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The Rockridge News

VOL. 33 ■ NO. 9 ■ ISSUE NO. 357 ■ October 6, 2018 CIRCULATION: 5,800 RESIDENCES; 200 BUSINESSES

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

The Cranes Are Flying... Over Oakland

As construction cranes crowd the horizons, Oakland changes before our very eyes. Rockridge is not exempt. Land Use Committee Chair Stuart Flashman catalogued Rockridge building projects for an Out & About display that drew sustained interest from Rockridge residents and event visitors. Photos and text start on page 8.





Halloween Parade Details: See page 2

October RCPC Town Hall Program:

7-8 p.m., The College Preparatory School

Assembly District 15 Candidate Forum





Jovanka Beckles and Buffy Wicks

7-8 p.m. Thursday, October 18

The College Preparatory School

6100 Broadway, Oakland | Parking Available

Co-hosted by the Rockridge Community Planning Council (RCPC)

The League of Women Voters of Oakland

and East Bay Housing Organizations

All candidates, supporters, and audience members will follow the League of Women Voters of Oakland ground rules.

RSVP: https://ad15candidateforumrockridge.eventbrite.com/

Chabot Elementary Fall Carnival

Save the date: the Chabot Elementary Fall Carnival has been a Rockridge tradition for years. This year's event will be **11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, October 14, on the Chabot school campus, 6686 Chabot Road.** Admission is free, and residents and neighbors are invited to join in.

Enjoy a Chabot Dad's club family lunch with vegetarian and gluten-free options plus their famous pulled pork sandwiches and hot dogs or pizza. Sample a treat from our Benefit Bakesale or candy giveaways at the DJ/Dancing booth. Games include the Jumpy Slide and decorating pumpkins and sugar skulls. Don't miss the Hippity Hop Dance class at 12:30, and music with live DJs. See the amazing Wobbly Toggle Puppet Show at noon and 2 p.m. in the library.

Proceeds benefit the Chabot PTA and fund enrichment programs. chabotelementary.org



College Avenue Halloween Parade

Bring your costume, your sweet tooth and, for those under the age of 12, an escort, and join the 27th annual Rockridge Children's Halloween Parade on College Avenue.

Local merchants, the Rockridge District Association (RDA), and the Rockridge Community Planning Council (RCPC) invite you to celebrate **Halloween on College Avenue, noon to 2 p.m. Sunday, October 28.**

Participating merchants will host trick-or-treating goblins along both sides of College from Alcatraz to Broadway. A fire engine from Rockridge's Station 19 (Miles Avenue) may join the fun.

Meet the goblins at **Halloween Central in front of the College Avenue Presbyterian Church** at 11:45 a.m. At noon, we will begin trick-or-treating along College Avenue. At 12:45 p.m., return to Halloween Central for spooky events and silly scary sing-alongs led by a serenading singer and a crafty story-teller alternating until the last performance at 1:45.

It's happening, rain or shine.

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Closing date	BR	BA	Address	Original price	List price	DOM	Selling price
09/12/2018	3	3	403 63rd St	$969,000	$969,000	14	$1,310,000
09/13/2018	3	2	5334 Miles Ave	$1,075,000	$1,075,000	14	$1,570,000
09/14/2018	4	3.5	6529 Hardwood Ave	$1,595,000	$1,595,000	20	$1,700,000
09/17/2018	3	2	5223 Boyd Ave	$1,075,000	$1,075,000	13	$1,645,000
09/24/2018	2	2	434 North St	$799,000	$799,000	16	$950,000
09/27/2018	2	1	477 Hardy St	$1,025,000	$1,025,000	15	$1,200,000

Homes sold in September closed 28% over the asking price on average.

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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 (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

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For information: info@rockridge.org

Newsletter Subscriptions

To subscribe to **The Rockridge News**, send your check for $20, payable to ***RCPC*** *with* ***"Rockridge News Subscription"*** *on the memo line.* Mail to 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 sent to the address 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 November issue is:
☛ **November 3, 2018.**
☛ **Submission deadline: October 11.**

Advertising rates are $26/column inch. 3 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 October Land Use Committee meeting will be Wednesday, October 24, 7:30 p.m. at the Rockridge Branch Library. The agenda includes an update on the housing study and a presentation of proposed plans to redevelop 5346 College Avenue (next to McNally's Irish Pub). Check at https://rockridge.org – the RCPC website – the previous week for updates.

RCPC Land Use Committee Update – October 2018

The Land Use Committee met on September 26. A quorum was not present, so no recommendations were made. However, committee members and interested residents heard a presentation about updated plans for redevelopment/reuse of California College of Art's Oakland campus.

■ Redevelopment/Reuse Plans for California College of Art (CCA) Oakland Campus; east side of Broadway north of Shops at the Ridge (aka Rockridge Shopping Center).

Representatives of Emerald Fund and Equity Community Builders, the two developers chosen by CCA, presented their updated plans for redevelopment/reuse of CCA's Oakland campus, located along the east side of Broadway adjacent to Rockridge. Initial plans had been presented at an RCPC Town Hall (as well as other community forums) a year earlier. (See article in November 2017 Rockridge News.)

The current plans focus on three areas of the campus:

• First, the most visually prominent element is a 19-story 190-foot residential tower, which would contain the bulk of the project's 554 market-rate residential apartment units. The majority of the units would be one- and two-bedroom, and there would be structured parking for 374 to 449 (exact number yet to be determined) vehicles in the base of the building. The developers showed several depictions of views from nearby areas, stating that the tower would be visible, but not overwhelming in its visual impact. In addition to the tower, there would also be several smaller 3-4 story residential structures.

• A second focus would be the reuse of three historic structures on the site: the Treadwell Estate Mansion; its associated carriage house; and the 1920s structure that was the first building constructed for the California College of Arts and Crafts, CCA's predecessor campus. Plans are that these buildings would house offices for area nonprofits and exhibits on the site's and CCA's history. The preservation area would also include some of the historic landscaping and publicly accessible open space, with part of the space to be devoted to an outdoor sculpture garden.

• A third focus would be for a continued arts presence on the site. This would include reuse of the student dormitory on Clifton Street at Broadway to provide 35 affordable housing units for artists, art studios, including perhaps some affordable live-work spaces, across the street on the south side of Clifton, and a community building including a café, shops, and perhaps an artist display area.

A more formal presentation will be made at RCPC's November Town Hall (November 15, 7:30 p.m.).

■ Technical assistance sought for Rockridge Housing Study

The Land Use Committee has now put together five alternative scenarios for how Rockridge could help address the need for additional housing in Oakland. However, the Committee needs technical assistance in evaluating the feasibility of some of the proposed incentives intended to promote development of affordable units. The ability to work with computer models is a necessity.

Outreach to students at the U.C. Berkeley campus has, thus far, been unsuccessful. If readers know of any students or professionals who might be interested in helping out with this evaluation, please have them contact the Committee at landuse@rockridge.org.

Feet: Out & About

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NCPC to Meet October 11; Plus, Board Vacancy

The Greater Rockridge Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) invites you to join us at the OPD Neighborhood Services Community Meeting 7:30 p.m. Thursday, October 11, in the Smith Room at The College Preparatory School, 6100 Broadway, Oakland. (The Smith Room is located off the parking lot under the Gym, the first building on the left in the parking lot).

Our Neighborhood Services Coordinator, Patricia Rose, will host the meeting.

NCPC Has a Board Vacancy

The Greater Rockridge NCPC has an open Vice Chair position. If you are interested in crime and public safety in the community, consider volunteering for this position. Our bylaws say the Vice Chair "will assist the Chair as needed." In practice, this means attending meetings (7 p.m. at the Rockridge Library on the second Thursday of even-numbered months – February, April, June, August, October, and December); chairing the meeting if the Chairman can't attend; and possibly attending the bimonthly Area 2 Commander's Meeting (second Mondays as announced) if the Chairman can't attend that. The Vice Chair also assists in making decisions on programs and directions for the NCPC with other members of the steering committee. If you are interested, email us at chair@rockridgencpc.com to discuss it.

Karen Ivy,* Secretary, Greater Rockridge NCPC; *secretary@rockridgencpc.com

Rockridge Library Group Seeks Directors

The Friends of the Rockridge Library (FORL) is seeking volunteer directors to join the nonprofit's board. FORL collaborates with library staff to fund programs and materials not covered by the city budget. The board meets approximately nine times per year on Tuesday evenings to discuss ways to support to the branch and its dedicated staff. Candidates interested in offering some of their time and talent can contact outreach@rockridgefriends.org to learn more.

Report: September Town Hall Meeting

by Alden Connor, Vice Chair, RCPC

The September Town Hall focused on transportation issues including traffic changes, electric scooters, the BART station bike share docks, and bike lanes on College Avenue.

Traffic Changes

Neighbors of the Broadway/Lawton intersection expressed their concerns about the changes to that intersection, including confusing pedestrian crossing signals and the inability to make a left from northbound Broadway onto Lawton. Many residents are

Town Hall Report, page 14

Rockridge News Thanks Newsletter Volunteers, Seeks Replacements

Thanks to the Camerons and the Hamlins for their time delivering The Rockridge News to the neighborhood.

James Cameron is retiring from his route and his wife, Joan, has asked us to find someone to replace him. Thank you both for covering this 63rd Street route for many years. We wish you the very best.

Earl Hamlin has been both a district captain who delivers bundles to volunteers and a block captain who delivers newsletters door-to-door. He, too, is retiring. We wish him well and thank him for his many years of service.

Who will step into the shoes of these long-time volunteers?

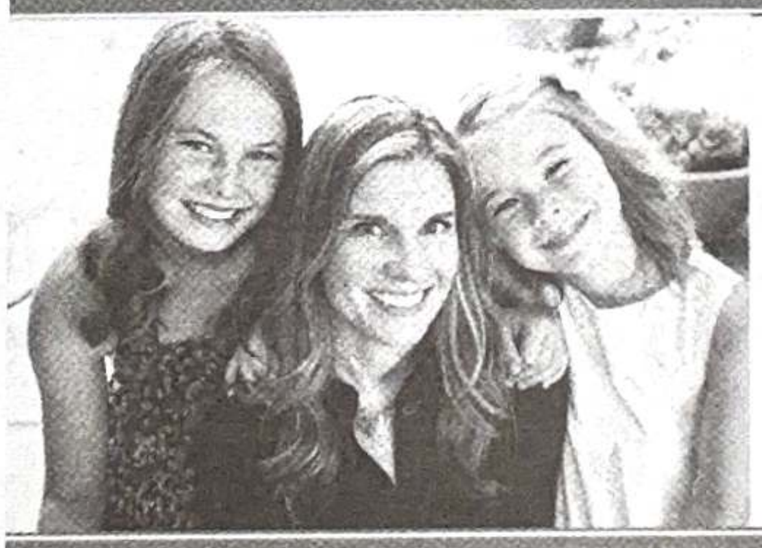
Pick a route, please!

- **Block Captain/Route 21L:** Both sides of 63rd Street between Colby and Hillegass, then even numbers alo 6300 Colby between 63rd and Alcatraz.
- **District Captain/Route 05A-K.** Makes 10 bundle drops to block captains on Chabot Road side streets.
- **Block Captain/Route 24B:** Woolsey, South side, from Benvenue to Hillegass,both sides of 6400 Hillegass, up North side of Alcatraz to Benvenue.

Call 510/547-3855 or email Susan at smontauk@gmail.com to volunteer. The newsletter is distributed the first weekend of each month except August.

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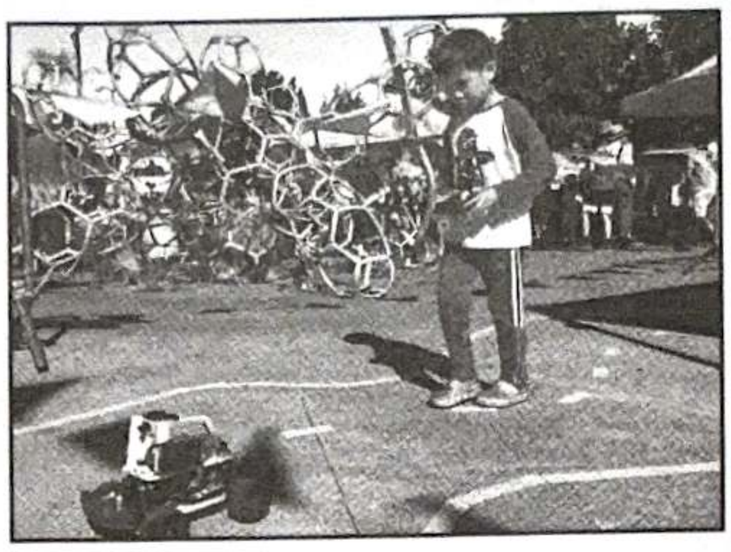
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Park Day School and Studio One Host Mini Maker Faire

The 9th Annual East Bay Mini Maker Faire will happen in Temescal at Park Day School and Studio One Art Center Sunday, October 21, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The East Bay Mini Maker Faire continues to be a largely volunteer-driven event, with well over 100 parent volunteers from Park Day School making this amazing event happen for over 120 makers and 6,500 visitors.

The first Maker Faire was held at Park Day School and Studio One in 2010 as a community event and fundraiser to help to fund the school's financial assistance program. Today, the fully interactive event is a reflection of the school's hands-on, project-based classrooms. The one-day, family-focused Faire brings together potter's wheels and robotics, circuits and origami, music, dance, pedal-powered carnival rides, and 3D printing in a hands-on celebration of creativity, artists, engineers, crafters, and urban farmers from across our local East Bay communities.

The East Bay Mini Maker Faire is "mini" only because it's smaller than the 100,000-person, three-day flagship Maker Faire Bay Area held in May at the San Mateo County Fairgrounds. The Oakland event is one day and attracts more than 6,500 people of all ages, and makers from around northern California.





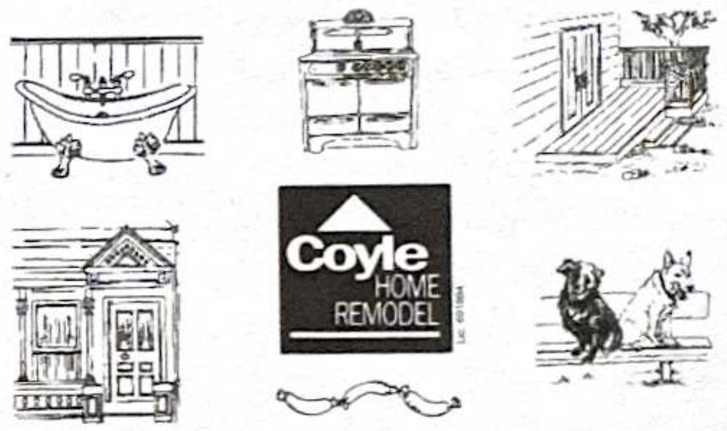
The Faire's variety of booths allows Faire-goers to be as hands-on or hands-off as they want. The outdoor stage offers dance battles and performances, while other makers show off their solar vehicles, and sound-responsive LEDs. Anyone can get their hands on a soldering iron; shape alabaster by hand with sandpaper; or take a ride on a Frankentrike.

Exhibits last year included a human-scale hamster wheel, youth-hosted bubble experiments, a BMX quarter pipe, competition robots, origami lessons, a homemade race-car simulator, quilting, ceramics, leather work, and ham radio operations.

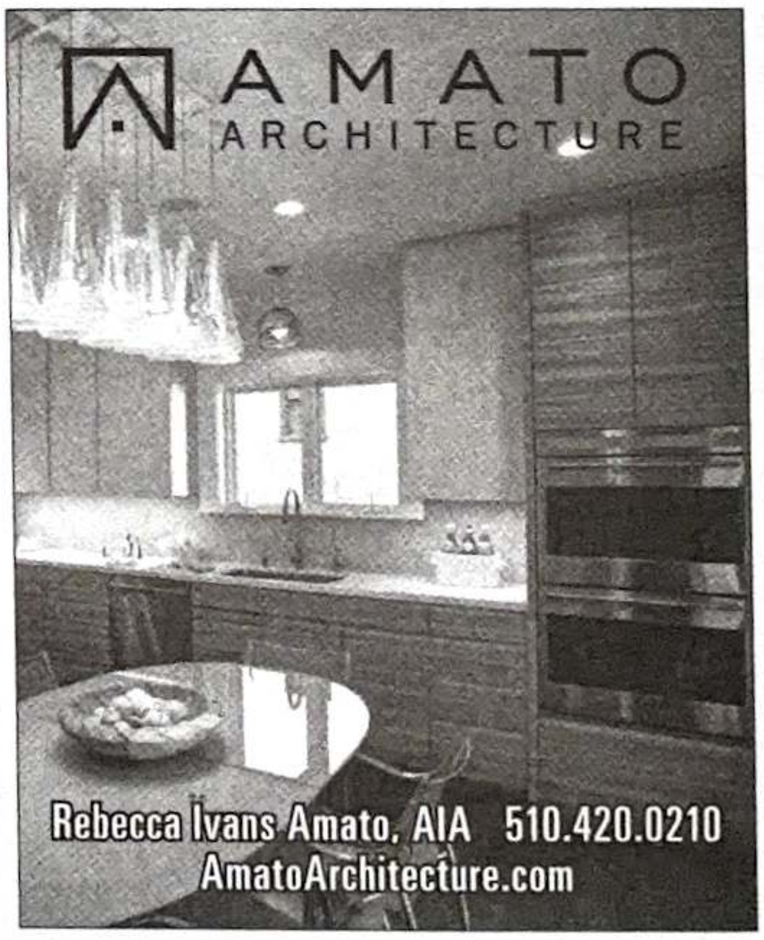
More information at eastbay.makerfaire.com. /By Park Day School Staff

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Eyes on Rockridge

Fueled by Tech Industry Buyers, Rockridge Home Prices Go Through the Roof

by Judith Doner Berne

The lead headline in the September 17 East Bay Times read: "Did you buy a home in 2012? Congratulations."

My answer: "Well, no. We bought in 2011. But the congratulations still apply."

That's because house prices, including ours, have reportedly more than doubled in value over that period. The latest research, according to the real estate website Trulia, claims that Oakland home values have increased by 108 percent – third highest in the country behind San Jose (122 percent), Las Vegas (114 percent) and ahead of San Francisco (101 percent).

"The stars were aligned," said my neighbor Beth Johnke, who did buy the house she had rented for 17 years in 2012, when the bank foreclosed on its owner. At the time, "I was a reluctant buyer — but we were so entrenched in the neighborhood."

"It's easy to calculate the price of your house," said real estate agent and Rockridge resident Ron Kriss. "Just multiply your square footage by $1,000. We used to hear that about San Francisco a few years ago." Now, here in Rockridge, "You'd better have cash or a really good job."

Although home values ebb and flow and obviously always go up after a recession, "We're definitely dealing with home prices that historically increased the most between recessions percentagewise," Kriss told me. "They're in new territory of a price advance."

Comparing June of 2018 to even a year ago, prices have skyrocketed 30 percent. The average selling price this past June was $1.85 million compared with $1.42 million in 2017. In addition, 25 homes sold in June of this year compared with 15 a year ago. June closings showed two houses on Manila sold for more than $2 million; a home on Cavour listed at 1,188 square feet went for $1.6 million; only two homes sold below the listing price. Average days on the market were 16.

So who is buying and who is selling in Rockridge?

Buyers: To find out for myself, I spent a half-hour at a recent Sunday open house for a newly listed home below Broadway. Would-be buyers included two families with kids in tow and:

Judi Washington, an Oakland resident, who was seeking a bungalow or duplex with minimum steps to accommodate her 80-something parents who would live there with her brother, his wife and son. She has looked at 25 houses over the last six to nine months in Rockridge, Elmwood and Fairview. So far, she hasn't made a bid. "I haven't found the right place and I was too late for the one house I would have bid on."

Bert Erml, a San Francisco cook transplant from New York City, who has spent a year looking for a house to share with his fiancée. She works at the International High School in Temescal. He has not yet made a bid.

Ravi and Anu Arora, Rockridge grandparents, who have spent every weekend over the last two months at open houses in Rockridge, Upper Rockridge and Elmwood in an effort to have their new granddaughter nearby. "We've given up our social lives," Anu said. "I can't believe what the houses are going for. It's frustrating." The single bid they made wasn't accepted.

Buyers, according to Kriss, generally fall into three categories: Thirty-something millennials involved in San Francisco and Silicon Valley's new economies; newly-minted empty nesters who raised their families in Lamorinda (Lafayette, Moraga and Orinda) or Marin and want out of the suburbs; and grandparents already living here who want their children and grandchildren nearby and have the money to make that happen.

Another Rockridge-based Realtor, Maxi Lilley, put it this way: "Over-55 down-sizers selling larger homes in the hills and through the tunnel (and buying smaller 2-3 bedroom bungalows) who want smaller, more walkable neighborhoods and a close-to-services-and-transit lifestyle; San Francisco folks who want to take advantage of the easy commute, urban lifestyle, and cheaper

Home Prices, page 7

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Did you know? Prop 10 coming on the ballot in November would remove rent control protection of your own single family home and new construction, limiting creation of needed housing. It would also allow cities to limit the amount of rent you ask for your home even after it becomes vacant!! Non owner occupied multiunit rental property that isn't newer construction is already subject to rent control in Oakland. The proposition provides no additional affordable housing incentive. UC Berkeley and Stanford Economists predict it will further constrict availability of rental property and provide no help to those looking for housing. Good intentions, but actually further restricts housing supply.

Mark your calendars for 11/4, end of daylight savings time and 11/6, election day!!!



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Home Prices

from page 6

prices here; and first-time home-buyers typically buying the smaller, two-bedroom bungalows."

"The buyers these days are different," said Realtor Daniel Stea, whose home and office are in Rockridge. "Many are young, tech-related buyers for whom urban walkability and schools are paramount. This was not how it was five years ago. It was more middle class — a professor, a journalist, a nurse couple."

"Below Broadway, you're seeing the higher prices per square foot," Stea said. "People used to consider upper Rockridge better because of schools, bigger homes, garages," Kriss said. But these days, houses there are being sold for less money per square foot than the rest of Rockridge.

Oakland Technical High School is becoming a draw to the area, according to both Kriss and Stea. "I had my first couple move to Oakland to make sure their kids could go to Oakland Tech," Kriss said. (They bought in somewhat less pricey Temescal.) "We are getting people moving here because they want Oakland Tech," Stea said.

Sellers: Why people sell comes down to the three D's, Kriss told me: death, divorce and disemployment, meaning either a job transfer or losing a job. Fewer homes, these days, come on the market for other than these reasons "because we have a graying economy in Rockridge."

Older residents are staying put for the same reasons both young and old are moving in: Rockridge's walkability and public transportation alternatives. And, for seniors, the easy access to nearby medical care and hospitals looms large. "The ones moving out, in Stea's experience, "are usually going to Oregon and Washington, if they are young, or to the wine country, if they are older."

The clamor of construction is ample evidence of Rockridge residents with growing families who are adding second stories to their classic one-story bungalows and turning garages into living spaces – instead of moving.

That is true of Ethan Andelman and Laura Mytels, whose addition was completed in 2016. "Laura made clear that we could move anywhere so long as it was within four square blocks of our house," Andelman explained by email. "Even so, we took a look at some other locations in Oakland, but given the prices and crazy market (which is even crazier now), we realized that it was a better financial decision to add on to our existing house. That also gave us the ability to design the house that worked best for our family.

"We're not alone," he emphasized, "It seems over the past five years, every block in our neighborhood has had at least a house or two undergoing significant renovation at any given time."

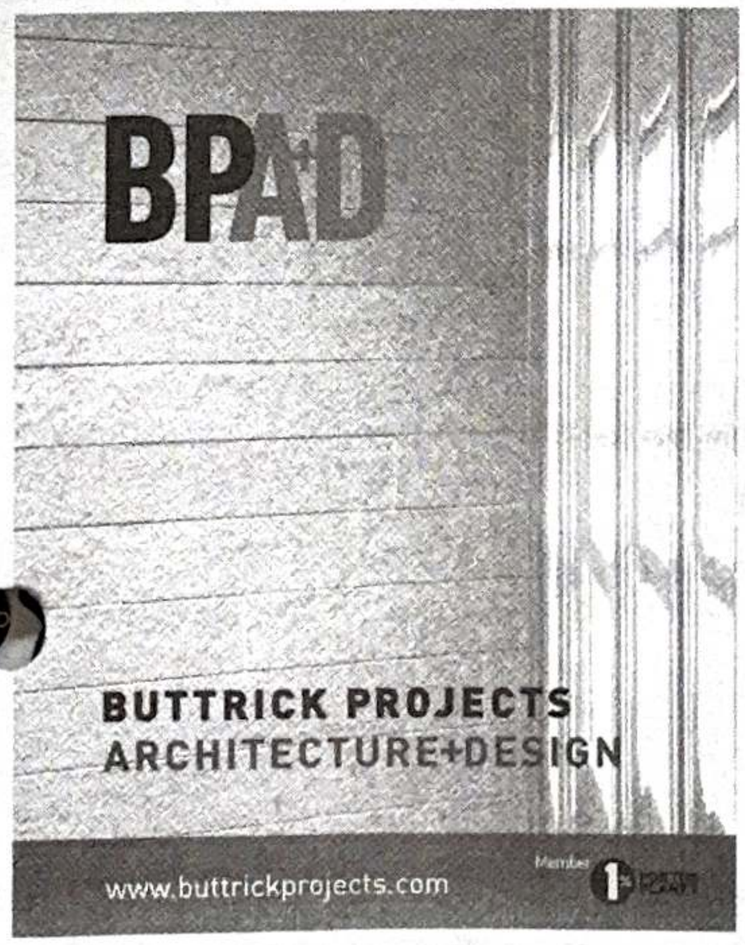
"The market is still more a sellers' market than a buyers' market but we are lately seeing a swinging of the pendulum," Lilley said. "Overall, the market is slowing down," Stea said. But, in his view, "Rockridge hasn't been affected very much."

"All of this couldn't happen were it not for the tech money," said Terry Kulka, a retired real estate agent who sold homes in Rockridge and environs for 35 years. "The real heartache is the parents whose kids can't afford to stay in the neighborhood. That's what makes up a neighborhood – its institutional memory."



The chart above clearly shows Rockridge's steady beat of fewer houses at higher prices from 2013 to 2018 (year to date). These figures reflect only the market in The Rockridge News circulation area – which does not deliver to much of Upper Rockridge. See the RCPC boundary map at https://www.rockridge.org/boundaries for details. — Eyes on Rockridge

To comment and/or suggest topics for columns on you, your neighbor(s) or neighborhood, please email judyberne@att.net.



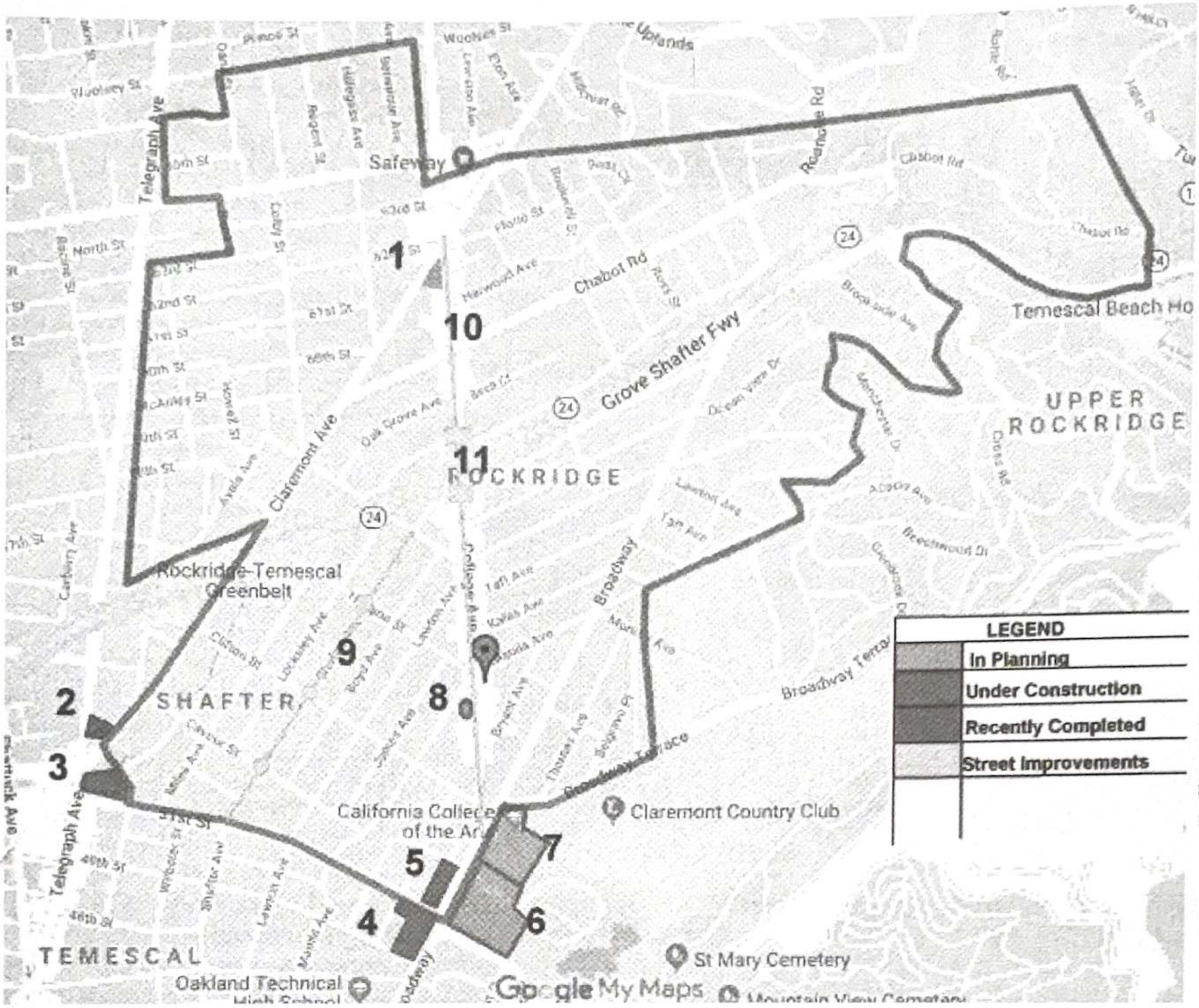
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Current Land Use and Transportation Projects in Rockridge

Design, Review and Comments by Stuart Flashman, Chair, RCPC Land Use Committee

Prepared for Display and Discussion at Rockridge Out & About, September 16, 2018



The map at left shows the boundaries of The Rockridge Community Planning Council (RCPC). The numbers on the map indicate the location of each project discussed. The projects are, in general, within those boundaries. Those outside the boundaries are noted as such and have been included because of their proximity to or their influence upon Rockridge and Rockridge residents.



1. Lot at Corner of College & Claremont

No application submitted. Project will apparently be 3 stories (maybe 4 with affordable units). Retail/office on first floor, residential above, underground parking.

2. "Kingfish" (Idora) Condos/Apartments

5-story (4 stories residential over retail) on Claremont Avenue above Telegraph. Condo map recorded, but currently rental apartments. Just outside of RCPC borders. Completed in 2017.



Land Use Poster, page 9

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Larry Sarver, OD
Scott Yokoi, OD
Cindy Sakai, OD
Jasmine Junge, OD

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3. "Nautilus" mixed-use project, west side of Telegraph at 51st Street. 6-story (5 stories residential rental over retail (grocery store)). 204 units; 16 very-low income units. Commercial roof greenhouse. Under construction (est. completion in 2019).

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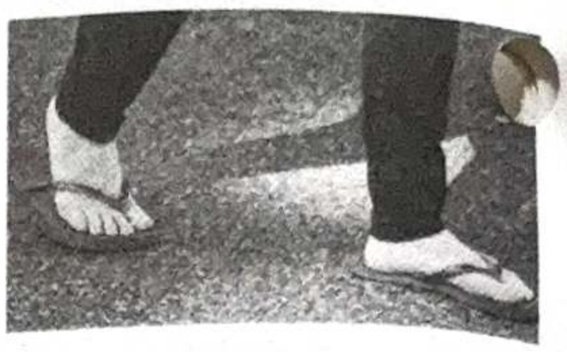
4. Baxter on Broadway Apartments, west side, Broadway and 51st Street. 5-stories (4 stories residential [130 market-rate units] over retail) plus townhouses on Desmond Street. Just outside RCPC borders. Nearing completion & currently leasing.



5. Merrill Gardens Senior Housing
5-stories (4 stories market rate senior housing rental over retail) along west side of Broadway between 51st Street and Coronado Avenue at eastern RCPC border. Completed in 2017 and fully operational.

Land Use Poster, **page 12**





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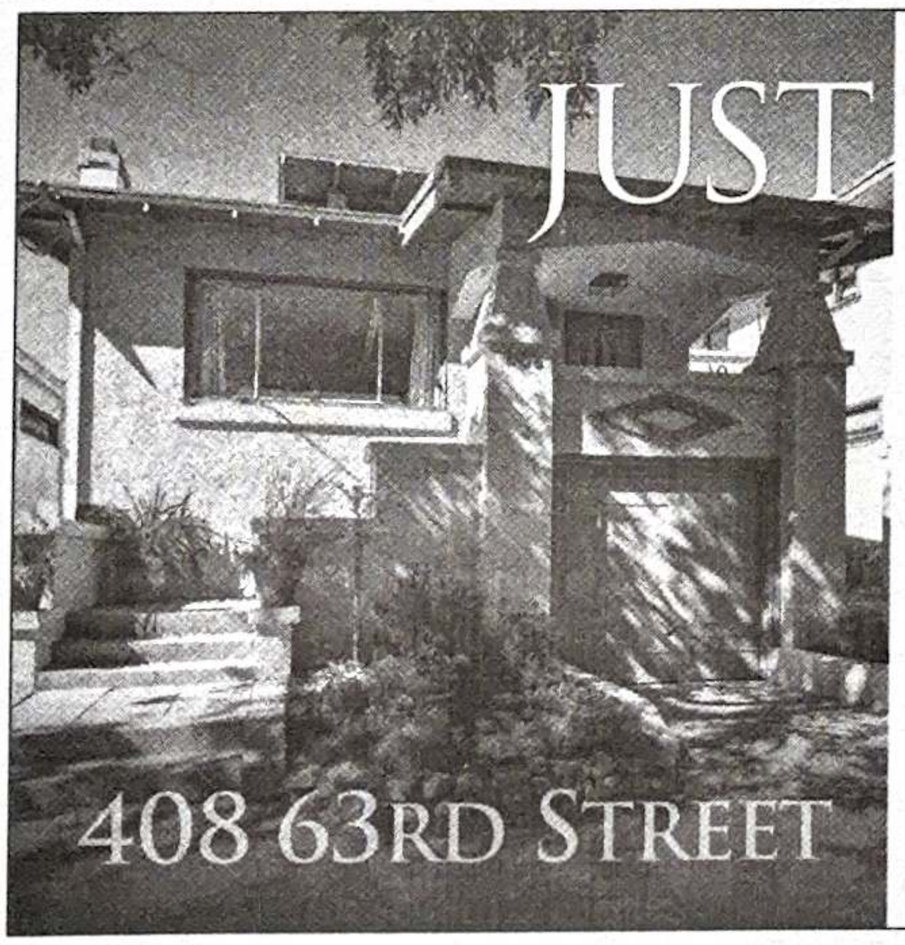
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Historic Keith Avenue Building Ravaged by Fire

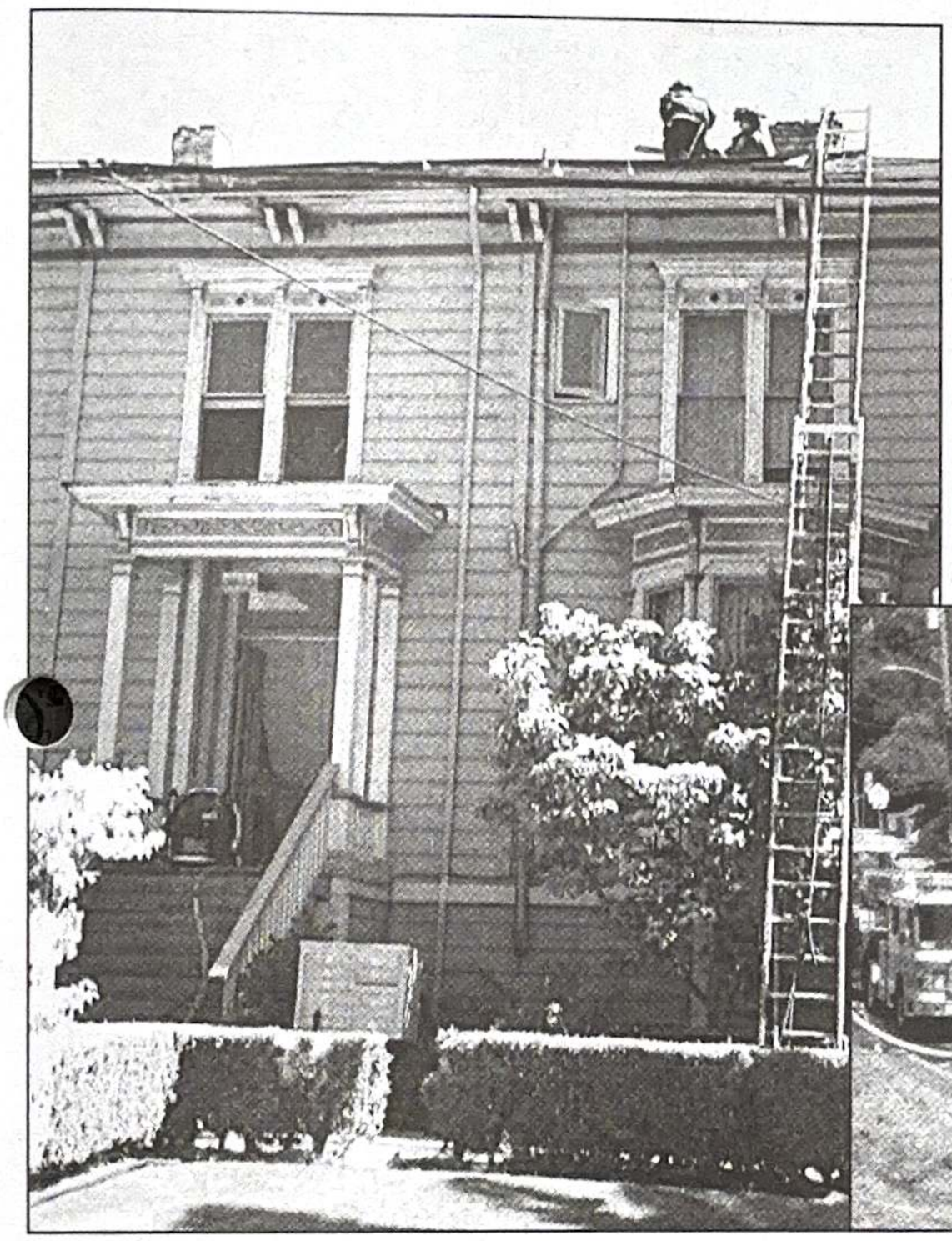
by Annalee Allen, Oakland Tours Program coordinator and former Tribune landmarks columnist.

The historic McMillan house on Keith Avenue was heavily damaged when it caught fire on September 10. The fire's cause is still under investigation. Information on the Victorian style house can be found on oaklandwiki.org. The property belonged originally to Anthony McMillan (1852-1921) and his family. In the 1960s it was converted into multiple units, according to city records.

Anthony McMillan was born in Scotland and came to the U.S. in the 1870s. In 1898 he was in California and had started investing in creating levees along the Sacramento River to increase tillable farmland (a very lucrative activity). With his profits, McMillan moved to the East Bay and built a large home, north of downtown, in what was then the unincorporated area we now know as Rockridge. In 1911, the district was annexed to Oakland, and street names and addresses were assigned to the few estates located there. Streetcars began running up College Avenue, and the blocks surrounding the early estates filled in with bungalows.

Anthony McMillan was married twice, and some of his descendants still live in the area. There is a McMillan plot in Mountain View Cemetery.

As more information comes to light, it will be added to the oaklandwiki website. There is an obituary for Mr. McMillan, who died in 1921, and photos of the fire damage on the website, so check back for new developments.





As several firefighters open holes in the roof to release smoke and heat, others tend to the hoses and hydrants at street level. /D. Kinkead



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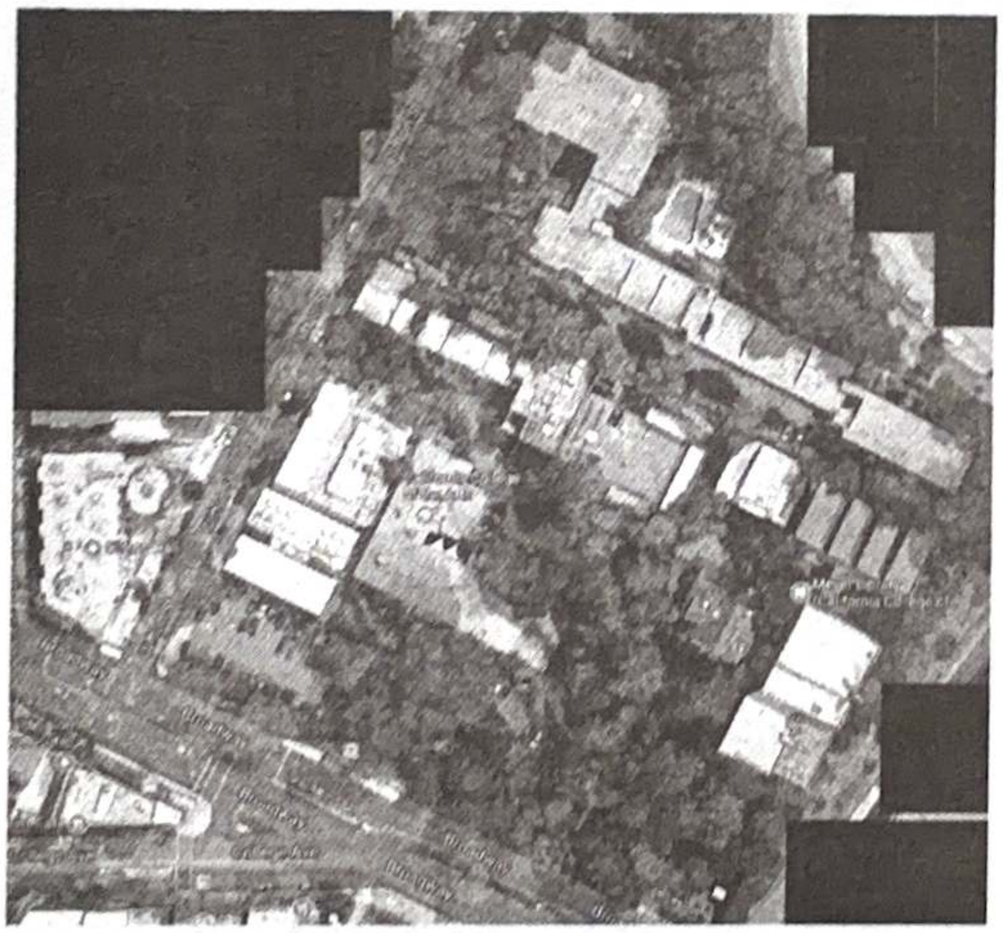
Land Use Poster from page 9

6. Shops at the Ridge – Phase Two

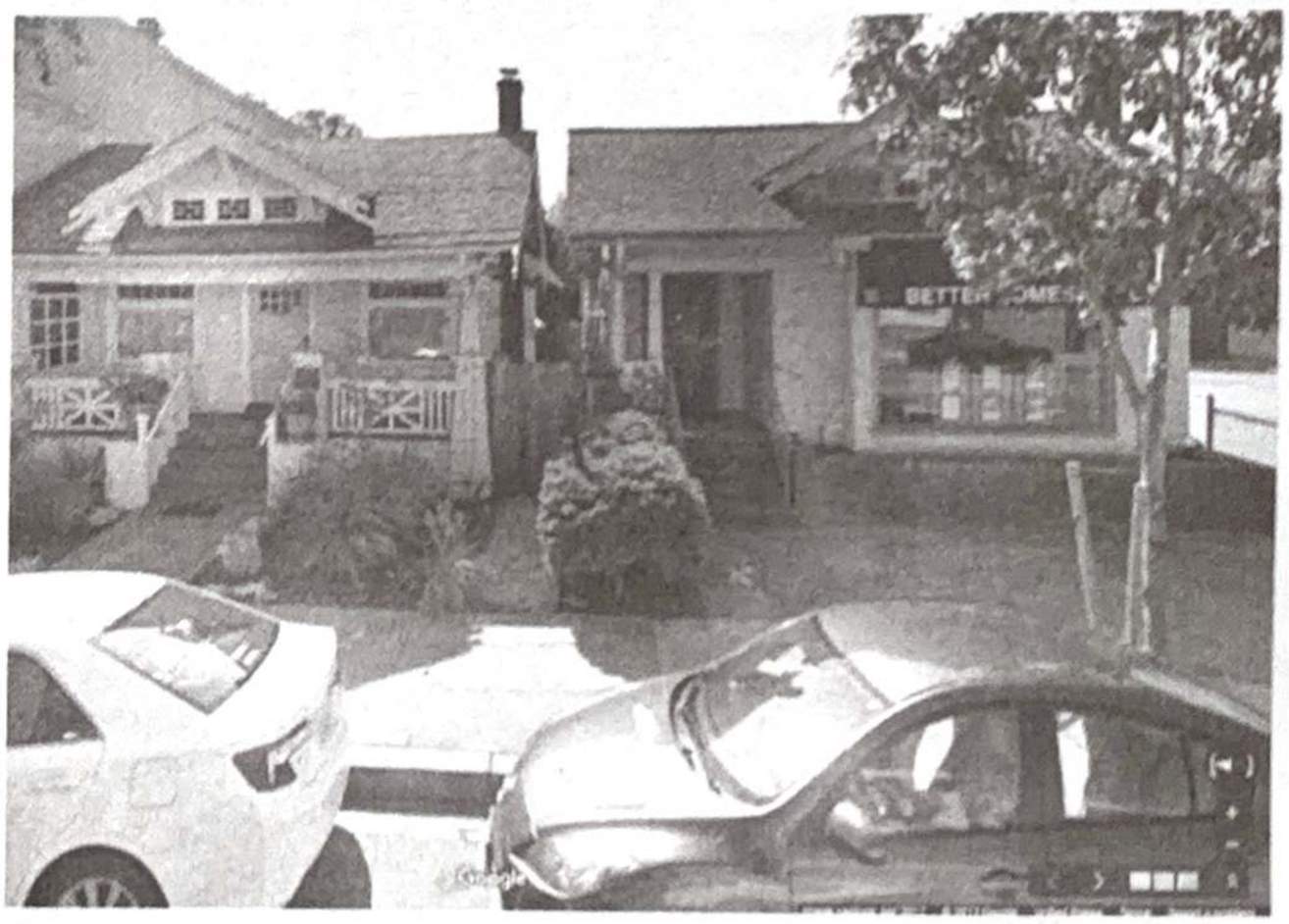
Approved by the City in 2013 as a multi-story retail development with structured parking. Plans currently under reconsideration by long-term master tenant, TRG, Inc. (a southern California developer). The old Chase building at the corner of Pleasant Valley Road and Broadway was demolished in January 2018. Possible Phase 3 residential option (unapproved).



7. California College of Art reuse plan for Oakland Campus beginning ~2021. Planned: Preservation of historic areas; affordable artist housing; high-rise, market-rate residential. Previewed at September RCPC Land Use Committee meeting.



8. 5353 College Ave. ("Better Homes") Redevelop current one-story craftsman bungalow previously converted to office use. 4 stories (3 stories residential over retail), one affordable unit and re-use of bungalow as penthouse unit. Currently under review.



Land Use Poster, page 13

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Land Use Poster

from page 12

9. Repaving of Shafter Avenue with three mini-roundabouts to facilitate use as bicycle boulevard. Repaving currently in progress. Roundabout installation in progress; photo at right.

10. Install bicycle lanes (or sharrows) on College Avenue between Broadway and Claremont Avenue, likely including repaving. (A sharrow is a shared-lane street marking placed in the travel lane to indicate where people should preferably cycle.)

Sharrows are proposed for the east side of College in downhill lanes from Broadway to Bryant Avenue and between Claremont Avenue and the Berkeley border. (Discussed at September Town Hall meeting.)

11. Improvements at the intersection of Miles Avenue and Shafter/Keith Avenue with College Avenue.

Improvements will include "bulb-outs," replacing the "porkchop"* turn lane from College to Miles with a mini-park; installation of count-down lights at the Miles intersection; and re-striping streets with designated turn lanes on Shafter and Miles Avenues.

[*Pork chop islands are triangular raised islands placed between a right-turn slip lane and through-travel lanes. They channel vehicular traffic and provide a refuge for pedestrians crossing a roadway, where they can wait for a suitable gap in traffic or for the WALK phase of a pedestrian signal. Their shape is reminiscent of a pork chop. (Wictionary)]



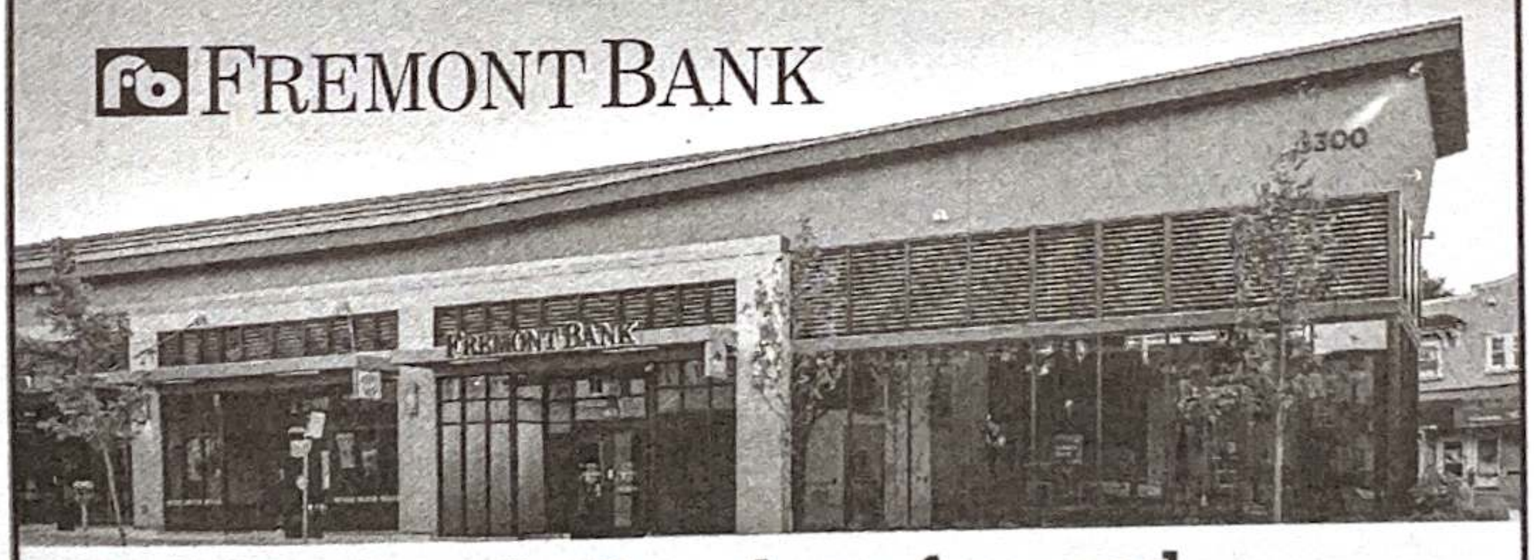
Installation of the Shafter Avenue mini-roundabouts is underway. After the outline of the eventual circle is cut, the inner area is excavated. /D. Kinkead



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Town Hall Report

from page 4

worried about the safety of both drivers and pedestrians in the new configuration. The transportation committee will contact Dan Kalb's office to express these concerns.

Scooters

Attendees discussed their experiences with rental electric scooters and learned about an ordinance passed by the City that makes the rental companies responsible for maintaining customer safety and ensuring scooters are parked properly. Contact ***OAK 311*** to report improperly parked scooters or other complaints.

BART Bike Docks

Earlier in the week, the City and BART had informed RCPC and others that the Rockridge BART bike share station would not be moved to a new location but would be reconfigured from a U shape to an L shape to move the bikes farther from the memorial. Brooke Levin and Annalee Allen, involved in creating the memorial, expressed their disappointment with the City's decision. Attendees discussed the possibility of asking the City to improve lighting, signage, and maintenance of the location.

Many people donated their time and energy on Creek-to-Bay Day to clean Frog Park and the Greenway. →



College Avenue Bike Lanes

College Avenue will be repaved in 2019, and bike lanes will be added from Broadway to Claremont, while the section between Claremont and Alcatraz is to be painted with "sharrows" rather than full bike lanes. (See definition of sharrows, item 10, page 13.) Rockridge resident Ryan Schuchard presented a plan to request that the City change these to full bike lanes for that stretch. Local residents and representatives from Bike East Bay discussed the pros and cons of the proposal and the best ways to improve bicycle safety in that corridor.

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

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. **Compiled by Jo Ellis**

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Rockridge Branch Library

5366 College Avenue, 597-5017

FOR CHILDREN

- **Family Story Time:** Saturdays, 10:30am.
- **Toddler Story Time:** (for 9 months to 2 years), Thursdays, 10:30am, upstairs.
- **Pre-School Story Time:** (ages 2 to 5); Thursdays, 10:30am.
- All story times followed by Play Time; parents and caregivers invited.

SPECIAL EVENTS: all ages welcome.

- **Stretching for Caregivers:** bring children to free basic stretching session Wednesdays, 10:10am.
- **Chess Club:** Instruction and chess sets provided. Best for ages 8 to 12. Wednesdays (10/3 through 11/7) 3:30-4:30pm.
- **Mix It Up Family Game Night**: Bring your favorite game or try one of ours. Every 4th Tues, 6:30-7:45pm.
- **Family Craft Night:** Every 2nd Tues, starting Oct 9th, 6:30-7:45pm. Oct: make Luminarias. Decide what craft to do in Nov & Dec.
- **Pumpkin Stories & Craft:** Halloween-themed, not-scary stories for kids ages 0-6; decorate trick-or-treat bag (all ages). Sat, 10/27, 10:30am.
- **Creepy Stories in the Dark:** Come in costume; spooky but not scary stories. Tues, 10/30, 6:30pm.
- **Young Writers NaNoWriMo:** Finish a novel by writing a little EVERY DAY all month. Meet with us the last Thurs in Oct, 10/25, to set your goals, then come every Thurs afternoon (call 597-5017 to find out time) in November (thru 11/29). Best for ages 8 to 13.

FOR TEENS

- **Rockridge Teen Advisory Board** (ages 14-18): Help advise the library how to better serve teens; get community service credit for school. 2nd Sat. each month, 1 to 2pm.
- **Teen 'Scape Program:** Play video games and make craft; every Tues, Thurs, and Fri, 3:30 - 5pm; Wed, 1:30 - 5pm (during school days).
- **Study Room Hours:** High school tutor available for homework help. Tues, and Thurs 4 - 5pm; Wed, 2:45 - 4pm (during school days).
- **Shrinky Dinks Calaveras:** draw and color Calaveras in plastic sheets; shrink in oven. 10/17, 2pm.

FOR ADULTS

*** eBook Help: Work one-on-one with a librarian to download eBooks. Fridays, 2 -3:30pm. Make appt. online or call 597-5017.

- **Second Saturday Book Club:** 2nd Sat each month, 3 - 4pm. Phone for book selection: 597-5017.
- **Writers Support/Critique Group:** Bring 15 copies of up to 5 pgs. (double-spaced, MS margins) of any prose for on-site reading/discussion (OK to come empty-handed). 3rd Sat. each month,1 to 5pm; wheelchair-accessible. Info: 420-8775 or Writefox@aol.com.
- **Lawyer in the Library:** Free legal info and referral. 1st Tues each month; 6pm-8pm. Sign-up for lottery starting 5pm; lottery at 5:45 pm.
- **Knitting Meet-Up:** Third Sat. each month, 3pm. Bring your knit and crochet project; all levels.
- **NaNoWriMo:** Launch & Mixer with founder **Chris Baty.** Prep for National Novel Writing Month. Snacks; raffles. Tues, Oct. 30, 6:30pm.
- **Making Sense of Medicare:** Medicare open enrollment runs from Oct. 15-Dec.7. Latest updates on Medicare presented by **Denise Lombard**. Sat, Nov 3, 10:30am.

ART EXHIBIT: Upstairs Gallery

Oct: **Sarah Stricherz:** Bay Area cityscapes and seascapes in oil, acrylic and gouache.

Library Hours

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

Become a Volunteer Story Reader in Oakland Pre-schools

Foster a life-long love of reading. **Sign up now** for Library's volunteer program **Books for Wider Horizons.** Annual training series starts early October at Rockridge Library. Learn how to present engaging storytimes to a pre-school class. More info/sign up: www.oaklandlibrary.org/bwh.

East Bay Booksellers Book/Poetry Readings

FREE and open to the public.

- Sun, 10/7, 3pm. **Poetry Flash** with **Terese Svoboda:** *Anything That Burns You: A Portrait of Lola Ridge, Radical Poet.*
- Wed, 10/10, 6:30pm. **Freud's Bar:** upcoming theme: Tickling the Unconscious. Mtg. topic: Freud's 'Seduction' Theory- Renaming the Concept. **Presenter: Charles P. Fisher, M.D.**
- Fri, 10/12, 7pm. **Kai Carlson-Wee:** Rail *(Poulin #41)*, poems. Joined by **Ingrid Rojas Contreras** and **Taneum Bambrick**.
- Tues, 10/16, 7pm. **Hope Ewing:** *Movers and Shakers: Women Making Waves in Spirits, Beer & Wine.* In conversation with **Maggie Hoffman, Martha Stoumen, Araya Andersen,** & **Andie Ferman.**
- Thurs, 10/18, 7pm. Poet **Erica Dawson:** *When Rap Spoke Straight to God.* Joined by local poet **James Cagney**.
- Sun, 10/21, 3pm. **Julie Kaderabek, RN** and **Laura Wolfe, RN:** *Surgery Day (for parents and kids*).
- Fri, 10/26, 7pm. **Anissa Helou:** *Feast: Food of the Islamic World.*
- Sun, 10/28, 3pm. **Poetry Flash**: Sixteen Rivers Press 2018 anthology: *America, We Call Your Name*. Featured readers: **Chiyuma Elliot, Susan Griffin, Forrest Hamer, Dawn Mcguire, Peter Dale Scott, Donald Stang** and **Matthew Zapruder.**
- Tues, 10/30, 7pm. **Jasmine Guillory:** *The Proposal.*
- Tues, 11/6, 7pm. **Wayetu Moore:** *She Would Be King.*

East Bay Booksellers, 5433 College Ave. More info abt. the authors, books and other events: 653-9965 or info@ebbooksellers.com.

Book Signing, Tastings, and Conversations

Meet **Dorie Greenspan**, 5-time James Beard Foundation award-winner. New cookbook: *EVERYDAY DORIE: The Way I Cook*. Recipe samples and ingredient tastings. Fri, Nov 9, 4-6pm.

Market Hall Foods, 5655 College Ave. More info: rockridgemarkethall.com or 250-6001.

Wisteria Ways House Concert

Nuvo Jazz Quartet: Re-constructions of late-Romantic classics by Faure, Gershwin, and Rachmaninoff, Ladino folk music, plus original Brazilian and Turkish style compositions. **Michael Smolens, Justin Luellet, Aaron Germain** and **Marlon Aldana.** Sat, Nov 3rd, 8pm. **Inside venue; not wheelchair accessible.** $15-20 donation for musicians (cash only at the door). 383 61st Street. More info and reservations (highly recommended), RSVP to info@WisteriaWays.org or 655-2771.

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