



— Bringing The Community Together —

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

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OCTOBER 2014

A PUBLICATION OF THE KENSINGTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

VOLUME 71 NUMBER 8



Fall Parade 2012, featuring the late Joan Gallegos (R), Grand Marshal, with co-Grand Marshal, Gretchen Gillfillan (L)

KCC's Fall Festival and Parade

Halloween is around the corner and the fall days are getting shorter. There could be no better way to spend time than with our friends and neighbors at the annual KCC Parade and Picnic!

As has been the tradition in Kensington for so many years, the Kensington Community Council will be sponsoring this year's celebration on Sunday, October 19th from noon to 3:30pm. The parade participants will gather at the ACE Hardware parking lot at Amherst and Arlington at 11:30am.

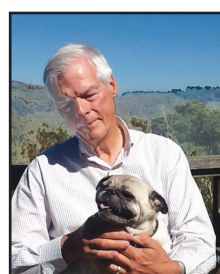
As a token of appreciation for the years of service to our community, our Grand Marshals will be Kimberly Wilkens and KASEP teacher, Sandy Thacker.

As always, local organizations and groups are invited to participate in the parade. Wear your Halloween costume and join the crowd as the parade makes its way up the Arlington to the Kensington Community Center. Then the party will begin in earnest!

Stay for the delicious BBQ lunch and local music. Tickets for the lunch can be purchased on-site

see Festival, Page 12...

KPPCSD Board Candidates



Top: Derek Suring, Rachelle Sherris-Watt, Len Welsh, and Peter Conrad;

Bottom: Kim Zvik, Simon Brafman, Steven B. Bates, and Vanessa Cordova. (See candidate statements, Pg. 6 & 7)

PLEASE NOTE: Through editorial oversight, the candidate statements of Derek Suring and Steven B. Bates were conflated in, and the Rachelle Sherris-Watt candidate statement omitted from, the print edition of the October 2014 *Outlook*. The Suring and Bates statements are corrected herein (Pages 4 and 7, respectively), and the Sherris-Watt statement is included on the back page (Page 13). With apologies to the candidates and to our readers, the Outlook regrets the errors.

Don't Forget to Vote

...Letters, from Page 2

but reversing it would require only the resolve of directors to institute remedies and govern responsibly.

I hope everyone carefully reads the November election pamphlet, including all the candidate statements and the arguments for and against Measure V. If you have never voted in a local election before, this would be the time to start.

Anna Shane

Nadolny on Cordova

Dear Editor:

I write to endorse Vanessa Cordova for the KPPCSD Board of Directors.

As a member of KMAC, Vanessa has routinely demonstrated that she is an open-minded and dedicated problem solver. Anyone who has ever contacted her for assistance will understand when I say that she's not just a "can-do" person; she's a "will-do" person.

In the case of the nine proposed AT&T cell towers, she not only visited the proposed sites, she knocked on the doors of residents and spent hours with the AT&T lobbyist to cultivate a solution that would lessen the inevitable impacts on our cul-de-sac. For almost 20 months now, she has fought to defend the spirit of the Kensington Overlay Ordinance, meeting neighbors in their homes, testifying multiple times before the planning commission and personally lobbying every member of the county board of supervisors on behalf of our entire community – all on her own time.

This is a candidate who understands the value of relationships and compromise. She not only has the independence to stand by her votes, but the expertise, wisdom and diplomacy to know when to meet folks in the middle to get the job done. Though we've occasionally disagreed, I have no doubt she will continue to work hard to find practical solutions that serve the greater good of our community.

Eyleen Nadolny

Save the Churchyard

(Editor):

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley is planning to subdivide the property around the church into 11 lots to be sold for residential homes.

Did you know that the current woodland landscape was man-made by great landscape architects? Bernard Maybeck's family sold the land to the church for a nominal fee. Earth movers sculpted the main contours of the landscape based on Maybeck's plans. The overall landscape plan was developed by Lawrence Halprin. Geraldine Knight Scott worked up the detailed planting plan. All three have international reputations.

The landscape was an integral part of the entire church conception. The building itself was designed by William Wurster and Theodore Bernardi. Wurster is the acknowledged father of the school of architecture known as "Modern-Bay Second Tradition."

"By designing his homes around the magnificent views his clients' property often afforded, Wurster made the California landscape and climate the 'ostentatious' elements of his homes, not the building itself or its details. Even when a view of the hills or the ocean wasn't possible, Wurster directed attention to garden and patio areas." www.metroactive.com/papers/metro/01.18.96/wurster-9603.html

We believe the church and its surrounding

landscape are the crown jewels of Kensington. Is the historical value of the church worth more than the income that will be generated by destroying the churchyard? Let's work together to provide a "public" option that keeps the churchyard intact. Let's negotiate with the church, come up with alternatives – even float a bond measure.

Save the churchyard. It's what Mr. Maybeck would have wanted.

Thank you.

Greg and Deanna Collis

A Fresh Start

To the Editor:

September's *Outlook* swept through town like a breath of fresh autumn air. It was so nice to see the Editor take a stand... on nothing at all. Notably, even the Writ of Mandate piece was free of the often puzzling and sometimes prejudicial tone we have observed in the *Outlook* for some time. Appropriately, letters were printed without editorial commentary. Interesting events were covered and useful announcements made. It was nothing less, and nothing more, than just what we need and desire in a local paper.

I was also pleased to see the smiling face of my friend Vanessa Cordova in September's *Outlook*. But I soon learned that the feature on her KPPCSD Board candidacy struck a sour note with some in our community. Clearly, there is fallout from the *Outlook's* role in stirring the (very toxic) pot during our last Board election.

How unfortunate that simply being featured in the *Outlook* could taint Vanessa as a Board "insider" with unfair advantage; and how ironic, as she is anything but that. Vanessa Cordova represents a fresh start for Kensington. She is not allied with the most polarizing forces in our fraught local political landscape, but rather has built widespread support in some of our most respected and experienced corners, because she's an exceptionally qualified and informed candidate.

Vanessa is vying for only one of three Board seats to be filled in November's election. With this task before us, along with several local issues of vital and pressing concern, Kensington voters will be best served and very grateful if the *Outlook* maintains the integrity displayed in September's edition.

Sylvia Elsbury

Nina Harmon on Cordova

To the Editor:

I am adding my name to the growing list of those supporting Vanessa Cordova for Director of the Kensington Police Protection and Community Services District. Vanessa has lived in Kensington since 2000. She is familiar with the community and understands the various perspectives of the issues it has faced.

Over coffee one morning we talked about the issues currently facing Kensington. She had clearly done her homework. She asked intelligent questions and listened carefully.

Vanessa understands the challenges facing local government. She began her career in community redevelopment and has held a senior level position in two county agencies. She has been on the Kensington Municipal Advisory Council for six years. Currently, she is working on a community health initiative in East Oakland where she applies her knowledge of local policies.

I believe Vanessa Cordova will provide

see Letters, Page 7...

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KPPCSD Candidate Statements

Kim M. Zvik

Information Technology Professional, age 50.

I am running for Kensington Police Protection and Community Services District and ran in 2010 and 2012. I take safety seriously and want to protect our diverse community!

I served on Kensington Municipal Advisory Council (KMAC) for 2 years. I have served on the Kensington Property Owners Association (KPOA) where I prepared the *About Kensington* guide with an updated map of our community. I served on the boards of Step One School and Orinda Horsemen's Association. I conceived the plan to put Kensington After School Education Program (KASEP) registration online. I built Tehiyah Day School's first web site. I worked with the county over 3 years to install one-way controls during school hours on Highland and Kenyon Avenue. I gave input into traffic controls on Highland and Arlmont. I researched escape routes for earthquakes with the Red Cross.

I am aware of our community issues facing us such as sharing the 911 call center with our neighboring cities, living in a wild-life zone, earthquake, traffic, parking, and crime. With my IT skills, I believe I can continue to maintain our small community within the context of our changing information age especially as it relates to emergency message broadcasting and elderly support. I am a California native and have lived in Kensington for 15 years. I have 4 children ages 22-11 and pets. I look forward to speaking to you personally. Thank you for your vote.

Alan (Len) Welsh

Kensington is in a state of fiscal stress that has been building for some time, and the next two to four years are going to be a time of major decision making for us. Protracted litigation, which is finally coming to a close, has significantly reduced our budgetary reserves, and ongoing cost challenges could cause further reductions.

We need to move from an atmosphere of quibbling over minor issues to finding consensus on the issues that matter most to us, like maintaining our excellent police force and the low crime stats that go with it, maintaining the continuity of essential services like solid waste collection and recycling, and bringing our community center up to code.

I had the experience of leading a California government agency (Cal/OSHA) of over 700 employees from 2003 to 2011, a time of great fiscal strife for state government. I saw early on that hard times were coming for agencies dependent on the California General Fund, and took the steps necessary to secure funding from other sources, leaving the agency fiscally secure at the end of my tenure.

I was appointed to the KPPCSD Board in January 2013 after then Board member Mari Metcalf resigned. I was appointed Board President in December 2013, and have held that position since. I have become thoroughly familiar with Kensington's budgetary situation and have the expertise and commitment to make sure our government spends our tax dollars wisely and effectively. There is much room for improvement.

Peter Conrad

This is an important election: it is our chance to make a change in how our local government operates.

Right now we are dealing with a number of important concerns, among which are some major financial challenges. For the past two years the Board has passed budgets that have exceeded our projected revenues and depleted required financial reserves. Much of this is the result of over-reliance on lawyers and outside consultants.

For example, many thousands of dollars were spent in arbitration to fight a 6% increase in the cost of our trash collection, with the final result that Bay View Refuse was awarded, by the arbitrator, a

21% percent increase. As of this writing, the Board is proposing to pay consultants \$79,000 to create an RFP for waste collection services, with an additional \$50,000 for associated legal fees.

It is not clear how the Board arrived at this recommendation, given the widespread community satisfaction with the services Bay View Refuse provides. But the Board generally discounts community participation in important community decisions. As a result they alienate us, their constituents, from participating in civic matters at all.

Given the opportunity that we have to change the Board culture with this election, we need to elect new members to the Board who will serve Kensington with civility, openness, and good sense.

I can offer my life experience as an architect, teacher, husband and father, roles that have required the exercise of intelligence, patience, and a willingness to listen and work cooperatively.

Simon Brafman

I am running for the position of Director on the KPPCSD Board in the upcoming November election.

I believe the KPPCSD is currently operating without a sustainable, fiscal plan. The Board has incurred large expenditures for legal and consulting services, and has allowed increasing debt instead of making disciplined decisions to keep a balanced budget. As a result, essential maintenance for Kensington's public facilities has been deferred. Additionally, our diminished financial reserves require critical decisions regarding revenues and expenditures.

If elected, I will work to protect our community's key interests and needs. I will openly engage our community in discussion and respond to their concerns. My goal is to ensure that our Board transparently conducts its business and safeguards Kensington's financial future, while providing affordable police and garbage services, as well as maintaining Kensington's public facilities. I will apply my extensive experience in Professional Services to the Board's negotiations with all service providers, with the goal of obtaining both quality services and achieving a sustainable, balanced budget.

If elected with a new KPPCSD Board majority, we will create a viable, five-

year financial plan, allowing us to rebuild our diminished financial reserves, maintain Kensington's public buildings and grounds, and address the liabilities stemming from unfunded employee benefits which threaten Kensington's long term financial viability.

As a Director, I will be inclusive and represent the needs of our entire community with professionalism, creativity and respect, and will deliver community-based solutions to solve Kensington's challenges.

Derek Suring

I am a Hilltop parent with children in the first and fourth grades. This will be my third year serving on the School Site Council and first as its President. I decided to run for the KPPCSD Board after seeing the tremendous energy and commitment of our school community - and how we could work together to create a vision and implement a plan to provide our kids with the best education possible.

Our community is our greatest resource. Kensington has a wealth of diverse experiences and skill sets - and inevitably we will disagree - but the rhetoric and discord over the last four years has turned many of us against civic engagement. I believe we can make Kensington whole again by re-engaging our community, bringing all voices to the discussion, and making sure information is made available in an unbiased and transparent manner.

As a small business owner in San Francisco and a founding associate of an East Bay real estate brokerage, I understand economic trends and am experienced at planning ahead, and I am concerned about Kensington's fiscal future. My goal as a KPPCSD Board member will be to ensure that Kensington continues to thrive for the coming decades and our path to fiscal sustainability is informed by the voices and vision of our entire community.

See Candidates, Page 7...

Procrastination is the art of keeping up with yesterday.

— Don Marquis



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and am very good at it.
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locks, drywall, fences, sprinklers,
decks and any odd job.




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Neighborhood Notes

KPPCSD Board Candidates Forum - Sat., Oct. 11th

The Kensington Improvement Club and the Kensington Property Owners' Association present a Town Hall Meeting and KPPCSD Board Candidate Forum on Saturday, October 11th, from 10:30am to noon at the Community Center...KPPCSD provides oversight of local police services, Kensington Park maintenance and improvement, recreational and educational classes, and local waste management. KPPCSD is governed by its Board of Directors, Len Welsh, President. There are a total of five seats on the Board – three of which will be up for grabs this November, with eight candidates running...The forum will be preceded by a brief annual meeting of the Kensington Improvement Club in this town hall format (KIC's regular meetings occur monthly, and observers and new members are always welcome)...Childcare for children "out of diapers" to age 13 will be provided by KCC sitters at Bldg. E from 9am to 12:15pm. (Pre-registration. required, at 525-0292.)



Ele Thai Cafe Owner, Pin

Now: Thai Food in Kensington!

The Ele (as in "ele-phant") Thai Cafe opened last month in the former ice cream shop, at Arlington and Amherst. Run by Pin Piernroj and her husband, Ele is open Mon., 11-3, and Tue.-Sat., 11-3 and 4:30-8:30. Pin recommends the garden spring rolls, smoked salmon rolls, and the salmon in red curry sauce! 637-8922. *Welcome to Kensington, Pin!*

Instruments for Hilltop Elementary Students

Do you have an instrument in good working order that's just gathering dust in your closet? Consider donating it to Hilltop for students in band. Please contact Dennis at DennisHartiganOconnor@KensingtonEducationFoundation.org. Thank you!

Composting Made Easy - Monday, October 13th

Kensington Library's Contra Costa Master Gardener talks continue on 10/13 at 7pm, with "Composting Made Easy," presented by Diane Collen, covering easy ways to turn household scraps into gold for your plants. Melissa Holmes Snyder and Anna Frankfurt will be on hand to discuss the Master Gardener program with those who are interested in pursuing the training program that is also offered.

Kensington Past and Present - Update

14 years ago, The Kensington Improvement Club published *Kensington Past and Present* – an in-depth look at the history of Kensington, its land, and its residents. This year, that book is being brought into the present, as we now know it. In honor of Kensington's Centennial, KIC is working on a complete update of this tome about our beloved community, and the club is looking to all Kensingtonians for help. One new chapter will cover those Kensington residents and business owners, past and present, whose renown extends even beyond our borders. KIC has begun a list that includes Nobel laureates, architects, chefs, artists, authors, etc. and the group would like to hear your ideas. Please email your suggestions of categories and/or people to kicpresident@gmail.com.

Family Fun at KCC's Movie Night

The Kensington Community Council sponsored another successful movie night on September 13th. KCC sends out many thanks to all the local businesses who made the event possible: its sponsors, Mechanics Bank and Marvin Gardens, and generous contributors: Nation's, The Arlington Wine and Spirit, Inn Kensington, and The Arlington.



Photo: Marty Westby

National Fire Prevention Week

This year's message: "Working smoke alarms save lives – test yours every month." Install alarms in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area, and on every level. Replace all smoke alarms every ten years. Open house, Sat., Oct. 11th. (See *Kalendar*.)

New Aerial Ladder Truck Unveiled

Using grant funding, the El Cerrito-Kensington Fire Department has replaced a 23-year old aerial ladder truck with a new one. The aerial ladder truck will be located at the main El Cerrito fire station on San Pablo Avenue and will be used to respond to fires and other emergencies requiring an aerial ladder or heavy rescue...The new truck is equipped with a 103-ft., four-section aerial ladder, ground ladders, power saws, ventilation fans, hydraulic rescue tools ("Jaws of Life"), struts, ropes, shoring equipment, water removal and salvage equipment, and Advanced Life Support medical equipment. "This will be a great upgrade to our current fleet, that will enhance the services the Dept. provides," said Fire Chief, Lance Maples.



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Market Update

Coming Soon - Bee Renovated Newest Gem!

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Price upon request

1063 Leneve Place El Cerrito Hills

Enjoy panoramic Bay views from this fantastic Modern custom designed home c.1962. Updated with an open floor plan, beamed ceilings and walls of glass. Sited on rural parcel.

Offered at \$1,198,000

85 Edgemoor Rd. Kensington

Bohemian hide-away with 2BR/3BA, plus potters studio. Rustic redwood throughout and the possibilities exceed any ones imagination. A unique fixer upper!

Offered at \$598,000

KENSINGTON MARKET SNAPSHOT - AS OF AUGUST 2014

- 11 Available Listings • Average List Price: \$413 per sq. ft. • Average days on the market: 14
- 4 Pending • Average List Price: \$443 per sq. ft. Average days on the market: 58 (24 days the shortest DOM, longest DOM during this time period 102)*
- 6 Sold • Average List Price: \$517 per sq. ft. • Average Sales Price: \$465 per sq. ft.

• Average days on the market: 13

* August is typically a slow real estate month

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KENSINGTON, COLUSA CIRCLE

Halloween at the Market

Oct. 26!

Costume contest for your pets — at the vet!

Photo by Nan Phelps Photography

Pumpkin carving demo!

FREE pumpkins for the kids!

Magic show and haunted room!

Search the Market and the Circle merchants to "Find the Witch" and win a prize!

Photo by Nan Phelps Photography

Join the Fun Sunday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.!

Sign up for our newsletter online: KensingtonFarmersMarket.org

K E N S I N G T O N C O M M U N I T Y E D U C A T I O N

KASEP

Kensington After-School Enrichment Program

September 2nd was KCC's online registration for its FALL KASEP session. Families – you out did yourselves! This session KASEP is teaching 60 classes – a record high number of classes offered in a session. Families, you rock – classes are full! Wire Sculpture, Cartooning, Digital Photography, Chocolatier Cooking, and Puppets Movie Club were some of the new classes that were snapped up in the first five minutes of registration. Carpentry, Pottery, Engineering, and Sewing continue to be favorites, and have waiting lists for Winter Session. Your fast fingers were busy at work. Fall KASEP session ends Friday, Dec. 19th.

INK IN THE DATE: Winter KASEP Registration is scheduled for Tuesday, December 2nd at 7:30pm. Families who are #1 and #2 on a class waitlist are automatically enrolled into the class for winter session, guaranteed!



New Faces at KASEP

(Clockwise from left): Risa (Storytelling and Movement), Jose (Pokemon), Shelly (Wire Sculpture and Jewelry), Mike (Engineering and Digital Arts), Dayana (Pottery)



JAZZERCISE



JAZZERCISE
Monday-Wednesday-Friday,
8:15-9:15am • Ongoing w/Kevin

* New JAZZERCISE
Classes Added
Tuesday-Thursday, 8:15-9:15am
Instructor Susan Brown
Ongoing

BODY SCULPTING with Kevin
Tuesdays and Thursdays,
9:15-10:15am • Ongoing

Body sculpting is shaping your body to look leaner, more toned, and strengthened. Register at class. Come join the fun and get healthy. Just bring a mat and weights and we'll get started!

Classes at the Kensington Community Center
Questions? Call Kevin at 486-2728

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: kccrec@yahoo.com, or call 525-0292. M-F, 10am-4pm.

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

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

KCC FALL FUND DRIVE 2014

Thank You, Generous Donors!

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Ilene and Richard Sheng
Shirley and Ron Shiromoto
Beverly Thiele
Mukund & Margarette Untawale
Betty and Bill Webster
Keiko Yamanaka

Maybeck Estates Historical Walk
Sunday, October 26th, 3-5pm
Admission \$15 per person

Walking tour of Bernard Maybeck Estates on Purdue Avenue returns with Paul Grunland, leader of various historic walks. On this walk Paul will share some history of the Maybeck family and of Bernard Maybeck, renowned architect of the Arts and Crafts style. Original and still current homeowner, Bob Shaner, will share personal experiences of building his own home and working with the Maybecks.



To reserve, call KCC at 525-0292. Limited to 30 participants. Parking is limited; carpools recommended. Meet at the corner of Kenyon and Grizzly Peak Blvd. Heavy rain cancels; if drizzling, we will walk.

KCC Parade and Picnic
October 19th, Noon - 3:30pm. Join us!

Zumba Gold®
Stacy L. Jennings
Licensed Zumba Instructor

New Class for Seniors, Age 55+ Fridays, Kensington Comm. Ctr.
Time: 9:45am-10:45am
Admission \$8 • First Class FREE!
Zumba – check it out!



Zumba Tone: Work your hips and stomach with core-based movements, learn thrifty footwork to strengthen calves and ankles. Perfect for active older adults who are looking for a modified Zumba® class that recreates the original moves you love at a lower-intensity.

How it works: The class introduces easy-to-follow Zumba® choreography that focuses on balance, range of motion, and coordination. Come ready to sweat, and prepare to leave empowered and feeling strong.

More Info: Contact Stacey Jennings at staceysavage@msn.com.

Candidate Statements Continued

...Candidates, from Page 4

Steven B. Bates

I am a longtime resident of Kensington with family members arriving here in the 1920's. I feel a deep connection and like the small scale of our community. We are unique in the way we have organized and control, through many volunteer groups, services and activities that we the community deem most important. To maintain our unique character, I believe that Residents and elected officials should act as stewards; carefully allocating resources, and following the values that have made Kensington so special.

Education: a BS degree Business Administration and Economics (St. Mary's College, Moraga). Work experience: safety consulting and construction consulting. Through this work experience I have gain skills in:

- Gather information/analyze data,
- Identifying and prioritizing issues and deficiencies, and
- Developing practical cost effective solutions.

It is my hope as a board member, to assist our community going forward. A few key items I would like to see addressed include:

- Fairly negotiating for services required and/or requested by the community (like garbage pickup).
- Improve use of financial information available to insure that our community spending is within our means, and that we stay financially healthy.

- Use of resources (people) we have within our community where possible, instead of contracting with expensive outside consultants.
- Better communication of important community issues (street repairs, cell tower installation, county improvements, community safety).
- Use of common sense, civility, and transparency.

Our community cannot afford to be divisive; the board should work together with the residents.

I would appreciate your vote.

Vanessa Cordova

With waning public confidence and an uncertain fiscal future, Kensington can no longer afford to re-litigate battles of the past. Instead, we must carefully choose three candidates with the experience and diplomacy to meet our challenges with the highest level of innovation, transparency and decorum.

Many of you have compelled me to elevate and broaden our discourse to explore ways to increase the district's financial stability and efficiency long-term, such as:

- Refining our reserves policy by adopting recommended allocation practices identified by the California Special Districts Association. Reserves should never again be so low that we fear an imminent loss of core safety and community services.
- Expanding current financing mechanisms to fund critical projects. Did you know every dollar spent on emergency mitigation yields a savings of \$4 from future disasters? That's why FEMA offers

local agencies emergency performance grants to fund community projects. Such grants could cover many of the capital improvements contemplated for our community center, which is well positioned to become a designated emergency staging site and shelter.

- Offsetting the high costs of consultant contracts. Rather than routinely relying upon costly procurement contracts, why not develop a grant leveraged fellowship

See Candidates, Page 13

Nina Harmon on Cordova

...Letters, from Page 3

a balanced independent approach to the issues facing Kensington and am pleased to endorse her for KPPCSD Director.

Nina Harmon

Pat Gillette on Welsh

Dear Editor:

What I have learned from being on the Board for two years is that it is not as easy as many may think. The issues are nuanced and complicated. Few people come to the meetings, so community opinion is sometimes driven by rumor and gossip. Certain people attribute bad motives to the Board to promote their agendas. A small group of constituents pound Board members with nasty emails and personal attacks ("did you learn to lie in law school or were you born that way?"). But, I wouldn't trade the experience of being on the Board for anything, because I believe in our system of government and I want to serve the interests of all, not just those who speak the loudest.

There are three seats open on the KPPCSD

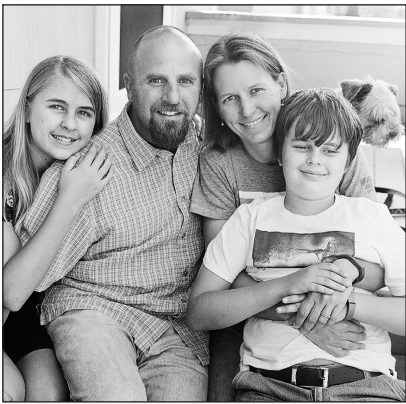
Board in the upcoming election and I have one hope for the results of this election: that we choose people who will reflect our community's goals and reject those who want to advance their private agendas.

So I am not looking for people who agree with me on the issues. Rather, I am looking for people who know our town, are willing to put in the time and energy to be productive members of our volunteer government, and will serve with integrity. I am endorsing Len Welsh because, after serving with him for the past two years, I know he possesses all those qualities,

I urge you to carefully consider the candidates and vote for those who best reflect our community's core values.

Pat Gillette
Director, KPPCSD

See Letters, Page 9



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VOTE Len Welsh

For KPPCSD Director
Kensington Police Protection
And Community Services District



- BA Rutgers University
- MS Environmental Health Sciences, U.C. Berkeley
- JD U.C. Hastings College of the Law
- Over 1.5 years serving on KPPCSD Board, currently Board President
- Over 23 years' experience in California State Government
- Experienced state government administrator
- Former Cal/OSHA chief, with 8-year track record of balancing a budget of over \$100 million
- Proven leadership through consensus building to resolve controversial issues

If elected, Len will:

- ▶ Ensure Kensington maintains a strong, high quality, responsive police force.
- ▶ Maintain continuity of essential services, like garbage collection and recycling.
- ▶ Make it a top priority to resolve expense and revenue issues that threaten the health of our budget.
- ▶ Turn controversy to advantage by listening to all points of view and working collaboratively.

ENDORSEMENTS:

- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| Betty and Ray Barraza | Linda Lipscomb |
| Cara & Mark Bell | Diane Low |
| Elena Caruthers | Robin Low |
| Denise Cody | Dan Lynch |
| Charli Danielson | Claudine Marquet |
| Tom Dean | Jane McKelheer |
| Vida and Paul Dorroh | Bruce Morrow |
| Jane Downs | John Norcross |
| Betty Ann Engel | Lynn & Dan O'Brien |
| Pat Gillette | Lorraine Osmundson |
| Gretchen & Walter Gillfillan | Sarah & Rodney Paul |
| Katie Gluck | John Ream |
| David Goldstein | Kay & Andrew Reed |
| Nina Harmon | Jaima Roberts |
| Rosalyn Heimborg | Laurie Schumacher |
| Melissa Holmes-Snyder | Chris Sorensen |
| Kensington Police Officers Association | Becky & Eric Stephens |
| Anthony Knight | Gayle Shortridge Tapscott |
| Peter Liddell | Chuck & Nancy Toombs |
| | Betty Webster |

Paid for by Len Welsh for KPPCSD Board 2014, FPPC# 1370737

Stege Sanitary District Election

The Stege Sanitary District, which provides sanitary sewer collection service to residents in Kensington, El Cerrito, and the Richmond Annex, will have a contested election this November for the first time in approximately 20 years.

Like the Kensington Police Protection and Community Service District, Stege is governed by a five-member Board of Directors elected at large by voters living in the District. This year, three seats are up for election – seats presently held by El Cerrito residents, Dwight Merrill, Graham Brand, and Al Miller. Directors Merrill and Miller are running for re-election; Director Brand did not file for re-election, which caused the open seat.

In addition to the two sitting Board members, Merrill and Miller, two Kensington residents have also filed to run in this November’s election – Jay Z. James, and Joshua M. Dickinson.

Stege has been recognized by the California Special Districts Association as a District of Distinction and has also received a Certificate of Transparency from that organization for demonstrating excellence in Special District governance and leadership.

Any questions about the election, or about Stege itself, can be emailed to General Manager, Rex Delizo, at Rex@StegeSan.org.

Submitted by Stege Sanitary District Director, Al Miller.

Sanitary District Candidate Statements

Jay Z. James



My name is Jay Z. James. I served as director of the Stege Sanitary District from 1983 to 2011, when I resigned for an engineering professorship in South Korea. I’m back now, and I propose to resume my efforts to provide the best public health and environmental protection for your dollars.

I’ve lived in Kensington since 1975. I first got involved with Stege as a director of the Kensington Property Owners’ Association, where I led an effort to stop Stege from dissolving and becoming a department of the City of El Cerrito. (The change would have disenfranchised Kensington and Richmond customers.) Soon after becoming a Stege director, I proposed a better way to handle rainwater infiltration into sewers, ultimately saving Stege \$11 million while still eliminating overflows. I served as director of the California Association of Sanitation Agencies, and created their website. Later I spearheaded the computerizing of Stege’s sewer maps to optimize sewer maintenance and upgrades. During my time Stege was among the lowest-cost sewer operations in the East Bay, and won several awards for technical innovation and worker safety.

I am a professional engineer in three disciplines. I retired from the Port of Oakland, where I was the engineer for the Port’s water and wastewater systems, and later deputy facilities manager for the Oakland Airport, in charge of contract maintenance and upgrades.

I’ve proven over 28 years that I can provide cost-effective direction to the Stege Sanitary District. With your vote I will do so again.

Dwight Merrill



I am a 69 year-old retired chemist, married, with three grown children. I was born and grew up in Berkeley, but my wife and I have lived in El Cerrito for the last 39 years, and our two sons and our daughter are proud graduates of El Cerrito High School. With my technical background and interest in the environment I followed the plight of Stege Sanitary District as the EPA and the State Water Board forced expensive requirements upon Stege which didn’t seem to help the environment. Eventually I was elected to the Stege Board, and I am

pleased that the Board has been able to negotiate agreements with the EPA which protect the environment at lower cost than initially proposed. Stege prides itself on good customer service, reasonable rates, and good governance with transparency to the public in its actions.

Joshua M. Dickinson



The way we manage water in California is changing rapidly. In the midst of a severe drought and growing population, we have to evolve to meet the needs of our community while also preserving the environment.

The average age of our wastewater pipelines is 57 years old, and in some cases date back to the 1920s! We need innovative solutions to proactively upgrade our systems, rather than spending on costly repairs that occur after a problem arises.

I promise to bring novel ideas to the Stege Sanitary District, with an eye toward environmental protection, cost-efficiency and transparency for the ratepayers. My passion and qualifications have also earned the endorsement of Supervisor John Gioia.

Please visit my website for more information and vote for me, Joshua M. Dickinson, for the Stege Board on November 4th! www.joshuaforstege.com

Al Miller



While I have served as a Director of the Stege Sanitary District, SSD has:

1. Completed the EPA/DOJ mandated Infill and Infiltration Project, of the late 1980’s and early 1990’s, ahead of schedule and under budget;
2. Implemented a Capital Improvement Program to replace aging sewer pipes in a cost effective way;
3. Achieved a new Administrative building with no rate increase or borrowing;
4. Been accredited as a District of Distinction and received the Transparency Certificate of Excellence from the California Special Districts Association (CSDA);
5. Maintained annual Sewer Service fee rates among the lowest in the East Bay.

The Garden Party: Coming Next Month

The Kensington Education Foundation (KEF) invites you to join in a “Passport to Celebrate” on November 22nd at the Mira Vista Country Club. The annual Garden Party is not only Kensington’s social event of the year, but in one evening alone, it also raises almost half the funds needed to support the kids at Kensington Elementary with reading and math intervention, a computer lab, science lab, P.E., art and music classes, and so much more.

The Garden Party brings together school parents, alumni, and supporters in a festive atmosphere of giving, and its success depends on donations from local businesses to its live and silent auctions. Businesses have already donated hundreds of goods and services for auction this year, and volunteers are busy seeking more before the online catalog goes live in early November. Event sponsorships that allow businesses to gain visibility in the community while contributing to a great cause are also available. Masterworks Fine Art, Ruth Frassetto of the Grubb Company, Joie de Vivre Hotels, Mechanics Bank, and the Mira Vista Country Club have been key supporters for many years.

Garden Party Chair, Kim Keller says there are many ways to show support for your

community school: “You could bid on one of the auction’s popular travel getaways or fantastic private parties; you could Raise the Paddle to make a donation at the live auction; or, if you can’t make the event, bid on items in the online auction.”

School principal Judy Sanders credits KEF programs in part for Hilltop’s great reputation. “The Garden Party is so essential to our school,” she says. “A child’s education is more than just reading, writing, and arithmetic; it is also music, art, PE, science, computers, and all of the other classes KEF provides for our students.”

Donations are being sought for the Garden Party now. The rich tradition of the silent auction wouldn’t be complete without the great getaways and dining, fine art, and jewelry that partygoers anticipate each year. If you or your business would like to donate, email Kim Keller at kellerkim19@gmail.com or Renatta DeFever at renattav@gmail.com.

Tickets, available in mid-October at <http://www.kensingtonhilltop.org/gardenparty>. Celebrate with friends, try your luck at winning great prizes, and dance the night away to live music!

New Director for Fire Board

Not all newcomers to Kensington may be cognizant of the unique legal structures of our tiny hamlet. Our town is an unincorporated area, and, as such does not have such elected officials such as a mayor or a Board of Supervisors, as cities normally do. While most such unincorporated areas use the county sheriff’s office for police protection, Kensington is unique in that it has its own police force, which is overseen by one of our two elected bodies, the Board of Directors of the Kensington Police Protection and Community Services District (KPPCSD) – for which there is an election for three of the five existing seats, this November.

Kensington’s other elected body is the Board of Directors of the Kensington Fire Protection District (KFPD), which provides fire protection and emergency medical services via a contract with El Cerrito.

Upon the retirement of Helmut Blaschzyk after eight years of volunteer service as a Director, there is an opening on this Board, as well. As it is an uncontested seat, however, the open seat will not appear on the November ballot. Instead, the Board welcomes its new member, Mike Kassarian.

Thank you, Helmut, for all your years of service. Welcome, Mike!



New KFPD Director, Mike Kassarian

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Lower Property Insurance Rates?

ISO is an insurance industry group that collects and evaluates the structural fire suppression capabilities of communities, nation-wide; it assigns Public Protection Classification (PPC) numbers to communities based on needed fire flow (water to suppress fires), emergency communications, the local fire department, and the water supply.

The Kensington Fire Protection District is happy to report that the PPC for the El Cerrito-Kensington Fire Protection Ser-

vice Area improved from a 3 to a 2 during its most recent review (1 is best, on a 10-point scale; in 1995, Kensington’s was 4. There are a total of 988 fire departments in California – only 62 of which have been awarded a Class 2 PPC.) KFPD attributes this to “improvement in its focus on training, communications, water supply, and staffing.”

Most U.S. insurers use the PPC information as part of their rate setting for personal and commercial property insurance. Fire Chief Lance Maples encourages residents to check with their insurance carriers about possible rate reductions due to Kensington’s lowered PPC number.

Measure V – Appropriations Limit

...Letters, from Page 7

Editor:

KPPCSD has placed Measure V on the November ballot, asking voters to approve the continued use of current tax revenues for existing police services.

Measure V DOES NOT create a new tax; it DOES allow Kensington’s CURRENT funding to continue present levels of police protection and other public services. If Measure V doesn’t pass, funding will revert back to 1978-1979 levels, forcing drastic cuts in police staffing – we will no longer be able to maintain our own independent police force.

Article XIIIB of the California Constitution (the Gann Initiative), added by voters in 1979, limits the amount and growth of government expenditures, including the District’s, to adjustments based on cost of living and population growth. It also allows the community to vote every 4 years on these changes.

The District chose to hold this vote now rather than wait until Spring 2015 simply because it saves tax dollars. Putting the measure on the spring ballot would cost us more, because there will be fewer ballot measures and candidates then, causing the District’s share of county election costs to be higher.

We ask that the community approve Measure V and extend the appropriations limit as it has done overwhelmingly every four years since 1981, so that the District can continue to provide residents with the

high quality police services that make Kensington such a desirable place to live.

Len Welsh, District Board President
Chuck Toombs, District Board Member

Wrong Priorities?

Editor:

Recently, the KPPCSD board mobilized innumerable resources behind Measure L, their misconceived campaign to convert Kensington’s Community Center into a revenue-generating party venue. The KPPCSD Board brought to bear all their political influence for this effort, lining up an impressive list of big league political leadership – including Senator Loni Hancock, Assembly member Nancy Skinner and Supervisor John Gioia – to support their ill-fated ballot measure.

Meanwhile, Kensington was losing one of its most valuable assets, our Post Office. Where were KPPCSD board members when local postal officials demanded revised, unworkable terms from the new merchant who took over the retail space where the post office was located? Where were the political heavy weights recruited for Measure L when Kensington really needed them to educate postal authorities on why they should not shut down the Kensington post office?

Many Kensington residents are busy with small children and many others are aged or disabled. The local post office was not just a frivolous convenience -- it was an essential service. Unfortunately, our District Board was so busy trying to sell an upscale, revenue-producing party venue

see Letters, Page 10

In Memory

Robert E. Connick

July 29, 1917 - August 21, 2014

Robert (Bob), the second child of Florence and Arthur Connick, was born in Eureka, CA. At age 12, he moved to Berkeley with his parents and three sisters, Katherine, Margaret and Jeanette. After graduating from Berkeley High, he attended UCB, where he earned his Ph.D. in Chemistry in 1942. He worked as a research associate on the Manhattan Project before joining the UCB faculty in 1945.

In 1952 he married Frances Jane Spieth (1923-2009), and was a devoted husband and father. He was also intensely curious about every aspect of the world around him.

At UC Berkeley, Bob was highly regarded as an educator, lecturer, and researcher. His research contributed significantly to advancement in understanding of inorganic reaction kinetics and mechanisms. He is perhaps most known for development of nuclear magnetic resonance methods for determining rates of water exchange reactions. He was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 1963, was a G.N. Lewis Lecturer and Awardee and a two-time Guggenheim Fellow.

As an administrator, Bob earned a reputation for integrity, fairness and pragmatism. Over

the course of his career, he served as Chair of the Department of Chemistry, Dean of the UC Berkeley College of Chemistry, and Vice Chancellor of UC Berkeley, as well as Chair of the Academic Senate for both Berkeley and the UC system. In recognition of his distinguished and extraordinary service, Bob was awarded the rare combination of the Berkeley Citation (1971) and the Berkeley Medal (1988).

Over nearly six decades, Bob and Frances’ shared keen interest in other cultures led them to travel extensively on all continents except Antarctica. After Bob became Professor Emeritus, he and Frances pursued their longtime passion for rock art with renewed vigor, by documenting petroglyphs, presenting their findings at symposia, and publishing their analyses. They are credited with reporting one of the oldest petroglyph sites in North America at Winnemucca Lake, NV. Bob was a longtime member of the Bohemian Club. He also served as a Councilor for the Save the Redwoods League and was an ardent champion of California native plants. A Berkeley-area resident for more than 80 years, he was known in later years for clearing brush, removing trash, and maintaining trails near Kensington Hilltop School and in Wildcat Canyon on his daily walks.

Bob is survived by his children Mary, Elizabeth, Arthur (I-Wen), Megan, Sarah, and William (Marcelle), and nine grandchildren. No service will be held. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the UC Berkeley College of Chemistry and Save the Redwoods League.

Our thanks to Ruth Frassetto & Grubb Co. Realtors for their generous support!

The 31st Annual GARDEN PARTY

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To donate or for questions contact Kim Keller at kellerkim19@gmail.com

Tickets are \$60 in advance, \$70 at the door.

Purchase your tickets and bid online at:
kensingtonhilltop.org/gardenparty

Benefiting The Kensington Education Foundation

From the Files of the KPD

Excerpt From August 2014

8/1/2014, Officer Martinez responded to the 200 block of Lake Dr. on a report of a petty theft.

8/5/14, on a tip from a resident during National Night Out, Corporal Stegman and Officer Wilson conducted a security check on the 100 block of Lawson Rd. As a result of the check it was learned there was a large abandoned indoor marijuana grow inside an 8,000 square foot house. During the investigation it was learned it is likely to have been shut down only for an estimated six months to a year.

8/12/14, Corporal Stegman arrested a suspect for being under the influence of narcotics, on the 200 block of Arlington Ave.

8/19/14, Officer Turner took a report of an identity theft, on the unit block of Kingston Dr.

8/24/14, Officer Turner took a report of vandalism, on the 100 block of Ardmore Dr.

8/24/14, Sergeant Barrow, Corporal Stegman, and Officer Wilson responded to assist ECPD on the 500

block of Elm St., with a barricaded subject who had inflicted serious injury on himself. The standoff lasted roughly three hours while ECPD negotiators attempted to negotiate with the distraught and belligerent male. Eventually the man decided to begin injuring himself further with a knife, that prompted officers to make a tactical entry so as to prevent the man from further injuring himself.

8/26/14, Officer Turner arrested a suspect with an outstanding arrest warrant, on the unit block of Avon Dr.

8/26/14, Officer Turner took a report of burglary, on the unit block of Highgate Rd.


8/27/14, Offcr Ramos took a report of a hit and run, on the unit block of Marchant Ct.

8/29/2014, Officer Martinez responded to the unit block of Highland Blvd. on a report of an assault.

8/31/14, Reserve Officer Rosete and his training officer, Officer Turner, took a report of vandalism at the intersection of Arlington Ave. and Norwood Ave.



Board packets, monthly reports, minutes, recordings of the KPPCSD Board Meetings, and Bay View County Solid Waste contracts are available for review at www.KensingtonCalifornia.org.



Jay Z. James

for Stege Sanitary District Director
~ 40 years in Kensington, 28 on the Stege Board ~

Endorsements:
Graham Brand • Paul Gilbert-Snyder
Dwight Merrill • Alan Miller • Beatrice O'Keefe
(CURRENT STEGE BOARD)

Ray Barraza • David Jenkins
(FORMER KMAC MEMBERS)

Paid for by Jay Z. James



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Has KPPCSD Lost Touch?

...*Letters, from Page 9*

that they completely ignored the loss of a basic institution that brought real quality to the daily lives of Kensington residents.

The KPPCSD board does not have its priorities straight because it has lost touch with the needs of our community. We deserve better.

Hopefully, Kensington residents will correct this situation in the upcoming election.

Kristine Hafner

Osmundson on Welsh

Dear Editor:

I have attended a few KPPCSD meetings, and have been struck by the following: 1) There seems to be a general pleasant attitude among the board members; 2) the president, Len Welsh, moves the agenda along in an expedited manner; 3) few citizens appear at the microphone to complain, but instead announce events of interest for the audience; 4) Our COP/GM, Greg Harman, brings an up-to-date report from his office.

What is going on here? Have we turned a new corner?

It is sad to see that we are losing two members of the board who helped bring about this sea change. However, we still have a chance to keep Len Welsh, the president of the board. His calm and level-headed manner is needed to preserve this new atmosphere. We are indeed fortunate that he has agreed to run for one of the three vacant seats in the coming November election. I wholeheartedly endorse him.

Lorraine Osmundsen,
A Happy Citizen Since 1959

Kassarjians on Cordova

(Editor):

Please consider Vanessa Cordova for the KPPCSD Board. Her deep understanding of the issues, level-headedness, and ability to analyze matters rationally and professionally are just what Kensington needs. With people like Vanessa guiding us, we'll be able to hear each other better and come to solutions that are wins.


We should elect Vanessa because she is pro-Kensington, pro-community, pro-big-picture, rather than specifically anti-this-issue or anti-that-person. Kensington deserves – Kensington needs! – someone focused on the critical decisions this community needs to make. A big part of that is working together on a long term financial plan that takes us forward to solvency and security. Vanessa's exemplary record of public service is the kind of deep experience that will get us there.


Vanessa really proved herself in Kensington as a member of KMAC on the cell antenna issue earlier this year. Neither did she emotionally reject cell antennas outright as inherently evil, nor was she going to allow Kensington to be run-over blindly by a corporate giant. Her conclusions and recommendations were based on analyzing evidence, meeting extensively with AT&T and the County, and most of all, going out of her way really hear a wide diversity of Kensington residents.

Vanessa has the open-mindedness, neutrality, and the courage to find common ground and reach consensus and compromise. A very wide diversity of people in Kensington who don't agree on other issues, agree that Vanessa is good for our community.

Mike and Debbie Kassarjian

see Letters, Back Page





A World of Extraordinary

ADMISSIONS INFORMATION DAYS:

Elementary School (K-4) Sunday, November 2, 12:30-3:30pm
Middle School (5-8) Sunday, October 26, 12:30-4:00pm
admissions@prospectsierra.org

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (K-4)	MIDDLE SCHOOL (5-8)
510.236.5800	510.528.5800

prospectsierra.org

Oct. 1 The Kensington Unit of the League of Women Voters meets at 1:15pm to discuss local issues. 21 Camelot Court. Guests are welcome. Please confirm at 527-1332.

Oct. 1-10 Ashby Village’s Juried Photography Exhibit. Show winners and slide show of other noteworthy submissions. LightRoom Gallery, 2263 Fifth Street, Berkeley, and next door at Tomato Cafe. *PeterSussman@psussman.com*, or 872-0898).

Oct. 2, 3, 4 UC Berkeley Symphony Orchestra Season Opens with Cindy Cox’s, Las Aguas del Sur, Sibelius’ Seventh Symphony, and Tchaikovsky’s Pathetique Symphony. Receptions to follow Friday and Saturday concerts. 8pm, Hertz Concert Hall, College Avenue at Bancroft Way, Berkeley. \$16 / \$5 UCB students/\$12 non-UCB students, seniors, groups of 10+. Info: *orchestra.berkeley.edu*. or 642-4864.

Oct. 3-5 El Cerrito Art Association Annual Art Show & Sale

Oct. 3-5 Annual El Cerrito Art Association Show & Sale at the El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Moeser Lane. Artists’ Reception: Fri., 7-9. Show and Outdoor Artists’ Market: Sat., 10-5. Show: Sun., 10-4. Free. 526-6241.

Town Meetings

Kensington Community Center
59 Arlington Ave., Kensington

(Schedule Subject to Change – Call to Confirm.)

KCC - October 6th
Kensington Community Council
1st Mondays, 7:30pm. 525-0292

FKL - October 7th
Friends of the Kensington Library, 7pm (at the Library, 61 Arlington Ave.) 1st Tuesdays

KFPD - October 8th
Fire Protection District
2nd Wednesdays, 7pm. 527-8395

KPPCSD - October 9th
Police Protection and Community Services District
2nd Thursdays 7:30pm. 526-4141

KPSC - October 13th
Kensington Public Safety Council
Earthquake/Disaster Preparedness
2nd Mondays, 6pm. 501-8165

KIC - October 27th
Kensington Improvement Club
4th Mondays, 7:30pm. 527-3062

KMAC (Tent.) - October 28th
Municipal Advisory Council
Last Tues. 7pm. (Call Supe. Gioia’s office to confirm: 231-8691)

KARO/ECHO - NOV. 10th
Amateur Radio Operators
2nd Mondays of odd months, 7:30pm. 524-9815

KPOA
Property Owners Association
Meets quarterly. 559-8232

Kensington Farmers’ Market
Live produce & live music every Sunday, 10am-2pm, Colusa Circle.

Kensington Kalendar



Choreographer Dalia Rawson participates in Danse Lumiere’s open rehearsal Sun 10/5 at 2:30pm. Studio B, Berkeley. Pictured: Dancers Keira Schwartz and Robert Raney in Solitudine. Photo: Scott Belding

Oct. 4 Finding Your Voice: “Navigating the Tricky Conversation with Those Closest to You,” led by Jan McClain. 10am-1pm. Suggested fee \$30. To register or for more info: *janmcclain@gmail.com* or 407-4556. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd., Kensington, *www.uucb.org*.

Oct. 5 Helene Knox, Ph.D., “The Personal Theology of the Reverend Thomas Starr King.” 10-11am. Free. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd, Kensington, 525-0302, *www.uucb.org*.

Oct. 5 Kathryn Roszak’s Danse Lumière presents an Open Rehearsal Benefit at 2:30pm in Studio B, 2055 Center St., Berkeley. \$20 adv. or \$25/door. Info: *www.dlkdance.com*. Reservations/Tix: *kdance@sonic.net* or 233-5550.

Oct. 5, 12, 19, 26 Kensington Farmers Market. Live produce & live music Sundays, 10-2. Free. Colusa Circle.

Oct. 6 & 20 Community Family Orchestra Rehearsals. Free ensemble for families. Open to all local neighborhoods; everyone is welcome. Building E, Kensington Park, 59 Arlington Avenue, Room A, 6-7pm. RSVPs to *dbradway@juno.com* are helpful.



Last year’s Pumpkin Carving Demo at Kensington Farmer’s Market. See Oct. 26

Oct. 7 The Power of Myth at the Movies: Gravity (2013). Please view this movie before class, then come to the discussion led by Richard Stromer from 7:30-9pm. First Tuesdays of the month; \$60 for all, or \$8 per night. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Road, Kensington, 525-0302, or *www.uucb.org*.

Oct. 11 Bryan Baker & Friends in Concert: “The Prophet Bird,” music of Debussy, Muczynski, Schumann, and Gershwin. 8pm. Tickets \$20/\$15 at *http://prophetbird.bpt.me* or at the door. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Road, Kensington. More information at *www.uucb.org*, or 525-0302.

Oct. 11 Fire Prevention Week Open House. Meet your firefighters, get fire safety tips. Noon-4:30pm, Public Service Bldg., 217 Arlington Ave. Free.

Oct. 12 Susan Moon speaks about her recent book, “The Hidden Lamp Stories from 25 Centuries of Awakened Women.” 10-11am. Free. UUCB, One Lawson Rd., Kensington, 525-0302.

Oct. 13 Dug Waggoner Demonstration: Using Photo Reference to Create Pastel Paintings. EC Community Ctr., 7007 Moeser Ln., EC, 7pm. Free. 277-6996

Oct. 18 Active Imagination as a Spiritual Practice, w/Lori Goldrich. 9am-1pm. Suggested Fee \$40 (includes artistic materials). Info: *lorigoldrich@comcast.net*. Reg.: *marthahelming@earthlink.net*, or 655-1444. UUCB, One Lawson Rd., Kensington, 525-0302.

Oct. 19 Friends of the Kensington Library Fall Book Sale, 11am-4pm, Kensington Library parking lot, 61 Arlington Ave. 524-3043

Oct. 21 Berkeley Garden Club Lecture Program, Noon-3pm, Albany Comm. Ctr., 1249 Marin Ave. “Irrigation: Watering Strategies in Dry Times” by Lori Palmquist, 2-3pm; plant exchange, 12-1pm; meeting, 1-2pm. Public welcome. *www.berkeleygardenclub.org*.

Oct. 25 Path Clean-up: Upper and Lower Ardmore Path, 10am-noon. Bring rakes/gloves/brooms/clippers, etc. Free cookies!

Oct. 25 CPR/First Aid Classes at Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. CPR: 8:30am-1pm; 1st Aid: 1-4:30pm. Residents: \$36 for one, or \$72 for both. Adv. reg. req’d at 215-4450 or *Fire@KensingtonFire.org*.

Oct. 26 Rev. Marilee Baccich, Interfaith Minister, on “Mediums, Crystals and a Unique Catholicism – A Healing Journey with John of God.” 10-11am. Free. UUCB, 1 Lawson Rd. 525-0302.

Oct. 26 Halloween at the Market. Pumpkin carving demo w/free pumpkins for kids; Magic show and haunted room; “Find the Witch” contest. (Pet costume contest at Kensington Vet Hosp.) Kensington Farmers Market, 10am-2pm.

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KCC's Fall Festival

...Festival, from Page 1

for sausage, hamburger, hot dog, or vegetarian burger lunches. Music will be provided by the Fred T. Korematsu (formally Portola) Middle School band. Former community member, Joan Gallegos will also be honored with the dedication of a park bench.

This will be followed by a coloring contest, 4 Cats Art booth with pumpkin decorating, and Halloween games for the children. To enter the Mechanics Bank Coloring Contest, drop by the Kensington branch of Mechanics Bank to pick up your coloring sheet after October 1st. (The deadline to return your masterpiece to the bank is Wednesday, October 15th.) The prize for the winners this year is a \$25 gift card for each age group: 4-6, 7-9, and 10-12.

Don't forget the Marvin Gardens Pumpkin Decorating Contest, too! Pick up your pumpkin from the Kensington or El Cerrito office of Marvin Gardens on or after Tuesday, October 14th. Prizes will be awarded in several age categories for best pumpkins (there is a suggested \$2 donation to UNICEF for each pumpkin).

Special thanks to our KCC Parade and Picnic sponsors: Marvin Gardens, Mechanics Bank, and 4Cats Art Studio. If your organization is interested in participating in the parade please contact Marty Westby at 525-0292.

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An Afternoon In The Park

KCC PARADE & OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, October 19 • Noon to 3:30 p.m.

Parade assembles at 11:30 a.m. at Arlington and Amherst Avenues. Festivities follow at the Kensington Community Center, 59 Arlington Avenue.

Stop by **Mechanics Bank Kensington office** the week of October 1 to pick up an entry form. Have your child enter our Kids Coloring Contest for a chance to win a \$25 Gift Certificate! (Details in our Kensington office.)

Purchase barbecue lunch tickets in advance, Monday thru Friday, October 1 to October 17, at Mechanics Bank and receive 50¢ per ticket off the regular Open House price.



Candidate Statements Continued

...Candidates, from Page 7

Vanessa Cordova, cont'd

program to provide the district with ongoing, leading-edge policy and budgetary planning expertise?

Despite my years of public service, the lessons learned from meeting with so many of you remain unmatched. I look forward to furthering our community's dialogue, finding our common ground and earning your vote in the weeks ahead. Thank you for your consideration.

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Rachelle Sherris-Watt

Kensington has been part of my life for the last 20 years. I arrived in 1994, when I was introduced to the community by my soon-to-be husband, whose family moved from Berkeley in 1968. While teaching at Kensington Nursery School, I learned that this is a special enclave, offering city life with safety and sanctuary in an engaged community.

My husband and I bought our house in 2003. We have had the oldest four of our five children attend Hilltop. Since leaving my position designing business services for AT&T, I have served as treasurer for Scout Pack 82, a Hilltop room parent, and classroom volunteer. I have been a vestry member and Sunday school director for our church. Raising a family in Kensington whilst serving

these neighborhood organizations means that I have a deep understanding of different viewpoints, experience building accord and the energy to reach compromise. Achieving goals without rancor and forging consensus in a community framework is both my skill and my passion.

Moving forward, it is time for the fog of disenchantment and disengagement to lift over Kensington. Our informed citizenry has been kept from fully engaging with local government because of rumored incivility and a culture of retaliation. I vow to be an advocate for transparency and inclusion to bring all members of our community back to the table.

We must be vigilant about our tax dollars. We need economizing before expenditure. We are a community founded on education, involvement, and respect. Now we must live it!

...Letters, from Page 10

To the Editor:

We are writing to urge fellow residents to re-elect current KPPCSD Board President Len Welsh.

Len's past experience leading Cal/OSHA has served him well. As a result, Len has done an excellent job building consensus and carefully listening to all points of view. These skills are needed to overcome the dissension that has too often been a feature of Kensington politics.

It's also important that KPPCSD includes representation from all areas of Kensington. Len has been very helpful in addressing needs in our area, including pedestrian safety and the selection of new, decorative light poles for the Colusa Circle. While his focus on keeping crime in check and controlling the cost of the services we receive is important to us all, we're glad there is someone on the Board who lives in the Lower Kensington area and understands our point of view.

We're convinced that Len's continuing leadership is needed on the Board and hope you will join us in voting him a second term.

Sincerely, Rodney and Sarah Paul



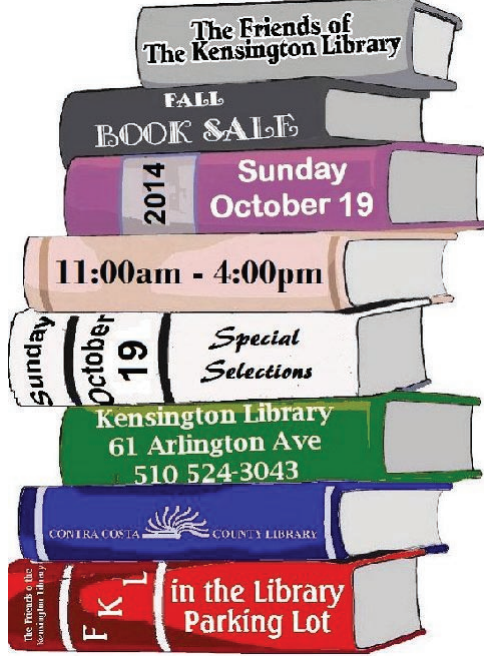
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