The Rockridge News

www.rockridge.org

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Sponsored by the Rockridge Community Planning Council • 5245 College Ave. PMB 311 • Oakland, CA 94618 • 869-4200

April Meeting Agenda:

RCPC/NCPC Town Hall Meeting

Thursday, April 19, 7:00 pm., Rockridge Branch Library, 5366 College Avenue at Manila, Community Room (Upstairs)

- **RCPC Election: Board candidates introduce themselves and describe their platforms for Rockridge**
  - Following candidate introductions and statements, there will be two opportunities to vote for the candidate of your choice:
    1. Vote at the meeting, Thursday, April 19:
    2. Vote Saturday, April 21, in the lobby of the Rockridge library, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

  See announcement in box at right.
  - **Voter Eligibility**
    People age 18 and over who live within RCPC boundaries are eligible to vote. Verification will be by driver's license or DMV ID card showing an address within RCPC boundaries, as shown on the RCPC website at rockridge.org.
- **NCPC Panel: OPD officers and a Neighborhood Watch representative discuss crime in Rockridge**
  - A panel of Oakland police officers and a city Neighborhood Watch representative will discuss crime issues in Oakland in general and Rockridge in particular. The panel will feature OPD Deputy Chief Jeffrey Israel. The full story is below.

RCPC/NCPC Town Hall Meeting: Elections and Crime

by Susan Montauk, NCPC chairwoman

Crime and the Rockridge Community Planning Council board elections are on the bill for the April 19 Town Hall Meeting at the Rockridge library, co-hosted by the Greater Rockridge Neighborbood Crime Prevention Council and the RCPC. The meeting begins at 7 p.m. with the introduction of candidates (see pages 4 and 5 for candidates' statements) for the RCPC board of directors. To vote, you must be 18 or older and live within RCPC boundaries as described at

RCPC/NCPC, page 10

VOTE!

RCPC Election Hotly Contested

In one of the most hotly contested elections in RCPC history, eleven candidates are vying for six seats on the board of directors of the Rockridge Community Planning Council. Before casting your vote, be sure to read their statements on pages 4 and 5. The issues are significant and will have lasting impact on the character and quality of life in the Rockridge community. They range from how to respond to zoning conflicts and pressures for growth and development to how to deal with crime, parking, traffic congestion and pedestrian safety, and more. Come hear the candidates speak and cast your vote upstairs in the Rockridge library on Thursday, April 19 at 7 p.m. If you are unable to attend the candidates' presentations, you can also vote in the lobby of the Rockridge library on Saturday, April 21, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

'Coalition' of the Unwitting: Developers Send Deceptive Mailing

by John Gussman

During late March, many Rockridge and Temescal residents were surprised to receive, in the mail, an elaborate color brochure announcing another in a succession of new, *ad hoc* groups – the "Coalition for Housing and Retail on Telegraph Avenue."

"A coalition has formed to encourage increased housing and retail along the Telegraph transportation corridor," it declared. "The coalition includes the Sierra Club, Eastbay Workforce Housing Coalition, Oakland's Better Housing Coalition, ULTRA (Urbanists for Livable Temescal and Rockridge Area), the Temescal /Telegraph Business Improvement District, and over 1,000 concerned Temescal residents."

The brochure invited recipients to return a detachable postcard, indicating whether they preferred: (1) to "keep Telegraph Avenue and the Temescal District as it is now"; **or** (2) "revitalization of the Temescal District including new retail and increased housing." They were not asked whether they would like to see new retail and housing, carried out in compliance with the current C-28 zoning along Telegraph.

A number of recipients told *The Rockridge News*

Brochure, page 12

The Friends of the Rockridge Library Board Needs You!

The FORL board meets four times a year to discuss and implement ways of championing our wonderful local library. Current projects include helping to find and fund a student for our summer intern program, building the books-on-CD collection, assisting with ongoing practical needs, planning ways to increase our membership, and advocating for the library. Come join us and enjoy terrific colleagues, interesting projects, delicious cookies, and a great cause.

RCPC & FORL Board elections are on Thursday, April 19, at the Rockridge library. For more information phone FORL Chairwoman Jennifer Vetter at 510/595-1817, or e-mail her at jrvetter@comcast.net.

Letters to The Editor

The Rockridge News *welcomes letters to the editor. Your name, address, phone number and e-mail address and city/neighborhood must be included for verification. Only your name and city/neighborhood will appear with your letter. Letters may be edited for clarity and brevity.*

RCPC Land Use Committee Subverts Role of the RCPC Board

Editor:

The current RCPC Land Use Committee's mission statement is in serious conflict with RCPC Bylaws, grants excessive authority to the committee and undermines the historical relationship between the RCPC board and its committees.

First, a little history. RCPC was formed in 1974 in opposition to the city's proposed densification and mid-rise residential zoning around the newly opened Rockridge BART station. Through this effort, and those of other community groups, the C-31 zone was defined and adopted by the city. A decade later the "new" RCPC was formed, largely in opposition to the Dreyer's redevelopment project on College Avenue, and the feeling that C-31, and its hard won benefits, needed protection.

The RCPC board's primary function was then, and is now, to represent the interest of the community as expressed in community meetings, and in informal contacts between board members and residents in the RCPC area. To avoid conflict of interest and legal liability, RCPC never endorsed projects, it only "opposed or not opposed" them based on C-31 zoning and community preservation and enhancement.

RCPC also created several committees with special interests and functions which still operate today. The committees prepared analyses and recommendations for the Board to consider and adopt. The members of the committees understood that they did not function as independent entities and that in public forums only the RCPC board chair or designee was authorized to speak on behalf of RCPC.

Based on the mission statement which appears on the web page of RCPC (www.rockridge.org), the Land Use Committee has abandoned organizational restraints and assumed a troublesome degree of autonomy (emphasis added):

The Land Use Committee's mission is to: advocate for, propose, and guide planning and development policies and projects towards a sustainable, vital commercial and residential neighborhood. This committee is responsible for monitoring, providing substantive review and commenting on commercial and residential planning, applications, zoning compliance, and relevant legislation; in addition to promoting the implementation of neighborhood plans. *This Committee promotes working relationships between community members and serves as a liaison between RCPC and the Oakland Planning Commission, city staff, developers and project proponents*.

The statement conflicts with the stated mission of RCPC to protect C-31 and preserve and enhance the community. Most importantly, it indicates that the Committee itself (not RCPC or its board) will advocate, propose, and guide policies and projects. By whose authority? Certainly not as a representation of RCPC or its membership, but as an apparently independent interest group.

Frankly, I view this mission statement as an abrogation or subversion of the board's power as provided in the bylaws. I believe the board should restructure the Land Use Committee and reaffirm the committee's responsibilities to the board and to the RCPC membership. The

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a cross-cultural congregation striving to partner with the Rockridge community in lifestyle and service.
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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.

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To subscribe to ***The Rockridge News***, send your check for $20, 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?
- Want to volunteer to be a ***Rockridge News*** block captain?
- Would you like to write a letter to the Editor?

Contact us at one of the following:
Editor: editor@rockridge.org
www.rockridge.org
The Rockridge News, 5245 College Avenue, PMB 311, Oakland, CA 94618
RCPC Voicemail: 510/869-4200

Articles submitted for publication may be e-mailed to the above address. Submissions are limited to 650 words; must include the authors's name, phone number, e-mail address, and city or neighborhood of residence; and are subject to editing. To reprint a *Rockridge News* article, please contact the editor.

Newsletter Advertising/Deadlines

Publication date of the next issue is
☛ May 5, 2007
☛ May deadline is April 19.

Advertising rates are $26/column inch. Six-month pre-pay rate available. For display ads, call Jo Ellis at 653-3210 (after noon), or e-mail joellis1@hotmail.com. *RCPC reserves the right to refuse any display or classified ad that it deems inappropriate. (Classified ad contact, page 14.)*

Rockridge Makes Room for One More; RCPC Chair Takes on New Roles



RCPC Chairwoman Jessica Pitt and her husband, Bob Franklin, who represents our own District 3 on the BART board of directors, happily announce the birth of Ivan Alexander Franklin. Born a bit early, on February 10, Ivan is already a man about town. A regular at the Farmer's Market, baby Ivan also enjoys long walks on College Avenue, and often ends up at the BART station, where he and Dad ponder ways to improve access, including benches, landscaping and passenger drop-off zones.

Concluding four years of service to the community as a member and then chairwoman of the RCPC board of directors, Jessica will leave the board when her current term expires, in April of this year. She plans to devote most of her new free time to Ivan and to her job managing the Bay Area Workforce Funding Collaborative, a grant program of The San Francisco Foundation.

The Zoning Counter

The Zoning Counter is a compilation of recent applications filed with the Oakland Planning Department. Individuals may contact the case planner or the Planning Department for additional information by phone or on-line at www.oaklandnet.com. (See www.oaklandnet.com/government/ceda/revised/planning.html for applictions on file.)

5800 & 5802 Ocean View Drive

Proposal: To convert two existing residential dwelling units into two residential condominium units.
Applicant: Jonathan Gabel
Contact Phone Number: 510/653-8879
Owner: Jonathan Gabel
Planning Permits Required: Vesting Tentative Parcel Map for condominium conversion.
Historic Status: Potential Designated Historic Property
Survey Rating: C2+
Case Planner: Mike Rivera at 510/238-6417 or mrivera@oaklandnet.com

Zoning Counter, page 5

Meet Your Neighbors; Help Your Community

Join the Rockridge Kitchen Tour Committee!

by Jennifer Edmister, RCPC board member



2005 Kitchen Tour guests admire Janli Degenhardt's Locksley Avenue kitchen.

The 2007 Rockridge Kitchen Tour Committee has had the pleasure of viewing a number of stunning kitchens since the selection process began last December. For our neighbors who spent weeks or even months cooking on a camp stove or washing dishes in the bathroom sink, the sacrifice has paid off. We look forward to a spectacular Kitchen Tour on October 7!

The continuing success of the Kitchen Tour is due not only to the magnificent kitchens on display, but to the enthusiastic volunteers who lend their time, energy and specials skills to this biennial event. If you would like to join us by volunteering, we have openings on the publicity and general coordination committees. We are also looking for docents to show off Rockridge's finest kitchens. All volunteers will be treated to a ticket to the show. But perhaps the most gratifying reward is knowing that, as a Kitchen Tour volunteer, you've helped raise the funds that allow RCPC to advocate for health, safety and quality of life in Rockridge. Volunteering is also a great way to meet your neighbors and to feel connected to your community.

If you have a few hours (or perhaps a few more) to contribute, we have a place for you. To volunteer for the Kitchen Tour Committee, or to make a last-minute recommendation of a special kitchen, e-mail Jennifer Edmister at toejrb@earthlink.net with subject "Kitchen Tour," or call her at 510/869-4200. To volunteer to be a docent on the day of the tour, call Nancy Sale at 510/655-4625.


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Election 2007: RCPC Board Candidates

Jennifer Edmister
Thomas Avenue



Incumbent

Since joining the RCPC board of directors in December 2003, my primary focus has been the Rockridge Kitchen Tour, RCPC's sole fundraiser. As the co-chair of this event, it has been my pleasure to meet both energetic newcomers to the area and many of the longtime Rockridgians who helped build this community. Formerly a real estate litigation attorney, I've lived in and loved Rockridge for almost 10 years. Today, as a stay-at-home mom, soon to start my oldest son in our public school, I have an even greater appreciation for the quality of life here. I would like RCPC to help ensure that Rockridge remains a healthy, vibrant neighborhood, in which we can all live, walk, and send our children to school.

Albert Hussian
Locksley Avenue



Incumbent

I have lived in Rockridge most of my life, love this area and want to remain on the board to help make smart decisions that serve the best interests of the community. I want to see the charm and character of Rockridge stay the same, but community safety increase and grow with the changes that do happen. I may not always agree with the other board members, but I do agree with their ideals. I have worked with FORL, FROG Park, and the RCPC board by providing a sound system, engineering and planning for events throughout last year, reducing their expenses while enhancing their events. My plan includes working more closely with the Rockridge business association (RDA) on community events and special projects.

Hiroko M. Kurihara
62nd Street



Incumbent

I've volunteered as chair of the Land Use Committee for four years. I am inspired to continue as a board member because I believe that the RCPC needs to ask: What are the core values we hold as a community? I see a community where people with mixed incomes and different backgrounds have multiple options for housing that suit all phases of life. I see innovative buildings (e.g., a community center with multi-generational housing above) that engage people with each other and create a sense of place that is livelier, safer, and supportive of our local businesses. Let's preserve Rockridge as a walkable transit neighborhood and go one step further and become an inclusive, caring community that takes responsibility for the future.

Steve Meyer
Broadway



Incumbent

As a homeowner and resident of Rockridge for the past three and a half years, and RCPC board member for the past year and a half, my family and I have enjoyed and truly appreciate all of the things that make this neighborhood great and unique. As current chair of the RCPC Traffic, Pedestrian, and Bicycle Safety (TPBS) Committee, I have been able to work with Rockridge residents and City of Oakland officials by facilitating dialogue and communication in an effort to define feasible solutions for the issues that have been identified in our neighborhood. Our current and ongoing focus is in the areas of Upper Broadway and the Rockridge Triangle. I would very much like the opportunity to continue to serve on the RCPC board, and thank you for your support.

Grace Park
Birch Court



I hope to nurture the growth of this neighborhood and to preserve and protect the very character that makes Rockridge a wonderful place to live. By character I mean a walkable, diverse, economically vibrant community that is a unique expression of a neighborhood of Oakland. And by preserve and protect, I mean to speak for and champion the welfare of the people who live here.To that end I would like to see an explicit position statement that: 1) guides the RCPC to act as an impassioned defender of traffic safety, public areas, environmental concerns and enlightened land use, and 2) expands the dialogue between the RCPC, community groups, residents, businesses and the city government on neighborhood issues.

Ellen Peterson
Roble Road



I have lived in Rockridge for over 20 years, first as a renter, then as an owner and a landlord. Following the Oakland Hills Fire, and following my retirement from practicing law, I became involved in several planning issues as they impacted my neighborhood, including sound mitigation below Highway 24, land marking the Claremont Hotel, and various zoning issues. For several years, I have been president of the Chabot Canyon Association, our neighborhood association. I support the traditional values of the RCPC, believing that those who obtained the C-31 zoning have preserved and improved Rockridge. Without that zoning, Rockridge will lose its special character. Thank you for your consideration.

Jeff Small
Hudson Street



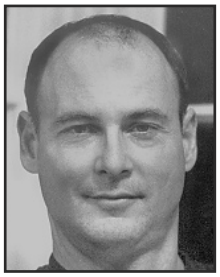
As a 10-year Rockridge resident and Oakland business owner, it is a privilege to run for a position on the RCPC board. From attending recent planning meetings, I learned of something that I think most Rockridge residents are unaware of. We are in the middle of a small zoning crisis. Our city "general plan" has been updated but our zoning hasn't. The result is a mess, with each development being an "exception" and people's personal agendas coming before the voice of the community. I am ready to help change that trend and foster responsible, vibrant growth that reflects the community. That is RCPC's mission.

Ronnie Spitzer
Kales Avenue



I'm dedicated to upholding the historic RCPC mission and representing the community's interests. As a former RCPC director, 1994-2000, my service included RCPC vice-chair, Traffic Committee chair including leading the 1994 Rockridge Neighborhood Plan, appointed Neighborhood Liaison on the MTC Caldecott Tunnel Study Technical Committee, and interim Zoning chair. I'm current FROG treasurer. If elected, I pledge to: 1) preserve and uphold all provisions of existing Rockridge planning code, including height, density, College Avenue ground floor retail usage, parking; 2) follow precedents and policies of past boards including opposing unnecessary variances; 3) restore RCPC's historic ties to other North Oakland neighborhood groups; 4) work with Oakland to reconcile the General Plan and Zoning Code provisions; and 5) represent residents' views.

Peter St. John
Benvenue



I've lived and worked in Rockridge since 1986. Starting with an MFA from CCA, I have based my building and design business here. I'm running for the board of the RCPC to preserve the scale, livability and cultural diversity of this special neighborhood. Rockridge is threatened by the type of high-density residential projects dominating Emeryville, spreading in Temescal, and planned for Rockridge. The RCPC's past battles defending the unique character of our neighborhood have earned us a reputation as a difficult place for aggressive developers – a good thing. This valuable reputation is threatened by the recent dominance of the RCPC board by high-density residential advocates. If elected to the board, I will work to take back the future of Rockridge.

Correction: In the story on Studio One renovations in the March *Rockridge News*, the amount of Measure DD funding available for the project was misstated. The correct amount is $10,000,000.

Danica Truchlikova
Manor Crest



My name is Danica Truchlikova. I am a licensed architect and have recently retired after 40 years of practice. I have lived in Rockridge for over 20 years and care deeply about our neighborhood. I am running for the board because I strongly support the original RCPC mission to preserve the unique character of Rockridge – its human scale and density. I am concerned about the large, high-density developments currently proposed for the border of Rockridge, and the possibility of similar proposals within our boundaries. If elected, I would use my professional experience to serve the best interests of Rockridge residents by working hard to ensure that any future projects maintain the scale and character of our neighborhood and conform to current zoning.

Margaret Wahlberg
Ocean View Drive



Rockridge is nationally acclaimed as a successful urban village with a vibrant business district backed by a strong community. Huge development projects, however, are pressing against our borders, and as never before, Rockridge must preserve its quality of life by protecting the foundation on which it stands: C-31 zoning. The development and height regulations of C-31 have helped to define and enhance Rockridge as one of this country's most desirable places to live. As a 16-year resident of Rockridge, small-business owner, and a member of the RCPC Land Use Committee, the Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council, and co-founder of WhistleStop, one of my goals as an RCPC board member will be to uphold the restrictions of C-31 zoning for all future Rockridge development.

Meet the candidates and hear their statements at the RCPC Town Hall Meeting, April 19, at the library. Vote April 19 or April 21 at the library.

More from... from page 3

The Zoning Counter

6105 Chabot Road

Proposal: One parcel subdivision for 4 residential condominium units.

Contact Person: Maurice Tolbert, 653-5829

Owner: Mike and Mila Tolbert

Case File Number: TPM 9347

Planning Permits Required: Tentative Parcel Map to create four condominium units.

Survey Rating: F3

Case Planner: Caesar Quitevis at 510/238-6343 or clquitevis@oaklandnet.com

Letters to The Editor,
continued from page 2

approaching board elections will provide the membership with the opportunity to select board members who are in touch with their neighbors and those of Rockridge in general, and can authentically represent those interests in the functioning of RCPC.

Richard Smith,
Former RCPC board member

RCPC Replies: Land Use Committee Mission Statement Revision Likely on New Board's Agenda

The restructuring of the Land Use Committee has been an ongoing topic of discussion with the board and in this newspaper for several months. The RCPC board has already taken some steps to address the concerns of a number of Rockridge residents and past RCPC board members regarding the direction of this committee. As Mr. Smith, a former RCPC board member, rightly points out, the committee's mission statement should be examined for revision. This will likely be part of the new board's agenda.

Mike Taylor,
RCPC vice chairman

Save RCPC's Legacy and Preserve Rockridge's Character

Editor:

In 1971, the Rockridge Community Planning Council (RCPC) was formed to combat the threat of high-rise buildings around the Rockridge BART station. In 1974, the council was able to thwart plans that proposed a Jack-in-the-Box at the corner of Harwood and College; in the 1990s it scaled back the expansion of Dreyer's. How ironic it is, then, that some 30 years later, the very council that was put in place to protect the character of Rockridge is now advocating for high-density, infill, large-scale development.

In recent years there has been a remarkable attempt by some RCPC board members to change the philosophy and mission of the council. While holding dual membership in the high-density infill group known as ULTRA (Urbanists for a Livable Temescal Rockridge Area), a board member has tried to relax the application of our zoning laws, thus making it easier for developers to build large-scale projects in Rockridge. Without regard for issues of scale or neighborhood concerns, developers are planning huge condominium projects on the Rockridge/Temescal border. These Emeryville corridor-type developments are supported by the urbanists that currently sit on the RCPC board.

The pro-development trend has not gone unnoticed in Rockridge. At a well-attended January RCPC meeting, in spite of the attempts of the chair to quiet the voices of dissent, one member of the audience after another arose to express the need for a moratorium on new development and displeasure at the actions of the board.

The RCPC founders' legacy lies in the zoning/height restrictions (C-31) and the RCPC charter that stands to "preserve and enhance the unique character of the Rockridge neighborhood." Change can be a good thing and it is inevitable; and indeed, in certain locations, high-density projects may work very well. But Rockridge is already a flourishing "transit village," and unneeded, large-scale development, without regard for the character of this neighborhood, would not be change for the better.

Rockridge residents will have the opportunity to elect new RCPC board members on either Thursday, April 19 between 7 and 9 p.m., or on Saturday April 21 between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. at the Rockridge library. Keep large-scale infill development out of Rockridge by ***voting*** for those candidates who express an honest commitment to protect and enhance Rockridge by preserving current C-31 zoning regulations.

Christine Acker
Rockridge resident

Don't Tar and Feather this Advocate of Higher Density

Editor:

At the risk of being tarred and feathered by those who oppose high-rise development along Oakland's major corridors, I would like to point out a major need for positive consideration of higher density in Rockridge and other Oakland neighborhoods. Here are some reasons

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Letters

from page 6

for not maintaining the current status of Rockridge single-family housing:

1. We are contributing to urban sprawl; when the single-family neighborhoods are filled (as Rockridge is), young families are forced to move farther out.

2. We are contributing to the continued escalation of housing prices by decreasing housing supply.

3. When housing prices escalate to such a degree, it is not possible to suggest that police officers, firefighters, and other public servants live within the city limits of the municipality they serve.

4. As housing prices increase, to make ends meet, single-family homeowners are renting out rooms, converting basements to in-law apartments, and making garages into rental rooms. Our single-family neighborhood streets begin to appear to be parking lots.

5. As more and more people move outward into urban sprawl, more and more people are forced onto overcrowded highways.

6. The longer the commute time, the less time mothers and fathers have to spend with their young families.

7. The longer commute time on these overcrowded highways contributes to global warming.

8. Many of the Rockridge Craftsman houses have narrow driveways that have been converted to gardens or other non-auto uses, and some single-family homes have three, four, or even five cars.

Again, risking being tarred and feathered out of my Rockridge home of 23 years, I stand as an advocate for well-planned higher-density housing, which, when properly planned, can provide more open space than single-family housing can with its fenced-in back yards.

Bud Sisson
Rockridge resident

Housing and No Cars is Unrealistic

Editor:

I cannot understand how the proposed high-density developments will accomplish anything other than make developers rich. High density is beneficial to the community only when people can live/work and shop without the use of automobiles. High-density residential structures, like those in our neighborhood, still require residents to drive to work and shop for necessities – two of the worst aspects of suburban living that contribute to congestion. What are these ULTRA people thinking? More people and more cars crammed into an already over-developed area will help nothing.

Nancy Friedberg
Rockridge resident since 1985

Temescal Housing Proposals Make Sense, Create Neighborhoods

Editor:

I was pleased to read about the proposed housing developments planned for the Temescal neighborhood. I hope to move into one of the planned highrises. People seem to be realizing that suburban living is socially and intellectually limiting and environmentally devastating. Infill in the cities, besides making ecological sense, creates viable, exciting neighborhoods. I look forward to living in a place where most of the amenities are within walking distance, where there are people in the streets engaged in commerce and business in the daytime and socializing in the evenings, where there is good public transportation and the opportunity to meet and form friendships with people of different ages, backgrounds and interests – and, in addition, cause less pollution and make less of an impact on our fragile environment.

Lydia Gans
Rockridge resident

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FROG Park Corner

Condo Proposal; Hardy Park Restroom; Earth Day



by Mike McDonald, RCPC board member; FROG steering committee member

Concerns about proposed condo development near the park

At the Friends of the Rockridge Greenbelt (FROG) monthly steering committee meeting, members summarized neighborhood concerns about the proposed development for the Global Video site at Claremont and Telegraph Avenues, adjacent to the Greenbelt extension planned to 51st Street through the Civiq development, across the street from Redondo Park. The developer proposes building two structures with heights of six and four stories, respectively.

Concerns include public accessibility of the extension, building design, possible blocking of light due to the development's height, parking entrances and exits, and landscaping consistent with the park. Questions or comments can be directed to FROG Steering Committee Chairwoman Jennifer Cooper at jennifer@live-work.com.

Hardy Park Restroom Project

The (FROG) steering committee will host a neighborhood meeting on Saturday, April 14, 10 a.m., at Hardy Park, for people interested in learning about and sharing thoughts on the Hardy Park permanent restroom project. If you can't make the meeting and have questions or input, e-mail Mike McDonald at mike@m-c-d.net.

April 21 is Earth Day

Join your friends and neighbors and help clean and maintain the park this coming Earth Day weekend. Meet Saturday, April 21, at 8 a.m. (or anytime you can make it) at Hardy Park. All skill levels welcome, including kids who can pick up trash, rake leaves, etc. We are specifically seeking a few experienced construction or landscaping folks to be "captains." For more information, e-mail Howard Ferrier at hwferrier@sbcglobal.net.

Update: RCPC Land Use Committee; Project Proposals

by Gloria Bruce, RCPC board member

The past month has been an active one on the Land Use Committee. As announced in last month's *Rockridge News*, I have stepped into the role of interim chairwoman, taking over from Hiroko Kurihara. I look forward to working with Hiroko and the rest of the committee, neighbors, the city and developers to ensure positive, community-serving planning solutions for everyone in North Oakland.

With so much development planned in the Rockridge, Temescal, and Broadway-Piedmont neighborhoods, this task is especially crucial now. Many new residences and several businesses are likely to appear soon. Specialty grocer Trader Joe's has applied to occupy the former Albertson's building, at 5727 College. RCPC will keep abreast of developments and work with Trader Joe's to promote traffic and parking mitigation, landscaping and lighting plans, and possible amenities like bicycle racks. Send us your ideas.

Farther south on College Avenue, architect Kirk Peterson plans to build a mixed-use Mediterranean-style building. Stop by his office, at 5253 College, to see the model in the window. The city has granted conditional-use permits for the placement of ground-floor office space and parking, and a minor variance for the amount and location of open space. Several neighbors, concerned about the building's height, its traffic impacts, and privacy, have filed an appeal with the zoning department. At press time, a hearing date had not been set. RCPC is urging the city to consider these concerns and will continue working with both sides.

North Oakland Cohousing (www.northoaklandcohousing.org) is working with Thomas Dolan Architecture to create a five-story, Craftsman-inspired, 33-unit "intentional community" at 5227 Claremont featuring 2,300 square feet of ground-floor commercial space, 30 parking spaces, condos of various sizes, and shared facilities and amenities. The cohousing project is scheduled to go before the planning commission on April 18 at 6 p.m. Across the street, at 5132 Telegraph, Hauser Architects (www.hauserarchitects.com) proposes replacing the Global Video building with a six-story mixed-use development featuring commercial space, 115 condos, public and private open space, and 106 parking stalls.

Both projects, if built, would create a new hub of housing and street life at the Telegraph-Claremont intersection, but also raise questions about the future of development along Claremont in terms of height, architectural style, parking, and density. RCPC will play an active role in keeping neighbors informed and helping ensure these projects on our neighborhood's border serve both old and new residents well. The developers continue to solicit community feedback. Watch this space for announcements.

Other projects on the horizon include a 28-unit mixed-use condominium for 5175 Broadway and a possible mixed-use project just south of Oakland Tech. The owners of the latter project are working with the community to solicit neighborhood input *before* presenting a design to the city. E-mail Mona L. Hansen at mona@hansenandco.com to share your thoughts and hear about upcoming community meetings.

Keeping abreast of all the development in North Oakland is no small task, but we urge you to share your ideas with RCPC, developers, and the city. To learn more, email me at gloriabruce00@gmail.com and ask to be put on the Land Use Committee mailing list.

Hillcrest Elementary Holds Carnival and Book Fair

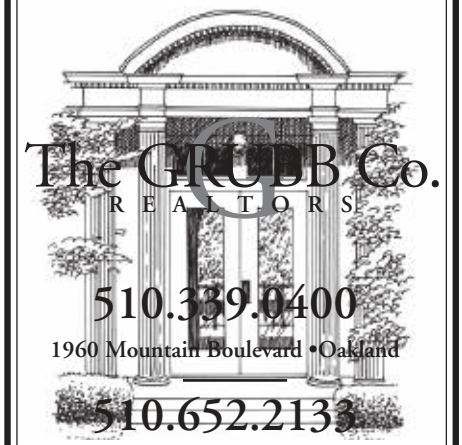
The Hillcrest Elementary School PTA welcomes the community to its annual Carnival and Book Fair, on Saturday, April 28, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. The event takes place on the school playground, 30 Marguerite Drive, in Upper Rockridge (up Broadway Terrace, right on Harbord, left on Mandalay, then one block to Marguerite).

Come enjoy an afternoon of fun for all ages with a BBQ (provided by Village Market), carnival games, climbing wall, giant slide, bounce house, face painting, splash booth, Scholastics Book Fair, cotton candy, and even an espresso bar for the grown-ups.

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Traffic and Pedestrian Safety Committee News

by Steve Meyer, chairman of the RCPC Traffic, Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Committee (TPBS)

Comments Welcome on Oakland's First Bicycle Master Plan Revision

The first update to Oakland's Bicycle Master Plan is scheduled for completion this fall, and your comments are now welcome on the first draft.

The new Draft Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) can be viewed at www.oaklandpw.com/bicycling/bikeplan.htm; hard copies are also available at no charge from the city. Comments must be received no later than 4 p.m. Friday, April 27, and should be addressed to Jason Patton, Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Manager; City of Oakland Public Works Agency, Transportation Services Division; 250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Suite 4344; Oakland, CA 94612. Patton can also be reached by phone at 510/238-7049 or by e-mail at jpatton@oaklandnet.com.

Several opportunities are coming up in April to get more information on the plan:

■ Thursday, April 5, 6:15 p.m.: A community meeting and open house will be held at the Lakeside Park Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Ave. at Grand Ave. There will be a presentation at 6:15, and members of the public are welcome to stop by any time between 5:30 and 7:30.



■ Thursday, April 12, 7 – 8:30 p.m.: The RCPC TPBS Committee will hold its meeting at the Rockridge library. Jason Patton will provide an overview of the Draft Plan and Draft EIR, and will specifically review the plans for upper Broadway (re-striping to create bikeways and reduce vehicle traffic lanes) and other areas within and around Rockridge.

Two other topics will also be addressed:

■ A proposal for a detailed traffic study of the Rockridge Triangle area (Telegraph, Alcatraz, College, and Claremont) will be discussed. The proposal is nearing final approval, and the study, which would run eight weeks and be performed by the Oakland Public Works Agency, is expected to begin within the next few weeks. Its intent is to evaluate volumes and flow patterns of traffic along arterial and connector/feeder streets. The results would be reviewed by TPBS and the city, with the goal of determining mitigating measures needed to address any issues identified.

■ An overview of current and proposed residential and commercial development projects in Rockridge will be provided at the meeting. With several projects currently in the pipeline, one of the concerns of residents is to ensure that traffic, pedestrian, and bicycle safety issues be addressed as part of any project plan.

■ Wednesday, April 18, 6 p.m.: The City Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on the draft EIR and on the proposal to adopt the Bicycle Master Plan as part of the Land Use and Transportation element of the Oakland General Plan.

The TPBS Committee brings these other bicycle- and traffic-related items to your attention:

■ Bike Racks: As part of the Transportation Development Act, Article 3, the city will continue to install free bike parking racks throughout Oakland throughout 2007. Please suggest a location! For more information, visit http://www.oaklandpw.com/Page127.aspx.

■ May is National Bike Month, and Thursday, May 17, is the Bay Area's Bike to Work Day (sponsored by the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition). Save the date.

■ Safe Routes to School (SR2S): A public art project and sidewalk routes will be used to encourage safe walking for students and parents to and from Peralta Elementary School. Also, the last Friday of each month is Peralta's Walk to School Day. For the rest of the school year, raffle tickets for a new pair of sneakers will be given to students and families who walk, bike, carpool, or take the bus to school on those days. A new pair of sneakers will be raffled off each month.

■ Telegraph & 51st Street: There is $208,000 available from the city for streetscape and pedestrian safety improvements in this area, and Councilwoman Jane Brunner wants your input. $65,000 is earmarked for pedestrian-safety measures at the following intersections: 51st & Telegraph, 51st & Clarke, Clarke & Redondo, and Telegraph & 52nd; and $143,000 is slated for streetscape improvements in the Temescal area. (A streetscape plan for Telegraph Avenue was completed in 2005.) The plan is available for viewing on-line at http://www.business2oakland.com/main/documents/TelegraphFinalPlan-emailversion.pdf.

To stay up-to-date on these and related issues, join the RCPC TPBS Committee Yahoo group by sending an e-mail with your name, address, e-mail address, phone number, and area(s) of interest to RCPC_Traffic_Pedestrian_and_Bicycle_Safety_Committee-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

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RCPC/NCPC Town Hall

from page 1

www.rockridge.com.

After the candidates introduce themselves, a panel of Oakland police officers and a city Neighborhood Watch representative will speak about crime issues in Oakland in general and Rockridge in particular.

The panel will feature OPD Deputy Chief Jeffrey Israel. Born in Brooklyn in 1964, Israel left New York for California in 1975. The family moved to Oakland in 1978, where Israel attended Oakland High School and, later, Hayward State College (now California State University, East Bay). In his teens, he fell in love with the idea of being a cop and became a volunteer police officer. He served as a reserve Oakland police officer from 1987 until 1990, when he graduated from the 126th training academy to become a full-time OPD officer. Promoted to lieutenant in 2000 and captain in 2002, he has served as deputy chief since 2005, heading up successively the Internal Affairs Division, the Bureau of Field Operations and the Bureau of Services.



OPD Deputy Chief Jeff Israel

Israel approaches his responsibilities with passion, dedication and a keen understanding of the Oakland Police Department and its strengths and weaknesses. His talk will focus on the increase in violent crime, the planned reorganization of the Oakland Police Department to improve response time, and progress with Measure Y staffing mandates. Sharing the podium will be Rockridge Beats 12Y/13X Problem Solving Officer Everett Peterson, College Avenue Walking Officer Doug Chimpky and Neighborhood Watch Coordinator Claudia Albano.



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Peralta Fire: March 26, 2007









Peralta School parent coordinators Christopher Waters and Cathy Reeves (inset top) survey damage to Oakland's Peralta Elementary School at 460 63rd St., caused by a suspicious fire on Monday, March 26. The $500,000 blaze forced complete evacuation of the school, pending major repairs. It took more than 30 Cor-O-Van workers to box everything from pencils to posters, and more than 14 truckloads to haul everything to a temporary location at Carter Middle School, 4521 Webster. Teresa Schott (Bottom inset) explains to Lucy Pavana why her class with Mr. Copman had to be cancelled. Thanks to an extraordinary turnout of hundreds of volunteers over the weekend, the Carter site was ready for kids by Tuesday, April 3.

From the Rockridge Neighborhood Watch Network: "Peralta always welcomes donations. Go to http://www.geocities.com/peraltaschool/. The Peralta Parent Teacher Group (Peralta Parent Group, Inc.) is a 501(c)(3) organization. Contributions are tax-deductible."

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6431 Brookside Avenue	4/3	$1,200,000	$1,260,000	2/27/2007
5290 Broadway Terrace	2/2	$675,000	$710,000	2/28/2007
5400 Broadway Terrace	2/2	$639,000	$639,000	3/2/2007
6015 Harwood Avenue	3/2	$675,000	$742,000	3/8/2007
5400 Broadway Terrace	2/2	$640,000	$640,000	3/9/2007
5400 Broadway Terrace	2/2	$679,000	$679,000	3/9/2007
2 Eustice Avenue	2/1	$749,000	$742,000	3/15/2007

Last year at this time there were only 5 homes that sold with an average number of days on the market being 31. This year 10 homes sold and the average time on the market was only 9 days!!! The majority of properties went for the asking price or over. Last year, all properties sold for under the asking price.

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Brochure

from page 1

that they considered the brochure's depiction of the issues to be simplistic and misleading. Some were bemused, and some irritated, by the brochure's cover, which sported the motto, "Telegraph Avenue – Its time has come… again" superimposed on a photo of a busy downtown Oakland street corner, circa 1940.

Around the same time, a separate announcement of the new "coalition" appeared in an article in *Temescal News and Views*, by Roy Alper, a real estate developer who is a principal in a number of high-profile condominium projects in the Telegraph and Shattuck corridors (including the six-story Temescal Place at 48th & Telegraph, completed in 2004, and the five-story CIVIQ project at 51st & Telegraph, which will soon begin construction). Alper named the Temescal Merchants Association as another coalition partner.

But during the week after these announcements appeared, nearly all of the six named organizations denied any connection with the media splash. When contacted by *The Rockridge News*, senior representatives of most of the organizations said their organizations had not endorsed the mailer and were not part of any such "coalition." Kent Lewandowski of the Sierra Club's Northern Alameda County Group, and Linda Best of East Bay Workforce Housing, said they had never heard of the "coalition," while Carlo Busby of the Merchants Association said he had heard it mentioned but did not know what it was. Greg McConnell of the Better Housing Coalition explained that his organization is interested in infill housing, but does not enter into formal alliances of this sort. Completing the pattern, a spokesperson for ULTRA e-mailed a statement to *The Rockridge News*, disclaiming any endorsement of the brochure or involvement with the "coalition."

The mailer was soon revealed to have been the creation of Shasta Production Services, or "Shasta Pros," a local firm that facilitates permits and entitlements for development projects in the Telegraph corridor. According to Bill Lambert of Shasta Pros, who oversaw the preparation of the mailer, it was funded by the same real estate developers that are pursuing the new high-density development projects along Telegraph.

Lambert said the general purpose of the outreach effort is to build public support for the densities allowed in Oakland's 1998 General Plan – densities indicative of larger structures than the zoning ordinances would allow, and which, he stated, "take precedence over zoning." (Under the Oakland Planning Code (sec. 17.01.100, enacted in 1998), development which conforms with the General Plan, but which would not ordinarily be permitted under current zoning, may still be allowed if the city grants a conditional use permit.)

The one organization willing to declare itself part of a "coalition" is the Temescal/Telegraph Business Improvement District, established by the City Council in 2004 for the purpose of beautifying and enhancing the Temescal business district. The District finances its activities by assessing properties along Telegraph and Shattuck Avenues from 40th Street to the Berkeley border. The District board, which is elected, consists of eight property owners, two business owners, and two community members (including Lambert of Shasta Pros, a Temescal resident).

The District board chairman, Rick Raffanti, said the board generally supports increased development in the Telegraph corridor and has endorsed specific development projects, including CIVIQ and Centrada Temescal (4700 block of Telegraph). He said that District members who responded to a board mailing last year were broadly supportive of "the General Plan strategy for growth and change on Telegraph Avenue and… buildings being four stories or more," and that the recent color mailer "expresses a point of view that we have endorsed."

Charlene Rios Drapkin, the District's Executive Director, noted that economic and competitive pressures on retail businesses have increased in recent years. She said that higher residential density along Telegraph Avenue, together with improved pedestrian infrastructure and public transit, would generate more foot traffic, which in turn would help retail businesses.

Raffanti and Drapkin both made clear that the District board has spent little time on the subject of zoning. Neither could say whether the board might, in future, support limits on building heights along Telegraph.

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Rockridge News Seeks Delivery Volunteers

by Susan Montauk, Rockridge News business manager

Welcome aboard to Robin Patfield, who has volunteered to deliver *The Rockridge News* along Route 20A; and thank you to Beth Greenfield and family, who have served as marshals for the route above Broadway for several years. Beth is stepping down, so we need a new marshal to pick up newsletters from a local home on the first Friday or Saturday of each month and deliver them to five district captains in the neighborhood. In addition to Beth's route, three other routes need block captains. Please call 510/547-3855 or e-mail Susan at smontauk@gmail.com to volunteer. Be sure to mention the delivery route and leave a call-back number.

Position:	Task:
Marshall	Pick up newsletters and distribute to five homes above Broadway.
Block Captain	Distribute newsletters to homes in designated route;
Route 21G	Along the odd numbers of 6000 Claremont.
Route 24B	The south side of Woolsey from Benvenue to Hillegass, both sides of 6400 Hillegass, up the north side of Alcatraz to Benvenue.
Route 04A	Harwood, both sides, from College Avenue to 6049/51 and across the street from 6052 back to College Avenue.

Music That Cooks

by Albert Hussian

Music That Cooks is a concert series whose proceeds help feed the less fortunate residents of Oakland and Berkeley and, as a fringe benefit, help support local artists. Great performers, like singer/songwriter Katie Knipp, who recently opened for the Doobie Brothers, have graced our stage.

The concerts, to which admission is by optional donation, are held the third Friday night of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the College Avenue Presbyterian Church, 5951 College Avenue, between Claremont and Chabot. All ages, single-, double-, or triple-digit, are welcome. Each concert is preceded by the monthly free dinner, held at the church at 6 p.m. on the same night. Donations are split half and half between the dinner program and the artists as a group, but often the artists donate their portion to the food program as well.

This month, the regular Friday-night concert, held April 20, will feature singer/songwriter David Serotkin and Friends. There will also be an extra concert this month: On Sunday, April 29, at 7:15 p.m., The Galax Quartet, a classical string quartet, will perform a new piece written for them by San Francisco composer Belinda Reynolds, who will give a brief talk about her composition.

For more information, check out these websites: www.galaxquartet.org, www.myspace.com/musicthatcooks.

RCPC board member Albert Hussian is the coordinator for Music that Cooks.



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www.featherriverartcamp.com June 24-July 1, a perfect joyful blend of art, nature, creativity, camaraderie. Adults and kids. Sign up now for an amazing art experience. Class sizes limited. 510/601-1619.

Tai Chi Classes

Thursday/10 am, Saturday/9 am, No class April 7. Rockridge Methodist Building, 303 Hudson at College. Harmonize the mind and body with gentle exercise. Contact: Instructor Gail Sprung, 415/786-2469 or visit www.harmonytaiji.com.

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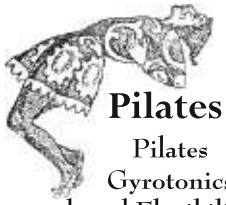
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E-mail *Rockridge News* Community Calendar items to: joellis1@hotmail.com, phone 653-3210 (after noon), or mail to: *Rockridge News* Community Calendar, 5245 College Avenue, PMB 311, Oakland, CA 94618. Deadline is the next to the last Tuesday of the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

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Compiled by Jo Ellis

Rockridge Branch Library

5366 College Avenue, 597-5017

FOR CHILDREN:

- **Toddler Story Time:** 1st and 2nd Saturdays, 10:30am: 4/7, 4/14, 5/5.
- **Pre-School Story Time**: 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 10:30am: 4/18, 5/2.
- **Pajama Story Time**: 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 7pm: 4/10, 4/24, 5/8.

SPECIAL EVENTS FOR KIDS AND FAMILIES:

- **Book swap**: Trade your old books with others. Bring a blanket or mat to display your books. Parents can also trade books with other parents. Saturday, 4/14, from 3 to 4pm in the Community Meeting Room.
- **Pre-teen Zine Scene**: Draw, write, make a comic book, or anything else that inspires you to create an 8-page mini-zine. Bring photos, rubber stamps or other materials you might like to include. Thursday, 4/19, from 3:30 to 5pm. Best for ages 8 to 12.

FOR TEENS AGES 13 AND UP:

- **Anime Club**: Watch and talk about new anime (Japanese animation) with other teens. 2nd Tuesday of each month, from 5 to 6:30pm, upstairs meeting room. Film on 4/10 is Fruits Basket. For questions about this or any other teen event, call Susy, the Teen Specialist Librarian, at 597-5017.

FOR ADULTS:

- **Writers Support/Critique Group.** ALL writers welcome. Bring at least 10 copies of 5 pages of your prose for on-site reading/discussion. Sponsored by the California Writers Club, Berkeley branch (www.berkeleywritersclub.org/).Third Saturday of the month (3/17), from 1 to 5pm. For more information: 420-8775 or Writefox@aol.com.
- **Knitting Classes for Seniors** (50+): All levels welcome. Beginners bring light color yarn and a pair of size 8 needles. If experienced, bring projects to work on. Tuesdays, from 12:30 to 2:30pm in the upstairs meeting room.
- **Computer Skills:** Our teen volunteers are available to assist new computer users with beginning computer skills. Thursdays, 4 to 5:30pm and Fridays, 4:30 to 5:30pm. Make an appointment with the adult reference desk: 597-5017.
- **Lawyers in the Library**: Free legal advice. First Tuesday of each month from 6 to 8pm. Advance sign-up starts 5pm. For more information: 597-5017.

ART EXHIBITS:

Gallery: April: **Aparna Cleary**: Large Quilts.

Lobby Display Case: April: Photographs by students of **Dana Davis**, Berkeley City College.

LIBRARY HOURS:
Monday and Tuesday, 12:30 to 8pm.
Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday 10am to 5:30pm
Friday, 12 to 5:30pm
Closed: Sundays

Diesel Book/Poetry Readings

All events are **FREE** and open to the public

- Sunday, 4/8, 3pm: Bay Area poet **Joseph Lease**: *Broken World*.
- Monday, 4/9, 7:30pm: **Amnesty International** meeting. All welcome.
- Sunday, 4/29, 3pm: children's writer **Karen Stanton**: *Papi's Gift*. Bring the kids.

5433 College Ave. For more information about other events, Book Discussion Groups and El Grupito, the Spanish discussion group: 510/653-9965 or www.dieselbookstore.com.

Rockridge Storynight

Storytelling for Grownups: Open mic personal stories, solo performance, folktales and more. 15 yrs and up welcome. Hosted by storyteller Annie Goglia. Tuesday, 4/17 from 7 to 9pm. Rockridge Library, 5366 College Ave. For more information: Annie at 655-1433 or kalamari@juno.com.

Go Green Neighborhood Network

Meet with neighbors and learn what it means to live more sustainably in large and small ways. Discussion topic: **Climate Change: What One Person Can Do**. Saturday, 4/21, 10:30am to 12:30pm. Rockridge Library, 5366 College Ave. For information on future meetings: Gina at 428-0349 or gina.blus@gmail.com.

Garden Reception/Fundraiser for Stand

Live music, buffet, hosted refreshments. Sunday, May 6, 4 to 6pm. at the Mauser house, 449 49th Street (corner of 49th and Clarke). Donations: $25 individuals and $40 couples. Proceeds to benefit the STAND (Standing Together for Accountable Neighborhood Development) legal fund. To RSVP, send checks, or for more information: Virginia Browning, 362 Cavour St., 654-8925 or 655-3841.

Reduce Traffic & Parking Problems

A discussion with experts, including Rebecca Kaplan of AC Transit, to find strategies and solutions for traffic and parking problems. Healthy snacks provided. Part of ULTRA's Neighborhood Solution Series. Tuesday, 4/24, 6pm. Rockridge Library 5366 College Ave.

College Preperatory School

Livetalk@CPS: Environmentalist/entrepreneur **Paul Hawken** will discuss *Blessed Unrest: The Biggest Movement in the History of Humanity*. Thursday, 4/19, 7:30 to 9pm. Livetalk@CPS is the school's Evening Lecture Series open to all in the community. Tickets: $15 ($5 for students). Proceeds support the school's endowment fund and financial aid program. CPS Buttner Auditorium, 6100 B'way. For more information: 420-2351 or www.college-prep.org/livetalk.

Calif College of the Arts Events

- **20th Annual Simpson Awards Exhibition:** Award-winning works by fine-arts graduate students. April 23 through April 27 at Oliver Art Center. More info: 415/551-9213.
- **"Interface": Media Arts exhibition and screening.** May 5th, 7:30 to 10pm at Oliver Art Center, Isabelle Percy West Gallery. More info: 510/594-3656
- **Spring Fair**: Collected Works by CCA's newest talent. April 21, 11am to 3pm, main walkway of Oakland campus. More info: 510/594-3666.

These events are free and open to the public. Calif College of the Arts, 5212 B'way. More info at www.cca.edu/calendar.

"Locks Of Love" Benefit

Locks of Love uses donated hair to provide hairpieces for financially disadvantaged children suffering from long-term medical hair loss. Get a free haircut when you donate 10 inches of hair (or more). Cash donations are tax deductible. Bring the kids for face-painting and snacks. Call to reserve an appointment. Sunday, May 6, 11am to 4pm. Alexander Pope Salon, 5413 College Ave. More info: Jennifer at 601-5220 or www.alexanderpope.com or www.locksoflove.org.

Jazz At The Chimes

Celebrate Jazz History Month with **Remembering the Kid from Red Bank**: A Tribute to William "Count" Basie featuring the Count Basie Tribute Orchestra. Fundraiser for the Oakland Public Conservatory of Music (OPCM). Sunday, 4/15. Doors open at 12:15pm for pre-concert conversation with Orrin Keepnews, founder of Milestone Records, from 12:30 to 1:30pm. Concert at 2pm. Tickets: $25 – 35 (sliding scale). Get tickets at the door, or in advance through www.brownpapertickets.com or from OPCMusic, 836-4649. Chapel of the Chimes, 4499 Piedmont Ave. More information: www.opcmusic.org or mdorazi@lifemarkgroup.com.

Chamber Singers Home Concert

The S.F. State Chamber Singers (recently returned from a tour in Cuba), directed by Joshua Habermann, present an a capella program of folk songs, madrigals and choral favorites from the U.S. and Cuba. Also performing: the Davis High School Madrigals, directed by Karen Gardias. Saturday, 4/21, at 8pm. Tickets at the door: $15/ $10 students and seniors. St. Albert's Priory, 6172 Chabot Road. Information: 596-1800.

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