

————— *Bringing The Community Together* —————

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

*Available Online at [www.KensingtonOutlook.com](http://www.KensingtonOutlook.com)*

JULY/AUGUST 2013

A PUBLICATION OF THE KENSINGTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

VOLUME 70 NUMBER 6



*Last year's National Night Out featured a record 23 events in Kensington, like the Coventry Group, above, hosted by Gretchen Gillfillan. Photo: NNO Coordinator, Officer Doug Wilson*

## National Night Out

20 Events in Kensington: Tuesday Aug. 6th, 6-9pm

*National Night Out* celebrations involve literally millions of people in thousands of communities from all fifty states, as well as Canadian cities, and U.S. territories and military bases, worldwide.

The intent of this annual community-building campaign is to: (1) Heighten crime prevention awareness; (2) Generate support for, and participation

in, local anti-crime programs; (3) Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and (4) Send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

Along with the traditional outside lights and front porch vigils, most

*see NNO, Page 9...*

### Update:

### Writ of Mandate Defense: \$65K+

– Through May; June bills still to come. (About \$30 p/household, so far.)

## Cash Mob!

July at Kensington Chevron

A *cash mob* is a group of people that assembles at a local business to make purchases. The purpose of these “mobs” is to support both the local businesses and the overall community. They may also serve a secondary purpose in providing social opportunities. They are a form of *flash mob*, and are inspired by them. The cash mob is also related to *carrotmob*, which supports companies for ethical, mainly pro-environmental actions.

As reported by Public Radio International, the idea of a cash mob was first started by Chris Smith, a blogger and engineer from Buffalo, New York, in August 2011. He reportedly organized more than 100 people to purchase items from a local wine shop. Smith described the mobs as *reverse Group-*

*see Cash Mob, Page 5...*

## Movie Night

I know that Mark Twain never really said “The coldest winter I ever spent was a summer in San Francisco,” but I bet if he had been at last month’s KCC Movie Night he would have said it!

The wonderful thing is that Kensington is blessed with enthusiastic – and hardy – moviegoers. Over 100 people, mostly families, braved the fog and wind to watch Pixar’s *Ratatouille*. Fortified with hotdogs, popcorn, and hot coffee, the audience stayed to the end and loved the movie. Mark your calendars – the next KCC Movie Night will be Saturday, September 7th!

– Submitted by Kensington Community Council President, Anne Forrest



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### Selected Listings



#### 2 Franciscan Way, Kensington

Gorgeous Panoramic Bay Views! 5-bedroom, 4+-bath, updated 2-story midcentury ranch-style home with lovely master suite, family room, office, rec room, dual-pane windows, and more. On a large, beautiful corner lot. Perfect for entertaining. Listed at \$1,095,00.

**Mark P. Choi   510.524.0800**



#### 1139 Shevlin Drive, El Cerrito


Stunning midcentury modern 4-bedroom, 3-bath home in the El Cerrito hills. Large living/dining room with vaulted ceiling. Skylights on both levels bring in wonderful natural light. Master suite opens to upper balcony. Partial bay views. 2-car garage w/workshop. Price TBA.

**Mark Burfoot   510.527.9111**

#### 289 ARLINGTON AVENUE

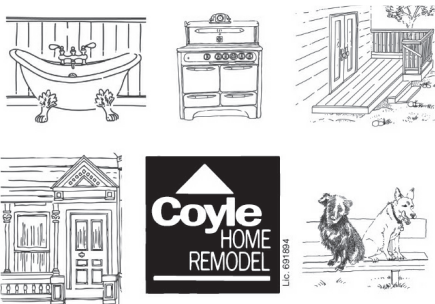
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**September Advertising Deadline...Aug 8**  
**September Editorial Deadline.....Aug 10**

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Letters to the Editor

### Puppy Mills

Dear Editor,

My name is Tessa Christbaum. Can you write a letter about why you shouldn't buy puppies from a puppy mill? You shouldn't buy puppies from a puppy mill because they could have sickness, or habits that can't be cured.

Also (if it's not too much trouble) can you write why puppy mills should be banned? They should be banned for mistreating dogs.

Take care of your dog,  
*Tessa Jean Christbaum*

(Well said, Tessa! – Ed.)

### Thank You, Master Sgt. Hull

Editor:

During a recent weekend afternoon, KPD Sergeant Ricky Hull, in his cruiser just off Arlington Avenue, put aside his radar gun and joined me in active pursuit of our runaway dog. For what seemed a very long time, Sgt. Hull and I, on foot and by car, traversed much of northeast Kensington. My dog, probably on the scent of one of the deer that challenge him at our fence-line, finally tired sufficiently to be caught.

Without the immediate and persistent participation of Sgt. Hull, either the dog or I, or maybe both, would have expired. Sgt. Hull brought compassion and considerable energy to a task that might not appear as a chapter heading in the Police Training Manual, but which for THIS Kensington family prevented a loss as severe and unsettling as a home burglary or car theft.

I thought about Sgt. Hull as I re-read an old Outlook article on the still-simmering KPD compensation issue. I don't think guys like Hull end up on certain police forces by accident. Many of us have met the other sort elsewhere. For this family, whatever combination of factors – compensation/benefits, management style and priorities – permits maintenance of the institutional culture I saw demonstrated by Sgt. Hull are OK.

*Mike Gersick*

### Clarification

In the March 2013 *Outlook* article on the Writ of Mandate filed against KPPCSD, the names of the plaintiffs in that suit, taken from the document filed on October 10, 2012, included “Celito Concus.”

Subsequent to publication of that article, Ms. Concus informed the *Outlook* that, while she is a plaintiff in the suit, the name, “Celito,” is not hers.

As best as can be determined at this remove, it appears that in the amended writ of Nov. 2012, the name “Celito,” was corrected to read, “Celia,” and two of the original plaintiffs were removed.

According to court documents, the current plaintiffs in that suit are: Leonard Schwartzburd, Dairlyn Chelette, Mabry Benson, Catherine De Neergaard, Celia Concus, Llewellyn Stanton, and Eyleen Nadolny.

The *Outlook* regrets any confusion regarding Ms. Concus' name.

### Benches? We Don't Need No Stinkin'...Wait a Minute...

Editor:

I have been really grateful for the wonderful new bench at the corner of Coventry and Edgcroft. How lovely to have a place to stop and rest when you walk up the hill to town. And if you sit down at the right time, you can talk with the designer, Lucky Hall.

Another great thing about Kensington, just done for fun by a private person.

Best,  
*Meryl Rafferty*

### KPPCSD Budget

Editor:

A proposed budget was presented to the KPPCSD Board May 14. It was noted that salaries are the major part of the budget: 35% of the \$2,627,210 budget with another 35% for benefits. It was then noted that there was nothing to do about those numbers, as they were set under a negotiated contract.

The district now pays the 9% employee contribution to PERS - \$83,583 for 2013-14. The board is currently negotiating the renewal of the police contract. The board should ask the police to start contributing their share to their pensions as most government employees do. This does not have to be done all at once, but can be done over the course of a few years. This would be sufficient to buy all the toilet paper we need.

Every government agency is under increasing pressure to make ends meet. Many programs and staff have been cut. It is time that the police accept that they need to make a contribution to this effort.

Yes – they put their lives at risk. They are already well compensated for that risk with generous salary & a very generous retirement. Note that while the risk to Kensington police is not zero, it is nothing like that of the police in Richmond or Oakland. (We have demographics & geography to thank for that.) I also resent the subtle suggestion by police in general that we will have rampant crime if we do not pay them all they ask for.

Note that the Kensington Police Officers Association contributed \$990 to the Toombs-Gillette campaign. The next biggest was \$500, while Mr. Toombs contributed \$1460. Police officers were also distributing campaign literature for them. I consider it totally improper for Mr. Toombs & Ms. Gillette to be part of the negotiations for the new contract. To avoid any suggestion of impropriety or conflict of interest, they should decline to be part of the negotiations and recuse themselves from voting on the contract.

*Mabry Benson*

### Writ of Mandate

Editor,

In response to the letter to the editor in last month's *Outlook*, here are some facts regarding the Petition for Writ of Mandate a group of residents filed in response to violations that occurred at the July 12, 2012 KPPCSD meeting:

1. Director Metcalf, then a sitting Board member, emailed Board President Chuck Toombs, as well as the attorneys for the District, within days of the meeting, advising them that there had been a serious violation of the policies and procedures manual, and that the situation needed to be addressed immediately. The Board had the power to undo its mistake at that time and without cost to anyone. Instead of rec-

See Letters, Page 5...



# K E N S I N G T O N

# COMMUNITY EDUCATION



KCC Summer Camp 2013 Counselors: Erica Shellem, Heather Bates, Taylor Doty, Caitlin Taffe (front row); Amber Martinez, Griffin Kamm, Danny Schumacher, Ethan Houser, Peter Cook (back row); Not pictured: Katie Ponce, Annie Chin and Andrew Northrup

## SUMMER DAY CAMP

KCC Summer Day Camp is in full gear. Since the start of camp, the weeks are full days of fun, energy and adventure...just ask a camper about their day! Campers love being outdoors – batting a ball, kicking, throwing, catching balls; playing baseball, kickball, basketball, tennis, ping-pong; and the list goes on! Craft projects are an everyday happening at camp: watercolors, lanyards, cork sculpture, mask making – creativity abounds. KCC Summer Camp is Creative, Community, and Affordable!

To register go to [AboutKensington.com](http://AboutKensington.com). We accept credit card payment online. Payment is accepted in the KCC office by cash or check. Questions? Call 510-525-0292.

One of the goals of KCC Summer Day Camp is making sure children have the time of their lives. Summer camp is a much-needed break from the academic year where creativity, adventure, thrills, smiles, and plain old good times are the priority.

KCC Summer Day Camp is for children entering 1st through 6th grades in Fall 2013.

Affordable Summer Camp is just \$235 per week per camper. You choose the weeks you want to attend – anytime from July 1st through August 16th.

One fee includes materials and supplies, field trip entrance fees and transportation, a snack each afternoon, group tennis lessons, specialty craft lessons – and a free BBQ lunch on Friday!

**Camp Hours:**  
**Monday – Friday 9am-5pm**

**BeforeCare:** 8-9am; **AfterCare:** 5-6pm. (Childcare is an additional cost of \$8 per hr./per child.)

### Special Activities Schedule

- Week 4: July 1-5**  
Sports & Games with Kim Roots  
\$190 for the week/Closed on the 4th
- Week 5: July 8-12**  
Fun with Drumming w/Scott  
+ Field Trip: Lake Anza
- Week 6: July 15-19**  
Gymnastics with Judy Baker – Olympic Week + Field Trip: New Exploratorium
- Week 7: July 22-26**  
Gymnastics with Judy Baker  
+ Miniature Golf at Scandia
- Week 8: July 29-Aug. 2**  
Jewelry & Leather Creation  
– Spirit Week + Indoor Soccer & Rock Climbing at Bladium
- Week 9: August 5-9**  
Circus Fun with Doug  
+ Lake Temescal/Ice Cream Treats
- Week 10: August 12-16**  
Cooking with Vicky Brodt  
+ Playland Not at the Beach

*Changes in the schedule may be made for unexpected circumstances.*

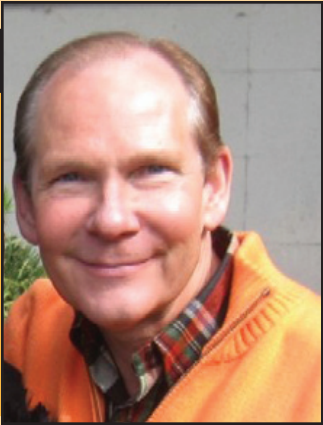
## ADULT RECREATION CLASSES



MONDAY • WEDNESDAY • FRIDAY  
8:15am - 9:15am

On-going classes during summer! Interested in a fun, low-impact workout close to home? Then Kensington Jazzercise is for you! Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 8:15am to 9:15am at the Kensington Community Center.

Join us for a 60-minute fitness class that combines dance-based cardio with strength training and stretching and dance yourself fit! All fitness levels welcome! Come for a free trial – bring a mat and water – we’ll see you there! For more information contact Kevin Knickerbocker at 486-2728.



## BODY SCULPTING CLASS

Catherine Martiken is relocating, and unfortunately class is cancelled until another instructor is found to follow in her footsteps.

## KCC’s ACRYLIC ARTISTS’ PAINT STUDIO

Wednesday’s Acrylic Artists are taking a break for the summer. The group will resume September 11th. If you’re interested in exploring the canvas and want to paint, call the KCC office at 525-0292!

## REGISTRATION

**KCC/KASEP Office:** 59 Arlington Ave., Bldg E (Across the grassy field above the tennis courts in Kensington Park), Kensington CA 94707. E-mail: [kccec@yahoo.com](mailto:kccec@yahoo.com). 525-0292. M-F, 10am-4pm.

**Tennis Court Reservations:** For weekends and holidays only, beginning at 9am. Call the KCC office for info. Court Fees: 45-min. singles reservation: Residents: \$2; Nonres: \$5.

**Kensington Community Center Rental Info:** Please call KPPCSD (Kensington Police Protection and Community Services District) at 510-526-4141.

## KASEP – NEWS!

Exciting news to share with you for Fall KASEP – *Hello automation!*

Yes, the Kensington Community Council is very excited to offer registration for FALL Session KASEP Classes online – no more Tuesday nights at the Community Center...and no more lottery! This is a huge shift in tradition and the way we do business.

KCC introduced automated registration for KCC Summer Camp in March 2013. All families are using the system to register for camp and pay with a credit card, check or cash! KCC is very happy with the results and is now pre-

paring the system for KASEP classes.

Circle **Tuesday, Sept. 3rd** on your calendar for **KASEP Online Registration**. Registration starts at 6pm. Families can register for gymnastics, karate, carpentry, pottery, all KASEP classes, and all grades (including kindergarten).

**PLEASE NOTE THIS ADDITIONAL CHANGE: KASEP Fall classes start Monday, Sept. 16th, and end Friday, Dec. 20th.**

KASEP fall brochures go home in your child’s backpack from Hilltop School the week of August 26th. Check with your classroom teacher for your child’s KASEP brochure. Choose your classes – make a plan, write it down. Create a back-up plan in case one of your desired classes is full.

Go online now and create your family account and profile. You may do this at any time and save the information. **A family account (one account per family) is required before you register for any class.** Do this before registration day to save time. To create an account for September 3rd registration, go to [www.KensingtonCommunityCouncil.org](http://www.KensingtonCommunityCouncil.org).

Be assured, careful thought and lots of discussion went into creating a system that makes sure everyone gets a chance for the classes they want – sometime during the year.

The lottery is replaced with a computerized system that prevents a student enrolled in FALL Session carpentry, pottery, critters, engineering, and other designated highly




*“We laugh at camp.”*

impacted classes from enrolling again in the WINTER Session (unless there is space available). This does not apply to language and music classes.


The KCC Office will be open Tues., Sept. 3rd from 6-7pm, for families wanting to register and pay by check or cash. The online system accepts only credit cards. Our office will be closed Aug. 19th-30th. For more information call 525-0292.





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New Listings



2 Somerset Place, Berkeley

Walter Ratcliff Jr. estate home. Grand English Manor house (c.1926) on over a half acre parcel. Five bedrooms, four and one-half baths in need of restoration. Prime Upper Thousand Oaks neighborhood.      Offered at: \$1,649,000



38 Arlington Avenue, Kensington

New offering by Bee Renovated. Handsome and expansive 1950's Mid-Century. Beautifully appointed with four-plus bedrooms, four-plus bath. Located just blocks to Hilltop school, public transportation and Village shops.    Offered at: \$1,198,000

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Neighborhood Notes

Portola Middle School Groundbreaking

On June 2nd, local and West Contra Costa Unified School District officials, students, parents, and community members joined in marking an exciting milestone as construction begins on the new campus of our local public middle school. Invited guests included WCCUSD Board of Education trustees Randall Enos, Charles Ramsey, and Todd Groves; former WCCUSD Board Member, Karen Pfeifer; Mayor Pro-Tem/ El Cerrito Council Member, Janet Abelson; Superintendent WCCUSD, Dr. Bruce Harter; District I Supervisor John Gioia; last Principal at Castro and current Principal at Fairmont, Galen Murphy; and current Portola Principal, Matthew Burnham – and the Feeder Elementary School Combination Band. More info about Portola's progress at <http://goportola.org>.



Walk Around the Clock! – July 20th & 21st


At El Cerrito's Relay For Life, participants walk around the clock in this unique 24-hour fundraising event against cancer. Participants come together to celebrate the lives of those who have faced cancer, to remember loved ones lost, and to fight back against cancer by raising funds for the American Cancer Society. The overnight relay at Cerrito Vista Park (950 Pomona Ave., EC) starts with cancer survivors walking the first lap at 10am Saturday morning. After a day full of entertainment and a silent auction, the highlight of the event, the Luminaria Ceremony, is held at 8:30 in the evening. During this candle-lighting ceremony cancer survivors are honored and those lost to cancer, remembered. The event ends with a closing ceremony at 10am Sunday morning. More information at [www.relayforlife.org/elcerritoca](http://www.relayforlife.org/elcerritoca)

Kensington Public Safety Council

The KPSC is looking forward to another year of talks with the safety and well being of residents in mind. This past winter and spring they hosted events dealing with identity theft, earthquake preparedness for residents and their animals, seismic retrofitting, and wildfires. Council Chairman, Peter Liddell is inviting everyone to share their concerns and suggest topics they'd like to see covered. Please send your ideas to [kensingtonpssc@gmail.com](mailto:kensingtonpssc@gmail.com), and look for an announcement about KPSC's next presentation, coming up September 26th.

Jackson Browne Plays Benefit at Coventry Grove

Early this summer, Kensington impresario, Danny Scher, sponsored a benefit for Camp Winnarainbow – according to Danny, the most successful benefit ever held for the camp – which netted over \$65,000 – an amount that will send at least 100 under-privileged kids to summer camp this year. Jackson Browne and his band performed in Scher's backyard amphitheatre, Berkeley "activist clown and former frozen dessert," Wavy Gravy, MC'd, and a good time was had by all – no parking citations or violations, thank you. "The performance and venue were donated," according to one spokesperson, so the proceeds were all gravy. *No wavering there!*






KPPCSD Board Authorizes Funds for Add'l Study

At a special weekend KPPCSD meeting on June 15th, the Board voted 5 to 0 to approve funding of up to \$24,000 to select a consultant and pay for an "objective, statistically significant" survey of the registered voters to determine what they feel is most important for park building improvements, and to ascertain the level of willingness to support a possible future bond measure to renovate the Community Center. The funding for the survey will come from the \$300,000 dedicated reserves set aside for park buildings.

Ch-Ch-Ch-Changes...

Judy Hardin's *RabbitEars* moved from its former location near FatApples on upper Fairmount, to 6331 Fairmount at San Pablo, leaving a total of three – depending on how you count them – storefronts now available at the upper end of Fairmount, the "Gateway to Kensington." *Good luck in your new digs, Judy!*



Left: Mechanics Bank is always generous with its support and sponsorship of town events. Here, Account Manager and KCC Board member; Kim Wilkens and other bank staff turned out to help KCC put on last month's Movie Night...Center: Another big Kensington booster, Gretchen Gillfillan, and hubby, Walter, kept warm that evening, before the show...Right: Yvette Rolufs and husband, Joel, presented her work in their bright and cozy Kensington loft at June's Open Studios. You can see her paintings at [YvetteRolufsart.tumblr.com](http://YvetteRolufsart.tumblr.com), and the jewelry and ceramics of her two fellow artists-in-residence, Marcy and Marilyn Kentz, at [etsy.com/shop/MarcyKenz](http://etsy.com/shop/MarcyKenz) and [MarilynKetz.com](http://MarilynKetz.com).



## Move Over, Bo Derek – Kensington Hilltop is a ‘10’!

Kensington Hilltop School scored 10 out of 10 in the just-released state Academic Performance Index (API) ranking for similar schools. Our school was one of only eight elementary schools in Contra Costa County to receive a “10” in both overall score and similar schools ranking. The other seven schools in the county to receive top scores in both categories are four schools in Orinda, two in Moraga, and Windemere Ranch Middle School in San Ramon.

The state divides all the schools in California evenly, starting with the lowest ten percent and continuing to rank the schools by percent, to the top ten percent. With an API of 956 for the academic year of 2011

-2012, Kensington is in the top 10% of all state schools. Even more impressive, the Department of Education also looks at the makeup of each school’s population and the local community and compares our school with 100 schools with the same demographics and challenges. This includes schools in Silicon Valley, Marin, and Piedmont. A school that has a “10” means that the entire school population is doing very well, including English learners and students who qualify for free- and reduced-price lunch. So move over, Bo Derek – Kensington is a perfect ‘10’!

*Submitted by Hilltop Elementary School teacher, Anne Forrest*

### ...Cash Mob, from Page 1

pon that are meant to make a “chance for business owners to begin building a longer-term relationship with customers.” According to *Wikipedia*, cash mobs have since been formed in more than 32 states and Canada.

Having just recently become aware of this new societal meme, the *Outlook* has decided to invite one Kensington business each month to participate in the Kensington Cash Mob, where we’ll invite all Kensington residents to pop into the business and purchase a product or service at least once during the month (or other, shorter period selected by the merchant). The Cash Mob Business of the Month for July is Kensington Chevron, owned by Jason Simms.

At the time he took the reins almost four years ago, Jason Simms said, “I’m here for the community, and I’m here to stay.” He’s proven to be a man of his word in that regard, and, he says, he specializes in “doing good work and providing great service to my customers.”

If you’re already a customer of Jason’s Chevron station, located in upper downtown Kensington on Arlington Avenue, across from the former Kensington Pharmacy, we invite you to stop in and purchase an extra tank of gas, over and above what you might normally purchase there, sometime during the month of July. If you

See Cash Mob, Page 6...

### ...Letters, from Page 2

tifying their mistake, they failed to even respond to Metcalf’s emails.

2. The litigation that has ensued has been due to the fact that the Board failed to acknowledge that a problem – and a serious one – had occurred. At the following meeting, in August 2012, Director Metcalf asked President Toombs to respond to her questions regarding the violation of the Board Policies and Procedures that had taken place at the previous meeting. Toombs refused. Metcalf asked Toombs directly which of the following was the case: did he, as Board President, violate the Policies and Procedures without knowing he had done so, out of ignorance of the rules he was responsible for enforcing, or did he violate the rules willfully? Toombs responded, “I am not going to answer that question.”

3. This case could have been resolved before it was even filed, but the Board refused to acknowledge their own errors. The case continues (and continues to cost the District money) because the Board refuses to acknowledge their error. Obviously the current Board thinks it makes sense to continue to fight the case rather than to admit what they did, and make it right. Does that make any sense to anyone?

*Eyleen Nadolny,  
Petitioner*

## Kensington Police Dept. Citizens’ Academy This Fall

### “Well Worth Your Time,” Says Previous Attendee

I participated in the first police Citizen’s Academy in the fall of 2011. Lead by Officer Wilson, it was the first time the Kensington Police Department put this program together, and it was fantastic. The Academy includes a wide array of information, from ethics and professional standards through crime scene investigations and traffic enforcement.

Participation in the program gives us “non-sworn” citizens a glimpse into how the police are trained, how they think, and what they look for in Kensington. The program includes elements of overall community safety as well as the importance of officer safety. They even demonstrate how quickly someone can pull out a gun and create a problematic situation (the demo is with fake guns, of course).

Other highlights of the program include learning how crime is categorized, the types of crime in our community, and crime prevention techniques. At the end of the program, there is a “drive along” where you spend time on patrol with an officer, and experience – in real time – what they look for and how they respond

to calls for service.

A wonderful aspect of the program is that each officer presents a specialty subject where s/he has primary responsibility. It is a great way to meet the officers who patrol our streets and to see how the work in the department is organized. Officers also share their unique experiences related to policing in Kensington.

It’s really quite amazing that the police department in a community of our small size values sharing with residents what it does and it’s done. The Citizen’s Academy is based on the fact that an informed community working in collaboration with the police and their neighbors make the entire community safer. I am very proud that this program takes place, and it was well worth my time. No homework and no tests – just two hours a week. Sign up today!

*The Citizens Academy meets Tuesdays – August 13th to October 1st, from 7-9pm at the Community Center. Info: Call Officer Wilson at 526-4141, ext 38. It’s free!*

– Submitted by Lisa Caronna



**Amy Kurzer**  
Broker Associate  
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amykurzer@marvingardens.com

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REAL ESTATE

**• KENSINGTON MARKET UPDATE •**

	LIST PRICE	SOLD PRICE	DAYS ON MARKET
• Yale	\$899,000	\$920,000	31
• Edgemoor	\$599,900	\$740,000	7
• Westminster	\$730,000	\$720,000	1
• Vassar	\$599,000	\$691,000	8

Source: EBRD-MLS Information deemed reliable but not guaranteed.

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For each of my Kensington sales, I donate to the Kensington Education Foundation. Education is our future.

*We were skeptical when you said that the house would sell quickly for a price more than we anticipated, but you proved us wrong.*

– Bill Lundgren

**Frame Show Sunday**  
-featuring  
**KENSINGTON OPTOMETRY**

**August 18**  
**Tom Ford!**



*Now on Colusa Circle, to stay!!*

**KENSINGTON OPTOMETRY**  
FAMILY • EYE • CARE

Dr. Russell N. Cottrell, OD  
Optometrist  
**527-1714**



**Just In:**

**New AT&T Proposal • KMAC Mtg 7/30**

The Dept. of Conservation and Development has received a revised project proposal from New Cingular Wireless (AT&T). As proposed, AT&T has reduced the number of proposed sites in the Kensington area from nine to six. According to AT&T, the sites at 8 Highland, 98 Rincon Rd., and 123 Purdue Ave. will be replaced with one “Macro” site in El Cerrito, at the top of Moser Lane. In an attempt to improve the aesthetics and reduce any potential view blockage, five of the remaining six sites within Kensington have been modified. ATT is in the process of trying to get story poles up on the PGE power lines, and hopes to get them up in time so the public and KMAC can look at them before the meeting. The new proposal is tentatively expected to be presented to the public at the next KMAC meeting, Tuesday, July 30th, at 7pm at the Community Center. See proposal and plans for each site at [www.co.contra-costa.ca.us/DocumentCenter/Index/2660](http://www.co.contra-costa.ca.us/DocumentCenter/Index/2660). For more information, contact County Project Planner, Francisco Avila at 925-674-7801 or [francisco.avila@dd.cccounty.us](mailto:francisco.avila@dd.cccounty.us).

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**July 1 “Castoffs” Knitting Group.** All levels welcome and some help provided. First Mondays, Kensington Library, 6:30pm. Free. 524-3043.

**July 2, 9, & 30 Stories & Songs.** Songs, lullabies and stories. Perfect for families to cuddle together prior to bedtime. Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave. 6:30pm. Free. 524-3043.

**July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Yoga at Arlington Community Church** All ages. 4:45-6pm. Drop-ins welcome, small fee. Call Suzanne Lingo at 525-1881.

**July 4 Women’s Fellowship at Arlington Community Church.** 6:30pm. Bring a dish to share. Info 526-9146

**July 7 Summer Forum:** Dr. Patrick O’Reilly, psychologist for inmates on death row at San Quentin State Prison, on “Prison Culture.” 11am-noon. Free. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd, Kensington, 525-0302, [www.uucb.org](http://www.uucb.org)

**July 7, 14, 21 & 28 Kensington Farmers’ Market.** Live produce and live music every Sunday, 10am-2pm. Free. Colusa Circle. 847-0801

**July 8 Author Talk -** Wood, Paper, Scissors: carpentry, book arts, and sewing with kids. Sandy Thacker, Elaine Chu, and Lynn Crook will discuss their popular book for adults working with children in these three craft areas. For adults. Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave. 7pm. Free. 524-3043.

**July 8 Marcy Wheeler Demonstrates Alla Prima Portraiture** at the El Cerrito Art Assoc. mtg. 7pm, EC Community Center, 7007 Moeser Lane, EC. Visitors and new members welcome. 526-6241, or [www.elcerritoArt.org](http://www.elcerritoArt.org).

**July 9 The kABC, The Kensington Afternoon Book Club.** For ages 11-14. Contact the library for the title of the book to read. First Tuesdays, Kensington Library, 1pm. Free. 524-3043.

**July 11 Baby & Toddler Storytime.** Stories, songs & action rhymes for young children and their caregivers. Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave. Two identical sessions 10:15am & 11:15am. Free. 524-3043.

**July 13 Story and Craft: *Pete the Cat*.** Saturday craft for preschoolers. Listen to *Pete the Cat* stories and make a silly cat of your own. Kensington Library. 11:30am. Free. 524-3043.

**July 13 Portola Middle School Family Mixer.** Meet incoming 5th, 6th, & 7th graders, and their families. 2-4pm, at Castro Park near the clubhouse, 1420 Norvell St., at Donal Ave., EC. Refreshments will be served. For more info, or to volunteer: [goportola@gmail.com](mailto:goportola@gmail.com).

**July 14 Knitting at Arlington Community Church.** 11:30am. Knit shawls, hats, scarves, and mittens for those in need. Info 526-9146.

**July 14 Summer Forum:** Rev. Jane Ramsey, on “Death with Dignity.” 11am-noon. Free. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd, Kensington, 525-0302, [www.uucb.org](http://www.uucb.org)

**July 14 & Aug. 11 Sunday Afternoon Recital Series.** Laura Bohn, soprano, 7/14. Buffy Baggott, mezzo-soprano, 8/11. 3pm, Garden Gate Creativity Center, 2911 Claremont Ave., Berkeley. [www.berkeleyopera.org](http://www.berkeleyopera.org), or 841-1903

# Kensington Kalendar



1st Prize at June’s Berkeley Chocolate & Chalk Art Festival – by high schoolers, Alegra Figeroid and Zoe Turin



**July 15 Art History Talk.** “The Loves of the Gods.” Slideshow and talk on the loves of the Greco/Roman Gods, as depicted by 16th Century Italian artists. Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave. 7pm. Free. 524-3043.

**July 16 Stuffed Animal Sleepover.** Drop off your stuffed animal anytime on July 16th, or at the 6:30pm story time, and let it stay over at the library for some fun. Come pick up your stuffed animal anytime after 11am on Thursday, July 18, and get a picture of what your fuzzy friend did at the library during its stay. Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave. 11:30am. Free. 524-3043.

**July 18 Men’s Fellowship.** Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave., 6:30pm. 526-9146

**July 18 Maori Mo Ake Tonu,** a San Francisco Bay Area dance group, performs songs and dances of native New Zealand. EC Library, 6510 Stockton Ave., 7pm. Free. 526-7512.

**July 20 & 21 Relay For Life of El Cerrito.** Walk around the clock in this unique 24-hour fundraising event against cancer. Overnight relay at Cerrito Vista Park (950 Pomona Ave., EC). 10am, Saturday morning. Entertainment, silent auction, and candle-lighting ceremony at 8:30pm. Closing ceremony Sun., 10am. [relayforlife.org/elcerritoca](http://relayforlife.org/elcerritoca).

**July 21 Summer Forum:** Dr. Kendra Smith, on “Restorative Justice at San Quentin.” 11am-noon. Free. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd, Kensington, 525-0302, [www.uucb.org](http://www.uucb.org)

**July 23 *Hijinks!* with Thomas John.** Juggling shenanigans and general mayhem. Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave. 6:30pm. Free. 524-3043.

**July 23 & Aug. 18 Aging as Spiritual Practice** events at Arlington Community Church, 11:30am. Light lunch (\$5) and conversation with author, Lewis Richmond. Info: 526-9146.

**July 24 Book Club.** Discussion of *Nightwoods* by Charles Frazier. Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave., 7pm. Free. 524-3043.

**July 25 Five Senses and the Farmer’s Market.** Special story time with Kensington Farmer’s Market. Listen to stories, then see, smell, feel, and taste samples of fresh fruits and veggies. Kensington Library, 10:30am. Free.

**July 26 Bridge at Arlington Community Church.** Potluck at 6pm. 526-9146.

**July 28 Summer Forum:** Prof. Diane Hill, on “The Bahai: Religion and Social Justice.” 11am-noon. Free. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd, Kensington, 525-0302, [www.uucb.org](http://www.uucb.org)

**July 29 Poetry Club – Just for Fun.** Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave. 6:30pm. Free. 524-3043

**July 30 KMAC Meets.** Planned consideration of new AT&T wireless installations. Community Center, 7pm.

**July 31 Karaoke** with Officer Doug Wilson at The Arlington, 6-10pm. Free

**Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29 Baby & Toddler Storytime.** Stories, songs & action rhymes for young children and their caregivers. Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave. Two identical sessions 10:15am & 11:15am. Free. 524-3043.

**Aug. 4 Summer Forum:** Tony Bushman, PhD, M. Div. on “Creating a Fulfilled Life” – a discussion of his latest book. Copies will be available. 11am-noon. Free. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd, Kensington, 525-0302, [www.uucb.org](http://www.uucb.org)

**Aug. 4 Portola Middle School Family Mixer.** Meet incoming 5th, 6th, & 7th graders, and their families. 2-4pm, at Castro Park near the clubhouse, 1420 Norvell St., at Donal Ave., EC. Refreshments will be served. For more info, or to volunteer: [goportola@gmail.com](mailto:goportola@gmail.com).

**Aug. 4, 11, 18 & 25 Kensington Farmers’ Market.** Live produce and live music every Sunday, 10am-2pm. Free. Colusa Circle. 847-0801

**Aug. 5 “Castoffs” Knitting Group.** All levels welcome and some help provided. First Mondays at the Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave., 6:30pm. Free. 524-3043.

**Aug. 6 The kABC, The Kensington Afternoon Book Club.** Ages 11-14. Contact library for title of the book to read. 1st Tuesdays of the month. Kensington Library, 1pm. Free. 524-3043.

**Aug. 6 Camp Sing-Along.** S’mores and songs to celebrate the end of summer. Kensington Library, 6:30pm. Free.

**Aug. 10 Story and Craft:** Preschool story and craft. Get ready to start school and make your own kissing hand. Kensington Library, 11:30am. Free. 524-3043.

**Aug. 11 Summer Forum:** Norman Bowen, Assoc. Prof. of Political Science at CSU-East Bay, on the “Role of the United Nations.” 11am-noon. Free. UUCB, 1 Lawson Rd., Kensington. 525-0302, [www.uucb.org](http://www.uucb.org)

**Aug. 12 Master Gardeners: “Planting a Winter Vegetable Garden.”** Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave., 7pm. Free. 524-3043.

**Aug. 13, 20, & 27 Stories & Songs.** Songs, lullabies and stories. Perfect for families to cuddle prior to bedtime. Kensington Library, 6:30pm. Free.

**Aug. 15 Kensington Library Town Hall Meeting:** help plan the library’s future. Refreshments. 7pm at the library.

**Aug. 17 Summer Reading Program ends** – last day to get prizes. Kensington Library, 6:30pm. Free. 524-3043.

**Aug. 18 Summer Forum:** Earle Canfield, American-Nepali Students’ and Women’s Educational Relief founder, 11am-noon. Free. UUCB, 1 Lawson Rd., Kensington. [www.uucb.org](http://www.uucb.org)

**Aug. 19 “Creature Creator” Poetry Reading** by local poet, Joan Clair. Kensington Library, 7pm. Free.

**Aug. 25 Summer Forum:** Stephen Zunes, USF Professor of Political Science, on the role of the U.S. in international politics. 11am-noon. Free. UUCB, 1 Lawson Rd., Kensington, 525-0302.

**Aug. 26 Book Club.** Discussion of *Fathers and Sons* by Ivan Turgenev. Kensington Library, 7pm. Free. 524-3043.

**Aug. 28 Karaoke** with Officer Doug Wilson at The Arlington, 6-10pm. Free



## Town Meetings

*Kensington Community Center*  
59 Arlington Ave., Kensington  
(Dates subject to change – call to confirm.)

**KCC - July 1st, Aug. 5th**  
**Kensington Community Council**  
1st Mondays 7:30pm. 525-0292

**FKL - July 2nd, Aug. 6th**  
**Friends of the Kensington Library,** 7pm (at the Library, 61 Arlington Ave.) 1st Tuesdays

**KPSC - July 8th, Aug. 12th**  
**Kensington Public Safety Council**  
*Earthquake/Disaster Preparedness*  
2nd Mondays 6pm. 501-8165

**KARO/ECHO - July 8th**  
**Amateur Radio Operators**  
2nd Mondays of odd months  
7:30pm. 524-9815

**KFPD - July 10th, Aug. 14th**  
**Fire Protection District**  
2nd Wednesdays 7:30pm. 527-8395

**KPPCSD - July 11th, Aug. 8th**  
**Police Protection and Community Services District**  
2nd Thursdays 7pm. 526-4141

**KIC - July 22nd**  
**Kensington Improvement Club**  
4th Mondays 7:30pm. 527-3062

**KMAC (Tentative) – 7/30, 8/27**  
**Municipal Advisory Council**  
Last Tues. 7pm. (Call Supervisor Gioia’s office to confirm: 231-8691)

**KPOA**  
**Property Owners Association**  
Meets quarterly. 559-8232



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“Inside my empty bottle I was constructing a lighthouse, while all the others were making ships.”

– Charles Cimic

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...NNO, from Page 1

cities and towns celebrate NNO with a variety of special neighborhood and city-wide events, such as block parties, cook-outs, parades, festivals, safety fairs, youth events, and visits from local officials and law enforcement. In Kensington, look for this year’s parties to start around 6pm, as usual – on Tuesday, August 6th.

NNO Coordinator, Officer Doug Wilson, invites all residents to start thinking about having NNO parties at their homes or on their blocks. According to previous years’ hosts, it’s simple and it’s fun. Doug will help you with materials, suggestions, solutions, and support.

On the night of your block party, gathering, or BBQ, an officer will stop by and talk about Neighborhood Watch. If you’re lucky, a fire engine may also drop by – always a big hit with the kids!

Interested in hosting, or attending a party? For more information, contact Officer Wilson at [dwilson@kensingtoncalifornia.org](mailto:dwilson@kensingtoncalifornia.org), or 526-4141, ext. 38. More info, free materials, downloadable invites, and fun items are available for purchase at [www.NationalNightOut.org](http://www.NationalNightOut.org). *We’ll leave the light on for you!*

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