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# EXAMPLE AND A REPORT OF A REPO

California 94707-1037

#### **APRIL 2003**

## **Kensington Community Council**

## **VOL. 60 N° 3**

## KCC Celebration Benefits Kensington Parks and Reccreation

#### **EUGENE J. MILLSTEIN &** ASSOCIATES REAL ESTATE AND ANDRONICO'S MARKET **SPONSOR ANNUAL EVENT**

The Kensington Community Council held its 15th annual Spring Celebration party on March 23. The event, which raised \$5,000 for KCC's recreational and educational programs including the Kensington Outlook,

was generously underwritten by Eugene J. Millstein & Associates Real Estate and Andronico's Market.

Many members of the community donated goods and services to help make the event so special and successdonors included

Arlington Pharmacy, Arlington Meat Market, Ted Blanckenburg, Boadecia's Books, Alex Brown, Patty and Leo Carrousel, Joanne De Phillips, Vida Dorroh, D and H Landscaping, Betty Anne and Barrie Engel, Barbara Fracchia, Dena Fredric, Aaron Gobler, Eileen Hammons, Phillip

Haultcoeur, KCC, Elizabeth Kavaler,

Paul and Marcia Massé of Massé's Pastries, Virginia Bakery, Nation's Foodservice, Inc., Linda Lettieri, The Junket, Shai's, and Inn Kensington. publishing the Outlook, sponsors Kensington After

ful. Silent auction Betty Anne Engel, community volunteer, and Eugene J. Millstein, Realtor and Spring Party sponsor, admired the cake created for the event by Massé's Pastries of Berkeley. Photo by Clif Taylor.

mer Day Camp and classes for adults and children. The non-profit organization also improves and administers educational facilities in Kensington Park in conjunction with the KCSD. In 2002, KCC committed significant funding to the completion of the new Tot Lot in Kensington Park.

Kensington Flower and Gift Shop,

Jeremy and Barbara Adair Knight, Lisa

Ann Mazzocut, Wendy Morrison,

Nation's Foodservice, Inc., Margie

Richardson, Anne Stewart, Barbara

Tapp, Carla Van Slyke, Jim and Dorothy

John Gossard, Arlington Wine and Spir-

its, Richard and Lori Mazzera of César,

Food and beverage donors included

In addition to

School Enrich-

ment Program

(KSEP), the Sum-

KCC

the

Walker, and Ciara Wood.

## **Kensington School Honored**

At their regular meeting held on March 5, members of the board of trustees of the West Contra Costa Unified School District (WCCUSD) voted to recognize the schools that have met all of their growth targets on the California Department of Education Academic Performance Indices (API) for 2002. The California Department of Education has computed Academic Performance Indices (APIs) annually for all public schools since 1998. Kensington School was one of three

schools in the district, including Madera and Valley View, that scored at or above the rigorous statewide performance index of 800.

Over 75 percent of elementary schools in the WCCUSD improved their overall school-wide Academic Performance Index (API) numbers in the 2002 API growth reports released on December 19 by the California Department of Education. Across the district. 31 of the 48 schools, or 64 percent, posted increases in their API numbers.



TIME TO GIVE If you enjoy receiving the Outlook in the mail 10 times per year, playing catch with your child or frisbee with your dog on the grass in Kensington Park, playing a game of tennis with friends on the courts, watching your child scramble up the new play structure, sitting on a park bench watching a sunset over the bay, or knowing that Kensington's children have a safe place to learn and play after school and during the summer, then you know the work of the Kensington Community Council.

The KCC board of directors would like to thank all those who have donated to the Annual Fund Drive so far. Every donation, from \$10 to \$1,000 is important. The end of the KCC fiscal year is coming soon. If you have been meaning to send your check and have not gotten around to it yet, please do so today. By the end of February, donations to the Annual Fund Drive were \$1,500 below the \$10,000 that was budgeted. The community thanks you.



## **Officer Crain** Wins Award

At the March 13 meeting of the board of directors of the Kensington Police Protection and Community Services District (KCSD), General Manager Barry Garfield announced that Officer Shelly Crain had been selected as KPD's Officer of the Year. Kensington participates in the Albany-El Cerrito Exchange Club's Officer of the Year program. Each year each participating community's police department nominates one officer to receive the award. "It says a lot about an officer's abilities and work ethic to be chosen for this honor after only three years," said Garfield. Officer Crain joined KPD in April 2000. She has been very involved in crime prevention and public education programs. Garfield reported on district actions that had been taken since the last meeting, including the repairs made to a fence around the Tot Lot structure. He also stated that he had received a bid of \$3,470 for labor and materials to complete the needed repairs to the amphitheater behind the Community Center building. Due to concerns over safety, he requested the authorization to spend the money to make the repairs as soon as possible. Board members voted to revise the budget to include the expenditure.

## **KPOA Annual** Meeting

#### **Public Works and Zoning Ordinance** to be Discussed

Gail Feldman, president of the Kensington Property Owners Association (KPOA) has announced that the group will hold its annual meeting on Thursday evening, May 29. Although the agenda is not set at this time, one of the topics to be discussed will be the proposed zoning ordinance. According to Feldman, the original working group met on March 18 and may be seeking additional technical review by architects and other industry professionals. The FAR provision (floor-area-ratio) in the ordinance also is being reviewed, taking into account existing square footage of homes in Kensington. She is anticipating refinement or changes to the proposal. Supervisor John Gioia's office is still planning to conduct an opinion survey by mail of each household before the end of April.

## **Class of 2003** Photo

#### **Reunion for Seniors and Teachers**

The Outlook plans to publish a group photograph of all graduating high school seniors residing in Kensington, regardless of the school they attend. The group will meet on Saturday, May 10 at a time to be determined. They will meet at the Community Center at 59 Arlington Ave. Seniors who attended Kensington School will have a chance to see their former teachers and classmates. Marcia Osborn is organizing the event and can be reached at 524-1114.

## **KCC JOB OPENING**

#### **Kensington Outlook Editor**

The Kensington Community Council (KCC) is seeking an editor for the Kensington Outlook. Applicants should send resumés, work samples, and references to Kensington Community Council Job Selection Committee, c/o Helen Horowitz, 59 Arlington Ave. Kensington 94707.

## **Teams Needed for** May Relay for Life

Volunteers from the American Cancer Society are looking for Kensington residents to participate in teams for 24 hours from 10 a.m., Saturday, May 17 through 10 a.m, Sunday, May 18 at the El Cerrito High School track as part of the local annual Relay For Life.

Last year, several members of the Kensington community, including KFD board members and employees, took part in the event. This will be the fourth event sponsored in these East Bay communities. Relay organizer Joann Steck-Bayat said that the participants hope to broaden the level of participation this year and outdo the \$35,000 raised last year.

For information about team participation and other sponsorship opportunities, please contact Steck-Bayat at 524-9464 or via the American Cancer Society web site at www.cancer.org.

## **Kensington Fire** Protection Update

The Kensington Fire Protection District (KFD) board of directors met on Wednesday, March 12. As reported in the March 2003 Outlook, KFD has authorized the purchase of a new fire engine. When it is delivered in late 2003/early 2004, the truck will be used as both a reserve engine and as a wildland interface fire-fighting vehicle. In the meantime, the city of Richmond has offered to purchase the old 1983 Mack Type 1 fire-pumper for \$4,000.00. Because the bid was at market rate and would allow Kens-ington to keep the truck until the new one is delivered, the KFD board voted to accept Richmond's offer.

# 

**Kensington Community Center** 59 Arlington Ave.

#### PUBLIC MEETINGS

**Kensington Community Council** Monday, May 3, 7:30 p.m. (Call 525-0292 to confirm.)

Kensington Fire Protection District Wednesday, April 9, 7:30 p.m. (Call 527-8395 to confirm.)

**Kensington Police Protection and Community Service District** Thursday, April 10, 7:30 p.m. (Call 526-4141 to confirm.)

Kensington Municipal Advisory Council Tuesday, April 22, 7:30 p.m. (Call 526-5546 to confirm.)

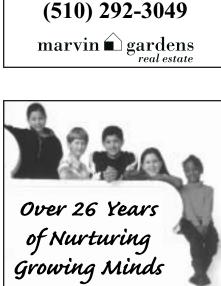
Friends of the Kensington Library Library, 61 Arlington Tuesday, April 1, 7:00 p.m. (Call 524-3043 to confirm.)







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## Letters to the Editor

Policy: The opinions expressed in Letters to the Editor are those of the contributors. They do not necessarily represent the opinion of the Outlook, its editor, or the publisher, the Kensington Community Council. Residents are invited to submit letters on matters of interest to the community. Letters must be signed and include the author's address and telephone number. Publication is subject to space limitations. Letters of 250 or fewer words are preferred.

#### **Emergency Food Pantry Says** Thanks!

Dear Editor:

Since 1971 the Richmond Emergency Food Pantry has opened its door, two days each week, to distribute nutritious food packages to West County's poor through a dedicated network of volunteers.

In the past few months there has been an increase in the number of people who come to the Pantry for emergency relief during these tough times. Not surprisingly, food expenses increased last year, government cutbacks increased, and donor drop-off due to attrition and economic hardship occurred. Concern was mounting among the volunteers.

Then the Pantry experienced another kind of increase; the number of people and organizations who made donations as well as the level of giving increased during the annual fund drive. Over 300 donors from Kensington, Emeryville, Berkeley, Richmond, Pinole and El Sobrante, rallied to the emergency request for financial support and gave the Pantry its most successful fundraising campaign ever.

The Pantry volunteers wish to acknowledge the generosity of these communities and to express our sincere gratitude to everyone who showed their belief in the Pantry and the service it provides.

Call or write to learn more, volunteer, receive food or donate: REFP, P.O. Box 2598, El Cerrito, CA 94530; 527-2783

Robin Winton, Board President, **Richmond Emergency Food Pantry** 

#### More Discussion Re: the Proposed **Zoning Ordinance**

#### Dear Editor,

I wish to comment on recent concerns expressed regarding the proposed Kensington zoning Ordinance. I was a member of the Working Group which drafted the ordinance, and since January of 2002 I have also been a member of KMAC.

The unique value of the proposed Ordinance is that it establishes clear guidance for proposed residential construction in Kensington which treats all residential properties uniformly. At present, larger parcels need only conform to the County R-6 requirements. Smaller parcels (the majority of Kensington's lots) must meet R-6 and must also demonstrate compatibility with neighboring residences. Simply put, there are TWO STANDARDS.

During my brief tenure on KMAC I have observed applications for new residences on both larger and smaller parcels. One example needed to consider neighborhood compatibility, and as a result it will fit neatly into the existing neighborhood. Another example did not need to consider compatibility; the resulting new residence will be grossly out of scale with the existing neighborhood.

It is inappropriate that there are two sets of standards guiding development in Kensington. The proposed ordinance will remedy this inequity. It's critical that we express our support for the proposed Ordinance to our Supervisor. Ray Barraza

continued on page 4

## Kensington People

Marcia and John Osborn have announced that their youngest son Nicholas Osborn will graduate from St. Mary's College High School this spring and has received a Division 1 football scholarship to San Diego State University. Their oldest son Martin and his wife Erika have moved back to the East Bay from Colorado in with their son Jackson Martin Osborne, who was born July 26, 2002. Middle son Cory Osborn is studying for his Masters degree in graphic design at the Corcoran School of Art in Washington D.C.

The Exploratorium recently commissioned Kensington resident and Tonynominated playwright Barbara Damashek to write a play that gives a glimpse into the world of the land where homo sapiens and other creatures who have had their genomes mapped work hand-in-paw to further science. The result, "Code Blue at the Genome Zoo," will be presented the weekends of April 5 and 6, 12 and 13, 19 and 20, 26 and 27; May 3 and 4 and Saturday, May 10 at 2 p.m. Call 415-561-0308 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. for reservations.

## Auction to **Feature Goods** and Services

The community is invited to come Samba at "A Night in Rio," the annual auction at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 1 Lawson Road. The event will be held on Saturday, April 26 from 6 to 10 p.m. The Social Hall will be transformed into a Carnival party room, complete with entertainment, dancing, food, childcare, and the silent and live auctions. Tickets are \$20 per person and may be purchased by calling Betty Tharpe at 549-1818 or Linda Jackson at 415-454-7701.

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## Unitarian Universalist **Church Events**

#### Unitarians Celebrate the Season

Each Sunday morning at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd., there is a meditation service at 8:30 a.m. led by a lay leader. At 9:30 a.m. there is a Personal Theology Seminar led by various community members. The worship service begins at 10:45 a.m.Visitors are always welcome and childcare is provided. Children and youth participate at the beginning of the service and then go to religious education classes.

#### Easter Sunday

On April 20, Easter Sunday, all are invited as the Revs. Hamilton-Holway discuss "Praise For What Rises." The celebration begins with a pancake breakfast from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. On that day, the schedule will change. At 9:30 a.m., there will be a family worship service, followed by the adult worship service at 11 a.m. There will be an Easter egg hunt following the family service.

#### **April Worship Services**

On April 6 "Recall Being Green: An Ecological Spiritual Practice" will be led by Revs. Barbara and Bill Hamilton-Holway. They will discuss how "To Break Oppression's Yoke" on April 13. There will be a 5 p.m. "Soulful Sundown Service" at 5 p.m.

On April 28 Intern Minister Sofia Betancourt has chosen to discuss "For the Earth Forever Turning."

#### PERSONAL THEOLOGY SEMINARS

On April 6, Ann Rood, author and wife of Wayne Rood will talk about her book You Okay, Chappy? Memories of Infantry Field Chaplain Rood in the South Pacific. On April 13, Sarah Lewis, spiritual director, teacher at New College and Graduate School of Theology will address "The Easter Story as Spiritual Theatre." On Easter Sunday, April 20, Naomi Janowitz, professor, Department of Religious Studies, University of California at Davis will lead a talk about "The Easter Themes as Reflected in Other Religions." Finally, on April 27 Dody Donnelly, author, professor at the Fromm Institute and Holy Names College, will talk about Three Modern Mystics: Dorothy Day. Day was the founder of the Catholic Worker movement, which serves the poor in Oakland and San Francisco. For more information, contact the church office at 525-0302

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**Arlington Community Church News** 

During the month of April, the Arlington Community Church, located at 52 Arlington Avenue, changes its focus from the Lenten studies to the highlight of Holy Week and Easter. The Thursday evening study series "Memories of God" by Roberta Bondi concludes on April 10 with a potluck supper preceding the 7p.m. discussion.

On April 6 communion will be celebrated at the ten o'clock worship service and Pastor Shirlee Bromley will give a meditation on "Letting Go." On Palm Sunday, April 13, she will speak on "Between Parades." Special music will be provided by the ACC Bell Choir. On Maundy Thursday, April 17, which also happens to be the first day of Passover, there will be a worship service in the Social Hall at 7 p.m. as people are seated around the table for the commemoration of the Last Supper.

On Good Friday, April 18, friends are invited to come into the Sanctuary between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. for a time of reflection and quiet music.At 7:30 p.m.

readings will be interspersed with music from Durufle's "Requiem."

The traditional Easter Sunday Sunrise Service will be held at 6 a.m. on the hillside near Kensington Hilltop School. At the 10 a.m. worship service, the choir will perform McChesney's "Jesus Christ is Risen Today." Pastor Bromley will speak on "Threatened with Resurrection."

On April 27, the sermon topic will be "Doubts and Doors." Guest musicians will be performing in lieu of the Chancel Choir.

#### Mini-Concert

D-Squared will present the third in the spring mini-concert series which will be held Friday evening, April 25, at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary of ACC. The voices of Don Charles and Deb Gessner blend with the sounds of a folk harp and guitar to crate a tonal fabric as rich and varied as the Southwestern landscape.Tickets may be purchased in advance by calling 526-9146. Admission is \$10 for advance purchase and \$12 at the door.

## **IN MEMORIAM**

#### Marcia S. Cunningham

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Marcia Sue Cunningham, 64, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, March 5, 2003, in her home. A native of Oklahoma City, OK, she lived in Kensington for 35 years. She is survived by her husband of 42 years, Jay Cunningham of Kensington; her daughter and son-inlaw Laura Cunningham and Kevin Emmerich of Beatty, Nevada; her daughter and son-in-law Margot Cunningham and Pierre La Plant of Richmond; her sister Andrea L. McElderry of Louisville; and her brother Bryan D. McElderry of Lafayette. Mrs. Cunningham was a homemaker, was active in the Kensington Hilltop School PTA, and served as a grade school teacher's aide. Memorial donations may be made to the Friends of the Regional Parks Botanic Garden, c/o Tilden Regional Park, Berkeley, CA 94708-2396.

#### Paul Aladdin Alarab

Paul Aladdin Alarab, 44, died on Wednesday, March 19, 2003 when he fell from the Golden Gate Bridge. A long-time resident of Kensington, Alarab is survived by his two children. According to newspaper accounts, he was expressing his personal opposition to the war with Iraq. This was not his first fall from the Golden Gate Bridge. In 1988, while protesting the treatment of the elderly and handicapped in America, he lost his grip and fell into the water below. He was employed as a Realtor at the Century 21 office in Lafayette.



#### **KENSINGTON OUTLOOK**

Editor: Linda Lettieri — 528-0129 59 Arlington Ave, Kensington, CA 94707 outlook@sbcglobal.net

Ad. Mgr.: Alma Key — 526-3241 almakey@aol.com

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**NEXT OUTLOOK DEADLINE** May Issue: April10

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Letters to the Editor continued from page 2 Dear Editor,

Supervisor Gioia is to be congratulated for seeking more input and for making changes in the proposed zoning ordinance (Ordinance) as may be warranted. As a result of objections, the Ordinance is now being re-examined.A technical advisory team is being appointed to look at the relationship between the qualitative and the quantitative standards. Also under review are the current FAR. Additional data on Kensington homes is being sought from the county.

In his letter to the Editor in the March 2003 Outlook, Supervisor John Gioia stresses the qualitative aspects of the Ordinance such as view and privacy protection, but fails to mention the guts of the Ordinance which are the restrictive rules [Floor Area Ratios (FAR)] which are applicable when existing houses are expanded or new houses are built. These quantitative restrictions are what most people are objecting to.

When the next draft of the Ordinance is presented to the community, it will need to be critically examined and debated. Hopefully, either the Kensington Property Owners Association or the Kensington Improvement Club will sponsor a debate in which the critics will be given the same time to make their case as the proponents.

While Supervisor Gioia now proposes to send out another survey, such surveys must be treated with skepticism and caution, especially when prepared by the advocates of the Ordinance. If a survey is to be conducted, it should be prepared by an independent third party. Better yet, forget another survey. Once a final version of the Ordinance is prepared, the community should be provided with arguments in favor of, and arguments against the Ordinance. Armed with this information, Kensing-

DELIVERY

FOR MORE INFORMATION,

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ton residents should be given the opportunity to vote "yes" or "no" on the Ordinance. If a majority votes "no," the Ordinance should be dropped. If a majority votes "yes," the Ordinance should then be submitted to the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors for approval.

J. David Hertzer

#### Dear Editor,

In keeping with the clearly not objective representation proffered by "our" supervisor, let me begin as he has:

Did vou know that in an attempt to improve the structure, foundation and quality of your family home, should you attempt to do so legally, seeking permits and approval of the "advisory" board, you will be charged tens of thousands of dollars for each hearing or appeal your neighbors seek, ad nauseum, regardless of whether even a variance is required by your plans?

I personally witnessed hearing after hearing where property owners were subjected to personal offensive behaviors by vigilante groups rounded up from other neighborhoods to condemn home improvement plans not even affecting their own neighborhood, just to make life miserable and stop a homeowner from improving their own property. This is under the CURRENT code structure.

Have you noticed that there is many a home in Kensington where the homes are riddled with termites, filth, unkempt, fire hazards and they are not held accountable - only those homeowners who want to IMPROVE their property suffer this process.

Have you noticed that John Gioia, who supposedly represents ALL of Kensington, has taken a strong position supporting the "steering committee" who continue to lobby for their plan, instead of working to increase his knowledge of the opinions of the entire

community? Meetings held on this or that evening address a limited number of people. We have elderly residents, professionals who work, young parents with young children who must be cared for — these people are unable to as a person very active in a variety of service organizations, I certainly would like a VOTE on what will happen in my neighborhood/community, and yet I have not be able to attend the hearings so do I lose my vote? This is questionable behavior by a small group of well meaning persons but NOT to the benefit of the entire community.

When I purchased my home it had no facilities for a washer or dryer and a mere 1000 square feet. These are homes that served a different people in a different time. In order for Kensington to retain its property value, home owners must be able to improve their property and, in the process, improve our property values. We CANNOT penalize those who improve because of the FEARS of one or two hysterical neighbors. This ordinance must not pass. Thank you.

Kathleen Lopes

#### Dear Editor,

To say I am surprised by Supervisor Gioia's editorial last month would be an understatement. To have him accuse Mr. Hertzer of "mischaracterizing facts and creating fear among residents" was the pot calling the kettle black Mr. Gioia's inflammatory statement "How would you feel if one day you noticed a construction project next door to your home and your view of Mt Tam. was being obliterated?" was unconscionable. The majority of homes in Kensington currently require that the neighborhood be noticed on construction projects. All neighbors surrounding the proposed project have the opportunity to voice their concerns and objections. This is done continued on page 5

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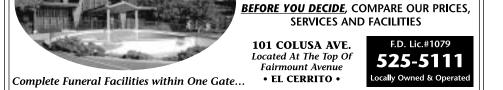


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## **Kensington Community Education**

## KCC

#### **KENSINGTON COMMUNITY** COUNCIL

Helen Horowitz, Administrator Kensington Community Council Building E, 59 Arlington Ave. Kensington, CA 94707-1037 525-0292

#### **OFFICE HOURS**

10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Mon.-Fri. Office closed April 21-25

#### **KCC OFFICE LOCATION**

Building E is located across the grassy field from the Community Center Annex that houses The Neighborhood School.

#### NOTICES

To Register for Class Call the office unless otherwise specified. Some classes have enrollment limits. Those registering will be notified if they cannot be enrolled.

**Tennis Court Reservations** Reservations are taken for weekends and holidays only. The earliest reservation is for 9 a.m. Fees are \$2 per hour for Kensington residents, \$5 for others.

#### **Community Center**

Call Helen Horowitz for rental and reservation information.

## **KASEP**

**KENSINGTON AFTER SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM** 

Building E, 59 Arlington Ave. Kensington, CA 94707-1037

#### **OFFICE HOURS**

10 a.m. to 5p.m. Monday-Friday Office closed April 21-25 Helen Horowitz, Director 525-0292, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Elma Conley, On-Site Supervisor 525-0292, during class hours Sandy Thacker,

Curriculum Coordinator 482-1258 Classes began on

Monday, March 24. Spaces is available in some classes. Call the KCC for details.



## **ADULT CLASSES**

#### **ACRYLIC PAINTING**

Stan Cohen leads this informal but professional workshop for established and serious beginning artists. Mornings are devoted to developing painting, with assistance available. Afternoons are reserved for class critique. Enrollment is limited.

Instructor approval required. Instructor: Stan Cohen Wednesdays, 9:45 a.m.-1:30 p.m. \$32 per month Non-residents add 10 percent COMMUNITY CENTER

#### **PORTRAIT AND STILL LIFE OIL PAINTING CLASS**

Beginning and advanced students will paint from live models using the Reiley Method, a process of painting which is broken down into steps. Students will learn how to do a "wash-in" under-painting and how to mix the "controlled palette," starting with a gray scale from black to white, with all other colors mixed and arranged in corresponding value scale. Students will learn to see color and shape in terms of the value pattern of the subject. Materials and paint application techniques will be discussed. For more information, call Barbara Ward at 528-2983. To sign up, call the KCC office.

Instructor: Barbara Ward Portrait: Thursdays, 7 p.m.-10 p.m. Still Life: Sundays, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. 8 weeks: \$200 per resident \$220 per non-resident

BUILDING E

Drama with Kelly Donahue

Week 4.....July 7-July 11

#### **EXERCISE TO MUSIC**

Non-impact aerobics; ongoing. Instructor: Michele Dorntge Monday, Tuesday, Friday: 9-10 a.m. Fees per resident (10 weeks): \$40/1 x week, \$80/2 x week \$120/3 x week, \$4.50 drop-in Non-residents add 10 percent COMMUNITY CENTER

#### **DOG OBEDIENCE TRAINING**

Handlers must be at least 14 years of age. Dogs must be a least five months old, have had all their shots, and be accustomed to a leach.

Instructor: Nancy Cuccia (233-4500) Wednesdays

#### Beginners: 7-8 p.m.

Next session starts April 16 6 weeks: \$36 per resident \$40 per non-resident

Conformation: 8-8:45 p.m. \$4/class Intermediate/Advanced: 9-9:45 p.m. \$4/class

COMMUNITY CENTER

#### **TENNIS**

Alex Brown, USPTA tennis pro, offers classes to a minimum of four students. To register, call Brown at 524-5495

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9-10 a.m. 5 classes: \$40 per resident \$45 per non-resident

TENNIS COURTS (West Court)

#### **YOUTH CLASSES**

#### **GYMNASTICS**

11:45 a.m.-1:05 p.m./A.M. Kindergartners 2:30 p.m.-3:20 p.m./Grades 1-3 2:50 p.m.-3:40 p.m./Grades 4-6 Students should wear loose clothing

such as leotards, sweatpants, or shorts. Long hair must be tied in a ponytail. To enroll, call Judy Baker at 233-1833.

Instructors: Judy Baker and Jean Jay Tuesdays, 11 weeks, March 25-June 10 Kindergartners:

\$135/resident; \$150/non-resident Other students:

\$110/resident; \$125/non-resident Administration fee: \$25

COMMUNITY CENTER

#### **TENNIS**

In this class for students in Grades 6,7,and 8, Alex Brown teaches the fundamentals of tennis, including strokes, tactics, and sportsmanship. Classes consist of instruction, drills, and play, and continue through the school year. Students must register by the month for one or two days a week.

Instructor: Alex Brown (524-5495) Tuesdays and/or Thursdays 3:40-5:20 p.m. Fees (payable monthly): \$10 per class/resident \$11 per class/non-resident TENNIS COURTS

been paid may not attend until fees have been paid to the KCC administrator. Regeach week. Forms must accompany the appropriate fees. A non-refundable deposit of \$25 per child per week requested is required with the application. The \$25 deposit is deducted from the balance due of camp. If a week is full and space is not available, applicants will be notified immediately. We cannot refund fees if a child drops out after a session begins.

#### Registration

Parents may register their children on a space available basis during KCC office hours: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday

#### **Brochures** available

For more information or a brochure, call the KCC office at 525-0292.

#### Special Activities Schedule\*:

Carpentry with Sandy Thacker Week 1.....June 16-June 20 Drama with Kelly Marley Donahue Week 2.....June 23-June 27 Carpentry with Sandy Thacker Week 3.....June 30-July 1, 2 & 3 (July 4th holiday)

June 18 ..... The Jungle June 25 ..... Oakland Zoo July 2 ..... Scandia July 9 ..... A's Game July 16 ..... Jelly Belly Factory July 30 ...... Fortune Cookie Factory August 6 .... Waterworld August 13 .. San Francisco Zoo August 20 .. Academy of Sciences \*Changes in the schedule may be made



Gymnastics with Judy Baker istration, waiver and emergency forms Week 5.....July 14-July 18 must be submitted prior to the start of Gymnastics with Judy Baker Week 6.....July 21-July 25

Sports & Games with Tristan Stickel Week 7.....July 28-August 1 Week 8.....August 4-August 8

Week 9.....August 11-August 15 Week 10.....August 18-August 22

\*Tennis with Alex Brown, three days a week each session!

#### Field Trip Schedule\*:

July 23 ..... Bay Area Discovery Museum for unexpected reasons.

**KCC SUMMER DAY CAMP 2003 STILL HAS OPENINGS** begins. Children whose fees have not

(KCC) Summer Day Camp is for children grades 1 through 6 in the Fall 2003. The camp runs from June 16 through August 22 Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Campers may enroll on a weekly basis. To ensure the best experience for each child, our camp has a maximum of 60 children per week. We employ two directors, five counselors, two or more counselors-in-training, and a "specialty consultant" for each two-week specialty session to work with the campers. Drop-

The Kensington Community Council

#### ins are not permitted. **Day Camp Staff Returns**

Director Brian Barfield and Assistant Director Jessica Smith are returning for this year's camp along with head counselor Hayley Strandberg, Andrew Erdmann, Valerie Fike-Rosales, Teddy Firestone, Evan Horowitz, Joe Starkey, and DJ McIntvre. KCC is delighted that they have chosen to work again at its camp.

#### Fees

The cost for the Kensington Summer Day Camp is \$165 per week with the cost prorated for July 4th week to \$132. This fee covers all transportation costs, snacks, entrance fee, activities and a KCC Summer Camp T-shirt for field trips. Fees must be paid 10 days before each week

#### Letters to the Editor continued from page 4

through the KMAC who hears all concerned parties and makes a recommendation to the county Zoning Administrator who then rules on the project. And what happens when the Zoning Administrator approves the project against neighbor's objections? Then neighbors have an opportunity to appeal to a Planning Commission. And what if after even more careful consideration by the Planning Commission the county still approves the project? Then the objecting neighbors can still appeal to the Board of Supervisors. On top of this, the prevailing party is told to pick up all of the county costs related to the appeals which can be tens of thousands of dollars. In addition, this process can take up to 18 months, eight public hearings, and grueling mediation. Yes it's true! I personally lived this tale and our addition

didn't even require a variance nor did it obstruct a view. Since the spawn of this ordeal was a view related objection, it was shocking to read Supervisor Gioia's statement that "there is NO protection of views under current county law." How then do I characterize my experience, unlawful harassment? For someone who claims to be working in the best interest of the community why is he suggesting further limitation of his constituents' ability to pursue the "American dream," owning a home and realizing the rights associated with this ownership. Katie Kaneko



## **Celebrating 28 Years of** Senior Activities in Kensington

The Kensington Senior Activity Center meets on Thursdays 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. in the social hall. The West Contra Costa Adult School and community volunteers provide the Center's program of lifelong learning. Everyone over 55 is welcome to visit, join the seniors in activities and conversation. Volunteers are welcome.

#### **Regular Schedule**

Each Thursday morning, coffee and tea are offered at no charge. Snacks are available for a quarter. There is always a German conversation group to join or a video on culture, history, health, travel or art to enjoy. Jessica offers massage (\$8 for 15 minutes) and the fire department gives free blood pressure checks on the first Thursday of each month. Lunch is offered for \$2.

#### **April Specials**

On April 10, Jeanne Walpole will present Piano Music for Springtime at 11 a.m. followed at 12:15 p.m. by lunch.April birthdays will be celebrated.

Jackie Hetman will present slides of Normandy beaches, the river Seine and Monte St. Michel in a program on travel in France. An Easter lunch will be served at 12:15 p.m. Jan Stecher will lead her stretch class "Rosen Movement for Seniors" on April 24. Contact Virginia Walker, Teacher-Director, at 547-1969 for more information.











By John Gossard

The Friends of the Kensington Library (FKL) are getting ready for their big annual book sale, which will fill the Kensington Community Center (Youth Hut) with a wide variety of great books on the weekend of May 10 and 11, coinciding with the Hilltop School Carnival and Mother's Day, for one of the busier weekends of the year in Kensington. At the March meeting, Adrian Jennings, the Book Sale Coordinator, told the group that he would like to see an increase in art books, history and biography hardbacks, as well as children's books. Currently he felt he did not have an adequate supply to meet the usual high demand for each of these categories at the upcoming sale. He would like you to look over your shelves for any volumes you might donate for the May sale. He said he is also happy to receive books of all types, with the possible exception of older travel books and texts, as these lose their appeal if they are not quite current. Remember, all donations qualify as charitable donations for tax purposes. Adrian may be reached at 524-2508 if you need help with getting books to the library during its hours of operation.

#### Drop Off Restored

The book donation box that was in at FIVE STAR VIDEO has now followed the video business into YOUNG'S MARKET. If you want an easy place to deposit your book donations, you will find this box has now relocated to Five Star's area in the rear of the market. Drop off a book next time you shop... or rent. FKL thanks to both YOUNG'S and FIVE STAR for their support of our library.

#### IT!

Answers the question of "What did who done?," but WHO remains to be seen.

This mystery persists as this column's deadline falls due on 3-10-03. But FKL is busy deciding which of several mystery writers with whom it is in contact would be best for the evening of April 28, at 7 p.m. That evening FKL will be pleased to again present a Mystery

Evening with a mystery writer talking about the writing of this popular mode of fiction.

Flyers will be posted prior to the event, if you would like to know who will speak, but past programs have all been interesting, being supported by the National Association of Mystery Writers. It is possible a second mystery writer evening may be added later this year, depending what FKL learns of the writers' availability and FKL's own ongoing schedule of activities.

#### **Budget News**

With all the cuts that have been announced lately, it was a pleasant surprise to learn from Kensington's Librarian, Barbara Ferguson, that she has learned that despite funding reductions, a decision has been made to keep the added hours of operation that we were so pleased to see a year ago. She said that the cuts would still result in reduced staff, with no current openings to be filled...and a reduction in materials budget. This later area is one that FKL will do its best to address by increased efforts to encourage larger and more numerous donations from businesses and FKL members in its fund drive, along with book sale activities. Barbara expressed her great appreciation and thanks for the support she has gotten from our community, through its support of FKL.

So we just pass it on to you, like a good book.

#### Children's Programs at the Library

Celebrate National Library Week with storyteller Kirk Waller on Tuesday evening, April 8 at 7 p.m. Kirk is a master storyteller, who uses pantomime and sounds to bring stories alive. This program is ideal for children 4 and older. This program is made available by the Friends of the Kensington Library.

Family story times for children of all ages are held every Tuesday evening at 7 p.m. (except April 8) and Saturday mornings at 10:30 a.m.



The Kensington Symphony Orchestra will present the third concert of its Silver Anniversary Season on April 12 at 8 p.m. The program will include Robert Schumann's "Symphony No. 3" and Saint-Saens' "Introduction and Rondo Capriccioso," featuring 16-year old violinist Shoshana Kay, winner of the KSO 2002-2003 Young Soloist Competition.

Founded in 1977, the Kensington Symphony Orchestra includes local freelance musicians and accomplished amateurs. Lloyd Elliott has been Music Director for 13 seasons. Elliott is also an Instructor of music at Contra Costa College and conductor of the Santa Rosa Symphony.

The April 12 concert will be held at the Northminster Presbyterian Church, 454 Ashbury Ave., El Cerrito, across from El Cerrito High School. Tickets are available at the door for a suggested donation of \$10; \$8,seniors; and children free. For more information, call 524-4335.

## Political Meetings Planned for April

#### El Cerrito Democratic Club

Dr. Howard Mitchell, M.D., M.P.H will be the featured at the El Cerrito Democratic Club meeting on Tuesday, April 22 at 7:30 p.m. Dr. Mitchell, a member of Physicians for a National Health Program, will discuss single payer health care. The meeting will be held at the Northminster Presbyterian Church, 545 Ashbury, El Cerrito, across from the El Cerrito High Sports Field.

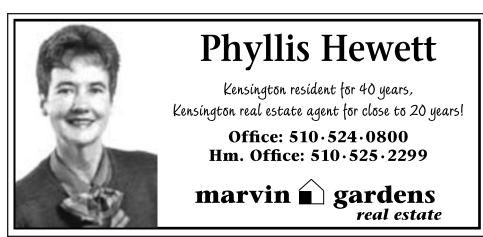
#### League of Women Voters

The League of Women Voters Richmond Area will meet on Tuesday, April 15. The annual business meeting will begin at 11:30 a.m., followed by lunch. Dr. Mitchell, the featured speaker, will discuss Senate Bill 921 introduced in February by Senator Sheila Kuehl.

The meeting will be held in a private room at the Denny's Restaurant located at 11344 San Pablo Ave. in El Cerrito. Checks for \$11 payable to LWVRA

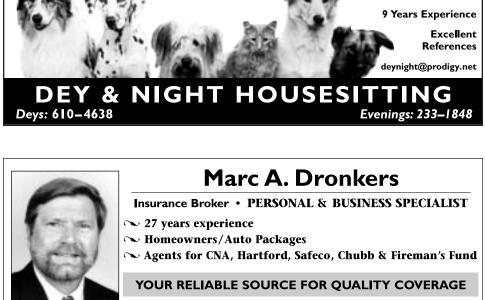
Political Meetings continued on page 8

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## In the Spring Garden

#### **Berkeley Garden Club**

The Berkeley Garden Club will hold its Benefit Spring Tea with a floral design demonstration by Dariel Alexander on Tuesday, April 15 at 1 p.m. Dariel Alexander has exhibited at the "Bouquets to Art" at the Legion of Honor in San Francisco. Guests are welcome. Tickets are \$8 at the door. The club meets at the Epworth United Methodist Church, 1953 Hopkins St., Berkeley.

#### El Cerrito Garden Club

The El Cerrito Garden Club will meet at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, April 10, in the El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Moeser Lane. There will be a short business meeting followed by refreshments and a program on "Penny Pines Reforestation" presented by Brenda Kendrix from the U.S. Forest Service. Guests are welcome and may pay \$3 at the door. For more information call 234-0135.

#### Annual Plant Sale

The annual sale of California native plants benefiting the Botanic Garden will take place on Saturday, April 19 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.A wide variety of California plants and shrubs will be available for purchase. The Botanic Garden is located at Wildcat Canyon Road and South Park Drive in Tilden Regional Park, Berkeley. For information call 841-8732 or check out the garden's

## **Retired Teachers** to meet

Retired Teachers to The California Retired Teachers Association, West Contra Costa Division no.58 will meet at noon Thursday, April 3 at the Masonic Hall of Richmond, located at 5050 El Portal Drive, El Sobrante. The program, "Memories Are Made of Music," will feature music from the '20s to the '60s played by members and accompanied by Phil Seymour on the guitar. Call 234-3046 for luncheon reservations. Cost is \$10.

#### website at www.nativeplants.org. Secret Gardens of the East Bay

The 17th annual Secret Gardens of the East Bay tour will be held on Sunday, April 27 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The gardens, including one in Kensington, include a 1920s amphitheater surrounded by mature trees on a historical property, an intimate garden replete with enchanting dining spaces, an exotic outdoor, lounge, and a frieze from the 1913 Pan Pacific Exposition in San Francisco, and an expansive hill-top property evocative of early Hollywood.

Tickets are \$45 per person and include a keepsake booklet with detailed descriptions of each garden, a map and directions for the self-guided tour.

Tickets also include talks by garden experts held on the grounds of Park Day School during lunch. Gourmet boxed lunches will be available for \$10 by prepaid reservations and may be picked up at the school during the hours of the tour. Proceeds from the tour benefit scholarship and academic programs of Park Day School, an independent K-6 school located in Oakland.

For more information, please call the Garden Tour Hotline at 653-6250.

## **Pet Food Drive**

Girl Scout Troop 1827 is sponsoring a Pet Food Drive to benefit the West Contra Costa Animal Shelter. The Scouts are looking for donations of canned kitten food, turkey baby food, canned cat and dog food, dry cat and dog food, blankets, and dog biscuits. Collection bins will be in the hallway at Kensington Hilltop School and at Young's Kensington Market on Arlington Avenue through April 30. Call 558-1200 for more information.

## **Gillfillan** and **Caftel Honored**

Gretchen Gillfillan, Kensington, and Pat Caftel, El Cerrito, were honored in Contra Costa College's Women's History Month Celebration in March for their years of civic volunteerism. Gillfillan and Caftel were nominated for their awards by county supervisor John Gioia and the El Cerrito City Council, respectively.

Gillfillan's award was for "Community Advocacy." She moved to Kensington in 1958 with her husband Walter and three daughters, Gayle Gillfillan, Allison Rose and Catherine Ann Pacos. Trained as a teacher, she was recruited to work as a part-time researcher/teacher at UC Berkeley with the newly formed Elementary School Science Project. She soon joined Friends of the Kensington Library, and served on a committee that was exploring the possibility of having a "real" library built in Kensington. She was very active in the Kensington PTA, and was awarded with a Life Membership. Gillfillan retired from teaching in 1995. She became a member of the Kensington Park Advisory committee in 1996. More recently she has been involved in Kensington zoning and building issues. She was awarded the Contra Costa County Teacher of the Year award in 1978 and in 1995 received the Bay Area Girl Scout Council's DAISY award for excellence in incorporating environmental education into teaching.

Pat Caftel received her award for "Civic Responsibility." Currently she is the volunteer coordinator for the El Cerrito Kensington Fire Department Neighborhood Emergency Assistance Teams (NEAT) program. She and her husband, Brad, have lived in El Cerrito for 17 years. The NEAT program emphasizes safety and preparedness and is free to everyone in the community. The California Emergency Services Association honored her with a statewide award for excellence in the field of emergency management.





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## **The Kensington Police Blotter**

The following incidents were among those reported by the Kensington Police Department during February 2003.

#### **FEBRUARY 1-7**

A suspicious circumstance was reported on the 200 block of Coventry Rd.
Someone smashed the front window of a locked Honda SUV parked on Stratford Rd. and took CDs worth \$225.

◎ A 1995 Saturn valued at \$2,300 was stolen from Stratford Rd. It was recovered the same day in Richmond.

● A tree-trimming crew using a large crane created a traffic problem on Arlington Ave.

 An officer recovered a Saturn aban- doned on Wellesley Ave. that had been stolen from Berkeley.

● A resident called to report that someone had driven into a fence on Highland Blvd.

● A resident reported trash in the creek bed on Sunset Dr.

A resident received a telephone call regarding packages being stolen.

© Someone entered an unlocked Honda Accord parked on York Ave. and took cell phone equipment valued at \$335.

● A report was filed regarding an unauthorized dumpster on Arlington Ave.

◎ El Cerrito police traced a hit and run incident in El Cerrito to an Arlington Ave. residence. They asked KPD to perform the check.

• Officers checked the welfare of a child at Kensington Hilltop School.

● An unlicensed driver's vehicle was impounded.

An officer parked while watching traffic saw someone hide a stolen bicycle.

#### FEBRUARY 8-14

• Officers found a stolen bicycle on Windsor Ave.

● A minor domestic argument was reported on Highgate Rd.

● A Loran Ct. resident reported being the victim of road rage in Berkeley.

• Officers impounded a vehicle when the driver was stopped for speeding and driving with a suspended license.

● A caller on Cambridge Ave. reported that a 1099 tax form had not been received.

◎ A Highgate Rd. resident suffered chest pains and was taken to Doctor's Hospital.

© Someone cut the fence and left an arrow at the East Bay MUD filter plant on Berkeley Park Blvd.

(a) A car ran into the fence at the corner of Franciscan Way and Sunset Dr.

◎ A resident reported someone dumping trash.

O A Trinity Ave. resident received a phone call informing him that he had won \$300,000 in the Canadian lottery. He was told he could claim his prize by sending \$3,000. This is a common phone scam.

flight of stairs and was taken to Alta Bates hospital.

Neighbors were reported blocking a joint driveway on Coventry Rd.

There was a dispute over a care-taker on Anson Way.

A Yale Ave. resident reported that someone had damaged her parked car.
Officers were called to help a dog that had gotten caught in a piece of wooden furniture on Trinity Ave. Animal control was called to assist the rescue.
The El Cerrito Police Department requested assistance with an armed barricaded subject on Liberty Street in that city.

A vehicle was stolen from Oberlin.

© Police received multiple reports of .22 caliber gunshot sounds coming from the creek bed that separates Berkeley from Kensington.

● A Berkeley resident drove into a parked car and complained of pain.

A Kingston Rd. resident reported seeing two subjects near his open garage. Nothing was taken.

The suspicious person reported by a Highgate Rd. resident turned out to be his son.

 An anonymous citizen reported a suspicious person.

◎ A 1985 Toyota Celica was stolen from Lenox Rd. It was recovered on Edgecroft Rd.

Someone took \$1,500 worth of tools from the toolbox on the back of a truck parked on Edgecroft Rd.

© Someone tried to break into a locked toolbox on Beloit Ave.

Bicycle equipment valued at \$450 was stolen from a truck box on Stanford Ave.

 A York Ave. resident reported solicitors going door to door.

#### FEBRUARY 22-28

◎ A Garden Dr. resident donated old ammunition to KPD.

• Officers impounded a vehicle that was blocking a driveway on Yale Ave.

 An anonymous caller reported juveniles throwing rocks on Highland Blvd.
 Officers stopped a minor in possession of an open container of alcohol on Arlington Ave.

● A Willamette Ave. resident asked police to do a welfare check on the welfare of a neighbor.

An injured raccoon on Stanford Ave.
was taken away by animal control officers.
A woman caused a disturbance at Semifreddi's on Colusa Ave.



Grizzly Peak Flyfishers will meet on Thursday, April 10 at the Kensington Community Center, 59 Arlington Ave. A light dinner will be available at 7 p.m. for \$4. The meeting will follow at 7:30 p.m. The program will feature a skills fair: casting, knots and tying. There will be a fly tying demonstration for beginners at 6:30 p.m. Beginner and "wannabe" flyfishers and their families are welcome. For more details, call 524-0428.

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There are 45 space per line. Count each letter, punctuation mark, and space between words. Enclose payment (payable to KCC) and mail to: Kensington *Outlook* Classified Ad Department, 59 Arlington Avenue, Kensington, CA 94707-1037. We reserve the right to reject any ad. To receive a copy of the Outlook in which your ad appears, please enclose a stamped (60¢), selfaddressed envelope. Completed classified ads must be pre-paid and received in our office by **April 10** for the May 2003 issue.

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Political Meetings continued from page 6

should be mailed to Jean Lipton, P. O. Box 1618, El Cerrito, CA 94530. Please indicate your choice of entrée: turkey club sandwich with fries or Boca burger (vegetarian) with fries or Caesar salad with chicken and bread or chicken salad with bread. Coffee or tea and tip are included.

The League of Women Voters Kensington Study Group will be meeting on April 14 at 1 p.m. at the home of Betty Brown, 44 Beverly Road. Local issues will be discussed.

#### Republican Women Announce April Program

The Kensington Area Republican Women's Club will meet on April 23 at the Mira Vista Country Club, 7900 Cutting Blvd., El Cerrito at 12 noon. Lunch will be served at 12:30 p.m. **BRIDGE PAINTING** paints houses! Top quality, int/ext, A-1 prep. for lasting finish, Sr. discount, fully ins, Lic. 639300, free est, see display ad inside. 232-3340.

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HOME MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS. Kitchen, bath, decks, fences, electrical, plumbing, and painting. Dave, 420-6947.

ABE'S TREE AND YARD CARE. Trimming, pruning, removals. Weeding, hedge maintenance, clean-up. Large or small jobs. Insured. Local resident. 724-6956.

**CLARK KELLEY'S CALIFORNIA GARDENS.** All phases of landscape construction, plant design, irrigation and garden installation. Flagstone and brick patios. Local references. License #534467. 869-2788.

MR. MIGHTY MAN HAULING. Clean out/up home, basement, garage. Dump runs. 757-6431. 548-0499. ARLINGTON PAINTING & REFURBISHING Quality inte-

ARLINGTON PAINTING & REFURBISHING Quality interior & exterior Estimates, References lic#622357 Call Michael 510-237-4360.

**TILE SETTING** All Types Bath, Kitchen, Entry, Patio. Gen. Remodeling, Paint & Carpentry. Cabinetry. 30 yrs local exp. Ref. Portfolio, Roger 526-0872.

OFFICE SERVICES FOR SMALL BUSINESSES. Book-keeping, invoices, word processing, Excel. Legal/corp., proposal prep, edit/proof. Kens. resident w/20 yrs exp. Judy Gorman, 526-2668.

TAX PREPARATION-California Registered Tax Preparer. Seven years experience. Reasonable rates. Bonded. Joan Provencher 525-2750.

BARTER FOR ROOM. Mature female scholar seeks room for study near transp. Garden/pay utilities in exchange. Flex. Hrs. 510-549-0699.

AFFORDABLE HOMES near Kensington. I can help you find & purchase one! Patrick Rosenthal, agent, Re/Max Bay Area (510) 932-9134 or 526-1200.

**CLASSIFIED AD FORMS** are available in the Colusa Circle business district at Kensington Cleaners, and on Arlington Avenue at Young's Market, The Mechanics Bank, Kensington Library and the KCC office.

**April Events at** 

**Boadecia's Books** 

Colusa Ave., at Colusa Circle, has

announced special events for April. On

Thursday, April 10, from 5-8 p.m., Lisa

Ann Mazzocut, licensed massage thera-

pist, will give free 10-minute chair mas-

sages. Her work integrates several

therapeutic styles including cran-

iosacral therapy, lymphatic drainage,

and an eclectic sculptural massage.

Come by after work for stress relief &

rejuvenation! For any questions, call

Mazzocut at her Solano Ave. office at

981-0286. On Friday, April 11 at 7:30

p.m. Gaymes Night is back! All are invit-

ed to play Sequence, Scattergories, The

Rainbow Gayme, or your own favorite.

Boadecia's Books, located at 398

● Neighbors on Trinity Ave. argued over trees blocking a view. They were referred to the tree ordinance.

#### FEBRUARY 15-21

Juveniles had a shaving cream fight on the roof of The Mechanics Bank building.
A resident on Rugby Ave. fell down a The featured speaker will be Steve Wampler, a radio talk-show host.

Tickets are \$12 per person. For reservations and information contact Catherine Weeks at 524-5689 by April 19.

This event is free, and everyone is welcome. Please call 559-9184 for more information.

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1	POLICE NUMBERS				
1	911:	Emergency	L		
	233-1214:	Dispatch Center			
1	526-4141:	Business Office			
- E					

Mail 70: KCC 59 Arlington Ave. Kensington, CA 94707		
□\$10 □\$20 □\$50 □\$75 □	\$100 🗆 other:	
From:		
name:		
street:		
city:	zip:	
telephone:		

