The Rockridge News

www.rockridge.org

VOL. 32 ■ NO. 1 ■ ISSUE NO. 340 ■ January 7, 2017 CIRCULATION: 5,800 RESIDENCES; 200 BUSINESSES

Sponsored by the Rockridge Community Planning Council • 4123 Broadway, PMB 311 • Oakland, CA 94611

College Ave Storefront Whack-a-Mole: A Problem?

Recent Business Closures Compound Empty Storefront Count



/Don Kinkead

Shortly after Christmas, Pasta Pomodoro unexpectedly announced that it had closed its chain of restaurants, including its outlet at Lawton and College Avenues.

Headquartered in San Francisco, the chain, according to Wikipedia, began as a single restaurant in San Francisco's Marina District, growing to over 25 restaurants in the Bay Area, Los Angeles and Orange County.

To some in Rockridge, the closing might be seen as one among many other business closures on College Avenue potentially threatening the area's character. Others could see it as a natural process of the wax and wane of the business world.

Whither College Avenue?, page 5

Is College Avenue Dying?

by Don Kinkead

Letters to The Rockridge News, plaintive street-corner conversations and the spectre of empty and darkened College Avenue storefronts can lead one to wonder if the Rockridge business district is shriveling.

The evidence seems solid: The venerable Pasta Pomodoro and timeless Ag Photo are suddenly gone, victims of – what? It's hard for the passerby to know. Reasons for a business's closing are usually opaque to the community, thus likely to be swelled to catastrophe by rumor, giving rise to easy fears.

Then there are the storefronts empty for years, sometimes turned into temporary "pop-up" stores selling socks, sloganed T-shirts and other merchandise to generate some shopper traffic. What's up with that? How can owners let these potential cash cows languish while the rest of College Avenue hums with commerce? Somebody knows. Again, rumor: One storefront is empty pending extensive repairs to the building; another is empty because a protracted divorce remains up in the air. But, who really knows?

In May 2014, The Rockridge News noted seven vacant College Avenue storefronts. Beginning on page 4, this issue reports the status today of those stores. But (spoiler alert), as noted in that story, "... the neighborhood character that has come to define Rockridge is dynamic. As businesses come and go, the mix of shops and services evolves. Moreover, business cycles, the economy, consumer tastes, planning changes, and property management can influence change."

As the French might say: The more things change, the more they stay the same.

Is College Avenue dying? Nope. Just recycling.

Rockridge Kitchens



Food Trends Can Fuel Kitchen Changes

by Leonora Sea, Tour co-chair

Rockridge is known for its many attractions including restaurants, shops, and residential architecture. Among the many businesses, specialty food and beverage stores occupy a special place in residents' and visitors' hearts (and stomachs).

Having such shops close at hand, and having many Rockridge residents who come from diverse food traditions, have inspired wide variety in cooking styles in our neighborhood.

To do the best job they can, many residents have improved their kitchens with updated layouts, new appliances, and new ideas. The finished kitchens tend to reflect fresh ways of thinking about food and its preparation.

To celebrate these changes and to share design and equipment solutions for

Kitchens: Fueling Ideas, page 12

City Offers Free Holiday Treecycling

Until January 13, 2017

Now available for all residences in Oakland: Convenient and free pickup of holiday trees takes place on your regularly scheduled

Treecyling, pg 12

Is Preparing for the "Big One" Your New Year's Resolution? Get CORE Trained Now

The Oakland Fire Department's Office of Emergency Services (OES) established the **CORE** (Communities of **O**akland **R**espond to **E**mergencies) program in April of 1990 following the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake. **CORE** teaches self-reliance skills and helps communities establish response teams to take care of their neighborhoods and each other until professional emergency personnel arrive. A major disaster can overwhelm first responders, leaving many community members on their own for the first 72 hours or longer. Since its inception in 1990, the **CORE** program has provided free, community-based training to more than 25,000 residents.

CORE holds a sequence of training classes at different venues in the city. In January, **CORE I** and **CORE II** will be held at the Rockridge Branch Library, 5366 College Avenue. It's open to all: those who have never been **CORE** trained and those who want to refresh their skills.

CORE I – Home and Family Preparedness – Wednesday, January 18, 6 - 8:30 p.m.

Learn how to reduce common household hazards, prepare family disaster plans and emergency supply kits, develop evacuation plans and respond to earthquakes, fires, chemical emergencies, terrorist threats and severe weather.

CORE II - Neighborhood Preparedness and Response – Wednesday, January 25, 6 – 8:30 p.m.

Learn how to organize a command center and create emergency response teams (i.e., communications, damage assessment, hazard reduction/utilities, search and rescue, disaster first aid, shelter and special needs).

At a later date, you can attend **CORE III – Emergency Response Hands-On Training** held downtown at the Fire Department training facility. There, you will learn basic response tactics with classroom instruction and hands-on training in fire suppression (fire extinguisher use), damage assessment, light search and rescue, disaster first aid,

Core Training, page 14

GARDEN CLEANERS
$5 FREE DRYCLEANING with garment orders over $28
or $3 OFF orders over $15
Dry Cleaning only ☛ Present with incoming order
EXPERT SHIRT LAUNDERING!
Garden Cleaners
5808 College Avenue, Oakland
601-1188
Mon – Fri 7 – 7 • Sat 8 – 6
Across from Trader Joe's and Zachary's Pizza

LAW OFFICE OF
DAVE KARLINSKY
725 WASHINGTON ST., SUITE 313 OAKLAND, CA 94607
(510) 788-5700 WWW.DAVEKARLINSKYLAW.COM

Practicing exclusively in the area of trusts and estates:

- Estate planning
- Probate / trust administration
- Dispute resolution
- Special needs trusts

Please contact me during regular business hours to schedule an appointment.

ROCKRIDGE BRANCH LIBRARY
5366 College Avenue at Manila | 597-5017
Library program details/hours: Calendar, page 15

THE Rockridge News

The Rockridge News, founded March 1986 by Don Kinkead, is published monthly (except in August) 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.

Rockridge News Production
Don Kinkead.....Editor
Jo Ellis.....Asst. Editor
Judith Doner Berne.....Eyes on Rockridge
Jo Ellis.....Advertising & Community Calendar
Susan Montauk.....Business Manager
Don Kinkead.....Graphics & Layout

RCPC Board of Directors, 2016-17
Stuart Flashman.....Chair
Kevin Faughnan.....Vice-Chair
Rekha Rao.....Secretary
Ronnie Spitzer.....Treasurer
M C Haug, Don Kinkead, Mike Lin, Christina Wong Masalin, Jesse Ortega, Laura Schlichtmann, Leonora Sea

Contact the board: chair@rockridge.org
For information: info@rockridge.org

Newsletter Subscriptions
To subscribe to **The Rockridge News**, send your check for $20, payable to *Rockridge News* Subscriptions, to: *Rockridge News* Subscriptions at the address below.

Contacting The Rockridge News
Are there community issues you'd like to see covered in **The Rockridge News**? • Do you have questions about newsletter distribution? • Want to volunteer to be a **Rockridge News** block captain? • Would you like to write a letter to the Editor?

Contact us at one of the following:
Editor: editor@rockridge.org;
www.rockridge.org;
The Rockridge News,
4123 Broadway, PMB 311, Oakland, CA 94611

Articles submitted for publication may be emailed to the editor or mailed to the addresses above. Submissions are limited to 600 words, must include the author's name, phone number, email address, and city or neighborhood of residence, and are subject to editing. Views expressed in articles accepted for publication do not necessarily reflect those of The Rockridge News, its editor, or the board of directors of the Rockridge Community Planning Council. To reprint a Rockridge News article, contact the editor.

Newsletter Advertising/Deadline
Publication date of the February issue is:
☛ **February 4, 2017.**
☛ **February deadline is January 19, 2017.**
Advertising rates are $26/column inch. Six-month pre-pay rate available. For display ads, call Jo Ellis at 653-3210 (after noon), or email 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 January Land Use Committee meeting is Wednesday, January 25, 7:30 p.m., at the Rockridge Branch Library, 2nd floor meeting room. Agenda topics will likely include discussion of whether RCPC should adopt a policy position on providing additional housing (particularly affordable housing) in Rockridge. There will also be an update on the pending change in use permit policy for CN-1 areas. Check the RCPC website, www.rockridge.org, the week before for the agenda and to confirm the meeting. (*December meeting was canceled. No committee report this month.*)


"It's a Jungle Out There"
/Leonora Sea

Beat the Winter Doldrums: January Temescal Creek Cleanup

by Leonora Sea

Winter is officially here, and so is the annual January cleanup along the creek in the Rockridge Temescal Greenbelt.

2016 was a good year in the park, with wonderful turnouts for Earth Day, the June cleanup, Creek-to-Bay Day, and the CPS Fall Work Day. College Avenue Presbyterian Church's summer Bible School campers did a sterling job on the path and pond in August. Dedicated volunteers have devoted many hours on their own to keeping up the greenbelt and creek.

Since the end of October, more normal rainfall has helped the weeds to thrive, and they're now ready for a good whacking. Many of the shrubs need to be pruned to get ready for spring. Heavy foot traffic through the creek channel over the summer has created some erosion to be repaired.

So: Put on your old shoes and a warm jacket, get out of the house, join your neighbors, and **volunteer for a couple of hours with the DMV Neighbors Association on Saturday, January 21**. Tools, gloves, and debris bags will be provided along with snacks and hot coffee. Meet at the picnic table near the DMV parking lot. **Cleanup will start at 9 a.m. and wind up around 11**. Rain cancels.

For more information, contact leonorasea@yahoo.com

City Update on Broadway Roadway Projects

Upper Broadway residents were recently advised by city consultant Victoria Eisen that the Broadway/Keith-Brookside project construction is running on schedule. However, she wrote, "due to a delay in PG&E's ability to deliver a permanent power source to the new traffic signal, the Patton Street closure and the detour currently in effect will continue until late January. By that time, the project will be near completion, the roadway will be repaved, the new traffic signal will be fully powered and operational, and the traffic detour ended. The projected date is subject to change pending weather delays to the work."

Questions or concerns:

Victoria Eisen, Eisen|Letunic Transportation, Environmental and Urban Planning

Office: 510/525-0220

victoria@eisenletunic.com



/Don Kinkead



Time Flies! It's been 30 years now since Realty Advocates opened its office in Rockridge. With several hundred sales in the area to our credit, one thing has not changed over time: our consistent delivery of top-notch service, highest market prices, and as a bonus: the lowest commissions!

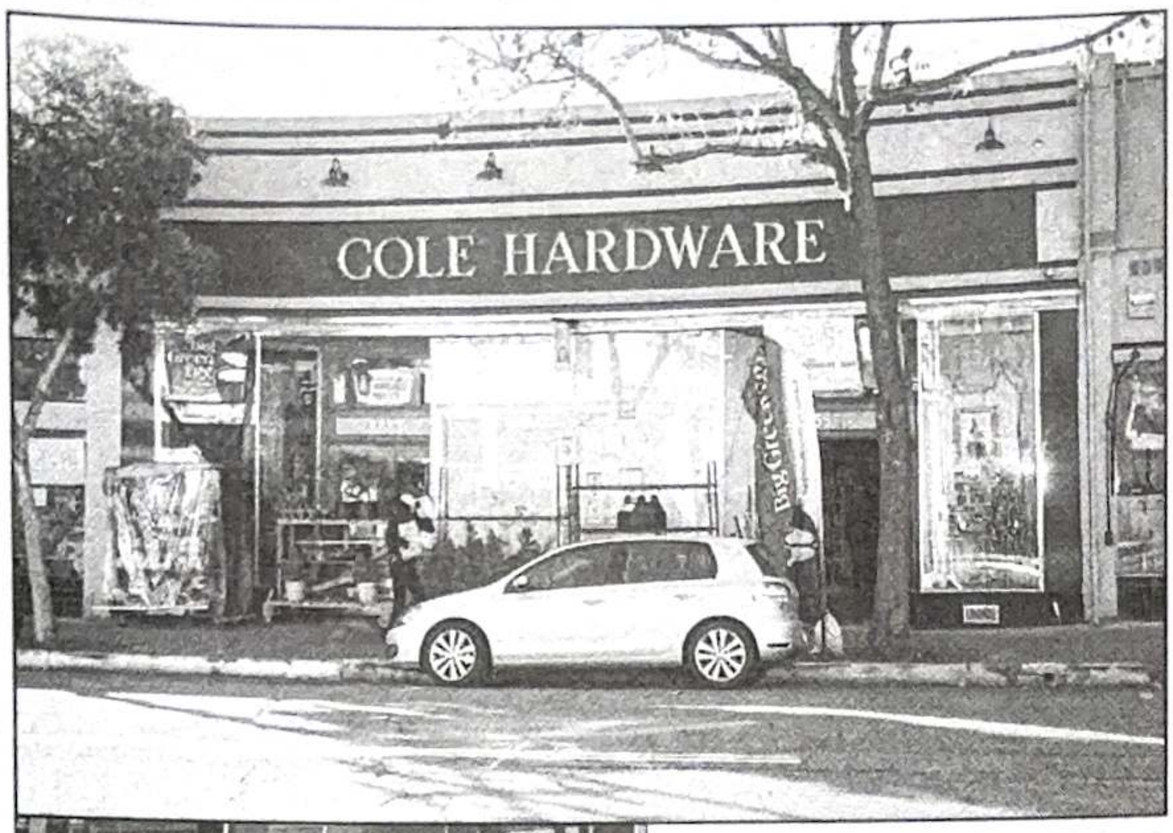
REALTY ADVOCATES

Brett Weinstein, Broker
brett@realtyadvocates.com 510-428-0757

HIGHEST SALES PRICES + LOWEST COMMISSIONS

A Look at Seven Storefronts Then and Now: 2014 and 2017

Vacant in 2014: What's Different Now?

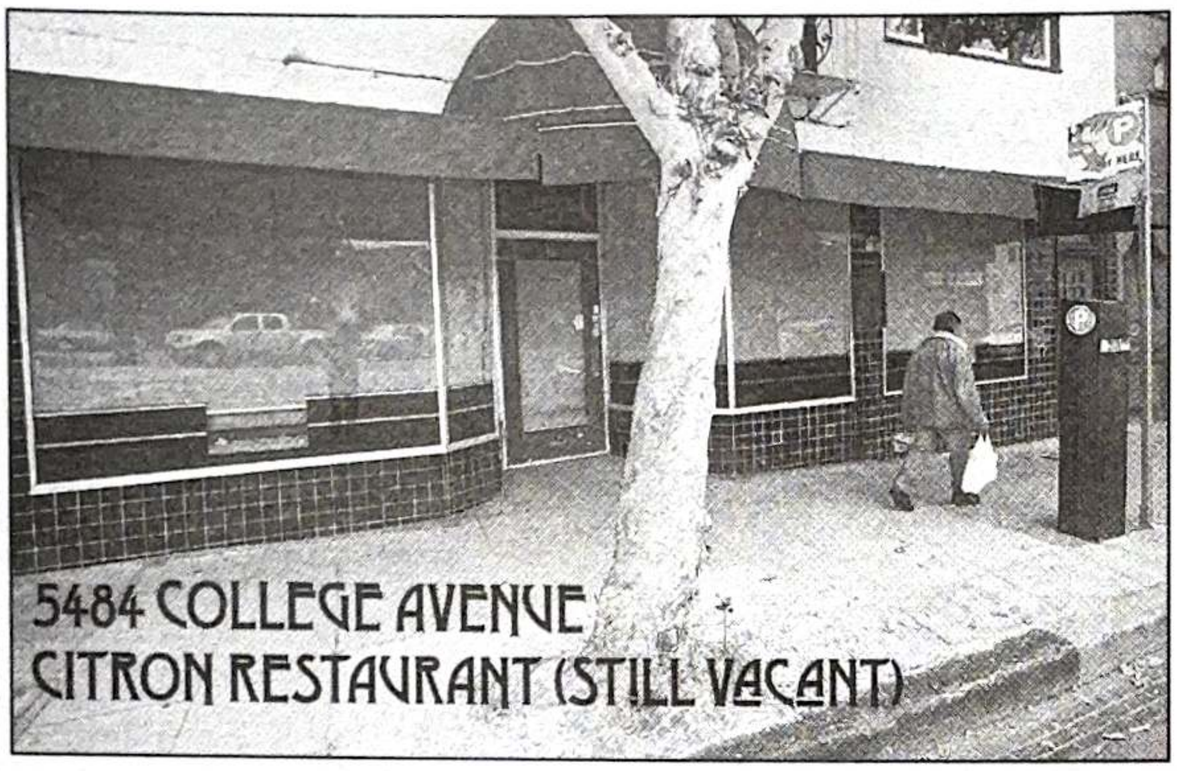




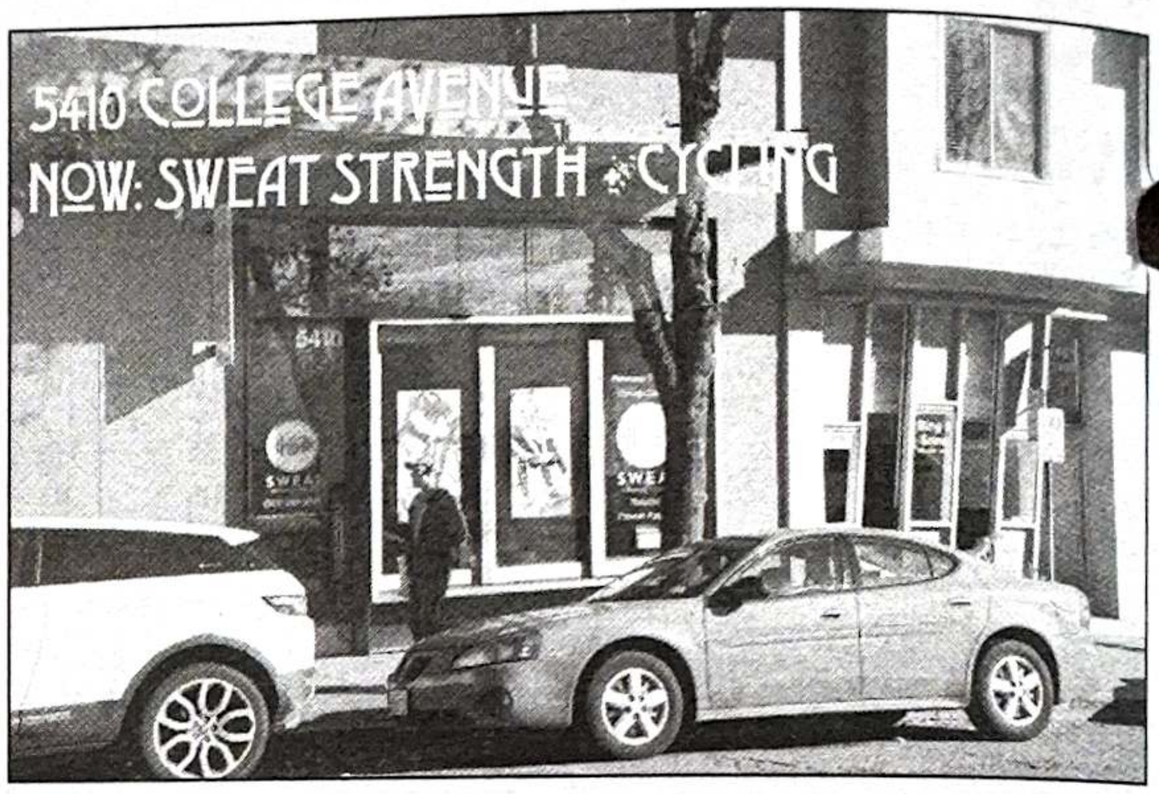
5533 COLLEGE AVENUE
NOW: COLE HARDWARE



5540 COLLEGE AVENUE
COTTON BASICS (STILL VACANT)



5484 COLLEGE AVENUE
CITRON RESTAURANT (STILL VACANT)





JASON KALDIS
ARCHITECT
INCORPORATED
510.549.3584
WWW.JKALDISARCHITECT.COM



MOTLEY TEAM
REALTORS®

PACIFIC UNION
CHRISTIE'S

Competition Drives Price in December

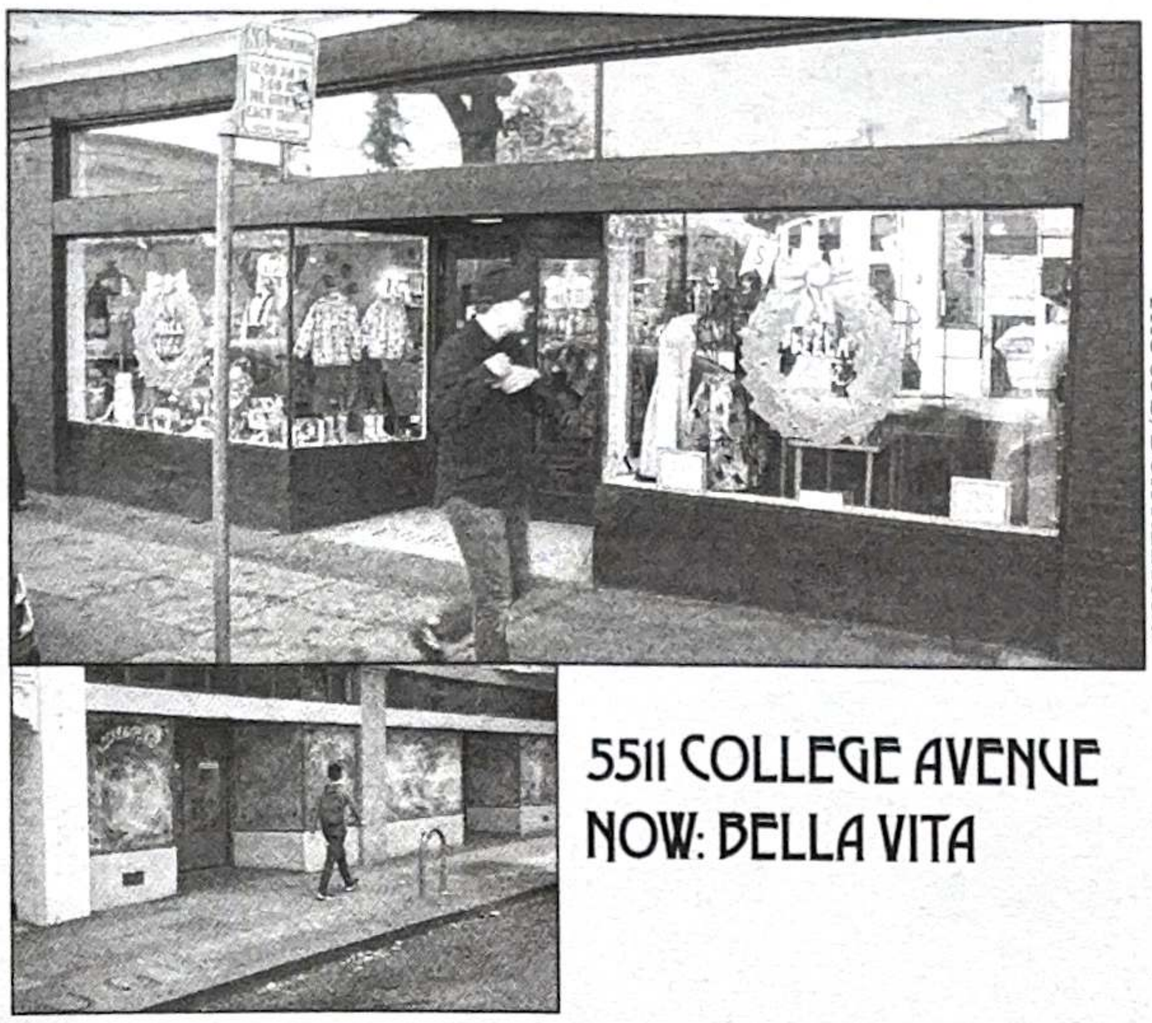
Closing date	BR	BA	Address	Original price	List price	DOM	Selling price
12/23/2016	3	2	5641 Miles Ave	$885,000	$885,000	13	$417,000
12/23/2016	3	3	6125 BROADWAY	$995,000	$995,000	28	$1,120,000
12/28/2016	1	1	250 Whitmore Street	$399,000	$399,000	16	$1,275,000

Homes sold in December closed 23% over the asking price on average.

Specializing in Rockridge | 510.459.4338 | MotleyTeam.com
If you're thinking of buying or selling, give us a call for a free consultation.

College Avenue Vacancies

The seven storefronts pictured at left and below were vacant when RCPC's informal survey and report in May 2014, noted "...many Rockridge residents are concerned that the avenue's commercial diversity... could be at risk." However, of the seven, five now house robust businesses. Several spaces were rented shortly after the article; most of those have been in business since that time. Nevertheless, storefront vacancies can unnerve residents and shoppers alike. Watch for the continuing discussion of commercial stability in the February issue of The Rockridge News.



Photos/Don Kinkead

5511 COLLEGE AVENUE
NOW: BELLA VITA



I DO BRIDAL BOUTIQUE
5332 COLLEGE AVENUE

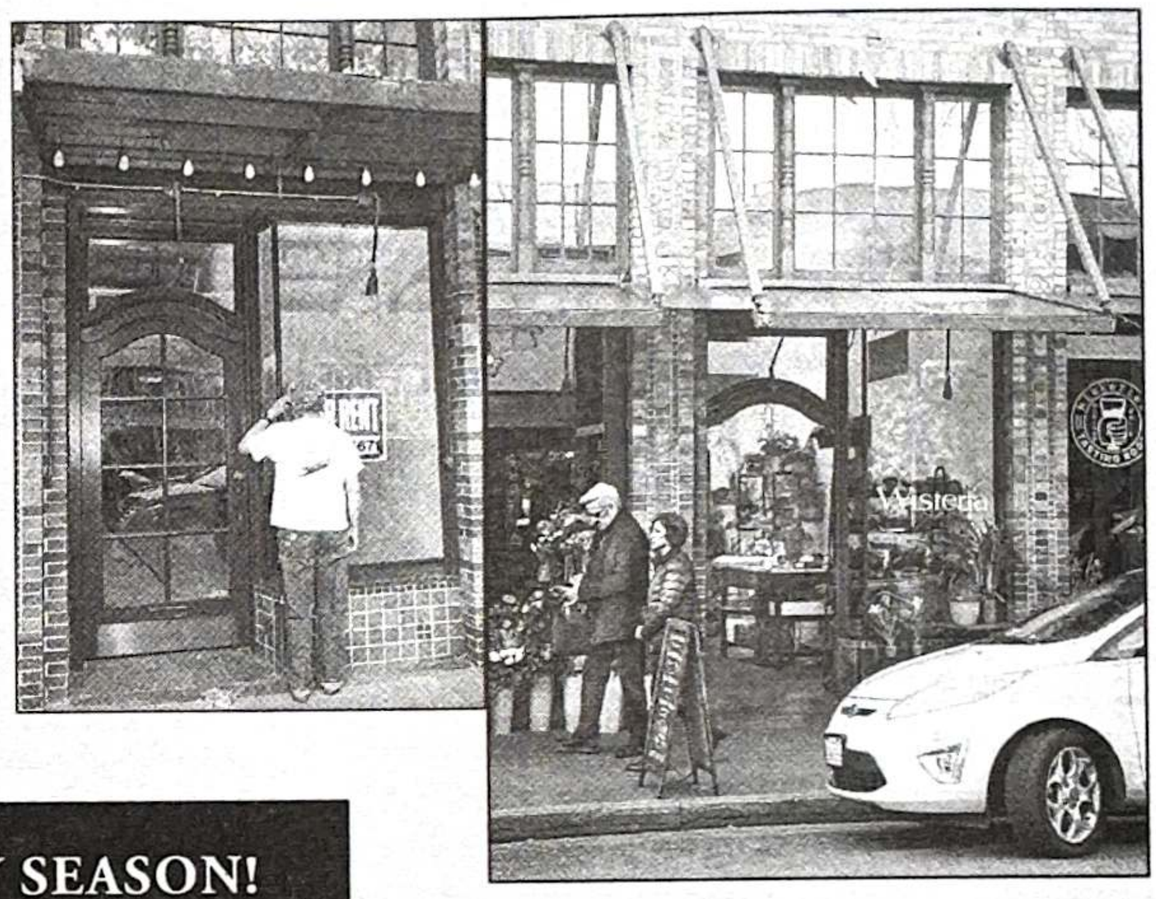
Whither College Avenue?

from page 1

Interest in College Avenue's stability is understandable, given the role played by the avenue's shops, offices and restaurants in the lives of Rockridge residents and visiting shoppers alike.

How much should one be concerned? Can the cycles of change be controlled or buffered? It's complicated. This issue of The Rockridge News looks at seven shops vacant in 2014 to consider their present situations.

The discussion will continue in next month's issue as the Rockridge District Association (RDA) and other involved sources join the conversation.



6307 COLLEGE AVENUE
WISTERIA FLOWERS

WISHING YOU A PEACEFUL HOLIDAY SEASON!



STEA REALTY GROUP
DANIEL STEA
BRE #01452156
510-867-4094

City of Oakland supports 2nd unit developments.
Thinking of a 2nd unit? Contact FMSProjects to see how to best achieve this in 2017!
FMS Projects INC.
REMODELING / LIC #522497
5429 Telegraph Avenue
Oakland, CA 94609
Ofc: (510) 547-6111
Cell: (415) 722-9805
Email: fmsprojects@icloud.com
NAT-53556-1

Eyes on Rockridge

Driving Hard for Walkable Communities

by Judith Doner Berne

Choosing to live in Rockridge allows Nicole (Nikki) Foletta to literally walk the walk.

Foletta, a principal planner with Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) in Oakland, lives the precepts she writes about in *Low Car(bon) Communities*, the book she co-authored with Jason Henderson, a geography professor at San Francisco State University.

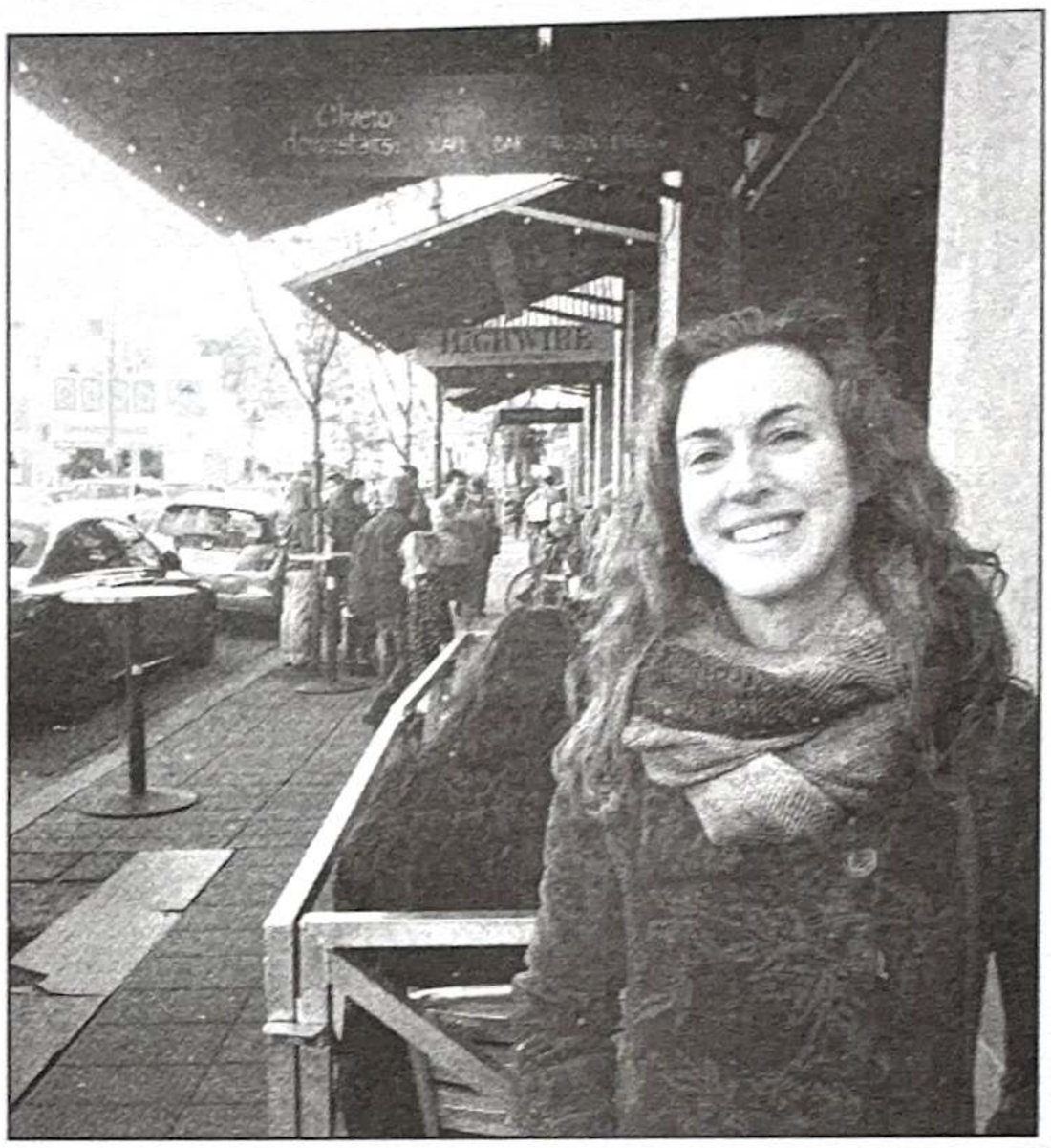
Their book focuses on the successful practices of seven communities that have responded to the threat of global warming by reducing carbon emissions while recognizing the social benefits of car-free and car-lite living.

Six are in Europe: small neighborhoods within Amsterdam and Houten in The Netherlands; Freiburg, Germany; Stockholm and Malmö in Sweden; and London. The seventh is based on Henderson's study of the Market and Octavia Plan in the Hayes Valley section of San Francisco.

Their book is aimed at city planners, sustainable transportation advocates and students in planning, geography and environmental studies. And, Foletta adds with a smile, "as a coffee table book for transportation enthusiasts." The hope is that the data can be used to inspire car-free and car-lite communities across the country and globe.

"I never liked driving," says Foletta, a 30-something, who grew up in Kingsbury, California, a small town near Fresno that had no public transportation. As an industrial engineering and operations research major at UC Berkeley, she had her first exposure to the multiple transit systems that knit together the Bay Area.

That influenced her to go on for a dual master's degree in transportation engineering and city planning, also at Berkeley, with the aim of "improving the system."



Nikki Foletta loves this particular corner of Rockridge, where walkable meets sociable. /Courtesy of Nikki Foletta

To gain further experience in sustainable planning across the world, she was a Fulbright Scholar at a transportation research center in Barcelona, Spain; a program coordinator for a nonprofit transportation institute in Hamburg, Germany; and a senior transportation planner for Fehr & Peers in San Francisco, a transportation consultancy firm, before being hired at BART.

Indeed, walkability and proximity to BART fueled Foletta's move to Rockridge five years ago. "The neighborhood itself is extremely walkable and has access to all the goods and services I need to satisfy my daily routine and needs. I can walk to Cole Hardware and to the grocery store and to get my hair done, to cafes, restaurants and shops. I can even walk to my optometrist and vet. On the weekends, we often walk around or go out to dinner in the neighborhood – À Côté is one of my favorites."

The "we" is partner Drew Cooper. He, too, works in the field of public transportation – for the San Francisco County Transportation Authority, whose mission is to provide financial strategy, planning expertise, project delivery and oversight to help create a better city through improved mobility. They met at a holiday party in 2013 for a professional transportation engineering group.

"Nikki and I live without a car," Cooper says. "I have owned one in the past but sold it when I moved to Oakland three years ago. Both of us take BART from Rockridge since we live just a short walk from the station. Being in Rockridge allows us to have high-quality transit access to Oakland where Nikki works and San

Driving Hard for Walkability, page 7

Walk to 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. **Live music. Bring reusable bags.** 5300 Claremont Ave. (off Telegraph) at DMV parking lot.

Rockridge Dental™
510.653.6677 rockdent.com
3rd Floor
Market Hall
Ste. 312
Bruce D. Fong, D.D.S.
Filippo Cangini, D.D.S, M.S.
Advanced Preventive, Restorative, Periodontal Gum Care, and Dental Implants.

Driving Hard for Walkability

from page 6

Francisco where I work."

They reside on Shafter Avenue, where Foletta has lived in two different houses, and which she notes is a designated bicycle route. "Yes, we have bikes and we bike for errands sometimes. Drew likes to go on long recreational bike rides."

They also hike, but "it can be a little bit more challenging to go hiking without a car," Foletta acknowledges. They belong to a car-sharing organization that has vehicles parked at the Rockridge BART station, "so sometimes we will reserve one of those cars and drive to the Oakland Hills or Muir Woods and go hiking."

They also use Uber/Lyft and taxis occasionally, sometimes for their last mile connection from a BART station to a destination, and sometimes late at night when BART or AC Transit aren't running or have limited service. "I think it helps us to be car-free by assuring us that we have an alternative option when we need it," Foletta says. "However, I do think that Uber and Lyft need to be regulated more to ensure that they don't compromise good provision of transit services and to reduce the impact they (Uber/Lyft) have on traffic congestion."

If they go on a longer trip, such as visiting her parents in Pacific Grove, they may take Amtrak to San Jose and then a bus – or rent a car for the weekend.

"Nikki cares deeply about sustainability, both in how we design communities and how we live our own lives," Cooper says. "Affordability, though, is a huge challenge since places like Rockridge are out of reach for a lot of people and we'd like to see people of all incomes having amenities supportive of low-impact lifestyles. Part of Nikki's goal is to find ways to provide or promote that kind of access."

"We have quite a community of transportation advocates in the Bay Area," Foletta proudly states. Many have banded together to form Transport Oakland, a Political Action Committee dedicated to endorsing and supporting Oakland-elected officials who advocate for great transportation in Oakland.

"Nikki was involved in Transport Oakland's founding in the spring of 2014," says Liz Brisom, co-founder and board president. "Our vision is for transportation infrastructure and policy that brings livability, vitality, sustainability and equity to Oakland.

"The book's case studies show how we can make neighborhoods more like Rockridge," Foletta says. Using those standards, in addition to its walkability, Rockridge is safe for biking with good bicycle infrastructure such as specified bike lanes and sharrows, or shared-lane markings indicating that simultaneous bicycle and auto use are permitted.

At the same time, "the residential density is a little lower than many of the neighborhoods in the book," she says, since "most of Rockridge was built before BART and was single-family homes.

"One of the things recommended in the book is to put higher-density housing near transit stations," Foletta says. "BART is adding high-density housing on its parking lots at some stations, like MacArthur and Walnut Creek, but not at Rockridge. However, the city has passed some regulations that allow people to build in-law units on their property; that is a way to add some housing density."

An important corollary of Rockridge's walkability, she says, is "I get to know my neighbors better." That has led to a steady supply of lemons from a neighbor's tree and the ability to find another apartment on the same street, thanks to another neighbor.

Nikki and Drew moved into the neighborhood because of what it has to offer, says Paola Coda, a neighbor who was the subject of one of my earliest columns and who emailed me to suggest a story on Foletta. "But they are also contributing to making the neighborhood attractive to others." Other renters on the block "are not as engaged. Nikki attended our block party the very first year she moved in."

"Being in such a walkable neighborhood means we don't just get into our cars in the morning to drive to work and then get into our cars at night to come home straight to our garages," Coda says. "We walk around and do things right here in the neighborhood and see our neighbors often enough that they become friends. It's not just good for the environment, it's good for the soul, for the social life of a community."

To comment on this column or to suggest a future story about you, your neighbor or your Rockridge neighborhood, email judyberne@att.net.

The book is available at: https://www.routledge.com/Low-Carbon-Communities-Inspiring-car-free-and-car-lite-urban-futures/Foletta-Henderson/p/book/9781138825864. A 20 percent discount is available by using the FLR40 code at checkout.

NAMASTE
YOGA + WELLNESS
We are our own heroes
Our practice is our power.
Let 2017 be the year of fierce mindfulness, brave self-inquiry, and unwavering kindness inclusive of all beings.
$59*
FIRST MONTH UNLIMITED MEMBERSHIP
* OFFER VALID THROUGH JANUARY 2017 ONLY. OTHER RESTRICTIONS APPLY.
BERKELEY | GRAND LAKE | ROCKRIDGE
WWW.ILOVENAMASTE.COM

ROCKRIDGE FAMILY DENTISTRY
sherin m. yuan
cosmetic, restorative and implant dentistry
D.D.S.
p: 510 653 4306
5277 college ave #103
oakland, ca 94618
www.rockridgedentist.com


Questions About Wills, Trusts, and Probate?
Kyle M. Johnston
Estate Attorney
5315 College Ave.
Oakland, CA 94618
510.527.1880

SANTA HATS were the order of the day when Rockridge District Association (RDA) members got together late in December to celebrate the organization's accomplishments in 2016 and plan the tasks for 2017.

Pictured are Oliveto owner Maggie Klein, left, RDA Chair Susan Strahan of Strahan Insurance, Vero For Hair owner Veronica Bhonsle, and RDA Operations Manager Chris Jackson.



North Oakland Village Relocates

by North Oakland Village staff

If you have been to the new part of the shopping center at Broadway and 51st where the new Safeway store dominates the terrain, you may be wondering where North Oakland Village is now located.

Two years ago, when the demolition began, North Oakland Village (NOV) moved from the Rockridge Shopping Center to its new space in the nonprofit center located at the rear of the First Congregational Church of Oakland at 27th Street and Harrison.

There is a handy parking lot around back shared with Westlake Middle School.

Our office provides a gathering place for meetings, working groups, and presentations. We offer an ever-evolving menu of activities, seminars, classes and events tailored to the many interests of our members. A sample of activities includes a nonfiction book group that meets monthly; an ongoing weekly Handability knitting group; Wednesday Walkers; as well as a monthly bridge game and the popular monthly pot-luck supper gathering the last Sunday of the month from 5 to 7 p.m. to which all are welcome.

Come join us. Visit us at the office for "Time to Talk About North Oakland Village" offered the third Friday of the month from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. This is an opportunity to learn and to ask questions about North Oakland Village for those curious about exploring membership and/or volunteering.

Also see our popular monthly newsletters prepared by a faithful team of volunteers posted on the website at http://northoaklandvillage.org.

Our phone number is the same – 510/547-8500.

City Sets Public Workshop on Short-Term Residential Rentals Regulations

January 12, 2017, 6 to 8 p.m.: Council Chamber, Oakland City Hall, 1 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza: Public Workshop: Short-Term Residential Rentals Regulations

Oakland is looking at making changes to its Municipal and Planning Codes to allow for Short-Term Residential Rentals, according to a recent announcement from the planning department:

"Currently, neither the Oakland Municipal Code nor Oakland Planning Code specifically address Short-Term Residential Rentals (STRRs) through platforms such as Airbnb, FlipKey and VRBO for homeowners to rent spaces in their homes on a short-term basis. In cities with high housing demand, such as Oakland, a primary concern is the potential impact of STRRs on housing availability, affordability and the impact on our neighborhoods.

"In July 2016, the City Council directed Planning and Building Department staff to obtain stakeholder input and bring forward policy options to regulate short-term rentals through these platforms.

"The initial workshop to start this process will be held on Thursday, January 12, 2017. However, until such changes to City Codes are actually adopted, existing regulations will continue to apply."

"To learn more about the objectives of this project, visit www.oaklandnet.com/strr."

Find additional information at http://www2.oaklandnet.com/oakca1/groups/ceda/documents/report/oak061924.pdf

College Avenue
Presbyterian Church
5951 College Avenue | 94618
(510) 658-3665 | www.capcoakland.org
safe | open | real

Filippo's
Serving Rockridge since 1992
5400 College Avenue at Manila

EXPERIENCE THE UNIQUE
Each office is independently owned and operated.
ORTRUN NIESAR
510.326.2161
Realtor® | CalBRE #01161032
ortrun.niesar@sothebysrealty.com
baysir.com
Local with Global Reach.
Specializing in the East Bay.
Discreet and Professional.
Bay | Sotheby's INTERNATIONAL REALTY

CYDNEY ORTZOW painting
Interior • Exterior
Lead-Certified Painters
For a free estimate call Cydney
510 • 652 • 4034

NCPC February Speaker: Surveillance Camera Registry

The Greater Rockridge Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) has no meeting in January 2017. The next meeting is February 9. Our speaker will be Bruce Stoffmacher of the Oakland Police Department, explaining OPD's new Voluntary Camera Registry Program. Many residents and businesses now have cameras recording 24/7. People often want to share video footage with OPD when a crime has occurred nearby. Equally, officers and investigators rely on such video footage to help solve crimes. OPD has created a website where residents and businesses can easily register the location of surveillance cameras. This "camera registry" was built so that the public can more easily share their camera locations, camera-type information, and contact information. OPD will have access to a map of the camera locations, and OPD personnel will more easily be able to make contact with the public to ask for permission to access the video footage. The program is voluntary, and anyone who participates can ask for their information to be removed. Information given to the program is available only to law enforcement.

Join us to discuss local crime and public safety, and hear about the camera registry program, on Thursday, February 9, 7:30 p.m. in the Rockridge Branch Library, College and Manila Avenues.

About NCPC

The NCPC is your platform to work with community policing. We share crime and public safety information with our Community Resource Officer (CRO) on crime prevention priorities. City employees and others involved in crime prevention are invited as speakers. We meet the second Thursday, every other month, at the Rockridge Library, 7:30 p.m. Confirm meetings: www.rockridgencpc.com.

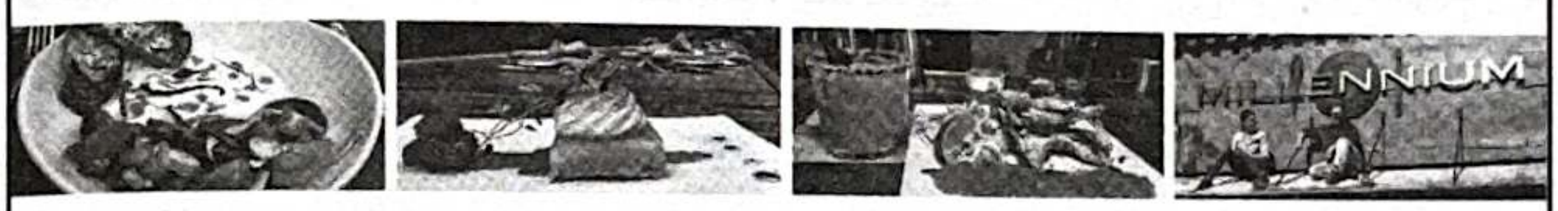
December Meeting Notes: Marc Pilotin, Oakland Public Ethics Commissioner, spoke at our December meeting. He explained that Oakland Measure CC, passed in 2014, granted the ethics commission more powers and more money. The purpose is to make sure Oakland city government is fair, transparent, and open.

Jurisdiction: the Commission enforces Oakland's Campaign Reform Act (OCRA), which controls how much money can be donated to candidates and measures. The Commission and OpenOakland are building Internet sites to track where the money came from, and where it went.

Learn more at: http://www2.oaklandnet.com/Government/o/CityAdministration/d/PublicEthics/index.htm

MILLENNIUM
CONTEMPORARY, SEASONAL & ORGANIC VEGAN CUISINE

Happy hour with seasonal cocktails & small plates
Sunday brunch with live music
Wine dinners & special events



Visit **MillenniumRestaurant.com** for menu, reservations & gift certificates
5912 College Ave **510-735-9459**

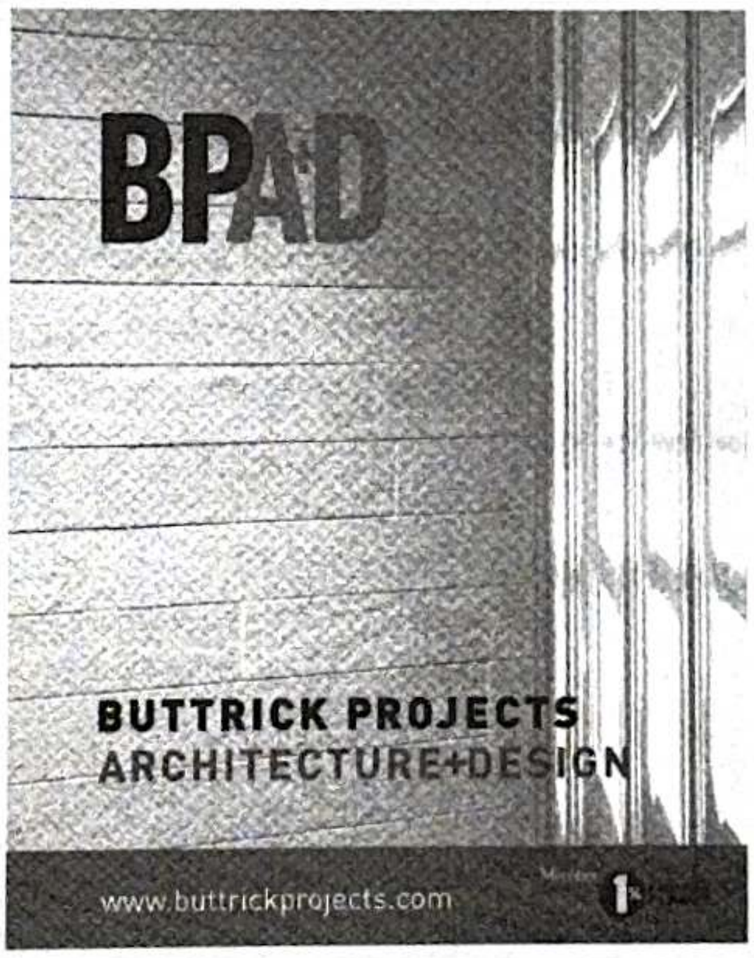
EAST BAY RENTAL SPECIALIST
ROCKRIDGE PIEDMONT MONTCLAIR
Caldecott PROPERTIES
Property Owners, for a consultation on leasing your home contact a local expert:
Julie Keys, Director of Leasing
BRE#01945588
510.225.9244
Julie@caldecott.com
CALDECOTT.COM

SOLD! 11 OFFERS REPRESENTED THE BUYERS 5641 MILES AVENUE



MAXI LILLEY
THE ROCKRIDGE REALTOR® WITH A *designer's eye*
RED OAK REALTY
510.919.8997
maxi@redoakrealty.com

Darin J. Worm
BROKER
510.504.4960
djworm@centurioninsurance.net
Centurion Insurance Agency
Commercial + Personal + Life + Health
An Independent Insurance Brokerage providing cost effective, comprehensive Insurance products and services since 1947.
www.centurioninsurance.net



Letters to the Editor

The Rockridge News welcomes posted letters and emails to the editor. Your name, address, phone number, email 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.

We Should be Concerned About the Types of Shops We Have on College Avenue

Editor:

I am writing in response to the letter to the editor and Mr. Flashman's response in the December issue of The Rockridge News about the possible mix of the types of shops on College Avenue.

As a Rockridge homeowner, I would like the RCPC to know that there are other issues I believe we should be concerned about regarding what kind of stores to have on College. A bigger problem is the number of vacancies up and down the street, which makes the neighborhood look like it is on a downward trajectory.

Obviously the landlords have raised the rents so much that small local shops cannot afford to come in or to stay in. Maybe the owners get more of a tax break by keeping stores vacant and showing a loss, than in renting them out? Has the RCPC done anything to encourage the landlords to rent out the stores?

Another issue is the large number of hair and nail salons that keep coming in. Maybe they are the only ones who can afford the rents, but it is really overkill, and not necessary to have so many on College Avenue.

Maybe we need to realize that small Mom and Pop shops, though very sweet, simply cannot afford to be in our neighborhood anymore. I understand the RCPC idea that local small businesses will be more personally invested and show more care for their customers, but I believe this is just an idea. I have lived in this neighborhood for many years, and have not really noticed this happening in reality.

Personally, I wouldn't mind a nice store like Sur La Table (even if it is a chain). I find myself going down to 4th Street or to San Francisco to shop much more than I do on College Avenue. Even the holiday decorations up and down the street are sad-looking compared to the beautiful lights on Shattuck in Berkeley, on 4th Street, and even on Park Street in Alameda.

I know some people will disagree with me, but possibly we need to update the College Avenue image to keep up with the times. Just a thought.

— Sherry Karver

RCPC Chair Stuart Flashman Replies:

Dear Ms. Karver,

Thank you for your letter. RCPC shares your concern about vacant storefronts and the impression they give. However, there is little RCPC can do to convince property owners that it hurts the neighborhood's long-term interest to leave spaces vacant for extended periods of time. As you note, it appears that the incentives to keep space rented, even if it requires a drop in the rent, are less compelling than incentives to keep the rents high.

Obviously, neither RCPC nor the City can require a property owner to rent out their property rather than leave it vacant. Perhaps, however, the City could propose a fee on storefronts that stay empty for more than six months to cover the need for extra police services and periodic fire and building safety inspections to maintain a safe community in spite of these vacancies.

As for the number of personal care salons that have sprung up along College Avenue, unfortunately, this proliferation wasn't a problem when the zoning regulations were first written more than 30 years ago. It might make sense to limit the number of personal care shops on College Avenue, perhaps by requiring a use permit for that use. However, it's far from easy to make changes to zoning regulations. It is, though, an issue discussed not only within Rockridge but in other neighborhood commercial areas.

Finally, speaking as a twenty-four year resident of Rockridge, my experience, perhaps unlike yours, is that locally owned shops do tend to pay more attention to regular local customers and provide better service. By comparison, mall-like shopping areas like Emeryville's tend to treat customers less personally.

Whether converting College Avenue

Letters, page 11

Rockridge Optometry
Your neighborhood family eyecare providers since 1947
Dr. Donald Sarver
Dr. Larry Sarver
Dr. Scott Yokoi
Dr. Cindy Sakai
5321 College Avenue, Oakland
510-655-3797
www.rockridgeoptometry.com

Experience * Knowledge * Performance
Thank you to all family, friends, clients and colleagues for your kindness and support this past year.
Pleasantly surprised and grateful to have been named the Oakland/Berkeley Association of Realtors
"2016 Realtor of the Year"
Happy New Year and Warm Wishes to all in 2017!

Perry Riani, Senior Associate
Pacific Union and Christie's International Real Estate
1900 Mountain Blvd Oakland, CA 94611
1625 Shattuck Ave Berkeley, CA 94709
C: 510.813.3799 perry@pacunion.com
License # 01402540
PACIFIC UNION
CHRISTIE'S INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE

Letters

from page 10

into a copy of Berkeley's Fourth Street commercial area would make it more or less successful is a difficult question to answer. The two areas are different in so many ways that predictions are impossible.

As noted on page 5, this discussion on the present and future retail health of College Avenue and Rockridge will continue in the February issue of The Rockridge News.

FROM THE WEB

Publishing on Medium's platform, Rockridge resident Brian Seitel offers his thoughts about RCPC's December Town Hall on Homelessness.

In Which Rockridge Tackles Homelessness

Yesterday, I was reading the Rockridge News, our local neighborhood newspaper. There's a headline about the Town Hall. One of the topics of discussion was regarding the increasing number of homeless people in our neighborhood, sleeping in doorways of local businesses or in clusters of tents underneath the freeway.

The paper described our neighbors and fellow citizens who came to the town hall to "find out how we can help serve their needs."

I found that incredibly touching. It could have read "How do we solve this problem?," which could be interpreted in any number of ways, such as, "How do we get rid of them?," and, "How can we hide them in a corner so we don't have to see them?"

Instead, my neighborhood asked, "How can we help serve the homeless?"

In San Francisco and Atlanta and Chicago and in cities around the country, we often look the other way or are outright antagonistic toward vagrancy. We pass laws against sleeping on the sidewalks. We call the police and have them relocate the offending people. We pull our coats tighter, hold our purses closer, and move our legs faster when we pass them.

This paper was a welcome reminder that true change starts at home. It's easy to think of the homeless as people who live somewhere else, and who don't belong here, but the truth of the matter is that they LIVE here. They LIVE in your neighborhoods... they just live in their cars or under trees or in alleyways.

At this particular Town Hall, my neighborhood came together, did the math, and filed requests for funds under a recent Affordable Housing initiative that was recently passed. My neighbors collectively decided, "We will find the resources to help these people who live among us. We will get them on their feet. We will help them find their way when they are lost, give them shelter when they are vulnerable, and clothing when they are cold."

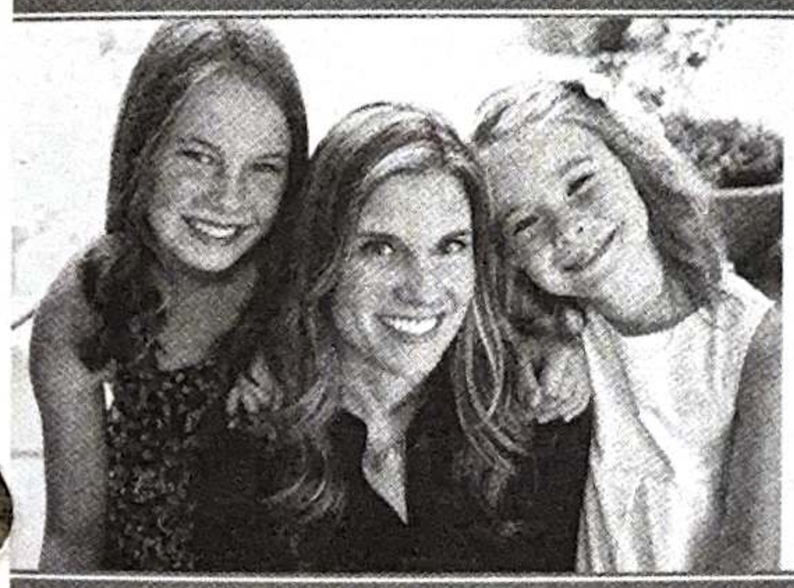
It's heartwarming to see.

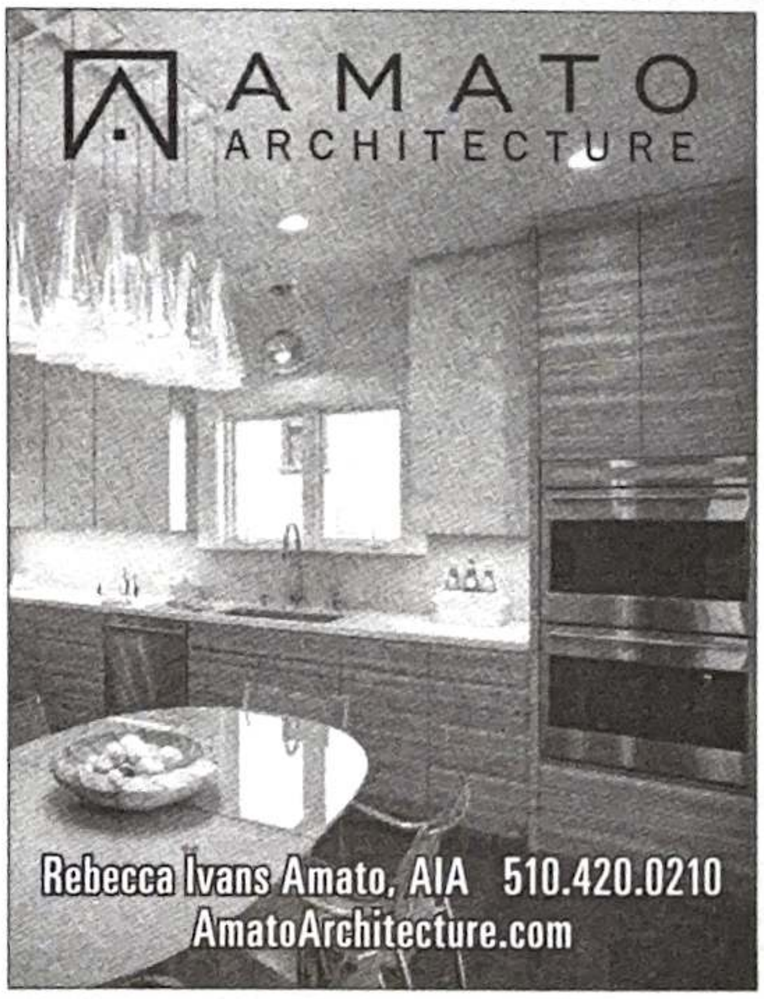
I urge you to take a look around you. What are some problems in your community? Maybe you don't have any homeless in your neighborhood, but what about single mothers working multiple jobs just to pay the rent? Could you and your neighbors organize and together find a way to convince the bank to lower the mortgage, or set up weekly pot-luck dinners to ease the load on those parents? Set up a neighborhood soccer league under the supervision of responsible adults, so that those mothers can work without stressing out over the safety and happiness of their

Tackling Homelessness, page 12

OMNI PAINTING & WATERPROOFING Inc.
COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL
INTERIOR-EXTERIOR LEAD CERTIFIED PAINTERS
Professional preparation. Many local references. All work Guaranteed
(510) 654-3339

Norman H. Burg, DDS
General Dentistry
(510) 652-1517
5700 Broadway, Oakland
A Prevention Oriented Practice

piedmont dental | BY DESIGN
Dr. Jill A Martenson, DDS

$198
NEW PATIENT EXAM
$350 VALUE!
1331 GRAND AVENUE PIEDMONT CA 94610
t 510 652 2911 f 510 652 0772
piedmontdentalbydesign.com

AMATO ARCHITECTURE

Rebecca Ivans Amato, AIA 510.420.0210
AmatoArchitecture.com

Treecycling

from page 1

compost service day.

Cut taller trees to 4 feet – no flocking, ornaments or stands. Place curbside.*

All residences in Oakland, including apartments and condos, now receive this service. Please note that a separate collection vehicle may pick up the trees.

*For buildings over 100 units: Building or Property Managers, please call Waste Management at 510/613-8710 to determine the best method of collection and to schedule service.

OAKLAND RECYCLES

Kitchens: Fueling Ideas

from page 1

those who are planning their own changes – or who are simply interested observers – RCPC initiated its now regionally renowned Rockridge Kitchen Tour. Showcasing local architects, innovative and classic appliances, and a variety of new kitchen styles, the tour draws visitors from throughout the Bay Area.

This September 24 marks the twelfth biennial kitchen tour since the first was held in 1995. Once again, the tour will proudly feature nine classic or newly renovated Rockridge home kitchens. Past tours have showcased exquisite kitchens of all sizes and budgets, from bungalow style to contemporary. In 2015, the tour featured the iconic Morse House and eight other gorgeous and functional kitchens.

The 2015 Kitchen Tour raised the most money in the history of the tour for RCPC and our projects, including the new Community Grants program, our bimonthly Town Halls, and our work on land use, parking, and other issues affecting Rockridge. We couldn't have done it without you, the community. You shared your homes, told your friends and attended in the highest numbers since we've kept statistics.

Planning starts early for such large projects. If you have or can recommend a new or classic kitchen, we invite you to submit it now for consideration for the September 24 Rockridge Kitchen Tour.

For more information, contact us at kitchentour@rockridge.org.

Tackling Homelessness

from page 11

children?

What about children skipping school? Can you and your neighbors form a team that helps teachers provide exciting opportunities in the classroom, so exciting that the students would rather be there than walking the streets? Or form an encouragement committee to help parents with encouraging their kids to study hard?

All too often the solutions we come up with are punitive. Shame those single mothers for using food stamps. Throw those truants in juvenile detention. Move the homeless from their encampment under our freeway to another town.

Instead of solving the problem for good, we make it someone else's problem.

This one, simple article, written by good Samaritans (Rockridgers?) in my neighborhood, has helped inspire me to stay vigilant for ways to improve my community. Not just by eliminating the bad things, but by finding ways to improve the bad things, so that they might one day have the hope of being good.

I encourage you to do the same.

— **Brian Seitel,** writing on Medium: (https://medium.com/)

In Rockridge since 1997

What's shakin?

Yes we do offer:

Earthquake Insurance

Susan Bernosky
510-450-9050

Strahan
INSURANCE SERVICES, INC
CA License 0D34069

www.strahaninsurance.com



CollegePrep

A private high school for grades 9-12

Our approach to learning requires collaboration, patience, and creativity—all within a kind and joyful community.

Be inspired. Refine your thinking. Express yourself.

The College Preparatory School 6100 Broadway Oakland CA 94618 510.652.4364 college-prep.org

Studio One Seeks Computer Lab Support



by Jessica Gray

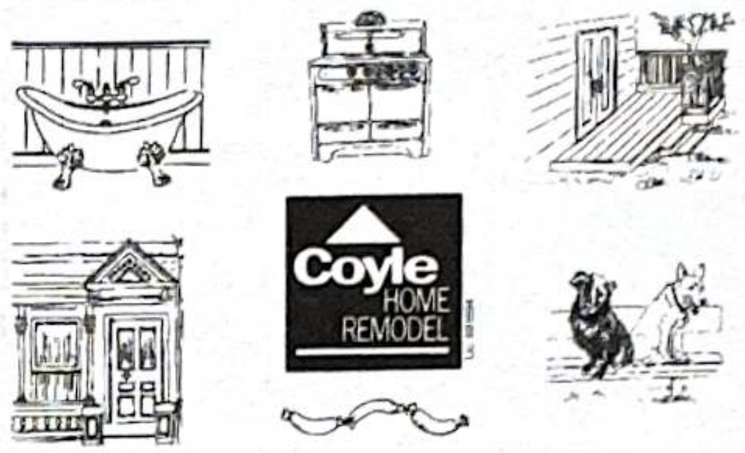
Studio One, near Rockridge at 365 45th Street, is Oakland's oldest city-run vocational and expressive art center providing intergenerational programming to the community. Since 1948, we have provided hands-on, high-quality art experiences for children and adults through classes, workshops, labs, art receptions and community events. We host poets on First Fridays as well as a variety of art exhibits throughout the year. Our facility is used for a variety of community events.

In recent years, Studio One has expanded its programming to include sliding scale summer art camps and an after-school art program for Oakland Unified public school students. Digital art and web design are two of the most in-demand courses offered at Studio One.

Studio One Art Center needs your help in creating a more equitable tech and arts community in Oakland. Our computer lab is in desperate need of an upgrade and we hope to create a brand new state-of-the-art computer lab, similar to Claremont Middle School's. With this new lab, community members of all ages would have access to cutting edge classes such as coding, computer programming, web design, digital photography, 3D printing, Adobe Illustrator, Photoshop and more, at an affordable cost.

The students at Studio One's after-school program stand to benefit the most. Students are exposed to a wide variety of artistic disciplines, given opportunities to try new things, to perform in front of an audience, and develop leadership skills. They are excited by current offerings in web design and media arts, but also limited by our facility. We have created a GoFundMe site and have raised $2,700 so far towards our goal. Please consider making a tax-deductible donation here: https://www.gofundme.com/studioone.

Studio One has become a cultural hub for families in Oakland; now, more than ever, we need to create affordable STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics) programming for all our residents. Thanks to all who made it possible.



Martin Coyle 510-655-8717 Mike Tracy
5221 James Ave. Oakland Ca. 94618
www.coylehomeremodel.com

The GRUBB Co.
REALTORS
CAITLIN CRAWFORD
Your Rockridge Neighbor
and Home Specialist





ccrawford@grubbco.com
510.339.0400/287
Direct: 510.289.7218
CAL BRE LIC. # 01951131



Delivery Truck Obliterates 100-Year-Old Alcatraz Ave Fairview Park Pillar

Rockridge resident Greil Marcus witnessed the destruction of a stone pillar placed when the area was subdivided.



Marcus sent the photo at left and the following report to The Rockridge News:

Today, December 30, 2016, at approximately 9 a.m., a delivery truck destroyed the east Fairview Park stone pillar that had stood at Benvenue and Alcatraz for more than 100 years.

I witnessed the event and took information from the driver; the Oakland police took a report. As other pillars have been restored in recent years (see http://oaklandnorth.net/2011/09/19/fairview-park-residents-rally-to-restore-stone-pillar/), I hope you will print notice of this so that the salvageable sections of the pillar can be retained and the pillar restored.

— Greil Marcus

Ed. Note: The early sales ad at right for Fairview Park homes was borrowed from the Oakland North article referred to by Marcus which credited the Library of Congress.



RN Classifieds

Your Message Could Be Here

Your 36-word message is $22. (Phone number counts as one word.) Mail to: **RN Classifieds**, 4123 Broadway, PMB 311, Oakland, CA 94611. *February issue deadline is January 19. (February issue distribution begins February 4).*

For information: smontauk@gmail.com

Welcome in the New Year! Penelope's Aesthetics!

Bring in the New Year with a stress reducing, anti-aging and relaxing facial. You'll receive a hand, neck and shoulder massage included in the treatment! $59. For appointments: 510/594-1552 penelopecalef.com

House Repairs & Rehabs, Interior & Exterior

Kitchen & bath remodel, tile, decks, dry rot, drainage, walls, termite damage, doors, windows. Professional work for affordable prices. Local References Available. Lic#458473. Don 510/812-0310.

Your Rockridge Specialists- JUDITH GLASS & SHEILA SABINE- The Grubb Company

Now may be the right time for a move. Your home says a lot about you and we are here to listen. Call 510/326-5055 or email SSabine@Grubbco.com

Community Breema!

Receive profoundly relaxing and revitalizing Breema Bodywork in a group setting. January 13 (every 2nd Friday of the month) 3-5pm, $10-$20 for 20 min. session. Drop-in welcome. 6201 Florio St., Oakland 510/428-1234. breemahealth.com

Looking to Refinance and Don't Want to Speak with a Bank?

Home Loans-Refinance-PreApproval. David Herrenbruck – Rockridge Resident-Call 510/981-9799; (phone correction from December issue)david@fishmanfinancial.net Fishman Financial Group, Inc., NMLS#1384117 – CA BRE#01986477.

Office Space in the Heart of Rockridge

5767 Broadway $3,600/month. Office for lease. Perfect for collaborative team; conference room, reception, 2 baths, updated kitchen. Please visit: www.5767Broadway.com Call Ron Kriss, Broker Lawton Associates 510/547-5970.

Compassionate Caregiver, CFA Certified

Over 15 years of experience with dementia, Parkinson's and hospice clientele. Can chauffeur to appointments, cook and do light housekeeping. Excellent references. Available Sun-Thurs days and some nights. Call or text Sharon, 925/705-3249.

CORE Training

from page 2

disaster psychology, special needs and neighborhood emergency communications. Training includes a functional exercise (simulated earthquake).

If you can't attend training at the library, **CORE** will send an instructor to your neighborhood to teach a **CORE I or II** class at your convenience, if you guarantee at least 15 residents in attendance and secure a facility (*a living room is fine*).

Each year, there is a Citywide Emergency Response Exercise. Get your neighborhood organized and **CORE**-trained so you can participate and practice your emergency preparedness and response skills.

To register for **CORE** classes, or to request training in your neighborhood, call the **CORE** office Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., at 510/238-6351, or email CORE@oaklandnet.com

(*Information provided by* **CORE** *outreach progam.*)



Email 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.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Compiled by Jo Ellis

District 1 Councilman Dan Kalb

Drop-in Community Office Hours at the Temescal Farmers Market, **5300 Claremont Ave. (off Teleg.) at DMV parking lot** on the **3rd Sunday** each month,10:30am-12:30pm. For times/locations of other office hours or more information: mmharris@oakland.net or www.dankalb.net/contactdan.

Rockridge Branch Library

5366 College Avenue, 597-5017

Technology for all ages:

- **Ready, Set, Connect! One-on-one computer tutoring**. Saturdays, 10:30am-12:30pm. Get help with basic computer skills, email, device set up, and e-book & audio book downloads. Sign up during the week or just drop-in.
- **eBook Help**: Tuesdays **by appointment**, 6 - 7:30pm. Get help downloading eBooks to your Kindle, Nook, smartphone, or laptop. Make appt. online at www.oaklandlibrary.org or in person at any library.

FOR CHILDREN

- **Family Story Time**: Stories/songs/rhymes (for all ages); Saturdays, 10:30am.
- **Toddler Story Time**: Songs, active rhymes and stories (ages 9 months to 2 years), Thursdays, 10:30am, **upstairs**.
- **Pre-School Story Time**: Read-alouds, songs, and rhymes (ages 3 to 5); Thursdays, 10:30am.
- **All story times followed by Play Time**; parents and caregivers invited.

SPECIAL EVENTS

- **Play Winter Bingo until Jan 14.** Come in any time to complete your Bingo cards with activities for children in kindergarten to 5th grade and for pre-readers with help from a reader (ask at desk). Do 5 activities in a row and choose your book prize.
- **TWIG - Rockridge Tween Interests Group**: For ages 8 to 13. Creative work, friendship, and snacks. Writers, illustrators, craftspeople, sculptors, film-makers, actors, and/or avid readers – help us plan projects of your choice. Bring ideas of what you & your friends would most like to do each month. Every 2nd & 4th Tues, 6:30-7:45pm (1/10, 1/24).

FOR TEENS

- **Emoji Plushies**: Wed, 1/18, 2pm. Get creative with your Emoji.
- **Teen Advisory Board (ages 14-18)**: Meet with other teens, plan and organize library activities, and get community service credit for school. 1st Sat. each month, 1 to 2pm.
- **Teen 'Scape**: Play video & board games; make crafts; **enjoy meals**. Tues, Thurs, and Fridays: 3:30 -5pm and Wednesdays: 1:30 – 5pm.
- **Homework Club: High School Tutors Available**: A quiet place to do homework. Tues and Thursdays, 4 - 5pm; Wednesdays 3 – 4:30pm.
- **Yu-Gi-Oh Card Game Club**: Beginners welcome. Every Friday, 3:30 – 5 pm.

FOR ADULTS

- **Women Bike Book Club**: discuss biking, feminism, and the intersection of the two. Thursdays, 1/12 and 2/9, 6 - 7:30pm. Jan mtg: 50 ways the new bike culture can change your life, by Momentum Magazine editor and creator **Amy Walker** (get a copy at the reference desk or read the eBook free via Hoopla). Hosted in partnership with Bike East Bay.
- **Writers Support/Critique Group: All writers welcome**. Bring 15 copies of up to 5 pgs. (double-spaced, MS margins) of any prose for on-site reading/discussion (or come empty-handed). **Third Sat. each month (1/21)**, 1 to 5pm; wheelchair-accessible. Sponsored by the Calif. Writers Club of Berkeley. Info: 420-8775 or Writefox@aol.com. Call to confirm.
- **Breast Cancer Symposium: San Antonio Update**: A group of oncology specialists will provide highlights from the 39th annual San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium. Presented by Alta Bates Summit Comprehensive Cancer Services. **Light refreshments provided**. Tues, 1/31, 5:30-7:45pm.
- **Lawyers in the Library: Free legal information and referral. 1st Tues each month**, 6pm-8pm; A lottery system determines who may see the lawyer. Sign-up opens at 5pm; must be present for lottery drawing at 5:45. Call day of program to confirm.
- **Indie Publishing and Social Media Promotion: The Mystery Writers of America, NorCal chapter** will guide you through what works and what doesn't when it comes to being an author on social media. Learn how you can build an online community and find more readers. **Followed by a mixer with light refreshments**. Sat, 2/11, 11am.

ART EXHIBITS

Gallery: Photography by **Gordon Brown**

LIBRARY HOURS

Tues, 12:30 to 8p.m.
Wed, Thurs & Sat: 10am to 5:30pm.
Fri, 12 to 5:30pm.
Closed: Sun and Mon; also Tues, 1/17

Diesel Book/Readings and Events

FREE and open to the public.

- Fri, 1/13, 7pm. **FRESH AND BEST! poetry reading Series with Tongo Eisen-Martin** (*Someone's Dead Already*) and **Wendy Trevino**.
- Fri, 1/20, 9pm (doors open 8:30). **Music Performance** with bluegrass banjo and guitar impresario **Avram Siegel** and resonator guitar player **Mike Witcher**. **Note**: $10 cover charge; all proceeds go to musicians. Come early; seats fill up fast.
- Sun, 1/22, 3pm. Psychotherapist and professional actor **Mark O'Connell**: *Modern Brides & Modern Grooms: A Guide to Planning Straight, Gay, and Other Nontraditional Twenty-First-Century Weddings*. Joined in conversation by author Liza Monroy. **Cupcakes and wine** provided by Sweet Adeline Bake Shop and Paul Marcus wines.
- Thurs, 1/26, 7pm. **Release Party** for ***ZYZZYVA***: *The Winter Issue*: a night of exemplary prose and verse. Contributing readers: **Kathleen Alcott, Ella Martinsen Gorham, Matthew Zapruder**, and **Scott O'Connor**.
- Fri, 1/27, 6pm. **Pajama Party Story Time for Kids**. Come in PJs, bring teddy bear, have **milk and cookies**. Hear bedtime story by local author **Dev Petty**: *I Don't Want to be Big*.
- Sun, 1/20, 3pm. **Poetry Flash**, celebrating *Far Out: Poems of the '60s*. Participating readers: **Judith Arcana, Chana Bloch, Lucille Lang Day, Sandra Gilbert**, and **Kathleen Winter**.
- Wed, 2/1, 6:30pm. **Freud's Bar** (monthly talks given by local Bay Area psychoanalysts, aimed at students ages 16-25, while enjoying drinks and snacks): **Maureen Katz**, M.D., discusses *Holding Life and Death in Mind: How to (or How Might Freud Help Us) Think About Environmental Change*.
- Sun, 2/5, 3pm. Legendary Beat and SF Renaissance poet **Michael McClure**: *Mephistos and Other Poems*.

DIESEL, A Bookstore, 5433 College Ave. More info abt the authors, books and other events: 653-9965 or events@dieselbookstore.com.

Jazz at the Chimes

Vocalist **Kalil Wilson**, with his instrumental trio, **LOVE**, featuring pianist/music professor **Dan Marschak**, local bassist **Ryan Lukas**, and the amazing 14-year-old jazz drum prodigy **Genius Wesley**. They will share re-imagined jazz standards and their own soul-stirring, vibrant originals. Sunday, Jan 15, 2 pm. Advance ticket sales at http://kalilwilson.brownpapertickets.com/ or at the door (cash only) beginning 12:30pm (doors open 1:30): $15 general; $10 srs. (60+) and students.

Refreshments and reception follows to meet the performers. Info at www.kalilwilson.com. The concert series honors the individual stories and unique artistry of Bay Area jazz musicians in a landmarked Julia Morgan venue: Chapel of the Chimes, 4499 Piedmont Ave. **Wheelchair accessible. Free parking.** More info: www.jazzatthechimes.com, chimesjazz@gmail.com or 654-0123.

Wisteria Ways House Concert

Ian Faquini (composer, guitarist and vocalist) and **Rebecca Kleinmann** (flutist/ vocalist). Brazilian rhythms and other harmonic influences. Hear them at http://rebeccakleinmann.com/ensembles/ian-faquini/. Sat, Jan 28, 8pm; house opens 7:30 (**inside venue, not wheelchair accessible**). Please come fragrance-free. $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.

FREE Classes at REI

For outdoor novices or seasoned adventurers, **free** classes for winter activities from skiing and snowboarding basics, snow camping/survival, nutrition and yoga to bicycle maintenance. Open to non-members. REI,1338 San Pablo Ave, Berkeley, 527-4140. Get more info or register at https://www.rei.com/stores/berkeley.html.

Square Dance in North Oakland

Music by The Squirrelly String Band. Calling by **Jordan Ruyle**. 1st Fridays each month, 8 – 10pm. All levels welcome; all dances taught on the spot. $5-10 sliding scale donation. The Niebyl-Proctor Marxist Library, 6501 Telegraph Ave. Info: squirrellystringband.com

North Oakland Senior Center

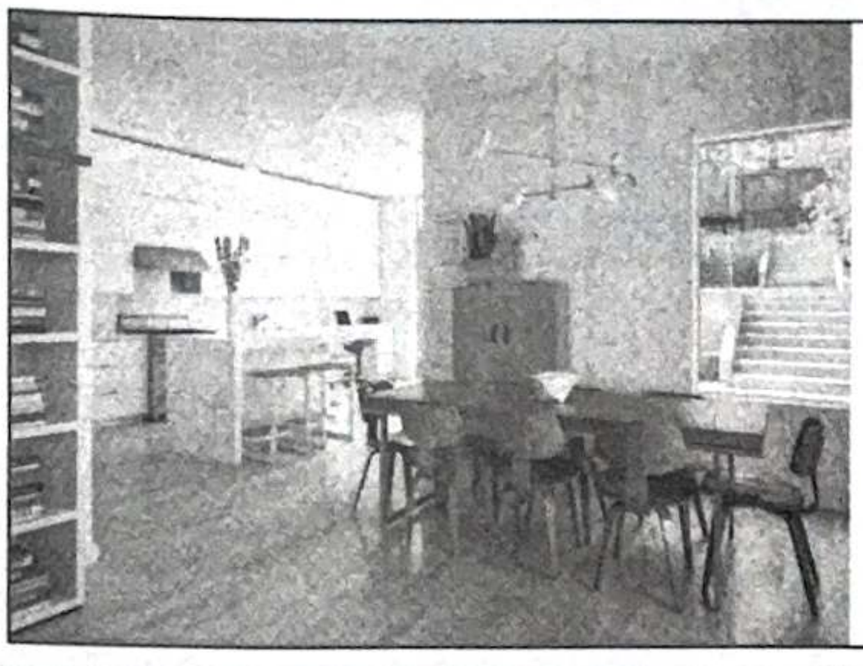
Programs include: Arts/crafts; health counseling; dancing and exercise; trips, tours and theater outings; Alzheimer's caregivers support groups, computer classes/more.

JOIN NOW during our annual Membership Drive, Jan 9-13 to receive a free gift. $12 membership entitles seniors 55 + to discounts on activities and trips.

- **CHAIR YOGA**: Fridays, 10:30 to 11:30am, starting Jan 13. Pre-register now at reception desk. $5 per class (paid each class).
- **CANE DO!** Classes: An exercise and self-defense class in one. Learn how to use your cane for more than stability! $40 for 8 class sessions starting Thurs, Jan 19, 10 to 11am. Pre-registration required.
- **AARP Smart Driver Class** (for Srs. who have not taken the class): Four hours each day on Tuesdays, 1/24 and 1/31, from 9:30am to 1:30pm. Call for details and fees.
- **Oakland Museum**: Black Panther Exhibit. Shuttle from Center.

Get more event details at the desk or 597-5085.

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.



designpad
patrick perez architect inc
architecture + interiors
415/370/7269/
patrick@designpad.net
www.designpad.net

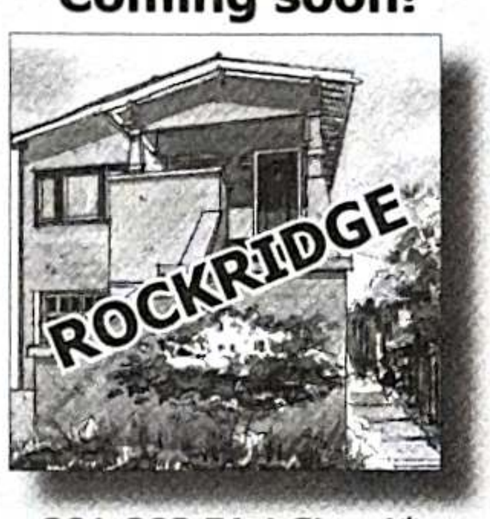
COLLINS ROOFING
Family Owned & Operated



(510) 444-2220
www.collinsroofing.com
Quality Work • Free Estimates
Lic # 695711

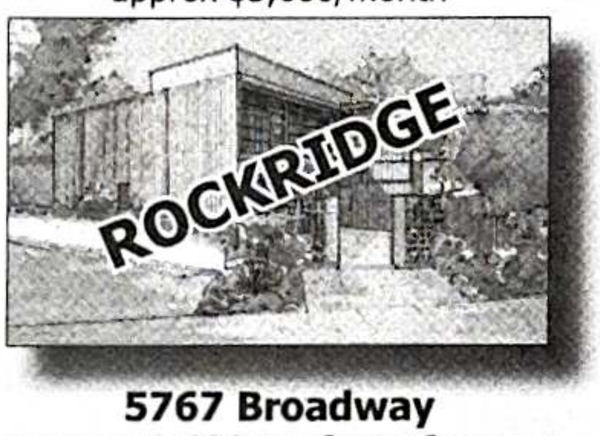
Happy New Year!
from Lawton Associates

Coming soon!



381-383 51st Street*

Offices For Lease
approx $3,600/month



5767 Broadway
approx 1,400 sq. feet of space
great for architects or designers

*pricing not yet available

LAWTON ASSOCIATES

Ron Kriss, Broker
Lawton Associates
RonKriss@JPS.net
510.547.5970 ex. 55
BRE#00784235

LawtonAssoc.com

KEVIN BROWN
Broker
654-8707 or 593-4780

PROVIDING
Professional,
Full Service
Real Estate Brokerage
To Rockridge Clients
For Over 35 Years.

SPECIALIZING IN
- *Residential Sales*
- *Income Property*
- *Commercial*
- *Property Management*

Better Homes Realty
Better Homes Realty
5353 College Avenue
Oakland

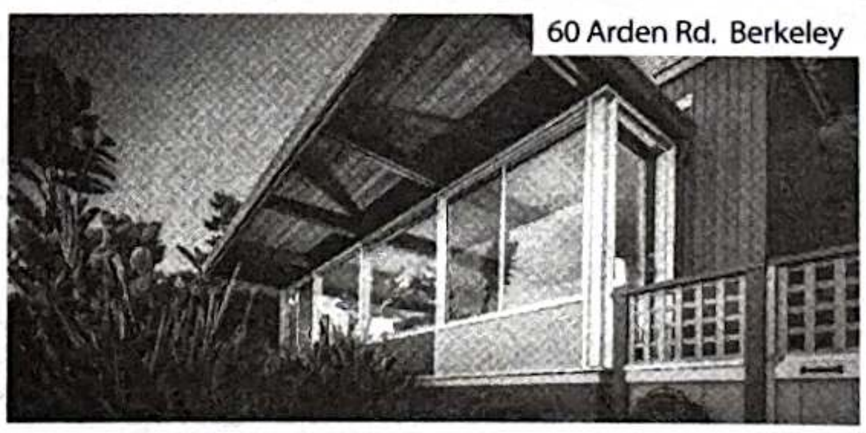
Living? Love it in Oakland!

aboutface&body
dayspa oaklandberkeley
serving you since 1981
Eyebrow waxes 90K to date
Brazillian waxes 24K to date
Now offering men's waxing
3190 college avenue
at alcatraz
berkeley, ca 94705
510.428.2600
www.aboutfaceandbody.net
fri-tues 10:30-5:30
wed-thurs 10:30-8:00

Playing? Start in Oakland!

License to Root
PIPE SPY®
License #754966
BETTER LIVING
through Modern Plumbing
(510) 465-3000
www.pipespy.com

COMING SOON
BY CLAUDIA



60 Arden Rd. Berkeley

A mid-century jewel box located in one of the most desirable locations with stunning views of San Francisco.

Generous 2 bedrooms & 2 baths | Offered at $1,049,000

CLAUDIA MILLS Top Producer with Local Expertise
510.350.6419 | cmills@mcguire.com

CLAUDIA MILLS
REAL ESTATE



McGUIRE
REAL ESTATE