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Joint RCPC/NCPC Town Hall on Public and Private Safety

by RCPC Board

NOTE SPECIAL DATE: JUNE 9

On June 9, the Rockridge Community Planning Council (RCPC) and the Greater Rockridge Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) will hold their annual joint Town Hall, this year focusing on several topics relating to public and private safety.

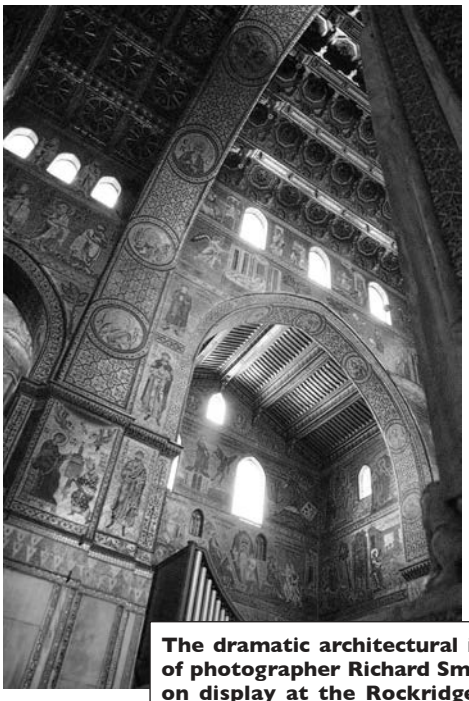
Note the date: **June 9**, the second Thursday of the month, is the regular date for NCPC meetings, but a week early for RCPC Town Halls. Due to the continuing closure of the Rockridge branch library, and thanks to the hospitality of the **College Avenue Presbyterian Church** (5951 College Avenue), the Town Hall will be held in the Church's sanctuary, from **7:30 to 9 p.m**.

The meeting starts with three speakers presented by NCPC. First, new Neighborhood Law Corps attorney Farrah Hussein will introduce herself briefly, and pass out cards. Then, OPD Community Resource Officer Hutzol will update the audience on the most recent crime statistics and trends in the neighborhood. This will be followed by a presentation on helping survivors of domestic and teen dating violence break the cycle of violence, from a representative of Oakland shelter A Safe Place.

Next, RCPC turns to preparedness for earthquakes and other disasters. RCPC will demonstrate a free website, developed (and still being refined) by alumni of the US Geological Survey, that lets individuals identify their specific residence's risk of damage from earthquakes, liquefaction, and landslides. The website also features an interactive tool aimed at helping homeowners estimate their risk of seismic damage and compare it to other typical risks that we generally insure against.

Finally, a city staffer will update the audience on Oakland's Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, which is scheduled for consideration by the City Council on June 7, and will also touch briefly on a related city program, Resilient Oakland.

Congratulations, 2016 Graduates!



The dramatic architectural images of photographer Richard Smith are on display at the Rockridge Café. See Community Calendar, page 15.

RCPC Community Grants for Community-Led Projects Initiative Announces First Round of Awards

by Leonora Sea

Congratulations to the first two grantees of the RCPC Community Grants program. The new RCPC Community Grants for Community-Led Projects initiative was announced for the first time at the February 18 Town Hall, and several proposals were received by the May 1 deadline. These were reviewed and discussed by the RCPC Board at its May 5 meeting, and two were accepted. In the inaugurating class of Spring 2016 are the Clover Neighborhood Litter Cleanup Community and the 62nd Street 400 Block National Night Out.

The Clover Neighborhood Litter Cleanup Community grant will support regular litter cleanups, coordinate an anti-litter campaign with Chabot Elementary and Claremont Middle Schools, and erect a customized "Please Do Not Litter" sign on Miles Avenue east of College. The Clover Neighborhood group hopes eventually to coordinate with other neighborhoods for similar efforts throughout Rockridge. The grant will help move this effort from an ad hoc basis to a regular routine and create a sustainable community around the issue of litter and dumping in our neighborhoods.

The 62nd Street National 400 Block Night Out block party is well known around Rockridge and to the Oakland City Council.

Awards, page 9

June 7 Primary: Go ✓ote!

Check your precinct location—it may have changed.

RCPC Board Adds New Members, Holds Retreat

by Stuart Flashman

With the April Board election, RCPC added new board members Rekha Rao and MC Haug. Since then, the Board has also appointed one additional applicant, Jesse Ortega. Jesse lives on the lower portion of Claremont Ave. and works in the information technology sector. He also enjoys the creative arts, especially painting and writing. We welcome him to the board. We will be appointing additional members to fill the two remaining vacancies.

The new board met for its Spring retreat on Saturday, May 7. New members learned about their duties as nonprofit board members as well as the nuts and bolts of how RCPC operates. In addition, we discussed priorities for RCPC in the coming year. Among those priorities, following up on the April Town Hall meeting panel, is reevaluating what the future holds for retail on College Avenue, with an eye to working with the Rockridge District Association to keep College Avenue as a successful and enjoyable neighborhood commercial area.

We will also be accepting a second round of community grant applications (see article, page 1) and working to update the board's internal documents as well as improving our use of technology to promote communication within the Rockridge community. Along with that, we also hope to draw more Rockridge residents into participating directly with RCPC on various community projects and priorities.

More on these topics will appear in future issues of the Rockridge News.

First All-Hands Public Meeting on Nautilus Project Raises Traffic, Safety Issues

by Ronnie Spitzer and Laura Schlichtmann

A full house turned out for a May 18 public meeting, sponsored by City Councilmember Dan Kalb, about the 5110 Telegraph multiunit residential project located on the northeast corner of Telegraph Ave. and 51st St. Attendees heard Nautilus Group developers, city of Oakland planning staff, and Councilmember Kalb provide information and answer questions. This was the only public meeting so far on the project attended by Oakland planners—all other outreach has been staffed solely by the developer—and city staff took copious notes on the issues raised.

After short presentations by Nautilus Group's Randy Miller and Oakland planner Mike Rivera, the floor was opened up to questions. There were plenty, as 40% of the audience had never previously attended a meeting on this project. Attendees learned that of the 204 units, most will be market-rate rental apartments, ranging in size from studio to 3 bedrooms. They would be priced between $2,500 and $4,000 monthly. (At an earlier meeting, the developers had suggested that typical residents would likely be tech workers and empty nesters.) Seventeen units will be set aside as very low-income, reserved for individuals or households with no more than 50% of area median incom, which translates to $32,000 for a single person, up to $46,000 for a family of four. Nautilus Group said they have not decided yet whether to sell the project after it's built, hire a management company (Nautilus does not have an internal property management group), or convert the

☛ Nautilus Project, page 10

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Library program details/hours: Calendar, page 15

The Rockridge News

The Rockridge News, founded March 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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Contact us at one of the following:
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Newsletter Advertising/Deadline
Publication date of the July issue is:
☛ **July 2, 2016**
☛ **July deadline is June 16.**
Advertising rates are $26/column inch. Six-month pre-pay rate available. For display ads, call Jo Ellis at 653-3210 (after noon), or e-mail joellis1@hotmail.com. RCPC reserves the right to refuse any display or classified ad that it deems inappropriate. (Classified ad contact, page 14.)

RCPC Land Use Committee

The next Land Use Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thurs., June 23, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. Tentative location is 5626 Ocean View Drive (just off College Ave.). Please check the RCPC website at www.rockridge.org the week before for confirmation and agenda.

Land Use Update

by Stuart Flashman, RCPC Land Use Committee co-chair

■ Site of Current Barclay's Pub, 5940 College Ave.

As you may have heard, Barclay's is closing, and a new bar/restaurant is planning to move in and open in July. While the use will be similar to what's there now, a minor conditional use permit and new liquor permit will be needed; the provisions of Barclay's existing use permit will also roll over to the new ownership. The new owners say they want to retain the general format of Barclay's—a community gathering place suitable for families—but are also seeking to obtain a state Alcoholic Beverage Commission license modification to serve liquor as well as beer and wine. They presented their plans at the May Land Use Committee meeting, and the Board will be considering the Land Use Committee's recommendation at its June meeting. The original application to the City calls for a 2 a.m. closing. The owners now said they will ask the City for a midnight closing time on weekdays. They want a 1 a.m. closing on weekends, but are aware that a number of nearby neighbors are opposed to that. Comments should be sent to the Oakland planner at jherrera@oaklandnet.com.

■ Nautilus Mixed-Use Project, Telegraph Ave. Between 51st Street & Claremont Ave.

This 204-unit project includes 17 very low income units as well as a 28,000 sq.ft. grocery store and 6,000 sq.ft. of restaurant/retail space. Councilmember Dan Kalb sponsored a community meeting on May 18 on the project (see article, page 2), where the applicant presented its plans, answered questions, and heard community comments. Oakland planning staff was also present.

A public hearing and potential approval had been set (unless changed) for the Planning Commission's Wed., June 1 meeting. The outcome of the Planning Commission's meeting will be reported in the July issue of the Rockridge News or at www.rockridge.org.

RCPC has been talking to both the applicant and city staff about concerns that have been raised about the project, which focus on traffic and parking impacts, especially on nearby neighbors. RCPC's aim in these discussions is to see that, as much as possible, the project does not create negative impacts for those who live nearby. RCPC recognizes that adding more housing is generally something that will benefit the area, but is concerned that most of the units will be market-rate, which means they may well be unaffordable for many who currently work in the Rockridge/Temescal area and would like to live here too.

If you have comments on the project, contact project planner Mike Rivera at (510) 238-6417 or MRivera@oaklandnet.com. Comments to Councilmember Kalb may be directed to his staff person, Olga Bolotina, at OBolotina@oaklandnet.com or by calling her at 510/238-7240.

■ Changes to Off-Street Parking Requirements Citywide

The City has continued the Planning Commission's hearing on changes to the off-street parking requirements for new projects. Originally scheduled for June 1, it's now been moved to the June 22 Planning Commission meeting. The Oakland Chapter of SPUR (SF Area Planning and Urban Research Association) also had a meeting on related issues scheduled for June 1. SPUR information is available at www.spur.org.

Do We Have Routes? You Betcha!

This is a lucky month for those of you who have been looking for an opportunity to give back to your neighborhood. We have several Rockridge News retirees whom we would like to thank: Tim Sweetser, Marilyn Citron and Ruth Paglierani, who have given us years of service and are now taking a well-deserved break from their volunteer jobs, and Claudine Jones, who has many routes but needs to give one up for family care obligations. Here's the list of the Rockridge News delivery openings:

- Block Captain/Route 21G: Odd numbers along the 6000 block of Claremont Ave.
- Block Captain/Route 21F: Both sides of Hillegass between Claremont & 62nd St.
- Block Captain/Route 18E: 5300 Locksley, between Hudson & Clifton
- District Captain/6 Drops/Route 01A,B,C,D 03A,B,C: Upper Rockridge



Block captains deliver door to door. District Captains drop boxes of bundles at the Block Captains' homes. Either job requires about 15-20 minutes of your time the first weekend of each month except August. It's a great way to get some exercise and meet your neighbors. Call 510/547-3855 or email Susan at smontauk@gmail.com to sign up.

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ZONING COUNTER

5940 College Avenue

Proposal: Revision to an administrative zoning approval to amend the approved Planning Permit (CM79361) of an existing full-service restaurant "Barclay's" with beer/wine to include the sale of liquor for on-site consumption until closing time (2 a.m.).

Applicant / Phone Number: Chris Foott at 510/368-4431

Owner: San Francisco Property Management Company, Inc.

Planning Permits Required: Minor Conditional Use Permit to amend an approved Conditional Use Permit to include the sales of liquor for on-site for a full service restaurant.

Case Planner: Jose Herrera at 510/238-3808 or jherrera@oaklandnet.com

Green Copy: Getting It Right

In our May report that the California College of the Arts will leave its Rockridge campus, a printing error wrongly stated that Green Copy has been in business for 3 years. Green Copy has been in business for 31 years, across Broadway from CCA.

Eyes on Rockridge

Community Resource Officer Hutzol Takes Local Crime Personally

by Judith Doner Berne

A police presence in Rockridge is no longer the unfamiliar sight that it was when we moved here from the suburbs of Detroit in June, 2011.

That was when the number of Oakland Police Department (OPD) officers had been cut to the low 600s due to the recession. The force was struggling to keep up with serious crime, much less having the time to prevent or to investigate anything else.

The wave of criminal activity that resulted took the form of frequent street muggings and robberies (including that of our City Councilmember Dan Kalb); kick-the-door-in style home burglaries, plus multitudes of more subtle illegal entries; to say nothing of the rampage of car thefts and break-ins.

Feeling exposed and unprotected, residents Paul Liu, Steve Kirsh and David Groves organized Safer Rockridge, a non-profit, to pay for our current private patrol. I gratefully pay my fair share and depend on them to check out my house when I go out of town.

But now, thanks in large measure to an improved economy and better management, OPD is training and adding officers—heading toward the 800 mark. It has beefed up its investigative units—they are catching more criminals these days. It has added civilians to free up more police for the streets. And it has reactivated and expanded Operation Cease Fire aimed at deterring youth gun violence.

City-wide, murder, burglaries, robberies and car break-ins/thefts are all down. Oakland, including Rockridge, is slowly becoming a safer place to live and work.

To me, Sgt. Anthony Hutzol's appointment last year as Community Resource Officer (CRO) for Rockridge goes hand in hand with our decreasing neighborhood crime.

Hutzol, a young, burly, affable, community-minded cop, is all about crime prevention. After serving in the Army and attending UC Davis, he joined the OPD in 2012. He came on the Rockridge scene last year, just as Locksley Ave. was experiencing a surge of home break-ins.

His immediate response was to walk the neighborhood, identifying for residents how their leafy yards and side entrances made it easier for criminals to gain entry without being seen. He urged better locks, brighter lighting, stronger doors, security systems (and especially, video cameras) and networking with neighbors. At the same time, "I don't believe in victim blaming," he is quick to say.

Hutzol has followed up that kind of outreach by holding monthly "Coffee with a Cop" sessions, which he announces on neighborhood listservs. They have drawn as few as a handful to as many as 30 residents.

"I was very impressed with him," longtime Rockridge activist Claire Lomax told me, after attending a large daytime session at Hudson Bay coffee shop. "He was very good at recognizing people and giving direct answers."

"Prevention is pivotal," is the centerpiece of Hutzol's talk at every Coffee. He walks the walk by stationing himself in parking lots hard hit by thieves at peak evening hours —adding a police presence and warning car owners to lock and to empty their cars.



Photo by Judith Doner Byrne

Rockridge residents Lynn Wander center) and Vicki Siegel (seated) get answers to their security questions from Community Resource Officer Anthony Hutzol at a "Coffee With a Cop" session outside Philz Coffee.

Community Resource Officer, page 5

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Community Resource Officer

from page 4

When Hutzol sees otherwise, he may take down the license plate and head for near-by restaurants to try and track down the car owner. When one man explained that he didn't really care about losing the backpack left on the car seat, Hutzol asked rhetorically: "But what about paying for the window glass replacement?"

"Break-ins at the library parking lot are now way down," he adds. "I'm super proud of that." And he characterizes the overall drop in Rockridge crime as "double digit."

Rockridge Business District operations manager Chris Jackson attends Hutzol's Coffees. I joined him at one on a beautiful Saturday afternoon in the plaza outside Philz Coffee. Most people walking by may have had other things to do; but the gathering lured Lynn Wander, who asked about the best types of security cameras (Hutzol likes ones that attach to your doorbell), and Vicki Siegel, who wanted to know whether the laptop that was recently stolen from her house had any chance of retrieval (not without a serial number).

Caroline Hastings, a Chabot Road resident whose house had been burglarized twice this year, also came by. Her second burglary resulted two weeks later in a Hutzol-led meeting with her neighbors, at which he pressed hard on crime prevention. "Some of them don't even know the people next door," he told me. "The people component" —knowing when your neighbor is away, watching out for each other—"is crucial."

Leaving Philz Coffee, Jackson wanted to show Hutzol the video cameras the business district recently installed along College Avenue to help ward off crime. "It's a community effort," the officer commented.

As we passed Wood Tavern, one woman at a street-side table had laid her orange purse on the open window sill. Hutzol, seeing a theft waiting to happen, stopped and suggested she move it inside.

Next came a meeting with Vino wine shop general manager Carl Davidson. Davidson was concerned about solicitors stationing themselves outside his store.

"They can't disrupt your business," Hutzol told Davidson. He further explained that they have to have permits and allow four-foot walk-throughs on either side of the store entrance.

"I'll ask a patrol unit to park outside," when they can, Hutzol told Davidson. "That shows police presence—that's the point of what we do. I don't want it to be weird to see a cop in the neighborhood."

It should become even less weird as College Avenue was due to get a walking officer starting in May. That frees up Hutzol to spend more time on residential streets, even seeking out newly moved-in residents to give them crime prevention tips. "Beat officers have to go where they are told. I am really here for you guys."

"He's the best CRO that we have ever had," says Jackson, who is known for his own patrols of College Avenue. That's dittoed by Karen Ivy, secretary of the Greater Rockridge Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council (NCPC).

"He's the only officer I've ever seen do 'Coffee with a Cop,'" Ivy says. "He's more on top of things. He has gone to the trouble of making a PowerPoint presentation for our NCPC meetings. When people bring up a problem area, he often says: 'I was working on that last weekend.'"

Ocean View Drive resident Ethan Hurdus was happy when police found his stolen car, illegally parked along the 5300 block of Broadway. "Many thanks to our CRO [Hutzol] who was there at the recovery and made the whole process as pleasant as possible," he wrote on our Nextdoor listserv.

Hutzol clearly loves Rockridge. "One of my favorite things is I get to meet interesting people who live in the area," he says. You may even see him in civilian clothes. "I come here with my fiancée to eat at A-16 or Becky's."

And, lest we forget, this is the ongoing quote at the bottom of his emails: "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure – Benjamin Franklin."

Ed. Note/Newsflash: CRO Hutzol informed us on May 24 that our new foot-patrol officer Ryan Jensen will patrol College Avenue Tuesday through Friday from 2 p.m to midnight.

To comment on this column or to suggest topics for future stories on your Rockridge neighbors or neighborhood, email judyberne@att.net.

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Letters to the Editor

The Rockridge News welcomes posted letters and e-mails to the editor. Your name, address, phone number, e-mail address and city/neighborhood must be included in either 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.

Parking Permit Program

Editor:

I read with interest Jon Gabel's letter to the Rockridge News in the December issue. Thereafter, each month I have waited for the response, as well as further information, from Dan Kalb's office regarding the actual revenues from parking permit sales and the costs of enforcement. As I pay for my permit this evening, I am still waiting.

The experience on my block is similar to, if not worse than, the activities on Mr. Gable's block. I have discovered that, if you call in to have a parking enforcement person come through, the people on the phone are extremely polite and can usually get someone to come out that day. But that enforcement person never comes back—s/he comes through once and flags the vehicles but never show up again to actually tag anyone. That really doesn't seem to qualify as enforcement to me.

So it seems that we are paying for a parking permit, which entitles us to park on our street, alongside many other non-residents who neither have to get a permit nor pay the fees. (As an aside, the instructions are incorrect as to renewing online. It was not a simple and clear process.) Hmmm, so really someone should be looking into this, but that's exactly what Mr. Gabel said nearly six months ago.

Clearly, the money—and now a lot more money—from the permits is going somewhere. But it is not benefitting the residents, which is what it is supposed to do.

I do not think that we need to be punitive about parking. I live in a 2-hour zone. If someone were to come through every two months, it would be an improvement. But it would be nice—and appropriate and fair—if we got at least some of what we are paying for, along with some response and information from our elected representative.

– J. Lawrence

Ed. Note: This letter has been forwarded to Dan Kalb's office for reply. Since the letter was received so close to press time, the reply will be printed in the July issue.



Road Diet Effects on Traffic

Editor:

Ed. Note: Mike Adel sent a number of questions/comments as a Letter to the Editor. Deviating from the usual format, Victoria Eisen, in her role as city consultant, responds to each of them in order rather than all together at the end.

Mike: First let me say that I am not a traffic engineer. However, something about the traffic-related articles I've been reading (in the Rockridge News and daily papers) doesn't seem to read true. For example: "five intersections along Broadway will have a minor increase in delay as a result of the project, ranging from five to 40 seconds."

City: The change in delay noted above is only for the weekday PM peak, which is the 15 minutes with the highest volume of traffic during the evening peak hour. The remainder of the peak hour and the rest of the day there will be no increase in delay at the intersections. In our observations, backups that currently occur on weekday afternoons are due to backups from the freeway, not because of conditions on Broadway. This project cannot solve those more regional backup issues.

Mike: I assume that is up to 40 seconds for each intersection! If so, is it possible that I might be delayed 3.3 minutes? (Is 40 seconds the average time for a red light in Oakland?)

City: The projected increase of 40 seconds of delay is at only one intersection on the corridor—Manila-Monroe/Broadway—and only during the peak 15 minutes of the day. The potential increase in average delay at the other intersections on the corridor is primarily related to side street movements, not to travel on Broadway. Therefore, the additional travel time to drive between Broadway Terrace to Keith Avenue during the most congested 15 minutes is primarily due to the change in delay at the Manila-Monroe/Broadway intersection.

Mike: Did traffic engineers take into account stopped traffic while a car backs into one of the mid-street parking spots?

City: Yes. It is expected cars that are parking will temporarily block the bike lane while maneuvering into the on-street parking space. Vehicles and bikes would pass them on the left using the through vehicle lane and may need to slow their speeds. There is no measurable difference in delay from this mid-block parking maneuver, since in both the before and after condition, a vehicle that is parking, would block a travel lane: currently, they are blocking the second driving lane; under the road diet configuration, they would be blocking the bicycle lane.

Mike: Did traffic engineers take into account stopped trucks (like Waste Management's) when there is no "extra" left lane to safely pass?

City: It is expected that Waste Management will pull to the right for their operations, thus blocking some parking and the bike lane. Motorists and bikes would then move around the Waste Management truck in the through vehicle lane.

Mike: Since I'm paying a fuel tax I'd love to see more of that money going to repair our abysmal streets.

City: The Broadway Road Diet will repave the entire roadway. The city is taking this opportunity to coordinate other safety and access improvements along with the paving.

More Road Diet Questions, page 7

City Responds to More Broadway Road Diet Questions

by Victoria Eisen

As reported in the May Rockridge News, over 50 people attended the city's open house on April 18 to learn more about the Broadway Road Diet; Rockridge Safe Routes to Transit project; and upcoming Rockridge Bay Area Bike Share stations. The city followed up the meeting with a May article, which responded to questions posed at and after the meeting.

The Broadway Road Diet, whose primary goals are to make the roadway safer for all roadway users (pedestrians, bicyclists and drivers), will reconfigure the travel lanes between Broadway Terrace and Ocean View Drive and make pedestrian crossing improvements throughout the corridor (see the April Rockridge News for more detailed project description).

Q: How far will the backup extend along Broadway during the PM peak?

City: Queues on Broadway during most congested 15 minutes of the PM peak are projected to occur at the traffic signals within the project (see bullets below). At all other times of day, queues are expected to be significantly shorter than what is described below:

- Broadway/College: the queue is expected to be the same length as today.
- Broadway/Broadway Terrace: the queue is expected to be about 100 feet shorter than the typical longest queue today.
- Broadway/Manila-Monroe: the average northbound queue is expected to be up to 400 feet longer than today (extending to approximately 100 feet north of Ada St.). In the southbound direction, the average queue is expected to be 50 feet longer than today (extending less than half the distance to Kales Ave.).
- Broadway/Keith: the average northbound queue is expected to be up to 500 feet longer than today (extending to approximately 50 feet north of Rockridge Blvd.). The average southbound queue is expected to be up to 150 feet (approximately 80 feet longer than today).

Q: If the backup extends through the Kales Ave. intersection, how will it impact vehicles attempting to turn left from Kales Ave. (both sides of Broadway) onto Broadway during the peak?

City: The queue in the PM peak is not expected to extend through Kales Ave.

Q: What will be the delay turning left from southbound Broadway onto Kales Ave. on the east side of Broadway during the PM peak?

City: The southbound Broadway left-turn onto Kales Ave. in the PM peak is estimated to have an average delay of 3.9 seconds.

Q: Will vehicles from residences along Broadway be able to exit onto Broadway during the PM peak?

City: Yes.

Q: What is the expected delay at Lawton/Broadway during the PM peak & is the City planning to install "Keep Clear" pavement markings at this intersection for vehicles from the side streets turning onto Broadway?

City: The through lanes on Broadway at the Broadway/Lawton intersection are not expected to have any delay. The side street average delay at Lawton/Broadway during the most congested 15 minutes of the PM peak hour is estimated to be approximately 34 seconds. All other times of the day there will be significantly less delay for the side street. KEEP CLEAR will be painted in the intersections of Broadway/Lawton and Broadway/Rockridge Blvd.

Construction of the Broadway Road Diet is planned to begin in the fall of this year. Should new questions arise, contact Victoria Eisen, the city's Caldecott projects consultant, at victoria@eisenletunic.com or 510/525-0220.

Ed. Notes:

- Since answering questions embedded in Mike Adel's letter to the Editor (on page 6), other questions were posed. Once again, we thank city consultant Victoria Eisen for her detailed and timely responses.

- Full text of the April and May articles can be found in the Rockridge News archives at www.rockridge.org.

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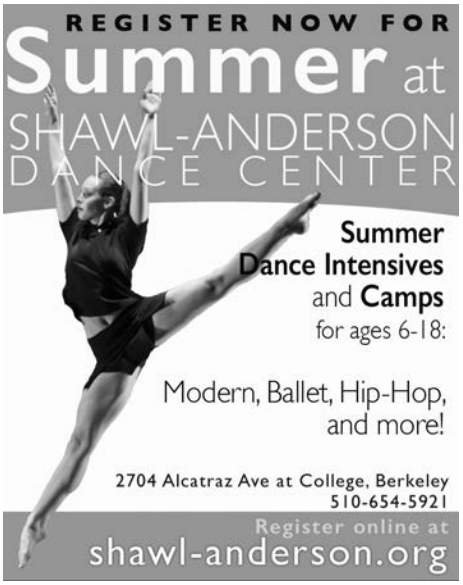
Welcome Summer!

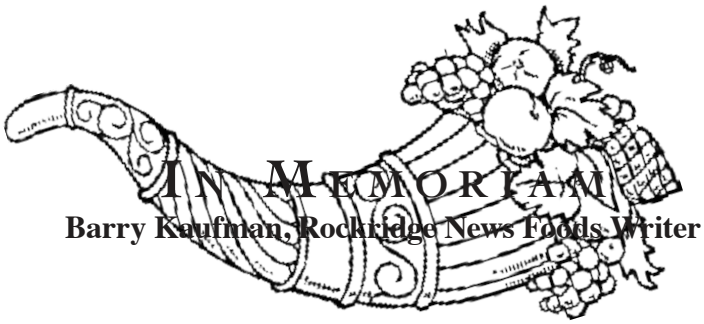


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In Memoriam

Barry Kaufman, Rockridge News Foods Writer



Photo by: Gail Kaufman

Barry Kaufman at his backyard grill doing what he loved most: preparing food and sharing it with family and friends.

by Jo Ellis

It is with deep sadness that we report the passing of our friend and colleague Barry Kaufman. His wife Gail informed us that his life's journey ended on April 28.

For more than 16 years, Barry's *Rockridge Cornucopia* was a regular feature of the Rockridge News, but it was far more than just recipes.

Besides being a trained chef, Barry was above all an educator. He was dean of the School of Education at Dominican University in San Rafael for 20 years before graduating from the California Culinary Academy in San Francisco to begin a second career as a chef. Becoming a chef did not diminish his love of teaching. When you read his food column, and finally reached the long-awaited recipe at the end, he taught you what cuisine or culture had originated it; how it may have changed over time; a discourse about all the ingredients and suggestions about where to buy them; and usually a good story about where he first ate it himself. By the time you had prepared and eaten the dish, it tasted as familiar as if you had eaten it in your mother's kitchen.

He often gave a Rockridge slant to his stories by focusing on College Avenue purveyors and restaurants and encouraged us to partake with him in exploring the culinary diversity available close to home. As he noted at the end of every column, he was "available for cooking classes and tours of East Bay ethnic markets." Shopping; cooking; eating—he always made himself available to remind us how to take delight in the enjoyment of food with friends and family.

Some of Barry's columns will be reprinted from time to time as space allows.

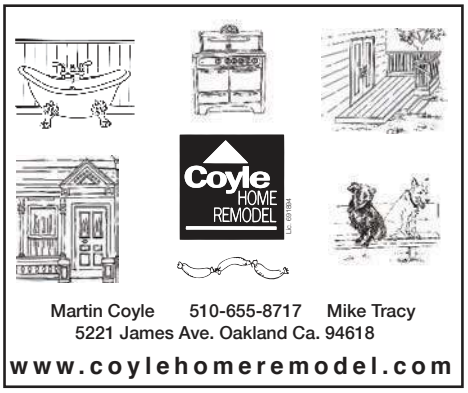
Barry's wife Gail shared the following memories of him: "There is nothing he liked more than writing his column—he loved the research, using his vast collection of cookbooks, magazines and various people in the trade and, of course, his own experiences.

"Barry never met a spice he didn't buy; that leaves his family with literally hundreds of jars to sort through and to figure out what they are and how to use them.

"His friends and family loved his cooking and he loved cooking for them—they are all going to miss his glorious dinners.

"After six years in remission, his

Remembering Barry Kaufman, page 9







Remembering Barry Kaufman

from page 8

lymphoma returned to give him only nine more months with family and friends. Over these challenging months, Barry continued cooking when he could—he loved grilling outside in his backyard or would often sit in a chair in the kitchen and direct his 'staff' as to what they needed to do.

"And, amazing enough, on Passover, only six days before he died, he directed and helped make chopped liver and charoset!

"He leaves his daughter Jennifer to carry on the Kaufman name, as he always said she was the better, more creative cook in the family."

To reflect more about Barry or offer condolences directly to the family, you can reach Gail Kaufman at gkaufman@berkeley.edu or 510/681-7962.

For Donations in Barry's Honor: The **Center for Educational Partnerships at UC Berkeley** has set up an award in Barry's name. It supports graduating seniors from CAL Prep, the school that his wife Gail was instrumental in founding in 2005 as a partnership between UC Berkeley and Aspire Public Schools to propel low-income, first generation students of color to access and achieve success in higher education. In addition, to recognize Barry's love of music, and jazz in particular, the family is working with the nonprofit organization in Oakland, **510akland,** which works in partnership with Yoshi's to bring music and art to the students in Oakland's public schools.

To contribute to the CEP/UCB Barry Kaufman Memorial Award in Support of CAL Prep:
Send a check made out to UC Berkeley Foundation with a note on the check that it is for the Barry Kaufman Memorial Award to:
Center for Educational Partnerships
2150 Kittredge Street, Ste. 4C
Berkeley, CA 94720-1060
Attn: Marsha Jaeger

To contribute to 510akland:
Send a check made out to 510akland with a note on the check that it is for the Barry Kaufman Memorial Award to:
510akland
328 63rd Street
Oakland, CA 94618
Attn: Kerry Fiero

Awards

from page 1

The party always includes educational and informational programs, including having invited the 2014 mayoral candidates to come speak to residents, which drew both Dan Siegel and Libby Schaaf. The theme for this year is to raise awareness of safety issues related to gun control and human trafficking. Community Grant funds will be used to guarantee the minimum sales for a mobile pizza oven and a bounce house as a way of attracting participants from the surrounding neighborhoods beyond the 400 block of 62nd St. If the sales minimum is met, funds will be returned to RCPC. The Board approved this project to see if it is possible to leverage grant funds for maximum benefit, while receiving back some or all of the money to recycle to future projects.

The Clover Neighborhood Litter Cleanup Community and the 62nd Street 400 Block National Night Out will be featured at an RCPC Town Hall next spring. The Board is very excited by the first class of Rockridge projects, and looks forward to their success.

If you missed the May 1 deadline, but still have a great idea for a grant and want to apply, the Community Grants program will entertain a second round of applications this year. Proposals for the Autumn 2016 class must be received by the RCPC Board by October 1. (Send to info@rockridge.org.)

$1,000 remains available for 2016 grants, and $750 is the maximum award. More information will be provided in the September issue of the Rockridge News.

For information on how to apply, see "RCPC Announces a Community Grants Program for Community-Led Projects" on the home page at www.rockridge.org. Further questions may be directed to info@rockridge.org.

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Students Play 100 Songs: Music Department Gets the Do Re Mi





Photos by Kenton Lee

by Jo Ellis

If you were at the Rockridge BART station plaza on the afternoon of Thursday, May 12, you might have wondered who was playing that beautiful music. Once again, the student musicians of Claremont Middle School (CMS), under the direction of their music teacher, Mr. Allen, took over the plaza for their annual fundraiser, The Claremont Middle School Play-A-Thon. Throughout the afternoon, they presented an ambitious program of 100 songs to delight commuters and passers-by.

The student musicians collected donations, pledges and sponsorships from their families, friends and neighbors and raised over $6,000 to support Claremont's music programs. The school is grateful for all the volunteer support in setting up the event and to the local merchants who presented prizes to the top student fundraisers. Later, all were invited to the Play-A-Thon after-party in the school garden, with pizza donated by Extreme Pizza in Rockridge (3204 College Ave. at Alcatraz) and the Temescal Plaza branch of Round Table Pizza (5095 Telegraph Ave. at 51st St.).

To view gallery of images, go to www.claremontms.org, click on Play-A-Thon Update (slight scroll down), and click on link at end of first paragraph.

Nautilus Project

from page 2

apartments into condos, but they currently plan on rentals.

Several audience members expressed support for the housing stock added by the project. However, much of the discussion centered on parking impacts, construction protocols, impacts on Little Frog Park, and traffic. Specific concerns included whether traffic generated by the proposed 28,000 sq. ft. supermarket, plus 6,000 sq. ft. of restaurant space will result in "cut-through" traffic on neighborhood streets to reach the sole parking entrance for both the commercial and residential portions of the project; this access point is located at the intersection of Clarke St. & Redondo Ave., directly across from Little Frog Park. Particular concern was expressed for the safety of small children at the Clarke/Redondo intersection, and the need to add traffic safety measures there; Nautilus expressed openness to such changes. Others in the audience focused on the number of residential parking spaces included in the project (148—less than one per unit), and whether project residents could be exempted from future neighborhood residential permit street parking to mitigate impact on neighboring blocks. After audience members expessed concern about traffic and parking impacts during construction, Councilmember Kalb agreed to host a future public meeting on the construction management plan. Updated information will appear in the Rockridge News and on rockridge.org.

RCPC plans to meet with city staff and work on solutions to some of the issues raised by the meeting participants. The project was scheduled for a public hearing and potential approval at the Planning Commission's June 1 meeting. The Planning Commission decision is appealable to the City Council within 10 days.

For more information and to submit comments or questions, see RCPC Land Use Committee report, second item (page 3).

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Where's Your Rockridge Librarian?

by Sarah Washburn
Board member, Friends of the Rockridge Library

If you haven't noticed, the Rockridge Library is currently closed while it receives a much-needed spiffing up. When it re-opens in early July (July 6 is the planned date), the building will sport new paint, electrical updates and new carpet. We're excited to see the "new" library come July, but in the interim, where are our cherished librarians?

Staff are working hard, spread out amongst the other 19 branches in the system. I caught up with two Rockridge librarians to find out where they're working and what makes their temporary home special. Here's what they said:

EMILY WEAK, Adult Services Librarian
Temporary home: 81st Avenue Branch, East Oakland

"**81st Avenue Branch** is our newest building at only five years old. The facility is pretty amazing. It is really designed for what people do in today's libraries, with plenty of space for reading and enjoying books, but also enough computers for everyone; plenty of outlets for plugging in electronic devices; lots of tables and carrels to do work or homework; and group study rooms. They even have a kitchen space where they provide free meals for hungry kids and teens, and coffee for grown-ups. We share a campus with two elementary schools, so there are lots of kids in this library. They have a lot of pride in their library. On my second day, a little boy asked me if I was new. When I told him I was, he said, 'I hope you really enjoy it here.' And I am enjoying it."

ERICA SISKIND, Children's Librarian
Temporary homes: Temescal Branch (W), West Branch (Th), Main Library (T/F/Sa)

"**Temescal** is a classic example of Carnegie Library architecture: well-preserved, ornate, elegant, and quaint. It feels tiny, but they fit tons of books and DVDs on their shelves. The basement is home to the Tool Lending Library, and if you've never been there, be sure to stop by. You can't imagine the variety of tools they have for you to use, and the staff are so helpful. It is the closest branch to Rockridge, so if you've got kids ages 2 to 5, you must try Michelle Waddy's story times, they're fabulous. You might run into Lisa Harter upstairs or downstairs, too.

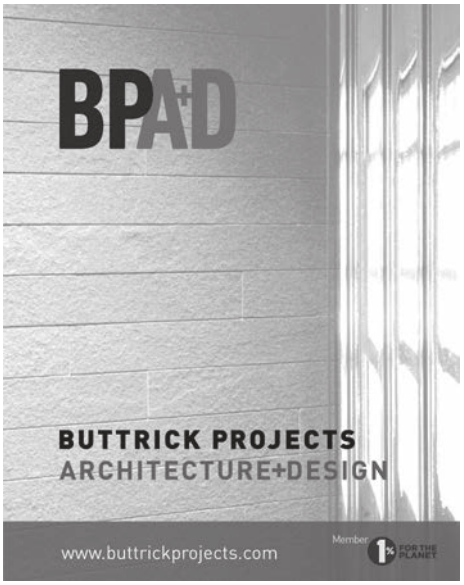
"**West Oakland Branch** is the opposite of Temescal in architecture: no detail-work, with brick walls, wood paneling and wood beams built for function. The building houses a career center, and the computers in the library get a lot of use. The best time to come with children is between 10 and 11:30, when you are very likely to see a group story time. There's plenty of parking, and if you bike, the streets are flat all around. If you are interested in Black History, this branch seems to have a strong collection with wide appeal. Susy (who used to be our Teen Services Librarian) is now the Branch Manager here, so come say hi.

"The **Main Library** has the biggest collection, so if you are busy and you want to make sure you can find something relevant, current, and on-topic, this is the best one-stop place. One tip: make sure you bring change for parking. The number of choices and the size of the departments can be overwhelming, but the Children's Room is a great adventure. Climb up in the high window seats and get cozy in your own little space. This is where I started my career, so my favorite place is the secret stacks behind locked doors, where they house storage items, old magazines, and crunky old elevators. If you've read Jason Shiga's *Bookhunter*, it was clearly based on this library. The building isn't far from Lake Merritt BART, and every Oakland resident should visit it at least once."

Ed. Note: Chabot Elementary welcomed Erica's visit where she read to the children and shared information about the Library's Summer Reading Program.

Find a Library in Oakland

Locations and hours of all libraries in the system can be found at www.OaklandLibrary.org. Say hi to Emily, Erica, or any other of our branch librarians if you see them. Get more news about the Rockridge branch at www.RockridgeFriends.org.





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4/13/2016	3	2	6022 COLBY ST	$949,000	$949,000	14	$1,450,000
4/18/2016	4	2	6225 HILLEGASS AVENUE	$1,495,000	$1,495,000	14	$1,749,000

Homes sold in April closed 25% over the asking price on average.

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Ride 4 A Reason Accepting Donations Until Middle of June

The 8th annual bike ride from Oakland to the capitol steps in Sacramento to support public education has raised to date over $105,500, surpassing the $100,000 goal. The money will be shared equally between Claremont MS, Oakland Tech HS, Edna Brewer MS, Emerson Elementary, Oakland International HS and Westlake MS.

To make a donation: www.rideforareason.dojiggy.com.

"Out & About" Street Fair Seeks Sponsors



Rockridge District Association seeks returning and new sponsors for the 10th annual, always popular Rockridge Out & About Street Fair on Sunday, October 9.

Potential sponsors: please contact Samee Roberts at samee@rockridgeoutandabout.com or 510/550-4804.

More on Out & About in the July issue of the Rockridge News.

Photo: Rockridge District Association

Rockridge-Temescal Greenbelt Summer Cleanup Day, June 18

by Leonora Sea

Please join your neighbors and friends on Saturday, June 18, from 9 to 11 a.m. for the 2016 Summer Cleanup, sponsored by the DMV Neighbors Association. We'll focus on the section of the Greenbelt from the DMV parking lot to Clifton Street. Most in need of attention: trash and detritus along the path; weeds and willow roots in the creek bed; ivy on tree trunks and encroaching on the creek; and invasive plants. Volunteers will be provided with tools and gloves (or bring your own, well-marked as yours), snacks, and coffee. The creek is currently turned off but should be running again, so plan to wear closed-toed shoes if you want to work on weed and root removal in the creek channel. Families are welcome, and there are plenty of kid-appropriate tasks. Meet at the picnic table near the DMV parking lot to sign in. To RSVP, or for more info, contact leonorasea@yahoo.com.

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Frog Park Seeks Volunteers

by Annie Suttle

Frog Park was built by dozens of volunteers in 2001 and has been maintained by dozens more through the years. Our children have a safe and fun place to play because volunteers ensure the sandbox is clean, the fibar (wood chips) is replenished, and the play structure is safe.

We are actively seeking neighbors who have a few hours to dedicate to Frog Park as volunteer Maintenance Coordinator, Volunteer Coordinator, Event Planner and Construction Coordinator. They would join our awesome team of volunteers —from retired neighbors to empty nesters to parents of preschoolers and high schoolers.

We're losing a gem when Howard Ferrier, our longtime Maintenance Coordinator, steps down after our cleanup this fall. And we know that one of our neighbors—or perhaps a duo to share responsibilities—is ready to step up to the plate and join the Frog team. What does this volunteer position entail? Our recent Earth Day cleanup found Howard communicating with volunteer groups ahead of time, ensuring we were stocked with supplies (like additional sand and fibar), unloading all the tools the morning of, and assigning volunteers specific tasks.

In addition to Maintenance Coordinator, Frog Park is also searching for neighbors to join our committee as Volunteer Coordinator, Planner and Construction Coordinator.

The Volunteer Coordinator will help with outreach and coordinate volunteers for events.

The Event Planner would help plan and execute events at Frog Park such as Earth Day, family fests, the upcoming 15-year anniversary celebration and annual cleanups.

The Construction Coordinator will help with our upcoming park enhancement activities as we move to the final design and development stages of adding swings and additional play features over the coming year.

Please email chair@frogpark.org to learn more about these positions.



Photo by Brauley Kinkead

Not so far from home? **The name on a store front in Paris' 11th Arrondissement caught the keen eye of our editor Don Kinkead while vacationing in France.**



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Compiled by Jo Ellis

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Rockridge Branch Library

5366 College Avenue, 597-5017

Closed for Renovations: Scheduled to Reopen Wed., July 6.

- The due date for any materials checked out from the branch will automatically be extended to mid-July. Patrons do not need to return Rockridge materials during the closure period. However, **the Rockridge book drops will remain open during the closure and returned items will be checked in on a regular basis.**
- If patrons have items on hold with Rockridge Branch, the designated pick-up location will automatically change to Temescal Branch, 5205 Telegraph Avenue.
- During the time we are closed, all our staff will be working at other branches, and we hope to see you there **(see story p. 11)**.

For more info: Jamie Turbak, Associate Director, 238-6610 or jturbak@oaklandlibrary.org. Visit the Oakland Public Library on line at www.oaklandlibrary.org.

Diesel Book Poetry Readings and Events

FREE and open to the public.

- **Every Sat.**, 10:30am. **Children's Story Time**: Join booksellers Katherine and Brad for great stories, fun songs, and silly rhymes. Ages 5 and under (and parents).
- Sun, 6/12, 3pm. **Poetry Flash** with **Susan Cohen**: *A Different Wakeful Animal*, and **Catherine Abbey Hodges**: *Instead of Sadness*.
- Wed, 6/15, 7pm. Publication party for **Ramona Ausubel**: *Sons and Daughters of Ease and Plenty*: joined by **Edan Lepucki**.
- Tues, 6/21, 7pm. **Zoe Zolbrod**: *The Telling*; joined by **Brian Hurley**, ed. at *The Rumpus*.
- Fri, 6/24, 6pm. **Pajama Party Story Time for Kids**. Come in PJs, bring teddy bear, have milk and cookies. Hear bedtime story by author/illustrator **Julie Bayless**: *Roar!*.
- Fri, 6/24, 7pm. **Max Porter**: *Grief Is the Thing with Feathers*. Joined by local author **Anthony Marra**.
- Sun, 6/26, 3pm. **Kati Hites**: reads her new picture book, *Winnie & Waldorf: Disobedience School*. For children 4-8 (and parents).
- Wed, 6/29, 7 pm. Local author **Kim Addonizio**: *Bukowski in a Sundress: Confessions from a Writing Life*.

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

Rockridge Artist Open Studio

Liz Maxwell, participating in ProArts Open Studios, welcomes visitors to her studio to view paintings prints and monotypes: Sat. and Sun., June 11-12, 11am to 6pm. 5808 Chabot Road (not wheelchair accessible). Light refreshments. More info: 654-5741 or lizmaxwell@prodigy.net. More info on other local artists and ProArts East Bay Open Studios 2016 at proartsgallery.org/ebos.

Art in Architecture

Photography Exhibit at Rockridge Café by Rockridge architect and photographer **Richard Smith**. 25 photos taken over the past 40 years, inspired by a form or element of the building that gives expression or contributes to the uniqueness of the building. On display daily 7:30am to 3:30pm until June 29. More info or to inquire abt purchasing photos at arcsmith@gmail.com.

The Rockridge Café, 5492 College Ave, 653-1567

Wisteria Ways House Concert

Ellen Robinson (vocals) with **The Don't Wait Too Long Band**: **Murray Low** (piano); **Kristen Strom** (sax); **John Schifflet** (bass); **David Rokeach** (drums). Jazz singing at its best. Sample music at www.ellenrobinson.com/. Sat, June 11, 3pm; house opens at 2:15pm. Outside venue; wheelchair accessible. Bring something to sit on (cushions, chairs, blankets); also hat; sunscreen; picnic. Light refreshments available. $15-20 donation (sliding scale); all goes to musicians. Cash only at the door. 383 61st Street. For reservations (highly recommended), RSVP to info@WisteriaWays.org or 655-2771.

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Get Ready for Summer: non-members ok.

- Thurs, 6/9, 7 to 8:30pm. **Refresh Your Run: beginners or "getting back on track"**. Training and techniques to get back in shape and/or prepare for an upcoming 5-10K or more. Strategies for injury prevention; developing qualities of a runner. Dress for light activities, drills, and exercises to build strength/flexibility/endurance.
- Tues, 6/14, 7 to 8:30pm. **Hiking the Pacific Crest Trail**: Get a solid foundation in planning everything for weekend hikes to extended thru hikes: food and gear; trip planning resources; other logistics for thru hikers.
- Thurs, 6/16, 7 to 8:30pm. **TRAILHEAD Film: Discover Oakland's Gateway to the Redwoods**: Profiles a relatively unknown urban gem: Oakland's largest wildland trail system that connects the heart of Oakland to redwood forests and over 500 miles of trails that span the entire East Bay.

1338 San Pablo Ave, (near Gilman). More info and to register: 527-4140 or www.rei.com/events/.

North Oakland Senior Center Special Event

- **BART Senior Field Trip: Free SF Airport Adventure!** (if age 65+ and 1st time taking BART field trip)

Get a free Senior Clipper Card encoded with a 62.5% sr. discount and travel tote with BART guides.

Wed., June 22. Meet at Ashby BART station at 9:45am. Group rides BART to SF Airport; visits Aviation Museum and other art displays; has lunch—**all compliments of BART**. Walk score: fair.

Register in person at the NOSC reception desk by June 14. Bring one form of ID with birth date. We will email needed paperwork to BART. Also can participate with own Clipper Card (show at registration).

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. More info: 597-5085.







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MARKET UPDATE
Summer is approaching and the market is hot, hot, hot!!! Call me for more information.
- *Ron*

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