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KENSINGTON UTLONK

JUNE 2007

A publication of the Kensington Community Council

<image>

Graduates gather before moving on

Another year of high school graduates are on their way to institutions of higher learning. Below is a list of this year's graduates, the high school they attended, and where they hope to be going this fall. Clif Taylor took the photo.

Front row, left to right: Judith Joy (Berkeley High School/ UC Los Angeles); Allison Liepman (Berkeley High School/ Univ. of Oregon); Nina Gordon-Kirsch (Berkeley High School/Univ. of So Cal); Eileen Cullen (Berkeley High School/ Cal State Univ. at Chico); Jereme Altenberg (Berkeley High School/UC Davis); Charlotta Hewitt; Rose Cowens (El Cerrito High School/UC Santa Cruz); Michael Stein (El Cerrito High School/College of Marin); Alicen Buder (El Cerrito High School/UC Berkeley); Mark Severy (El Cerrito High School/ Cal Poly-San Luis Obispo): Middle row, left to right: Michael Teshima (Lick-Wilmerding High School/Brown Univ.); Nadia Mufti (Bentley High School/Stanford Univ.); Andrew James Patterson (Maybeck High School/UC Santa Cruz); Sam Kessel (Albany High School/UC Davis); Elizabeth Day (Bentley High School/ Santa Clara Univ.); Ellora Coombs-Eichenhofer (El Cerrito High School/Univ. of San Francisco); Zoe Siegel (Berkeley

High School/Univ. of British Columbia); Gabriela Baker (El Cerrito High School/Oberlin College); Averil Mortimer (El Cerrito High School/UC Santa Cruz); Zackary Lewis (Albany High School/Berkeley City College); Jeffrey Lane (Head Royce High School)

Back row, left to right: Lyle Daniel Hintz Jr. (Foothill High School/American River College); Elizabeth Sanders (El Cerrito High School/Stanford Univ.); Catherine Soneda (El Cerrito High School/UC Los Angeles); Peggy Gorelick (Tamalpais High School/UC Los Angeles; Meagan Travlos (El Cerrito High School/UC Nos Angeles; Meagan Travlos (El Cerrito High School/Univ. of Washington); Rebecca Triano (St. Mary's High School/UC Santa Cruz); Patrick Wong (St.

Help at Hilltop

Volunteers needed for both paid and voluntary positions

The Hilltop School needs help from friends and neighbors. Headmaster Jon Stokes is looking for volunteers and some paid help for the 2007–2008 school year. The paid positions will be for people to monitor the playgrounds during recesses. These playgrounds are large, and there is a need of an adult presence in all areas.

The volunteers will help organize extracurricular lunchtime activities. The aim is that on any day there will be at least two alternative activities for kids to get involved with, as an option to playing with their friends outside. The volunteers needed may teach or monitor activities such as running, chess, board games, art, story telling, beginning computer skills, basketball, reading, and photography. The school would particularly welcome retired people with skills in music, art, writing, dancing, chemistry, and biology. Stokes commented, "If we can get retired teachers, people who are used to dealing with young children, so much the better." Typically volunteers have been parents of children in the school, and when the child graduates, the parent often also leaves.

Lunchtime activities have several functions. First, they foster new interests and hobbies, allowing children to get a more rounded exposure to a variety of skills. They also give kids who may have difficulties with their peers a place to escape under the caring eye of an adult. Some children have experienced bullying during the recess period, and these extracurricular activities give them an alternative to hanging out in the schoolyard. "Although this bullying is often just young kids exploring their limits or fluffing their feathers, less aggressive children can find it intimidating, and offering a safe, educational alternative is a great solution," said Stokes.

The school is already organizing some of these activities, but teachers, in what should be their break times, are doing much of the work. One volunteer is getting kids interested in star gazing, with gatherings on Thursday evenings. They learn to identify stars and get to look through a telescope at planets and other celestial objects. "All these activities are very rewarding to the children and the adults involved, said Stokes. "We also always need volunteers to help monitor traffic at the back gate in the mornings, before school starts."

Mary's High School/UC Davis)

Not all the graduates were able to make the photo, those not pictured include: Lauren Halperin (El Cerrito High School/ UC Los Angeles); Daniela Kronenberg (El Cerrito High School/Pitzer College); Ammon Langarica (Armijo High School/Solano Community College); Ahmad Moghadam (El Cerrito High School/UC Davis); Daniel Sera (St. Mary's High School/1-year college deferral); Jordan Fuller (El Cerrito High School/UC Riverside)

Sidewalk fix in the works

The residents of Arlington Ave. who had their sidewalks tagged for repair by the county have organized themselves to enable the work to be done collectively. This will save them time and money.

Through a series of householder meetings, they have selected a contractor, delegated one person to obtain all the permits, and contacted PG&E to make sure they are doing their part too. By collectively signing with one contractor, they were able to negotiate a very large discount from the original estimates. In fact, the deal is so good—less than half the original estimates—that some are choosing to replace their whole sidewalk, driveways, and footpaths. Other people who were not flagged by the county have also joined in, as they could never get their individual work done at these low prices. Two people have done most of the organizing: Liz Guthridge, who runs Connect Consulting Group, which facilitates communications for their clients, and Jeff Roda, a contractor, who was able to negotiate the great prices they got.

Residents are hopeful that their part of the work will commence in the early part of June and that PG&E will be complete their work at a later date.



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Laura Dubinett



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Todd Hodson & Ron Egherman	524.0800



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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Editor-Regretfully, I must announce the cancellation of the June 24 Kensington Street Festival. I did not allow enough time to adequately prepare for this event. In order to block parking along the Arlington, we were required by the county to have special event insurance, and were not able to arrange for this in a timely manner. I believe that in the case of an unincorporated area like Kensington, we have to think "outside the box," finding creative ways to get liability insurance.

The Street Festival was intended to be a one-time extension of the Farmer's Market. Like the mission of the Kensington Business and Professional Association (KBPA), also celebrating it's 30th anniversary this year, the goal of the businesses sponsoring this event was to reach out to the local community to celebrate what makes Kensington so special and to foster a sense of goodwill between the businesses and the community. The KBPA was started in 1977 to integrate divergent business interests in Kensington. According to the KIC survey, in 1995 there were over 150 businesses based in Kensington and one of every four residents reported working at home at least part-time. The village-like atmosphere and smalltown charm of Kensington are unique, and the special characteristics of the community allow businesses and residents to embrace each other. The Kensington Street Festival is just the event to bring the many various elements of this tapestry out for the entire community to enjoy together.

Russell Cotteral, O.D. Kensington Optometry

Editor-I guess there are a few dog owners that feel they are "above the leash law."

My garden, my cat Sparky, and I recently had the un-invited pleasure of a rather large dog, (German Shorthair) tear through the property. The owner of this large dog was nowhere in sight. The dog ran down the driveway chasing after Sparky. I heard a voice in the distance, "Spirit, come here Spirit." Could this be the owner of this large dog? While Spirit, with no intentions of minding his owner, continued to chase Sparky, tearing through the front garden to the side gate/rose arbor, where Sparky was able to escape. Spirit broke a board on the arbor. He proceeded to tear up the garden trying to get traction with his big paws to clear the two and a half foot fence from a 30-degree incline. Which he did with room to spare! and continued on to the next level of garden. The owner still calling for Spirit during his yard rage was still without control over her dog that was full of spirit. The owner said that he saw something and was intrigued. I told her he was chasing my cat that was sleeping in the garden. She went on to say that, "there are cats at home and he would not hurt my cat." I told her there are no dogs living here. That my cats do not respond well to dogs on the property.

KENSINGTON OUTLOOK

EDITOR JOHN FELD

ADVERTISING MANAGER ALMA KEY

PUBLISHER KENSINGTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL 59 Arlington Avenue Kensington, CA 94707-1307

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Advertising

Rates and an online ad form for the classified section are at: www.kensingtonoutlook.com at the bottom of the back issues listings. Send all display and classified advertising mail to: Kensington Outlook

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Deadlines

Advertising deadline June 8 Editorial deadline June 10

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Free detectors from the **Fire Department**

With the cooperation of Home Depot, Target, and Radio Shack, the Kensington-El Cerrito Fire Department is offering free smoke detectors to elderly, disabled, and low-income Kensington and El Cerrito residents. If you or someone you know does not have a smoke detector and cannot supply or install one, please contact the fire department at 215-4450, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Smoke detectors save many lives and may save yours. More than 50 percent of fatal residential fires happen when people are sleeping. If a fire starts while your family is asleep, smoke detectors will wake you up. They can make the difference between life and death in a fire emergency.

If you install a smoke detector in your home, place it on the ceiling just outside each bedroom. If you have a multi-level home, install a detector on every level. If you sleep with your bedroom door closed or are hard of hearing, place an additional detector inside your bedroom. Detectors should be tested monthly and batteries changed twice a year. Daylight savings time is a perfect time to change your batteries. Change your clock-change your batteries! To ensure reliability, detectors should be replaced every 10 years.

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The owner finally made contact with Spirit and left.

I have had many pets in fifty years including dogs. All one can ask is for the owner to please be responsible by walking their dog(s) on a leash and clean up after they have made a deposit.

Val Paola

Pets of the month

This month's pets are Eenie, Meenie, Minie and Mo, four baby Dutch bunnies bottle-fed by a RabbitEars' nanny who gave them a birthday party when they were only the size of hamsters! Now they're bouncing bunnies only eight weeks old, but they're ready for new families who will sing to them, read to them, and feed them yummy green salads every day. They run really fast, hop straight up in the air, spin around, run really fast in the opposite direction, and make you laugh every time they do it Since they were hand-fed, they like people and enjoy being petted. Please come pet them at RabbitEars at 303 Arlington Ave.

<section-header><image><image>

Officer Rodney Martinez honored as Officer of the Year

Officer Rodney Martinez received an award as Officer of the Year for Kensington by the Exchange Club of Albany-El Cerrrito at the Galileo Club in Richmond on May 23rd. KPPCSD and the interim chief of police Brown Taylor nominated Martinez for providing consistent exemplary service. This acknowledgement is a follow-on to his service not only to the department but to the Kensington community. Martinez and his family, police officers from the department, KPPCSD board members and other Kensington residents attended the event.

Martinez joined KPD in January 2006, coming from the Broadmore Police Department. He has received numerous commendations for his professional dedication. These have included his work in organizing the 2006 National Night Out in Kensington, his care and compassion shown to family members following a death, the mature manner in which he handled the late night apprehension of masked youths with what appeared to be rifles and pistols, and other incidents.

Legal issues

The Kensington Police Department is involved with several investigations at present. The civil claim by a Berkeley resident for wrongful detention by Kensington police officers has now been filed in United States Federal Court in Oakland. There are also ongoing investigations into alleged verbal misconduct, and an allegation of biased policing and racial profiling. These last two investigations should be completed soon. The federal case is likely to continue for many months. Typically these cases are settled out of court, as it is less expensive for the insurance company that must pay on the claim. The March cost of legal services from the district's attorney was \$9,232.63. This included 44.2 hours for the internal investigation, 3.8 hours for the tort claim, and 1.1 hours for other business.

Recruitment





Here's what one client had to say about working with L'eeza: "Leeza is a color expert...and, my home is living proof!" — Jeanetta Arenott

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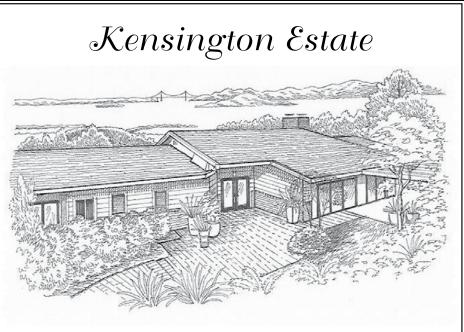
Over 70 people applied for the position of Kensington Police Chief and General Manager. The search firm soon whittled this down to six applicants, and the ad hoc committee will appraise the details of the applicants and hopefully reduce it to two or three people to be interviewed by the full council sometime in June.

The process is almost complete in the selection of the officer who will fill the position vacated by Sergeant Danny Jeffries. The person selected is still undergoing background and psychological tests and, if all goes well, should be ready to start work on July 1. The officer selected has many years of experience, and Sergeant Escobar who is heading the recruitment for the position, says she thinks he will be a "perfect fit for Kensington."

911 calls

California has standards regarding 911 calls that state the call should be answered within 10 seconds (three rings). In March 77% (37) of Kensington 911 calls were answered within 10 seconds, 15% (7) were answered in between 10 and 20 seconds, and 8% (4) took more than 20 seconds. Average figures in these categories since Kensington figures have been recorded are 71%, 15%, and 14% respectively, for a total of 431 calls.





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KPPCSD asks for suggestions for Annex use

The Annex Building in the park has been completely refurbished by the Kensington Police Protection and Community Services District. Now the KPPCSD is wondering what to do with the building. Hopefully future uses will contribute financially to the district. The KPPCSD board is now welcoming community input into possible uses for this valuable resource. Director Cindy Kimball says she is open to "all ideas and creative suggestions."

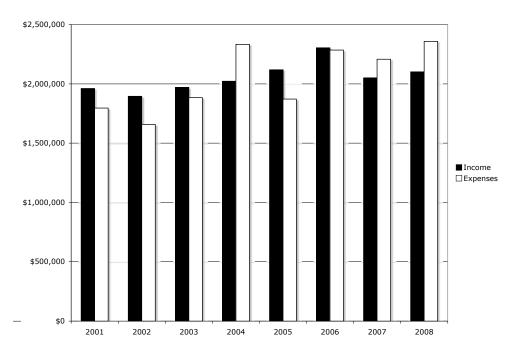
The district also wants to know what changes they should be considering for the park. If you have suggestions, please feel free to call Kimball at 525-8985 or you can email her at *kforkensington@ sbcglobal.net*.

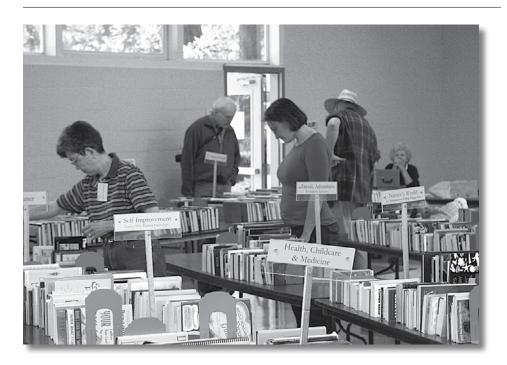
Previously the Annex was occupied by the Neighborhood School, but due to flooding during a winter storm, it became uninhabitable and infected with mold. Since then the Neighborhood School has relocated to the rear of Hilltop School. After prolonged insurance and legal matters were settled, the building was completely cleaned and painted. The company that tested for contamination has certified that there is less mold in the building than in the air in the park.

The district staff is investigating the costs of cleaning and placing a timed lock onto the outside bathroom door in the

Annex Building, to allow the bathroom to be used by people in the park. It would not be suitable for handicapped people, as the room and surrounding infrastructure would have to be completely remodeled to make the bathroom ADA compliant. An ADA consultant who advised the district on the requirements to make this bathroom ADA compliant said the room would need to be expanded by 4 four feet and the surrounding grades would need to be altered to bring it up to code. The KPPCSD budget allocates \$17,500 to make this bathroom available from the outside. There are plans to build a separate ADA bathroom near the basketball courts, although there are insufficient funds to complete this at present. KCC recently gave a check of \$30,000 to KPPCSD, towards the cost of construction, which is a combination of private donations and a KCC matching grant.

Whatever uses are found for the Annex, they should generate income for the district. The accompanying chart shows the discrepancy between income and expenses for the years 2001–2008. This is expected to become more serious if not dealt with proactively. The insurance company is crediting the district for lost rents (\$442,700) and for the cost of stabilizing the building (\$20,000).





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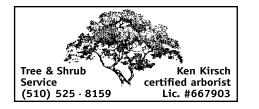
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EVERYONE LOVES SPAGHETTI

KCC is hosting a Midsummer Spaghetti Dinner. Come eat, drink, and be entertained at the Community Center. Bring your kids and neighbors. Wine, beer, and soda on sale.\$5 (kids 12-and-under \$3).

JULY 14 • 6 PM

A great Book Fair

The May Spring Book Fair in the Community Center was yet another great success for the Friends of the Kensington Library. They made 10 percent above their five-year average, and although some of the silent auction books went for their minimum bid, 23 of the 35 books in this category sold, and many people were very happy with their new treasures. There were books in all categories, with more children's books than usual. As always, this volunteer project raised much-needed money for the library and its functions, and the staff had a good time interacting with the public and sharpening their calculating skills.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

YOUTH CLASSES

Alex Brown's Summer Tennis Clinic

Clinic includes stroke instruction, play, ball-machine practice, refreshments, and prizes. For information about racquets, please call Alex at 524-5495.

Grades 1–6, minimum of 4 students per class

Please register at the KCC office, Building E, 59 Arlington Avenue.

When: Monday–Friday, 1-3 p.m. Session 1, June 18-22 Session 2, June 25-29 Session 3, July 9-13 Session 4, July 16-20 Session 5, August 6-10 Session 6, August 13-17
Fees: \$80 per session for Kensington residents; \$88

per session for nonresidents Where: Kensington Tennis Court

ADULT CLASSES

Tennis

Alex Brown, USPTA tennis pro, offers classes to a minimum of four students.

To register, call Brown at 524-5495. Fees: 5 classes: \$40 per resident / \$45 per non-resident

Where: Tennis Courts (West Court)

Yoga for Health

Harmonize your body, mind, and spirit. This class involves basic yoga poses, correct body alignment, breathing techniques, and relaxation. Develop

strength, flexibility, endurance, and grace. Therapeutic concerns such as wrist, knee, neck, and back pain, and stress reduction will

be addressed. No prior experience required all ages welcome. Please bring a mat to 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 lighthearted and welcoming and strives to make each student feel cared for in his or her practice of yoga. For information about the class, please contact Nicole at 527-6443.

To register call 525-0292.

When: Tuesday 9:30–10:30 a.m.
Fees: Residents \$12 for drop-in, \$50/5 for 5 classes. Nonresidents please add 10% (\$13.20/class; \$55 for 5 classes)
Where: Community Center

Hatha Yoga

Enjoy a hatha yoga practice to calm, restore, and revitalize you each Monday and Thursday. Classic yoga postures and quiet attention to the nuance of movement help create a satisfying personal practice. This class draws on the instructor's knowledge of dynamic yoga styles (such as ashtanga and vinyasa) and subtly challenging yoga styles (like Iyengar, Integral, and Yin Yoga) to help students find their own perfect balance. Yoga

postures, breathing techniques, and philosophy are covered. All levels of experience welcome.

Instructor Claire Lavery has been practicing and teaching yoga since 1988. She focuses on breathing, alignment, and adjustment to help students enjoy the journey.

To speak with Claire, call 681-3077. To register, call the KCC office at 525-0292.

When: Thursdays, 6-7 p.m.

(Building E).

Fees: Residents—\$12 for drop-in. One-month pass (4 classes) \$40. Nonresidents—please add 10% (\$13.20 per class—\$44 for onemonth pass)
Where:Recreation Building, Room A

Yoga for Beginners

Relax, nourish, and replenish your body through an easy beginning-level yoga practice. Designed for those new to yoga as well as those with experience. Discover a newfound sense of well-being, ease, and grace through a simple series of hatha yoga postures, which encourage and promote body wisdom, health, and strength. Rejuvenate your system while practicing safely with care and attention to body awareness, alignment, and the breath. Please bring a mat to class.

Instructor Beth Hird has been studying yoga since 1975. She is a certified yoga instructor, a graduate of the 2004 Piedmont Yoga Studio Advanced Studies Program. She studied extensively with Rodney Yee, Claire Finn, and Richard Rosen, and enjoys bringing patience, compassion, and humor to the practice.

When: Tuesday, 7:30–8:45 p.m.
Fees: Residents, \$15 for drop-in \$50/4 weeks (1 class/week); \$100/8 weeks Nonresidents add 10% (\$16.50/class)
Where: Recreation Building, Room A (Building E).

KCC SUMMER CAMP

Some spaces are still available for camp. Please visit our office or *www.aboutkensington.com* for more information.

KCC summer camp runs June 18 through August 24, 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 62 children per week.

COUNSELOR TRAINING PROGRAM FOR KCC SUMMER CAMP! Hew

If you are finishing your sophomore or junior year in high school, you may apply for a oneweek counselor training program with KCC summer camp, July 23–27 or July 30–August 3. This is a volunteer position that will help prepare you for the KCC summer camp or other camp counseling jobs. For more information call the KCC office at 525-0292, or look online at *www. aboutkensington.com* for an application.

DON'T BE BORED — JOIN THE BOARD

Want to do your bit for the community? Make an impact on Kensington's rich heritage? Well now you can, with a commitment to one fun-packed, short meeting a month.

Join the wonderful KCC Board, which meets on the first Monday of each month at the Community Center.

No elections, no pressure, just call Esther Hill at 525-0292 to find out more.

PLEASE REGISTER FOR THE CLASSES AT THE KCC OFFICE, 59 ARLINGTON AVENUE, KENSINGTON, 525-0292

K C C KENSINGTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Monday-Friday 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Esther Hill, Administrator, 525-0292

To register for class:

Please 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 is 9 a.m.

K A S E P KENSINGTON AFTER SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

Monday–Friday 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

Office hours: Esther Hill, *Director* (525-0292), 10 a.m.–3 p.m. Elma Conley, *On-Site Supervisor* (525-0292) during class hours Sandy Thacker, *Curriculum Coordinator* (482-1258)

Call Esther Hill (525-0292) for tennis court reservation information.Tennis court fees:Kensington residents—\$2/45-minute reservation (singles);

Non-residents—\$5. **Community Center rental:** For information on renting the Community Center, call Helen Horowitz at the Kensington Police Protection and Community Services District, 526-4141. Sessions: The spring session runs through Friday, June 8. Fall registration is scheduled for Tuesday, September 11, and classes will begin Monday, September 24. Please visit *www.aboutkensington.com* for more information about our after-school classes.

59 Arlington Avenue, Building E (across the grassy field above the tennis courts in Kensington Park) • Kensington, CA 94707-1037 • kccrec@yahoo.com



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Farmers' Market in the hands of **Farmer Firme**



This month the Kensington Farmers' Market will celebrate its first year, and now the running of the market has been passed into the hands of farmer Richard Firme. Firme, a UC Berkeley alumni, started growing organic lettuce and carrots in the 1970s after taking over the family farm. At that time organic farming was almost unknown, and Firme helped pioneer the organic movement in this area. Firme's father, who began farming in the 1940s, was the first Filipino to own and operate a farm and dairy in California. Firme is a member of the Pacific Coast Farmers' Market Association, one of the largest farmers' market associations in the country.

Firme Farms is in Gustine, in Merced County. Many people have become familiar with Firme's stall in the market, where he sells leafy greens, hot peppers, broccoli, bok choy, cilantro, radishes, turnips, carrots, pumpkins, stone fruits, cauliflower, and corn. Firme says that he hopes to bring in a regular florist and a citrus grower to round out the offerings. We hope that Kensington Farmers' Market will thrive under Firme's wellseasoned green thumb, and that more people will find shopping at the market an attractive alternative.

Green success



FROM COUNTY SUPE

Sup. Gioia asks **Kensington to help** prioritize issues

I have always been impressed by the selfgoverning spirit of Kensington residents, the volunteer leadership that shows up in all kinds of ways, small and large.

This includes a resident helping their neighbor by watching a child when an errand needs running or watering a lawn during a vacation. It includes those who organize a block cleanup or party, and those who quietly pitch in. It also includes the many people active in the organized groups that serve Kensington, sometimes called the K groups, like the Fire Protection District, Police and Community Services District, the Property Owners' Association, the Improvement Club, the Parent Teachers Association, and the Community Council.*

All of these various efforts help make Kensington a great place to live.

I would like to draw upon this community leadership, this neighborliness, to prioritize issues that currently face Kensington. A number of these have been on the table for while. I think it's a good time to start a discussion on how best to move forward and on which issues to start. I offer my assistance to facilitate this effort.

The four main local issues my office hears about are: (1) How to address the ongoing drainage problem every winter, (2) how to improve the library, (3) whether to underground utilities, and (4) how to maintain the Kensington paths. It's quite possible that more issues will emerge after further community discussion.

To those already tackling this concern, like the Kensington Community Services District, let's find a way to share what you've learned and widen the input net. Maybe we can work together on a community survey, getting all the K groups and others involved. I will lend any support I can. It seems to me that a communitywide prioritization of issues will allow us to focus our efforts and resources most efficiently. What do you want and where should we start?

North Richmond Kids' Summer Reading Book Drive

Not all kids are lucky enough to live close to a library, including children in unincorporated North Richmond. The nearest libraries in central Richmond and San Pablo aren't an easy walk or bike ride away. So, for the long days of summer, perfect for reading, efforts are under way to bring books to North Richmond. Supervisor John Gioia's office is teaming with the nonprofit children's literacy group West County Reads and the West Contra Costa Unified School District to distribute children's books in locations throughout North Richmond. The school district hopes this will help kids keep up their reading skills during the long summer break. They need your help. New and gently used books are being collected for the kids of North Richmond. A collection box for the effort will soon be located at the Kensington Library. The books will be made available on bookshelves at kid-friendly sites throughout the community. Called "Take It And Leave It" bookshelves, a project of West County Reads, children are free to keep or return the books. Shelves will be restocked periodically as long as book supplies last. For information contact Supervisor Gioia's office at 374-3231.

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People exchanging their lamps for new, free, energy-efficient models

On a recent Sunday morning in May many people were seen carrying tall black lamps down the sidewalks to participate in a very successful Smart and Green Day at the Farmers' Market. They were able to exchange their halogen lamps for new fluorescent ones, get all the incandescent bulbs in their homes exchanged for new, energy-efficient fluorescent bulbs, get new thermometers, and save lots of money with new attic insulation. Altogether, 27 torchieres were exchanged, more than three pages were filled with sign ups for energy audits, and over 50 mercury thermometers were exchanged for digital ones by Kensington Girl Scouts and Save the Bay. Also lots of bike maps and other materials were handed out. The event was organized by Kay Reed.

RVISOR JOHN GIOIA



I encourage all the K groups to have a discussion about this with their members, and to see if there's interest to appoint representatives to a community-wide steering group to lead the effort. Any resident wishing to provide input on this discussion should email me at dist1@bos. cccounty.us. I look forward to helping this effort in any way I can.

* A complete list of K groups: Arlington Community Church Boy Scouts Scout Troop 100 Cub Scout Pack 82 Dads' Club Friends of Kensington Library **Girl Scouts** Jr. Girl Scout Troop 1655 Kensington Amateur Radio Operators Kensington Business & Professional Association Kensington Community Council Kensington Community Service District Kensington Education Foundation Kensington Fire Protection District Kensington Improvement Club Kensington Municipal Advisory Council Kensington Nursery School Kensington Property Owners Association Kensington School PTA Senior Center

Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley

New life for Doctors Hospital

John Gioia, an outspoken advocate of Doctors Hospital, says a new plan in the works will reduce the annual deficit of the hospital from \$30 to \$5 million a year. Doctors has been in bankruptcy for some time. The plan, in part a result of the work of a newly hired management team, should have a one-time set up cost of \$30 million. The newly formed Joint Powers Authority, chaired by Gioia, put this new team together. The JPA was set up to enable West Contra Costa Healthcare and the county to share responsibility for developing a sustainable business plan for the hospital. Gioia and the organization welcome the public's input. It is essential to the people of West Contra Costa County to keep this hospital functioning, as Doctors Medical Center is the only hospital in the area serving the general public and is a critical component of the county's health care system. The only other hospital in West County is the Kaiser hospital in Richmond. Kaiser is licensed for 50 inpatient beds and15 treatment areas in its emergency department. Doctors Medical Center is licensed for 232 inpatient beds and 24 emergency treatment areas. In 2005, Doctors Medical Center received 8,215 emergency ambulance patients, averaging 22.5 patients a day, while Kaiser received some 3,382 (9.2 patients a day). If Doctors closed, the closest facilities would be in Berkeley and Martinez. You can contact Gioia's office at dist1@ bos.co.contra-costa.ca.us or 374-3231.

Dogs to run free?



Kitchen Democracy, the Web site that allows people to vote on local issues has a new topic for June. The topic is, "Do you think an off-leash dog area in the Kensington Park is a good idea?"

At present there is no off-leash park for dogs in Kensington, although there are the trails behind the school where dogs can run off-leash. Area off-leash parks include Point Isabel in Richmond, and in Berkeley, Codornices Park, Berkeley Bulb, the dog park on Hearst, and Caesar Chavez Park by the Marina.

Liz Guthridge, who travels around the area to walk her dog Tomas, suggested the topic. She envisions establishing a special off-leash time, probably in the evening after most kids stop using the park. Guthridge suggests that the new area be around the basketball courts or in the field in front of Building E. She also suggests that if people are able to exercise their dogs in the community, they are more likely to shop locally too.

At present the park, like other open areas in Kensington, is an on-leash area, and is posted.

If you have an opinion about this topic, you can vote at Kitchen Democracy (www.kitchendemocracy. com) or talk with one of the KPPCSD board members, who will be the people to decide the matter.

Going green with a little help from **Home Depot**



has launched Eco

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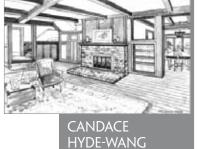
Median prices dropped more than 7% in Kensington in 2006.

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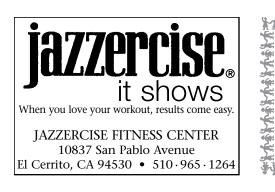
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friendly. Home Depot has labeled more than 2,500 products, including all-natural insect repellents, cellulose insulation, front-load washing machines, organic plant food and vegetables in biodegradable pots.

Eco Options are available in almost all categories in the stores, and new products are being identified continually. Products with the Eco Options label are selected to fit into one of five categories: clean air, water conservation, energy efficiency, healthy home, or sustainable forestry.

The Home Depot Foundation will invest \$100 million during the next decade to support the building of 100,000 affordable, environmentally responsible homes and the planting of 3 million trees in urban areas.



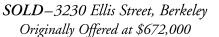
510/549-3954 or 888/335-TREE



LISTING UPDATE

This is a selection of my most recent Listings and Sales. "My primary goal is to identify and provide all the service my clients need to successfully sell their property"







PENDING 829 Arlington Boulevard, El Cerrito Originally Offered at \$1,100,000

COMING SOON Lake Merritt view condo; 2BR/2BA Offered at \$399,000 Two great Kensington view homes Priced from \$749,000-\$899,000

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SOLD-412 Colusa Ave., Kensington Originally Offered at \$775,000



AVAILABLE 7991 Terrace Drive, El Cerrito Offered at \$985,000

Neighborhood Notes

Pasta at the Community Center

The Kensington Community Council will be having a new event this summer: the KCC Spaghetti Dinner and Entertainment Night for the Whole Family. It will be held on Saturday, July 14, at 6 p.m. at the Kensington Community Center (Youth Hut). The dinner price for adults is \$5 and for kids 12 and under is \$3. Wine and beer are \$2 per glass. This will be an informal and inexpensive opportunity to sit down and break bread with your neighbors. It should be a lot of fun.

KFD is prepared

The Kensington and El Cerrito Fire Department received a Mass Casualty Incident Cache grant for \$72,000 to purchase a new Ford crew-cab truck outfitted for the treatment of patients during a catastrophic emergency, as well as a wide array of medical equipment and a utility trailer.

Twenty-one Kensington and El Cerrito residents recently concluded their Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) training. The training, held twice a year, is available to everyone, and includes CERT organization, live fire training, search and rescue, triage, lifting and support of weights and structures, disaster medical procedures, and disaster preparedness for pets. The next training starts in the fall. If you would like to participate, call 527-8395 to make a reservation.

New signs

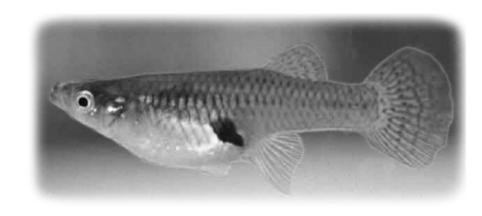


The signboard at the corner of the Library and Arlington Community Church parking lot has been renovated. Walt Gill removed the old letter tracks, scraped and stained the wood, and installed a new letter track system, which comes with all new letters. The Friends of Kensington Library paid for the equipment.

Local leader celebrated

Kensington resident Sylvia Rosales-Fike was one of ten inductees at Alameda County's 14th annual Women's Hall of Fame luncheon. Founder and CEO of AnewAmerica Community Corporation, Rosales-Fike was presented in the business and professions category. AnewAmerica serves new entrepreneurs with business incubation, asset planning, financial services, and social responsibility programs in the Bay area. Rosales-Fike has created village banks for women in Central America and has been involved with philanthropic programs in Latin America and peace negotiation projects in Central America with the United Nations and other organizations. Recently she was featured in the East Bay Business Times, and was named one of the "ten women who rule in the East Bay" by the West Contra Costa Times. Other past awards include the U.S. Small Business Administration's Micro-enterprise Advocate of the Year, ABC-KGO TV Profiles of Excellence, the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Alameda County "Latina Moving Upward," the National Latino Law Students Association Award for Community Service, and the Oakland Raiders' Hispanic Hero Award.

No more mosquitoes



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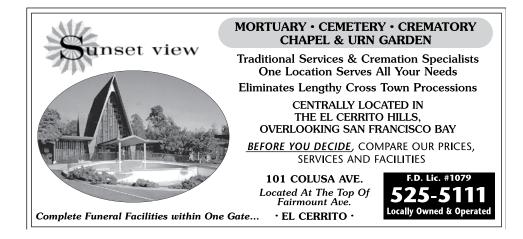
Retirement Planning

Inflation Protection

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College Planning

Gift Programs Tax Planning





Mosquitofish are creatures that can be placed in your pond or fountain to eat mosquito larvae. These small fish will also eat much of the wind-blown debris that falls in the water. Although only 1 to 2 inches in length, they have a voracious appetite. An adult can eat up to 500 mosquito larvae a day! This makes them an excellent biological tool for mosquito control, as the fish gobble up the mosquito larvae before they have a chance to develop into the adult stage. By controlling the mosquitoes, we can help stop the spread of West Nile virus. When West Nile virus is found, the county has to spray to stop its spread.

If you would like some fish for your pond or fountain, you can pick them up at the Contra Costa Mosquito and Vector Control District office at 155 Mason Circle in Concord, Monday through Friday (except holidays) from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Containers are provided. Please call in advance if you need large numbers (100 or more). Mosquitofish can be used in ornamental ponds, horse troughs, stock ponds, and other artificial water bodies. Sometimes the district has white mosquitofish, which are somewhat more attractive than their gray cousins.

The Neighborhood School stays on

The Neighborhood School has signed a ten-year lease with the West Contra Costa Unified School District. So the Neighborhood School will continue to offer Kensington residents preschool and after-school care for the foreseeable future.

Ted Osmundson, leading landscape architect, recognized as one of top 150 grads of alma mater

Kensingtonian Ted Osmundson who attended Iowa State University in the 1940s was recently recognized as one of the top 150 graduates of the university, among the approximately 200,000 graduates who are still living and untold thousands who are no longer living. He was named as "roof garden designer, one of the premier landscape architects in the world." Others on the top 150 list include many Pulitzer Prize winners, senator Tom Harkin, and U.S.vice president Henry Wallace. Osmundson is famous for designing the Kaiser Roof Garden in Oakland and is known locally for his design of the center of Colusa Circle and the amphitheater behind the Community Center. His most recent design is for the small area where Kensington and Berkeley meet on the Arlington. It is hoped that this will be installed soon.

Osmundson is also a talented photographer, having contributed many photographs to the book Kensington Past and Present. He is a past president of the American Society of Landscape Architects and was awarded the ASLA Medal for his work. He has lectured and written extensively on landscape architecture and is the author of Roof Gardens: History, Design, and Construction. He has lived in the community since 1959 and has been involved, with his wife Lorraine, in the Kensington Improvement Club.

Local florist soon to hold neighborhood teas



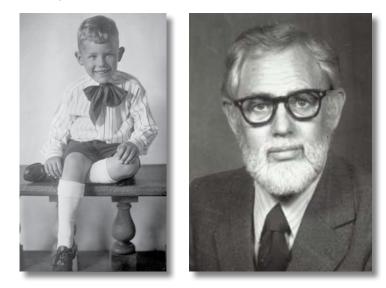
Kensington resident Judith Pope, who runs Antiques D' Jour and Floral Shoppe on Fairmont Avenue with her daughter, and sometimes her mother, always has hot water on to make a pot of tea for locals who want to come in and pass the time of day. She is soon to start holding tea parties for her regular customers.

Pope is presently busy preparing all the flowers and other decorations for the Taste Of El Cerrito scholarship fundraiser.

Many people don't notice the large flower cabinets when they enter the store, because it is packed with antiques. The store, open seven days a week, also sells handmade quilts, locally made olive oil, and art from local craftspeople, and makes free deliveries in Kensington. Pope has been involved with the Kensington Farmers' Market and other community projects.

OBITUARIES

Howy Browne will be missed



Howy Browne lived in Kensington for 56 years. Born in Canada, Howard Jack Browne spent most of his life in the East Bay. He worked at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory for 33 years, retiring in 1981. He was very active in the Kensington Dads' Club, acting as president one year. He started and served on the board of a local credit union, was Cub master of Pack 82, and was a senior warden at St. Marks Episcopal Church in Berkeley, where he met his wife, June.

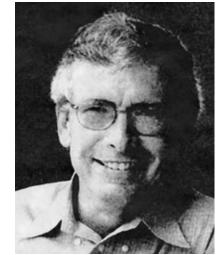
Browne taught many people to get acquainted with computers and won one of the very first Apple computers in a lottery. He produced flyers, newsletters, and other material for several charities. Other hobbies involved lawn bowling and photography.

member of the Teamsters Union (Local 315). Dale Robbins, secretary of Local 131, said, "Divine was a very involved member of the union, and he was proud to be a Teamster." Past Local 315 president Chet Brookins knew Devine for 25 years. "He was a good friend, and an intelligent, articulate, talented supporter of the workingman," he said.

Devine will be missed by his many friends and relatives that knew they could count on him whenever they needed help. He is survived by two sons, Pat and Dan; a former wife, Yvonne Devine; brother and sister-in-law Mike and Pauline Devine; sister Maureen Mahan; two stepsisters, Ann Griffin and Kathy Rooney; stepbrother Dan Rooney; stepmother Terry Tracey; and several nieces, nephews, and grandnieces.

Gerry Salsig located the Golden Gate Bridge

Gerry Salsig, son of Natalie and Bill Salsig, passed away on April 17. He grew up in Kensington and attended Hilltop School, Portola Middle School, and El Cerrito High School. In 1976 he received a Bachelor of Science degree with honors in civil engineering from U.C. Berkeley. His first





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His great sense of humor and affection for his family and many friends will be missed by his wife, his sons Jack, Arthur, Henry, and Sydney, daughters-in-law Penny and Cherilyn, and grandchildren Jessica, Sidney, Alexander, Mollie, and Jordan.

Emmett Devine

Bullfighter, banjo player and talented supporter of the workingman

William "Emmett" Devine was born on February 24, 1934 and died in his home in Kensington on May 7. He lived in Kensington for more than 30 years. Devine was born in Oakland and raised in Albany and Berkeley. After graduating from high school, he was drafted and served in the Army during the Korean War. He was known for his intellect and sense of humor. His thirst for knowledge led to a lifelong journey of education and acquiring knowledge on many subjects. One of his favorite pastimes was playing the banjo, although rarely in public. He was particularly skilled in the flailing, drop-thumb, and claw hammer styles of banjo playing.

Devine studied bullfighting in Mexico with the famous Mexican bullfighter Armillita Chico, and he became an expert with the cape. He retired from Santa Fe Railroad Company and was an active act as an engineer was to submit a drawing to the county that showed the need for a

directional sign pointing to Sunset Dr. on Arlington Ave. The sign was installed in 1976. Following two years with the Forest Service, Salsig returned to Kensington to enroll in the master's program in analytical photogrammetry. He graduated with a master's degree in 1979. He worked at HJW and Associates as director of photogrammetry and was project manager for contracts with the U.S. Geological Survey. Salsig will be remembered for pioneering the use of airborne GPS for aerotriangulation control, a technique now used in commercial mapping. He was also a part-time lecturer and field instructor for Civil Engineering 86 at U.C. He was a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, the American Congress of Surveying and Mapping, the California Land Surveyors Association, and the American Society for Photogrammetry.

His many publications included an article entitled "Where Is the Golden Gate Bridge?" in which he accurately located the bridge with airborne GPS aerotriangulation and the use of "bridge calipers" of his design. Salsig had many hobbies, including train travel, amateur radio operation, bird watching, hiking, and playing backgammon. He is survived by his wife, Nancy McLaren Salsig, of Martinez, his mother, Natalie Salsig, and his two brothers, Bill and Ron.



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Friday June 1



Patricia Mitchell: Collage, painting, and photography. Eclectix Gallery and Store. Reception 7–9 p.m. Show continues through June. Free. 7523 Fairmount Ave., El Cerrito. 364-7261.



The Presidio Ensemble In Concert performing a collection of pieces that explore nature through sound (animal sounds, sound as describing nature). 8 p.m. \$15 (\$10 members, seniors) Hillside Club, 2286 Cedar St., Berkeley Info: 845-1350.

Saturday June 2

Kensington Property Owners Association public town hall meeting at 10 a.m. and park dedication at 11:45 a.m. Community Center, 59 Arlington Ave.

The Maybeck Estates. Walking tour led by Paul Grunland with Bob Shaner (not wheelchair accessible) through a little-known section of Kensington and hear how some of the properties were developed. 10 a.m.–Noon. \$10. Call 848-0181, between 1 and 4 p.m. on Thursday or Friday for reservation.

Sunday June 3

Social Action Forum: Mary Dewey-Wagner will share her view on the **ethical treatment of animals**. 9:30-10:30 a.m. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Road. 525-0302

Greening Albany and the Environs.

A community fights global warming. Information about solar panels, energyefficient lights and appliances, green products and services for homes and businesses. 11 a.m.–2 p.m. Free. Albany Middle School, 1259 Brighton. Sponsored by the City of Albany and the Green Chamber of Commerce.

Free Holistic Pet Consultation 1–4 p.m. 525-6155 for appointment. RabbitEars, 303 Arlington Ave.



Taste of El Cerrito. Fundraiser. 5–9 p.m. \$20, Children \$10. El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Moeser Lane, El Cerrito.

Music and Meditative Walking. Sit quietly or walk reflectively. Music by pianist Carolyn Margrete. 6 p.m. Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. 526-9146.

Monday June 4

Kensington Community Council meeting, 7:30 p.m. Community Center, 59 Arlington Ave. 525-0292.

Castoffs. Kensington Library Knitting Group. 7 p.m. Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave. 524-3043.

KENSINGTON

Thursday June 7

Storytime for babies and toddlers and their caregivers. 10:30 a.m. Free. Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave. 524-3043.

League of Women Voters West Contra Costa County, Kensington Unit. 1 p.m. 28 Camelot Ct. 527–4240.





bay area classical harmonies

Mini-Concert featuring **Bay Area Classical Harmonies**. \$15 children \$5. 8 p.m. Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. 526-9146.

Saturday June 9

Exotic Birds 101. 2–4 p.m. RabbitEars, 303 Arlington Ave. 525-6155.

37th Annual Live Oak Park Fair.

Handcrafted jewelry, clothing and accessories, quilts and baskets as well as sculptural and functional objects in clay, fiber, glass, metal, and wood. 10 a.m.–6 p.m. Free. 1301 Shattuck Ave., North Berkeley. 898-3282.

Sunday June 10

Antonio Medrano of Amnesty International will share personal experiences about working with Amnesty.

9:30–10:30 a.m. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley,1 Lawson Rd. 525-0302

Exotic Birds 101. See June 9.

Berkeley's Live Oak Park Fair. See June 9.

Tuesday June 12

Mystery Puppet Show. The Adventures of Spider and Fly, by P & T Puppet Theater. 6:30 p.m. Free. Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave. 524-3043.

The Basics of Buying a Home, Jonathan Cole, Wells Fargo Home Mortgage Consultant. 7 p.m. El Cerrito Library, 6510 Stockton Ave., El Cerrito. 526-7512.

Wednesday June 13

Last Day of School

Kensington Fire Protection District meeting. 7:30 p.m. Community Center, 59 Arlington Ave. 527-8395.

Thursday June 14

KPPCSD Kensington Police Protection and Community Services District monthly meeting. 7:30 p.m. Community Center, 59 Arlington Ave. 526-4141.

Family Storytime. Preschool and up. 7 p.m. Free. Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave. 524-3043.

Saturday June 16

Tales from the Enchanted Forest

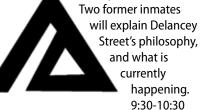
with puppeteer Nick Barone. *The Biggest Little Bug and The Grumpy Old Tree*. 11 a.m. Free. El Cerrito Library, 6510 Stockton Ave., El Cerrito 526-7512.

Tooth and nail pet grooming.

RabbitEars, 1–4 p.m. 303 Arlington Ave. 525-6155.

Sunday June 17

Delancy Street.



a.m. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Road. 525-0302.

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CALENDAR

Knife and tool sharpening at the Kensington Farmers' Market. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. 303 Arlington Ave.

Tuesday June 19

Family Storytime. See June 14.

Friday June 22

Bridge, Potluck, and Play. 6 p.m. Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. 526-9146.

Saturday June 23



Breakfast with John Gioia. 10-11:30 a.m. RYSE Youth Center, 205 41st St. Richmond. Free coffee.

Wing, Beak, and Nail Bird Drop-In Grooming Clinic. 12-4 p.m. RabbitEars, 303 Arlington Ave.



Discover the mystery of reptiles by the East Bay Vivarium. tortoises, lizards (including a

Snakes. 6-foot monitor lizard!), frogs, and

probably tarantulas too. 2 p.m. Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave. 524-3043.

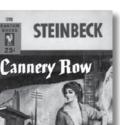
Sunday June 24

Larry Bensky, formerly of KPFA, will talk about the role of the media. 9:30-10:30 a.m. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Road. 525-0302.

Kid's Day at the Kensington Farmers' Market. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. 303 Arlington Ave.



Monday June 25



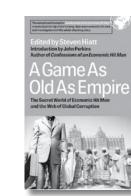
Club. Cannery Row by John Steinbeck. 7 p.m. Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave. 524-3043. Sponsored by the Friends of the Kensington Library.

Kensington

Library Book

Tuesday June 26

Kensington Municipal Advisory Council meeting. 7 p.m. Community Center, 59 Arlington Ave. 273-9926.



and writer Steven **Hiatt talks on Global Empire:** The Web of **Control**. 7:30 p.m. Free. El Cerrito Democratic Club. Makemie Hall, Northminster Presbyterian Church, 545 Ashbury Ave. El Cerrito. 375-5647.

Activist, editor,

Family Storytime. See June 14.

Thursday June 28

Storytime for babies and toddlers and their caregivers. See June 7.



Summer Reading 2007

Get a Clue @ the Kensington Library June 11 – August 20

Get ready for a summer of intrigue and suspense with great reads and exciting prizes! Unravel the mystery behind a good book during the Contra Costa County Library's Summer Reading Program, June 11-August 20, where everyone is encouraged to "get a clue" at their local

library. Super sleuths can discover the key to summer reading fun with the Kids' Summer Reading Program for kids from age 2 through 5th grade. Solve the puzzling question of what thrilling prizes are awaiting all teens who read, during this summer's Teen Reading Program, for students in grades 6 through 12. For adults, aged 18 and up, simply read and then submit a raffle ticket online at ccclib.org or at your community library, for a chance to win a Booklover's Bag full of goodies! The Contra Costa County Library also introduces the first annual Baby Reading Program for children from birth to 2 years to promote early literacy skills. Parents and caregivers are encouraged to enjoy a series of fun activities with their babies to develop essential language skills and earn prizes along the way! Interesting books, prizes, and special events are awaiting you this summer at your local library. For more information or to get started, please contact the Kensington Library or visit them online at ccclib.org.

The Kensington Library will be offering programs through August to promote the Summer Reading Program, including a kickoff party on Tuesday, June 12, at 6:30 p.m. with P & T Puppet Theater (sponsored by the Friends of the Kensington Library). There will also be five Saturday mystery programs every other week at 2 p.m. for children and a special program for adults with Sisters in Crime, a women's mystery writers group, on Saturday, June 30, at 2 p.m.

Head Dads



Past Kensington Hilltop School Dads' Club presidents gathered at the recent Hilltop Spring Carnival to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the Dads' Club and Carnival.

Front Row: Paul Normington (05-06), Rod Dunican (06-07), Stephen (06-07), Jim Godfrey Thomsen (05-06). Back Row: J. J. Bodell, Larry Polito (03-05), Jim Sanders, Glenn Price (92-94), Glen Franzen (91-92), David Jenkins.



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From the case files of the KPD

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

Events in April

12

• A man walked into the optician's office on Arlington Ave. and was recognized as someone who had earlier stolen glasses from the store. When confronted, the man gave the wrong name, but police discovered his true identity and found he was carrying eyeglasses stolen from an Oakland shop.

• The police were called to the school parking lot, where two intractable parents were aggressively arguing over child custody. While they were trying to deal with this situation without frightening the children, another couple started arguing about the same thing. The police used their judicious skills to placate each couple.

• A woman on Highgate Rd. called police because she thought that her neighbor had deposited dog poop in her driveway. She claimed to have seen the neighbor looking at her car. A police officer described this ongoing neighborhood situation as a "maturity issue." It is uncertain if he meant that the complainer has not yet grown up or is too old to know what she is doing.

• Someone reported a suspicious person walking on Beloit Ave. The cause of the suspicion was that the person was wearing sandals. A police sage commented that people wearing sandals are seldom up to no good.

• A juvenile was caught spray-painting graffiti on the basketball court with words describing the condition of a young lady's anatomy. Apparently he could spell both her name and the part of her anatomy correctly. The police called his parents, who agreed to pay for the cleanup. He must have had some difficult explaining to do at home.

• A Coventry Rd. resident had over \$500 worth of property stolen from his unlocked Dodge Dakota. Unfortunately, he waited four or five days to report the theft to the police.

• Police stopped a Pontiac with a missing front light and found that the driver had a suspended license. The car was towed.

• The long arm of the law was called to break up an argument between adult siblings. Their mother was the subject of their heated altercation.

• A delivery/pet walking service provider saw an elderly gentleman who was dehydrated, dirty, and covered with sores when making a delivery to the house. Police called an ambulance, which took the naked man to a hospital for medical care.

• A homeowner and a gardener argued over an unpaid bill. The homeowner told the gardener that he would receive no money and not to return. Later the police were called to the same address over a dispute with another tradesperson.

• Someone driving on San Pablo Ave. cut in front of another car containing a mother and child. The driver flipped the bird at the following car. So enraged was the mother that she followed the offending motorist all the way to Kensington to shout at the finger-popper. Police suggest that if someone cuts you off, leave some room between you and don't follow them, especially if you have a child in the car. A couple had a heated argument and went to sleep in separate rooms. The husband awoke in the night to the sounds of his wife vomiting. This was the result of a drug overdose she took after the argument. An ambulance was called to take the barely conscious woman to a hospital. Advice: Try and make up before going to bed.

• A housekeeper is suspected of removing a \$50 bill from her employer's residence. The cleaner was laid off for cleaning out her employer.

• There were three reports of shots fired in the York Ave. area. Police could find no evidence of such activity.

• A deer cornered a man walking his dog one evening near the Carmelite Nuns Monastery just off Rincon. The deer had man and dog trapped up against the monastery door and would not let them escape. Hoping for a response from the front door, there was nun. The man called police on his cell phone; they found the deer to be continually aggressive. By flashing the police car lights and sounding the siren, police were able distract the deer and escort the man and dog to the safety of the road, keeping the police car between the wild beast and its quarry.

■ In another deer incident, a fawn ran into a house on Wellesley Ave. The police officer that managed to get the baby out referred to the animal in his report as Bambi.

• A person on Beloit Ave. received e-mails that contained death threats. This was not from a Nigerian banker fallen on hard times but from a specific e-mail address. Police are still investigating, after having requested the sender's name from the e-mail provider.

• A pellet gun, a pistol, and a rifle were handed into the police for destruction.

• A husband and wife got into a heated argument, which resulted in the police arriving to help sort it out. The husband agreed to leave and stay at a hotel for the night. The police gave him a ride.

• A man with long matted hair and a beard was seen in the garden of a house on Sunset Ter. He was gone when police arrived.

• Someone reported juveniles climbing trees in the cemetery. When police arrived, the kids were just leaning against the trees, talking and drinking sodas.

• A driver was stopped in the middle of the road as if lost, on the north end of Arlington Ave. When police approached the car, an observant officer noticed a full bullet magazine in the coffee-cup holder. The police officer immediately ordered the driver, a man from El Sobrante, to get out of the car, and discovered a pistol to go with the magazine tucked in next to the driver's seat. The man was immediately arrested.

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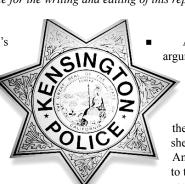
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- An unlocked Toyota on Ardmore Rd. had a CD and a CD player stolen during the daytime.
- An Oberlin Ave. motorcycle collector left his garage door open one night and woke up to find that the keys of each bike had been stolen.
- Four unlicensed teenagers were found in a car on Lake Dr. They had come joyriding from Hercules. Police saw that they got home with a lecture.
- Someone unbolted a side mirror from an Accura Integra on Ardmore Rd. Police suspect the thief will be driving a similar car.
- A car containing four teenagers was pulled over at the corner of Ardmore Rd. and Arlington Ave. In the car police found an open alcohol container and a bong. The El Cerrito and Albany parents were contacted. It was probably the cause of some more of those uncomfortable family discussions.

• A deer was found dying on Loran Ct. Police called Animal Control, who ended the deer's suffering.

• An angry spouse vandalized a partner's car on Ocean View Ave.

- A man living on Arlington Ave. was found to be so drunk that he fell down his own staircase and injured himself. He was transported to Alta Bates hospital.
- A realtor left the front door open to a house that is being sold. Police were unable to find any sign of entry, and nothing seemed to be missing from the almost empty house.

• A car was illegally parked on Arlington Ave. When police arrived to tell the owner to move it or get it towed, he said the car had been donated to charity, and the tow truck was on its way.

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