

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

April 2005

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Volume 62 Number 3

Library bond forcing Kensington to weigh priorities

Residents at a town hall meeting in March began the process of determining whether Kensington will seek funds from a \$600 million bond measure for library construction if it passes next June.

The process is expected to be highly competitive and will require the community to come up with one-third of the cost of the project. With several big dollar projects on the minds of residents including the completion of Kensington Park, the undergrounding of utilities and fixing long-neglected drainage problems throughout the village, supervisor John Gioia told the group of about 20 people gathered for meeting at the library that the community will have to decide on its priorities.

"You can only go to the ballot so many times," said Gioia. "You can only raise so much money."

John Gossard, a member of the Friends of the Kensington Library, noted that while the community may have several priorities, the availability of state money represents an opportunity with a small window of time for the community to seize.

Though Kensington has the highest per capita use of its library of any in the Contra Costa library system, the 40-year-old structure was built to house a collection half its current size of 40,000 items.

The 5,000 square-foot building suffers from outdated electrical and telecommunications equipment, a heating system that's grown unreliable and bathrooms that do not conform with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Rather than discussing specific alternatives for the library, the meeting focused on the mechanics of applying for the state

funds if the measure is approved. It also set into motion the start of efforts to conduct a public needs assessment for the library, a process that is critical to successful applications.

Libraries are no longer just a place for books and periodicals. New libraries are being built with public meeting rooms, computer centers, auditoriums, cafes, childrens areas, youth centers and more.

The community must determine what its own needs and desires are or whether the will is there to make a significant financial commitment.

Last year Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed legislation that will put a \$600 million bond measure for library construction on the June ballot. Half of those funds will be set aside for projects that qualified for a previous \$350

million bond measure in 2000, but failed to get funded because the demand far outstripped the available money. A total of about \$500 million worth of projects are still waiting funding.

The other half of the funds -- \$300 million - will be set aside for new projects. Projects that qualify require the community to put up 35 percent of the cost with the balance coming from the bond money.

The Friends of Kensington Library will continue the discussion at its regular meeting Tuesday, April 5 at the Kensington Library.

The group is expected to take the lead on conducting the community's needs assessment and will also help bring together representatives from other groups throughout the community to form a steering committee on the issue.



Larry Lefebvre of Kensington Fine Foods prepares some of the mouth-watering delights served at KCC's Spring Celebration with event co-chairs Robert Abraham and Betty Ann Engel. More pictures from the event can be found on page 7.

Spring Rites

Successful Spring Celebration raises \$7,000 for recreation and education programs in Kensington

Kensington residents new and old gathered for the Spring Celebration, the Kensington Community Council's annual fundraiser.

Andronico's Markets and Marvin Garden Real Estate sponsored the event held March 19 at the Kensington Community Center. The Mechanics Bank provided additional support.

More than 100 people attended the party, which raised \$7,000 to help support recreation and education programs overseen by the Kensington Community Council. The council is responsible for the Kensington After School Enrichment Program, the KCC summer camp and the publication of this newspaper in addition to other adult and youth classes held at Kensington Park.

Gioia crafts alternative to criticized fundraising ordinance

County officials have put on hold a widely criticized proposed fundraising ordinance aimed at resolving the controversy over fundraising concerts held at the Kensington Home of concert promoter turned philanthropist Danny Scher and instead are taking a new approach.

Supervisor John Gioia stopped short of saying the fundraising ordinance was dead, but said it will not go to the planning commission as scheduled.

Instead, Gioia is moving forward with an alternative ordinance that will regulate events countywide. At press time Gioia said he expected to begin circulating a draft of the

new ordinance by the end of March.

Though details were still being worked out the ordinance was expected to include objective noise standards - decibel measures - with local law enforcement agencies responsible for enforcement.

In so doing, the ordinance would put an end to the effort to create a separate noise ordinance, which had been part of a plan to allow Scher to hold some events while providing neighbors some assurance that concerns about amplified sound would be addressed. However, by eliminating the effort to draft a separate noise ordinance, the restrictions in the events ordinance will only pertain

to events and not address concerns voiced by some community members about other sources of noise, such as leaf blowers and early morning construction workers.

The ordinance is also expected to require an administrative permit for events that meet a specific threshold and to limit the number of permits someone can get in a year.

"My goal is to come up with good public policy and put the county in as good a position as possible to have solid legal grounds to enforce the ordinance," said Gioia. "This will provide the community with protection and certainty and the property owner with reasonable process and predictability."

A Cinderella Story



Muralist Julie Goodson-Lawes

The Kensington Library's storytime room, which resonated all of the charm of an evil stepmother, is having a magical make-over thanks to the support of The Grubb Co. A new mural, fresh paint and new carpeting will help live it up for storytimes Tuesday at 7 p.m.

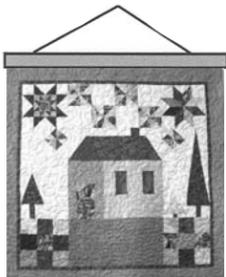
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Kensington Community Council continues annual fund drive



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

The Kensington Community Council thanks the following people for their recent donations to its annual fund drive. The generosity of community members provides critical support for Kensington's recreation and education programs and the Kensington Outlook. If you would like to make a tax deductible contribution, please send it the Kensington Community Council, 59 Arlington Avenue, Kensington 94707.

The Kensington Community Council would like to acknowledge the recent donation of \$100 from Frederick Cannon and Jean Mitchell and a \$50 donation from Robert and Jean Cannon in the memory of Byron Pozzan.

Graduation photo planned

Graduating high school student who live in Kensington will have a chance to reconnect with old friends, share memories and smile.

The annual photo of Kensington's graduating high school students is set for May 8 at 2 p.m. at Building E in Kensington Park.

To participate in the senior photo please call Irene Wells at 527-0717 or Chris Sorenson at 525-2131. Former and current Kensington residents are welcome.

Kensington Outlook

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The Kensington Outlook is available online at www.kensingtonoutlook.com courtesy of www.aboutkensington.com

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The Kensington outlook is delivered free to residents. Non-resident subscriptions are available for \$10 a year by sending a check made payable to KCC to the Kensington Outlook, 59 Arlington Ave., Kensington, CA 94707

The Kensington Outlook is published ten times a year by the non-profit Kensington Community Council. It is published monthly except for combined December/January and July/August issues. For advertising rates, space, availability and size restrictions please call. The editorial and advertising deadline for the May issue of the Kensington Outlook is April 10. Send mail to: Kensington Outlook, 59 Arlington Ave., Kensington, CA 94707. The Kensington Outlook welcomes letters to the editor and reserves the right to cut and edit those for clarity and length.

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Storytime room no longer an ugly duckling



Happy Ending: Muralist Julie Goodson-Lawes works on her mural in the Kensington Library's storytime room with branch librarian Liz Ruhland (middle) and Grubb Company's Ruth Frassetto.

Once upon a time there was a branch that grew a tree, thanks to East Bay muralist Julie Goodson-Lawes and funding from the Grubb Company.

The tree, part of a mural at the Kensington Library's Storytime Room, is part of an effort to dress up the room where the library holds its storytime each Tuesday at 7 p.m.

The Grubb Company agreed to contribute all the goods and services necessary to redecorate the storytime room. The renovation, which began in March, is expected to be completed mid-April.

The make-over includes a fresh coat of paint, new floor seating cushions, and a hand-painted mural covering three walls. In addition, Dick's Carpet donated new carpet and Contra Costa County agreed to install shelving and cabinets. The Grubb Company also provided a new clock which

says "Time to Read" on its face.

The Goodson-Lawes mural features a large "tree of knowledge" with a whimsical trunk and gnarled branches covering one side of the room.

Under the tree, at the base of the trunk, sit a boy and a girl with their knees propped up, reading their books. Around the wall, hiding amongst the tree's branches and leaves, are imaginary creatures including mythical animals and fairies. On the opposite side of the room a large green beanstalk winding up the wall with Jack, small insects, butterflies and elves all climbing the stalk. Another little girl is reading her book underneath.

"One of the big things with children is to help them discover small bits and pieces in images," said Goodson-Lawes. "As an artist, this is important for me to capture."

Marvin Gardens names new partner

Ronald Eggherman, a veteran real estate agent with a background in architecture and museum management, has become a co-owner of Marvin Gardens Real Estate.

The agreement between Eggherman and Marvin Gardens owners Todd Hodson and Marion Henon gives him a stake in the El Cerrito and Kensington offices. Eggherman and Hodson will also represent their individual clients.

Eggherman is long-time friends and colleagues with Hodson and Henon, who are married to each other. The company did not release terms of the agreement.

Hodson and Henon established the El Cerrito office in 1989 and since expanded with offices in Kensington and Point Richmond that are now staffed with a total of 40 agents.

"I've always wanted to be involved in managing a locally-owned firm," said Eggherman. "Marvin Gardens has done well and together we can grow the company and make it stronger and better."

Eggherman, active in real estate since 1991, previously worked for Templeton and Grubb Companies. In his new role he will be in charge of recruiting and training new agents for Marvin Gardens,



Partners: Eggherman, Henon and Hodson

among other responsibilities.

He earned a bachelor's degree in architecture from the University of California at Berkeley in 1966 and practiced architecture for seven years. His projects included residential homes, banks, and art museums.

He has also worked for some of the Bay Area's finest museums, including the Fine Arts Museum of San Francisco and the Ansel Adams Center for Photography.

A 30-year resident of Kensington, Eggherman was co-creator of the Kensington After School Enrichment Program, one of the founders of the Kensington Education Foundation and a past president of the Kensington Fire Board.

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Neighborhood Notes

Arlington Baking takes place on Arlington Ave.

Arlington Avenue is becoming Kensington's answer to Berkeley's Gourmet Ghetto.

The latest addition is the Arlington Baking Company, the creation of Deborah Ann Brown, who trained in New York at both the French Culinary Institute in New York and the Institute of Culinary Education. The bakery is expected to officially open in mid-April.

The bakery is housed in the former quarters of the Kensington Flower Shop next to Shai's Deli. Its arrival follows the addition of Kensington Fine Foods within Young's Market and takes its place on the food heavy street with Arlington Wines and Spirits and the restaurant Inn Kensington.

An Oakland native, Brown holds masters degrees in art history and architectural conservation from Columbia University. While in New York she worked at such top restaurants as the River Café and the restaurant within the Four Seasons hotel in New York before launching her own venture.

Trina Yerlick, who with her husband Shai owns Shai's, is the cousin of Brown and encouraged her to open the bakery when the space became available.

The bakery will be open Sunday through Friday 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. It will be closed Saturday. Brown expects to offer croissants, pain au chocolat, cheese danish, apple turnovers, cinnamon buns, muffins and scones in the morning. In the afternoon, she will feature apple, mixed berry, bourbon pecan and chocolate tarts; cheese-cake and chocolate truffles. She will also offer special cakes to order as well as supplying desserts to area cafes and restaurants.

Brown, who commutes from Novato, expects to officially open her doors in mid-April, although she has already been supplying local cafes.



Sweet success: Deborah Ann Brown, owner of the Arlington Baking Company, is getting ready to unveil her creations this month.

Asked about the influence of her studies in art history on her baking aesthetics, she said she radiates toward modern and clean.

"My idea is simplicity. That is really what I strive for," she said. "As far as my baking is concerned, I'm interested in the minimal amount of extra."

Kensington gets access to Califa digital library



The Library has a new service for commuters, dishwashers, knitters, gardeners and more.

You can now download eBooks and audio eBooks to your personal computer, laptop, or other portable

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The Contra Costa County Library is a participant in the Califa organization, which has launched a new digital library service.

Using your Contra Costa County Library card, you can check out digital audio books in the OverDrive Media

Console format, and eBooks in the Adobe Reader and Mobipocket Reader formats.

The Digital Library contains a variety of titles, including bestsellers, classics, fiction and non-fiction. Audio and eBooks are checked out for a period of three weeks, they are checked back in automatically, and there are never any late fees. Check it out!

Go to the Library's web site at <http://ccclib.org/> and click on "Downloadable eBooks and Audio Books" to connect to the service, or for more details. And as always, please feel free to call the Kensington Library for assistance.

-- Liz Ruhland



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OFFICE HOURS
10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday - Friday
OFFICE CLOSED March 28 - April 1

KCC OFFICE
Building E is located across the grassy field from the Community Center Annex that houses The Neighborhood School.

NOTICES
To Register for Classes call the office unless otherwise specified. Some classes have enrollment limits. Those registering will be notified if they cannot be enrolled.

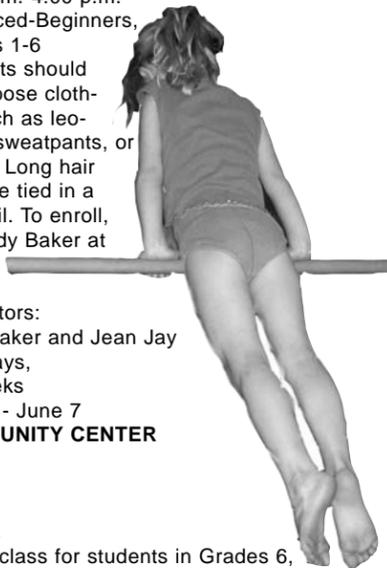
Tennis Court Reservations
Reservations are taken for weekends and holidays only. The earliest reservation is for 9 a.m. Fees are \$2 per hour for Kensington residents, \$5 for others.

Community Center
Call Helen Horowitz for rental and reservation information.

Gymnastics

11:55 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Morning Kindergartners
2:50 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
Advanced-Beginners,
Grades 1-6
Students should wear loose clothing such as leotards, sweatpants, or shorts. Long hair must be tied in a ponytail. To enroll, call Judy Baker at 233-1833.

Instructors:
Judy Baker and Jean Jay
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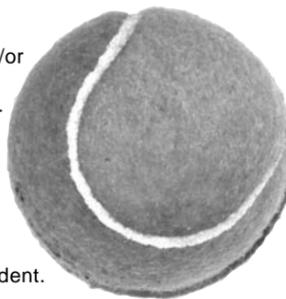
Tennis

In this class for students in Grades 6, 7, and 8, Alex Brown teaches the fundamentals of tennis, including strokes, tactics, and sportsmanship. Classes consist of instruction, drills, and play, and continue through the school year. Students must register by the month for one or two days a week.

KASEP Spring Session getting under way

The Spring Session for the Kensington After School Enrichment Program will begin on Monday, April 3. If you miss registration or would like to add a class contact KCC at 525-0292. Classes may be joined in progress and fees will be prorated.

Instructor:
Alex Brown
524-5495
Tuesdays and/or
Thursdays
3:40-5:20 p.m.
Fees
(payable monthly):
\$10 per class/resident
\$11 per class/non-resident.



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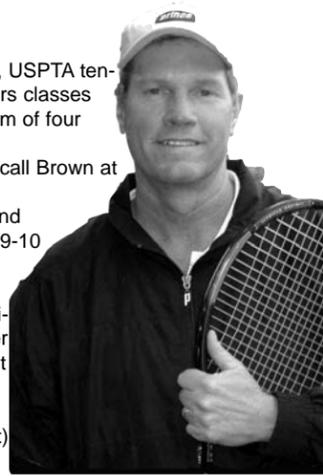
Handlers must be at least 14 years of age. Dogs must be at least five months old, have had all their shots, and be accustomed to a leash. Instructor: Lewis Cuccia
233-4500
Wednesdays Beginners:
7-8 p.m.
Current session started: Jan. 7
Next session begins April 6
6 weeks: \$40 per resident



\$45 per non-resident
Conformation: 8-8:45 p.m. \$4/class
Intermediate/Advanced: 9-9:45 p.m. \$4/class

Tennis

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



Registration now open for KCC Summer Day Camp 2005 -- Join us!

The Kensington Community Council (KCC) Summer Day Camp is for children entering first through sixth grades in the fall 2005. The camp runs from June 13, 2005 through August 19, 2005, Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Campers may enroll on a weekly basis. To ensure the best experience for each child, our camp has a maximum of 63 children per week. We employ a director, a head counselor and eight counselors, and a "specialty consultant" for each two-week specialty session to work with the campers. Drop-ins are not permitted.

Day Camp Staff Returns
Director Jessica Smith is returning for this year's camp along with counselors Valeria Fike-Rosales, Hayley Stranberg, Teddy Firestone, Lauren Aczon and Matt Houser. KCC is delighted that they have chosen to work again at its camp.
Fees
The cost for the Kensington Summer Day

Camp is \$185 per week with the cost prorated for July 4th week to \$148. This fee covers all transportation costs, snacks, entrance fee, activities and a KCC Summer Camp T-shirt for field trips. Fees must be paid 10 days before each week begins. Children whose fees have not been paid may not attend until fees have been paid to the KCC administrator. Registration, waiver and emergency forms must be submitted prior to the start of each week. Forms must accompany the appropriate fees. A nonrefundable deposit of \$25 per child per week requested is required with the application. The \$25 deposit is deducted from the balance due of camp. If a week is full and space is not available, applicants will be notified immediately. We cannot refund fees if a child drops out after a session begins.

Registration
Open registration. Parents may register their children on a space available basis during KCC office hours.

Brochures available
For more information or a brochure, call the KCC office at (510) 525-0292.

*Special Activities Schedule:

- Carpentry with Sandy Thacker**
Week 1 June 13 - June 17
- Carpentry with Sandy Thacker**
Week 2 June 20 - June 24
- Golf with Alex Brown**
Week 3 June 27 - July 1
- Golf with Alex Brown**
Week 4 July 5, 6 7 & 8 (July 4th holiday)
- Gymnastics with Judy Baker**
Week 5 July 11 - July 15
- Gymnastics with Judy Baker**
Week 6 July 18 - July 22
- Carpentry with Sandy Thacker**
Week 7 July 25 - July 29
- Carpentry with Sandy Thacker**

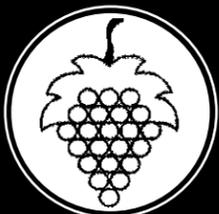
- Week 8 August 1 - August 5
Sports & Chess with Kim Roots
- Week 9 August 8 - August 12
Sports & Chess with Kim Roots
- Week 10 August 15 - August 19

*Tennis with Alex Brown, three days a week

- *FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE:**
- June 15 The Jungle**
 - June 22 Exploratorium**
 - June 29 San Francisco Zoo**
 - July 6 Scandia**
 - July 13 Lawrence Hall of Science**
 - July 20 Jelly Belly Factory & Bo A's Baseball Game**
 - July 27 Waterworld**
 - August 3 The Jungle**
 - August 10 A's Baseball Game**
 - August 17**
- *Changes in the schedule may be made for unexpected circumstances.

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Kensington Calendar

Side by Side



Andreas Kathol

Cast members of Side by Side during a rehearsal

Theater on the Hill will present **Side-By-Side By Sondheim** on Friday and Saturday, April 8 and 9, 2005 at 8:00 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Road, Kensington, CA 94707. This semi-staged production, directed by Bryan Baker and Donna Davis, features songs from "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum", "A Little Night Music", "Company", "Gypsy" and "West Side Story". Optional catered dinner at 6:30 p.m. (pre-paid only; reservations due April 1). Tickets for show and dinner: \$40.00, Show only (includes dessert): \$20.00. No-host champagne and wine. For more information, please visit the Church website at www.uucb.org or call (510) 525-0302.

Sunday, April 3

Personal Theology Seminar: Dody Donnelly, author, theologian, professor at Holy Names College and the Fromm Institute, What is Real Prayer? This is the first of three parts on prayer at 9:30 a.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Road, Kensington. Info:525-0302 ext. 306

Monday April 4

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

Monday April 4

The Kensington Community Council meets at 7:30 p.m. at the Kensington Community Center. Info: 525-0292

Friday, April 4

The East Bay Youth Band, under the direction of Christin Hablewitz, will perform a concert of movie themes at 7 p.m. at Studio Theatre at Holy Names University, 3500 Mountain Blvd. in Oakland. The concert will feature selections from movies such as Pirates of the Caribbean, Star Trek, James Bond, The Godfather, The Little Mermaid, Titanic, Mission Impossible and Raiders of the Lost Ark. Admission: \$5 suggested donation. Info: 444-4857

Tuesday, April 5

The Kensington Study Group of the League of Women Voters, West Contra Costa County, will be meeting at 1:15 p.m. at the home of Patricia McLaughlin, 39 Stratford Rd., Kensington. We will be discussing local issues. To confirm, please call 525-5187

Tuesday, April 5

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

Tuesday, April 5

Susan Urquhart-Brown, author of The Accidental Entrepreneur: Practical Wisdom for People Who Never Expected to Work for Themselves, will provide tips to avoid the five biggest pitfalls encountered during the first few years of starting a business at 7 p.m. at the El Cerrito Library, 6510 Stockton Avenue. Info: 526-7512

Friday, April 8

The New Millennium Strings Orchestra, a popular local orchestra conducted by Laurien Jones, performs at 8 p.m. at the Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave., Kensington. Tickets are \$12.00. Info: 526-9146.

Saturday, April 9

The Kensington Symphony with Geoffrey Gallegos, Conductor. Omid Assadi, violin; Leonard Chiang, viola; Young Soloist Competition Winners. Mozart, Mendelssohn, Wolf-Ferrari perform at 8 p.m. at the

Northminster Presbyterian Church, 545 Ashbury Ave., El Cerrito. Suggested donation: \$10; seniors, \$8. Children free. Info: 524-4335

Sunday, April 10

Personal Theology Seminar: Dody Donnelly, author, theologian, professor at Holy Names College and the Fromm Institute, Meditation: a Skillful Means. This is the second of three parts on prayer at 9:30 a.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Road, Kensington. Info:525-0302 ext. 306

Monday, April 11

Asian Art Museum of San Francisco docent, Jo Anne Erickson, will present a slide lecture on the museum's current exhibit,



Detail from The Sage Vidhura

"The Lost Kingdom of Siam: The Art of Central Thailand, 1350-1800" at 7 p.m. at the Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave. This is a free event, sponsored

by the Friends of the Kensington Library. Info: 524-3043

Tuesday, April 12

Celebrate National Library Week with a unique storytelling performance featuring Randel McGee as Hans Christian Andersen at 6:30 p.m. at the Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave. The program is sponsored by the Friends of the Kensington Library. Info: 524-3043

Wednesday, April 13

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

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The outlook for spring home sales is exciting.
The California Assoc. of Realtors predicts another record year for 2005.
Average price per sq. ft. values have increased.
Statistics for Jan. 2004 vs. Jan 2005 show an increase of 81.3% per sq. ft. for 94707, and 13.5% for 94708.



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Source: EBRD MLS as of 3/8/05 and SF Chronicle Real Estate section 3/6/05.
Information deemed reliable but not guaranteed and subject to change.

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Kensington Calendar Continued

Thursday, April 14

The El Cerrito Garden Club meets at 9:30 a.m. at the El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Moeser Lane. Alan I. Kaplan, Naturalist at the Tilden Park Nature Area, will present a program on the Natural & Cultural History of Tea and the Tea Party. Refreshments will be served. Guests are welcome and may pay \$3 at the door. Info: 525-1669

Thursday, April 14

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

Sunday, April 17

Personal Theology Seminar: Dody Donnelly, author, theologian, professor at Holy Names College and the Fromm Institute, *The Fruits of the Spirit: the Results of Prayer*. This is the final of three parts on prayer at 9:30 a.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Road, Kensington. Info: 525-0302 ext. 306

Sunday, April 17

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley will hold an auction. For time and more info, call the church office: 525-0302

Monday, April 18

Arlington Community Church Community Forum -- Politics and Conscience: Opening a New Debate at 7 p.m. at the Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave., Kensington. Allan B. Essex and the Rev. Drew Nettinga will participate in a panel discussion. Info: 526-9146.

Monday April 18

Computer Literacy: Basic Online Searching at 7 p.m. at the Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave. Sign up for a seat. Info: 524-3043

Tuesday, April 19

Berkeley Garden Club presents a spring tea and floral design presentation by Janet Farina of Freshly Cut Flowers in Berkeley at 1 p.m. at Epworth Methodist Church, 1953 Hopkins St. Berkeley. \$8. Info: 524-4374

Tuesday, April 19

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

Thursday, April 21

American Rhododendron Society, Cal Chapter, meets at 7:30 p.m. at 666 Bellevue Ave., on Lake Merritt near Children's Fairyland in Oakland. This month's speaker is Tim Walsh, National Treasurer. He will speak about "Rhodies Right-side Up, Upside down and Sideways". Newcomers welcome. There will be species rhodies for sale. Info: 223-0443

Sunday, April 24

Personal Theology Seminar: Michelle Favreault, Interim Minister of Religious Education at UUCB, *Growth and Learning in Faith* at 9:30 a.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Road, Kensington. Info: 525-0302 ext. 306

Monday, April 25

Computer Literacy: Introduction to the library catalog: how to find books, check your library record and request items from other branches at 7 p.m. at the Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave. Sign up for a seat. Info: 524-3043

Tuesday, April 26

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

Tuesday, April 26

The El Cerrito Democratic Club will be meeting at 7:30 p.m. in Makemie Hall at the Northminster Presbyterian Church, 545 Ashbury Ave., El Cerrito. John Gibler will speak on the California Performance Review, the purpose of which is to plan for the restructuring of our state government. Gibler is a contributing writer for *Terrain*, a quarterly publication of the Ecology Center in Berkeley. All are welcome. Info: 526-4874

Tuesday, April 29

Kensington Municipal Advisory Council meets at 7 p.m. in the Kensington Community Center. Call to confirm: 273-9926

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We are very proud to announce that Ron Egberman, a 30-year resident of Kensington and an active real estate agent since 1991, has become a partner of Marvin Gardens Real Estate.

Ron is now a co-owner of the El Cerrito & Kensington offices with long-time friends and colleagues, Todd Hodson and Marion Henon.

We invite you to stop by our Kensington Office to help us welcome Ron to our business neighborhood.



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Celebration: KCC event draws more than 100 for festivities

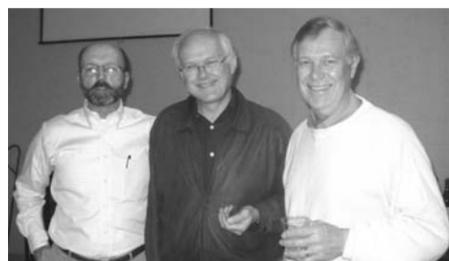
Kensington residents new and old gathered for the Spring Celebration, the Kensington Community Council's annual fundraiser.

The event, sponsored by Andronico's Markets and Marvin Garden Real Estate with additional support from The Mechanics Bank., raised \$7,000 to help support recreation and education programs overseen by the Kensington Community Council. The council is responsible for the Kensington After School Enrichment Program, the KCC summer camp and the publication of this newspaper in addition to other adult and youth classes held at Kensington Park.

The fundraiser comes at a critical time for the organization, which has struggled with a sharp drop-off in enrollment at its KASEP program with the temporary relocation of Kensington Hilltop Elementary School students to portable classrooms at the Portola Middle School campus during the reconstruction and expansion of Hilltop school.

Businesses and individuals that contributed food and beverages to the evening include the Arlington Baking Co., Arlington Wind & Spirits, Cesar, Inn Kensington, John Gossard, Kensington Bistro, Kensington Fine Foods, Kensington Flower & Gift Shop, Nation's Foodservice Inc. Semifreddi, Shai's Delicatessen, The Junket and Virginia Bakery.

Businesses and individuals that donated items for the event's silent auction include Barnes & Noble, Arlene and Scott Burbank, Alex Brown, Patty and Leo Carrousel, Barbara Fracchia, Bob Franks and Judi Terris, Ruth Frassetto, Dena Fredric, Aaron Gobler, Steve Hobbs, Joseph Holmes, Keith Jefferds, Elizabeth Kavalier, Dawn



Party time: A montage of photographs taken at the Kensington Community Council's Spring Celebration brought together Kensington residents old and new. The annual event provides critical support to KCC's education and recreation programs.

Malatesta, Dorothy O'Brian, Lorraine and Ted Osmundson, Danielle and Dale Power, Margie Richardson, Semifreddi's Bakery,

Ann and Peter Tait, Clif Taylor, The Glenn, Carla Van Slyke, Dorothy and Jim Walker and Ciara Wood.

The floral centerpiece featured on the main table of the even was provided by Kensington Flower Shop.

Cliff Taylor, Paul Dorroh, Vida Dorroh, Irwin Horowitz and Outlook staff

From the case files of the KPD

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

Events in February

○A woman told police that something struck and damaged the mirror on the right side of her vehicle as she drove along Arlington Ave. Police inspected the vehicle and found the damaged to the mirror was consistent with the damage caused by hitting a parked car.

○A Vassar Rd. woman called police to say that the children of a neighbor who calls animal control whenever her dog barks, stand at her fence and taunt her dog.

○Police revoked the license of a driver under the age of 21 after stopping the vehicle on Franciscan Way at 12:30 a.m. and finding alcohol in the vehicle. The driver was cited for being under the influence.

○A Lawson Rd. resident called police and said she heard a male screaming and banging on her door before walking off. Police contacted the man, who was a solicitor selling newspaper subscriptions and told him he could not do so without a permit.

○A Franciscan Way resident said a man had entered his yard in an apparent attempt to steal a bicycle. He confronted the man, who fled.

○A man called police at 12:30 a.m. because his mother was in a rage. The man met police on the lawn of the Willamette Ave. home and the man explained his mother was angry because he failed to give her flowers on Valentine's Day. Police tried to calm the situation and elicited a promise from the man that he would go out and get his mother flowers.

○A Coventry Rd. resident reported the theft of a 1995 Honda Civic valued at \$6,000.

○A Coventry Rd. resident reported a gasoline smell in rainwater draining on his property. A police officer inspected the problem and determined it smelled like a chemical used by pest control companies. He followed the smell up the street, but lost the scent.

○A woman called to report her 1996 Saturn was stolen from the parking lot outside the Kensington Library. Police discovered the vehicle had been towed by El Cerrito Police after it had been involved in a chase that ended when the vehicle crashed. El Cerrito police took a suspect into custody.

○A Lexington Ave. woman called to report a dead body in her backyard. Police arrived on the scene to discover the dead body belonged to a raccoon.

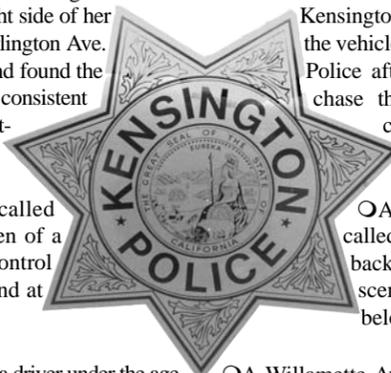
○A Willamette Ave resident reported the theft of more than \$25,000 in jewelry in a mid-morning burglary.

○An Arlington Ave. resident reported the theft of several wrought iron items including chairs and a planter valued at \$500 from his yard.

○An 83-year-old male on Vassar Ave. committed suicide by hanging himself.

○A motorist driving down Sunset was blocked by two bicyclists. He honked to pass, but they began yelling obscenities at home. When he was able to get by, he pulled into his Franciscan Way home, but the bicyclist stopped when they saw him and one pushed the man. The man called police, but they were unable to locate the suspects.

○A Stratford Rd. woman called police to seeking help in getting an unwanted houseguest to leave her home. The guest accused the homeowner of stealing his car keys. Police provided the unwanted guest a courtesy ride to the Del Norte BART.



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Classified ad forms can be found online at the Kensington Outlook website (www.kensingtonoutlook.com) or at the Kensington Community Council office at 59 Arlington Ave. Ads are \$6 a line with a minimum of \$12. A line consists of 45 characters or spaces. The deadline for classified ad is the tenth of the month prior to publication. Send check made payable to KCC with a completed classified ad form to: Kensington Outlook Classified, 59 Arlington Ave., Kensington, CA 94707. Payment is due prior to publication. The Kensington Outlook does not accept credit cards for payment.

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