THE Rockridge News

www.rockridge.org

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Halloween: Celebrated on College Avenue by Merchants and the Community Since 1992











21st Annual College Avenue Halloween Parade: Sunday, Oct. 27, Noon to 2 p.m.

Halloween Parade: Grab Your Kids, Your Costume and Your Candy Bag

Why didn't the skeleton cross the road? Because he didn't have any guts.

Fortunately, you don't need guts for the 21st annual Children's Halloween Parade. All you need is a costume, a sweet tooth and an escort for those under the age of 12.

Continuing our neighborhood's great, ghoulish tradition, the Rockridge District Association (RDA) and the Rockridge Community Planning Council (RCPC) invite you to celebrate Halloween on College Avenue. From noon to 2 p.m. on Sunday, October 27, participating merchants will host trick-or-treating along both sides of College Avenue, from Alcatraz to Broadway.

To join the costumed procession, meet at Halloween Central in front of the College Avenue Presbyterian Church, 5951 College Avenue, at 11:45 a.m. At precisely noon, we'll kick off trick-or-treating, leading the first group along the avenue.

At 12:45 p.m., return to Halloween Central for spooky storytelling and silly, scary sing-alongs. A storyteller from the Storytelling Association of California will spin Halloween yarns in front of the church and a singer will serenade the crowds.

Don't miss this holiday fun for kids of all ages.

About Those Town Hall Meetings....

RCPC Town Halls: Help Make Them Even Better

by Zabrae Valentine, RCPC chair

RCPC tried something new at September's Town Hall meeting with the hope of drawing more people to the event, and it worked!

With a 7 p.m. meeting time and an array of delicious flat bread pizzas from Jules Thin Crust, guests had the opportunity to have a bite, chat with friends and get comfortable before the program started at 7:30 p.m. It was terrific! The room was full, and everyone seemed to thoroughly enjoy themselves.

Guest speaker Peter Calthorpe, award-winning Bay Area architect, urban planner, and Rockridge "almost-resident" (he lives near the Claremont Hotel) discussed how best to reduce one's carbon footprint in cities, mid-density urban

About the Town Halls, page 9

17 October 2013 RCPC Town Hall Meeting AGENDA

FROG Park

- **New Swings Coming to Frog Park: Tell us what kind and where. Offer your opinion and view the plans at the October Town Hall meeting. Page 10.**

Caldecott Project Costs Grow

- **City representatives will present and discuss Caldecott settlement fund cost increases and the potential effect on proposed projects. Details in article starting on page 1.**

Thursday, October 17 | 7:30-9 p.m. Rockridge Branch Library, 5366 College at Manila

Caldecott Settlement Project Costs Coming in Over Budget

Project List May be Trimmed



by Victoria Eisen, city of Oakland consultant for Caldecott settlement-funded projects

City of Oakland staff and their consultants are well along designing many of the highest ranking projects on the Caldecott Settlement project list.

Unfortunately, as the detailed design of construction plans has unfolded, corresponding cost estimates have grown from the initial costs used to develop the list, in some cases significantly.

This list was developed in 2010 and 2011 through an extensive public process that included three two-hour walk audits and multiple stakeholder and public meetings. The process was iterative,

Project Costs May Affect List, page 8

Brazen Casual Carpool Stickup Sparks Private Security Debate

Following the holdup of a group of commuters in a casual carpool line, a Rockridge resident started a Crowdtilt campaign (https://www.crowdtilt.com/) to raise funds for a private security patrol. Later, a second fund was begun, and, recently, a third. Vigorous debate in neighborhood e-mail networks, erupting just as this issue of The Rockridge News went to press, showed stark differences of opinion about the suitability of patrols. RCPC will organize a public forum on this and public safety. Watch for announcements.

Notices of Interest for Rockridge Residents

Public Meeting: AC Transit Line 51: Corridor Delay Reduction and Sustainability Project

AC Transit,working with the city of Oakland Public Works Department, invites the public to a community meeting October 10 at the Rockridge Branch Library (Meeting Room 2), 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. to discuss potential improvements to the Line 51A bus route throughout Oakland.

Lines 51A & 51B are two of the most heavily used bus routes in the East Bay, carrying 19,000 passengers a day in Berkeley, Oakland, and Alameda. Service has been unreliable due to bus bunching, late vehicle arrivals and overcrowded buses. AC Transit has received a $10 million grant to design and implement infrastructure modifications along the route to increase reliability and on-time performance, decrease travel time, and improve safety for AC Transit riders and pedestrians.

Improvements being considered include: bus stops improvements (lengthening, improved landing areas); bus stop relocation or elimination; intersection and traffic signal improvements; transit priority signal timing improvements; left turn pockets; bus bulbs; and others.

For more information on proposed improvements for the Line 51 bus corridor, visit: http://www.actransit.org/planning-focus/projects-inthe-works/projects-in-the-works-4/

Can't make the meeting? Submit your written comments by Friday, October 25, to Tammy Kyllo, Administrative Coordinator, AC Transit, 1600 Franklin Street, Oakland, 94612 or e-mail at planning@actransit.org.

New Program Helps Homeowners 'Brace + Bolt' for Earthquakes

To help Bay Area homeowners protect their largest investment and loved ones, the California Residential Mitigation Program (CRMP) – a joint venture created by California Earthquake Authority and the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services – is introducing a pilot retrofit program called Earthquake Brace + Bolt that would provide rebates for work to strengthen foundations of homes in the Rockridge and Temescal communities. The purpose of the program is to decrease the physical and financial damage of earthquakes on single-family residential homes in California that meet specific criteria.

A typical retrofit can cost between $2,000 and $10,000. Earthquake Brace + Bolt will pre-qualify homeowners whose homes meet the program's criteria, then select the recipients of the rebate (up to $3,000) using a database that will generate a randomized selection of participants.

The application period for the Earthquake Brace + Bolt pilot program is limited; register October 7 through October 25. Visit www.earthquakebracebolt.com for more information.

Find additional information about the California Earthquake Authority at http://www.earthquakeauthority.com/CEAindex.aspx, or search: California Earthquake Authority.

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Sunday and Monday: CLOSED

Library program details: See Calendar, page 15.

THE Rockridge News

The Rockridge News, founded in 1986 by Don Kinkead, is published monthly in Oakland and is sponsored by the Rockridge Community Planning Council (RCPC), a nonprofit 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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- 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?

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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/Deadline
Publication date of the next issue is:
☛ **November 2, 2013**
☛ **November deadline is October 17, 2013**
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.)



In addition to attractive and interesting kitchens, homes on the **Rockridge Kitchen Tour** can offer visual bonuses to tour-goers, such as the vintage camper trailers displayed in this home's yard, projects that both family and friends have a hand in restoring. Hope you had a chance to see it. **See you next tour: 2015**.

RCPC Land Use Committee

The RCPC Land Use Committee meets Wednesday, October 23, Rockridge Branch Library, upstairs meeting room, 7:30 p.m. Topics will include an update on the College Avenue Safeway. **Agendas**: Please check with committee chair Stu Flashman, 652-5373, or e-mail stuflash@aol.com the week before the meeting for an updated agenda.

Land Use Update

by Stuart Flashman, RCPC Land Use Committee chair

■ College Avenue Safeway Project at College Claremont

As reported in last month's Rockridge News, Safeway violated its settlement agreement with RCPC and two other community groups by submitting its building permit application to the city without first meeting with the groups to discuss major design changes from the plan approved by the city. The city agreed to stop processing the application until Safeway complied with the agreement, and Safeway has now met with the groups and reviewed its intended changes.

Some changes were considered acceptable, but several are problematic. At the meeting, Safeway and the groups discussed the changes, and how to bring the project closer to what the city had approved. A few issues remain. Another meeting is planned for early October to try to reach consensus and avoid impacts to the community beyond those assumed in the city-approved plans. For the time being, the parties have agreed not to reveal details of the disagreements.

■ Prudential Real Estate office 5410 College Avenue

Prudential Real Estate, based in San Ramon, wants to lease a storefront in the Boero Building (between Manila and Kales avenues). Several women's clothing stores had previously occupied the space.

This is only the latest of various proposals to locate a real estate office in a College Avenue storefront. RCPC has traditionally opposed such proposals, the latest being Red Oak Realty's plan to use the space now occupied by Crossroads Trading Co. RCPC's opposition is tied to the organization's strong belief that College Avenue street frontage is best devoted to retail uses. Office uses, including real estate offices, dilute the critical mass of retail neighborhood-serving businesses needed to attract the customers to keep the street a thriving commercial area.

Nevertheless, the Land Use Committee heard Prudential's proposal. The committee's biggest concern was not with this specific office use, but that under the city's zoning rules, once a use permit was granted, the storefront would be permanently available for future office uses without further city approval. The committee has therefore recommended that RCPC not oppose a use permit if it would be limited to just this tenant, but to oppose it if the permit would be permanent. The board will make a decision at its October 3 meeting.

If you have thoughts on RCPC's policy regarding the preservation of retail use along College Avenue, send them to the committee at stuflash@aol.com, or mail to RCPC, 4123 Broadway, PMB 311, Oakland, 94611.

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Planning Commission Unanimously Approves Safeway's Rockridge Shopping Center Project



Safeway's Planned Rockridge Center

Most community concerns addressed by Safeway's approval of last-minute deal with neighborhood groups

After a two-hour public hearing on September 25, the Oakland Planning Commission unanimously approved Safeway's plans for rebuilding the Rockridge Shopping Center, located at the corner of Broadway and Pleasant Valley Avenue.

Safeway's proposal, changed many times in the past six years, will replace all of the current buildings and add 120,000 square feet to the shopping center's present 185,000 sq. ft. of commercial space. It will significantly change circulation patterns for the area, including an added traffic signal at Coronado and Broadway, the location for a new main entrance to the center.

Unlike the commission's acrimonious hearings for Safeway's College Avenue shopping center, testimony at this hearing was almost all favorable. The dissenting voice was ULTRA (Urbanists for a Livable Temescal-Rockridge Area), a primarily Temescal-based community group favoring high-density residential development.

It objected to the lack of a residential component to the project, its automobile orientation, and a drive-through window for the new Chase Bank. David Zylstra, COO of Safeway's property development division, said Safeway's lease with the owner of the project site prohibited residential development.

Zylstra also said Safeway was looking at establishing holiday-season shuttle service to Rockridge and Macarthur BART stations. Safeway will also improve placement and design of AC Transit stops near the site and is discussing with Kaiser Permanente adding the center to the route of Kaiser's

▸ Safeway Rockridge Center, page 12

Meet Captain Anthony Toribio, District 2 Area Commander

by Don Kinkead with Judith Berne

Jutting up 10 stories above 7th Street and Broadway – and hard by the Nimitz Freeway – the Oakland Police Department Administration Building, known to those who work there as the PAB, presents an indecipherable gray wall of windows and panels to the street.

Before a seismic retroft several years ago, the building was fairly easy to enter through any of the several doorways dotting the sides and front of the ground floor. Now, many have been walled off; the doors remaining are sturdier, smaller and more foreboding. Several can be opened only by coded buttons.



Captain Toribio indicates the general area of Rockridge's part of OPD District 2. /D. Kinkead

On the August morning that we, Judith Berne, Rockridge News writer and Don Kinkead, editor, entered the PAB to interview Captain Anthony Toribio, a line of visitors already stretched from the appointment desk through the door to the outside.

In the large lobby, graced with a mezzanine floor above a bank of four elevators, an agitated young man paced in circles, then across the length of the lobby, then sat down at a lobby desk, talking angrily the whole time about how things weren't going well for him. His voice echoed alarmingly through the room. As two police officers entered the lobby from the adjoining office area, the young man stood and walked up to them, crossing his wrists in front of himself and saying, "I've been bad. I'm ready to be arrested. You can cuff me now." The officers casually positioned themselves on either side of him, and one asked, gently, "How have you been bad?"

Just then, Captain Toribio came up the stairs, greeted us, and invited us back to the office area. Gesturing toward the young man, still talking loudly, and to the long line still out the door, Kinkead asked, "Busy day in the lobby?" Toribio, looking around, said, "Oh, not too bad."

Had he not chosen law enforcement as a career, Captain Anthony Toribio said he would have been a teacher at the high school level. Instead, after a discussion with a roommate, he joined the Oakland Police Department, and, 23 years later, has no career regrets.

"I wanted to make a difference in life, to have something I could look back on when I was in my older years and say I had made a difference. Law enforcement seemed noble to me," Toribio said.

Although he has a brother who has been on the force for seven years, Toribio is the first in his family to go into law enforcement.

In another of the periodic restructurings of the Oakland Police Department that shuffle and realign positions and staff, Toribio was assigned in May to head the new District 2, covering North Oakland – all of Rockridge – and the Oakland Hills, and comprised of 12 community-policing beats.

This is not his first assignment in the Rockridge area. In January 2008, Toribio was named North and West Oakland Captain of an area that included much of Rockridge in what was then known as North Oakland Area 1.

Quoted in the January 2008 issue of The Rockridge News upon his appointment, Toribio spoke of his interest in what he termed "project-based" policing, a crime-solving approach that works to remove the root of a problem rather than simply dealing with the surface concern. Besides providing a more lasting solution, this approach gives an officer a greater sense of achievement, Toribio said then. "Most people become officers because they want to make a difference. When they do the job right, they get a sense of satisfaction, a sense of accomplishment and pride."

Now, five-and-a-half years later, the captain holds to the same philosophy. "I still feel it is a noble profession. Overall, it becomes what you make of it – a job or a passion. I hope those officers who don't

Meet Captain Toribio, page 13

Toribio on Private Patrols

'I think they can be helpful – they provide a deterrent to criminal activity. But, it is critical for those who would hire a security company to do their homework and research carefully what the company offers and what they – the clients – want. Companies should have strong policies about patrol member's duties. Still, their basic function is to 'observe and report.'"

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Black and Orange Ball & Auction Benefits Claremont Middle School

by Jennifer Vetter, Claremont parent

With Claremont's increased enrollment, the pressure is on to make the 7th annual auction bigger and better than before.

Traditionally taking place the Saturday before Halloween at Uptown Body & Fender (401 26th Street), this year's auction is themed "The Black and Orange Ball." Claremont's school colors are black and orange, not to mention Halloween's. Auction co-chair Deb French said, "Come dressed in black. Come dressed in orange. Come dressed in costume. Just come!"

For the first time, Claremont will also have an online auction, starting Saturday, October 12 at 9 a.m. and ending Tuesday, October 22 at 10 p.m. Anyone with a credit card is welcome to join the fun, as participants hunt for bargains: a gift certificate at an old favorite restaurant or a new one like Bourbon & Beef; a three-month family membership at the Oakland Y; four tickets to the California Revels; and much more. See https://claremontms.schoolauction.net/auction2013/online_auction



"The Claremont Auction is our biggest community event of the year and our biggest fundraiser," said Claremont PTA President Elizabeth Gessel. "Our families look forward to gathering with staff and the larger Claremont community to eat, drink and socialize, all while dressed in fabulous costumes. At the same time, we raise money for our design, music, garden, library and technology programs, as well as for supplies for teachers, student field trips, and after school support."

Rockridge merchants along College Avenue from the J Salon near Broadway all the way north to Wood Tavern and La

Claremont Auction Gala, page 12

Claremont School Enrollment Soars

by Jennifer Vetter, Claremont parent

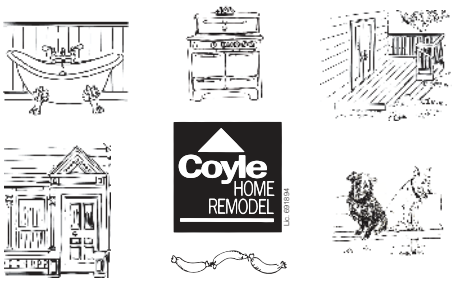
The secret is out: Exciting things are happening at Claremont Middle School under the leadership of twin principals Reginald and Ronald Richardson. The resulting big bump in enrollment – from a projected 335 to 487 – is causing growing pains for the school, which needed four substitute teachers to cover academic core classes on the first day. Now, three new permanent teachers have been hired to teach math, science, and social studies to 6th and 7th graders, and the principals are working hard to find an English teacher to fill the remaining open position.

The increase in enrollment is partly due to more local Rockridge families deciding to send their kids to Claremont.

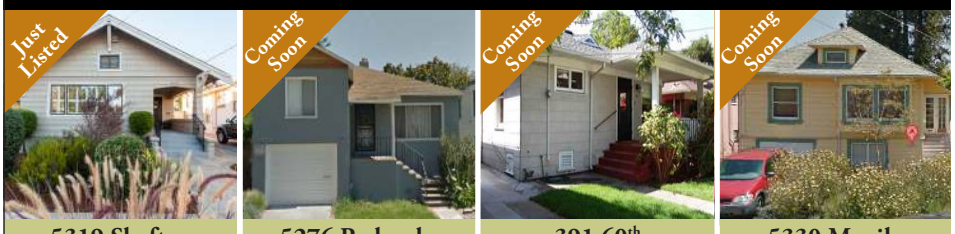
For example, 42 of this year's 6th graders came from Chabot Elementary School, as compared to 25 the year before. Families from other elementary schools are also jumping on the bandwagon, with 21 from Emerson, 18 from Peralta, 12 from Piedmont Avenue, seven from Redwood Heights, five from Kaiser, and five from Thornhill.

When asked about the reasons for the school's new popularity, Principal Reginald Richardson said, "I believe parents have been communicating with

Claremont Enrollment Soars, page 12



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Eyes on Rockridge

Delaying College for a Global Experience

by Judith Doner Berne

She graduated Oakland Tech in June. But unlike most of her Class of 2013, Rockridge teen Kaitlyn Johnke, who lives down the street from me, will delay going to college.

Instead, Kaitlyn applied for and was accepted into Global Citizen Year, an eight-month program designed to give recent high school graduates a Peace Corps-style experience before they enter college. Her campus: a rural village in Senegal on the west coast of Africa.

"After doing community service (through Oakland Tech), I was passionate about doing something that made a difference," Kaitlyn told me, two days before she was to leave home.

At the same time, she was unclear about what college to attend and what to study. Her interests range from nutrition to writing to environmental science – her AP (Advanced Placement) environmental science teacher at Tech, Josue Diaz, is one of her heroes.

Coincidentally it is another Rockridge resident, Abby Falik, who is giving Kaitlyn an opportunity she, herself, was denied.

When Falik, CEO and founder of Global Citizen Year, tried to enroll in the Peace Corps after graduation from Head-Royce School, she was told she had to wait until she graduated college.

But when she took a year off from Stanford to experience the developing world on her own, she knew she was on the right track. "That year was so deeply formative. I learned so much more than I had in any classroom," she says.

"I thought: 'What would the world look like if every high school graduate immersed themselves in the developing world as a pre-requisite to college?'"

After earning a B.A. and M.Ed. from Stanford, Falik honed her idea of a bridge year for high school students, while she gathered experience with non-profit agencies.

When she entered Harvard's MBA program, her goal was to develop a business plan that she could put into action.

Global Citizen Year began in 2009 with 11 students, placed with families and non-profit organizations in Guatemala and Senegal. This fall, 100 have fanned out to rural villages in Brazil, Ecuador and Senegal, supporting local projects in education, health, environmental sustainability, micro-financing and technology.



Abby Falik, founder, Global Citizen Year. /Abby Falik

"We use the term 'bridge year' instead of the more traditional 'gap year' because the gap year is often perceived as a luxury reserved for privileged kids, or those who are somehow 'off track,'" Falik says.

"The notion of a bridge year conveys an intentional transition from one life stage to the next," she says. The goal is to give young people, regardless of income, a deeper understanding of the world and their role within it.

By combining deep community immersion in the developing world with intensive leadership training, Falik explains, the program seeks to give participants the critical skills and global awareness necessary to become transformative, social impact leaders in college – and beyond.

Falik and her husband, Joel Segre, who works for the Gates Foundation, both grew up in Berkeley and moved from San Francisco to Rockridge last October.

"I grew up near the Claremont Hotel (in the house where her parents Bill Falik and Diana Cohen still live) and was born at Alta Bates," she told me. After living "in a lot of places all over the world, Rockridge seemed like home."

In addition, she moved the headquarters of Global Citizen Year from San Francisco to downtown Oakland.

"They're from all over the country," Falik says, of the 600 applicants who applied for the current Global Citizen Year. Although "there's a strong group from the Bay Area and from California," she says Kaitlyn probably is the first to be accepted from Rockridge.

Although she was nervous, Kaitlyn has travelled abroad without her mom, Beth, and younger sister, Kelsey, before. She spent two weeks in Guatemala in 2009 and in Borneo in 2012 through a program sponsored by the Oakland Zoo.

During those stints, "You help out with the animals," she says. "Now I want a connection with the people and to learn their language."



Kaitlyn Johnke, Global Citizen Year participant. /J. Berne

Growing up and going to public school in the Rockridge area has made her comfortable with diversity. "I expect it," she says. By the time you read this article, she will have completed a week of pre-departure preparation at Stanford and another few weeks of more site-specific training in Senegal's capital city, Dakar.

Now, she's living with a family in Kedougou and apprenticing with an NGO. In an e-mail to her mom, she wrote: "My internship is exactly what I wanted – learning about planting trees and environmental education with an organization started by the Peace Corps."

This spring, she will have a week of post-trip evaluation in northern California before coming home.

"I know there will be things entirely out of my comfort zone," Kaitlyn told me. "But Abby told us to be excited for those moments. I know that's when the real growing experience happens."

I'm thinking that it takes a brave teen and a brave teen's family to go this route. But Falik is out to make the global bridge year routine for high school graduates.

She hopes to help future high school graduates and their parents realize: "It would be crazy to go straight to college."

Judy Berne welcomes your comments and column ideas at judyberne@att.net. For more information on Global Citizen Year, go to globalcitizenyear.org.

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Oakland Technical High School: 100 Years of Educating Oakland Teens

by C. Rosenfeld and J. Parker, Oakland Tech parents

Tech will be celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2014-15. We are proud to highlight a Tech alum from each decade of Tech's history.

Class of 1918

Stephen David Bechtel, Sr., founder of the Bechtel Corporation, the largest construction and engineering company in the U.S. Bechtel studied engineering at Cal before joining the family business. His son created the S. D. Bechtel Jr. Foundation and Tech is currently the beneficiary of a Bechtel grant.

Class of 1929

Daniel ("Bud") Hafey, Major League baseball player for five seasons. The son of a plasterer, Hafey played baseball for Tech and eventually for the Chicago White Sox, Pittsburgh Pirates, Cincinnati Reds, and Philadelphia Phillies. Bud Hafey was the first of three brothers to graduate from Tech and go on to play major league baseball.

Class of 1930

Tony Martin, born Alvin Morris, actor and pop singer. His career in music started at Tech where he formed his first band. After a few years at St. Mary's College in Moraga, he left the Bay Area and "Alvin Morris" behind and headed for Hollywood, where he changed his name to Tony Martin, appeared in over 35 films, had his own television variety show, and recorded over 50 singles.

Class of 1944

Ruth Beckford, dancer, educator, social activist, and author. While at Tech, Beckford toured with Katherine Dunham's company and after graduating, became the first African-American student at the Anna Halprin Dance Studio in San Francisco. She started the first city-funded modern dance program in the United States in Oakland. After running her own dance company in NYC for decades, she wrote a memoir: "Still Groovin': Affirmations for Women in the Second Half of Life."

Class of 1953

John Lawrence, natural scientist, known internationally for study of insects. After graduating from Tech, Lawrence earned a B.S. in Zoology and a Ph.D. in Entomology at Cal. He worked at Harvard before moving in 1977 to Australia to work as a scientist in the Division of Entomology of CSIRO. His research ranged from beetle fossils to beetle use as bio-indicators for the effects of humans on natural habitats.

Class of 1962

Patricia Polacco, internationally known author and illustrator of over 50 children's books. Unable to succeed in her early school years, Polacco immersed herself in art and developed a unique drawing style. When she was 14, a teacher realized that she had dyslexia and taught her to read and write. She went on to earn a Ph.D. and published her first book at age 41. Many of Polacco's books are set in Oakland and are tributes to her childhood in Rockridge.

Class of 1976

Wolfe Perry, basketball star, actor, and coach. Perry went from playing basketball at Tech to playing for Stanford and briefly for the Utah Jazz. Then his degree in theater from Stanford helped him land the role of Teddy Rutherford, a high school basketball player, in the TV series "The White Shadow" in 1980 and be cast in the series "Up and Coming." Later, Perry turned to high school basketball coaching, including at St. Elizabeth High School in Oakland.

Class of 1988

Terrell Lowery, professional baseball player. After starring at Tech in the 1980s, Lowery was recruited to play baseball at Loyola Marymount in LA. Three years later, he was drafted by the Texas Rangers and, five years after that, was traded to the New York Mets. He broke into the big leagues with the Chicago Cubs in 1997 and went on to play for the Tampa Bay Devil Rays and for the San Francisco Giants.

Class of 1994

Anita Shontel Woodley, multi-award winning actress, radio producer, playwright, and journalist. While at Tech, Woodley developed a passion for drama. She graduated *magna cum laude* from SF State in Radio and Television, and worked in broadcast news in Atlanta, San Francisco, and North Carolina. Not only has Woodley received numerous journalism awards, but she has also earned international praise for her two one-woman plays, "Mama Juggs" and "The Men in Me."

Class of 2001

Gabriel Carroll, mathematician, winner of international math Olympics, Microsoft researcher, and Stanford assistant professor. While at Tech, Carroll won the USA Mathematical Talent Search grand prize and both silver and gold medals at international math olympiads. After graduating *summa cum laude* in Mathematics and Linguistics from Harvard, Carroll earned a Ph.D. in Economics from MIT. He now works as a researcher at Microsoft and as an assistant professor of microeconomics at Stanford.

Oakland Tech's PTSA is creating a book of reminiscences by Tech alumni in honor of the Centennial. If you, or anyone you know, went to Tech and would like to participate in this project, please sign up here: http://oaklandtech.com/staff/centennial/interviews/ or email cathy@inventek.com. All interested alumni are invited to get involved in the Centennial..



Project Costs May Affect List

from page 1

with costs estimated based on the conceptual designs supported by the community. Through the ensuing years, city staff has met with the public and Caltrans to refine project designs, including getting a better understanding of what would be entailed in the soundwall studies (projects #7-8 in the final project list below, right).

Design work on eight of the capital projects at the top of the list is underway (projects 1-6, as well as 9 and 14 as a combined project) and is about 65 percent complete.

Projects #7-8, the soundwall studies, are the subject of a local petition drive. With this information, the city's engineers have recalculated the expected cost to construct these projects as shown in the project list.

In all cases, costs have increased, meaning that the $8 million settlement with Caltrans will not go as far toward funding projects as originally projected.

Several factors have contributed to this situation:

- Projects in the hills require more and taller retaining walls than originally envisioned.
- As the economy has improved, construction costs have escalated.
- Caltrans has added the cost of its oversight – estimated at $150,000 per study – to the price tag of each soundwall study.

Matching funds from other sources could help offset some of these overruns. The city is applying for a county-wide Safe Routes to Transit grant to help fund some projects, and the Fourth Bore Coalition, with its own settlement from Caltrans, is considering helping to fund one or more of the projects.

This approach can work for capital projects near frequent transit, a current priority of funding agencies, but outside sources will not likely fund capital projects farther from the Rockridge and MacArthur BART stations, or planning and study work of any kind.

With project plans at 65 percent completion, the city has a better idea of project costs than it did at the conceptual stage; however, until construction bids are received on projects that are 100 percent designed, we will not know the actual cost of any of the projects. With that said, the total cost of the high-ranked projects is unlikely to come down.

Beyond looking to outside funding sources, the only way to ensure that as many projects as possible are built is to make certain only the most viable and important projects to the community are pursued.

For instance, future construction of the soundwalls that would be studied in projects 7 and 8 would have to be prioritized over highway safety projects in Oakland and elsewhere in Alameda County. Soundwall segments in other parts of Oakland have been studied and fully designed since the 1980s and are still not any closer to construction.

More details regarding the design and cost status of the Caldecott projects will be presented at the Thursday, October 17 RCPC meeting, 7:30 p.m., second floor meeting room of the Rockridge Branch Library.

In the meantime, for more information, contact the city's Caldecott projects consultant, Victoria Eisen, at victoria@eisenletunic.com or 510/525-0220.

CITY OF OAKLAND

Caldecott Tunnel Settlement Agreement: Final Project List

No.	Name	Original cost estimate	Revised cost estimate	
1	Tunnel Road/SR 13/Hiller Drive Intersection Improvements	$ 950,000	**$ 1,573,000**	
2	Pedestrian Facilities on Caldecott Lane/Tunnel Road	$ 850,000		
3	Bicycle Facilities on Caldecott Lane/Tunnel Road	$ 290,000		
2&3	*Pedestrian & Bicycle Facilities on Caldecott Lane/Tunnel Road*		**$ 1,250,000**	
4	Caldecott Lane/Kay overcrossing Intersection Improvements	$ 100,000		
5	Bike facilities on Broadway from Brookside Avenue to Kay OC	$ 410,000		
6	Jogging/walking path on Broadway from Golden Gate to Lake Temescal	$ 275,000		
4-6	*Pathway & Bicycle facilities on upper Broadway* [1]		**$ 1,100,000**	
7	Soundwall study: Eastbound between Vicente Way and Broadway	$ 554,000	**$ 704,000** [2]	
8	Soundwall study: Westbound between Ross Street and Telegraph Avenue	$ 628,000	**$ 778,000** [2]	
9	Broadway/Keith Intersection Improvements	$ 840,000		
9&14	*Broadway bike & ped improvements, Keith Avenue to Brookside Lane*		**$ 2,100,000**	
10	College/Keith Intersection Improvements	$ 235,000	$ 235,000	
11	Bike Route Signage at Rockridge BART	$ 20,000	$ 20,000	**$8,010,000** [3]
12	Broadway/Lawton Intersection Improvements	$ 400,000	$ 400,000	
13	Broadway/Ocean View intersection improvements	$ 400,000	$ 400,000	
14	Broadway/Brookside/SR 24 On-ramp Intersection Improvements	$ 295,000		
15	Rockridge BART Bicycle Parking	$ 100,000	$ 100,000	
16	On-street Bicycle Parking in Commercial Areas	$ 30,000	$ 30,000	
17	52nd/51st/SR 24 ramps/Shattuck Intersection Improvements	$ 635,000	$ 635,000	
~~18~~	~~Soundwall study: Westbound between Patton Street and Ross Street~~ [4]	$ 179,000	**$ 0**	
19	Alternatives' Analysis of Lake Temescal - Tunnel Rd Bike/ped connections	$ 200,000	$ 200,000	
20	College/Miles Intersection Improvements	$ 160,000	$ 160,000	
21	Claremont/Hudson/SR 24 On-ramp Intersection Improvements	$ 180,000	$ 180,000	Orig. funding line [5]
22	College/Manila intersection improvements	$ 200,000	$ 200,000	
23	Pedestrian Scale Lighting on Telegraph from 42nd Street to Berkeley border	$ 240,000	$ 240,000	

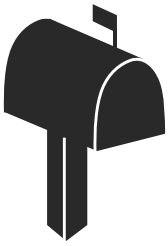
Notes

Bold project costs indicates cost has changed since original estimate.

1. Project includes improvements to the Kay Overcrossing, bike facilities on Broadway from the Kay Overcrossing to Keith Avenue, and pedestrian facilities from Golden Gate Avenue to Lake Temescal.
2. Includes $150,000/yr/study Caltrans oversight. Studies cannot be separated; both locations must be studied, or neither.
3. Includes $250,000 for consultant fees to develop the project list and companion fact sheets, coordinate the public/community process and plan and facilitate community meetings to determine ultimate design of specific projects.
4. Found to be infeasible.
5. Projects #24-37 hidden to allow notes to be seen. Please see earlier list versions for projects farther down list.

Costs updated 3/22/12 | List updated 3/15/13 | Totals updated 9/17/13

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Letters to the Editor

The Rockridge News welcomes letters to the editor. Your name, address, phone number, 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 at the editor's discretion. Views expressed in any letter are the writer's own, and may not necessarily be shared by the editor, or by RCPC.

Take These Steps to Reduce Crime in Rockridge

Editor:

The lack of enforcement and a visible deterrent has emboldened criminals. If nothing is done, we can assume Rockridge will become more desirable for criminals than for residents, visitors and businesses. If people no longer feel safe walking the streets, the tax base will eventually decrease, making it even harder to fund public services.

These thefts are unlikely to stop on their own and it is unlikely they will continue without someone eventually getting hurt. Here are a few ideas to address the problem:

1) A 3-6 month sting operation with police officers as decoys. Since armed robbery carries a minimum penalty of 15 years in state prison, prosecuting even a few can deter others.

2) Cameras at key intersections to capture license plates after a robbery. With victims and bystanders identifying vehicles, cameras can record license plates.

3) A neighborhood watch program, involving radios, bike patrols and cameras, will help to provide a sense of security for residents and should aid law enforcement with collection of visual evidence should a crime occur.

4) As theft of high tech devices has become a national issue, it is time for phone companies and device manufacturers to make use of LoJack type tracking systems. If such a system were to have its own small power supply independent of the battery, thieves would have more difficulty deactivating the phone without tearing the phone apart. With the GPS already available on most phones, the data would enable the police to find and arrest perpetrators.

5) Those with contacts in the local media or local government can garner support from the public.

— Jason DiBari

Cyclists: Light up the Night!

Editor:

As the days shorten, I hope that my fellow 60-somethings in Rockridge will join me in reminding the numerous 20- and 30-somethings who bicycle in the neighborhood at night that they really do need serious head lamps and taillights on their bicycles.

Obviously, apart from proper lighting being the law, the real reason for concern is that I am sure most of these young individuals are very much loved by others. Have they forgotten?

Also, these young cyclists may not fully understand the nature of the reduced night vision from which I and many of my peers suffer.

I have been repeatedly startled by cyclists dressed in marvelously chic, dark clothing, riding unlit bicycles on College Avenue in dense mixed traffic in the dark.

Bicyclists, please: Light up! Let's work to avoid any accident that might break the hearts of those around you.

— Ray Perman

Undergrounding Utilities Costs Likely Prohibitive for Some

Editor:

The September issue of The Rockridge News carried an op-ed piece calling for the undergrounding of utilities in Rockridge.

A very important consideration for the seniors among us is making sure that undergrounding does not cause problems for those on fixed incomes. Another $2,300 a year would cause serious issues for me and I'm sure for others as well. I don't know where it would come from.

— Judith Bodenhausen

About the Town Halls

from page 1

areas, and the 'burbs and the challenges to doing so posed by misconceptions and myths.

Relaxed, candid and ever so slightly cantankerous, he poured on the data with slides and comments, generating a lively discussion. (For more details, see http://www.calthorpe.com/peter-calthorpe)

RCPC wants to make these Town Hall meetings events you want to attend. We think that might include offering light fare for folks coming straight from the office, starting a bit earlier (such as 7 p.m., or even 6:30 p.m.), and getting more suggestions from the neighborhood on desired topics.

But that's just a start – What do ***you*** think?

Please e-mail us at info@rockridge.org with your answers to the following questions:

1) If you've attended Town Halls in the past, what did/do you like/dislike?

2) If you haven't attended but want to, what obstacles must you overcome, or what can we do to enable you to participate?

3) What topics/speakers would you like us to feature?

Thank you for your help and support.

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New Swings Coming to Frog Park

Tell Us What Kind and Where

by Carol Behr, FROG chair, and Annie Suttle

FROG continues to make progress on plans to add baby and regular swings, along with other play features in Big Frog (Hardy Park). You have several opportunities to view the plans, provide your input and ask your questions to help guide the way:



- Look for the swing plans in the park (a table will be out on weekends in early October).
- Provide your opinion and view the plans in person at the October 17 RCPC Town Hall meeting at the Rockridge Branch Library; start time: 7:30 p.m.
- View plans on line: www.frogpark.org.
- Take our survey. Link at www.frogpark.org; sign-up for our mailing list.
- E-mail us with questions and comments or to volunteer: info@frogpark.org.

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Wet, Wild, and Wonderful Creek-to-Bay Day

by Leonora Sea, DMV neighbors association

Start with a creek in need of a little TLC, add a bunch of enthusiastic volunteers, throw in coffee from Alem's and cookies from Bakesale Betty, and top off with a most impressive downpour and what do you get? Creek to Bay Day 2013 in the Rockridge Temescal Greenbelt, that's what!

New friends and old arrived promptly at 9 a.m., bravely ignoring the weather report and ready to pitch in. Completed priority projects included trimming the lower branches on the Redondo lawn willow for easier passage underneath; pulling nutsedge, kikuyu grass, and other weeds out of the creekbed; picking up a couple of bags of litter; and in two locations, cutting back willow roots that have been blocking the creek channel.

Rain arrived promptly at 10 a.m.: lightly at first, and then came the deluge. Fortunately, the weather was warm enough for work to continue for the rest of the morning, while, with the loan of the FROG EZ-up tent, sign-in sheets, snacks, and gift tote bags stayed fairly dry.

Thanks to everyone who came, worked hard, got soaked, and made Creek to Bay Day at Temescal a rousing success. We appreciate Mayor Jean Quan stopping by to support us.



On a sunnier day, Leonora Sea and Lee Patterson of DMV Neighbors Association demonstrate some of tasks accomplished on Creek-to-Bay Day. /D. Kinkead

Thanks also to generous donors: Alem's Coffee, Bakesale Betty, Mail Max for printing services, and Eddie's Liquors for ice.

Special thanks are due to Luciano Cortes-Nicholas of Oakland Parks, Master Gardener and guardian spirit of the Rockridge Temescal Greenbelt. Without his help with preparation, and with collecting all the piles and bags generated on Saturday, "Creek to Bay the Temescal Way" would not have been possible


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Upgraded Street Sweeping Warnings Get Results



The nightmare of street sweeping day on Harwood Avenue above College is finally over. After years of neighbors hanging hand-made warning signs and giving verbal reminders about street sweeping days, yet still seeing legions of cars ticketed on those days (there is no warning on the parking meters and the city's signs on the street are faded and illegible), a couple of neighbors and I had A-frame sidewalk signs made to display on street sweeping days.

Result: No cars; no tickets; clean streets!

— Submitted by Ray G. Perman

Changes on College

by Theresa Nelson

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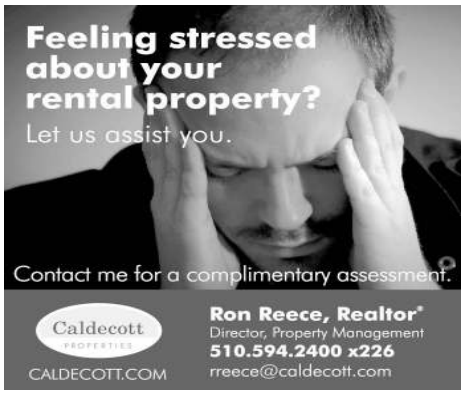
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8/6/13	2	1	5826 Colby Street	$719,000	$719,000	13	$800,000
8/9/13	2	2	5301 Locksley Avenue	$615,000	$615,000	21	$770,000
8/9/13	2	1	347 Glendale Avenue	$779,000	$779,000	11	$960,000
8/14/13	3	1	5135 Manila Avenue	$625,000	$625,000	8	$735,000
8/15/13	2	2	5400 Broadway Terrace	$660,000	$660,000	1	$660,000
8/15/13	3	1	5272 Shafter Avenue	$768,000	$725,000	20	$700,000
8/16/13	2	1	328 Glendale Avenue	$695,000	$695,000	13	$785,000
8/20/13	3	1	5528 Broadway	$885,000	$885,000	15	$1,090,000
8/20/13	3	2	5646 Oak Grove Avenue	$995,000	$995,000	16	$1,275,000

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Safeway Rockridge Center

from page 3

local shuttle. He admitted he would have preferred no drive-through window, but said Chase insisted. Since Chase has a long-term lease and could block the project, Safeway had to give in.

RCPC's and PANIL's (Piedmont Avenue Neighborhood Improvement League) favorable comments resulted from a last-minute agreement with Safeway. Besides clarifying the project's conditions of approval, the agreement requires Safeway to pay for traffic surveys on nearby residential streets before and after the project's construction and occupancy. Safeway will also post a $500,000 bond: If the traffic surveys show that the project has increased "cut-through" traffic on those streets, the bond will pay for implementing speed bumps, stop signs, and rotaries to discourage through traffic diversion onto those streets. Increased cut-through traffic had been a major fear in the community.

The commission also certified the final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the project. The EIR acknowledged the project would worsen traffic conditions at the Broadway/Pleasant Valley/51st Street intersection, and other intersections on Pleasant Valley. Accordingly, the commission adopted a formal statement explaining why the project's benefits justified its approval. Those benefits include more jobs for local residents, additional tax revenue for the city, more convenient shopping for area residents, and reducing the loss of retail revenue into surrounding cities such as Emeryville and Walnut Creek.

Project opponents could appeal the approval to the council within 10 days.

Claremont Enrollment Soars

from page 5

other parents and the community about how safe they feel, how positive the environment is here, how great the teachers are. I believe the parents grew trust."

PTA President Elizabeth Gessel said, "As people continue to learn about the work being done by co-Principals Ronald and Reginald Richardson, we expect student numbers will keep increasing until we reach our full capacity. We look forward to building a vibrant Claremont community with all our students and their families."

Attendance Clerk Marta Gonzalez lives in the San Leandro School District but chose to enroll her son Moises in the 6th grade at Claremont this year. Last year was her first year working at Claremont, as it was for the Richardsons. "It's not just for the convenience of bringing my son to the school where I work. I saw the changes in the school last year," she said.

With votes of confidence like that from the inside, and all the positive media reports about the school from the outside, Claremont Middle School seems well on its way to the best year yet.

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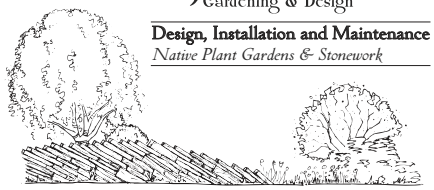
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Claremont Auction Gala

from page 5

Farine support the auction by donating gift certificates, services, and merchandise. Donations come from all over the Bay Area and even farther afield, but Claremont is lucky to have so many fabulous and generous Rockridge neighbors.

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Meet Captain Toribio

from page 4

begin with a sense of the profession's nobility develop a sense of ownership and connection with the people they serve, protect and help."

In all, there are now five police districts with officers assigned according to beats; there are 35 beats in the city divided among the districts. Captain Toribio is responsible for seven beats. Rockridge is covered by parts of beats 12Y and 13X.

"The reorganization provides a smaller, more manageable area and time to get into the weeds of crimes. It also allows more time to strategize about crime prevention… I previously had an area about twice as large."

With this restructuring, Toribio and his fellow captains can more easily help officers develop the sense of ownership and connection Toribio hopes they will have. Given that the captains have more compact districts, and will have more opportunity to work closely with the officers under their command, he expects a different level of policing to be possible.

Toribio says he can now review all crime reports and assign immediate follow-up for additional evidence or identification to round out an investigation. Also, exemplary work can be more promptly rewarded.

This improved accountability works both ways, he said. As a part of the restructure, the department's CompStat system (COMPuter analysis of crime STATistics) has been reengineered, permitting senior management to offer advice and direction to the captains.

The increased accountability of supervisors, Toribio believes, has improved the quality of investigative work of both officers and supervisors. And, he says, officers like it "because it all leads to the goal of stopping the bad guys."

Additional policing resources are soon to be made available to the department. "The police department has made a commitment to crime reduction and the city has made a commitment to fight crime by providing more sworn and civilian staff," the captain said. He noted two police academy classes have already graduated and moved on to field training. A third class started in September.

Toribio seems determined to spread the word of the changes in the department resulting from the reorganization as well as the improving Consent Decree management. At a fit 46 years of age and with a persistent sense of humor ("That's 322 in dog years," he said of his age), he does not lack for the energy or attitude to get his points across. He speaks at community meetings, neighborhood group meetings, and Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) meetings. He has opened a Twitter account (@area2opd), and points out that the department now has a Facebook page as well.

"But," he emphasized, as the interview drew to a close, "crime reduction cannot happen by police work alone. My challenge to the community is: 'What more can you do to reduce crime?' Everyone needs to get out of their comfort zone and make a commitment to reduce crime. That could be: volunteer at a school; mentor a young person; form a Neighborhood Watch; organize a neighborhood event; harden the target [home] with greater security, better outside lighting and visibility. Add a video camera as suitable."

As we exited the interview room and walked through the lobby, all was unexpectedly quiet. No waiting line. No upset young man. A peaceful moment before the next wave of PAB business.

NCPC Hosts OPD Award



In a public ceremony at the September Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) meeting, Oakland Police Officers Dana Ly, left, and Gunther Lee were each presented with a Captain's Commendation by Captain Anthony Toribio, center, for the recent arrest at College and Keith of suspects thought to have been involved in a number of Rockridge-area robberies.

Toribio also presented the men with custom-designed and minted Area 2 coins in recognition of their achievement. /D. Kinkead

District 2 Contacts

- **Captain Toribio e-mail:** AToribio@oaklandnet.com
- **District 2 website:** http://www2.oaklandnet.com/Government/o/OPD/o/BFO/District2/index.htm
- **Problem Solving Officers (PSOs):** work with the Greater Rockridge Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council (NCPC), meeting monthly with the group. They are:
  - **Channelle Del Rosario**, beat 12Y, e-mail: communitypolicingbeat12@oaklandnet.com, and:
  - **Jason Trode**, beat 13X, e-mail communitypolicingbeat13@oaklandnet.com
- **NCPC:** http://www.rockridgencpc.com/index.php?start=15

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Rockridge Stress Reduction

Stress Reduction class in Rockridge. Tuesday, October 15-December 10, 9-11:30. 8-week scientifically proven series includes awareness, yoga, science, communication exercises, practice CDs. Great for prenatal, parents, and anyone. Register now: www.centerforstressreduction.com, 510/594-8224.

Love Your Surroundings?

Need help getting organized? Want to declutter your home or office? Let me redesign your environment in your style & create space and harmony. Free, no-obligation consultation. Laura Panica, Organizational Consultant. 510/407-2669. www.liferestyled.com

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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, 4123 Broadway, PMB 311, Oakland, CA 94611. Deadline is the next to the last Tuesday of the month.

Compiled by Jo Ellis

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council (NCPC)

Residents and business members engage in discussions about crime and public safety with representatives of OPD. 2nd Thursday each month. Rockridge Library, upstairs meeting room, 5366 College Ave. Info at www.rockridgencpc.com or chair@rockridgencpc.com.

Rockridge Branch Library

5366 College Avenue, 597-5017

FOR CHILDREN

- **Family Story Time:** Stories/songs/rhymes (to age 5); Saturdays, 10:30am.
- **Pre-School Story Time:** (ages 2 to 5); Thursdays, 10:30am.
- **Toddler Story Time:** (up to age 2); Thursdays, 10:30am, upstairs.

All story times followed by Play Time; parents and caregivers invited.

SPECIAL EVENTS

- **PeopleOlogie Native Crafts Workshop:** Thurs, 10/17, 4 to 5:15 pm. Hands-on craft workshop to celebrate native cultures of Central & South America. We'll make woven bracelets like those worn by the Inca people. **Sign up in advance at the Children's Desk**, or phone Erica: 597-5017.
- **Not-So-Scary Halloween Stories & Treats:** Tues, 10/29, 7 pm. Come in your costume for not-too-scary stories, fun songs, and special treats. Best for ages 2 to 8.

FOR TEENS

****Popular Dystopian Fiction Display will be held between October 13 and 19 to celebrate Teen Read Week.**

- **Teen Advisory Board:** (ages 14-18) Advise the library how to better serve teens. Get community service credit for school. **Snacks provided**. 1st Sat. each month, 1-2 pm. Confirm: 597-5017.
- **Rockridge Ninjas**: watch Anime, 5-6:30 pm; 2nd Tues. each month.
- **Teen 'Scape**: Join other teens each Wed. after school, 2:30 - 4:15pm. Play video & board games, make crafts, enjoy light snacks.
- See Vicky Chen, Teen Librarian about **International Games Day**. Compete with players from other libraries on Super Smash Bros. Brawl on Nov. 16, from 11am to 2pm.

FOR ADULTS

- **East Bay Chronic Pain Group:** First and Third Tues. each month, 3-5pm. Info: Susan Malley, 655-3278 or susanmalley@yahoo.com.
- **Writers Support/Critique Group:** All writers welcome. Bring 17 copies of up to 5 pgs. (double-spaced, MS margins) of any prose for on-site reading/discussion (also welcome to come empty-handed). Third Saturday each month; 1 to 5pm. Sponsored by the California Writers Club, Berkeley branch. Info: 420-8775 or Writefox@aol.com.
- **Lawyers in the Library: Free legal advice and referrals.** First Tues. each month, 5 to 7pm. (Advance sign-up starts 4:45pm at adult reference desk). Volunteer lawyer leaves before 7pm if no more people present.

ART EXHIBITS (subject to change; call to confirm)

Gallery:

Oct: Rockridge Community Photography Group.

Nov: **Darryl Tighe:** Abstract watercolor paintings.

Lobby Display Case

Oct: **Peter Langenbach:** Wooden sculpture.

Nov: **Peter Langenbach:** Wooden sculpture.

LIBRARY HOURS

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

Diesel Book/Poetry Readings, Events

All FREE and open to the public.

- Sun., 10/13, 3pm. Publication Party for **Shelley Buck**: *East: A Woman on the Road to Kathmandu.*
- Mon., 10/14, 7:30pm. **Amnesty International Meeting** (**2nd Mon. each month**): All invited to exchange ideas on action.
- Tues., 10/29, 7pm. **John Freeman:** *How to Read a Novelist*.

DIESEL, A Bookstore, 5433 College Ave. More info (other events and discussion groups): 653-9965 or events@dieselbookstore.com.

Chabot Elementary School Fall Carnival & Craft Fair

Sunday, Oct 27, 11am to 3pm. Hand-made crafts from the local community; food, games, prizes, performances and activities for all ages. Proceeds benefit enrichment programs and school improvements. Chabot School, 6686 Chabot Road (cross street Patton). More info: www.chabotelementary.org.

Square Dance in North Oakland

Music by **The Squirrelly String Band.** Calling by **Jordan Ruyle** (with occasional guest performers). **1st and 3rd Fridays each month**, 8 – 10pm. All levels welcome; all dances taught on the spot. $5-10 sliding scale donation. The Niebyl-Proctor Library, 6501 Telegraph Ave. Info: http://squirrellystringband.com.

North Oakland Senior Center

Programs include: Arts/crafts; health counseling; dancing and exercise; trips, tours and theater outings; Alzheimer's Caregivers support groups, computer classes/more.

- **New to Medicare & open enrollment:** presented by HICAP P2 – Tues. 10/29, 10:30 am – noon.
- **Flu Shots: Nov 12.** Call info number below.

Annual $12 membership entitles seniors 55 + to discounts on activities and trips. Mon. – Fri., 9am to 4:30pm. 5714 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way. Subscribe to "The North Oakland Senior Times" for full schedule of classes/events, lunch menus, and volunteer opportunities. Info: 597- 5085.

Temescal Farmers' Market

Open Sundays, 9am to 1pm (all year). Locally grown fruits and vegetables; fresh ranch eggs; home-made bakery items; fresh cut flowers; unique prepared foods, fresh locally caught fish, handcrafts and more. Sample the goods; meet the grower; learn about unique food varieties and cooking tips; and listen to live music. **Bring your own reusable bags**. 5300 Claremont Ave. (off Telegraph) at DMV parking lot. More about Certified Farmers' Markets at urbanvillageonline.com.

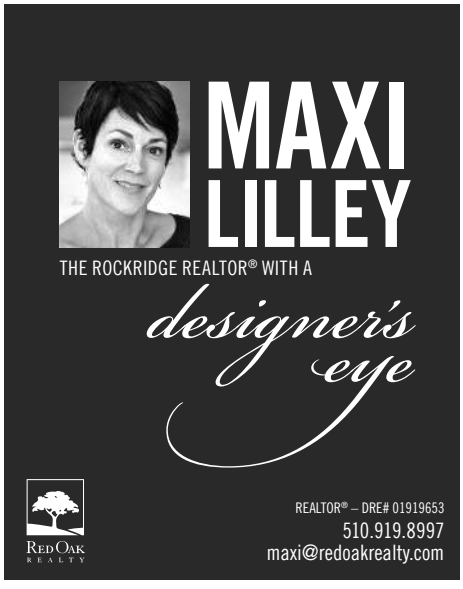
We Have Just the Route for You!

Samantha Blackburn has moved from Rockridge but she came back last month just to deliver the Rockridge News to Oak Grove neighbors. She is hoping someone will take her place as block captain and so are we because we do not like to think that anyone in Rockridge is not getting the News. So, please let us know if you can take her route:

Route 20D: Odd numbers of Oak Grove from Zachary's (leave 25 at Zachary's) to 5667 across the street to 5670 Oak Grove and along even numbers including Trader Joe's. (Route =35+25)

E-mail Susan at smontauk@gmail.com or call 510/547-3855.





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We Need More Rockridge Homes to Sell

As of press time, there were **only 13 Homes** for Sale in Rockridge. Normally there would be approx. 24 Homes actively on the market right now in Rockridge. Sellers are seeing multiple offers and over asking offers because of the continued tight supply of homes for sale. If you had thought about selling in the past, but thought prices were too low, you might be surprised as prices have increased significantly. Call me for an evaluation of your home and its value in today's seller's market

---

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*NOTE: Because of Rockridge Newsletter lead time, all prices are not available at print deadline.

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