

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

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Police department in crisis

Abrupt departure of chief, police resignations, and public pressure stimulate board to action



Left to right: Kensington Police Protection and Community Services District Board Directors Joan Gallegos, Pat McLaughlin, Paul Haxo, Ciara Wood, and Bruce Morrow.

During a discussion of the annual budget at the May 25th meeting of the Kensington Police Protection and Community Services District (KPPCSD), Board Director Ciara Wood asked Police Chief and General Manager Barry Garfield about a \$1,317 item relating to gardening supplies. Chief Garfield folded up his papers, stood up, and said, “You are going to have to continue without me. I am no longer going to take the harassment I am getting from this director.” With that, he walked out of the meeting. An attendee who walked out with him reported that Garfield said his heart was pounding.

The directors then continued the meeting without comment about the incident. When Andrew Reed, a Kensington resident, asked if the board would discuss the incident, President Haxo said that it was a personnel issue, that the board had to do its own research before it could respond, and that since the event was not on the agenda, they could not discuss it. Police Sergeant Danny Jeffries took over Garfield’s position for the rest of the meeting.

During the time for public questions, a resident asked how Garfield might react in times of real emergencies. Director Joan Gallegos said that in that situation “good things would happen.” Most people observing the meeting seemed more distressed by Garfield’s behavior than the board members were. Garfield has not been to work since the meeting and has since filed a workers compensation claim, is now officially on sick leave, and unless he resigns or is terminated by the board, he can remain on sick leave until the end of his contract in June 2007.

The KPPCSD board is a made up of five volunteer residents, elected by Kensington voters. Its members are President Paul Haxo, Vice President Pat McLaughlin, and Directors Joan Gallegos, Bruce Morrow, and Ciara Wood. The board oversees the police department, hires the Kensington General Manager, runs the parks, and manages refuse contracts. The board’s other tasks are determining household taxes and

maintaining a budget for the maintenance of the community.

After the May 25th meeting, events unfolded rapidly, with four board meetings in June. The June 1st meeting was held mostly in closed session. (A closed session is a meeting with only invited persons present, no tape recordings, and no minutes.) Closed sessions are permitted by the Brown Act, which governs meetings for local legislative bodies, such as the board of KPPCSD, and which states that matters relating to employment can be held in closed session. The June 1st meeting was called on short notice, and Director Wood was out of town. At that meeting the board selected Police Sergeant Rickie Hull to act as interim Chief of Police and General Manager. The board voted to increase his pay by 7 percent.

The Kensington Police department has a budget for 10 officers, which allows for two police cars to be patrolling Kensington most of the day and night. At present, there are only five officers, plus two trainees. Over the past 18 months, three police officers have resigned. With current staffing levels, community coverage is down to one car, and on the occasions when police may be assisting other communities, there are none. If these calls for assistance or other duties pull them away for extended periods, another officer is called as a replacement.

Historically Kensington police officers have stayed on the job for many years. Compared to other areas in the East Bay, Kensington is relatively safe, and our police officers are well paid. Typical crimes are property and auto thefts, speeding, and driving without a license. The most serious crimes this year were the two armed robberies. Police have time to participate in activities such as training for Neighborhood Watch, doing welfare checks on residents, and making sure that homes are safe when the residents are on vacation. Hull estimates that up to 40 percent of an officer’s time might be devoted to such activities.

So it was surprising when three officers resigned in the past 14 months, and two

others left shortly before that. Most were relative newcomers. Officer Borgfeldt, the last officer to leave, came to Kensington from the San Francisco police department. He was reportedly committed to working in Kensington and was designing the police Web site when he quit with no notice or explanation. Some residents found the sudden departure of a career police officer troubling. The matter of Borgfeldt’s resignation was yet to be discussed by the board when Garfield made his abrupt departure. Gallegos later characterized recent resignations as due to “wandering” and “itchy feet.”

The June 7th meeting was convened to continue discussion of the budget. It was revealed that the \$1,317 item that sparked Garfield’s outburst was an expense incurred by an Eagle Scout troop for the construction of a footpath in the park. An ad hoc committee consisting of Haxo and McLaughlin was set up to determine the cost of running an investigation of the police department. Wood talked about how seriously the board takes this issue. McLaughlin said she appreciated community participation and thanked the public for attending. Hull stated that at present the police morale is very high. At the same time, we have learned that some current as well as former police officers have retained personal attorneys.

On June 15, the board met once more in closed session, this time to consult with an attorney—not the board’s retained lawyer, Ray McDevitt, of Hanson Bridget in San Francisco, but Kurt Franklin, an employment law expert from the same firm. After the closed portion of the meeting, it was announced that another ad hoc committee had been appointed, again made up of Haxo and McLaughlin, this time to address the relationship between Garfield and the board, and to find suitable candidates for the a new interim police chief and general manager. Haxo said the ad hoc committee would look for an explanation as to why so many officers have left the police department.

When Haxo was asked if there were any lawsuits pending against the district, he said he could not comment. At the end of the meeting, Haxo apologized about the need for privacy and asked the public to have faith in the board. McLaughlin said she appreciated the frustrations of the community and said it was frustrating for her not to be able to comment.

Historically the KPPCSD board meetings have been poorly attended by the public. But in the fall of last year, citizens started attending to encourage the board to address the failure of the 911 call center to meet California’s mandated response rate. Earlier this year, people involved in Neighborhood Watch and National Night Out started to attend board meetings, so attendance now is regularly more than 20 people, and the last few meetings have been standing-room-only.

Meeting attendees have repeatedly stated their dissatisfaction with the board and the police chief. One organizer of the Grizzly Peak Neighborhood Watch wrote to the board asking for access to Kensington
*Continued on page 2. See **Police Department**.*

Kitchen Democracy comes to Kensington

Successful citizen interactive Website now open to Kensington participation

Kitchen Democracy is a Website designed to provide people with a way to speak to their representatives. It was started in Berkeley, to foster communication between the city council and other departments and the public. It allows issues to be voted on in a way that informs officials of the feelings and attitudes of the people. This is not a legal vote, just a way to let citizens’ views on specific issues be known, so that when it comes time for the council, planning commission, or other bodies to vote, they will have a better overview of the wishes of the community at large. Members of the public can read background information about issues to become better informed, read and write comments, and also vote.

Many people do not have the time, energy, or inclination to attend public meetings but still want their opinions to be heard. Submitting a vote and or comment to the Website takes only a few minutes. The people who make descions in our name will read Kitchen Democracy before voting. Here they can gather the opinions of many people who would not normally be heard. Issues will be posted on a regular basis, and past topics, comments, votes, and decisions will be retained. The questions are not designed to polarize the community, but rather to give people a chance to have their voices heard.

Kitchen Democracy now has a Kensington section. The first question relates to the audit of our police force. Go to www.kitchendemocracy.org/kensington and read what others have said, post your own comments if you like, but most importantly vote to inform the KPPCSD board of your opinions.

If you have questions relating to Kensington that you would like Kitchen Democracy to address online, send them to: robert@KitchenDemocracy.org.

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Police Department Continued from page 1

crime statistics. Contrary to the board’s policies and procedures manual, Garfield chose not to include the letter in the public correspondence or bring it to the attention of the board. The organizer had to confront Garfield in a board meeting to get the letter placed into the public record, and she feels that she has still not had an adequate response to the letter.

The board’s policy manual states that any director can ask for items to be added to the agenda, as can members of the public. Wood has asked that Kensington Park be permanently on the agenda, yet many recent meetings have failed to include the park. The park is one of the main responsibilities of the board.

The next meeting was held on June 22, when the ad hoc committee announced that they would be meeting with Garfield and his attorney. They said they are working with John Ream, a Kensington resident, former KPPCSD board member, and retired deputy police chief from Oakland, to help refine the selection process for an interim police chief prior to interviewing candidates. The ad hoc committee stated that it “believes that the audit can be effectively performed by the interim chief, who can act both as an operational auditor and as the interim chief.”

Interviews of the top candidates, all retired police chiefs, have begun. The entire board will make the final selection in closed session. The board stated that they will direct the new interim chief to concentrate on filling vacant staff positions, examine and report on needed operational and policy changes, address personnel issues, and make a final report to the board. The board has added \$100,000 to the new budget to pay for the interim chief. The 2005-2006 budget for legal expenses was \$7,500. The board was asked whether it was penny-wise and pound-foolish to expect one person to run the department and perform the investigation as well.

Some members of the public still feel their questions are being avoided or ignored. Items that were discussed at meetings have been left off the minutes, such as a discussion of the resignation of Borgfeldt, and a statement by Gallegos that the possibility of lawsuits relating to Garfield’s abrupt exit could be so expensive that Kensington might have to sell the park to raise the money to cover possible damages. The board has often rubber-stamped proposals brought by the previous chief with few questions asked.

KENSINGTON OUTLOOK

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Attempts to get comments on these issues from Garfield and officers who have recently left have been unsuccessful.

If you would like to make your opinions known, please visit www.kitchendemocracy.org/kensington and see the accompanying story on Kitchen Democracy on page one.

FUND DRIVE

Flush Fund

The fund to finance the construction of toilets in the park has been renamed from Potties in the Park to the Flush Fund. Kensington Community Council would like to thank Joan Gallegos for her generous donation of \$2,500 to the fund.

EDITORIAL

The members of the KPPCSD board are to be commended for the time and effort they have contributed toward the community. We share the view of the citizen who said to the board, “We may be sitting on the opposite side of the table to you, but we are all here for the good of the community.” However, there have been times during the June meetings when the board has been overly cautious about informing the public of their intent and motivation. This sense of secrecy has fostered speculation and rumor that has led to people becoming misinformed. It has also bred a confrontational attitude between the board and the public, with board members referring to concerned citizens as “the usual suspects” and “troublemakers.” While personnel proceedings certainly must be managed with extreme care, the board could make a greater effort to allay the concerns of the public by being more communicative.

It is our view that the investigation of the police department should be done by an impartial third party. Having a police officer investigate other police officers gives at least the appearance of impropriety. It is possible that such an audit could uncover more serious breaches of the public trust than poor procedures and mismanagement. And while officers could be ordered to answer questions in an internal investigation, their answers could not be used against them in court if their conduct were the subject of a criminal investigation.

At present the board conducts no reviews of officers or exit interviews with officers leaving the department. We believe that the board should conduct such interviews in closed session on a regular basis.

We also suggest that board meetings would be more efficient and thus better attended if the board amended their policy manual so that minutes of meetings were corrected by board members prior to meetings and were presented to the board as completed documents, ready to be voted on. If topics of disagreement remained, these could be aired at the meetings.

The work and dedication of the board members has quietly enhanced the community, and we should be grateful for their long hours and industrious work. Community involvement can only strengthen us all and will continue to make Kensington a wonderful place to live.

LETTERS

KPPCSD and the Police Department

Editor—As a member of the Board of Directors for the Kensington Police Protection and Community Service District, I would like to make as clear as possible the facts underlying the unfortunate series of events that has occurred within the District.

1. At the Board meeting of May 25th, Police Chief/General Manager Barry Garfield chose to walk out of the meeting. Mr. Garfield’s action was totally unexpected. Since the major item on the agenda that evening was a preliminary hearing of the 2006/2007 budget and Mr. Garfield was not present to answer questions, that item was held over to allow time to provide answers to various questions.

2. On May 26th, Sgt. Rickey Hull was appointed acting Chief of Police by Chief Garfield.

3. A closed session was held on June 1st, so the Board could ratify the appointment of Sgt. Hull as Acting Chief and General Manager.

4. On June 7th, an open meeting was held to resume discussion of the preliminary budget. The decision was to remain with a complement of 10 officers for the time being, pending obtaining outside evaluation and advice. It was noted at this meeting that we have lost an unusual number of officers, and that the matter is under investigation. We have currently five officers and two additional officers completing their field training.

5. On June 15th the Board held a closed session to address Barry Garfield’s future relationship with the District. An ad-hoc committee consisting of Paul Haxo and Pat McLaughlin was appointed to work out the details and to pursue the appointment of an interim Chief of Police and the question of performing an operational audit, including what issues that may have been responsible for the recent loss of officers.

6. On June 22nd the Board of Directors met again, to discuss a plan of action proposed by the ad-hoc committee, a copy of which is available at the District office, and to approve a budget for fiscal 2006/2007 that includes an allowance for the expenses of an interim chief, legal advice that will exceed the usual allowance, and any additional expenses that may arise from the current situation. It was announced at this meeting that Mr. Garfield has filed a Worker’s Compensation Claim with the District.

Currently, we are in the process of interviewing potential candidates for the interim Police Chief position, addressing the District’s future relationship with Mr. Garfield, and ensuring that an operational audit is done. In addition, recruitment efforts are continuing with the goal of bringing the department up to a full complement.

These are all sensitive issues, and it would be folly to speculate about the various possible scenarios for the above situations. We are seeking legal advice at every turn, and are advised continually about what may or may not be publicized at any given time. Needless to say, we would be foolish, and derelict in our duty if we did not heed the advice of counsel. To do otherwise could further expose the District to litigation.

We appreciate the concern of citizens, To the extent possible, we are anxious to answer questions that do not involve sensitive issues, and will take into account all comments and ideas that are offered at the District Board meetings. It is to be hoped that these discussions will remain civil in this difficult time.

Pat McLaughlin
Director KPPCSD

Editor—The Kensington Police Department and the Board are facing significant challenges, given recent events. Indeed, because of these unforeseen events, the Board has needed some time to completely and thoroughly understand the scope and breadth of these challenges.

However, a plan of action has been developed, providing the framework for the work required of us. This plan was distributed to members of the community attending our regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, June 22, 2006.

I am concerned that there is the impression that the Board has been withholding information from the public. It should be made very clear to the community that the Board must be judicious in disclosing information that is governed by state and federal privacy rights and workplace legislation. We must err on the side of caution, abiding by the advice of District counsel. To act otherwise could open up the District to legal action, which, most assuredly, is not in the best interests of the town of Kensington.

I am equally concerned by what appears to be a concerted effort by members within this community to ignore the judicial constraints under which the Board must operate, portraying our reticence to disclose as obfuscation and evasion. This is needlessly confrontational, devious, and contributes nothing to our ongoing efforts to restore stability to the Police Department. The time for recrimination and finding of blame is past. This community should be coming together in support of its police department and engaging the District Board in constructive dialogue, as we move forward with the implementation of a strategic plan to address the issues facing this community.

Bruce Morrow
Vice-President KPPCSD

Editor—Kensington residents should know that their Police Department is facing serious problems:

- There are now only five active police officers on the Kensington police force—half the normal force of 10 officers.
- There is much uneasy speculation as to why so many promising young officers have recently left our police department.
- At a District meeting, a KPPCSD board member indicated a possible lawsuit against the District, which might require the District to sell Kensington Park. The cause of the possible lawsuit was not disclosed.

At this time of crisis, our Police Department needs strong leadership. We urge the KPPCSD board of directors to hire an experienced interim chief who has the ability to root out what appears to be crippling operational dysfunctions. At a recent special meeting, concerned citizens prevailed upon a reluctant Board of Directors to consider bringing in an outside consultant to identify operational problems and recommend corrective measures.

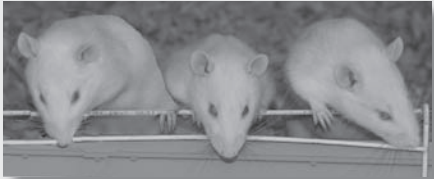
Everyone who wants quality police protection for our community should encourage the KPPCSD board to obtain knowledgeable assistance and advice without delay. The next regularly scheduled KPPCSD meeting will be on Thursday, July 13 at 7:30 pm at the Community Center. Come one, come all. The Board needs to hear your voice.

John Stein and Kathy Stein

Editor—As a Kensington taxpayer I am concerned. At a meeting on the 25th of May 2006, I witnessed an extremely disturbing event. Our Police Chief/General Manager, Barry Garfield, was asked about entries in our city’s budget when he stood up, proclaimed he would not take any more of this “harassment” and walked out of his own meeting. He has not returned to work since that night.

I do not understand why we, the taxpayers of Kensington, are still paying him as our Chief/General Manager while he has a paid “Acting Chief/General Manager” left with many unanswered questions about the budget, turnover and morale in our police department. I am appalled by this unprofessional behavior by one of our city’s “leaders.” I’d like to pass along my concern and a request (to the Board of Directors and the citizens they represent) that we do not invite him or anyone as unprofessional as Mr. Garfield to work in Kensington in any capacity at any time.

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Neighborhood Notes

Farmers' Market

Kensington was host to its first Farmers' Market on June 25, with the Grand Opening to be held July 9. The market will be open every Sunday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. It will feature a nursery, fresh-cut flowers, a chocolatier, honey and other bee-related items, fresh wild-caught fish, fresh vegetables and fruits, nuts and nut butters, a knife sharpener, eggs, artisanal bread and cheese, and other produce. A pumpkin festival is planned for October, and a Dickensian market will take place in December.

The Grand Opening celebration on July 9 will include music, children's activities, and appearances by four celebrity chefs who live in Kensington: Narsai David, Mollie Katzen, Nancy Oakes, and Bruce Aidells. Cookbook author Katzen, who will be signing her new children's book, *Salad People*, said, "It will be wonderful to have a 'town square' on Sundays, especially year-round." The Kensington Farmers' Market is held in the parking lot behind Ace Hardware, 303 Arlington Ave. at Amherst. Other farmers' markets in the area can be found in Berkeley, El Cerrito, Martinez, Richmond, and Oakland.

For more information, contact the market manager, Judith Adamson, at 528-4346.



National Night Out—August 1



National Night Out is a crime and drug prevention event that will take place Tuesday, August 1. The event is meant to heighten crime prevention awareness, promote neighborhood spirit, and provide an opportunity for neighborhoods and blocks to get together to prepare for emergencies and have fun. At last year's Night Out there were many block parties, barbecues, and gatherings, with the police visiting each to pass along information. This year there will be parties on Arlington Ave. (several), Amherst Ave., Beloit Ave., Columbia Ave., Grizzly Peak Blvd., Lake Ave., Los Altos Dr., Parkside Court, Rincon Rd./Kerr Ave., Willamette Ave., and Yale Ave. They may be in gardens, on the sidewalk, or in someone's home. It is not too late to organize an event for your area. Get a couple of neighbors together and call Sergeant Escobar or Officer Martinez, who will give you lots of help organizing your own get-together, 526-4141 extension 40.

K-8 not giving up

Although the K-8 issue was recently voted out by the school board, the vote was only 3-2. The need for K-8 is still important for many parents in the school district, especially in some of the Richmond schools. Beth Thomsen, previously the chairperson of the K-8 Outreach Committee, said there are many families that find a middle school just too much to handle when they have several kids in as many grades. For them and others, K-8 is appropriate, while other schools in the district would find it unsuitable. Three positions of the five-member school board are up for election in November. K-8 may well be a winning platform issue.

Speaking Japanese



Lauren Burkhart of Kensington, a College Preparatory School student, has won the Aurora Foundation National Japanese Language High School Speech Contest and will represent the U.S. at the Japanese Speech Contest in Tokyo this summer. The contest is for nonnative Japanese speakers and U.S. citizens. She has studied Japanese since she was 12. As the national winner, Lauren will travel to Tokyo all expenses paid. She also received a trophy and a \$500 scholarship from the Aurora Foundation.

Fire flow enhancement

On June 14 the Kensington Fire Protection District voted to delay for another month the decision on whether or not to install two large cisterns to feed the Kensington Rd. neighborhood. Homes in this neighborhood are presently at high risk because of low pressure in the hydrants at this elevation. Each of the proposed tanks would provide 1,500 gallons a minute for 20 minutes. The tanks are 12' deep and 49' long, which is larger than an AC Transit bus. If the proposal is approved in July, work will be scheduled for the fall, with a maximum total cost of up to \$736,605, although the expected cost will be about \$520,000.

The alternative is to upgrade the EBMUD piping, at an estimated cost of \$2,300,000. The installation of the tanks and associated plumbing would take two weeks and would include limiting access to Kensington Rd.

The tanks would be located a few feet underground, on either side of the junction



of Cowper Rd., one at the eastern end of Kensington Rd., and the other between 77 and 80 Kensington Rd. This is in an area that is immediately adjacent to El Cerrito and Richmond. The measure, in conjunction with "aggressive

management of fire hazards and vegetation hazards," would bring the area into line with the Kensington Fire District Community Wildfire Response Plan. The proposal states that impact on the local neighborhood would be significant, and the department will conduct neighborhood meetings and take comments before finalizing the bid. The process may take up to two months, with the subsequent bidding process requiring another month. Executing the contract, bonds, and insurance certificates and the actual construction may take up to four months, so work may not be completed until late in the fall.

Although some residents have previously expressed concern about the lack of sufficient water pressure to protect their homes in case of fire, others are concerned about the impact of the construction work.

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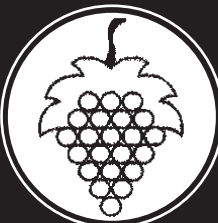
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KENSINGTON COMMUNITY EDUCATION

K C C — KENSINGTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL K A S E P — KENSINGTON AFTER SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

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

SUMMER DAY CAMP

Kensington Community Council Summer Day Camp

Camp hours
9 a.m.–5 p.m., Monday–Friday
Located in Kensington Park, KCC summer camp runs June 12–August 18, for children entering 1st through 6th grades in fall 2006. A few spaces may still be available. Campers may enroll on a weekly basis. For more information, contact the KCC office, 525-0292, or look online at www.aboutkensington.com.

Gymnastic classes

Gymnastic classes start again in the fall. Judy Baker will teach gymnastics during two weeks of KCC’s Summer Day Camp, July 10–14 and July 17–21.

Please mark your calendars for the

FALL PARADE and PICNIC IN THE PARK!

Sunday, October 15,
starting at 12 noon.

For more information, please call the KCC office at 525-0292.

YOUTH CLASSES

Summer Tennis Clinic

Instructor: Alex Brown (524-5495)
Grades 1–6
Session 3: July 10–14, 1–3 p.m.
Session 4: July 17–21, 1–3 p.m.
Session 5: Aug 14–18, 1–3 p.m.
Session 6: Aug 21–25, 10 a.m.–12 p.m.
or 1–3 p.m. (*both sessions available*)

Clinic includes stroke instruction, play, ball-machine practice, refreshments, and prizes. For information about racquets, call Alex Brown, 524-5495. Children are registered on a first-come, first-served basis in the KCC office, 59 Arlington Ave. Emergency card, registration, and waiver forms must be tendered prior to the beginning of the session. For an application or more information, call the KCC office at 525-0292.
Monday–Friday 10 a.m.–4 p.m.
\$80/session (Kensington resident)
\$88/session (nonresident)
\$150 for all-day enrollment in Session 6 (\$165 for non-resident)
Minimum of 4 students per class;
Maximum of 8 students per class.
At the Kensington Tennis Courts.

ADULT CLASSES

Tennis

Alex Brown, USPTA tennis pro, offers classes to a minimum of four students. To register, call Alex at 524-5495.
5 classes/\$40 per resident; \$45 non-resident
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9–10 a.m.
At the Tennis Courts (West Court)

Hatha Yoga

Enjoy a hatha yoga practice that will calm, restore, and revitalize you each Monday. 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 or 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 about the class, please call 681-3077. To register, call the KCC office at 525-0292.
Monday, 5:30–6:30 p.m.
Fees for residents: \$12 for drop-in
One-month pass (4 classes) for \$40
Nonresidents please add 10%.
At Building E, the Recreation Building.

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

K A S E P KENSINGTON AFTER SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM 10 a.m.–4 p.m., Monday–Friday.
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)
Sessions: Registration for the fall session of KASEP will be Tuesday, September 12, 7 p.m. Fall classes will begin on Monday, September 25.

K C C KENSINGTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL Esther Hill, Administrator, 525-0292 10 a.m.–4 p.m., Monday–Friday.
To register for class: Call the office unless otherwise specified. Some classes have enrollment limits; those registering will be notified if they cannot be enrolled.
Tennis court reservations: Reservations are for weekends and holidays only; the earliest is for 9 a.m. Call Esther Hill at 525-0292 for classes and tennis court reservation information.
Fees are: \$2 per 45-minute reservation (singles) for Kensington residents and \$5 for others.
Community Center rental: For information on renting the Community Center, call Helen Horowitz at the Kensington Police Protection and Community Services District, 526-4141.

Looking for musicians

The East Bay Youth Band is looking for beginning and experienced woodwind, brass, and percussion musicians who are committed to music education. The organization offers a full concert band, a junior ensemble for beginning players, sectional rehearsals with professional musicians, and the chance to play in chamber groups.
Tryouts are September 9. Students should prepare a short excerpt (no need for it to be memorized) and a scale in one or two octaves. Students will also be asked to sight-read an excerpt. Contact Vanisha Evans for details, 444-4857.

FKL undaunted by prop failure

The Friends of Kensington Library has worked diligently to plan for improvements and an extension for the library. With the failure of Proposition 81 in the recent June election, the plans are changing but are not being dropped. In the meantime, FKL continues to work conscientiously for the library and always appreciates help.
The library is still without bathrooms that meet ADA guidelines. An adult reading room and other dedicated spaces are also needed. Hopefully the county will fix the drainage problem, which at times fills the library with water vapor, causing books and other papers to curl and deform.



Out and away

Another group of successful high school students has just graduated, with most bound for college, from Quebec to San Diego, Oregon to Boston. Here is a list of this year’s graduates, the high school they attended, and where they will be going in the fall. (Michelle Hellerstein did her usual great work coordinating the photo and compiling the list. Clif Taylor took the photo.)

Bottom row, left to right: Neil Pugashetti, Miramonte High School, UCLA; Marissa Swain, Albany High School, U.C. Davis; Erica Choy, Head-Royce High School, New York University; Emily Blankenburg, Berkeley High School, U.C. Santa Cruz; Lisa Aultman, El Cerrito High School, Macalester College; Talia Geliebter, Albany High School, Berkeley City College; Erica Hellerstein, Berkeley High School,

Johns Hopkins University; Adam Poole, Berkeley High School, McGill University; Jason Yun, Berkeley High School, Princeton.
Second row, left to right: August Spofford, El Cerrito High School, undecided; Jillian Mossina, El Cerrito High School, San Diego State University; Grant Bennett, Berkeley High School, undecided; Zoe Frassetto, San Dominico, U.C. Davis; Colin Tilley, Berkeley High School, University of Oregon; Tori Rothacher, El Cerrito High School, Humboldt State College; Carolyn Pulvino, El Cerrito High School, UCLA; Jacqueline Burbank, St. Mary’s High School, University of Southern California; Georgia Tapp, St. Mary’s High School, Boston Conservatory; Sarah Price, El Cerrito High School, University of Oregon; Jenna Starkey, St. Mary’s High School, University of Oregon; Wiley Wyss, Albany High School, University of Oregon; Alaina Lingenfelter, Berkeley High School, UCLA; Kaitlin Toombs, El Cerrito High School, UCLA; Lauren Detmer, St. Mary’s High School, Boston University; David Fike, St. Mary’s High School, Northwestern University; Kathryn Stein, El Cerrito High School, U.C. Davis. Not pictured: Jono Simrin, Berkeley High School, Northwestern University.

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Wed.–Sat. 5:30–9:00 p.m.

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JULY

Sunday, July 2
Talk on homelessness by
Kecia McMillian, director of
an Oakland halfway house,
9:30 a.m. Unitarian Univer-
salist Church of Berkeley,
1 Lawson Rd., 525-0302.

Farmers’ Market. 10 a.m.–2 p.m. Behind Ace
Hardware, 303 Arlington Ave. at Amherst.

Monday, July 3
Beginning computer classes for adults.
Topics based on student’s needs can include: use
of a mouse, Internet searching, using library
catalogs or databases, online medical information
and Microsoft Word. Sign up at the library or call
524-3043. Limited to 3 students, 6–7 p.m.
Kensington Public Library, 61 Arlington Ave.

Tuesday, July 4
Cookie decorating. Come decorate your own
Independence Day cookies. Free. Noon–2 p.m.
Arlington Bakery, 273 Arlington Ave., 528-2253.

Fourth of July at the Berkeley Marina,
noon–9:30 p.m., live entertainment, arts and
crafts, food, kids stuff. Alcohol-free event. Free.
Fireworks at 9:30 p.m. Sponsored by the City of
Berkeley, 548-5335.

Thursday, July 6
Kensington Senior Center lunch,
9 a.m.–1 p.m. \$3. Arlington Community Church,
52 Arlington Ave., 237-7606.

Friday, July 7
Cooking class. Cooking with chocolate.
Monthly cooking class. \$20. 6–7 p.m. Arlington
Bakery, 273 Arlington Ave., 528-2253.



Saturday, July 8
East Bay Dog Raisers Club
presents a visit with a puppy
being raised for service.
Meet Cindy Sevilla and her
puppy-in-training. 2 p.m.
Kensington Library, 61
Arlington Ave., 524-1351.

Oakland Zoomobile.
Meet wild animals from the Oakland Zoo. 11 a.m.
El Cerrito Library, 6510 Stockton Ave., 526-7512.

Native American Sculpture. Zuni fetish carver,
Lena Boone, exhibits stone carvings of animals,
10 a.m.–7 p.m. and Sunday, July 9, 11 a.m.–6 p.m.
at Gathering Tribes, 1573 Solano Ave., Berkeley.
For more information call 528-9038.

Sunday, July 9
Angela Mason will share her experiences with
World Vision, the largest private charity in the
world. 9:30 a.m. Unitarian Universalist Church of
Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd., 525-0302.

**Grand
Opening:
Farmers’
Market**
Four
celebrity
chefs,
music, and
activities
for kids, 10 a.m.–2 p.m. 303 Arlington Ave. For
information email kensingtonFM@yahoo.com.

KENSINGTON

Native American Sculpture. Zuni fetish carver,
Lena Boone, exhibits stone carvings of animals,
11 a.m.–6 p.m. at Gathering Tribes, 1573 Solano
Ave., Berkeley. 528-9038.

Monday, July 10
Kensington Community Council monthly
meeting, 7:30 p.m. Community Center, 59
Arlington Ave., 526 4141.

Beginning computer classes. See July 3.

Tuesday, July 11
ACLU Film series: Religious Freedom. Followed
by a talk by Rev. Phil Lawson of the Greater
Richmond Interfaith Group. 7 p.m. Richmond
Library, 325 Civic Center Plaza, 525-9223.

Thursday, July 13
Kensington Senior Center lunch. See July 6.

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

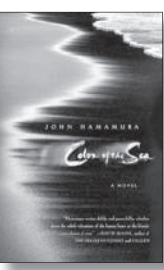
Saturday, July 15
**Non-Anesthetic Teeth Cleaning for Dogs
and Cats,** 12 noon–4 p.m., Rabbit Ears, 303
Arlington Ave. For appointment 525-6155.

Sunday, July 16
Enra Rahmanoie, United Nations Association,
talks on the **UN Millennium Development
Group**, 9:30 a.m. Unitarian Universalist Church
of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd., 525-0302.

Farmers’ Market. 10 a.m.–2 p.m. See July 2.

Monday, July 17
Beginning computer classes. See July 3.

How to Make a Business Successful,
presented by Randall Shores. 7 p.m. Contra Costa
Small Business Development Center, 2425 Bisso
Lane, Concord, (925) 646-5377.

Tuesday, July 18


John Hamamura, author
of *Color of the Sea*, talks
about Japanese Americans
growing up during World
War II, 7 p.m.
El Cerrito Library,
6510 Stockton Ave.,
526-7512.

Identity Theft Workshop. Learn about: credit
card theft and fraud and check fraud. Learn
to reduce your risks. 7 p.m. El Cerrito Senior
Citizens Center, 6500 Stockton Ave. Reservations
required. 215-4414 Ext 30.

Thursday, July 20
Kensington Senior Center lunch. See July 6.

Saturday, July 22
Oakland Zoomobile: Meet real wild animals
from the Oakland Zoo, 2 p.m. Kensington
Library, 61 Arlington Ave., 524-1351.



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CALENDAR

Sunday, July 23

Paris Harvey will show an **animal video**. 9:30 a.m. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd., 525-0302.

Farmers’ Market. 10 a.m.–2 p.m. See July 2.

Monday, July 24

Kensington Library Book Club discusses *The Sea Wolf* by Jack London. 7 p.m. Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave., 524-3043.

Beginning computer classes. See July 3.

Tuesday, July 25

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

Thursday, July 27

Kensington Senior Center lunch. See July 6.

Sunday, July 30

Ben Ames will share his experiences working in the San Francisco Tenderloin. 9:30 a.m. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd., 525-0302.

Farmers’ Market. 10 a.m.–2 p.m. See July 2.

Monday, July 31

Start of Kensington **curbside trash pick up** through August 4 (on your usual trash day).

Beginning computer classes. See July 3.

AUGUST

Thursday, August 3

Kensington Senior Center lunch. See July 6.

Saturday, August 5

Judy Hardin of RabbitEars talks on caring for rabbits and small pets. 2 p.m. Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave., 524-1351.

Sunday, August 6

Dr. Stephen Zunes, author and professor of political science, talks on America’s current policies. 9:30 a.m. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd., 525-0302.

Farmers’ Market. 10 a.m.–2 p.m. See July 2.

Monday, August 7

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

Beginning computer classes. See July 3.

Tuesday, August 8

ACLU Film series: Dissent. Followed by a talk by civil rights attorney Jim Chanin. 7 p.m. Richmond Library, 325 Civic Center Plaza, 525-9223.

Wednesday, August 9

Kensington Fire Protection District meeting. Kensington Community Center, 59 Arlington Ave., 527-8395.

Thursday, August 10

Kensington Senior Center lunch. See July 6.

Sunday, August 13

Lynn Tingle, of the Milo Foundation, discusses the animal sanctuary, 9:30 a.m. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd., 525-0302.

Farmers’ Market. 10 a.m.–2 p.m. See July 6.

Monday, August 14

Rehearsals through August 18 for Musical Arts theater production, *Peace Child*, for children ages 7–13. Performance in September. Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave., 526-9146.

Beginning computer classes. See July 3.

Thursday, August 17

Kensington Senior Center lunch. See July 6.

Saturday, August 19

Non-Anesthetic Teeth Cleaning for dogs and cats, 12 noon–4 p.m., RabbitEars, 303 Arlington Ave. For appointment call 525-6155.

Paws with a Cause. Jackie Post discusses special service dogs trained to help people with disabilities. 2 p.m. Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave., 524-1351.

Sunday, August 20

Chris O’Sullivan, professor of history talks on the Middle East. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd., 525-0302.

Farmers’ Market. 10 a.m.–2 p.m. See July 2.

Monday, August 21

Beginning computer classes. See July 3.

Tuesday, August 22

Kirk Waller, interactive storyteller, presents a program about pets. Prizes. 6:30 p.m. Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave., 524-1351.

Thursday, August 24

Kensington Senior Center lunch. See July 6.

Calendar/Art Poster Contest. Childrens’ art workshop to design artwork for the 2008 Contra Costa County Reads! Calendar. 3 p.m. Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave., 524-1351.

Sunday, August 27

Katherine Burroughs of Stand Against Domestic Violence, will discuss **elder abuse**. 9:30 a.m. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd., 525-0302.

Farmers’ Market. 10 a.m.–2 p.m. See July 2.

Monday, August 28

Beginning computer classes. See July 3.

Kensington Library Book Club discusses *How the Garcia Girls Lost their Accents* by Julia Alvarez. 7 p.m. Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave., 524-3043.

Tuesday, August 29

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

Thursday, August 31

Kensington Senior Center lunch. See July 6.

NEW LISTINGS

This is a selection of my most recent listings.
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421 Santa Fe Avenue
Kensington
4BR/2BA
Offered at \$899,000



210 Yale Avenue
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4BR/3BA
Offered at \$1,295,000



2214 Carleton Street
Berkeley
3++BR/2BA
Offered at \$699,000



2210 Rose Street
Berkeley
3BR/2BA
Offered at \$899,000



1132 Contra Costa Road
El Cerrito Hills
4BR/2BA
Offered at \$850,000



8215 Terrace Drive
El Cerrito Hills
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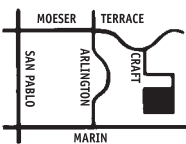
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9:30 a.m.: Adult Classes
10:45 a.m.: Worship Service
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525-0302



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Sunday School

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MINISTER:
Felicity Wright

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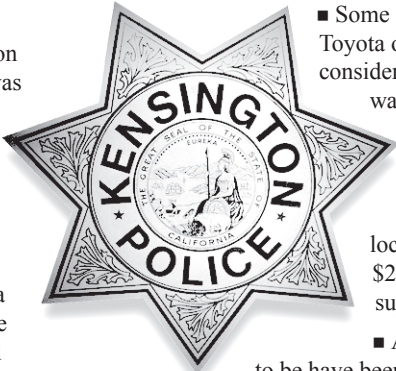


From the case files of the KPD

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

Events in May

- A car speeding on Lexington Rd. was pulled over, and it was discovered that the driver did not have a license but did have a supply of marijuana. The drug was destroyed and the car impounded.
- A gym bag, kids clothing, a CD player, and \$10 in change were taken from an unlocked minivan on Cowper Ave.
- An Ocean View Ave. resident got five or six unwanted calls asking if the homeowner wanted to refinance their home.
- An African American man was seen sitting in a car parked on Purdue Ave. A suspicious resident, who was greeted by the occupant, noted the car’s license plate and called the police. When police arrived the man and car were gone. Later an astute officer realized that the license plate was that of the Kensington police’s own unmarked car; the driver had been Acting Police Chief Hull, doing a routine neighborhood watch.
- Someone brought a starting pistol and fireworks to the police station for destruction.
- A suspicious person was observed sitting on the front steps of an Ocean View Ave. home. The person explained he was taking a rest while walking up the hill.
- A man called for help when he fell through the roof of his carport on Purdue Ave. Apparently he has recovered, but the roof needs fixing.
- The ignition of an unlocked Honda Civic on Ardmore Rd. was damaged when a potential car thief tried unsuccessfully to start the car with a large screwdriver. The driver had left the steering wheel Club unused on the back seat.
- Police were called out twice to a raucous party on Kingston Rd. The homeowner told the police it was a celebration for his wife’s birthday. The complaints were made at 6:18 p.m and at 8:30 p.m. Apparently it was not an all-nighter.
- A woman was heard to be screaming for help in the area of Yale Ave. and Rugby Ave. After a thorough investigation, police were unable to locate the reason for or source of the screams.
- Someone on Yale Ave. found over \$1,700 of fraudulent charges on their Macy’s card and another identity theft victim on Franciscan Way was charged \$5000 on their American Epress bill.
- A slow-reading but still-moving motorist, trying to make out the dates on temporary road signs, ran into several parked cars on Sunset Dr.
- A Coventry Rd. resident observed a woman hit another car badly enough to flatten her tire and dent her fender. Police were called and found the hit-and-run culprit in the gas station on Arlington Ave. trying to get her flat fixed.
- A person on Lam Ct. decided to take a long-earned vacation and found their passport had disappeared sometime in the past seven years.
- A woman on Yale Ave. reported that her house cleaner or babysitter had stolen \$360. She declined to press charges, so the theft remains on the books as unsolved.



- Some gloves were stolen from a Toyota on Coventry Rd. This is considered a petty theft. A grand theft was committed on another Toyota on Coventry 75 minutes later; this time the thief netted an iPac PDA, an iPod connector, a real estate lockbox, \$50 worth of CDs, and \$200 worth of miscellaneous supplies.
- A torpid Porsche was found to be have been parked in the same spot on Lexington Rd. for over 72 hours and was towed.
- A petty arsonist set a small fire against a fence on Colusa Ave. The reason eludes the police; minimal damage was sustained.
- A homeowner on Westminster Ave. heard a thud on the side of their house. On investigating the cause, they found an arrow embedded in their wall. The resident wondered if it was meant for him, or if there is an errant Robin Hood at large.
- Someone ran over a cat on Stratford Rd. and didn’t report the sad event.
- A resident on Yale Ave. heard footsteps and what they took to be a crazy person swearing in their garden. Police guessed it might have been a deer. If so, the deer was apparently upset.
- Someone on Cambridge Ave. reported that their house was listed on Craig’s List as being available for rent. They had not place the ad and don’t intend to move. It’s presumed that the listing contained an error.
- A suspicious person was observed sitting in a car on Highland Blvd. Police discovered it was a woman waiting for her boyfriend to finish working on a nearby construction site.
- A crack pipe was found on the back seat of a car on Arlington Ave. The car was a police black-and-white, and the police have no idea who dropped the pipe or how long it had been in the car. The pipe was scheduled for destruction.
- While filling his pickup with gas, a driver living on Wellesley Ave. discovered that someone had stolen his front and back license plates.
- An unidentified person walked into an unlocked house and started calling out “Hello.” The homeowner found that the person intended to visit a neighbor but had copied down the street address incorrectly.
- A thief broke into an unlocked Lexus on Norwood Ave.; the haul was \$2 worth of change. A Mercury parked on Rugby Ave. had a map, a \$250 stereo, and a \$100 gym bag stolen from it. This goes to show you can’t judge a car’s contents by its pedigree.
- A person reported that someone had maliciously unscrewed a sprinkler head on their lawn on Kenyon Ave. The head in question was too wet to be dusted for fingerprints.

Last month Kensington police dealt with 16 medical emergencies and welfare checkups, 13 false alarm calls, 4 mistaken 911 calls, and 10 assists to outside agencies. There were a total of 246 calls on the police log.

Classified Advertising

ABE’S TREE AND YARD CARE.

Trimming, pruning, removals. Weeding, hedge maintenance, clean-up. Large or small jobs. Insured. Local resident. 724-6956.

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Interior, exterior, waterproof coatings, wood restoration, color consultation. License #721226. Kensington references. 655-9267 for free estimate.

BRIDGE PAINTING paints houses! Top quality, int/ext, A-1 prep. for lasting finish, Sr. discount, fully ins, Lic. 639300, free est, see display ad inside. 232-3340.

CAL CONTRACTORS — Landscape construction – Fences – Decks – Stairs. Call Sam at 339-8555 for free estimate. Lic.#513402

CLARK KELLEY’S CALIFORNIA GARDENS.

All phases of landscape construction, plant design, irrigation and garden installation. Flagstone and brick patios. Local references License #534467. 869-2788.

ESTATE SALE — July 22 and 23. Earl Ramer, 412 Colusa Ave. Tools, Trinkets, Treasures and more. 1950 Chevie Pickup, and a 1963 Cad Sedan.

HOME REPAIR EXPERT. Fences, decks, carpentry, tile work, doors and locks, glass and windows, small electrical/plumbing jobs, odd jobs. Local references. Rick, 464-5934.

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HOUSE and/or COMMERCIAL CLEANING.

References provided. Please call 510-528-2428

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30 years experience in home remodeling and renovation: stairs, doors, windows, cabinets, bookcases, trim, drywall, decks, fencing. Framing through finish. Large or small jobs. Local resident George Spilsbury, 525-4051.

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QUALITY GARDENING—Maintenance, Clean- up, Aesthetic Pruning, Planting, Irrigation, Organic Practices. 13 yrs in East Bay. Local refs, free estimates. Green’s Gardens—510-593-3490

QUALITY RESUMES! Interview prep, coaching, over 15 years exp. Marilyn 987-7271 findworknow.org

REIKI ENERGY STRESS REDUCTION TRAINING Kensington. Marilyn 524-2043. www.reikienergyworks.com

RENE’S HAULING—All types of hauling and yard work. Free estimate. Specializing in the Kensington area. Call: Cell (510) 367-5695 or (510) HAULING (428-5464)

RENTAL WANTED – Lower level 1 or 2 bedroom unit in duplex, triplex, or 4plex that has NOT been recently painted, varnished, or remodeled as I have allergies. Call Mona at 526-6265

SUNSET WINDOWS & GUTTER CLEANING and repairs. Jim (510) 393-8929

TWO STRONG WOMEN HAUL AWAY SERVICE: Will pick up, clean out, recycle, deliver most anything, anytime. Call Leslie 235-0122.

VACATION BEACH HOUSE Big island of Hawaii, North Kona Coast. Lovely 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, ocean/mountain views, owned by Kensington residents. 527-2009 www.halelea.com

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WINDOW CLEANING: Homes or commercial. Free estimate. References available. Call Cathie at 510-524-9185.

YOGA IN PERU! 9/27–10/8. Cusco, Machu Picchu, Sacred Valley, hiking, more. Barbara 232-9955

Kensington Outlook Classified

Classified ad forms are available online at www.kensingtonoutlook.com at the bottom of the page. Ads are \$6 a line with a minimum of 2 lines at \$12. A line consists of 45 spaces or characters. Deadline for classified ads is the 8th of the month prior to publication. Payment must be made prior to publication. Mail ad copy with check made payable to KCC to:

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