THE Rockridge News
www.rockridge.org
No Newsletter In August!
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# Residents Hear Plans for Safeway Reconstruction

*by Gloria Bruce, RCPC Secretary*

A backlash against sushi bars and Starbucks and pleas to protect neighborhood businesses were just a few of the opinions expressed at RCPC's June town hall meeting on Safeway's proposal to rebuild its store at College and Claremont avenues.

At the well-attended gathering, Todd Paradis of Safeway's real estate team briefly outlined tentative plans to rebuild the 23,000 square-foot store. He said the company has not yet filed a formal application with the city, has no architectural plans and wants input from the community before drafting a proposal. Though exact size, design, or number of parking spaces will not be determined for some time, he said that residents could expect a larger store footprint, structured parking (likely above the store), and a more transparent frontage along College Avenue. Paradis estimates the store will reopen in mid- to late 2010.

Some residents at the meeting opposed the idea of an in-store sushi bar or Starbucks, but many liked the idea of a welcoming streetscape along College Avenue, with windows or entrances replacing the existing '60s-era blank stone wall. They also said that new amenities like a bakery, pharmacy, or expanded produce section should

Safeway, page 4

## July Meeting Agenda: NCPC-RCPC Town Hall Meeting

**Thursday, July 19, 7 p.m., Rockridge Branch Library, 5366 College Avenue at Manila, Community Room**

### Workshop: Personal and Home Security

Options to provide an active community safety program are on the agenda for the special Rockridge Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) meeting at 7 p.m. Thursday, July 19, at the Rockridge Library, 5366 College Avenue.

The Rockridge Community Planning Council (RCPC) is sharing its regular monthly general meeting time slot with the NCPC for this special meeting. Neighborhood Watch block captains, official and unofficial, and residents inter-

Home Security, page 13

INSIDE
ALSO READ ABOUT: ■ The RCPC Kitchen Tour, set for October 7; page 5. ■ The panel discussion on crime in Rockridge presented at the June 13 NCPC meeting; page 6.
INSIDE

## Chabot School Makeover Starts



**Master plan drawing for Chabot Elementary improvements.**

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# School District Approves Chabot School Master Plan

### Environmentally sustainable design underway

*by Jennifer Edmister, RCPC boardmember*

Chabot Elementary is on its way to having a new facility that will replace most of the 18 temporary classrooms that currently house many of its students during the school day. With $13.5 million of the 2006 Measure B funds allotted to Chabot, the Oakland Unified School District (OUSD) recently approved a final master plan for the campus. Having established the general layout, a team from Beverly Prior Architects has worked closely with the school and its long-range planning committee to develop a schematic design.

Working under new sustainability guidelines recently adopted by OUSD, the Chabot team will spend the next few months planning schematic elements like the size of the classrooms, the design of mechanical systems, and the efficient use of natural daylight, energy and water. The new guidelines require the school to be designed and built according to criteria established by the Collaborative for High Performing Schools (CHPS).

Studies show that meeting CHPS criteria has an unmistakable positive impact on school performance. Students who learn in CHPS classrooms have been shown to have higher test scores, reduced absenteeism, and lower rates of

Chabot Plan, page 12

# Requiem for a Redwood

## A giant Rockridge redwood tree is felled on the summer solstice

Several weeks ago one of my neighbors told me that a landowner several properties down the street had applied for a permit to cut down our local landmark redwood tree, which dominates our block. It is probably over one hundred feet high and is possibly one hundred years old. I called the telephone contact number on the public notice posted on the telephone pole and was told that, yes, the owner had applied for a tree-cutting permit because the tree's roots were beginning to affect his duplex's foundation.

Yesterday, I saw a long row of orange traffic cones near the redwood tree, and I knew that this magnificent specimen was doomed. This morning, several workers armed with ropes and chain saws showed up and in a few short hours cut all the branches and greenery from the tree and fed them into a noisy chipping machine.

This ancient redwood had two main trunks that separated about 20 feet above the ground, in the manner of the *El Palo Alto,* the twin-branched redwood tree that grows along the San Francisquito Creek at the northern boundary of Palo Alto. The City of Palo Alto is named after this tree, which in Spanish loosely translates as "tall tree."

In the early evening, I walked down the street and took a picture of the still intact massive base of the tree. I gathered up a couple of small leftover redwood branches and put them in water, so now my kitchen has a slight Christmasy smell. Tonight in the dimming light of dusk, I took final pictures of what was left of this magnificent redwood. Several small birds, possibly house finches, fluttered up to perches on the rough bark, then gave up and flew off to a large chestnut tree in the next yard as their new night roosting spot.

The log sections of this redwood tree were not saved to be turned into fine lumber; they were merely cut into large chunks that the workers carried to the waiting truck. This tall tree shaded part of my garden for a couple of hours each day in the wintertime, and I will miss its stately presence as a neighborhood landmark. In the fog-free evenings that we had actual sunsets, this redwood used to glow radiantly in the fading sunset.

***— James K. Sayre***

# Library Seeks Student Volunteers

***by Erica Siskind***

If you are 11 to 16 years old, if you like talking with younger kids, if you like helping people, if you like being in the library, and if you have about three hours a week during July or August to spare, we need you. The Rockridge branch library needs student volunteers to help run the Summer Reading Program and to help out with other library tasks.

Your job may include explaining the reading game to kids, helping them keep track of the reading they've done, giving out prizes, making phone calls to raffle winners, and helping library staff with stamping, labeling, sorting, photocopying, craft projects and setting up and putting away after special events. It is an unpaid, volunteer position.

We are located at 5366 College Avenue, and we're open the following hours:

Monday and Tuesday: 12:30 - 8
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To get details and sign up, call Erica Siskind or Gay Ducey at 597-5017

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**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 (RCPC), 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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- 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**
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***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 600 words; must include the author'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**
**☛ September 8, 2007 (*No August Issue*)**
**☛ September deadline is August 23.**
**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.)***

# RCPC Establishes Planning and Project Review Committee

***by Ronnie Spitzer, RCPC Chairwoman***

To better represent the Rockridge community and respond in a timely and professional manner to new project proposals, the board is restructuring the Land Use Committee as the Planning and Project Review Committee (PPRC), a technical working group of board-appointed members with expertise in planning, architecture, and land-use legal issues. The PPRC will review and analyze project proposals for compliance with the Oakland General Plan and applicable zoning, and assess their merits from an architectural and urban design perspective. The committee will bring the results of its review to the RCPC board for discussion and further action. The board has appointed Richard Smith to chair the PPRC, replacing interim land use Chairwoman Gloria Bruce. The board is developing guidelines for prospective members.

Open communication is a priority for the RCPC board; it is of the utmost importance to keep the Rockridge community involved and informed and to hear community views on proposed projects. Thus, the board will reinstitute monthly Town Hall meetings open to the Rockridge community. PPRC findings will be presented in each monthly RCPC Town Hall meeting to seek broader community input. Separate community meetings will be scheduled when the Town Hall forum is not available. The Rockridge News will publish monthly status reports on projects being reviewed by the PPRC and the schedule of monthly meetings.

If you have any questions or comments about this proposed restructuring, contact Ronnie Spitzer at rcpcchair@rockridge.org.

# Project Updates from the Planning & Project Review Committee

***by Richard W. Smith, RCPC Planning and Project Review chair***

### ■ Hauser Creekside – Global Video/5132 Telegraph

The Planning Commission's Design Review Committee (DRC) heard comments, took testimony on, and passed this project, sending it to the full commission. The RCPC board sent a letter to the commission, and R. W. Smith read excerpts during public testimony. RCPC Chairwoman Ronnie Spitzer argued for a reduction in bulk and scale and the inclusion of an effective extension of the Frog Park Greenway. Other concerns were height, intensity of development and lack of adequate parking.

In addition, RCPC noted the severe impacts on the Claremont Towers Apartments, a 40-unit apartment building with affordable rents immediately adjacent to the proposed project on Claremont. These impacts include deep shadowing of windows, view blockage, and noise from the proposed trash pickup loading area only 10 feet from the existing building. This apartment building is an important asset to the Rockridge area.

Several weeks after the DRC hearing, the Hauser team gave a presentation to the RCPC board. In answer to the concerns listed above, Hauser said everything is on the table for discussion. The Planning Commission will hear the issue, probably in August.

### ■ Kingfish Co-Housing Project

RCPC's PPRC Committee is reviewing the Kingfish proposal, which fronts on both Telegraph and Claremont avenues and includes an adjacent property on Claremont. Tentative concerns include the height and intensity of development and the associated impacts on the livability and developability of neighboring properties. On completion of its review, the committee will provide comments to the Planning Commission prior to the July 18 hearing.

### ■ 5253 College Avenue

On June 19, the City Council denied neighbors' appeal of the CEQA exemption claimed by staff for the 5253 College Avenue project.

The Planning Commission's approval of the project itself was not deemed eligible for appeal, so the council did not consider project design changes. The neighbors have filed a lawsuit.

### ■ Zoning Update Committee – Lower Temescal Corridor

The Zoning Update Committee (ZUC) of the Planning Commission has been working on a revision to the General Plan and the zoning of parcels along Telegraph, 41st Street to Alcatraz; Shafter, 45th to the Highway 24 freeway; and Claremont, Telegraph to Cavour Street. Planning staff presented the proposed changes at the ZUC hearing on June 20. During public commentary, RCPC Chairwoman Ronnie Spitzer expressed concern about the proposed height, developer bonuses, and rezoning Claremont from C-28 to C-30. RCPC objects to C-30 because it does not provide for neighborhood-oriented commercial facilities, allows for an excessive increase in building height, and does not set an appropriate image for future developments along Claremont, which the organization views as a gateway to Rockridge. RCPC is now pursuing an offer by Planning Commissioner Doug Boxer to walk the area with interested residents.

## 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.

### 5506 Taft Street

**Proposal:** Construct a 1,160 second floor addition to an existing 1,160 sq. ft. single-family dwelling.

**Contact:** Kristin Personett 510/697-4289

**Owner:** Madeline Lilley and Eric Faurot

**Planning Permits Required:** Regular Design Review for additions that exceed 1,000 sq. ft.

**Historic Status:** Potential Designated Historic Property (PDHP)

**Survey Rating:** C2+

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

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# 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 will appear with your letter. Letters may be edited for clarity and brevity.*

### Dreyer's Agreed to Always Keep an Ice Cream Parlor, Didn't They?

**Editor:**

It has been several months now since the Rockridge area lost both the Double Rainbow and the Dreyer's ice cream shops. Dreyer's has had a sign posted since the shop closed saying "closed for remodeling." My kids sent a letter to Dreyer's recently asking them to please reopen the College Avenue store, for all the reasons we'd all like to have an ice cream shop in the area. Dreyer's responded recently, telling them, "I am sorry to inform you that we have no future plans as of yet to reopen that store, but I will forward your remarks to the Marketing Department." They enclosed a few coupons for $.50 off ice cream in the grocery store, hardly the same as walking into the ice cream shop, surveying all the flavors and then enjoying your chosen treat on the spot.

Some people to whom I've relayed this information have told me that part of the conditional use permit for the Dreyer's offices on College Avenue was the maintenance of a retail outlet. Is this true? Was the condition voided when Nestle took over? It would be great if RCPC could help the kids of north Oakland, young and old, regain a neighborhood ice cream shop.

***— Jody London***

**Editor's Note:**

The Dreyer's project application in 1989 provided for ground-level retail/commercial space along the College Avenue side of the building — something RCPC had fought for since 1985. The City's planners, in their analysis, assumed that most of the retail space would be devoted to food service uses, but such uses were not specifically addressed in the permit conditions. The company did give informal assurances that an ice cream parlor would be included; however, the ice cream parlor was never mandatory.






# A Big 'Thank You' To My Rockridge Neighbors



I want, first, to acknowledge the wonderful article which Ortrun Niesar wrote for the June issue of The Rockridge News, highlighting my philosophy and work in Rockridge and greater Oakland while pastoring the College Avenue Presbyterian Church the past 34 years. Time goes by so fast!

I want to express, following all of the special services and statements accorded me, how much they were appreciated by Beth and me and our College Avenue Church family. It feels surreal not to be doing what I've always been doing. But, as those much older than I have offered, live the next stretch in a very focused way and thus achieve what couldn't have been achieved when responding to so many agendas at once. I will take the advice of my elders.

Beth and I plan to live in Rockridge and offer support where most useful in our City of Oakland, where two of our three kids also live. Beth will continue managing the Folks Art store on Piedmont Avenue, and I particularly mean to be available to encourage pastors, teachers and community leaders who are working so hard to make a difference in the lives of our larger community.

Again, thank you for your care, respect, support and involvement in all the activities that we accomplished together over these many years.

***— Pastor Bill Beatty***

## Safeway, from page 1

not compete with the independent businesses on the other side of College. Traffic and architecture were further concerns. Several attendees advocated strongly for the closure or consolidation of driveways on College, citing the tangle of cars, buses, bikes and pedestrians at its intersection with 63rd Street. Others urged Paradis to ensure that any rebuild be environmentally sustainable and honor the neighborhood's modest scale.

Paradis said audience suggestions for mixed use reconstruction and leasing stores to independent businesses on the site were unlikely to occur, but that he would not rule anything out. Some neighbors, while requesting more efficient use of space and better service, expressed affection for the existing Safeway's size, neighborly feel and affordable products. Overall, the tone of the discussion was respectful and the group thanked Safeway for conducting community outreach before submitting specific plans.

Paradis closed by promising further opportunities for input, and introduced a new website – www.safewayoncollege.com – where people can make suggestions and get updates.

MORE... **Community Calendar: Volunteers Needed**

**Chabot Space and Science Center needs volunteers** to assist visitors and share their wonder of the Universe with others. No science or astronomy background needed – extensive training opportunities available. Call the volunteer department at 336-7414 or visit www.chabotspace.org.

# Rockridge Kitchen Tour Advance Tickets on Sale Now!

*by Jennifer Edmister*

The 2007 Rockridge Kitchen Tour is almost here. Our selection committee spent months considering a record number of kitchens—almost twice as many as ever before—and the winners include a wide sampling of the neighborhood's finest. This year's kitchens run the gamut from cozy bungalow kitchens to grand-scale modern kitchens in larger homes. Don't miss the bright, spacious kitchen with a glass floor illuminating the stairway below and a stunning three-bridge view; or the impeccably appointed Craftsman, remarkably true to the period, with a stove that will make you look twice; and certainly visit the contemporary kitchen with an Asian flair and an unexpected twist.

While you are strolling the neighborhood and enjoying refreshments, don't forget that the Kitchen Tour is RCPC's primary fundraiser. Net proceeds allow RCPC to continue coordinating resources and funding to improve our neighborhood.

**Buy Discounted Tickets Now**

Advance purchase tickets are available now for $30, and day-of-tour tickets will be available for $40. There are two convenient ways to order tickets. To order by mail, please fill out the ticket order form on this page and enclose a check and a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your order. Tickets will be mailed to you within two weeks of the tour. Or order online beginning mid-July, at www.rockridge.org. Click on "Rockridge Kitchen Tour," and follow the easy online payment directions. Then, save the confirmation number you receive via e-mail. Beginning August 21 discounted tickets will be on sale in Rockridge at Maison d'Être, 5640 College Avenue.



**A preview of one of the kitchens on the October RCPC Kitchen Tour.**

Photo: Susan Montauk

**Docents Needed**

If you'd rather join the fun behind the scenes, the Rockridge Kitchen Tour still needs docents. Docents, who guide guests through each of our featured kitchens, receive a pre-tour of three kitchens and will have an opportunity to visit the remaining kitchens—with a free ticket—either before or after their shift on the day of the event. If you would like to be a docent, please call Nancy Sale at 655-4625.

**Brochure Advertising**

Many tour guests are looking for both inspiration and resources to assist them in future renovation projects. To that end, we furnish a brochure with advertising space — an excellent way to reach an interested and enthusiastic audience. All space must be reserved this month, in order to meet our printing deadlines. Please contact Jo Ellis at joellis1@hotmail.com or after 12 noon at 653-3210.

Advance 2007 Rockridge Kitchen Tour Ticket Order Form

**YES! Save me a spot for the 2007 Rockridge Kitchen Tour,** Sunday, October 7, 12:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

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# Crime in Rockridge: 'the Good, the Bad, and the Ugly'

*by Janet Somers*

Saying she would talk about "the good, the bad, and the ugly," North Oakland City Councilwoman Jane Brunner told a standing-room-only crowd of about 150 people at the Rockridge library that crime in Rockridge is the worst she's seen in 40 years.

The June 13 meeting, featuring panelists from the Oakland Police Department and the Alameda County District Attorney's office, was held by the Greater Rockridge Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) in response to surging crime.

Rockridge has suffered 19 robberies so far this year, up from 12 at this point last year, according to NCPC chairwoman Susan Montauk, who obtained the statistics from the Oakland Police Department. In Temescal, there was a 400% increase in burglaries and, in North Oakland overall, a 110% increase in robberies "on the street, with guns and knives, at all times of day," Brunner told the crowd.

Brunner, a Rockridge resident, said that within the past four months her husband was held up at gunpoint in broad daylight on his way to BART and a burglar broke into her house while her son was home.

Brunner acknowledged that a robbery suppression effort by police is beginning to pay off. (At press time, one suspect thought to be responsible for over a dozen armed robberies in North Oakland had been arrested.) But she demanded better answers and a long-range plan from the police department.

"I can advocate, I can beg, and I can fight, and I've done all three of those," she said. "We need an overall plan from the chief so every time there's a problem we don't have to fight for more cops. We need more investigators. We need to keep the CRTs [Crime Reduction Teams] in North Oakland so they're not just temporary. We hear excuses: the settlement agreement [after the "Riders" case], the vacancies. There can be no more excuses. We all deserve to be able to walk during the day in our own neighborhoods."



Photo: Susan Montauk

**Oakland Police Chief Wayne Tucker addresses the crowd at the June NCPC meeting. Police officers, DA representatives and councilwoman Jane Brunner also discussed local crime concerns.**

People at the meeting expressed outrage, fear and frustration over the increase in crime and a perceived lack of police response.

"Burglaries have become so low on the priority list that you don't even show up," one man said, a complaint that was voiced by several people.

Deputy Chief Jeff Israel acknowledged the problem. "It's not that I don't want to respond," he said. But he said OPD lacks the manpower to pursue "cold cases," where the perpetrator has already left.

Sgt. Ron Lighton of the criminal investigations division said criminals are moving into Rockridge as a result of crime suppression efforts elsewhere in the city. "You turn on the lights in one room and the roaches run to another one," he said.

But Chief Wayne Tucker said OPD is "not trying to police this city at the expense of Rockridge." He said the increase in crime here is not so dramatic when viewed from the standpoint of the absolute numbers, especially compared with other areas of the city.

Lack of police manpower – only 730 of the OPD's 803 officer positions are currently filled – and a high attrition rate (5.9 officers per month, according to Tucker) is an ongoing problem. But OPD has 25 more cops this year, Tucker said. About two dozen officers were set to graduate from the academy on June 27 and more recruits will join academies in July and August. The academy's 35% attrition rate is also a continuing problem, Tucker said. (Last week, Tucker kept a promise made at the meeting by announcing the move of 15 officers from the airport back to the streets.)

Tucker also said that because of the "Riders" settlement agreement 27 officers are assigned to the internal affairs division, in contrast to only 10 investigators citywide in homicide, eight in robbery and eight in assaults. Brunner said her office disagrees that 27 internal affairs officers are mandated by the agreement and wants more of them on the street. Tucker estimated at the meeting that the OPD would be out from under the agreement by the end of the year. However, last week it was extended through January 2010, according to OPD chief of staff Sgt. Michael Poirier.

At the meeting, Tucker announced his frequently-touted plan to reorganize the police department into three geographical rather than time-based assignments, a model that has reduced crime in New York and other cities by increasing accountability. But the police officers' union is fighting the plan because the implementation currently proposed would require officers to work three 12-hour shifts per week. The longer shifts would reduce overhead and overtime costs, OPD Deputy Chief Jeff Israel told

NCPC Meeting, page 7

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## NCPC Meeting

from page 6

The Rockridge News.

Deputy District Attorney John Creighton told the meeting audience that OPD is operating under "extraordinarily difficult" circumstances. "They are triaging most of the time," he said. Despite that, he said the criminal justice system is "not breaking down." Last year, the DA's office prosecuted 200 felonies with a 94% conviction rate. (A plan announced at the meeting to deputize city attorney personnel to prosecute misdemeanors will not be adopted by the city this year because of costs.)

North Oakland commander Lt. Jim Meeks ended the meeting with a ray of hope.

"We just arrested seven people, including a three-striker wanted for multiple robberies," he said. "We're partnering with the California Highway Patrol and BART. We met with Youth Uprising; these local rap artists are committed to helping us. We're trying to make it safer for you today. We are 100% committed to make this a safe community, and we're going to do that. But it's not going to happen overnight."

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# The Rockridge Muse

*by Ortrun Niesar*

### Summer: Leave No Body Inside

Summer is here! What a glorious time of the year. The weather is great, so far. Rockridge has never looked more beautiful and lush, thanks to our marvelous local gardeners. Yes, it's time to get outside. Ride a bike, walk the dog, jog! There are trails to be discovered all over Rockridge and the Claremont Canyon Hills, none more than a few minutes from your doorstep. Plan a picnic. Sleep in a tent. Stick your feet into the bay. Or, if nothing else, just hit an outdoor café.

Local outdoor cultural activities to consider this summer include the Annual Oakland Heritage Alliance Walking Tours scheduled every weekend July through September. Call OHA at 510/763-9218 or e-mail them at info@oaklandheritage.org. Woodminster Amphitheater, one of Oakland's hidden treasures in Joaquin Miller Park, will be presenting "West Side Story" July 13-22 with a cast studded with local talent. Arrive at sunset and bring a picnic supper. Performances begin at 8 p.m. (www.wooodminster.com) At the other end of the Caldecott Tunnel, Bruns Shakespeare Theater at Gateway in Orinda will be offering a more varied program this year. Bernard Shaw's "Man and Superman" will be performed in July (www.calshakes.org).

### Announcing Rockridge Projects

Three Rockridge projects listed below are in the works. These are projects in which you the readers have expressed an interest. We are very excited about working on them with you and would like to take the months of July and August for some planning. Please get in touch with me promptly if you have an interest in joining us. My contact information is oniesar@sbcglobal.net or 510/652-6664.

**Annual Rockridge Photography Show (October 1-30)**

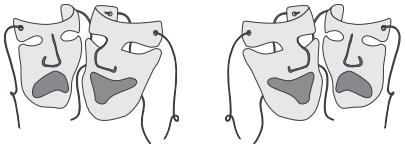
All levels of experience are welcome. We are also looking for an organizer this year.

**The Spoken Voice**

Oral History and Storytelling Workshops with Gay Ducey (fall). Help us capture local stories. Dates for workshop to be worked out.

**Poets and Writers of Rockridge**

(Beginning in the fall.) We plan to feature our many writers in The Rockridge News and in possibly organizing neighborhood readings.



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Rockridge Cornucopia

Barry A. Kaufman

# Indian Cooking: It's All in the Spices

**An interview with Rockridge chef Ruta Kahate**

In the home of Ruta Kahate, chef, cooking teacher and cookbook author, I met with her and her two charming daughters to talk about her new cookbook, "5 Spices, 50 Dishes: Simple Indian Recipes Using Five Common Spices" (Chronicle Books, 2007). Ruta teaches regional Indian cooking in her Rockridge home on Alcatraz Avenue and has been featured on the Fine Living TV Network.

**Barry Kaufman**: Congratulations on your recent write-up in the "Chronicle Pairing Guide," where you help the experts decide on what wines go best with Indian cuisine. By the way, I made your tangy shredded cabbage salad and mussels in green curry. Both were excellent. Who influenced your interest in cooking?

**Ruta Kahate:** Both of my parents enjoyed cooking and were very supportive of me when I started cooking at 11. During the summer my brother and I used to cook lunch together. I came to America wanting to be the first woman pilot for an Indian airline. But after I got my pilot's license, I became disillusioned and decided to become a professional cook.

**BK:** Indian cooking, like so many of the other great world cuisines including Chinese or Italian, is highly regionalized. Where do you see yourself in the regional diversity of Indian cooking?

**RK:** I try to draw upon all of the regions of India. India is a very large country with incredible culinary diversity. However, all Indian cooking is deeply rooted in the Hindu sacred Veda texts. When I go back to India, I try to find grandmothers, local cooks and professional chefs to learn new recipes. I always follow the basic recipe and then make changes to meet my own taste.

**BK:** Who is the audience for your book?

**RK:** The book is for people who like to cook and want to explore the basics of Indian cuisine. Rather than novices, the book is intended for cooks who have some familiarity with the basic Indian spices available at Safeway. The recipes don't require a trip to an Indian market for exotic ingredients.

**BK:** How do you teach your students to cultivate their own culinary instincts rather than slavishly follow a recipe?

**RK:** I try to teach my students that Indian cooking is more than just a recipe. It is about a culture and a centuries-old way of life. The book introduces home cooks to the five most basic Indian spices: coriander and mustard seeds, cumin, ground cayenne and turmeric. I have students grind and taste each spice to make a garam masala. I encourage those who read my book to experiment with different combinations of the five basic spices. I also teach students basic cooking techniques like sautéing, braising, roasting and frying.

**BK:** How do you create a menu for a dinner party?

**RK:** I try to combine basic Indian dishes and dishes with Indian flavors made with ingredients not commonly found in India. I recently made an Indian spiced pork roast with pears and cardamom.

**BK:** What one piece of advice can you give to home cooks who want to explore Indian cooking?

**RK:** It's all in the spices. Know your spices and how to balance out the unique flavor of each spice.

---

Rather than a recipe this month, I urge readers to purchase Ruta's book. With very little effort you will be creating authentic and delicious Indian dishes.

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Barry Kaufman is a graduate of the California Culinary Academy. Barry is available for cooking classes. His email is kaufman42@earthlink.net

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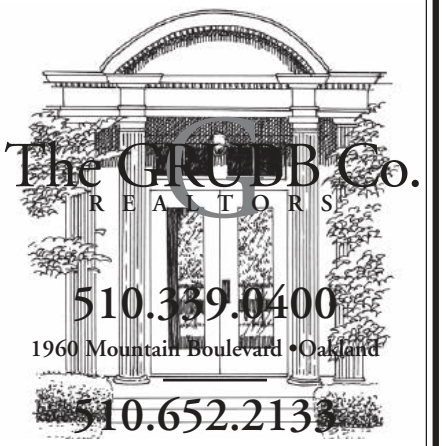


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# FROG Park Corner

**A monthly update on what's happening at the best community-built and maintained park in Oakland**



**Save the Date:**

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**Sunday 11 – 2 p.m.,**
**September 9, 2007**

Share the joy of community spirit with your children. Bring a picnic lunch or, better yet, pick something up at the Temescal Farmer's Market, and then join the volunteer committee of FROG Park with kid-friendly weeding and other general care and maintenance. FROG Park is a special spot and needs your help to keep it so. Have a good summer.

**JUST RELEASED: The city has approved funding for the proposed FROG Park permanent bathroom improvement. Watch for details in the September *Rockridge News*.**



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# RCPC Appoints New Boardmember

Environmental attorney Stuart M. Flashman was appointed to fill a vacancy on the RCPC board of directors at the June 7 board meeting. A Rockridge resident since 1992, he's currently a solo land use law practitioner.

Stu co-chairs the legal team for the Fourth Bore Coalition, protecting Rockridge from the impacts of that enormous Caltrans project. He also is the attorney for the petitioners on the Oak to Ninth project. A past member of the Sierra Club executive committee, he currently serves on the Bay Chapter legal committee.

Stu is a past planning commissioner (1989-1990) and city council member (1985) for the City of Emeryville, and was an elected East Bay MUD director for this area from 1990-1994 (President, 1994). He currently serves on EBMUD's water supply management plan 2040 Community Liaison Committee. He founded the Emeryville Shoreline Committee and served as its co-chairman from 1985 to 1990. He was on the board of directors of Citizens for the Eastshore State Park from 1986 to 1992, and served on the board of trustees of the Alameda County Mosquito Abatement District from 1985 to the present.

# Caldecott Tunnel 4th Bore Update

The RCPC subcommittee on the 4th Bore of the Caldecott Tunnel project is preparing its response to the project's Draft Environmental Assessment/Environmental Impact Report (EA/EIR). The RCPC board of directors appointed board member Ellen Peterson as its representative to the Fourth Bore Coalition (FBC), an association of neighborhood groups created in response to the potential project impacts. The FBC will compile a list of mitigations over the summer, prior to the anticipated release by CalTrans of the final EA/EIR in October.

The EA/EIR is available at the project's CalTrans website: http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist4/caldecott/draft_ea_eir.htm. An overview of the project and alternatives as identified by CalTrans are also available on the site.

# Saint Augustine Church Celebrates 100 Years in Rockridge

*by Jackie Frost*

Saint Augustine Church will celebrate its centennial this fall with a full roster of events to commemorate its 100 years in Rockridge.

Father Mark Wiesner, pastor of the diverse 400-member parish, will officiate at a special Centennial Mass Sunday September 9 at 10:30 a.m., marking 100 years to the day of the founding of the Alcatraz Avenue parish. Bishops Allen Vigneron and John Cummins of the Diocese of Oakland will also join in the celebration.

The first Mass celebrated in the parish was held at midnight on Christmas Eve, 1907, and Bishop Cummins returns to his home parish of St. Augustine this coming Christmas Eve to preside and preach for this special centennial liturgy.

"Of course, we need a good party," Father Wiesner said, so the parish is planning a Centennial Dinner Dance on Saturday evening, January 26, 2008, at the Elks Lodge in Alameda with a catered dinner and dancing to a live band. Tickets will go on sale in the fall.

As one of the oldest Catholic Churches in Oakland, St. Augustine's long, rich history reflects the ebbs and flows of the neighborhood itself.

During the boom years of the 1950s, more than 1,500 families crowded into the 550-seat Tudor style church and 350 students attended St. Augustine School. To accommodate the growing congregation, the old church was torn down and replaced in 1959 with the current, larger building on Alcatraz Avenue. The gym and cafeteria were also added during this time. The Sisters of the Holy Names were in residence in their convent on Regent Street.

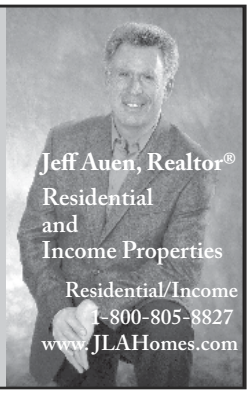
Only the pipe organ was retained from the original church and members of the parish are now hoping to have it restored.

During the 1970s, church membership declined. Split by the new BART line and freeway, many Rockridge residents left for the suburbs. The Holy Spirit Parish in Berkeley opened and took with it families who lived north of Ashby Avenue. In 1975, the convent closed and the Sisters of the Holy Names moved to their Harbord Drive location in Oakland. By the mid-1990s, fewer than 200 families attended mass regularly. In 2004, the Diocese of Oakland closed St. Augustine School.

Today, the parish is in the midst of a renewal. Membership has more than doubled since Father Wiesner became pastor in January 2004, and two new schools have taken up residence in the school building: The Pacific Boys Choir and the Escuela Bilingue Internacional. The old convent now houses Elizabeth House, a transitional home for women and their children.

Parish members serve in a broad range of ministries, including the St. Vincent de Paul Society, a mentorship program at Peralta Elementary School in its early stages, Oakland Community Organizations (OCO), Amnesty International and Youth Uprising, and prison and hospital ministries.

The 48-year-old building is also in line for improvements. The parish will retrofit the front façade of the church as well as the rectory, construct a wheelchair access to the church's meeting hall, reconfigure the parking lot, create gardens and green space, and restore the bell tower with digital chimes.

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# Impressive Community Showing at City's Zoning Meeting

Zoning changes proposed for the Temescal district could drastically change Telegraph and lower Claremont avenues. Recognizing both the proposal's complexity and divided neighborhood viewpoints, the city's Zoning Update Committee delayed its recommendations and scheduled a meeting for August 15 to provide additional time for unheard neighborhood input.

Commissioner Doug Boxer expressed interest in meeting with community groups and walking through the neighborhood to better understand the issues prior to the next hearing.

The City Planning Department's proposal contains several elements including updating Oakland 's C-28 zoning code; four special SD-TEM (Special District-Temescal Corridor Combining Zone) zones specific to this area, each including height and a development density bonus; a new design review procedure; and several General Plan amendments. The proposed changes affect properties along Telegraph Avenue from the Berkeley border to 41st Street, along Shattuck from Highway 24 to 46th Street, along Claremont Avenue between Telegraph Avenue and Cavour Street, and in two Temescal residential neighborhoods. Claremont Avenue's classification northeast to Cavour would change from "Mixed Housing Type Residential" to "Community Commercial" with C-30 zoning replacing the current C-28 zoning for this area only.

The plan includes protecting the historic "neighborhood-defining" commercial section on Telegraph and Shattuck avenues. A height limit of 35 feet is proposed for that section only. For all other areas, the building height increases to 45 feet, with 55 feet conditionally permitted. A proposed 30 percent density bonus would be granted when a developer provides one "community benefit," such as underground parking, affordable housing, or contributing to a neighborhood park.

Differing opinions on Temescal's future were evident at the hearing.

Standing Together for Accountable Neighborhood Development (STAND), representing over 1,000 residents through petition signatures, supports a 35-foot limit with 45 feet conditionally permitted in all overlay zones, preventing impacts from more intense development. STAND members worked hard for a conditionally-permitted increase to four stories (or 45 feet) on Telegraph with neighborhood-serving ground-floor commercial space. In contrast, other speakers proposed a 55-foot minimum height.

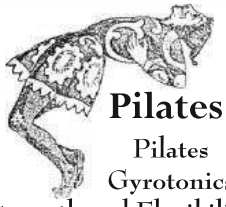
The RCPC board envisions a future Claremont Avenue/Telegraph Avenue Rockridge "Gateway" developing into a human-scale, mixed-use area with individual, diverse storefronts of an appropriate commercial unit size and density. Extending the General Plan "Neighborhood Center Mixed Use" designation from Telegraph Avenue along Claremont Avenue and retaining its C-28 zone best accomplishes this goal.

The complete proposal can be found either at www.oaklandnet.com/government/ceda/revised/planningzoning/Commission/ and viewing the June 20 agenda, or at www.rockridge.org under the PPRC Committee.

Members of STAND and RCPC contributed to this article.





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| 06/12/07 | 6146 OceanView | 4/4 | $1,879,000 | $1,870,000 | 23 |
| 06/12/07 | 5340 BroadwayTer | 3/2 | $629,000 | $595,000 | 78 |
| 06/14/07 | 5208 GoldenGate | 2/1 | $769,000 | $850,000 | 14 |
| 06/15/07 | 5620 KalesAve | 3/1 | $859,000 | $859,000 | 17 |
| 06/15/07 | 142 Beechwood Dr | 5/4 | $1,798,000 | $1,851,000 | 104 |
| 06/19/07 | 17 Westminster Dr | 5/4 | $3,150,000 | $3,100,000 | 12 |
| 06/26/07 | 6207 Mathieu Ave | 4/3 | $1,475,000 | $1,295,000 | 111 |

**2007 2nd Quarter**
Avg DOM: 20 days closed sales, 17 days for pending properties compared to 17 days 2006 closed sales. Avg List/Sell: 108%; 107% in 2006. 75% sold over original list, 19% sold below. 2006: 75% sold over asking and 22% sold below.

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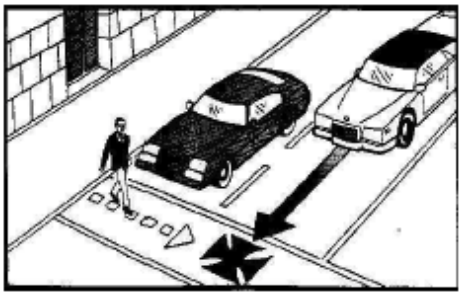
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# Oakland Bicycle Master Plan Update

*by Gloria Bruce, RCPC Secretary*

At the June RCPC Town Hall meeting, Jason Patton, manager of the Oakland Bicycle Master Plan, provided an overview of a long-term update of the city's 1999 bicycle plan which aims to make Oakland more bicycle-friendly. The city currently has three types of bikeways: paths completely separate from cars (such as the path at MLK Regional Shoreline); bicycle lanes (such as those along Broadway Auto Row); and bicycle routes (like the popular Webster-Shafter route from Rockridge to uptown Oakland). The new master plan proposes two new types of bicycle access: bicycle boulevards modeled somewhat after Berkeley's network, and arterial bike routes (busier roads with outer lanes that can accompany bicycles). Proposed improvements include enhanced signage and traffic calming to create a route from Temescal to Emeryville via Cavour, Vicente, and 55th Streets.

Of interest to many RCPC residents was a proposed reconfiguration of upper Broadway between Keith and College avenues. Patton described changing the current four-lane road into a thoroughfare with one travel lane in each direction, a center left-turn lane, and bike lanes alongside street parking. He stressed that this proposal was in its early stages and more traffic impact studies would follow. While one resident found the proposal "counterintuitive," others praised the idea, including a Lawton Avenue resident who said he and his neighbors are hoping for a safer, quieter Broadway. Patton assured listeners the reconfiguration would not cut auto carrying capacity in half, but it



would slow down cars. The evolution of the plan will depend on how the city, public works and neighbors balance the benefits of swift car travel with pedestrian safety and bicycle access, he said.

The meeting closed with pleas for better bike parking for everyone from Oakland Tech students to elder residents who feel insecure locking their bikes outside. Patton urged residents to stay involved, check www.oaklandpw.com for the draft Master Plan's progress, and use the many bicycle routes already existing in Oakland.

The RCPC will continue to inform neighbors about these projects and to hold frequent town meetings with opportunities to comment on neighborhood issues.

# Chabot Plan

**from page 1**

asthma. The school buildings have shown reduced operating and maintenance costs. OUSD has also undertaken a district-wide energy and water conservation strategy that is expected to reduce utility costs by between $750,000 and $1,000,000 annually. Chabot Elementary will be the first school to be constructed or retrofitted under OUSD's new environmental guidelines.

At an open community meeting attended by teachers, parents and neighbors on June 11, the design team took input on the initial schematic design. They presented the final schematic design at another community meeting on June 28.

The final design phase will occur in late summer. If all goes according to the ambitious project schedule, the construction team will break ground in June 2008.

All are invited to the next community meeting Tuesday, September 25, 7-9 p.m., at the Chabot School Auditorium, 6686 Chabot Road.

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# Lights, Camera… Rockridge?

*by Jeff Small*

On Monday, May 7, many a Rockridge resident awoke to find our sleepy hamlet had been bitten by the Hollywood bug. Saatchi & Saatchi Advertising had chosen Rockridge as the backdrop to film a new Toyota commercial to be aired this summer. College Avenue was blocked from 6 to 9 a.m. from the BART Station at Keith all the way to Kales.




Shiny new Toyota Camrys and Highlanders could be seen being filmed as they turned from the side streets onto College Avenue. Peter Newfield from Ranch Exit Films, the company that executed the filming, was happy to be filming in Rockridge. He humorously commented: "The Rockridge neighborhood was very generous to accommodate our intrusion and unrealistic no-parking demands for the necessary post-apocalyptic look that Toyota insists upon."

It is customary for a community to receive a gift when a production company films in a residential area. On behalf of the Rockridge community, the RCPC thanks Peter Newfield and crew for the donation of $500 to Peralta School to aid in their post-fire rebuilding efforts.

# Peralta School Celebrates Bike to School Day with Parade and Posters

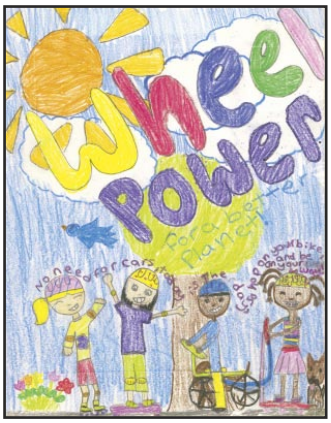
*by Melanie Grubman, education director, Safe Routes to Schools*

On Thursday, May 17, National Bike to Work Day, 50 parents and kids showed up at 7:45 am— no minor feat for parents of school-aged kids—at Peralta Elementary School on 63rd Street with bikes, trailers, flags, helmets and smiles. With motivational cheers like, "Peralta students bike to school," kindergarteners to 5th graders pedaled and rolled their way three wobbly miles to the school's temporary location at Carter Middle School, 4521 Webster Street. Peralta School boasted over 65 students—one quarter of its total population—who rode to school on two wheels (not counting training wheels).

The event was a culmination of a year's worth of activities preparing families and youth for the Safe Routes to Schools program sponsored by Alameda County. Training spanned the spectrum from safety classes to poster contests, with the goal of creating safe neighborhoods and healthy kids by encouraging more foot and bike traffic to school. Due in part to the success and enthusiasm of the pilot program at Peralta School, Alameda County is now planning to expand the Safe Routes project to 30 more schools.

Shown below are the winners of the Bike to School Day poster contest, entitled "Rolling Around my Neighborhood on Human-Powered Wheels." The first-place winner was third-grader Chloe Kilebrew-Bruehl; second place went to kindergartener Sam Knight.

All poster artists were entered into a free raffle for a new bike and helmet subsidized by Hank and Frank's Bicycles, which was won by Gabriel Stamperkurn. For more information on how to sign your school up for technical assistance provided by the Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools Program next year, contact melanie@transcoalition.org




**◀ Peralta School third grader Chloe Kilebrew-Bruehl garnered first place poster honors.**



**▶ Second place went to kindergartener Sam Knight.**

## Home Security

**from page 1**

ested in taking action towards self-protection are invited to this workshop, co-sponsored by the City of Oakland's Neighborhood Services division.

Following an update from the RCPC on development projects in our neighborhood and presentations from security experts, we will form geographic groups to explore options to provide an active community safety program.

Contact NCPC Chairwoman Susan Montauk at info@rockridgencpc.com to obtain an e-mail flyer to distribute to your lists.

This NCPC meeting is in lieu of the regular monthly steering committee meeting.

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## St. Augustine Roman Catholic Church

Fr. Mark Wiesner, Pastor, 400 Alcatraz Avenue, Oakland, Parish Office: 510/653-8631, Saintaugustinechurch@comcast.net. Saturday Sacrament of Reconciliation, 4-4:30 p.m.; Saturday Vigil, 5 p.m.; Sunday Eucharist, 8 am. and 10:30 am.

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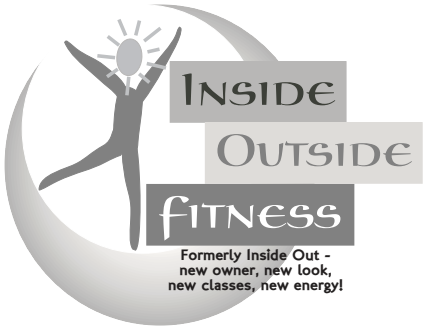
## Garage Sale

Rockridge Montessori School annual garage sale, July 14, 8 am-1 pm. Clothing, books, toys, strollers, high chairs, knick-knacks, etc. 5633 Manila, near Broadway. Contact Sherry, 415/609-5487.

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# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**Compiled by Jo Ellis**

## Jane Brunner's No. Oakland Picnic

Everyone invited. Saturday, July 22, noon to 4pm. BBQ and drinks provided – bring a side dish or dessert. Lake Temescal north picnic area. 6500 B'way, next to the highway 24/13 interchange. Parking off B'way. **No Community Meetings July, Aug., or Sept.** Information: 238-7001 or www.oaklandnet.com.

## Rockridge Branch Library

5366 College Avenue, 597-5017

**FOR CHILDREN:**

- **Toddler Story Time:** 1st and 2nd Saturdays, 10:30am: 7/7, 7/14, 8/4, 8/11, 9/1, 9/8,
- **Pre-School Story Time:** 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 10:30am: 7/18, 8/1, 8/15, (Pre-School Story Time will resume on 9/19).
- **Pajama Story Time:** 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 7pm: 7/17, 7/31, 8/14 (see special party below), 8/28, 9/11.

**SPECIAL EVENTS FOR KIDS AND FAMILIES:**

- **The Summer Reading Program** runs through August 11. Children of all ages can come in any time to sign up and get prizes for reading.
- **Los Mapaches Music of the Andes:** Local young musicians share Peruvian and Central American music. Tuesday, 7/10, 7pm. All ages welcome.
- **DanceSpace Student Annual Performance:** Friday, 7/13, 3pm. All ages.
- **Read-Aloud:** Listen to librarians and guests read a little bit of Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows each day, starting on Monday, 7/23, from 4 to 4:45pm. Call Erica for more information.
- **Make a Magical Dragon:** Workshop conducted by the Museum of Children's Art. Monday, 7/30, 7pm.
- **Sing-Along with Gary Lapow:** Tuesday, 8/7, 7pm. All ages welcome.
- **End-of Summer-Reading-Game Party:** Pajama Story Time, followed by a party celebrating our volunteers and all our great readers. Stories, games and snacks. Tuesday, 8/14, 7pm. All ages welcome.

**FOR TEENS:**

- **Teen Summer Program, through Aug. 11.** Assist beginning computer users, help younger kids with the Summer Reading Game. Earn points for Teen Summer Prizes. Teens with at least 10 hours of combined library activity time (reading, volunteering or attending programs) will be invited to a celebration with raffles and snacks. Call for more info and to sign up.
- **Anime Club:** Teens ages 13 and up, watch and talk about new anime (Japanese animation) with other teens. 2nd Tuesday of each month, from 5 to 6:30pm, upstairs meeting room. Meet 7/10 to play Naruto: Ultimate Ninja I & II on PS2. Film on 8/14 to be decided.
- **Play Board Games:** Tuesday, 7/17, 4:30 to 5:30pm.
- **PS2 FUN.** Bring your favorite PS2 games to play video games with other teens on a BIG screen. Wednesday, 8/1, 4:30 to 5:30pm.
- **Teen Advisory Board:** Talk about what YOU want at the library. Meeting on Wednesdays, 7/18, and 8/15, 3:30 to 4:30pm.

**FOR ADULTS:**

- **Beginning Computer Skills:** get help from teen volunteers on Thursdays, 4 to 5:30pm and Fridays, 4:30 to 5:30pm. Make an appointment with the adult reference desk: 597-5017.
- **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/) Rockridge Branch Library, third Saturday of the month (7/21and 8/18) from 1 to 5pm. For more information: 420-8775 or Writefox@aol.com.
- **Writing From the Soul Workshop with Suzanne West**. Saturday, 7/21, 2 to 4:30pm. Call 597-5017 to sign up.
- **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.
- **Lawyers in the Library: Free legal advice.** First Tuesday of each month, 6 to 8pm. Advance sign-up starts 5pm.

**ART EXHIBITS IN THE GALLERY**

July: **Stan Cohen**, Oakland Art Association exhibit.

August: **Darril Tighe:** abstract watercolor.

September: **Melissa West:** ink and acrylics on paper.

**LIBRARY HOURS:**

Mon. and Tues, 12:30 to 8pm.
Wed., Thurs. and Sat. 10am to 5:30pm.
Fri., 12 to 5:30pm. Closed Sundays.

## Diesel Readings and Events

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

- Thursday, 7/12, 7pm: **The Young Writers' Camp graduation**. The new graduates will read from their works.
- Wednesday. 7/18, 7:30pm: Editors **Lisa Taggert** and **Samantha Schoech:** *The Bigger the Better, the Tighter the Sweater: 20 Funny Women on Beauty, Body Image, and Other Hazards of Being Female*.
- Thursday, 7/19, 7:30pm: Philosopher **Jacob Needleman:** *Why Can't We Be Good?*
- Sunday, 7/22, 3pm: Apogee Press Party. Poets **Elizabeth Robinson, Paul Hoover** and **Valerie Coulton** will read from their new books.
- Thursday, 7/26, 7:30pm: Local author for young adults **Wendy Lichtman:** *Do the Math: Secrets, Lies and Algebra*.

5433 College Ave. Info for more events, call: 510/653-9965 or www.dieselbookstore.com.

## Jazz at the Chimes

Featuring **SLAMMIN All Body Band:** The sextet from Oakland performs a mix of a cappella singing, beatboxing and body music. Sunday, July 15, 2pm. Ticket sales at the door begin at 12:30pm: $10 (cash only) for concert and reception. Chapel of the Chimes, 4499 Piedmont Ave. Info/Reservations: 228-3218. www.lifemarkgroup.com/oakland/special_events.asp.

## Oakland Symphony Chorus Summer Sing-ins 2007

July 10, **Orff:** Carmina Burana; July 17, **Stravinsky:** Symphony of Psalms; July 24, **Gershwin:** Porgy and Bess choruses and **Faure:** Requiem; July 31, **Verdi:** Requiem; August 7, **Schubert:** Mass in G and **Bernstein:** Chichester Psalms; August 14, **Bach:** Cantata # 4 and **Haydn:** Theresa Mass. Tuesdays from 7 to 10pm. **Scores and refreshments provided**. $10/evening or $50 series pass. Handicap accessible and ample parking. First Covenant Church, 4000 Redwood Road, Oakland. Info at 207-4093 or www.oaklandsymphonychorus.org.

## North Oakland Senior Center

**Program Highlights:** Computer classes; Health Insurance counseling and advocacy program; Alzheimer's Caregivers Support Group; AARP driver Safety classes; Farmers Market every Wednesday from 10:30am to 2:30pm.

**SPECIAL EVENTS:**

- **National Night Out:** Meet with neighbors for live music, food, free stuff, fire truck for the kids. Tuesday, 8/7, 6:30 to 8:30pm (patio on 58th St.).
- **Gilroy Garlic Festival,** Friday, 7/18, 8:30am to 5pm. $40 (includes roundtrip deluxe motor coach and Festival admission).
- **Alameda Civic Light Opera:** Sunday matinees at 2pm for: The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas on 7/15; Cinderella on 8/12; Kiss Me Kate on 9/9. $67 for three performances.

Sign up with payment in advance at the reception desk. Center Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:45am to 4:45pm. 5714 Martin Luther King, Jr.Way. The newsletter, "North Oakland Senior Times," provides a full schedule of classes and a monthly lunch menu ($2.25 to $4). Call 597- 5085 for more information.

## 10th Annual Bay to Barkers

Join with hundreds of dog lovers (and their dogs) for this annual Dog Walk/Run and festival. Activities include a Doggy Fashion Show, Olympiad and the largest dog bone biscuit ever made. July 15, 9 a.m.–1 p.m., Cesar Chavez Park, Berkeley Marina (west end of University Avenue, across the freeway). For information: www.berkeleyhumane.org.




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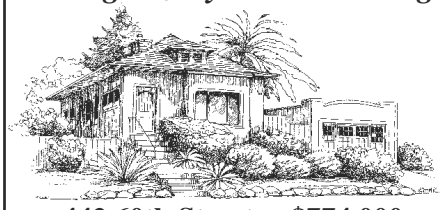
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