

Sponsored by The Rockridge Community Planning Council • 5245 College Ave. PMB 311 • Oakland, CA 94618 • 644-4228

a g e n d a: RCPC General Meeting

Thursday, March 20, 7:30 p.m.

Rockridge Branch Library Community Room 5366 College Avenue

The Bungalow: Arts & Crafts Architecture and Gardens with Paul Duchscherer

by Theresa Nelson

Chances are, if you don't live in an Arts & Crafts bungalow, there is one next door or down the block. Well-preserved and restored bungalow homes are a beloved feature of the Rockridge environment, and well-known author Paul Duchscherer has become a noted expert on all features of this architectural design and the period when it was dominant.

Duchscherer will be the guest speaker at the Rockridge Community Planning Council's General Meeting on Thursday, March 20. Known for his enticing and accessible presentation of the many interesting facets of the bungalow design tradition, Duchscerer enthralled a large audience at an RCPC event some years ago.

Duchscherer and his collaborator, photographer Douglas Keister, together have produced four wonderful books on period architecture, gardens and design: *The Bungalow: America's Arts & Crafts Home* (1995), *Inside the Bungalow: America's Arts & Crafts Interior* (1997), *Outside the Bungalow: America's Arts & Crafts Garden* (1999), and *Victorian Glory in San Francisco and the Bay Area* (2001). A new series of small-scale books, to be called Bungalow Basics, will be published in 2003; topics will include fireplaces, bedrooms, dining rooms, and living rooms.

Duchscherer will have copies of his current books for sale after the meeting, and will be available to sign copies. Don't miss this opportunity to learn more about the fascinating architecture that helped make Rockridge such an interesting neighborhood. Visit http://www.artisticlicense.org/members/ duchscherer/01.html for information.

Candidates Sought for RCPC Board Election

by Glen Tripp, Chair

How many times have you thought about volunteering in your community but put it off because you could not decide the best venue for your efforts? Wait no longer; the perfect volunteer opportunity is here. The Rockridge Community Planning Council holds its annual election in April and welcomes Rockridge residents to run for six Director positions.

The 11-member RCPC Board, (10 elected members who serve 2-year terms and one appointed member), has addressed issues of concern to the larger Rockridge Community since 1972. Here are just a few RCPC projects:

Zoning Stewardship

Over the years, RCPC has represented the community on planning issues such as rooming house conversions, pedestrian-oriented retail zoning on College Avenue, the construction of Market Hall, and the construction and proposed expansion of Dreyer's International Headquarters.

Community Enrichment

RCPC was the primary catalyst behind the Rockridge Library and the new Rockridge-Temescal Greenbelt. Our subcommittees, Friends of Rockridge Public Library and Friends of Rockridge-Temescal Greenbelt, were instrumental in

the fundraising S

SEE "RCPC ELECTION," PAGE 9

At the February RCPC General Meeting



Kids and families of North Oakland Community Charter School prepare and share meals with Oakland residents.

Charter School Supports Needy Residents, Earns RCPC Grant

by Jacqueline Tasch

On the Second Friday of the month, the kids at the North Oakland Community Charter School (NOCCS) make the placemats and the salads. Their parents bring the lasagna. Together, the families serve dinner and—most important—sit down to share it with

SEE "GRANT," PAGE 4

Local Schools Face Budget Cuts With Resolve to Continue Improving

by Jacqueline Tasch

How tight are the budgets at Rockridge's public schools? It's so bad that in some cases, parents are asked to provide such basics as toilet paper and paper towels. In spite of that, the schools are generating new ideas and attracting new support for their programs, according to speakers at the Rockridge Community Planning Council's General Meeting February 20.

At Claremont Middle School, Principal Dorothy Wiggins finds herself "waking up two hours early" every day, trying to figure out how to make the school's program go forward in the face of still unspecified budget cuts resulting from a huge shortfall at the district level. Members of the staff are wearing "three extra hats each," she said. An afterschool program, which lost funding last year, has called on neighborhood businesses, including Dreyer's, Zachary's and Albertson's, for money and volunteers. Nevertheless, Claremont has all the

Around the Neighborhood

by Jacqueline Tasch, Editor, The Rockridge News

A Weekend in Rockridge

On the Home Front

Ever since Bobbie Kinkead, wife of founding editor Don Kinkead, got out a map and, with Rockridge Neighbor Barbara Anderson,

designed delivery routes and recruited neighbors to staff them, *The Rockridge News* has been laid respectfully at the front doors of area residents and merchants by an unpaid and highly motivated crew of volunteers. The night after Valentine's Day, the Rockridge Community Planning Council staged a dinner to salute that crew.

The event was more corny than gala. We dressed up the basketball court at the College Avenue Presbyterian Church with construction paper hearts made by the students of the North Oakland Community Charter School, covered cafeteria-style tables with red paper tablecloths, and tried a variety of strategies for twining and hanging red and white crepe paper streamers.

The folks we were celebrating provided most of the potluck menu, which was short on goat cheese, arugula, and walnut oil and long on rice and macaroni, beans and potatoes, and chicken in various guises: comfort food. The desserts were the fanciest course—or perhaps just my favorite.

Although two-year-old Stella Getz was the only one who got up and danced, a lot of toes were tapping to music by the Rockridge Jazz Sextet — Aaron Cohen (alto saxophone), Janet Somers (keyboard), Steve Fowler (bass), Tom Williard (drums), Bobby Castro (percussion), and Steve Hanselman (trumpet and flugelhorn). Bagpiper Jim Beatty capped the evening with a rousing sing-along version of "I've Been Workin' on *The Rockridge News* (aka Railroad)."

About 60 delivery people and staffers showed up that Saturday night, some still in high school and others who can recall College Avenue as far back as 1947 or so. My thanks to them for their faithfulness and to Rockridge News Business Manager Susan Montauk for organizing the affair.

On the Storm Front

The next day, the Rockridge BART station became a staging area for peace as hundreds of people took the train to San Francisco to join in a worldwide protest for peace. I was not among them, although large pieces of my heart went along for the ride. For two decades, I was paid not to have opinions and the habit is hard to lose. The world of journalism prizes what it calls objectivity (a deliberate refusal to take sides); some journalists won't even vote as evidence that they score high on this attribute.

While I have never gone that far, I do seem to have a gift for ambivalence, at least when it comes to political issues. You name the question and I can probably advocate a minimum of five sides to it. I'm finding this particularly uncomfortable lately.

Whether or not we should make war against Iraq is only one of the issues on everyone's mind these days. Closer to home, we find that our governments have fewer dollars to meet growing needs. Some tough decisions lie ahead: What school services are dispensable? Should we ignore the closing of another neighborhood's library to make ours safe? Are cutbacks of city recreation facilities a viable option as long as our kids have places to play? How do the several hundred Rockridge residents whose income puts them below the poverty line manage in times when everyone is feeling the pinch?

These issues are hard to address in a monthly newsletter, its content set in stone almost two weeks before the new issue reaches your doorstep. Events would almost certainly overwhelm any factual stories we attempted to write. Yet, these are the issues that trouble our minds and fill our conversations.

For those who pray, I'd say this is a good time to do it. For those who don't, maybe a spirit of goodwill and hopefulness will add some light and warmth to the days ahead. Be well.

ROCKRIDGE BRANCH LIBRARY



Monday, Tuesday, Saturday: 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday: 12:30-8 p.m. Closed: Friday and Sunday SEE COMMUNITY CALENDAR, PAGE 15,

FOR LIBRARY PROGRAM DETAILS.

<u>RöckridgeNews</u>

The Rockridge News, founded in 1986 by Don Kinkead, is published monthly in Oakland and is sponsored by the Rockridge Community Planning Council, 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

noeninge news	roudenon
Jacqueline Tasch	.Editor-in-Chief
Margret Elson, Ortrun N	iesar, David Hatfield
Neil Getz	Writers
Barry Kaufman	.Food
Jo Ellis	.Calendar
Theresa Nelson	.Neighborhood Merchant
Chris Ahlstrand, Ken Ellis	,
Lydia Gans	.Photography
Lauri Scharber	.Advertising
Susan Montauk	.Business Manager
Don Kinkead	.Graphics & Layout
RCPC Board of Direct	ctors, 2002-2003
Glen Tripp	.Chair
Dan Ferdelman	.Vice-Chair
Deborah Larson	Secretary

Deborah Larson	Secretary
Sally Fitzhugh	Treasurer
David Hatfield Susan	Montauk Theresa Ne

David Hattield, Susan Montauk, Theresa Nelson, Eric Neville, Jacqueline Tasch, Chad Thompson, Michael Whitfield

NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTIONS

Annual subscriptions to **The Rockridge News** can be obtained by sending a check for \$18, payable to *Rockridge News* Subscriptions to: *Rockridge News* Subscriptions at the address below.

Articles published in *The Rockridge News* may be reprinted only with the permission of the Editor.

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?
- Would you like to volunteer to be a Rockridge News block captain?

Contact us at one of the following addresses or telephone numbers:

Editor: jatasch@mindspring.com www.rockridge.org The Rockridge News, 5245 College Avenue, PMB 311, Oakland, CA 94618 RCPC Voicemail: 644-4228

Newsletter Advertising/Deadlines

Publication date of the next issue is April 5, 2003;

April deadline is March 20.

Advertising rates are \$22/column inch. Six-month pre-pay rate available. To advertise, call Lauri Scharber at 655-2196. (RCPC reserves the right to refuse any display or classified ad that it deems inappropriate.)

March 8, 2003

FROGpark Coordinator Bids Farewell to Her Legacy

When her son Gaelen was two years old, Eileen Fitz-Faulkner began looking around for neighborhood playgrounds, similar to those she remembered fondly from her own childhood.

"I saw so many playgrounds being torn down because they didn't meet current standards," she says. "The same kind of playground was going up everywhere: all tubular metal structures in primary colors. I really felt passionate about children being challenged by different structures in different places, having something unique to where they live."

Living in Rockridge, Eileen soon became aware of a groundswell of interest in neighborhood playgrounds, with Theresa Nelson and Steve Costa among its early prime movers. After attending a couple of meetings, she recognized that hers was the loudest voice supporting a playground that would make an individual statement.

Eileen hesitated. "I didn't feel qualified," she says, and she was also pregnant. "Still, I was the best that was going to happen as far as I could see." She looked at Steve and Theresa: "If you stick with me to help handle city politics, I will be the co-ordinator to build the playgrounds." It took years for the Friends of the Rockridge-Temescal Greenbelt (FROG) to find the space, make the plans, win the approvals, and get the playgrounds built at Hardy Park and Redondo Park, and all that while Eileen was at the center of the action. She helped to raise money and form a steering committee; she made sure people were in place to watch kids, cook food, collect tools-"to organize all the various aspects of this community park build."

Making sure that the playgrounds had that unique stamp was the center of her

FROGpark development volunteer Eileen Fitz-Faulkner says "So long" to an attentive park denizen. PHOTO: LYDIA GANS



concerns. During a design day, students at eight local schools told planners and parents what they wanted in a playground.

A lot of the kids' pictures featured treehouses: There's a nice big treehouse at Hardy Park. One little girl suggested building a turtle sandbox for small children, and that's why the park's centerpiece is not shaped like a frog (if you were among the many who wonder). Local history also played a part at Redondo Park, with a hut reminding visitors of local Native Americans, and a ship recalling the Spanish adventurers who were the first Europeans in the area.

About 1,500 people joined in the milestone event when the community turned out to build FROGpark in the Fall of 2001.

SEE "EILEEN," PAGE 6

FROG Seeks New Steering Committee Members

by Sally Fitzhugh

Do you love the FROGpark playgrounds? Are you amazed that volunteers could create such unique community assets? Looking for a way to give a little back to your community in a fun, social, family-oriented way? We have a spot for you!

At Friends of the Rockridge-Temescal Greenbelt (FROG), we need new volunteers to lead us through the next phase of development. The FROG Steering Committee coordinates the spring and fall Frogpark playground maintenance days. We also provide input on the continued development at the park, making sure that the ideas and concerns of local families are in the forefront. To get this done, we meet about four times per year and split up the various roles described in the accompanying coupon. We hope you'll join us.

For more information, please call Sally at 653-6430, log onto http://www.frogpark.org, or complete

SEE "FROG SEEKS," PAGE 6





Grant

from page I

dozens of low-income and needy Oakland residents who have dinner at the College Avenue Presbyterian Church.

In its first-ever community service grant to schools, the Rockridge Community Planning Council is providing \$1,000 to support this program, which began January 10 and will continue into the next school year. Principal Jennifer Bloom led a delegation of parents and kids to accept the grant from RCPC's Susan Montauk and Deborah Larson at the February General Meeting.

The church serves dinner to the needy every Friday evening at 6 and also rents space to NOCCS, so connecting the two programs was natural. When Bloom first approached Pastor Bill Beatty about having NOCCS sponsor some of the dinners, she was thinking of it as a "service learning" project: providing the children an opportunity to learn civic responsibility. It quickly became a community building effort as well. After sitting side by side over dinner with homeless people and others struggling to make ends meet, Bloom says, "we don't wear blinders any more—we know we're all part of the same community."

School Budget

from page I

students it can handle, and administrators are developing a new academy format that would establish schools within the school on themes such as international studies and math/science.

At Arts Far West, teacher Bill Compton says, "I haven't seen a roll of paper towels since September." The school also faces the challenge of restructuring from the only K through 12 school in the district to a 6 through 12 beginning in September. However, there's a promising new alliance with the California College of Arts and Crafts, which has never had an art education program but sees Arts Far West as "a natural laboratory."

North Oakland Community Charter School is developing its program using facilities at College Avenue Presbyterian Church, with support from "mandatory parent involvement" and a variety of outside grants, including one from RCPC (see Charter School, page 1).

Chabot School is a champion at fundraising, with \$100,000 from a recent auction

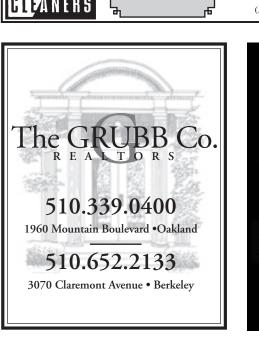
\$5 FREE DRYCLEANING with garment orders over \$28 or \$3 OFF orders over \$15 Dry Cleaning only
Present with incoming order going to support enrichment programs. Enrollment now tops 400—and the PTA supports the TP (toilet paper) fund.

Peralta Elementary School's Parent Teacher Group has links with the broader Lower Rockridge Parents Group to build neighborhood support. Besides experienced teachers, a resident artist and a variety of music and science learning projects are available to students.

These programs support School Board Member Kerry Hamill's notion that the district is making good progress on teaching and learning, despite its financial difficulties. She brought to the meeting a proposal for cuts that would focus on central administration and districtwide reductions outside the core of classroom services.

"The kids deserve to get the educational funds, whatever happened at the top to cause this crisis," she says. Instead of waiting for state leaders to swoop down with a laundry list of budget cuts, she said, voters need to "tell the state what we want for our kids."





EXPERT

SHIRT

LAUNDERING!

5808 College Ave., Oakland 601-1188 Mon-Fri 7-7 • Sat 8-6 (Across from Albertson's & Zachary's Pizza)

Garden Cleaners

CHRISTENSEN HELLER GALLERY

Voted 2001 Top 100 Retailers of American Crafts in the United States

exceptional american crafts fine custom & designer jewelry fine art repairs and appraisals

tue - sat 11 - 6 sundays 12 - 5

5831 college avenue oakland ca 94618 510.655.5952 www.christensenheller.com



PHOTO: DON KINKEAD A cloudy sky frames the Rockridge Branch Library on College Avenue.

Oakland's Budget Issues Plague Rockridge Branch

Thanks to an outcry from Oakland readers in February, the city backed away from closing branches and cutting back hours to make up for its budget deficit. The community let it be known that it opposed "a draconian approach to cutting services," says Rockridge librarian Gay Ducey. "That was important information for the city to hear."

Gay, nevertheless, puts a couple of restraints on her enthusiasm. First, while the Rockridge branch is suffering no cuts—and was never under threat of closure or reduced hours—it will be affected by the substantial cuts imposed on the main library, which lost 11.5 full-time positions and 4 systemwide positions, one of them the part-time volunteers coordinator. "I like to

Friends of the Rockridge Library Opens Annual Contribution Drive

by Marilyn Citron, Chair, Friends of the Rockridge Library

Friends of the Rockridge Library (FORL) begins its annual contribution drive in the midst of a city budget crisis that will affect libraries. Even more than usual, our library needs to make new Friends. Your contribution will ensure that the Rockridge branch continues to thrive.

FORL is a nonprofit neighborhood resource that provides funds for book acquisitions and other library-related materials not covered by the City of Oakland Library budget. In 2002, FORL funded a number of subscriptions including the (daily) New York Times, the Los Angeles Times and Value Line. FORL also purchased music CDs and CD security boxes for the library collection. For 2003 we expect to provide magazine and newspaper subscriptions, as well as audiovisual materials for the children's, teen and adult collections.

We thank all who gave monetary gifts to FORL during 2002 and encourage your continued support. Don't forget our library cart. Book donations are greatly appreciated, and money collected from their sale also helps to supplement the library's budget.

Our annual FORL meeting and election will be part of the RCPC General Meeting on Thursday, April 24, at 7:30 p.m. in the Rockridge Library. All current directors are running for reelection. If you are interested in joining the board, please contact me at mbcitron@yahoo.com. We look forward to seeing you.

 	Friends of the Rockridge LIBRARY Friends of the Rockridge library (FORL) is a non-profit neighborhood resource operating to provide funds for book acquisitions and other library-related materials not covered by the City of Oakland Library budget. Become a FRIEND today!		
T	Name: Address		
_	C/S/Ze-mail:		
	nclosed is my check for:		
ī	□ Student or Senior: \$10 □ Individual: \$20 □ Family: \$25		
-	Business: \$50 I would like to make a special contribution: \$		
	Please make checks payable to F.O.R.L. and mail to:		
I	Friends of the Rockridge Library, 5245 College Avenue, #311, Oakland, CA 94618 Thank You.		

"Library Money," page 10 🛛 -

The Kitchen Takes Shape for Fall RCPC Kitchen Tour

by Natalie Mehta

Rockridge

Kitchens

While the winter rains have had many Rockridge residents checking for roof leaks and cleaning gutters, others are busy with more aesthetic pursuits. Paul Weinstein and Deborah Larson are continuing work on a

kitchen renovation that includes new cabinetry, counters, appliances, flooring, lighting, and wall finishes.

The couple has spent many hours planning, painting, and hanging cabinet doors, as pictured at right, and look forward to completing the renovation in time for the fall Rockridge Kitchen Tour.

When asked about progress on their kitchen, Deborah tells us she "had a dinner party for 12 people the other night—so I'd say it's definitely a working, if not yet beautiful, kitchen."

The planning committee thanks those who have responded to our call for potential kitchens, as we continue to search for outstanding kitchens for our 2003 Tour. If you or someone you know has a "special" kitchen, please contact Susan Montauk at 547-3855.



Rockridge BART Station Serves as a Peace Parade Jumping Off Point

Pictured here are just two of the hundreds of peace marchers who embarked for San Francisco from the Rockridge BART Station on Sunday, February 16. There were enough marchers from Chabot Canyon alone to hold a neighborhood association meeting on the train. At the bottom of the escalators, neighborhood teens were selling Crispy Cremes for Peace, and business was good.

PHOTO AND CAPTION: CLAIRE ISAACS WAHRHAFTIG

Eileen

from page 3

"The playgrounds would never exist without a very dedicated core group of people," says Eileen.

Though not a lifelong volunteer, Eileen was drawn to this project by her passionate interest in playgrounds. In the process, she learned something about community involvement. First, she says, "you don't have to do or know everything—just taking on a little piece moves the project along greatly." She also found that there were rewards: "Being in a project in your neighborhood, you get to meet so many people," she says. "Everywhere I went, stores, restaurants, I knew people and they knew me. It made Rockridge seem like such a small town you're not anonymous any more."

Recently, Eileen and her family—including the son, Soren, she was carrying when the FROGpark project began—moved to Orinda, where they could have a house with plenty of running room for two growing boys.

"I might have moved away, but that park is always going to be there, a treasure for the community," she says. "I've left it in a lot of loving hands."



FROG Seeks, from page 3

and return the form below today.

🗆 — — — 🚽 Frogpark Stee	ring Committee 🔽 — — — ¬			
Yes: I would like to join the FROG Steering Committee				
My areas of interest include:				
 Officer (President, Treasurer, Secretary) Public Relations Website Management Representative to the FROGpark Phase II Steering Committee Event Coordinator (maintenance, volunteers, food) 	 Materials & Equipment Logistics (purchase, rent, storage & tools facilitation) Team Member: Fundraising FROGpark Art Program Development Graffiti clean up Not sure yet, I'll figure that out later. 			
Name:				
Address:				
Phone:	e-mail			
Best time to reach me:				
Return to: FROG c/o RCPC 5245 C	College Ave #311, Oakland, CA 94618			

Bob & Carolyn Nelson Realtors 510-338-1345



Rockridge: Our Home and Our Focus Excellence: Our Minimum Standard



First Steps in Preventing **Rockridge** Crime

by Neil Getz

t 11:50 p.m. on the evening of December 20, 2002, Leslie left the Rockridge BART station after an extended day of work in San Francisco. Leslie and her fiancé Frank had purchased a house and moved to Rockridge just three months earlier, lured away from San Francisco by Rockridge's tree-lined streets, walkable neighborhoods, shops, markets, and ready access to freeways and BART. As Leslie headed home through the darkness of Forest Street, a man walked up behind her, put a gun to her head, and asked her to hand over her briefcase. He then knocked her to the ground and ran away without so much as a "Welcome to Rockridge."

Rockridge has a crime problem, and Frank and Leslie want to know what they can do about it. Police alone can't stop crime. Even with 100 more Oakland police officers, the chances of a beat officer seeing a robbery in progress are less than Ronald McDonald's chances of being elected President. Future articles in The Rockridge News will outline crime prevention measures oriented at specific crimes such as robbery, but here are places to start:

Form or join a Home Alert group. The Community Services Section of the Oakland Police Department (OPD) provides educational sessions and materials to Home Alert groups in Oakland. Get a group of your neighbors together, pick a date and a location, and call Community Services at 238-3066 at least two weeks in advance. OPD will make a 60- to 90-minute free presentation on what your block can do to fight crime. OPD offers 22 different Home Alert presentations covering a wide variety of crime-related subjects, from home security to protection of your block in the event of a complete breakdown of city services.

Get involved in your NCPC. Once your block determines its needs and priorities, join the Rockridge Neighborhood Watch Network, elect a block captain, and send your block captain to the monthly meeting of the 12Y & 13X Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council (NCPC)

See "Rockridge Crime," page 12

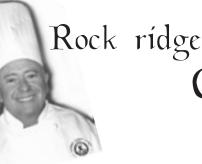
ROCKRIDGE

Rockridge Area Crimes Reported to OPD Report Period: 1/23 - 2/19/03

by Neil Getz

-nervai-	by Neil Getz
DATE DESCRIPTION	LOCATION
1/23/03 Grand Theft	
Burglary: Auto	
1/24/03 Burglary: Residential	
Burglary: Residential	
Burglary: Auto	
1/27/03 Vehicle Theft	•
Petty Theft: Shoplift	Alcatraz & Telegraph
1/28/03 Burglary: Auto	Manchester (Acacia - Ocean View)
Burglary: Auto	50 St. & Lawton
1/29/03 Petty Theft w/Prior for Theft/Burgl	ary/Robbery B'way (Coronado - 51 St.)
Petty Theft: Shoplift	B'way (Coronado - 51 St.)
1/29/03 Burglary: Auto	
1/30/03 Grand Theft	
Burglary: Auto	
Burglary: Auto	
1/31/03 Burglary: Auto	
Attempted Auto Theft	-
Burglary: Residential	
2/1/03 Burglary: Residential	
2/2/03 Petty Theft: Shoplift	
2/3/03 Burglary: Auto	
2/4/03 Personate to Get Money/Property	
Burglary: Residential	
Burglary: Residential	
2/5/03 Vehicle Theft	-
Burglary: Residential Grand Theft	
Burglary: Auto	
2/6/03 Theft: Personal Property	
2/7/03 Burglary: Residential	
Vehicle Theft	
2/8/03 Vehicle Theft	
Petty Theft: Shoplift	-
2/9/03 Burglary: Residential	
	ary/Robbery B'way (Coronado - 51 St.)
2/10/03 Vehicle Theft	
2/11/03 Vehicle Theft	
2/12/03 Petty Theft: Shoplift	51 St & B'way
2/14/03 Burglary: Residential	B'way & Virmar
Attempted Burglary: Residential	
2/15/03 Vehicle Theft	63 St. (Dana – Colby)
2/16/03 Attempted Burglary: Auto	Manila & Glendale
2/17/03 Burglary: Residential	
Vehicle Theft	
2/18/03 Robbery	
Petty Theft: Shoplift	
Attempted Burglary: Auto	
2/19/03 Burglary: Residential	
Burglary: Commercial	
Burglary: Residential	
Vehicle Theft	
Vehicle Theft	
	[Over \$400] 62 St. (Hillegass - Colby)
2/20/03 Petty Theft: Shoplift	Conege & 03 St.

Dial 911 to report crimes and suspicious actity in progress. (Cell phone users in Oakland, call 777-3211 for 911 service.) Remember: If you don't report it, it didn't happen.



Salmon is King

Grilled, poached, baked, sautéed, steamed, cured, smoked, or stuffed. Eaten raw, shaped in croquettes, cooked in parchment, grape leaves and corn husks. Salmon is king. Once a seasonal food, salmon is now available all year long thanks to aquaculture or "ocean ranching." On any given day, most supermarkets or fish markets are likely to offer some sort of salmon, and nearly every California "nouvelle cuisine" restaurant has salmon on the menu.

Salmon are anadromous, which means their life cycle includes phases in both fresh and salt water. Eggs are laid on a gravelly river bed, and depending on the species, immature fish can spend anywhere from a few weeks to two years in fresh water. Then, salmon migrate to the ocean where they grow to sexual maturity. After one to four years in the ocean, they return to the river of their birth to spawn and complete the cycle. How they do this—and without the Auto Club or online mapmakers—is still a mystery.

There is nothing quite so impressive as

Cornucopía

Barry A. Kaufman

a whole roasted, poached, or grilled salmon for feeding a large crowd. Rockridge's own **Ver Brugge** prepares a magnificent whole poached salmon presented on a bed of dill and sliced lemons. But every serious backyard griller who wants to impress a crowd should know how to barbecue a whole salmon.

Here's my approach. Cut five deep parallel slashes to the bone on each side of the fish. Place a slice of lemon and a sprig of dill in each slash. Stuff the cavity with very thin slices of onion and more dill sprigs. Pour melted butter and white wine over the fish and loosely wrap in heavy aluminum foil. Place on a hot grill and cook using the 10 minutes per inch of thickness rule, a 7 to 9-pound salmon should take about 20 minutes. This approach combines the best qualities of steaming and grilling.

Several species of salmon, caught in the wild or raised on fish farms, are commonly found in our local Rockridge markets. **Chinook or king salmon** is the rarest and therefore the most expensive, but it has the best flavor and highest fat content. Chinook is great for grilling, broiling and other dryheat cooking methods, but it's also delicious

Saraya Motley			If you are buying or selling in Rockridge look to your Complete Real Estate Resource- Saraya Motley (510)280-2162	
2003 Sales in Rockridge off to a good start:				
Address	Bed/Ba	List Price	Selling Price	Close Date
5304 Manila	1/1	\$399,000	\$462,000	02/26/03
5334 Broadway	3/1	\$489,000	\$541,000	02/14/03
5952 Howell	2/1	\$425,000	\$495,000	02/09/03
468 Hudson	4/2	\$645,000	\$595,000	01/09/03
6107 Colby	4/3	\$925,000	\$925,000	01/09/03
Rockridge Sales volume is down 66% (4 homes sold in January & February of 2003 vs. 9 in 2002). This decrease in supply vs. the demand drives the prices up.				

If you are thinking of buying or selling call me for a free consultation.

Red Oak Realty 2983 College Avenue • Berkeley, CA 94705 poached or baked. Although officially an endangered species, **Coho or silver salmon** is often available in the summer and is ideal for baking. **Sockeye** salmon usually comes canned. If you can get it fresh, grab it. No other variety packs as much flavor. With a deep red-orange color, sockeye is ideal for making cold cured gravlox or smoked salmon. Fresh king, coho and sockeye are expensive. However **chum and pink salmon** make good eating at a much lower price. You can pick up a whole chum or pink salmon for about a dollar a pound.

I use pink or chum to make pickled salmon. Considered a delicacy among eastern European Jews, pickled salmon is similar to Mexican ceviche. Chunks of salmon are cured for about a week in a brine of pickling spices and white-wine vinegar. I love having it in the refrigerator as a snack with a glass of white wine or a shot of ice-cold vodka.

The following simple but crowd-pleasing recipe — grilled salmon wrapped in grape leaves—is adapted from a standard menu item at Joyce Goldstein's Square One restaurant in San Francisco. Grape leaves packed in brine are available in our local markets.

Grilled Salmon Wrapped In Grape Leaves

Ingredients

6 salmon fillets (4-6 ounces) skinned 12 large grape leaves rinsed and patted dry Olive oil, lemon juice Freshly ground pepper Toasted pine nuts Golden raisins plumped in hot water

Directions

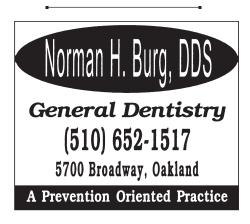
- 1. Wrap each salmon fillet around the middle with two grape leaves (stem side facing the fillets). Don't look for perfection. The grape leaves will stick to the salmon pretty well.
- 2. Brush the wrapped salmon with olive oil and lemon juice, then sprinkle lightly with ground pepper.
- 3. Place on hot grill or broil 3-4 minutes each side. The grape leaves will get very crisp.
- 4. Place the fish on plates and sprinkle with pine nuts and raisins.
- Serve with cous-cous and sautéed spinach.

Barry Kaufman is a graduate of the California Culinary Academy. His e-mail is kaufman42@earthlink.net. Barry is available for private cooking classes and fundraising events.

Rockridge 2003: Ourselves Through The Camera

The 3rd annual Rockridge photo exhibit is planned for September-October, the specific date to be announced. Everyone is welcome to join in. There is no age limit. All we ask is a keen eye and a passion for taking pictures. The rest will surely follow.

For more information, call Ortrun Niesar 510/652-6664 or Lydia Gans 510/ 658-4445.





RCPC Election

from page I

and volunteer coordination needed to create these gems. Current projects include an effort to improve College Avenue under the BART station, an annual \$1,000 grant to neighborhood schools to further develop community service projects, and opposition to the Highway 24 Fourth Bore project.

The Rockridge News

Published since March 1986, this monthly newsletter is hand-delivered to 4,500 homes and 200 businesses in Rockridge and serves as the primary vehicle for neighborhood communication. Volunteers and professionals lend their skills in the production of this award-winning publication.

General Meetings

These public meetings are held the third Thursday of the month at the Rockridge Library. Speakers have included Oakland Schools Superintendent Chaconas, City Attorney Russo and Mayor Jerry Brown.

Rockridge Kitchen Tour

This biennial fundraiser for RCPC has become a favorite Bay Area event. The 2001 tour drew a crowd of over 900 visitors to the nine elegantly redesigned residential kitchens.

Candidates must be 18 years of age and live within RCPC boundaries. They must indicate their intention to run for office by March 20 by sending us a 125-word statement and photo, which will be published in the April issue of *The Rockridge News*. Candidates will speak briefly at the April 24 General Meeting, where voting will also take place. Mail statements with photos to: RCPC, 5245 College Avenue PMB 311, Oakland, CA 94618. For further information, visit RCPC's website, http://www.rockridge.org or leave us a message at 510/644-4228.



RCPC 2002

Financial Statement

Financial Statement			
	(Cash Basis)		
RCPC General Fund			
Income			
Interest Income	\$ 346		
Fundraising	231		
Rockridge News	35,727		
Total Income	\$ 36,304		
Expenses			
Insurance & Sales Tax	\$ I,578		
Office Expenses	1,526		
Legal and Accounting	1,160		
Kitchen Tour &			
Other Committee Activity	430		
Rockridge News	29,788		
Total Expenses	\$ 34,483		
Friends of Rockridge Library	(FORL)		
Income	、		
Interest Income	\$ 926		
Book/Card Sales	2,923		
Dues & Donations	8,175		
Total Income	\$ 12,024		
Expenses	Ψ 12,021		
Sales Tax	\$ 118		
Office Expenses	316		
Gifts to Library	6,306		
,	\$ 6,740		
Total Expenses	-		
Friends of Rockridge Greenbe	eit (FROG)		
Income	¢ 10		
Interest Income	\$ 18		
Fundraising (tiles, penny drive,	etc.) 574		
Corporate & Individual Donatio	ns(1) 28,800		
Total Income	\$ 29,392		
Expenses			
Insurance & Sales Tax	\$ 2,454		
Office Expenses	800		
Playground Build	29,105		
Playground Maintenance	3,089		
Contributions to Greenbelt	11,291		
Total Expenses	\$ 46,739		
Whistlestop Account			
No activity in 2002			
Assets			
Cash Accounts			
RCPC	\$ 8,817		
FORL	8,657		
FROG	27,118		
Whistlestop	955		
Other Assets ⁽²⁾			
RCPC CDs	20,310		
FORL CDs	55,209		
FROG/Phase II Restricted Gift			
Total Assets	\$ 144,099		
Liabilities	\$ -		
	•		

excludes public funds pledged from Councilmember Jane Brunner's Paygo Account for capital improvements to the Greenbelt.
 excludes any outstanding FROG pledges and remaining wood inventory.

RCPC tax records are on file at the Rockridge library for public review.

10. Library Money

from page 5

think of the Oakland Public Library as one library with a number of different service points," Gay says. By that reasoning, the Rockridge branch "is profoundly affected, however subtly."

More important, this round of cuts only covers the budget through June 30. "It means nothing more than that we've got a breather," Gay says. New budgets are already being prepared for the year beginning July 1, and a deficit is almost certain.

The Rockridge branch faces the cutbacks with funds for materials and supplies already frozen. While it's fully staffed at the level of library assistants and library aides, Rockridge has lacked a head librarian for years, and the reference librarian recently moved on, leaving that position vacant, too.

Temescal Branch Breathing Easier, Too

The Temescal Branch Library was one of seven slated for temporary closure under the original plan for library budget cuts. Temescal manager Sally Bean says she credits the community's support for keeping the branch open, as well as Councilmember Jane Brunner's highly productive Community Advisory Meeting on library problems February 1. Temescal has Oakland's first Tool Lending Library, as well as a collection of books written in both the Amharic and Tigrinya languages, established by a previous manager because of the many patrons from Ethiopia and Eritrea.

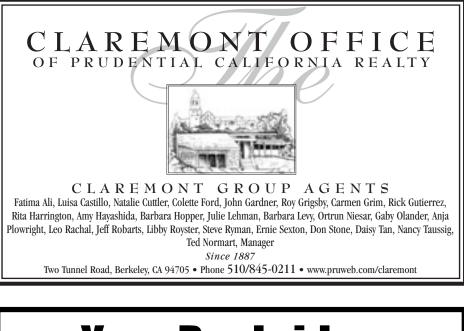


<u>RöckridgeNews</u>

As a result, Gay, who has been with the Rockridge library since it occupied the space now used by Jucy's on the north side of the BART station, is the acting library chief and shares the children's librarian role—all in three days a week. "I'm always astonished at how librarians make do," she says. "We are a helpful bunch." They're also "really tired folks."

Although her work is stressful, Gay has "never gotten over the romance of libraries" or her love for the Rockridge branch. With more than 1,000 visitors on a recent Saturday, Rockridge is always near the top of the branches in terms of traffic and lending volume.

During the school year, kids from the Claremont Middle School are regular visitors, along with young families and their kids, people with disabilities, the computerless looking for Web access, and a "robust group of older readers," including a Chinese couple, one using a walker, who show up regularly to read the Chinese news on the computer. "If a librarian could construct an ideal library in terms of professional satisfaction," Gay says. "It would be hard to imagine one better drawn than Rockridge."



Your Rockridge Mortgage Expert!

- Low Interest Refinance Loans
- No Points, No Fees Options Available
- No-And-Low Downpayment Purchase Loans



Garrick Werdmuller Mortgage Loan Specialist 510.814-4702

Real Estate Broker, California Department of Real Estate License # 00930036, (916)227-0931

ROCKRIDGE ZONING COUNTER

2616 WOOLSEY STREET

(3100 Benvenue Avenue, City of Berkeley) (APN 016-1411-006-00) (10/10/02)

Proposal: To extend an existing garage 3'-0" to align with the southern wall of the existing residential building.

Applicant: Oso Koenigshofer

Owner: Barbara Knecht

Planning Permits Required: Minor Variance to build within the required side yard setback (7'-6" minimum required; 0'-0" proposed); Regular Design Review for exterior residential alterations

Historic Status: Potential Designated Historic Property (PDHP); Survey rating: B-1+ Case Planner: Pete Vollmann at 238-6167 or pvollman@oaklandnet.com

5410-5418 COLLEGE AVENUE

Proposal: To renovate the existing building to accommodate three new commercial spaces. The building now contains a manufacturing use.

Applicant: Kava Masih

Owner: Paul Boero

Planning Permits Required: Regular Design Review for exterior alterations in the C-31 Zone

Case Planner: Pete Vollmann at 238-6167 or pvollman@oaklandnet.com

5490 KALES AVENUE

Proposal: To construct a 53 square-foot, second-story addition to a single family dwelling.

Applicant: Jason Kaldis

Owner: Jodi Schiller and Benjamin Douglas

Planning Permits Required: Mediated Design Review for a second-story residential addition in the S-18 Zone

Historic Status: Potential Designated Historic Property (PDHP); Survey rating: Dc2+

Case Planner: Leigh McCullen at 238-4977 or Imccullen@oaklandnet.com

5040 GOLDEN GATE AVENUE

Proposal: To construct a new carport within the side yard setback.

Applicant/Owner: Diane & Wayne Diamond

Planning Permits Required: Special Residential Design Review for residential alterations; Minor Variance to building within the required side yard setback (5'-0" minimum required; 0" proposed)

Case Planner: Jason Madani at 238-4790 or jsmadani@oaklandnet.com







Photo (FILE): CLAIRE ISAACS CarShare puts you in the driver's seat.

City CarShare Membership Gets Rolling

It's been nearly a year since the first green Beetle appeared on College Avenue, parked outside Zachary's Pizza waiting for City CarShare members to come take it for a ride. About six months ago, the Beetle's twin and their cousin, a silver Jetta wagon, took up residence at the BART station, also waiting for riders.

They have not been disappointed. According to a report prepared for City CarShare in January, the three cars spend about 180 hours a month giving rides to CarShare participants. To join CarShare, members pay a deposit and application fee, as well as modest monthly fees and per/hour, per/mile charges when they use a vehicle.

In the year since City CarShare moved across the bridge from San Francisco, about 200 Oakland members have signed on, including 20 families or groups of friends and 7 Oakland businesses.

Daryl C. Norcott, East Bay director of City CarShare, hopes the cars will become "part of the fabric of the neighborhood," available for residents who occasionally need a ride for errands, shopping, or excursions to neighboring parks and recreation areas.

The cars are also an attraction to outsiders, who can BART to the Rockridge station and then take a car to nearby destinations. "We feel strongly that CarShare works when it's near transit and it's easy for people to get to the cars," says Norcott. "Once you're a member, you just make a reservation on the website or on the phone, go to the car, and then you're off."

Other City CarShare vehicles are located throughout Oakland and Berkeley, and two new locations will open on campus at UC Berkeley. For more information, call 510/352-0232 or check the website: http://www.citycarshare.org

Rockridge Crime

from page 7

12.

(see http://www.rockridge.org/NCPC). The purpose of the NCPC is to represent the needs and priorities of citizens in Community Beats 12Y and 13X (including all of Rockridge) to the OPD. Yeda Altes, Community Services Coordinator for OPD, also attends the meetings.

K now your neighbors. You don't have to subscribe to the Home Alert/NCPC system to make your neighborhood safer. Have a block party. Invite your neighbors to dinner. Make a neighborhood directory and a neighborhood e-mail list. Good neighbors talk to each other and watch out for each other — that's what makes them good neighbors. Tell your neighbors when you will be out of town. If a neighbor stays at home during the day, tell that person the hours your house will be empty. If you know who your neighbors are, you will also know



<u>RöckridgeNews</u>

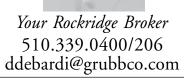
Report suspicious persons and activity.

Strangers hanging out on your block on foot or in a car for no apparent purpose qualify as suspicious individuals, as do recycling thieves and door-to-door solicitors without city permits. OPD cannot stop and question such people without probable cause, but a telephone call from a resident stating that persons or activities are suspicious provides OPD with sufficient probable cause. Innocent people and private detectives will be only mildly inconvenienced. People with drug paraphernalia, weapons, burglary tools, and/or outstanding warrants will be severely inconvenienced, and your neighborhood will be safer as a result.

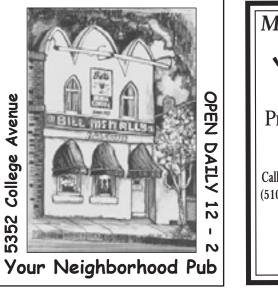
A safer Rockridge starts with organized residents taking responsibility for their own safety.

The GRUBB CO

Donna DeBardi









Making a New Turn

Purning the corner of College Avenue at Broadway, you'll come upon U-Turn, a recycled clothing store for women, men and children with an enormous selection and amazingly low prices. Their "one-of-a-kind treasures and finds" are truly affordable and appeal to a wide variety of tastes.

Althea Norwood, the charming and friendly manager of the store, noted that the low prices and great quality are big attractions. "When you shop here," she told me, "you can spend \$40 and leave with two bags of clothes," instead of the one top that you might get somewhere else. The store's "\$2 Tuesdays" have been extremely popular. Each Tuesday, all items of one type (jeans, dresses, etc.) are on sale for \$2 each. And one Tuesday a month, everything - yes, everything — in the store is priced at only \$2. Brand names like Gap and Banana Republic are included.

While U-Turn gets all its clothing from donations, staffers select the best for their store and pass items they do not use to other organizations; they also receive clothing from the Buffalo Exchange. The store's mix is constantly changing, but it's always seasonally appropriate. If you'd like to donate, just call to set up a time to bring in your items.

When I visited in mid-February, an Eddie Bauer poly vest in perfect condition was \$5, and a Liz Claiborne dress \$8. If you're flexible, you can easily find a stylish, affordable jacket, dress, pants, top, shoes or accessories for men, women or children at U-Turn.

"People now come from all over the East Bay, because they know we have a wonderful selection of clothing at excellent value," said Althea. While I was there, I noted the



THE NEIGHBORHOOD MERCHANT BY THERESA NELSON

U–Turn **One-of-a-Kind Treasures and Finds**



Althea Norwood, Zina Vigay, Nora Merz and Joelle Wright are ready to help you make the U-Turn.

variety of people shopping: active young mothers with children, creative 20-something students, stylish women in their 40s and 50s, and a dapper older man.

But the clothes are just part of the story. Joelle Wright, a friendly CCAC student who works at the store, said, "One of our goals is to involve the arts in this space, to make it a place for the community to visit and shop, to invite in friends and family to celebrate the arts and a variety of expressions of creativity. One of the great things about working here is the real integrity U-Turn has about giving great prices for clothes, so everyone can afford to be a part of this."

The store's pale green walls, purple ceiling and fascinating music mix make this a bit different from other recycled clothing stores. A small stage at the rear has been used for music presentations, and poetry





PHOTO: LYDIA GANS

readings are planned. Receptions for artists whose work is displayed in the store are held every few months when new works are mounted. One wall is devoted to exhibiting works by CCAC students: the current exhibit features Japanese anime-style illustrations by Igo. Through mid-March, the store is hosting an exhibit of colorful molas from the Kuna Yala people of Panama. These are textiles, embroidered and appliquèd with colorful, almost fluorescent designs on

black backgrounds. The store also offers handmade T-shirts with the same exotic embroidery as the artwork, as well as wallets and greeting cards in the same style.

U-Turn is owned by Harbor House Ministries of Oakland, a grassroots, interdenominational and multi-ethnic outreach organization, which has served the Fruitvale and San Antonio districts of Oakland since 1972 (http://www.hhministries.org). U-Turn is one of their economic development programs, offering local youth training and employment in retail while they complete their educations. All the youth (high school and college) working at U-Turn come to the store via involvement with various Harbor House programs for leadership, educational and economic development.

In April, U-Turn will celebrate its first anniversary with a fashion show and party at the store. Be sure to stop by for details, and plan on taking some time to find your own treasures.

U-Turn 5251 Broadway, Oakland Phone 654-8887, Fax 594-2487 Open Tuesday — Saturday, 11 a.m. — 6 p.m.



I'm a 30 year Rockridge resident who lost 25lb

with this incredible program, eating delicious

snacks and healthy meals all day long! The lifetime maintenance component means I've gained no weight back for $1\frac{1}{2}$ years now! Previously

available only in doctors' offices, now I am able

to offer it to you in your own home! Nancy

655-4345. nancybill@mindspring.com

Are you frustrated with your Macintosh?

Want to do more with your computer but

don't know how? Apple alumna is available

for house and office calls: advice, training,

I FREE SESSION with purchase of package.

CLASSES: Pilates MAT, Pilates Group Reformer,

NIA[®], Yoga & Yamuna[®] Body Rolling. First

Class Free. Workshops & Teacher Training

Certifications. Mind-Body Connection, 5255

College Ave., 510/420-0440 (www.mindbod

and solutions. Rachel 658-7691.

Pilates or Gyrotonic[®]

MAC Help!

yconnection.net)

Natural Weight Loss



Your Message Could Be Here

Your 36-word message: \$18 (phone number counts as one word). Mail to: **RN Classifieds**, 5245 College Avenue, PMB 311, Oakland, CA 94618. April deadline is March 20.

Jazz and Classical Piano Lessons

Rockridge jazz pianist with UC Berkeley music B.A. offers lessons in jazz, blues, classical, music theory, ear-training, technique. Experienced, patient teacher, all ages/levels. Janet 653-6783.

Home Repair Expert

Carpentry, remodeling. Doors and windows, glass and locks, small electrical, plumbing jobs, drywall, painting, fences, decks and other odd jobs. Good rates. Ric M 510/464-5934

Your Local Fiduciary

Successor Trustee, Executor, Conservator of the estate, 55 or VA payee. Trustworthy, knowledgeable, I can do it all or provide crucial help. Elizabeth Callaway Trust Services. 530-1720.

Tahoe Condo for Rent

Our lovely 3br/2+ba condo in Incline Village is available for rent! Sleeps eight, is fully equipped! Close to everything! Call 652-6664 for more information.

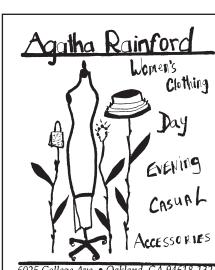
New "kid" on the block



∞Lot of Energy ∞Lot of Enthusiasm

∞And, Everything Else ∞Write to me for my Free Listing Watch Info

Vinita Gokhale vinita.gokhale@pruweb.com V.M. 510-466-5277



6025 College Ave. • Oakland, CA 94618-132. (510) 595-0837

You may live 30 years past retirement.

Get a plan.



Rockridge Resident Leila S. Gough leila.gough@agedwards.com 1999 Harrison Street, #2050 Oakland, CA 94612

Member SIPC • 2003 A.G. Edwards & Sons, Inc.

Call for a free retirement plan analysis. A.G. Edwards INVESTMENTS SINCE 1887





California Realty

"SHOULD YOU SAVE FOR YOUR KID'S COLLEGE OR FOR YOUR RETIREMENT? OR BOTH?"

ANNUITIES, MUTUAL FUNDS, LIFE INSURANCE AND A PLAN.

Susan Bernosky Antho 510 450 9050 510 4

Anthony Rutz 510 450 9050

Allstate Financial is the marketing name for Allstate Life Insurance Company (Northbrook, IL), its subsidiaries and certain affiliates. Securities offered through Allstate Financial Services, LLC. (LSA Securities in LA, and PA). Registered Broker-Dealer. Member NASD, SIPC. Office of Supervisory Juridiction. 2290 South 8H Street, Lincoln, NE 68506 877-525-5727. © 2002 Allstate Insurance Company allstate.com



Check Your...

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

E-mail Rockridge News Community Calendar items to: joellis1@hotmail.com, phone 653-3210, or mail to: Rockridge News Community Calendar, 5245 College Avenue, PMB 311, Oakland, CA 94618. Deadline is the next to the last Tuesday of the month.

District 1 Councilmember Jane Brunner's Monthly Community Advisory Meeting

First Saturday each month, 10am to noon, Peralta Elementary School: 460 63rd St. (parking on Alcatraz Ave., just east of Telegraph). More inf. and April 1 meeting topic: 238-7001 or www.oaklandnet.com.

Oakland City Council Meeting

Every Tuesday, 7pm, City Hall

Oakland Planning Commission

1st and 3rd Weds each month, 6:30pm, City Hall. Agendas and details at www.oaklandnet.com.

Rockridge Branch Library

5366 College Ave.

FOR CHILDREN:

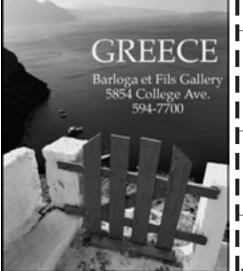
- Toddler Story Time on Saturday: 3/1, 3/8, 4/5 and 4/12 at 10:30am
- Pre-School Story Hours on Tues.: 3/4, 3/18, 4/1 and 4/15 at 10:30 and 11am
- Pajama Story Time on Wed.: 3/12, 3/26, 4/9 and 4/23 at 7pm

SPECIAL EVENTS:

- Free Book Swap for ages 5 to 15. (Date here) Set up from 3:00 to 3:30pm, swap from 3:30 to 4:40pm. Refreshments to follow. Bring books you are finished reading and swap for others. Bring a blanket or mat for display.
- Landscape drawing class for ages 10 to 18. Saturdays, March 22nd and March 29th from 1:00 to 3:00pm. Artist Alan Leon presents "Panorama Oakland," a two-session class on drawing landscapes. Call or visit for early sign-up: enrollment limited to 20 students.

FOR YOUNG ADULTS:

 Teen Advisory Council meets Thursday, March 13th, 3:30- 5:30pm. (2nd Thursday each month)



FOR ADULTS:

Lawyers in the Library: Free legal advice. First Thursday of each month from 6 to 8pm. Sign-up begins 5pm.

Library Hours: Mon. Tues. Sat. 10am to 5:30pm. Wed. Thurs. 12:30 to 8pm. Closed Fri. & Sun. For more information call 597-5017

Diesel Book/Poetry Reading and Events

5433 College Ave. All events are free and open to the public.

- Thursday, March 6, 7:30pm Dao Strom: Grass Roof, Tin Roof
- Sunday, March 9, 2pm. Manifest Press celebrates their latest journal, syllogism 5. Poetry reading, snacks and libations.
- Sunday, March 16, 2pm. Giovanni Singleton, editor: nocturnes: a local journal of contemporary authors and poets. Poetry reading, punch and cake.
- Thursday, March 20, 7:30pm Tamim Ansary: West of Kabul, East of NewYork.
- Sunday, March 23, 2pm Renee Swindle: students from her UC Extension Class, Developing the Novel, will read and discuss their works in progress.
- Thursday, April 3, 7:30pm Amelia Barofsky, editor: Regeneration: Stories from our 20s. Group reading.
- Sunday, April 6, 2pm Elizabeth Robinson, editor: Five Fingers Review. Group reading from literary journal.
- Wednesday, April 9, 7:30pm Wes "Scoop" Nisker: The Big Bang, the Buddha, and the Baby Boom: the Spiritual Experiments of My Generation. Book publication party and performance.
- Diesel Book Groups: Tues. March 11, 7:30pm Reading Anna Karenina (parts 5-8) by Tolstoy
- El Grupito Spanish Language Conversation Group. Wednesday, March 19 at 7:30pm. Drop in for a casual, friendly opportunity to improve your Spanish.

For more information: 653-9965 or www.dieselbookstore.com

Free Comedy Showcase and Open Mic

Start your career in comedy at A'Cuppa Tea, 3200 College Ave, (corner of Alcatraz). Every Tuesday, 7: 30 to 9pm. Be there by 7pm to sign up. Also: Every Saturday, 7 to 9pm: free acoustic music performance. For more information call 420-0196.

Rockridge Toastmasters

Every Tuesday, 7pm, Veterans Building, 200 Grand Ave., Oakland. Improve your public speaking skills in a friendly and supportive environment. For more information call Craig at 597-0951 or e-mail www.rockridgetoastmasters.org

College Avenue Adult Center

College Ave. Presbyterian Church, 5955 College Ave. Every Wednesday, open from 9:30am to 1:30pm. Light exercise, socializing, travel programs and music.

- Special programs 11am to noon 3/19 Kathy's slides of Ireland.
 3/26 Reading of Children's Literature
- 4/2 Charles Fitch slides of Alaska 4/9 VCR tape: Land of the Eagles
- Field Trips: 3/14 Trip to Los Gatos

Hot lunch available at noon for \$1.75. For details and inf. on upcoming field trips and events, call Kathy at 531-6724

North Oakland Multi-Purpose Senior Center

5714 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way. Hours: Monday – Friday 8:45am to 4:45pm. Following are highlights from a variety of activities:

- Saturday, March 8, 10am to noon: Free workshop for families and caregivers sponsored by the Alzheimer's Association
- Tuesday, March 11, 10:30am: Computer Class registration for spring sessions. Beginners through Internet use. Free for age 50+
- Wednesday, March 12, 2 to 6pm: Spring Dance. \$5 fundraising donation in advance at the reception desk.
- AARP Tax assistance every Tuesday until tax day.
- Craft and sewing classes
- Walking groups and field trips: Sign up in advance by March 19 for trips to Sacramento, Reno, and Yosemite.

The Newsletter, "North Oakland Senior Times" provides a full schedule of classes and a monthly lunch menu. Call 597- 5085 for membership details, class or appointment times and opportunities to become a volunteer.

Elder Care Support Group

Alta Bates Medical Center, Herrick Campus, 2001 Dwight Way, Berkeley, 3rd floor, room 3369B (take elevator B). Free for family/friends caring for older adults. 3rd Wednesday of each month, 4-5:30pm. For information on all support/ education groups offered by Alta Bates/Sutter Health: call Monica at 802-1725 or e-mail Monicalcsw@alum.calberkeley.org

Rockridge Artists Wanted

Donate your work exhibition and auction at "Sweet Inspirations: A Community Art Experience and Auction," a benefit for Elizabeth House, a residue dence for homeless and low-income women and children at 6423 Colby St. in Rockridge. We need your paintings, photographs, edible art, wearable art, quilts, crafts, handmade gifts, or give lessons in your art form. In return, you will get publicity through press coverage, exposure on our website, a tax deduction for your contribution, and the gratitude of the women and children of Elizabeth House. Deadline for submission is April 12. *The Art Auction will take place at: Holy Redeemer Center, 8945 Golf Links Road, Saturday, April 26, 1 from 7 to 10pm. For information, contact Gail Sullivan: 658-7755 or sullivang25@hotmail.com

