■ NO. 10 ■ ISSUE NO. 206 ■ November 6, 2004 CIRCULATION: 5,100 RESIDENCES; 200 BUSINESSES
Sponsored by The Rockridge Community Planning Council • 5245 College Ave. PMB 311 • Oakland, CA 94618 • 644-4228

Changed Use Proposed for Claremont/Colby Building



A view of the existing building at Colby & Claremont (inset below) and a sketch of the recent redesign proposal by K Square architects.
PHOTO CREDIT: ADRIENNE DEANGELO

Residents appeal proposed retail development at Colby and Claremont

by Adrienne DeAngelo
Coordinator, Claremont-Colby Coalition

On a dreary Saturday morning in October, the newly formed Claremont-Colby Coalition met, determined to overturn what it sees as capricious city zoning laws and to fight for the best interests of their neighborhood.

The coalition, comprised of residents of the Claremont/Colby/Forest area of Rockridge, was first alerted to the possibility of a new development project in its neighborhood over Labor Day weekend. That's when San Francisco-based developer K Square, which designed Beckett's in Berkeley and Bacar in San Francisco, outlined a proposed retail outlet at 5715 Claremont, a single-story building at the Colby Street intersection.

Concerned about the impact of retail in a residential zone, residents gathered at a September Rockridge Community Planning Council (RCPC) meeting to hear what developers Russ Keil and Doris Krevsky had in mind.

Until the new design is complete, the developers say they don't know what kind of tenants might be interested in moving into the space, but they explained that the design would divide the building into two 1,500 sq. ft. areas for retail or general food use, with picture windows and lighted signage on both the Colby and Claremont street sides.

Last week, during a two-hour, hotly debated Oakland Planning Commission meeting, all but Michael Lighty voted to approve the project with the following conditions:

CHANGED USE, PAGE 13

agenda: RCPC Town Hall Meeting – Children's Books Forum

Thursday, November 18, 7:00 pm.
Rockridge Branch Library
5366 College Avenue at Manila,
Community Room (Upstairs)

- **A children's books forum:**
  - Patricia Lichter, Rockridge Branch head librarian presents the Oakland Public Library's 2005 Master Plan.
  - Children's Librarian Gay Ducey: adventures awaiting young readers in the Rockridge Branch.
  - Local author Melissa Lion: her first novel for young adults, *Swollen*, was published this year.
  - Children's literature specialists from Diesel and Pendragon bookstores share trends and offer suggestions.

It's 7 O'Clock — Do You Know What Your Child Is Reading?

by Jennifer Edmister

It's a cozy fall, and the holidays are fast upon us. But with these cheery times, parents also face the daunting prospect of occupying their bustling youngsters on long, rainy, television-susceptible days. Many of us are also contemplating holiday gifts that won't stunt brainwaves during those same indoor hours. On both counts, may we

BOOK FORUM, PAGE 6



Pirate and Pumpkin
Ken Finn and his daughter Freesia get ready to join in the annual Rockridge Hallowe'en Parade. **Story page 4.**

In My Opinion

Should There be Higher Density Housing Along College Avenue?

Editor's Note: An opinion piece by Hiroko Kurihara in the October issue of *The Rockridge News* urged an increase in housing density along College Avenue as a way to create a sustainable community and attract neighborhood-serving businesses (In My Opinion,"Building on the Bungalow and the Rockridge Way of Life," p.2). Below are two letters responding to the article, one boldly rejecting the proposal and another expressing interest in constructing housing more suitable for seniors. These responses may represent round one in a renewed debate on neighborhood housing density.

"No" to More Apartment Buildings in Rockridge!

by Gary Lippman

When I moved into my house in the Rockridge neighborhood, area residents asked me to sign a petition opposing the construction of apartment buildings along the "Broadway Corridor" from College Avenue to the freeway, Highway 24. Having just purchased a house one lot off of Broadway, I readily signed. I moved to this area to get away from rampant development.

Why on earth would anyone living in this neighborhood advocate for increased housing density along College Avenue? Surely, Rockridge residents who live near College Avenue don't want their privacy and quiet compromised even more!

With the new California "in-law addition" rules, the density of this neighborhood will increase in a slow, sustainable way, house to house, over the years, as homeowners add in-law units to their single family dwellings. Isn't that going to be enough for Rockridge?

Residents of the new multiple unit apartments proposed by Kurihara will undoubtedly have cars, pickups or sport utility vehicles, and will want to park them along the streets crossing or terminating at College Avenue, thus adding to parking congestion.

If the College Avenue corridor is over-developed, then I fear that the developers and their advocates will push to build multiple story housing along the Broadway corridor, thereby compromising the valued privacy of nearby residents.

Of course, all of us living here would love to have a neighborhood pharmacy and a neighborhood hardware store we can walk or ride our bicycles to. In fact, I have been riding my bicycle to Elmwood Hardware for 30 years, Grand Lake Hardware for 30 years, and to the late great G and G Hardware in the Temescal district for several decades. If I merely need a screwdriver, I can purchase one at Long's, a short walk from any house in Rockridge, or at Albertson's or Safeway. There are pharmacies near College and Alcatraz and in Long's. For Kaiser members, there are several pharmacies at Kaiser. I suspect that many Rockridge residents order their prescriptions online.

There is no rational reason to give up our "romantic notions" of living in bungalows in Rockridge. Many people moved here specifically to live in Rockridge bungalows and they should be able to do so without being compromised by big apartment buildings and their residents.

Readers should contact RCPC's Land Use and

▸ Higher Density?, page 11

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:
Mon, Tues: 12:30 – 8 p.m.
Weds, Thurs, Sat: 10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Friday: 12 – 5:30 p.m.
Sunday: **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 Gulassa ..... 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
☛ December 4, 2004
☛ December deadline is November 18.

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.)***

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.

327 63rd Street

Proposal: To replace an existing detached garage with a new and larger garage located at the rear of an existing single-family dwelling

Applicant/Owner: Mary Joanne Irwin

Contact Person/Phone Number: Ivor Brown 510/652-2184

Planning Permits Required: Special Residential Design Review to replace an existing non-conforming garage, and Minor Variance to maintain a 6" side yard setback where 5 feet minimum is required.

Historic Status: Potential Designated Historic Property (PDHP); Survey rating: D2+

Case Planner: Maurice Brenyah-Addow, 238-6342 or mbrenyah@oaklandnet.com.

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



Otterbein Manor on Manila Avenue just off College, houses some 40 seniors.

Three friends at Otterbein, from left: Adele Miller, Fanya Yeliseyeva and Alice Correll.

Photo: Lydia Gans

Living History: Rockridge's Otterbein Manor

by Lydia Gans, Staff Writer

Rockridge is a great neighborhood to live in. There are all sorts of fine restaurants and specialty stores, convenient public transportation, many lovely houses and lots of greenery. Best of all, it is not exclusive; there are no fences or gates to keep people out. So among the affluent young families who can buy expensive homes, there are elderly folks, some with limited incomes, who are able to live in the neighborhood. All of which makes for a diverse mix of people who can help each other, learn from each other and generally create a more interesting community.

Otterbein Manor on Manila Avenue just off College, houses some 40 elderly people, all subsisting on limited incomes. Some were born in foreign countries; others hail from all over the United States.

Alice Correll has lived there eight years. I first met her many years ago when she came to my door campaigning for a political candidate. She can't get around much any more, but she is still deeply interested in politics. She used to organize activities for the building residents and, though she is more limited now in what she can do, she keeps in touch and stays informed. Some of the residents in the building are very private and keep to themselves, but others, like Alice, keep connected with each other and the community.

There is the diminutive Chinese couple who speak little English and spend their days across the street in the library, and a Russian couple who are also struggling with English. (The wife's first name is Ninel, Alice tells me, which is Lenin spelled backwards). A Latino man down the hall was a professional baseball player. Adele, also on Alice's floor, served in the WACs in World War II. Alice describes Beverly as the one who "takes care of everybody." She goes around every night checking up to make sure everyone is OK.

Chester Chan spends his time going on board ships in the harbor helping foreign crewmen, many Asians and Phillipinos, who are often not allowed ashore, with their mail and paperwork or whatever they need. He regularly goes to DeLauer's Newstand on Broadway to get them newspapers from their home towns.

A popular and well-known figure in the building and the neigh-

Friends, page 14


HAPPY HOLIDAYS
from all of us at
A DIFFERENT ANGLE Gallery
5833 College Avenue
Oakland CA 94618 510.653.8848
www.adifferentangle.net

Lions, and Tigers, and Bears, Oh My!

by Mike Taylor

On a picture-perfect Hallowe'en afternoon, several hundred goblins, wizards, princesses, and other costumed holiday trick or treaters paraded along College Avenue on October 31, enjoying goodies from local merchants. The annual event, co-sponsored by RCPC and the Rockridge District Association (RDA), was organized with the help of many by Doug Farrow of Jucy's. From Hudson Bay Caffe and Chic at the south end of College up to Vero and Agatha Rainford Boutique at the north end, over fifty merchants participated.

Besides passing out treats, Redhound had a Pet Costume Contest, Namaste held a Circus Yoga, and Christensen Heller Gallery sponsored a Stoller Brigade. Oganized by Jan Heller, the brigade carried signs related to favorite ballot initiatives and candidates. Heller had hoped to break the Guinness Book of World Records set in Slovakia of 108 strollers pushed one mile, but while the Rockridge route exceeded one mile, the number of participants lagged. Undiscouraged, Heller says they'll try to break the record again in Spring.



On Hallowe'en, Hermione Granger was out looking for Harry Potter. Anybody see him?

PHOTO: CY GULASSA

Theresa Nelson of the RCPC worked closely with the RDA in organizing the Halloween Parade. Watching from the corner of College and Keith, Nelson observed, "The wonderful thing about the parade is the fabulous creativity of the children's costumes. It puts a smile on your face all day long."

To get involved in planning this annual event, call the RCPC voicemail at 644-4288 and leave your contact information.

Plague of Burglaries Has Rockridge Hills Residents on Edge

by Susan Montauk, NCPC

About 60 nervous Upper Rockridge residents attended the October 19 Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) meeting at the Temescal Library to voice their concerns about a series of burglaries that has plagued their neighborhood (police beat 13X, just west of Highway 13) in the last two months. Frightened by accounts of several face-to-face confrontations with one of the perpetrators and frustrated by the increase of these types of crimes, they came seeking help from the Oakland Police Department (OPD) and the greater Rockridge NCPC steering committee.

OPD suspects at least two perpetrators are involved: a daytime burglar who may be a Hispanic male and a nighttime cat burglar (one who steals when people are at home). Strapped by staffing shortages, OPD has assigned beat 12X Officer Johnna Watson overtime hours to work with 13X Beat Officer Felicia Aisthorpe on these burglaries.

Watson reported that witness and victim reports have developed this profile of the suspected cat burglar: Male black, 40s, well-dressed (as in a business suit), 6' tall, athletic build, bald or shaven head, thin goatee and sometimes wearing glasses. He apparently fits into the neighborhood. The officers believe he may spend morning hours walking around to identify his targets, usually about two houses in the same evening, choosing homes that have open doors and windows. He steals electronic equipment and jewelry and probably has a car parked nearby to carry off the goods.

Watson said the cat burglar is most likely a professional criminal, possibly a parolee, who gets a high from facing his victims. But he has not been violent or aggressive. One victim confronted the burglar as he was entering her back door and chased him away only to discover that he had already stolen property on a prior trip. Another found him in her house and screamed at him to leave, pointing to the exit. He did so immediately, climbing over a roof and a fence to get away.

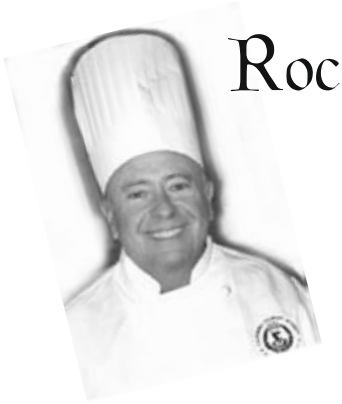
Tracking down and catching these criminals is no easy matter. Upper Rockridge has not been a hotbead of crime unitl now, experiencing primarily auto theft and auto burglaries, so not many Home Alert groups exist. Also, neighbors in this area tend not to know each other well so strangers are not easily identified. The cat burglar has left no prints — he is reported to wear white gloves.

Upper Rockridge resident Stephen Fox is leading the effort to organize local residents; their first Home Alert meeting was held October 25. E-mail networks and phone trees are being set-up to speedily disseminate information and alerts of suspicious behavior. His group is working hand-in-hand with the assigned officers to solve these crimes. However, Fox is concerned about systemic problems in the police department. As two examples, he cites a lack of communication up and down the chain of command and a shortage of personnel that can be assigned to burglary investigations. He urges concerned citizens to write letters or send e-mails to their councilmember, the mayor and OPD.

Update: Suspect Arrested

A parolee has been arrested on suspicion of being the notorious Oakland hills cat burglar. Police warn, however, that evidence is still being gathered and that residents should remain on high alert, especially since other burglars may be involved in the rash of break-ins. Police data also show that the burglaries are not confined to hill homes. As of October 28, 59 homes have been burglarized in North Oakland, a majority in upper and lower Rockridge.

SAFETY TIPS: If you come home and find that your home has been burglarized, exit the house immediately and find a safe place to hide, such as your car, where you can observe the house. Never explore the house yourself: the burglar may still be on the premises. Call 911 as soon as possible to report the burglary. Tell OPD dispatch you do not know whether the burglar is still in the house. If you call from a cell phone, dial 510/777-3211. (Program this emergency number into your cell phone. Do not use 911 – you will be connected to the California Highway Patrol.) *Lock doors and windows and turn on your alarm, even when you are at home.*



Rockridge Cornucopia

Barry A. Kaufman

Rabbit Food

As a child of the 40s and 50s, a salad in my home consisted of iceberg lettuce, tomato wedges and sliced cucumbers served with what my mother called Russian dressing — a mixture of mayonnaise and ketchup. Much to my mother's dismay, I called the salad rabbit food. By the time I was a young adult, I wanted nothing to do with salads. Why would anyone go to an all-you-can-eat salad bar? Soup and salad? Not for me. Dressing on the side? Don't bother, just hold the lettuce. I'm no rabbit.

Rabbits beware. Over the past several years there has been a revolution in availability of leafy greens that give a whole new meaning to tossed and composed salads. Traditional iceberg lettuce is somewhat tasteless, so it is served with thick, flavorful dressings such as blue cheese or ranch. Remember those salad bars with crocks of gooey dressing and long ladles to spoon onto the salad? Today's greens have distinct flavors of their own and require little dressing. Instead of weighing them down with dressing, young salad chefs simply coat them with high-grade extra virgin oil, some lemon juice and a few select herbs.

Once only available at high-end green grocers, greens like arugula, radicchio, frisee, chicory, purslane, and the new kid on the block, mache, can be found in most supermarkets. Both Market Hall Produce and Yasai Market carry a wide selection of seasonal greens. Because these greens have very distinctive flavors, I would suggest first tasting a bit of each leaf. For example, arugula, also called rocket, is a bitterish, aromatic salad green with a peppery mustard flavor. It is extremely popular in Italy, but Americans might find its flavor too assertive. Radicchio, chicory, endive, frisee and escarole tend to have a bittersweet taste and are best used when young, as they increase in bitterness with age. Small combinations of these greens form the basis for a special salad mix called mesclun. Mache is the newest "in" gourmet green. Native to Europe, mache is also known as field lettuce, or lamb's lettuce. The narrow, dark green leaves of mache are very tender and have a tangy nutlike flavor. Mache does not keep well and should be used within a day or two of purchase. My new favorite green is sorrel. Sorrel has a sour and acidy taste. For salads, only young sorrel leaves should be used as the more mature leaves are very sour and best for soups.



Although somewhat expensive, gourmet greens have so much flavor you need just a few leaves, some herbs and a minimalist dressing to create an exquisite, after-meal composed salad. Gourmet salad greens bruise easily and need to be handled with care. Most are grown in sandy soil and tend to be gritty and may need to be washed several times. In contrast to head lettuces, delicate baby greens should be soaked in cold water, gently swirled, and pat-dried with a kitchen towel instead of using a salad spinner.

Rather than a formal recipe this month, I would suggest a composed arugula, basil, and fig salad. On a plate place a large handful of arugula leaves; sprinkle over them thinly sliced fresh basal and fresh mint. Cut two firm-ripe figs into quarters lengthwise; scatter figs over the greens. Drizzle with extra virgin olive oil. This will make one first-course serving. How easy is this? No salt, pepper or vinegar. Remember, for these types of salads, less is more. Run, rabbit, run.

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.

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

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

Jeff Auen



Full Service.
The Difference.
Century 21
North Oak./Orinda/Lafayette

The Fall and Winter Market

Agents know that this season is a slower time for real estate activity. Even in a hot seller's market, selling prices can be impacted. Buyers can be reluctant to buy and move; sellers are concerned about a winter sale; and now there is a general concern about the economy, politics, and risky loan packages. For Buyers, this can be a good time to persist and receive some relief on pricing. For Sellers, home preparation for sale and proper pricing is critical. Despite media reports, more homes are sitting on the market longer due to excessive pricing and poor presentation. Contact me to discuss your next real estate decision:

1-800-805-8827 JeffAuen@Comcast.net
www.HomesEastBay.info
Rockridge Residential/Income Property Investments

Book Forum

from page 1

suggest something that doesn't beep, buzz or shoot laser fire? We do guarantee that your kids will light up. On Thursday, November 18 at 7p.m., RCPC invites you and your family to join our children's book forum.

Patricia Lichter, the head librarian at the Rockridge Branch Library, will kickoff our discussion by presenting the 2005 Master Plan for the Oakland Public Libraries. Then, children's librarian Gay Ducey will bring our focus to children's literature. Gay will entice us with the adventures that await young readers in the Rockridge Branch, from children's programs offered this fall, to hot titles that line the knee-high shelves. Gay has a bird's-eye view of what excites young readers, and will also share a wise perspective on what parents may want to be cautious about. Come with your questions about age-appropriate materials, and learn what's big in the backpack, from anime to the classics we all remember.

RCPC is also pleased to present local author Melissa Lion, whose first novel for young adults, *Swollen*, was published by Random House this year. Hailing from St. Mary's College with a graduate degree in creative writing, Melissa offers her young readers an "edgy, literary experience," not limited to fantasy. Melissa's second novel, *Upstream*, will be published next spring.

Rounding out our discussion, children's literature specialists from Diesel and Pendragon, our very own College Avenue booksellers, will also be on hand to share their experiences with recent trends and to offer their suggestions.

For anyone who knows a child who loves to read, or knows a reluctant reader ready to discover the joy of books, this is a night not to miss!

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

In My View: Book Review

With God On Their Side

"Bush is surrounded by advisors… who believe that his presidency was ordained by God"

by Jessica Pitt

Published on the eve of the 2004 Presidential election, Esther Kaplan's new book *With God On Their Side: How Christian Fundamentalists Trampled Science, Policy, and Democracy in George W. Bush's White House* (The New Press, 2004) is an investigation of the influence of the Christian Right on the Bush administration. Kaplan, a journalist and daughter of former RCPC board member Meredith Kaplan, discusses the myriad ways she finds that Christian fundamentalism has seeped into American policy, from abortion and sex education to gay rights, social services, court appointments, medical research, and even international relations.

Kaplan begins by providing a glimpse into the Bush administration. She writes, "This is an administration where weekly Bible study at the White House is attended by more than half the White House staff, and daily Bible study at the Department of Justice is presided over by the Attorney General. It is an administration where the staff of the General Services Administration hold revival meetings at lunch hour." From his trusted political strategist, Karl Rove, to his chief speechwriter, his Attorney General, and many other high ranking administration officials, Bush is surrounded by advisors who share his Christian faith and believe that his presidency was ordained by God, not to mention the many evangelical Christian leaders with whom Bush and his administration interact regularly, and who have had unprecedented access to the President and a profound influence on every aspect of government, Kaplan writes.

Kaplan systematically moves from one policy domain to another, exposing the degree to which she finds Christian fundamentalism has shaped this administration's policies. Beginning with foreign relations and moving to social policy, science, abortion rights, gay rights, HIV/AIDS, education, and the judiciary, Kaplan provides an in-depth account of how Bush has ceded huge swaths of his domestic and international policy to the Christian Right in order to shore up his base among Christian conservatives.

The picture that emerges from *With God On Their Side* is indeed disturbing, and should set off alarm bells for those, like myself, who believe in the separation of church and state. In four short years, that separation has been deeply eroded. As Kaplan points out, even with a change in administration, the muscle that Bush has put behind the Christian right agenda will have a lasting impact.

With God on Their Side is a well-researched and readable account of possibly one of the most profound policy shifts to occur in this country in decades. As Kaplan convincingly argues, the Bush administration has offered this once marginal movement a degree of influence over the federal government that far outstrips their sway over any previous administration; and she argues there has been far too little public debate about its corrosive effects on our basic values of pluralism and democracy.


Realtor® Specializing in Rockridge
Saraya P. Motley
510-280-2162
Red Oak Realty

Sales are still hot & it's Fall!

Address	Bed/Ba.	List Price	Selling Price	Close Date
4975 Desmond St.	3/2	$549,000	$650,000	10/13/04
6080 Ocean View Dr.	3/1.5	$759,000	$760,000	10/15/04
452 Hudson St.	2/1	$680,000	$793,000	10/14/04
6151 Harwood Ave.	4/3.5	$929,000	$930,000	10/05/04
50 Elrod Ave.	4/3.5	$1,195,000	$1,275,000	10/19/04
6475 Florio St.	4/3	$1,150,000	$1,505,000	10/15/04

Please contact me if you are interested in buying or selling.
Visit my website at www.eastbayhouse.com!
If you're thinking of buying or selling, give me a call for a free consultation.

Joining Barclay's Parliament Beer Tasting Club

"Make it one for my Baby, and 1,169 for the road"

by Tricia Gragnano

I'm riding my bicycle past the 76 Station on my way home after a very boring day at work. Heading south down College Avenue, preparing for some cranky person to cut me off during rush-hour, I'm ready to hit the brakes at any given moment. When I spot a vacant meter across from Barclay's, I impulsively pull my bike over to the curb. "Ah," I sigh. I've found my happy hour. The sun is falling behind College Avenue just as the twilight breeze arrives.

I lock my bike to the meter, pull down the right pant leg of my 501s, zip up my sweater and jay-walk over to the pub. I walk right up to the bar and sit down, my mouth watering for some of that hoppin' Indian Pale Ale (IPA) on tap. Just as I sit on the barstool, a guy says to me, "Hello there, name's Andy." He has a warm smile on his face, is tall, and is carrying some weight around his belly. I smile briefly and say hello back, even though I am thinking to myself that the last thing I want to do is have some lousy conversation with a stranger. But I say hello back, and give Andy fair warning that I'll be going outside to read my book.

Thirty minutes later I have joined the Barclay's "Parliament Beer Tasting Club," and am marking off my first pint of beer, number 1,170 from the "beer card" I've received. For an initial fee of $10 you can join the club. There are over 1,700 different beers to chose from, and as a member you mark off each different brew you consume from your "beer card." The bar will keep your card on file at the pub. The more beer you consume, the more stuff you get, such as a T-shirt, dinner for two, or a commemorative pin. Plus, once you've reached your 100th beer, pat yourself on the back — that's one hell of an accomplishment. But then celebrate because your name will be put on a plaque above the bar!



Tricia quaffs her lead-off beer selection with Andy as she signs up for the Parliament Beer Club at Barclay's.
PHOTO: CY GULASSA

After I learned about all of this, I had to ask, "Andy, has anyone ever finished the entire list?" He just smiled. He said not ever to his knowledge, but plenty of Rockridge patrons are in here daily eagerly marking off their lists.

From here, Andy educated me about beer. He explained, "When the foam of the beer sits along the edge of a pint, that means the beer has a high alcoholic content." He told me more about the consistencies of the brews and the entire brewing process. I grabbed for my pint and took a sip of the IPA I'd been educated on, and looked for the dark, rich, chocolate flavor he described. "Mmm… I can taste those qualities," I said to myself. Then I learned even more. Not about the beer, but about Barclay's and the Parliament Beer Tasting Club.

Andy informed me that every second Sunday of the month, beers are half off for beer club members. And the first Tuesday of the month, Barclay's will introduce a new beer for Parliament Club members to sample and mark off on their beer cards. Membership benefits include invitations to meetings and other events, as well as dinners with brewers.

I can see Andy's face light up as he speaks about the bar, the club, and the beer. I never knew my happy hour was going to be this informative, but at this point I tell Andy, my new friend, "I'm going outside to read my book." I want to finish my pint alone, and consider what my impulse had gotten me into. Overall, I am pleased with my decision. I now know how to skip rush hour traffic, and just pedal down to this Rockridge favorite, mark off a pint from my card, and have a not so lousy conversation after all.

The sun is down and I still have to ride my bike up the hill. I shake hands with my friend and say that I'll be seeing him soon, especially now that we belong to the same club.

I've got a long way to go with this list, but I'll tell you I'm sure it'll be worth every ounce! If you're ever in the mood for a refreshing beer on tap, or you feel like joining a club in which everyone is happy-go-lucky (perhaps tipsy), than I suggest this local pub. It's one of those places where "everyone knows your name."

"That's right, Trish," Andy says.



The Rockridge Muse

by Ortrun Niesar

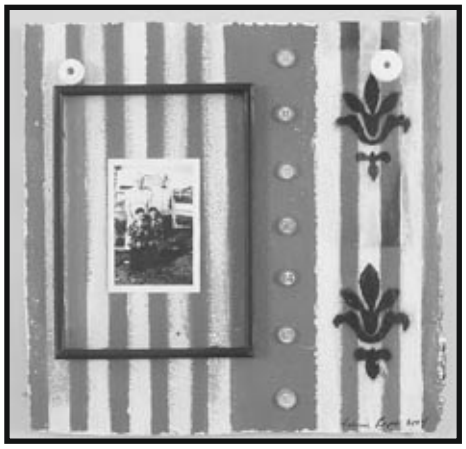
Giving Thanks To Arts Participants

Art for Politics

Thank you to all the artists and their sponsors who contributed their talent to fundraising events during this year's hotly debated election campaign. In the last weeks the invitations simply flowed, and the money did too. The artists donated their talents, the organizers their homes and energy to make it all happen. We celebrate the spirit and generosity of the people who live here and contribute so much to the common good. May you have reached your financial goals. May the candidate of your choice have won!

Rockridge Photography Exhibition

Thank you to all who participated in the October Rockridge Photography exhibition at the Rockridge library. Thank you to Ted Williams for that great collectable poster. Events like this take many hours of hard work and personal commitment to make them happen. We hope you enjoyed the show. If you are interested in working with us on the next one, call Ortrun at 652-6664 for more information.





Guitarist Richard Flores performed for a rapt audience at the Roble Road home of Claire and William Wahrhaftig on Sunday, October 24. The *Music 4 Kerry* event included professional opera singers Nanette McGuinness, Virginia Chen, Jonathan Smucker, Patrick Leveque and pianist William G. Ludtke. Organized and supported by many volunteers, the fundraiser included a gourmet buffet and fine wines from Jewel Winery and Taste Catering.

PHOTO: CY GULASSA

Pro Arts BoxArt 2004

Thank you to the many artists and supporters who help make the annual Pro Arts BoxArt fundraiser a real financial success each year. Pro Arts is our community arts organization. It supports over 1,000 artist members from our neighborhoods. This year's challenge was to take a piece of drywall from the former gallery on Ninth Street and turn it into a work of art for display at the new gallery on Clay and Second Streets at Jack London Square. One-hundred-fifty artists contributed some incredible works that will be sponsored and auctioned off at the closing reception on November 18. Thank you to Ken Rice who produced the beautiful poster, and to the many Rockridge artists who contributed works of art. We hope that you will want to come and bid on some of the ingenious creations, like Kate Runyan's "Three Strikes" or Linda Lemon's weightless paper construction.

For gallery hours, information and how you can sponsor an artist, call 510/763-4361.

December Rockridge Arts Scene

Holiday Open Studios in Rockridge will take place December 4-5. We thank these wonderful participating artists for being a part of our community and for contributing their artworks so often to local charities such as Ehouse for their fundraisers. See the notice below for details on this year's participating artists. Go visit them; take a friend with you.

Rockridge and Adjacent Area Artists Invite you to their

HOLIDAY OPEN STUDIOS

Saturdays, Sundays

Time: 12 to 5

Dates as shown at right

Artist	Address	Media	Dates
Carol Aust	655 63rd St	Painting	December 4, 5
Chris Barrett	6525 Chabot Rd	Ceramics	December 4, 5
Belinda Briones	5130 Desmond St	Painting	December 4, 11
Ann Daniels	5599 Lawton	Unique jewelry	Dec. 4, 5, 12
Karen LeGault	5233 Locksley	East/West fusion watercolors	December 4, 5
Linda Lemon	5524 Vicente	Handmade paper and mixed media	December 4, 5
Liz Maxwell	5808 Chabot Rd	Painting, prints	December 4, 5
Gayle Roberts	6525 Chabot Rd	Functional pottery	December 4, 5
Joan Tanzer	6525 Chabot Rd	Polaroid manipulated prints and raku	December 4, 5
Janet Welch	6525 Chabot Rd	Ceramics	December 4, 5
Tudi Wehrman	6525 Chabot Rd	Glass jewelry, ceramics	December 4, 5
Nagisa Yamamoto	5533 Taft Ave	Art to wear: Adults, kids	December 4, 5
Joanne Yeaton	2733 Alcatraz	Painting, mixed media	December 11, 12
Wendy Yoshimura	474 43rd Street	Watercolors, prints	December 11, 12

Sefina Studio's Affordable Luxury

The Neighborhood Merchant

by Theresa Nelson



Photo: Don Kinkead

Sefina Studio

Women's clothing, accessories and lingerie
Owners: Lily and Jeffrey Campbell
5326 College Avenue, Oakland 547-4779
Hours Tuesday – Saturday 11 a.m. – 7 p.m.
Sunday — 12 noon – 4 p.m., and by appointment.
www.sefinastudio.com sefinastudio@yahoo.com

At last Rockridge has a store where you can buy fine lingerie in luscious colors and fabrics as well as fashionable daywear and copies of celebrity eveningwear. Sefina Studio opened in April 2004, and has been making its mark as a fashion destination on lower College Avenue ever since.

Lingerie in a rainbow of colors hanging along the top of the wall caught my eye the moment I walked into the store. Sefina has almost everything you could ever want in lingerie, available in silks, cottons and other fabrics. The Cosabella line from Italy features gorgeous colors in many styles: sheer lace, push-up, stretch, cami, soft and molded cups, and tanks with built-in bras. There's also a line of bras and panties from Mary Green of San Francisco that were featured in the film "13 Going on 30". Sefina also carries panties in many styles: thongs, boy leg shorts, bikinis, and hot pants (higher cut than boy legs). Special options include the Infinity thong, a super-seamless panty to wear under tight-cut pants, and the Soiré thong, voted "most comfortable" in Glamour magazine. Also available is the Featherlite Nu Bra, a set of form-fitting bra shapes perfect for coverage needed under revealing clothing, using a medical adhesive that can be used up to 120 times.

Sefina Studio offers many interesting and fun choices. The line of Hollywood Fashion tops modeled after the famous Jennifer Lopez green Versace dress offers a low-cut version which fits a wider variety of women's shapes. The 3 Dots t-shirts are very popular — they were voted best overall t-shirt in Real Simple magazine — and come in very soft cotton and clear colors. The ABS black skirt with contoured seaming would flatter every figure, accompanied by the crisp white cotton shirt with bodice detail by Laundry. For fall, Sefina has Chanel-inspired suits from ABS in teal and pink, and stretch pants in black or white. From Max Studio comes a cami and skirt set in cocoa and rose petal, and from Kenneth Cole, soft supima cotton and silk skirts and off-the-shoulder sweaters. Cute mesh sportswear from H Starlet features ribbon trim on jogging suits.

A great feature of Sefina Studio is the collection for evening, proms and special occasions. Owner Lily Campbell has selected a wide range of dresses, many inspired by some of the most popular gowns worn by celebrities. From ABS come the "Beyonce" pink corset dress (inspired by Dior); the pink empire waist chiffon dress with black sash like the one worn by Renèe Zellweger in the film "Down With Love", the famous "Marilyn" dress in pleated chiffon; Angelina Jolie's Narciso Rodriguez-inspired sheath with satin insets; and Diane Keaton's off-the-shoulder matte jersey cocktail dress from "Something's Gotta Give." A platinum Grecian-style sheath with side button detail is classic, and there's a black stain charmeuse sheath with a vertical "entrance and exit" ruffle that is stunning. It's the closest most of us will ever come to the red carpet, and these dresses will carry you through almost any special occasion.

Lily has "a passion not only for clothes but for solutions, helping people find the right outfit for an event or travel." She offers personal attention, advice and assistance, and carries lines which respond to her customer's needs. For example, many women often find regular jeans tend to gap in the back, so Sefina carries the Joe's Denim design called "the Honey," cited by several fashion magazines as the best solution to a neater waistline for curvy women. One customer who modeled the jeans during my visit proved the solution works.

Like many of her colleagues who have opened unique stores on College Avenue, Lily has an unusual background. With a B.S. in microbiology and immunology, she spent 13 years working in the biopharmaceutical industry before returning to the Bay Area to look for new opportunities, and ultimately opened Sefina Studio. She and her husband, Jeffrey, who manages some aspects of the business, live in Oakland. They are delighted to be able to offer higher-end clothing here in Rockridge so that local shoppers can keep their patronage and tax dollars in Oakland. They have been very pleased with the reception they've received in Rockridge. As Lily noted, "the customers here really know their lines and cuts and what they want. It's such a pleasure to work with this community."

With the holidays coming up, Sefina Studio is an important stop for party dresses, daywear and gifts of lingerie and other finery.

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

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

Complete architectural services since 1970
Jarvis architects
5278 College Avenue
Oakland, CA 94618
(510) 654-6755 fax 654-3424

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.*

Smoke Gets... Everywhere

Editor:

As a Rockridge resident who walks her dog in the evenings, I have opportunity to experience regularly and at first hand wood smoke pollution from fireplaces. On some evenings in winter, I have returned home with my clothes, my hair, and my dog's hair permeated with the smell of smoke.

Wood smoke is responsible for 30% of particulate matter, a particularly dangerous form of pollution because the particle size is so tiny that it easily passes into the lungs, where it remains. This poses a risk to all, especially the elderly, those with reduced lung function, and children. The smoke from one fireplace travels almost a block in whichever direction the air currents drift.

As we approach winter, I would like to ask Rockridge residents who regularly use their fireplaces to limit this discretionary activity for the sake of the general health of all. In our mild Bay Area winters, people are outdoors a lot, day and evening. Having to breathe fireplace smoke while working outdoors on a cool day or having smoke come in through a window open for ventilation is really a violation of our right to clean air. We in Rockridge already have plenty of pollution from automobiles and trucks, could we not try to reduce, or better still, stop, this admittedly pleasurable activity for all our sakes?

For more information on this subject, see www.burningissues.org.

Mary Jane Makar

Rockridge History in Found Ring?

Editor:

I live on Rockridge Boulevard. My husband and I were recently adding sprinkler lines to our front yard when I discovered what appears to be a ruby ring. There are initials inside the ring: F. (or T) C. W. to L. E. B. 7-14-04. The jewel stamp is WWH & Co., and the band is gold. I wanted to know if anyone could tell me a little more about the history. I would like to find out if there were any jewelers in our area with that stamp. If anyone could offer more of a research lead, I would appreciate it.

Kimberly Morelli
kimberly@mimanet.com

Rockridge News Welcomes New Marshals

The Rockridge News welcomes our newest distribution Marshals, the Greenfield/Rogers family, who have volunteered to take over for Sarah Lamb. Beth, Arti and Sylvie will deliver bundles of newsletters to Block Captains above Broadway. Other *Rockridge News* distribution opportunities are available: see the vacancy list below to find a fit. Please mention the route number when you call or e-mail Susan Montauk: 547-3855 or smontauk@juno.com.

#16D Both sides 5200 Claremont, including apartment at 5248
#11F From 5418 College, even numbers along College up Manila including the apartment building to 5474 Manila, then across the street to the corner of Bryant and Manila down the odd numbers of 5400 Manila to College.
#14B Both sides of Desmond between Coronado and 51st, and 51st from Broadway to Coronado

District Captain
#14 Three drops on Glendale, Desmond and Coronado
#06J Margarido, 6000 Block





Higher Density?

from page 2

Pedestrian and Traffic Safety committees in writing to urge them to fight strongly against increases in housing density, and to push for bicycle racks near area businesses and residences, not more apartment buildings.

Rockridge Needs Senior-Friendly Housing

by Eileen Levin

My husband and I have been in Rockridge only two years, but we would like to stay here permanently. My husband is legally (not totally) blind, and can not drive, so being near BART and having the grocery and dry cleaner within walking distance has given him a sense of mobility that he lost 21 years ago. Wanting to "downsize" when our children grew up and moved on, we bought a two-bedroom bungalow on Chabot Road. After doing a fair bit of remodeling to update the kitchen and bath and add more closets, we realized that one of our children would be coming home to live, so we decided to finish the basement and attic as well.

Herein lies the problem. As we get older, (my husband is 61 and I am 57), we find that our knees do not like the eight steep concrete steps up to our house, and the steps up and down to our respective office spaces and laundry. In fact, the stairs may be the single reason that we may leave Rockridge.

We have spent many Sundays looking at houses in the Rockridge area, for ones with no stairs that are at least 1600 square feet, or for condos that have at least two bedrooms and a den in a building with storage, parking and an elevator. So far, we have had no luck. I'm beginning to think such housing doesn't exist in Rockridge.

Walking around College Avenue, I see many folks in my age bracket; no doubt, many of them are homeowners in the neighborhood. I wonder how many of us would love to stay in this neighborhood — if only we could find reasonably sized housing that didn't tax our knees or get us breathless. (It gets harder every year to lug the vacuum cleaner and laundry up and down the stairs.) I don't expect to be able to find a one-story, 2,500 square foot house on these tiny lots, but I don't see any options for those of us who need a reasonable amount of space with no steps.

As I read your opinion piece in the October *Rockridge News*, I caught the sentence about higher density housing and wondered what you had in mind. Since we would like to stay in this neighborhood until we are carried out, I would like to have some input in how decisions are made about housing, transportation and traffic. Please consider me an interested party in helping to keep Rockridge a sustainable, "walkable" neighborhood.

Changes on College

by Theresa Nelson

New Stores

Mr. Sandman

Pajamas and Loungewear for Men and Women
5292 College Avenue 428-1302
Tuesday – Saturday 12 – 8 p.m.

Berkeley Kids Room

Children's furniture, equipment and accessories
6022 College Avenue 841-5068
Owners Loretta and Patricia Davis
Monday – Saturday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.,
Sunday 12 – 5 p.m.
www.berkeleykids.com

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

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

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

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!!

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!

So far we have raised more than $13,000, more than halfway to our goal. You can make it happen with a general donation or one dedicated to a specific item like a swing. For gifts of $250 or more, your company or family name will appear on the main park plaque.

FROG Park Donation Choices

General Donation Opportunities

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

Hardy Park and Pathway Donation Opportunities

Asphalt Play Court	$3,000
Swings (2 still available)	$2,500
Drinking Fountain	$2,500
Entry Markers	$1,500
Basketball Hoops	$1,200
Picnic Tables (4 available)	$1,000
Boulders	$100

Opportunities for Sustaining Existing Playground Features

Curly Slide (Hardy)	$3,500
Play Tower Upgrade (Hardy)	$2,500
Wheelchair Ramping, Redondo	$2,000
Trading Post or Ohlone House	$1,500
Vertical Tire Tunnel (Hardy)	$1,250
Tot Slide (Hardy)	$1,200
Spider Web (Hardy)	$1,000
Fire Pole (Hardy)	$700
Chain Bridge (Redondo)	$650
Climbing Net	$500
Entry Climbing Net (Hardy)	$500

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 $_____.

Payment Choice

❒ My check is enclosed.

❒ Charge my credit card (circle one) VISA Mastercard

❒ I've made a donation with PayPal on the website, www.frogpark.org

Name on card: _____

Card Number: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Name: _____ Email: _____

Company or Family Name (for acknowledgment): _____

StreetAddress:_____

City / St / 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. Federal tax ID#94-3011284. For more information, call: 644-4228.

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

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

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

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


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-v1-0608]RP-260-0805

Changed Use

from page 1

- Retail sales would be allowed until 9 p.m. daily,
- The space could be used by a restaurant with up to 49 seats,
- A restaurant could be open from 7 a.m. until 10 p.m. daily,
- Trucks would make deliveries on Claremont Avenue,
- Trash would be picked up on Claremont Avenue.

Members of the Claremont-Colby Coalition feel these conditions are inappropriate. They are planning to appeal the Board's decision.

One of the coalition's primary concerns, which was not addressed by the commission, is traffic at the Colby/Claremont intersection. Developers are not required by the City to improve traffic patterns or increase parking. Unfortunately, the intersection is a bad one, with everything from fender benders to more serious accidents occurring frequently. This intersection has had more accidents over the past year than any other in Rockridge, including the busy one at Claremont and College.

Also, for residents of Colby and Forest Streets, where many homes don't have driveways, parking is already a challenge. Other residents are concerned about congestion, trash, pedestrian safety and noise.

Thus, residents strongly favor a professional office moving into the vacant building rather than retailers. In fact, professional office space is in short supply in Rockridge.

Unfortunately, professional office space is not specifically included in the City's General Plan for this zoning designation. To pursue this alternative, the coalition needs to learn more information about previous uses of the building. Beyond that, it will be necessary to amend the city's guidelines for the General Plan, a long and difficult process but an important one for the Rockridge community.

"This property provides great possibilities," according to Ron Kriss, owner of Lawton Associates Real Estate. "It would be a shame to squander an opportunity to responsibly develop this vital corner in our neighborhood."

To forward their appeal to the Planning Commission and possibly the City Council, the Claremont-Colby Coalition is looking for additional information from Rockridge residents. If you are aware of previous uses of the site, or would like to receive more information, email Adrienne at adfoodie@yahoo.com, call the coalition at 658-1353. The more known about the site, the stronger a case can be made for professional use.

PROJECT UPDATE

As of October 28, it appears that the developers may be backing out of the project. Regardless of their decision, the Claremont-Colby Coalition will continue to explore amending Oakland's General Plan to allow for professional use at the site. Because there will certainly be other prospective buyers, there will be opportunity for further input from the community. Any information about this space or about the specifics of amending the General Plan will be helpful.



"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

Heavenly high sales prices.
Rockbottom commissions.

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. *December deadline is November 18.*

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.

Pilates or Gyrotonic®
Free 30-minute private session*.First class FREE* in Pilates, Yogilates, NIA®, Gyrokinesis®, and/or Yamuna® Body Rolling. (*For new clients). Mind-Body Connection, 5255 College Ave, 420-0444 (www.mindbodyconnection.net)

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.

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

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

Temporary Room Rental
Having out of town guests and nowhere to put them? Large, sunny room available in Craftsman home in Rockridge/Elmwood area. See website for photos and info. http://geocities.com/cayenne2810 or call 547-8788.

Crossroads Art Center
Art Classes and more for 3-14 year olds. Cartooning-animation, video production, paint-draw, ceramics-sculpture, Steel drums, drama, basketball clinic. On-going registration: Hillside School, 1581 Leroy St., Berkeley, near UC campus at Euclid/Hearst. 528-5006.

Antique Repair and Refinishing
Experienced and Knowledgeable. All types of furniture. New finishes, repairs, waxing, p/u & delivery available. Family-run since 1990. E-mail pictures for estimates and questions. Bruce@BayAreaAntiques.com 534-0603.

Friends

from page 3

borhood is Fanya Yeliseyevna. Dressed in bright-colored clothes with a hat perched on her red hair, she strolls up and down the Avenue with a smile for everybody. Even with her limited English, she communicates, and she usually comes home with a flower that someone has given her. She too has an interesting history. Born in Belarus, she enlisted in the Red Army in World War II and sustained severe injuries which she still suffers from. She and her husband lived in many different parts of the world before coming here to join family members who had fled the Chernobyl disaster.

Economic and mobility problems make it hard for many of the residents to get out much, but they are still people who care about the world and have interesting life stories and insights to share. Satellite Housing, the nonprofit agency that operates Otterbein Manor, provides only a part time "advocate/service coordinator." It would be nice if an organization or individuals in the community made a connection with the residents and offered to help organize some projects or activities that would be of mutual enjoyment and benefit. (Contact Lydia at lydiagans@juno.com)



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

MAISON NOUVEAU
REAL ESTATE SERVICES

TO DATE THE MAISON NOUVEAU TEAM HAS SAVED HOME BUYERS AND SELLERS

$605,221.00

IN REAL ESTATE COMMISSIONS!

CALL US TO FIND OUT HOW MUCH WE WILL SAVE YOU.

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 Brunner's Community Advisory Meeting

Saturday, December 4, 10am to noon: Peralta Elementary School: 460 63rd St. (parking on Alcatraz Ave., just east of Telegraph). **Topic**: **Sustainability and the environment**. For more information: 238-7001, or www.oaklandnet.com (the site for all City related information).

The Greater Rockridge N'hood Crime Prevention Council

Steering Committee meets 3rd Tuesday each month, 7 to 8:30pm., 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, 597-5017

For Children:

- Toddler Story Time: 1st and 2nd Saturday, 10:30am: 11/6, 11/613, 12/4.
- Pre-School Story Time: 1st and 3rd Wednesday, 10:30 & 11am: 11/17, 12/1.
- Pajama Story Time: 2nd and 4th Tuesday, 7pm: 11/9, 11/23.

Special Event

Word-for-Word live theater presents "The Master-Maid." Best for ages 4 to 14. Tuesday, 11/16, 7pm.

For Adults:

- Lawyers in the Library: Free legal advice. First Tuesday of each month: 12/7, 6 to 8pm. Advance sign-up 5pm.

Special Event: Robert Schoen, author, musician and optometrist, will discuss his book, *What I Wish My Christian Friends Knew About Judaism*. Tuesday,11/9, 7pm to 8pm.

Library Hours:

New Hours: See box, page 2. Closed 11/11 for Veterans' Day and 11/25 and 11/26 for Thanksgiving.

Diesel Book/Poetry Readings

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

- Monday, 11/8, 7:30pm. **Amnesty International monthly meeting**. All welcome.
- Tuesday, 11/9, 7:30pm. **Starhawk:** *The Earth Path: Grounding Your Spirit in the Rhythms of Nature*.
- Wednesday, 11/10, 7:30pm. **William Vollmann:** *Rising Up and Rising Down: Some Thoughts on Violence, Freedom, and Urgent Means*.
- Thursday, 11/11, 7:30pm. **Geneen Roth and Matt Weinstein:** *The Craggy Hole in My Heart*, and *Dogs Don't Bite When A Growl Will Do.*
- Sunday, 11/114, 2pm. **USF MFA Readings: Student poetry**. Refreshments served.
- Tuesday, 11/16, 7/30pm. **Joel Drucker:** *Jimmy Connors Saved My Life*.
- Wednesday, 11/17, 12:30pm (special lunchtime event). **Ian Baker:** *The Heart of the World*.
- Thursday, 11/18, 7:30pm. **Valerie Miner:** *Abundant Light*.
- Sunday, 11/21, 2pm. Diesel's Cookbook Club presents **Harold McGee** discussing techniques and history of food preparation.
- Wednesday, 12/1, 7:30pm. **Julie Carr** and **Jennifer Dick:** Poetry reading.

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

Book Reading at The Pasta Shop

5565 College Avenue. Saturday, 11/13, 3-5pm. **Patricia Wells**, International Herald Tribune food critic discussing *The Provençe Cookbook*. Includes food and cheese tasting from the south of France. More information at 655-7790.

NOCCS Annual Yard & Bake Sale

North Oakland Community Charter School (NOCCS), 410 Alcatraz Avenue (St. Augustine Schoolyard), Saturday, November 13, 9am to 2pm. Clothes for all ages, toys, household items and more. Parking available. No early-birds. Sponsored by the After-School Committee to benefit its scholarship program.

Peralta School Annual Holiday Bazaar & Auction

Peralta Elementary School, 460 63rd Street. Saturday, December 4, 1pm to 5pm. Free admission and childcare. ◗ Silent and live auction, food drink, raffle. Proceeds to pay for librarian, art, music, sports and other programs. For more info: Josie Sommer, 601-0574.

Peralta School Kindergarten Information Events

460 63rd Street. Consider Peralta as an option for Kindergarten, Fall 2005. We have dedicated teachers, an active parent community, strong academic instruction, and vibrant programs in art, music & gardening. ◗ **Parent Forum** Wednesday, November 10, 6:45 p.m. Meet current Peralta parents and discuss their experiences in the Peralta community. ◗ **Kindergarten Open House** Wednesday, January 12, 6:45 p.m. Meet our principal & kindergarten teachers and find out more about Peralta's instructional programs.

School Tours are available on Wednesdays and Thursdays beginning in November. Call the school to schedule a tour date. To RSVP for childcare for both events or for more information call 655-2737 Peralta's website: www.geocities.com/peraltaschool/

Claremont Middle School Tours

School tours for families of prospective students will be offered from 9 to 10:30 a.m. on the following Fridays: Nov. 19, and Dec. 3, 10, and 17. Two 45-minute tours will be offered each morning. Please call the school office at 879-2010 to schedule a time.

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.

- Wednesday, 11/1, 1pm to 4pm: Free Foot and Health Clinic.
- Saturday, 11/20, 4pm to 8pm: Harvest Dance Party, fundraiser for NOSC.

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 + $2.25 and $4 for those under age 60). Call 597- 5085 to get details about membership, newsletter, classes/events and opportunities to become a volunteer.

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 Ave. Presbyterian Church, (next to Dryers ice cream). Contact Jennifer Bloom, Director, 655-0540 or teachers@noccs.org.

CITRON
RESTAURANT
PRIVATE ROOMS FOR ANY EVENT
VISIT OUR WEBSITE
FOR CURRENT MENUS
WWW.CITRON-ACOTE.COM
OPEN NIGHTLY
RES. 510-653-5484
5484 COLLEGE AVENUE, OAKLAND



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 November

3 Beds/ 1 Bath on Broadway

&

2 Beds/ 1 Bath on James 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

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*

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



New on the Market : 5355 Thomas Avenue : In Rockridge

Wonderful 4 bedroom, 2 bath home close to College Avenue, California College of the Arts, and BART

Loads of charm, large level backyard and big kitchen

Listed at $775,000

Call today for more details

Terry Kulka 510/339-4789

terrykulka@att.net

COLDWELL BANKER