

K E N S I N G T O N O U T L O O K

February 2006

A publication of the Kensington Community Council

Volume 63 Number 1

Gioia outlines plan to tackle violence in county

Supervisor John Gioia, who became chair of the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors in January, outlined a multi-pronged plan to address violence throughout the county.

Members of the board rotate to serve one-year term as chair.

In a speech January 10 in which he outlined the challenges and opportunities for the county Gioia, who represents Kensington, described Contra Costa as one of the wealthiest counties in the state, but also one afflicted with poverty, violent crime and poor performance in its schools.

"We should not tolerate the disparities between these two worlds," he said. "We need to take a stand against violent crime in any part of our county; we need to take a stand against failing school performance and high dropout rates anywhere in Contra

Costa; and we need to take a stand to prevent a new generation of youth from being exposed to risk factors that increase violence, wherever they live."

About two-thirds or \$1 billion of the county's \$1.5 billion in budget is spent on criminal justice, health, social services and preschool, and Gioia said there are many opportunities to make existing programs more effective, focused and better leverage federal, state and private monies already available for programs that could prevent violence.

The agenda renews an earlier effort in the county. In 1994, voters overwhelming supported an advisory measure on a violence prevention plan, but the plan petered out.

To lead the effort, Gioia is establishing a Violence Prevention Ad Hoc Committee consisting of himself and Supervisor Federal Glover to work with county

departments on improving violence prevention, leveraging resources and maximizing partnerships with cities, school districts and federal and state agencies.

As part of the plan, Gioia outlines six specific issues that will be considered first by the new committee. They include:

○Consider contracting with Rubicon, a nationally recognized non-profit mental health and substance abuse service provider based in Contra Costa, to have their non-profit landscape business perform grounds maintenance and landscape services for some of our many County facilities.

○Work with officials to expand the county's "Clean Slate" program, which provides legal counseling to remove barriers to employment, education and housing for those who have completed serving their time for certain types of convictions.

○Call on all video game arcades in this county to remove any violent video games that are accessible to those under 18.

○Develop a program to increase early intervention mental health services in our Head Start pre-schools.

○Develop a strategy for using Proposition 63 "early intervention and prevention" mental health funds for expanding school-based mental health services to at-risk youth.

○Work to expand the Welcome Home Baby Program to provide home visits to 500 additional new mothers per year, adding to the current 700 per year.

"The tragedies of violence take a toll on all families in our county," Gioia said. "We need to recognize that the quality of life for all Contra Costans depends on maintaining the highest quality of life in all regions and for all races and ethnicities, not just some."



No Ark in Sight: Judy Hardin, co-owner of Rabbitears, in her store with Jeannette, a new addition that is up for adoption. The Kensington pet store suffered flooding in the year-end deluge that required the store to get neighbors to temporarily relocate its animals.

Up to their RabbitEars

When Judy Hardin and Yuri Ito showed up at their Kensington pet store RabbitEars on New Year's Eve day, they discovered the animals were surrounded by a flood of water caused by the heavy rains.

The pet store, located behind Ace Hardware in the former location of the Arlington Veterinary Clinic, had about four inches of water through the store. Though none of the animals were harmed, they needed to be relocated as the store had to get the water out and replace the floor.

Though Hardin didn't have an ark ready to load, neighbors came to the rescue. Customers, even those without experience with certain types of animals, provided temporary homes for the animals the store rescues from Contra Costa County shelters.

There was about four inches of water throughout the store and water was leaking from the ceiling. In the absence of sandbags, the store used bags of kitty litter to keep additional water from seeping into the store.

"We began bailing as much water as possible, but there was no power until much later in the day, so we couldn't even operate the power vacuum," said Hardin.

In all, neighbors provided temporary shelter to nine rabbits, six hamsters, six rats, a wild parrot and a mouse.

Court awards Scher more than \$28,000 in attorney fees

A Contra Costa Judge awarded concert promoter turned philanthropist Danny Scher more than \$28,000 in attorney fees after ruling that fines the county levied on him for fundraisers at his home violated his first amendment rights.

"The use of one's home for fundraising events is not an uncommon occurrence and it is everyone's right to freedom of speech and association to use one's home for such events," said Contra Costa Superior Court Judge John Sugiyama.

The award of attorneys fees made in December followed a tentative decision in November that found the county's zoning laws were vague and overbroad and that

the fines levied on Scher violated his first amendment right to free speech.

At that time the judge struck down all three fines the county had issued to Scher for a total of \$800 for fundraising concerts held at his Coventry Rd. home.

The county had told Scher that such events violated county zoning rules and that he needed to get a permit to hold the concerts at his backyard amphitheater.

In setting the attorney fees at \$28,622.50, Sugiyama awarded more than \$9,500 over the fees calculated by Scher's attorney Lowell Finley based on the time he put into the case and a reasonable hourly rate. Scher said it was recognition of the

"exceptional" job his attorney did in arguing the case.

Attorneys for the county argued that Scher was only entitled to a return of his \$25 court filing fee. The county is not expected to appeal the decision.

Some of Scher's neighbors complained that even though the events were fundraisers, they were commercial in nature and inappropriate for a residential area.

Supervisor John Gioia, who led the effort to craft a temporary events ordinance for the county, said that new law removes the ambiguity from the county's zoning laws. It allows such fundraisers as Scher holds, but limits their size and frequency.

Outlook names Editor




The Kensington Community Council named John Feld, a North Berkeley writer, photographer and graphic artist, as the editor of the Kensington Outlook to replace outgoing editor Daniel Levine. Feld begins in his new post with the March issue of the Outlook

See story page 3

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KCC continues fund drive



Kensington Park's Tot Lot is one example of what community donations to KCC support.

The Kensington Community Council thanks all of the recent contributors to its annual fund drive. The generosity of community members provides critical support for Kensington's recreation and education programs as well as the Kensington Outlook. If you would like to make a tax deductible contribution, please send it the Kensington Community Council, 59 Arlington Avenue, Kensington 94707. Gifts of \$25 or more are acknowledged below.

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KCC names new editor to the Outlook



KCC president Ted Blanckenberg (left) with new Kensington Outlook editor John Feld.

The Kensington Community Council named John Feld, a graphic designer and freelance journalist, as editor of the Kensington Outlook.

Feld begins in his new post Feb.1 following the publication of this issue. He replaces Daniel Levine, who stepped down from the post after more than two and a half years.

"We were pleased to find someone with John's experience and qualifications and are confident we will have a smooth transition," said KCC President Ted Blanckenberg.

Feld lives in North Berkeley with his wife Erma Wheatly, an artist. A native of England, Feld has been widely involved in the graphics world as a graphic designer, and owner of a large photographic studio,

graphics trainer and system integrator of graphics software and networks to managing the creative concept and development of graphic software.

Recently he edited and published The Graphics Report, a monthly publication for graphic designers. He now writes for a variety of graphics publications, and an online university where he teaches and writes courses in graphics.

In his free time, he cooks and illustrates books. To contact Feld about editorial issues, use the new Outlook number at 647-5017 or send email editor@kensington-outlook.com.

Levine, who continues to report for the San Francisco Business Times, stepped down from the Outlook to pursue other projects.

KMAC holds hearing on property ordinance a year after implementation

The Kensington Municipal Advisory Council will review Kensington's planning ordinance on the first anniversary of its enactment.

The planning ordinance, the result of five years of work between the community members and supervisor John Gioia, seeks to balance the rights of people to improve their properties while protecting neighbors rights to protect their views, privacy and sunlight against unreasonable impediments from projects on nearby properties.

In approving the ordinance the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors established a one-year review. As part of the review process, the Kensington Municipal Advisory Council is seeking public input from applicants and neighbors who have been involved with the process since it

became effective in February 2005.

The ordinance requires the zoning administrator to evaluate siting, size, bulk, building envelope, height, setbacks, relative scale, off-street parking spaces, window placement, artificial lighting and location of mechanical devices and evaluate them on the basis of their impacts on the neighboring properties and compatibility with the neighborhood with regard to bulk and scale.

The review of the ordinance will take place at the regular meeting of the Kensington Municipal Advisory Council at 7 p.m. Tuesday, February 28 at the Kensington Community Center. A copy of the ordinance is available for inspection on the council's page of the Aboutkensington.com website.

Supervisors reappoint three, add one to KMAC

The Contra Costa County board of supervisors reappointed three incumbents on the Kensington Municipal Advisory Council and named a former county fish and wildlife commissioner to fill an opening as an alternate.

The board reappointed KMAC members Kay Reed, Ray Barazza and Pamela Brown.

It also named Gordon Becker, an environmental planner and biologist, to fill an opening for an alternate on the council. Ed Detemer's term as an alternate expired and he did not seek reappointment.

Becker previously served on the

County's Fish and Wildlife Committee.

The Kensington Municipal Advisory Council is charged with making recommendations to the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors on land use, planning, zoning variance applications, code enforcement and code changes.

In addition, the council has a broad charge to advise the board on county services, to provide input to the board and county staff on issues of concern to the community and to serve as a liaison between the community and Supervisor John Gioia.

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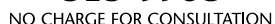
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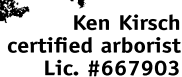
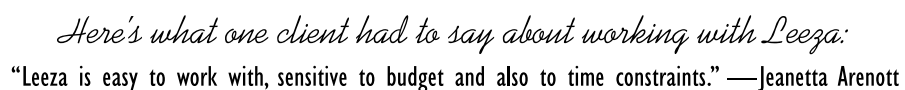
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To donate an item to the silent auction, please call Danielle Power at 524-6737. If you will be attending the party and would like to take advantage of childcare that evening, please call Esther Hill at 525-0292.

A black and white photograph of a man and a woman smiling and looking at a baby. The man is wearing a baseball cap with the word "DAD" on it.



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Also starting in February, the Library will have jigsaw puzzles, chess and checkers available for use in the library.



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Building E, 59 Arlington Ave.
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kccrec@yahoo.com

OFFICE HOURS
10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
The office will be closed during the school break, February 20-24.

KCC OFFICE
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 for weekends and holidays only. The earliest reservation is for 9 a.m. Fees are \$2 per hour for Kensington residents, \$5 for others. Call Esther Hill at 525-0292 for classes and tennis court reservation information. For information on renting the community center, please call Helen Horowitz, 526-4141 at the KPPCSD.

Gymnastics

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

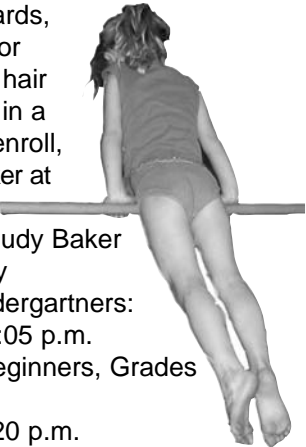
Morning Kindergartners:
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Advanced Beginners, Grades 4-6:
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COMMUNITY CENTER




Registration set for KASEP and KCC summer camp

Registration for the spring session of KASEP will be held on Tuesday, March 7 at 7 p.m. at the Kensington Community Center. Registration for the 2006 KCC Summer Camp will take place Thursday, March 16, 7 pm, at the Community Center for Kensington residents and alumni of the camp. Registration for nonresidents will begin Monday, March 20, at the KCC office. Camp brochures and applications will be available late February at the KCC office. Look for more details in the March issue of the Outlook.

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

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OFFICE HOURS
10 a.m. to 4p.m. Mon.-Fri.
The office is closed and there will be no KASEP classes during the school break, February 20 - 24. The winter session ends March 24, 2006.

Esther Hill, Director
525-0292
kccrec@yahoo.com
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Elma Conley
On-Site Supervisor
525-0292
during class hours

Sandy Thacker
Curriculum Coordinator
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Instructor: Barbara Ward

Session A runs:
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Community Center

Session B runs:
8 weeks, Fridays,
January 20 through March 10, course fee \$200.
Recreation Building (Bldg. E)


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

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pain, and stress reduction will be addressed. No prior experience required - all ages welcome. Please bring a mat to the class.

Instructor Nicole Becker, a registered Yoga teacher, was trained in Anusara Yoga and has studied acupressure and Qi Gong. She describes her teaching style as light-hearted and welcoming and strives to make each student feel cared for in his or her practice of yoga. For more information please contact Nicole at (510) 798-8148. Classes are Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:15 - 10:15 a.m. Fees for residents: \$12 for drop-in, \$40 for 1 class per week for 4 weeks and \$80 for 2 classes per week for 4 weeks. Nonresidents please add 10 percent. To register, call the KCC office at (510) 525-0292. Classes will be held in the Community Center.



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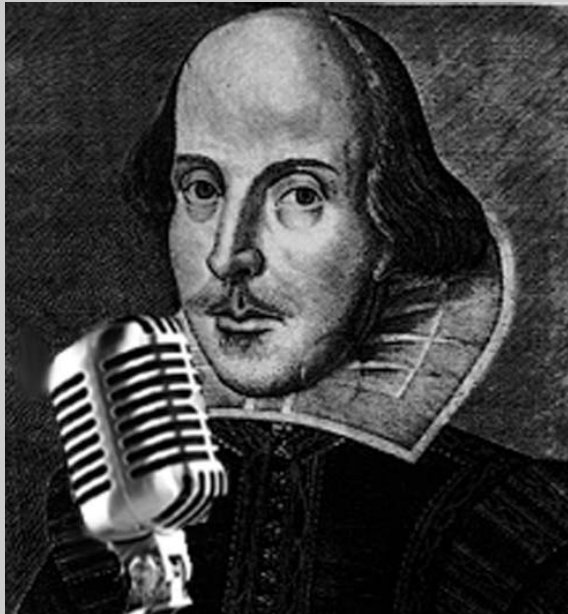
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Kensington Calendar

Take a stanza



Tap your inner poet and let your soul sing at a poetry reading and open mic night at the Kensington Library. Maggie Morley and colleagues will present before throwing the mic open to all February 13 at 7 p.m. at the Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Court. Admission is free and refreshments will be provided. Info: 524-3043.

Thursday, February 2

The El Cerrito Library holds its Lapsit storytime at 10:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. for babies and toddlers up to age 3 and their caregivers at 6510 Stockton Ave. Each meeting lasts about 20 minutes and includes songs, bounces, games and fingerplays in addition to the stories. No registration is required. Info: 526-7512.

Friday, February 3

Monthly After School Movie for Kids: "The NeverEnding Story" (1984, 94 mins.) at 3

p.m. at the Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave. Refreshments provided. Info: 524-3043.

Saturday, February 4

The Magic Mirror That Never Lies: An Introduction to Working with Your Dreams and the Dreams of Others led by Jeremy Taylor from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd., Kensington. Suggested donation: \$45. To register, contact: Martha Helming 528-3417.

Sunday, February 5

Personal Theology Seminar: Beth Glick-Rieman, author, ordained minister, feminist theologian: God and Goddess: Sexuality in the Bible at 9:30 a.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Road, Kensington. Info: 525-0302 ext. 306.

Monday, February 6

Computer Literacy: Introduction to Microsoft Word at 7 p.m. at the Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave. Sign up for a seat. Info: 524-3043.

Monday, February 6

The Kensington Community Council will hold its annual meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the Kensington Community Center. For more information, see article on page 3. Info: 525-0292.

Tuesday, February 7

Family Storytime at 7 p.m. at the Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave. Info: 524-3043.

Tuesday, February 7

Dream Work Class led by Jeremy Taylor on Tuesdays through March 14 from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1

Lawson Rd., Kensington. Suggested donation: \$100; limited enrollment. To register, contact Martha Helming 528-3417.

Wednesday, February 8

Kensington Fire Protection District meets at 7:30 in the Kensington Community Center. Call to Confirm: 527-8395

Thursday, February 9

The El Cerrito Garden Club holds its regular meeting at 9:30 a.m. in the El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Moeser Lane. A program on "Backyard Bugs" will be presented by Alan I. Kaplan, retired naturalist from Tilden Park Nature Area. Cost \$3. Refreshments will be served. Info: 526-2976.

Thursday, February 9

The El Cerrito Library holds its Lapsit storytime at 10:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. for babies and toddler up to age 3 and their caregivers at 6510 Stockton Ave. Each meeting lasts about 20 minutes and includes songs, bounces, games and fingerplays in addition to the stories. No registration is required. Info: 526-7512.

Thursday, February 9

The Kensington Police Protection and Community Service District meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Kensington Community Center. Call to confirm: 526-4141

Saturday, February 11

Self Image/God Image: Write for Your Life For Believers and Doubters led by Beth Glick-Rieman from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. We will write on this day to see what we say about who we are. Using structured exercises, we will write to gain fresh insight into how images of God have shaped our lives, either blocking or freeing. Suggested Donation \$40.00; bag lunch. To register, contact Beth Glick-Rieman at 524-2858.

Saturday, February 11

The Kensington Library will holds the second of a free, five-part reading and discussion series called "Let's Talk About It: Jewish Literature - Identity and Imagination." Led by Dr. Naomi Seidman of the Graduate Theological Union, the discussion will be on the book "Mr. Sammler's Planet" by Saul Bellow at 2 p.m. at the Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave. Registration is recommended, but not required. Info: 524-3043.

The Fat Lady Sings



Get a taste of the lighter side of opera at Opera Alive! at 7 p.m. Saturday, February 4 at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd. in Kensington (with a repeat performance Sunday, February 5 at 3 p.m.). Most of the selections are performed in English. It is designed to appeal to the whole family. Scenes and arias by Mozart's Magic Flute, Bernstein's Candide and Gilbert & Sullivan's The Mikado; the choirs, the soloists and the children take on roles of animals, angels, witches and royalty in serious and silly settings. Tickets \$20 & \$10 suggested donation. For further info: 525-0302.



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Kensington Calendar Continued

Saturday, February 11
The Rotary Club of Albany California holds its Annual Celebration, "Service Above Self," at 7:30 p.m. at the Albany Community Center, 1249 Marin Ave., Albany. Live music, dancing, a silent auction, cocktails, light fare and desserts. Tickets are \$20 per person and benefits the Albany Rotary Club's Community Fund. For tickets email party@albanycarotary.org or call 558-1534.

Sunday, February 12
Personal Theology Seminar: Donna Davis, actor, director, communication coach, presenter of the Drama Workshop: Theater as Religion at 9:30 a.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Road, Kensington. Info: 525-0302 ext. 306.

Tuesday, February 14
Valentine's Day Crafts and Storytime at 7 p.m. at the Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Avenue, Kensington. Info: 524-3043.

Thursday, February 16
The El Cerrito Library holds its Lapsit story-time at 10:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. for babies and toddler up to age 3 and their caregivers at 6510 Stockton Ave. Each meeting lasts about 20 minutes and includes songs, bounces, games and fingerplays in addition to the stories. No registration is required. Info: 526-7512.

Tuesday, February 16
Join James Dalessandro, author of "1906", the page-turning, epic story of the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and fire for a talk and video presentation at 7 p.m. at the El Cerrito Library, 6510 Stockton Ave, El Cerrito. Info: 526-7512.

Sunday, February 19
Personal Theology Seminar: Alex Pappas, teacher of world religions at the College of Alameda: "Intelligent Design": What Does It Mean Scientifically, Spiritually, and Politically?" at 9:30 a.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Road, Kensington. Info: 525-0302 ext. 306.

Tuesday, February 21
Learn how to become a titled knight from the Middle Ages and thou shall be granted a balloon sword, which will prepare ye to participate during the comedy routine at 6:30 p.m. at the Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave. The event is for children age 5 and older. Info: 524-3043.

Saturday, February 25
The Kensington Library holds its annual celebration of Dr. Seuss' Birthday at the Kensington Community Center, 59 Arlington Ave. at 11 a.m. The party will feature a dramatization of Green Eggs and Ham, games with prizes, and actual green eggs and ham to eat. Free tickets will be required and are available starting February 21st. This program is sponsored by the Friends of the Kensington Library. Info: 524-3043.

Saturday, February 25
Kensington Symphony with Geoffrey Gallegos, Conductor, performs Ives, Copland, Coleridge-Taylor and others at 8 p.m. at the Northminster Presbyterian Church, 545 Ashbury Ave., El Cerrito. Suggested Donation: \$1. Seniors, \$10; Children free. Info: 524-9912.

Sunday, February 26
Personal Theology Seminar: Alex Pappas: Pantheism, Panentheism, Acosmin, and Yogic States of Consciousness: Their Meaning and Relationship to Universal Consciousness at 9:30 a.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Road, Kensington. Info: 525-0302 ext. 306.

Monday, February 27
The Kensington Library's Book Club discusses "The Dive From Clausen's Pier", by Ann Packer at 7 p.m. at the Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave. Info: 524-3043.

Monday, February 27
Computer Literacy: Introduction to the computer mouse at 7 p.m. at the Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave. Sign up for a seat. Info: 524-3043

Tuesday, February 28
The Kensington Municipal Advisory Council meets at 7 p.m. in the Kensington Community Center to review the Kensington property ordinance after its first year of enactment. Call to confirm: 273-9926

Tuesday, February 28
Family Storytime at 7 p.m. at the Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave. Info: 524-3043.

Tuesday, February 28
The El Cerrito Democratic Club meets at 7:30 p.m. in Makemie Hall at the Northminster Presbyterian Church, 545 Ashbury Ave., El Cerrito. Steven Zunes, a professor of politics at the University of San Francisco speaks on U.S. Policy in the Middle East: Building a Progressive Democratic Response.

Obituaries

Melvin Clarence Stinson, geologist for state, dies at 84

Melvin Clarence Stinson, a geologist with the state of California who live in Kensington for 32 years, died November 6. He was 84.

Born in Nampa, Idaho in 1921, Stinson moved to California when he was 6 years old. He pursued advanced degrees in geology from the University of Idaho and the University of California at Berkeley. Stinson married Ethlyn Reimel in 1954 and the two lived in Kensington . He spent the last two-and-a-half years of his life at nursing facility in Oakland.

During World War II, Stinson enlisted in the U.S. Navy and served four years. He remained in the Naval Reserve and was activated for one year in 1961 in an antisubmarine squadron stationed at Alameda Naval Air Station.

For 33 years he worked as a geologist

with the Division of Mines and Geology in the state of California Resources Agency's Department of Conservation. He was Senior Geologist in charge of the Division's Mineral Resources program for the state when he retired in 1984.

He is survived by his wife Ethlyn; two sons Richard Stinson of Phoenix, Ariz. and Raymond Stinson of Mountain View; a brother Donald Stinson in Yorba Linda; 16 nephews and nieces; 32 grand-nephews/nieces; and 11 great-grand-nephews/nieces.

The family held a memorial service in November at the Salem Lutheran Chapel in Oakland.

Memorial donations can be made to The Radio Ministry Fund, First Presbyterian Church of Berkeley, 2407 Dana Street, Berkeley, CA 94707.

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From the case files of the KPD

This report is based on the police logs of the Kensington Police Department. The Outlook is solely responsible for the writing and editing of this report.

Events in November and December

○A Rincon Rd. resident flagged down an officer after witnessing a Lincoln Navigator involved in a hit and run incident that damaged a parked vehicle. Berkeley Police arrested the driver, a woman from El Cerrito.

○A Norwood Ave. resident reported more than \$1,300 in unauthorized charges on his credit cards.

○Police sited a Richmond woman for driving with an expired license and impounded her 1987 Ford Mustang.

○A Jessen Ct. man was arrested after he punched a workman during a dispute over a payment. The workman made a citizen's arrest for aggravated assault and the man was transported to county jail. The workman later dropped the charges on the assurance from his employer that they would resolve the dispute with the homeowner.

○Police arrested a 47-year-old San Jose man a little after midnight after stopping him at Beloit and Cambridge and discovered there was an outstanding warrant for him issued by Solano County. He was carrying a backpack with CDs a camera and other property that the department logged.

○A Kenyon Ave. resident reported the theft of CDs, a camera and other items from his unlocked car. Photos described by the resident were on the camera in possession of a 47-year-old San Jose man arrested on an outstanding warrant hours before.

○A 40-year-old Kensington Woman crashed her scooter into a deer at 2 a.m. She was transported to Highland Hospital where she was treated for a broken wrist and elbow, bruised liver and cut lip. A helmet is believed to have spared her from serious head injury. The deer, which was not wearing a helmet, died.

○Police arrested a 36-year-old Richmond man for driving under the influence with a blood alcohol level greater than .12. He was site released to his wife.

○A Coventry Road man complained that his neighbors were using their hot tub 12 minutes

beyond the 10 p.m. limit set by a court order. Police investigated and found that the order had expired and the tub denizens were free to bubble while their neighbor stewed.

○Children reported that they heard a kitten stuck in a storm drain during a night time rain storm. Police called animal control and stuck branches into the drain for the cat to crawl its way out on, which they are confident, or at least hopeful, that the cat eventually did.

○An Avon Rd. resident reported that Macy's had authorized a new buyer on his account. The resident contacted Macy's saying that he authorized no such buyer. Two purchases totalling more than \$1,400 had been charged to the account at Hilltop mall.

○Police brought to a close a large sweet 16 party at the Kensington Community Center after many uninvited guests showed up and the party got out of hand.

○Police arrested a 26-year-old El Cerrito man in Albany on an outstanding warrant for possession of methamphetamine.

○A Toyota Camary suffered minor damage after it struck a deer on Arlington Ave. Police arrived to escort it to the hereafter, but it had already found its way there prior to the arrival of police.

○A car alarm on Willamette created a disturbance at 1:45 a.m. when it malfunctioned. The owner disabled the alarm before the neighbors had a chance to disable the owner.

○Three windows outside Shai's Delicatessen suffered damage when someone fired what is believed to have been shots from a pellet gun at them.

○A taxi driver, angered by a truck temporarily blocking Ardmore Rd. while the driver cleaned a portable toilet, yelled at the workman. He moved the truck, but the cad driver threw a cup of coffee at him while he sped away. Apparently the cab driver had had enough caffeine for one day.

Police Phones

Emergency: 911

Non-emergency officer response: 233-1214

Other police business: 526-4141

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