THE Rockridge News

www.rockridge.org

VOL. 29 ■ NO. 2 ■ ISSUE NO. 308 ■ February 8, 2014 ■ CIRCULATION: 5,800 RESIDENCES; 200 BUSINESSES

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February Meetings Continue Neighborhood Public Safety Series

Public Safety Meeting Series: *Topics and Times*	#1. Thursday, November 21, 2013 7-9 p.m., Rockridge Branch Library	#2. Thursday, February 20 7-9 p.m., Rockridge Branch Library	#3. Saturday, February 22 10 a.m.-noon, Rockridge Library
	Starting a Neighborhood Watch Group on Your Block (Completed)	Oakland's Budget Affects Public Safety; Voters Affect the Budget	Creative Approaches to Improvements in Public Safety

Funding Crime Reduction Strategies: It's Only Money, but It's Our Money

Is Oakland's approach to crime reduction and public safety paying off? Are current strategies working? How can Rockridge residents decide which policies to support and which to change?

Attend the second program in the series examining public safety in Rockridge at the **Thursday, February 20, RCPC Town Hall**. Full agenda in the box at right, below

Also, see the analysis of the private security patrols on page 9.

Curbing Crime with Environmental Design

by Zabrae Valentne, chair, RCPC

In the third program in the series of public safety meetings, facilitator – and Rockridge neighbor – Gabe Kleinman provides creative examples of how other neighborhoods have worked together to improve public safety. Gabe and meeting participants will engage in a lively discussion exploring steps we might want to try locally. Ever thought of deploying mimes to discourage jaywalking? They do it in Bogotá!

We look forward to seeing you at the Rockridge Branch Library **Saturday, February 22, 10 a.m. – noon** to learn how Rockridge residents can work together to reduce crime. Share your thoughts on strategies that make the most sense in Rockridge.

This series of public safety meetings was organized by RCPC, the Greater Rockridge Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council (NCPC), the Rockridge District Association (RDA), Councilmember Dan Kalb's office, the College Avenue Presbyterian Church, and a number of interested Rockridge residents. Organizers are part of an RCPC-convened working group that seeks to provide information that helps residents identify effective responses to crime in the Rockridge area.

Safeway on College: Construction Redux



/Chuck Afflerbach

Back hoes and trenchers get to work as Safeway resumes construction on its College Avenue store project.

The city halted construction until Safeway and RCPC and the other three neighborhood groups that negotiated design and construction terms reached agreement to discuss construction progress and activities. See report from RCPC's Land Use Committee, page 3.

Photo submitted by Rockridge resident Chuck Afflerbach, who was passing by the site and noticed the activity. The Rockridge News welcomes photo submissions. Email editor@rockridge.org.

20 AGENDA: February 2014 RCPC Town Hall Meeting

Thursday, February 20 | 7-9 p.m. Rockridge Library

Is Oakland getting the best bang for its crime prevention buck? How can residents influence funding decisions? Panel discussion with city representatives and OPD.

Join your neighbors and friends for a comprehensive look at crime reduction policies the city deploys, how well they are working, what they cost, and what the city can afford. The purpose of the program is to offer Rockridge residents options when deciding which policies and budget priorities to support or to consider changing as one key part of strengthening an overall crime-reduction plan. Speakers include city representatives Budget Director Donna Hom; Interim Human Services Director Sara Bedford; an OPD senior official; Make Oakland Better Now boardmember Nicolas Heidorn; and program co-host Councilmember Dan Kalb.

Thursday, February 20 | 7-9 p.m. Rockridge Branch Library, 5366 College at Manila

The City's Approach to Public Safety, How it is Funded, How We Can Influence These Decisions

by Zabrae Valentine, chair, RCPC

RCPC's Thursday, February 20 Town Hall presents a comprehensive look at city-funded programs that affect crime prevention, with expert commentary on whether those funds are being spent wisely, how best to target future taxpayer dollars, and how Rockridge residents can influence those decisions in the future.

Funding Public Safety, page 10

Op Ed Essays on matters of local interest are invited for consideration as Op-Ed pieces for *The Rockridge News*. Please limit length to 450 words and submit to editor@rockridge.org.
Views expressed in Op-Ed essays do not necessarily reflect those of The Rockridge News, its editor, or the board of directors of the Rockridge Community Planning Council.

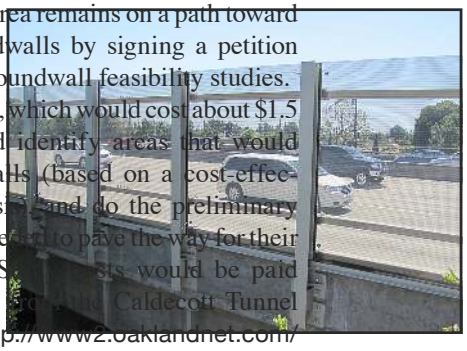
Soundwall Study Petition Effort In Home Stretch: Last Chance to Choose

Petitions must be submitted to city by March 12

by Stuart Flashman

After almost a year of contention, Rockridge residents living near Highway 24 have their last chance to choose whether their area remains on a path toward eventual soundwalls by signing a petition in support of soundwall feasibility studies.

The studies, which would cost about $1.5 million, would identify areas that would merit soundwalls (based on a cost-effectiveness analysis) and do the preliminary engineering needed to pave the way for their construction. S[illegible]sts would be paid for with funds [illegible] Caldecott Tunnel settlement (http://www2.oaklandnet.com/oakca1/groups/pwa/documents/report/oak028543.pdf).



Transparent soundwalls on I-580 at the Estudillo Overcrossing in East Oakland, a roadway similar to portions of Highway 24 in Rockridge spanning open space below the roadway.

(This photo first appeared in the May 5, 2012, issue of The Rockridge News.)

Soundwall studies opponents argue that the soundwalls are unnecessary and the studies would be a waste of money. Further, they point to other still-unfunded roadway and soundwall projects as indications that a Rockridge soundwall will never be built. They also argue that soundwalls are unsightly and will block residents' light and views.

Soundwall studies supporters point to a preliminary study – which led to the petition effort – that showed much of Rockridge next to the freeway already suffers from noise levels at or approaching those justifying soundwall protection. With the added Caldecott fourth bore, plus continued traffic growth from Contra Costa County, it is practically guaranteed that soundwalls will be badly needed by the time they could be built. Supporters note that the area has been living with ever-increasing noise levels since the freeway was completed in the late 1960s, and that if the study isn't funded now, soundwalls will almost certainly never get built, no matter how high noise levels continue to rise.

As for other unfunded soundwall projects, supporters point out that some, like the Jackson Street on-ramp to I-880, would be enormously expensive due to engineering problems, as well as facing community opposition, while others, like soundwalls on I-580 south of 98th Avenue, languish for lack of local political support. Supporters also note that, as a recent article in the Oakland Tribune pointed out (http://bit.ly/MGKqar), soundwalls have become more aesthetically pleasing in recent years, and that, with the freeway being elevated through most of Rockridge, the only type of soundwall that would be feasible would be transparent plastic ones that don't block light or views, as pictured above on a portion of I-580.

The soundwall petition and information about soundwalls and the petition process are posted as PDF documents on the Fourth Bore Coalition website at http://www.fourthbore.org/documents-2/. (See QR codes at end of article. Find the free Adobe Acrobat PDF Reader at http://get.adobe.com/reader/.)

If you are not sure you are in an eligible area, a map showing the streets involved is also posted. If you are in an eligible area but haven't been contacted about the petition, or are interested in helping to circulate it on your street before the March 12 deadline, email the author at stuflash@aol.com to obtain additional information and materials or to arrange to submit signed petitions.

If you are not sure you are in an eligible area, a map showing the streets involved is also posted. If you are in an eligible area but haven't been contacted about the petition, or are interested in helping to circulate it on your street before the March 12 deadline, email

➧ **Soundwall Study Petitions Due, page 7**

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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 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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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.

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RCPC Land Use Committee

The RCPC Land Use Committee meets Wednesday, February 26, 7:30 p.m, Rockridge Library meeting room. Topics will include updates on the Rockridge Safeway project. **Agendas**: Please check with committee chair Stuart Flashman, 652-5373, or e-mail stuflash@aol.com the week before for an updated agenda.

Land Use Update

by Stuart Flashman, RCPC Land Use Committee chair

■ College Avenue Safeway Project, College & Claremont

Those who live near the Safeway on College site are already aware that construction has begun on the foundation for the new Safeway building. RCPC and the other three community groups that negotiated building and construction plans with the company will meet monthly with Safeway to discuss construction progress and any issues involving construction activities. If you live near the store and see or hear anything you think Safeway needs to know about (and perhaps do something about), please contact RCPC at 869-4200 or info@rockridge.org and let us know. We will try to include a monthly update on construction activities in The Rockridge News and on the RCPC website at rockridge.org.

■ Rockridge Shopping Center Rebuild Project Broadway and Pleasant Valley Avenue

As predicted in December, the lawsuit challenging this project has been dismissed, and work is moving forward on construction plans for the project. According to Safeway, closure and demolition of the CVS store (and the building to its southwest that holds a collection of shops) will probably begin early this summer. Construction of Phase I of the project, including the new Safeway and nursery as well as the new Chase Bank building and a new Boston Market restaurant next to the quarry pond, will start later in the summer. The eastern half of the site will be closed off once demolition and construction start. Watch for further updates.

■ Merrill Gardens at Rockridge West side of Broadway North of 51st Street

The formal application for this senior housing and commercial mixed-use project has been submitted to the city. Planner Mike Rivera (mrivera@oaklandnet.com, 238-6417) is assigned to the project. The environmental review will begin once the city decides the application is complete.

While the project has generally been favorably received by neighbors, the first problem has been identified. The loading area, which includes garbage pick-up by Waste Management, is next to a residential duplex to the west of the project. This would create an early morning noise nuisance, and a potential pedestrian and bicycle safety hazard as trucks back in or out of the loading area. It is hoped this problem can be quickly resolved, as have similar problems for other local projects.

Reward: Stolen Antique Burl Bowl

An American antique wooden burl bowl was stolen from Talisman antique shop on College Avenue in Rockridge on Saturday, December 28. It measures about 24" in diameter by 9" in height.

The burl bowl has been in the owner's family for at least eight generations. Originally a wedding gift, through the generations it accompanied the family from Illinois to Southern California, to the Sierra Nevada, and finally the East Bay. The bowl holds the family's history in America. Its loss has caused immeasurable grief to the family.

Talisman is offering a $1,000 reward for information leading to the return of the bowl. Please contact Talisman at 510/653-7998.

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FROG: Donate, Spread the Word, Volunteer

by FROG (Friends of the Rockridge-Temescal Greenbelt)

Major Fundraising Campaign Underway for Frog Park Swings, Play Structures; Call for Volunteers, Donations

FROG is embarking on a fundraising drive to realize the community's vision of new swings and play features at Frog Park. Plans are being finalized with the city, with the preferred design including additional swings (regular swings and infant bucket swings), a see-saw and a merry-go-round climbing structure.

Our new and ambitious goal is to raise $50,000 from community members and local companies. We met our $5,000 match from a generous anonymous donor, so to date we've raised more than $11,000. Thank you to all who have donated; $39,000 to go! Contributions at or above $250 (including aggregate donations of $250 or more building on previous donations) will be recognized in park signage.



/Landscape Structures

What we need right now from the Rockridge community:

- **Donations:** Make them online (frogpark.org) or by check to FROG, 4123 Broadway, PMB 311, Oakland, CA 94611.
- **Spread the word** to friends and family who enjoy the park.
- **Volunteers:** We need volunteers with experience and expertise in

FROG: Fundraising, Volunteers, page 12

Kathy Walsh, ninth chair of RCPC, 1991-93, passed away December 10, 2013. Below, she is remembered by RCPC members who worked with her in the organization helping to create Rockridge as we know it today.

Remembering KATHY WALSH

Although Kathy Walsh and I were both products of Chabot, Claremont and Tech, she was a year younger than I (and you know there was not a lot of mingling between students of different ages at that time) so we hadn't known each other well. But we were both members of RCPC and lovers of libraries and when "our" library* had its rent raised from $500 per month to $5,000, it was time to go to work.

Thus began the Dutcher/Walsh crusade to get our new Rockridge Branch Library. Over the 10-year life of the campaign, many people gave many hours to the project. At one point, a garage sale to cover expenses was held, with Kathy storing most of the contributions in her garage.

She stayed on the library crusade with a group through all phases until the final colors were chosen, the carpet was laid, and the furniture was in place.

Kathy became chair of RCPC and we continued to be friends, sharing walks with our dogs and chats over tea.

She led the organization well, and was a joy to know and work with. I miss her.

— Nancy Dutcher, Chair, RCPC Library Committee

*The library was then located in the building at the northwest corner of College and Miles in the space now housing Bica Coffee House, Oriental Nails II and Cool Tops – *Editor*

Kathy Walsh was a hard-working, effective, articulate, and, at times, tough chair of RCPC. She was a good organizer. She worked on many significant projects, including the Dreyer's expansion, the proposal to add a second layer of parking to the Rockridge BART station, and the Medical Insurance Exchange of California's (MIEC) expansion proposal for its office building on Claremont Avenue.

She was also interesting to talk with, and I will always remember her wonderful laugh.

— Mary E. MacDonald, Chair, RCPC, 1993-96

Dear RCPC: We are writing with the sad news that our mother, Kathy Walsh, died Tuesday, December 10. She had been suffering from Alzheimer's disease for several years. She had lived in Tualatin, Oregon, since 2007.

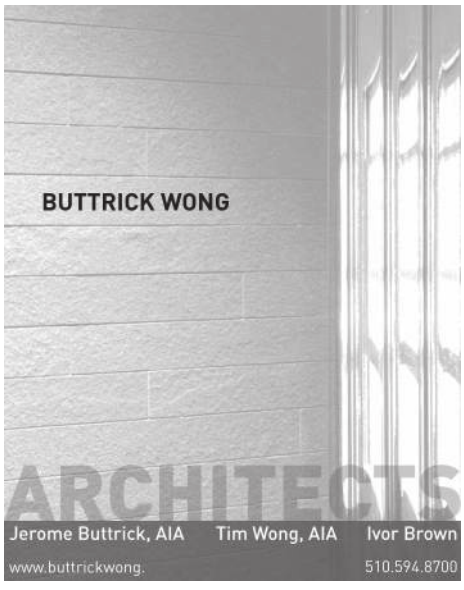
It was gratifying to see the schedule of events for the Rockridge Branch Library in a recent issue of The Rockridge News. Our mother was a significant player in making the new library happen in the mid-1990s. We thought you should know that in her obituary, published in the Oakland Tribune and the Oregonian, we requested that anyone interested in making a charitable donation in her name do so by making a gift to the RCPC. It was such a meaningful part of our mother's life.

— Mark Walsh and Pat Walsh, Kathy's sons

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I OAKLAND

by Ronnie Spitzer

The world of bicycle infrastructure is changing rapidly. People around the United States are realizing that cycling can be a major form of urban transportation—if cities provide bikeways that are safe, convenient, and comfortable.

Recently, more of Rockridge's bikeway network came to fruition with the completion of bike lanes on Alcatraz; sharrow markings on the Shafter-Forest-Colby and Cavour bike routes; and improved wayfaring signage.

Paving the Worst Biking Streets

Since July, the city paved two streets heavily traveled by bicyclists that were well-known for their poor pavement: Grizzly Peak Boulevard and Shattuck Avenue (59th Street to the Berkeley border). Next up in 2014 is Broadway from 38th Street to Broadway Terrace. In 2015, look for new pavement on Chabot Road from College Avenue to Golden Gate Avenue. These projects are designed, funded, and pending implementation. The Bicycle Facilities Program is seeking funds to fix Shafter Avenue (Cavour Street to Forest Street), the next priority on the list of bikeways with the worst pavement.

Suggest a Bike Rack Location

A grant from the Transportation Fund for Clean Air and the Alameda County Transportation Commission (ACTC) will enable the city to install approximately 250 bike racks over the next two years. Locations must be in the public right-of-way (mostly sidewalks) in commercial areas.

For program information, and to request

Oakland Improves Cycling, page 10

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.

The Creation, Maintenance and Support of Ayala Park

Editor:

Your photo of Ayala Park in the December issue of The Rockridge News is captioned with a credit to John Wagers as the park's creator. Actually, as noted in a sign posted at the park, it was "created by the local community and the Trust for Public Land." I did participate in the planning and design of the park and am the Oakland Park Steward for its care.

The costs of park plantings and maintenance are paid for by community donations. Donations should be sent to Natalie Van Osdol, Ayala Park Committee, 5756 Ayala Avenue, Oakland, 94609.

— John Wagers

Why is Safeway on College Posting an "Available" Sign? Are They Giving Up?

Editor:

Why is there a sign at the Safeway construction site at Claremont and College avenues that says "available"? We have been very excited to have the new Safeway in the neighborhood and are worried that Safeway may just walk away out of frustration and increased expense.

— Sue Noyes

"No Worries": Land Use Chair

No Worries! The sign merely indicates that there are still rental spaces available in the retail building that is part of the new Safeway complex. Apparently, most of the space has been spoken for, although that building will probably not be completed and open until some time towards the end of 2014 at the earliest.

While Safeway and the community groups have not resolved all their differences (there remains an issue with the Claremont Avenue entrance to the retail building, which appears not to comply with Americans With Disabilities Act requirements), the two sides have agreed that construction of the Safeway store building can move forward, and construction should be starting some time this week.

— Stuart Flashman, chair, RCPC Land Use Committee

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Eyes on Rockridge

Long-time Rockridge resident wants you to know: College Avenue didn't happen by accident.

by Judith Doner Berne

Annette Floystrup likens College Avenue in Rockridge to the little engine that could.

In that tale, a small engine encounters obstacles along the way but finds a way to pull a long train over a high mountain, maintaining the mantra "I think I can, I think I can."

Floystrup, who was five years old when her family moved to Rockridge from Denmark in 1955, has watched and participated in the Avenue's uphill battle to stay on track.

"I am the classic local yokel," she details, growing up on 63rd and Hillegass Avenue from where she attended Peralta Elementary, Claremont Junior High, Oakland Technical High School and UC Berkeley.

As a member of the Class of 1967 at Tech, Floystrup relishes the student diversity and educational quality that it had then and has recently regained. "It was ethnically mixed," she says, and drew students who lived "from the Hills to the Bay." It also featured an ESL program and a school for the blind.

After her years in Berkeley she returned to Rockridge in 1981, renting and later purchasing the house a block off College Avenue where she and husband, Ben Hong, a programmer for Bank of America, live.

"We are the guardians," she says of their cozy, turn-of-the-20th-century house built of old-growth redwood, the 70-to-80-year-old camellias at its garden entrance and the 145-foot-tall, 100-plus-year-old Monterey Pine that dominates the yard.

"The lowest limb fell about 30 years ago, and we counted 80-plus rings then," Floystrup says. "We have 21 steel cables stabilizing the limbs, and have the tree cleaned out every other year and fertilized every year."

That care and attention is what she saw "a succession of generations" lavish on College Avenue, warding off chain stores and high-rise housing – literally picking up the pieces of a neighborhood which saw construction of a freeway and BART station shake its foundation.

"What you see is not an accident," Floystrup says. "It reflects 40 to 50 years of activism by the people who live here."

"It was a booming neighborhood prior to the construction in the 1970s," she says. But then, stores moved out and crime soared, leading her parents and others to start what was among the first Neighborhood Watch programs in the country.

When several antique stores moved in, lured by low rents and large square footage, "they saved the Avenue," Floystrup says. "Good, small retailers followed."

She takes pride in the fact that her parents' generation of residents joined with the growing population of newcomers to prevent a Taco Bell from taking over the corner of Harwood and College (now home to a number of businesses including Barclay's Restaurant and Pub, Strahan Insurance Services, Henry C. Levy & Co., Kenner-USA and others), a move that would have set a completely different pattern for the Avenue.

So it was natural that she would become active in and, at one time, vice-chair of the Rockridge Community Planning Council (RCPC), the collaborative group of Rockridge residents and nearby neighborhoods that formed in 1971 to protect the area from planned high-rise development. Incorporating in 1985 as a non-profit public-benefit organization, RCPC continues its mission of "preserving and enhancing" the unique character of the Rockridge neighborhood.

Floystrup first served on the group's board of directors in the 1980s and again from 2006-2012, after she retired from the last of a variety of jobs which included Scandinavian furniture sales, PC hardware consultant, ergonomic products sales manager and earthquake preparedness expert.

"The neighborhood attracts people with remarkable skill sets and with altruistic tendencies," she says. "The Avenue is as much a reflection of the things that haven't happened as those that have."



Annette Floystrup in her wood-panelled dining room. Born in Denmark, she has decorated her home in ways that reflect the Danish heritage that is so much a part of her life. Her friend and neighbor Joan Martin says: "She is the best kind of American citizen anyone could wish for." /Judith Berne

For example:

"When I was a kid, Dreyer's was a full-service family restaurant – the heart of College Avenue. It was a family place. When it closed for the company's expansion, it was a shock to the Avenue. We contained Dreyer's to a smaller corporate building. We got them to put retail storefronts on the ground floor and forced them to retain at least the ice cream store.

"We managed to keep the Cigarettes Cheaper chain from opening a store across from the library. We picketed like fiends.

"BART wanted to double-deck the parking lot at Forest and Shafter. Nine-hundred

College Avenue No Accident, page 7



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College Avenue No Accident

from page 6

people showed up at the Oakland Tech auditorium to challenge the plan. Only one person spoke in favor. BART backed down."

But what makes her most proud is "I helped keep our firehouse open." She's talking about Station 19 on Miles Avenue east of College that the city selected for closure 15-20 years back.

"We had tried everything without success. I finally went to the firehouse and asked them to tell me everything that made the firehouse unique." When she heard that they were first responders for both the Caldecott Tunnel and the BART station, she alerted both organizations, and the city had to honor those contracts.

"The fire guys hung a big banner up on the station proclaiming 'Thank you Rockridge,'" Floystrup says. "I consider helping keep our firehouse open my biggest personal contribution."

Most recently, she worked with then-RCPC boardmember Jon Gabel to place 2,800 additional DVDs in the Rockridge Library collection through the Rockridge DVD Project. "We figured people would come for the DVDs and stay for the books, and it worked," she says.

Floystrup is the go-to person for neighbors like Ellen Koch in their dealings with the city of Oakland. "She's an amazing resource who has her finger on the pulse of how the city works," Koch says. "She's a person who you call and if she doesn't know the answer, she finds it and gets back to you."

"Annette is the first person who brought to my mind the idea of citizenship and participating in the community," says her next-door neighbor Joan Martin. That resulted in Martin becoming active in RCPC. "Many people are content with the first answer," Martin says. "She's willing to go to the next layer and the next — in conversation and in politics. She keeps digging until it makes sense to her.

"It's people like Annette," Martin says, who work "to keep the Avenue quaint, but not provincial — fresh and current."

And on our current College Avenue, amidst the ever-growing number of restaurants and personal services, Floystrup isn't about to give up on the shopping experience.

"We need a better mix of interesting retail," she says. "You have to provide an experience that you can't get on the Internet — the curiosity of discovery."

Comments and ideas for future columns are welcome by contacting judyberne@att.net.

Lorax Project Sets Tree Planting Date

by Rich Proulx

The Chabot Recreation Center Area and Chabot Elementary School are immediately adjacent to Highway 24. Children who live near freeways experience negative health effects due to increased exposure to air pollution. However, a tree barrier significantly reduces the transmission of that pollution.

The Lorax Project is planting 90 redwood trees along Highway 24 at and near Chabot Elementary School and the Chabot Recreation Area.

We are looking for volunteers to help with planting on Saturday morning, February 15. If you can help, please contact richproulx@lyceuminstitute.org.

Learn more about the Lorax Project at www.lyceuminstitute.org.

Soundwall Study Petitions Due

from page 2

the author at stuflash@aol.com to obtain additional information and materials or to arrange to submit signed petitions.

QR code, Fourth Bore Coalition URL

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Stuart Flashman is a member of the RCPC board of directors. The views expressed in the article are his own and not necessarily those of RCPC.

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Rockridge Cornucopia

Barry A. Kaufman

'Tis The Season for Citrus

February is a tough month for fresh fruits and vegetables except for citrus. The peak of the citrus-growing season in California is February. Right now is the best time to start tasting different kinds of citrus to find your preference and learn what might be best suited to your favorite recipes.

With so many varieties of citrus available this time of year, the best thing to do is grab something new and taste, taste, taste. On the weekends, David at Market Hall Produce (we call him the fruit whisperer) will be happy to let you taste any citrus variety and suggest what you might want to purchase.

Markets this year are exploding with all sorts of varieties of tangerines and oranges. Tangerine varieties include: Satsumas, Clementines (sometimes known as Mandarin oranges), Fairchilds, Honey, Minneloas and Tangors, a cross between a tangerine and an orange. You can also find Tangelos, a hybrid of grapefruit and tangerines. At this time of the year, all of these varieties are easy to peel, tangy, sweet and – for the most part – seedless.

Blood oranges peak in February. I love serving a blood orange salad with a blood orange vinaigrette for my yearly Valentine's dinner. Another winter citrus fruit is the Pomelo from the grapefruit family. Originally cultivated in China, Pomelos are now grown in California, Florida, Arizona and Texas. They are quite large with a very thick skin. Some unpeeled Pomelos are as big as basketballs. California growers are experimenting with a variety of Pomelo hybrids. A cross between a Pomelo and grapefruit, the Oro Blanco (golden white) is generally seedless and slightly larger than a grapefruit. Look for Oro Blancos in Latino markets.

The unique chemical properties of citrus fruits make them ideal for preparing the popular Latin American seafood appetizer ceviche. Pucquio, the Peruvian restaurant at 5337 College Avenue, serves some of the best ceviche in the Bay Area. Pucquio's menu includes at least five types of ceviche. Every type of fish served is of the freshest and highest quality. The chemical action of the acid in lemons, limes, or Seville oranges "cooks" the fish to a succulent perfection. The acid from the limes and lemons change the structure of the proteins in the fish, essentially "cooking" the fish without using heat. Onions, tomatoes, and avocado are often added to the marinade.

The key to making excellent ceviche is to use only the freshest and highest quality fish. Market Hall's Hapuku Fish Shop and Ver Brugge Market carry sushi-quality fish that is best for preparing ceviche. Avoid using previously frozen fish. It is also critical not to "overcook" the fish. Left in the citrus marinade for too long, the fish will become chewy and rubbery.

The best part of preparing ceviche is that it comes together in about fifteen minutes. Served with an assortment of crisp vegetable chips, ceviche is an ideal quick appetizer for an informal dinner party.

Peruvian Ceviche

(4-5 servings)

Ingredients

- 2/3 cup fresh lime juice
- 2 garlic cloves, smashed
- 1 Tbs chopped cilantro
- 1 Serrano pepper, halved lengthwise, seeded
- 1 pound of fresh high quality white flesh fish (snapper, halibut, sole), cut into ½-inch cubes
- ½ small red onion, chopped to a small dice
- Cilantro leaves

Preparation

- Puree the first 4 ingredients in a blender.
- Place fish in a glass bowl (don't use a metal bowl).
- Stir in red onion and cilantro leaves.
- Pour in lime marinade and gently stir. Let marinate no more than five minutes.
- Using a slotted spoon, divide ceviche into attractive small bowls or martini glasses.

Barry Kaufman is a graduate of the California Culinary Academy. Barry is available for cooking classes and tours of local East Bay ethnic markets. Barry's e-mail is kaufman42@comcast.net

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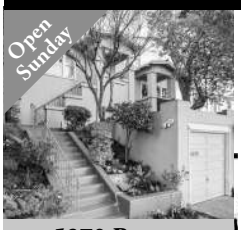
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Oakland Heritage Alliance Names Preservation Honorees

by Annalee Allen, coordinator, Oakland Tours Program, and Rockridge resident

The Oakland Heritage Alliance (OHA) has announced this year's Partners in Preservation who will be feted at the organization's annual membership meeting February 20, beginning at 7 p.m. at the historic Rockridge Masonic Hall, 5449 College Avenue. The public is invited.

This year's event includes local recognition for Residential Rehabilitation at 5806 Ross Street, Steve Rynerson, owner.

Other categories include Stewardship, Education, Leadership, and Lifetime Achievement with several projects in each category. Information and event tickets are available at http://www.eventbrite.com/e/oha-annual-meeting-partners-in-preservation-awards-ceremony-tickets-9912340076?aff=eorg

OHA presents these annual awards to individuals, organizations, agencies, and institutions for activities and accomplishments that promote Oakland's historic and cultural heritage.

The Oakland Heritage Alliance was formed in 1981 and is a non-profit organization which advocates the protection, preservation and revitalization of Oakland's architectural, historic, cultural and natural resources.

Analyzing Private Security Patrols and Crime

by Paul Liu, Ph.D.

The use of private security patrols is increasing where traditional law enforcement is insufficient to ensure public safety.

On September 23, 2013, with the support of the neighbors on my block and the adjoining block, I launched a crowd-funding campaign for a private security patrol in Lower Rockridge, in an area north of Highway 24, west of College Avenue, east of Telegraph Avenue, and south of Woolsey Street.

Two other campaigns subsequently formed in immediately adjacent neighborhoods ("Lower Rockridge South" and "Lower Rockridge North/East").

The data show that robberies and burglaries in Lower Rockridge doubled from July to September 2013, against a generally flat to declining trend seen in other similar neighborhoods. Trends in October were similar.

Study Results at Three Months

The results in the three months since the patrols started suggest that crime in Lower Rockridge is down by a statistically significant 46.4 percent relative to what it would have been absent the patrols, 44.8 percent after accounting for possible displacement of crime to other areas.

I focused my analysis on robberies and burglaries, as these are the crimes of greater concern to residents in the Lower Rockridge area.

The data show that Lower Rockridge has seen a 33.3 percent decrease in burglaries and robberies in the three months since the patrol started compared to the four weeks prior, while the control group has seen an increase of 24.3 percent. Comparing Lower Rockridge relative to the control group suggests that burglaries/robberies are down 46.4 percent from what they would have been absent the patrols.

A similar result is found when comparing the most recent four weeks to the four weeks prior to the start of the patrol. Lower Rockridge burglaries/robberies were down 60 percent while crime in the control group was down by 10.8 percent. This suggests that burglaries and robberies in the most recent four week period were down 55.2 percent from what they would have been absent the patrols.

Some community members have raised the prospect that crime may have been displaced to other areas. To estimate the effect of displacement on the difference-in-difference calculation (i.e., the change in the treatment relative to the change in the control), recall that to the extent that criminals moved to other areas, the area easily accessible by car in this region is broad. An area including University Avenue in Berkeley south to Fruitvale Avenue in Oakland is all within a 10-minute drive of Lower Rockridge. In the four-week baseline period of October 7 to November 3, CrimeMapping.com shows a total of 424 burglaries and robberies in this broader area

CrimeMapping.com does not include data from Piedmont, so the actual total would be slightly higher. This area includes the 25 burglaries and robberies observed in Lower Rockridge. With a 46.4 percent reduction in crime, I estimate there would have been 13.4 burglaries and robberies had the patrols been in place during the baseline period. The difference is 11.6 burglaries and robberies. If these burglaries and robberies were all displaced instead of deterred and spread evenly across the broader area, crime in the broader area less Lower Rockridge would have increased by less than 3 percent. Adjusting the control area for this maximum displacement gives similar results as before, with an overall three month reduction of 44.8 percent and a most recent four-week reduction of 53.8 percent.

View the full report with its interpretive charts and graphs at http://goo.gl/P3aRXb.

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Oakland Improves Cycling

from page 5

a location be evaluated, go to www.oaklandbikes.info/cityracks.

Enlightened Self-Interest

State law requires bicycles ridden after dark to be equipped with front lights that are visible from 300 feet – and with good reason. Motorists do not always see bicyclists, especially at night. Recent research indicates that bicyclists think that motorists see them much sooner than they, in fact, do. In addition to reflective clothing and rear reflectors, front lights are crucial for night time crash avoidance. Get your light today from a bike shop near you.

Some material in this article is based on reports in I Bike Oakland, the twice-yearly newsletter of Oakland's Bicycle & Pedestrian Facilities Program, part of Oakland's Office of Public Works. Find copies and more information here: http://www2.oaklandnet.com/Government/o/PWA/o/EC/s/BicycleandPedestrianProgram/OAK024706

Report These Cycling Road Hazards

☞ **Be sure to report:**

- Hazards such as glass, potholes, unsafe drainage grates, or other obstructions
- Malfunctioning traffic signals
- Abandoned bikes that need removal from bike racks, signposts and/or meter poles
- Speeding, or to request traffic calming or another roadway improvement.

☞ **Report to Public Works:**

• Call Center via phone: 510/615-5566; • online at www2.oaklandnet.com/ReportaProblem; • mobile phone: www.seeclickfix.com/oakland.

Funding Public Safety

from page 1

The program is offered in partnership with Councilmember Kalb's office, and with additional assistance by the Rockridge Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council (NCPC), the Rockridge District Association (RDA), and Oakland Police Department (OPD) Area 2 Commander Captain Anthony Toribio.

Speakers will include senior staff from the city's budget office, city human services (Measure Y, Kids First), and OPD; Kalb – a champion of preventive strategies to reduce crime and a lead player in crafting the 2013-14 city budget; and Nicolas Heidorn, a community leader from the public safety budget-focused watch-dog group Make Oakland Better Now. (See agenda box, page 1, for additional details.)

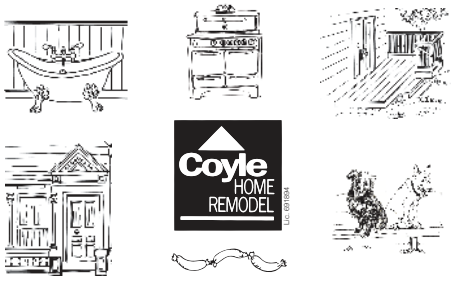



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Rockridge Schools Gear Up for Spring Fundraising Events

College Preparatory School	Oakland Technical High School	Claremont Middle School	Chabot Elementary School
School Book Fair/Sale: **March 1** *and* **March 2**	***Online Auction:*** **March 5-13;** ***Annual Silent/ Live Auction:*** **March 15**	***Ride for a Reason*, May 17**	***Auction donation deadline:*** **Feb 24;** ***Online Auction:*** **March 26-April 3;** ***Live/Silent Auction:*** **April 5**
		Peralta Elementary Schl ***Roundup– Party, Dancing, Auction:*** **March 29**	

Wide Selection at College Prep Annual Book Sale

The 20th Annual College Preparatory School Book Fair will be held on Saturday March 1, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sunday March 2 (10 a.m. to 1 p.m.), with a bargain bag sale on Sunday from 12 p.m.-1 p.m. (fill a grocery bag of books for $10).

The sale is held in Buttner Auditorium on the College Prep campus, 6100 Broadway; there is abundant free parking at the school.

The Book Fair is a not-to-be-missed event for book lovers. Thousands of volumes of adult and children's items in all genres – fiction, non-fiction, cookbooks, classics, textbooks, political treatises, and metaphysical musings – are offered at ultra-bargain prices: $1-2 for paperbacks, $3 for hardcovers, with a few special or oversized books priced slightly higher. CDs, DVDs and audio books will also be available. Books are sorted by category and the sale includes many nearly new and recent works in superb condition as well as vintage and buried treasures.

Well-marked bins, ready for any donations, are located in the parking lot of the school under the gym deck, near the stairs. Donations are tax-deductible. Funds raised support the school's Faculty Wish List. Unsold books are donated to local charities.

If you have questions about the event, or books you would like to donate, contact us at bookfair@college-prep.org.

Tech: It takes a Village...

by Julie Parker and Cathy Rosenfeld, PTSA board

Oakland Tech is so fortunate to be a part of the Rockridge community. We are in the heart of an area that cares about its residents, businesses, and schools. Each year Oakland Tech holds a night of community building and fundraising. In 2014, that night is March 15 and it is our annual auction.

Public funding is still not meeting Tech's growing needs. More than ever, our fundraising efforts are crucial to the well-being of the school. The auction brings in a substantial amount of money, and brings parents, staff, and the community at large together for a night of eating, socializing, and shopping.

The Tech auction is now the single biggest PTSA fundraiser, raising a record $92,000 last year. All proceeds support the students through our Mini and Maxi Grant programs, which provide financial assistance for field trips, the purchase of books and supplies, athletic equipment, computers, and more.

Where did the $92,000 come from?

Oakland Tech: Auction, page 13

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Ride for a Reason: Support Public Schools in Oakland

by Becki Couch-Alvarado, Mike Mages, Mike Napolitano, event organizers.

Somehow it happened. We became accustomed to teacher wish lists; paper drives; peeling paint; broken lockers; 20th century technology to prepare kids for the 21st century; extra fees to participate in sports, music, drama; too few (if any) student counselors; and the highest student-to-teacher ratios in the nation. Enough!

We can do better. California is a rich state and nothing is more important to our future than ensuring that all our kids receive a good education. And that's just what we plan to do!

Join us for the sixth annual **Ride for a Reason on Saturday, May 17**, a bike ride to Sacramento to publicize the education

Ride for a Reason, page 13

Chabot Elementary School Prepares for Spring Fling Auction

Community Support and Donations Make All the Difference

by Amy Lemley, Chabot parent

The Chabot Elementary School community is preparing for our biggest annual event – the spring auction, a school-wide effort that is Chabot's most important spring fundraiser. Our $150,000 goal will support the enrichment programs that serve 600 students in grades K through 5, including music, science, art, media, library, gardening,

Chabot Elementary, page 13

Peralta Round Up Melds Dinner, Auctions, Excitement

Get ready for the best party of the year at the Peralta Round Up, Saturday March 29, from 5-11 p.m. Enjoy an amazing dinner, silent and live auctions, music and dancing.

Once again, we'll be partying at the Uptown Body and Fender, 401 26th Street,

Peralta Round Up, page 15

FROG: Fundraising, Volunteers

from page 3

several areas:

- Graphic design
- Fundraising
- Publicity

■ **Help:** Even an hour or two a month is a welcome contribution. Get involved to make our local park a better place for our families. Email info@frogpark.org.

— Annie Suttle, fundraising co-chair

Swings and Play Features

FROG continues to work with the city and others to clarify permitting, timelines, budgets and other requirements, including Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) provisions and easement agreements.

Many project tasks are under way; volunteers are needed for specific areas, including communications and outreach.

This project requires us to raise additional funds beyond the monies donated by the 4th Bore Coalition. Please visit www.frogpark.org to view the plans and to donate. Questions or to volunteer: info@frogpark.org.

— Carol Behr, chair

"First Saturday" Cleanup, March 1

Stop by Big Frog Park for our next family friendly park cleanup on March 1, 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Sponsored by Oakland Tech's BuildOn club and FROG and community members like you. FROG provides tools and refreshments. Rain cancels.

— Ronnie Spitzer, maintenance co-chair

Next FROG meeting:

Tuesday, February 11. Email info@frogpark.org for details.

FROG Save-the-Date: Watch for April 26 Earth Day and FROG Family Fest News

It's Your Turn to Volunteer

Welcome to our newest block captain, Tan Suwannukul, who took over the Rockridge News Chabot route for Tony Velebil. Now we need only two more volunteers to take the routes below and every block in the RCPC Rockridge Area will be covered for delivery of the Rockridge News. We are hoping that that volunteer will be you.

Route #	Description
03C	Along Eucalyptus in Oakland boundaries
06D	Both sides of Rockridge Boulevard South from 6101 to 6184

Contact Susan at 510/547-3855 or email smontauk@gmail.com. Be sure to name the route you are interested in.

Thank you.

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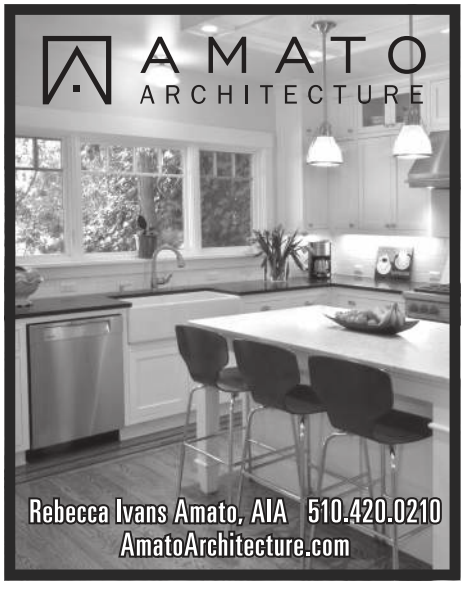
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Rockridge Market Soared in 2013

Closing date	BR	BA	Address	Original price	List price	DOM	Selling price
1/3/14	3	2	5625 Broadway	$1,285,000	$1,285,000	17	(withheld)
1/24/14	2	2	5351 Belgrave Place	$595,000	$595,000	39	$590,000

Average Days on Market in 2013 was 17 • Median Sold price was $800,000
Average Price per square foot $591.71 up from $475.24 in 2012 •
21 more sales in 2013 vs. 2012 • Currently 20 days of inventory

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Chabot Elementary

from page 11

P.E. and Spanish.

The donation deadline is February 24. All donations, big and small, is what makes the Chabot Auction special. Offer a few hours sharing your talent or trade; donate a weekend getaway (and a tax write-off) at an out-of-town cabin; knit, sew or do woodworking.

Business owners who can donate a special item or service should contact Helen Taner (auction@chabotelementary.org).

The online auction runs from March 26 through April 3. The Spring Fling gala, live auction and silent auction take place Saturday, April 5, 5:30 to 11 p.m. at the Greek Ascension Community Center, 4700 Lincoln Avenue.

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Ride for a Reason

from page 11

funding crisis, and to raise funds to support enrichment programs in Oakland schools.

Last year, 210 riders pedaled to Sacramento, raising $80,000 that was split evenly among four Oakland schools: Claremont, Emerson, Oakland International, and Tech.

This year, our goals are to have 250 riders and to raise $120,000 for six Oakland schools, the four listed above, plus two new schools, Edna Brewer and Westlake. To get there, **we need you – as a rider, volunteer, and/or a donor**.

And, there are three rides to choose from: 45-, 67-, and 109-miles. We provide all the support you will need to prepare for, have fun, and go the distance on May 17. We strongly encourage all riders to raise $250 or more in pledges, but the only real requirement for all riders is to show up and pedal.

For more information or to register, please go to: http://rideforareason.dojiggy.com.

Not a rider? Please consider volunteering. Go to: http://rideforareason.dojiggy.com and click on the volunteer button.



Oakland Tech

from page 11

Almost 350 people bought tickets to last year's auction, which brought in close to $11,500. Some parents and alumni donated cash amounts to the auction totaling about $2,500. And, in a huge show of support for our school, over 350 local businesses donated items or services to support Oakland Tech. Also, individuals donated items ranging from jewelry to antiques to crafts to dinner parties to weekend or week-long stays in vacation houses. Another key part of the auction is the "Raise the Paddle" campaign, which brought in over $17,000 to buy a computer cart loaded with Mac laptops for teachers to use in their classes.

But the auction is more than a FUNDraiser. It really is FUN! A community-building event, it is a time to celebrate Tech and meet fellow parents and alumni who share the dream of Tech as a thriving, diverse school full of options and opportunities.

We'll also feature an online auction from March 5 - March 13. The link will be posted on our website www.oaklandtech.com/ptsa/auction.

All are welcome. Even if your children are young, come check out the vibe of their future high school.

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For information: smontauk@gmail.com

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Chuck Fechner, RIP

Chuck passed from this world on January 5. He is survived by his partner Susan, Sister Sue, extended family and community of neighbors and dog lovers. He resided in Rockridge since 1979. We miss you.

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Feather River Art Camp

For adults (and kids). www.featherriverartcamp.com June 15-22, 2014. "a perfect joyful blend of art, nature, creativity, camaraderie" Painting, ceramics, watercolor, writing, bookmaking, guitar, mosaics, glass beadmaking, fused glass, nature journaling.

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Children's Wall Mural Artist and Early Childhood Educator Leei Leei will be in the Bay Area 2/7 – 3/7/2014. She can transform your child's bedroom into a magical space. limleei2@gmail.com for info.

Mentoring Academy

An independent, progressive, college-preparatory high school engaging individual learners in creating tailored instructional programs with experienced, dedicated teacher-mentors. Open Houses on February 8, March 1 and May 3 (Saturdays 1-3 pm), 5951 College Ave 510.517.6609, www.MentoringAcademy.org

Panel Discussion: Preparing & Caring for Your Elderly Relatives

March 4, Rockridge Library Conference Room, 6 – 7:30 p.m. Learn about local financial, legal, and healthcare services available. RSVP: http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/552259 or 510/214-8288.

Rockridge Stress Reduction

Stress Reduction class in Rockridge, Tuesdays, March 4 – May 6, 9-11:30 a.m. 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.

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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 Thurs. each month, 7 to 8:30pm. Rockridge Library, upstairs meeting room, 5366 College Ave. Confirm mtg. at www.rockridgencpc.com or chair@rockridgencpc.com.

Rockridge Branch Library

5366 College Avenue, 597-5017

*** Free computer help & tutoring (for all ages).* Ready, Set, Connect Program:** Internet, e-mail, Microsoft office, EBook download, and more. Tuesdays 4-6pm and Saturdays 1-3pm. See Vicky Chen.

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 Event for Kids

- **Origami Fun with Ellen Oppenheimer**: Sat., March 1st; 3:30 - 5 pm. Free for all ages; best for children ages 7 and older.

FOR TEENS

- **Teen Advisory Board** (ages 14-18): Advise the library how to better serve teens. Get community service credit for school. **Snacks provided.** 1st Saturday each month, 1 to 2pm.
- **Rockridge Ninjas**: watch Anime, 5-6:30 pm; 2nd Tues. each month.
- **Teen 'Scape**: Join other teens each Wed. after school, 2- 3:30pm. Play video & board games, make crafts, enjoy **light snacks**.

FOR ADULTS

- **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**.
- **Covered California:** Get help signing up for the Affordable Health Care Act. Sat., 2/15, 10am to1pm.

ART EXHIBITS (subject to change; call to confirm)

Gallery:

Feb: **Jeff Lichtman:** Urban Photography.

Mar: **Rene Bien:** "In the City", mixed media.

Lobby Display Case:

Feb: **Cynthia Jacobs**: handmade puppets.

Mar: TBA

LIBRARY HOURS

Tues, 12:30 to 8pm.

Wed., Thurs. and Sat. 10am to 5:30pm.

Fri., 12 to 5:30pm.

Closed: Sundays and Mondays; also Wed., 2/12 (Lincoln's birthday) and Tues., 2/18 (President's Day).

Diesel Book/Poetry Readings/Events

All FREE and open to the public.

- Tues., 2/11, 7pm. **Jenny Offill:** *Dept. of Speculation.*
- Mon., 2/10, 7:30pm. **Amnesty International Meeting (2nd Mon. each month):** All invited to exchange ideas on action.
- Thurs., 3/6, 7pm. Joint publication party for **Sophie Littlefield:** *House of Glass* and **Rachael Herron:** *Pack Up the Moon.*
- DIESEL, A Bookstore, 5433 College Ave. More info (other events and discussion groups): 653-9965 or events@dieselbookstore.com.

White Elephant Sale

Northern California's biggest and best rummage sale, featuring an extensive offering of quality used men's, women's and children's clothing, jewelry, books, tools, furniture, household goods, sporting equipment and more. Made possible by donations from the public to benefit the Oakland Museum. Sat. and Sun., March 1 and 2, 10am–4 pm, 333 Lancaster Street (**free shuttle from Fruitvale BART**). **Free admission**. **Donations still accepted**. Information on how and where to donate, (including a list of items that cannot be accepted): www.whiteelephantsale.org.

Wisteria Ways House Concert

Therianthrope: musical duo of guitarist **Dusty Brough** and tabla artist **Miles Shrewsbery**, joined by special guest **Rebecca Kleinmann** , flutist, singer and composer. Flamenco, Balkan, Indian classical, jazz, Persian and more. Sat., March 1, 8pm (house opens 7:30). **Inside venue; not wheelchair accessible**. $15-20 donation for musicians (cash only at the door). 383 61st Street. For reservations (highly recommended), RSVP to info@WisteriaWays.org or 655-2771.

Square Dance In North Oakland

Music by **The Squirrelly String Band.** Calling by **Jordan Ruyle or Evie Ladin** (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/.

Jesse Strickman Performance

Rockridge singer/songwriter Jesse Strickman (from the band Dear Indugu) will perform on Fri., 2/28, 9pm, at the Starry Plough, 3101 Shattuck Ave. Berkeley, 841-2082. $6 in advance; $8-12 sliding scale at the door. Wheelchair accessible. Info at www.DearIndugu.com or 384-4155.

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.

- **UC CalFresh: Staying Healthy & Active. 6 FREE nutrition classes** to help seniors live well and reduce the symptoms of chronic conditions. Free giveaways, recipes and samples. First Tuesdays: through June 3. 10:30am-12 noon. Pre-register at 597-5085.
- **BART Tickets on sale for $9** (a **$24 value**) for seniors 65 and over.

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.

Fundraisers for Rockridge Schools

School budgets need help again. In the coming months, our local schools will offer innovative and entertaining ways to entice you to pay for providing the best for all our students. Please **see page 11** to get details on how to make donations for sales and auctions; mark your calendars for events; and sign up in advance to bike to Sacramento.

Peralta Round Up

from page 11

made available by owner Giovanna Tanzillo.

The goals of this event are to raise money for the school, have fun and build community. We are planning a memorable party so that amid the serious work of bidding on auction items, there's time for mingling… and dancing, too. Tickets cover a dinner presented by Peralta father and chef Brian Espinoza. Dinner tickets are $25/adult if purchased ahead of time or $30/adult at the door. Visit http://www.peraltaschool.org/news-events/peralta-roundup for additional details and to purchase tickets.

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