

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

APRIL 2008

A PUBLICATION OF THE KENSINGTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

VOLUME 65 NUMBER 3

## Spring Celebration a great success

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The Kensington Community Council's Spring Celebration in March was an opportunity for many Kensington residents to get together in an informal situation and relax, make new friends, and eat and drink some delicious food and wine. Nearly 200 people mingled in the Community Center, while about 35 kids attended the free childcare. New and old residents were present: the oldest attendee was 92 and has lived in Kensington since 1948; the youngest, at 13 months, recently moved to Kensington with her parents. While people stood and sat, eating and talking, others were busy bidding on the many silent auction items. This year the auction included an array of cookbooks, ladies' purses, paintings, photographs, cases of wine, a pie of the month, bread of the week, and even a vacuum cleaning robot. The celebration was the second most profitable in recent years.

Sponsors of the event were Andronico's Markets, Marvin Gardens Real Estate, Mechanics Bank, and PagePoint Web Solutions.

Gourmet food was provided by many local companies, including Andronico's, Colusa Market, Fat Apples, Inn Kensington, Kensington Circus Pub, and the Junket. D'Jour Floral and Antiques provided an elaborate and beautiful centerpiece of fresh flowers, the Arlington Café outdid themselves with a much-admired decorated plate of hummus, Lisa Kirkby made her delicious and now locally renowned éclairs, Nations Food Services provided their famous pies, Arlington Wine and Spirits offered some wonderful wines, and Semifreddi's and Virginia Bakery donated lots of good crusty bread and other treats. There were reunions among old friends, and some business discussions were overheard around the tables.

PagePoint Web Solutions, the creator and host of AboutKensington.com and the new Kensington Police Web site, underwrote the cost of the childcare program, which was expertly run by KASEP volunteers. The children watched the animated movie *Ratatouille*, played with the newly donated foosball table, and, as it was good weather, played Frisbee on the lawn outside the Recreation Building.

**Spring Celebration** continued on page 6.

## CDD comes to West County

The Community Development Department of Contra Costa County is located in Martinez, necessitating a long drive to obtain and submit county documents. Supervisor John Gioia has arranged to have staff from the department attend his office to meet applicants. The meetings are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays by appointment only, which must be made in advance. Telephone the department at (925) 335-1290.

At this time there are no plans for either the building inspector's office or the community development director's office to also hold appointments at the supervisor's office, but this may change if enough people request it. A North Richmond attendee at Gioia's recent Kensington breakfast said, "This is a very positive development for West County residents. If only more departments would do this, it would make life much easier."

John Gioia's office is located at 11780 San Pablo Ave., Suite D in El Cerrito, 274-3231.

## Young police officer leaves force

Kensington police officer John Ty recently resigned from the Kensington police department. Ty joined the department in September 2006. He had just graduated from the police academy, and this was his first full-time job. He has left after 18 months reportedly to fulfill his career objectives. He left a few weeks before completing his probationary period. In a new

job he will have to start that period again.

During his service in Kensington, Ty received praise from several residents and interim police chief Brown Taylor. He is the second young, inexperienced police officer to join the department in the last few years. Ty graduated from St. Mary's College with a BSc in psychology, and from the Contra Costa County Law Enforcement Training Center in 2006. Ty left a resignation letter, which the department declined to make public. The KPPCSD board did not conduct an exit interview.

Chief Greg Harman informed the *Outlook* that he has a replacement officer already in mind, a person who worked with him previously in Daly City and then transferred to BART police; he is now finishing up a one-year contract training Iraqi police. If all goes as planned, and the new person passes his medical and background checks, he should be ready to start in May or June.

As of this writing, John Ty has not started work at another agency.

## Possible tax and assessment increase soon

### Public meeting scheduled for April 5

Since passing a deficit budget and receiving some dire warnings about running short of money, the KPPCSD board has been talking for many months about the need to raise the tax for the police department and also increase the assessment charged for maintaining the park. As these are two separate issues, one an assessment and the other a tax, they can't be voted on as one issue; one goes on the ballot at the next election, and the other is done through a ballot of householders. After discussing this issue for over a year, the board has been unable to arrive at a definitive dollar amount or a coherent and quantitative reasoning about the need for the increases and where exactly the money will be spent. The board is holding a special meeting to try to nail down this information at 9 a.m. on April 5th at the Community Center. It would be good if people who have opinions on this issue were to come to this meeting and express their point of view.

There is widespread belief that if Kensington voters are made aware of the facts that they will vote overwhelmingly to approve these increases. But some suggest this may not be so. Other districts in the area, notably Orinda and Lafayette, made the same assumption, only to see their requests fail at the ballot. The WCCC Unified School District tax increase was expected by many to easily pass, but it failed, with dire consequences, and teachers and other staff are being laid off this March and April.

The board decided, as early as January 2007, that the board members would each go into the community and hold a series of meetings, either public or in peoples homes, to explain to the community the need for the extra money. Together these two increases might add between \$250 and \$300 to a household's yearly obligation. At present these numbers break down to

be about \$156 a year for the park and \$200 a year for the police department, but at the time of this writing no numbers have been finalized.

General manager Greg Harman got a quote from a company, NBS, to conduct a survey of local residents to see if the community would support a police or park increase and, if so, for how much. The board decided not to avail themselves of this service. Yet to date no other public outreach has been done, with the exception of a letter about the deficit from director Bill Wright to the *Outlook* in February of this year.

The election will be presented on the ballot either this November or at a future election, if and when the board decides to submit it. The assessment is done through a ballot of all home owners and can be conducted at any time. Each household would receive a ballot in the mail, and the decision is made on a 50-percent-plus-1 result. So if only 30 people return the ballot, those are the only ones that will get counted in making a decision.

Previously some locals have offered to contribute to this outreach and have been rebuffed by board members. Now a couple of other citizens, Carla Javits and John Stein, frustrated at this inactivity, have taken it upon themselves to help organize the dissemination of the financial needs of Kensington. Together they are trying to get the board to agree on the message and finalize the dollar amounts, but they may go ahead on their own if there is no direct leadership from within the board membership. Stein said, "I look forward to working with Carla Javits to communicate the value of the police and the park. Once the board has defined the assessment and the tax increase, as well as the rationale for them, then I will be happy to help disseminate this information to the community." The April 5 meeting is happening because Javits and Stein said they were unable to undertake their work without the board stepping up to define the justification and amounts for the increases.

As yet there is no news on what form this public education may take.





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## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

*Editor*—This is a perfect time for Kensington residents to assess and to take part in their community. In the upcoming November election, we will elect two of the five directors on the Kensington Police Protection and Community Services Board. Board members are our neighbors.

The District is responsible for providing police protection and law enforcement services. The District owns, maintains, and manages ongoing improvements to a Community Center, a Community Center Annex, and the Kensington Park. The District oversees the solid waste and recycling programs and is responsible for rate setting and ensuring the District meets State and Local mandates.

Please participate. The meetings are open, with time available for public comments. The meetings are the second Thursday of every month at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Center. Help keep this community vibrant and responsive to our needs.

For more information on running for office, please contact the Contra Costa County Election Department located at 555 Escobar Street, Martinez, CA. (925) 335-7800.

*Val Paola  
Norman Bookstein*

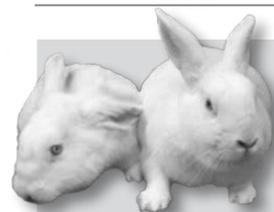
## KPOA town hall meeting May 3

The annual meeting of the Kensington Property Owners Association will be held Saturday, May 3, at the Kensington Community Center starting at 10 a.m. The final list of speakers has not been confirmed, but topics on the agenda will probably include code enforcement concerning building and development in Kensington; the Kensington Community Services District budget, which may be heading for a deficit; and a possible tax increase to pay for the police. Recently police chief Harman has talked of increasing the force from 10 members to 12, which would allow the schedule to be adjusted so there was never only one police officer on duty in the night hours. Another issue could be a new or increased

## RabbitEARS relocating to Colusa Circle

RabbitEARS Adoption Store is moving to 377 Colusa Avenue in lower Kensington right off Colusa Circle. The new store will have almost three times the space, and allow for the expansion of the retail operation, the rescue/education/adoption programs, and the small animal boarding services. "The boarding service has tripled in size in the last year," says Judy Hardin, RabbitEARS founder and owner. Hardin plans also to have a grooming station on the premises.

As part of the opening-day ceremonies on May 5 at 11 a.m. Hardin has planned a 3rd birthday party for Petunia, a bunny adopted by Growing Light Montessori teacher, Dawn Rager. Petunia has become



## Pets of the month

Everest and Flossie are big, beautiful New Zealand white bunnies. Everest is quite the adventurer and got his name from his love of climbing. To stay in shape, he stacks up several boxes, then climbs all the way up to the top before toppling to the floor. Flossie likes her feet on the ground, preferring to knit soft white socks for Everest for his winter expeditions. On the coldest days in winter, if you look really hard, you'll see Everest scaling Mt. Diablo. Flossie and Everest are waiting for an invitation to live with a family who loves curious and adventurous bunnies in their home. RabbitEARS, soon to be at 377 Colusa Ave, 525-6155.

## KENSINGTON OUTLOOK

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## Farmers' Market moves to Oak View on April 13



### Street to be closed to traffic during market

On April 13 the Farmers' Market will open in their new location, on Oak View Ave., between Colusa Ave. and Santa Fe Ave. The road will be closed during the market's open hours. Organizers hope that the move will bring an influx of new vendors, including an Asian vegetable grower and a local tofu and nut butter manufacturer.

The market is to have a new organizer, Julia Dragolovich, who will be working hard to get in new fruit and vegetable vendors to widen the product offerings. Meanwhile the established vendors will continue to stock heirloom tomatoes, citrus and stone fruits, and berries. Kensington Marmalade will be featuring some new, less sweet marmalades, and there will be fresh-caught fish, breads, olive oil, a nursery, and fresh flowers. Although the market starts in the new location in April, there will be an official grand opening on the date of the third anniversary of the Farmers' Market, May 4.

The market will continue its commitment to farm-friendly and pesticide-free produce, with the intention of helping to sustain California farmers and the local environment, while providing food at affordable prices.

The new, more spacious location

will allow for many more vendors, and organizers hope they will attract people from Albany, North Berkeley, and El Cerrito, which are all within walking distance of the new market.

Local shop owners, restaurants, and offices have all given the market their approval, although some are keeping a wait-and-see attitude. Even the Colusa Circle Improvement Association (CCIA), a loose group of locals who have previously opposed local development on grounds that there is insufficient parking in the neighborhood, have given their approval. Rodney Paul, spokesperson for CCIA, has said that after discussions with Judy Hardin of the Farmers' Market, they agreed to meet in six months to review the impact on parking and traffic after the market has become established.

The Colusa Circle area is becoming revitalized in many ways. The Ed Hammond development will have new pedestrian areas, a kiosk, and plantings, and it is likely that if and when Narsai David gets permission to improve his place, which includes the empty Porto Brazil building, he will be required to install similar furnishings for the public. These are all parts of the revitalization of the area, in part because of Hammond and Supervisor Gioia, who has been instrumental in all these projects. The Farmers' Market will be open year-round on Sundays, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

## Caucus in Kensington

### Obama delegates to be selected

On April 13 a series of statewide caucuses will select the delegates to represent Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama at the Democratic



Bill Wright and Marion Henon

National Convention. Selection of the candidates is done by caucus in each of the 53 statewide districts. Democrats in the 10th Congressional District, which includes Kensington and El Cerrito and is represented by Ellen Tauscher, will select five delegates. The district includes a large part of Contra Costa County, from south of Livermore to Pleasant Hill, and parts of Solano County as far north as Dixon, as well as parts of Sacramento County. The Obama campaign has chosen to hold their caucus at the Kensington Community Center, allowing Kensington residents a rare opportunity to participate in a caucus. The California Democratic Party has yet to ratify this choice.

At the convention, these five individuals will vote for either Clinton or Obama in the same proportion as was voted here in this district in the recent presidential primary. Clinton won three-fifths of the vote in this district and will get three of the five delegates.

Of the three delegates chosen by Clinton supporters, two must be women and one a man. Obama supporters get one

woman and one man. There are 13 people vying for the Clinton spots. Among the 22 people in contention to support Obama at the Denver convention, 2 are Kensington residents.

The two Kensington residents, Marion Henon and Bill Wright, are both members of the El Cerrito Democratic Club. Henon is a real estate broker and co-owner of Marvin Gardens. She started the company with her husband, Todd Hodson, in 1989.

Wright is a member of the KPPCSD, is a managing director of a firm that helps companies with budgets, finance, and financial statements, and, with his family, went to New Hampshire to work on the Obama campaign during the primary.

Any registered Democrat can vote in the caucus on April 13. In the past, delegates for the 10th Congressional District have come from Lafayette, Moraga, or farther east. It is unusual to have a caucus in Kensington. Having it so close allows locals to further participate in the democratic process. To confirm the location of the caucus email Wright at [billwright@pipeline.com](mailto:billwright@pipeline.com) or check the Democratic Party web site.

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## Man arrested for attempted murder, assault, and kidnapping

In December, David Duane Lewis, a 45-year-old Vallejo resident, tried to kill himself and his female passenger by driving his BMW 7 Series sedan into the fountain at the Sunset Cemetery. At the time, he and his passenger, a woman from Oakland, were under the influence of what was believed to be illegal drugs. After the car landed in the water, the woman jumped out of the car, pursued by Lewis, who had broken bones in both his legs. Being intoxicated, he was unaware of his injuries. When police apprehended him, he told them he thought he was driving into a brick wall with the intention of killing his passenger and himself. Both were taken to Doctors Hospital Center for treatment. The woman passenger was treated and released,

while Lewis was admitted to the hospital, where he eventually had to have part of one leg removed. Lewis was released from the hospital with a new prosthetic leg. The Contra Costa County District Attorney's Office issued a \$1,500,000 felony no-bail warrant for Lewis on charges concerning his involvement in the attempted murder, assault with a deadly weapon, and kidnapping. Lewis missed several court appearances but voluntarily presented himself at the Kensington Police Department to give a statement regarding his part in the incident. His statement was taken by Sergeant Angela Escobar, who then arrested Lewis and took him to the Main Detention Facility in Martinez.

## After-school skaters in danger

It appears as if several Hilltop students got skateboards for Christmas, and some of these pupils are skating down the fire road into the park. They continue skating to the front steps by the library and stop just short of Arlington Ave. This route takes them across the road, up to the park parking lot, where many parents go to pick up their children after school. Already one child has knocked over an elderly pedestrian, and at least one other crashed into a parked car. Several have been in some potentially disastrous very near misses with cars going up or down the hill.

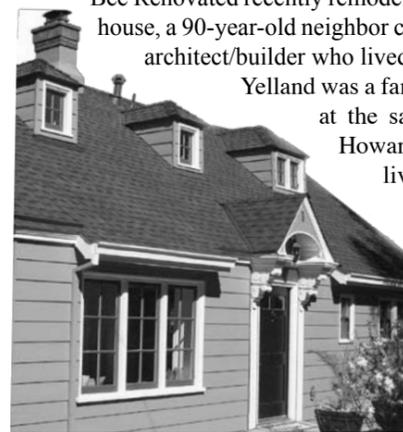
Some of these juvenile speedsters are a little less proficient than others and sit on their boards rather than stand. This gives them less control and limits their ability to stop. Others lie down and have even less control and are much less visible.

Most of the skaters do not have protective helmets or other gear.

If your children are involved in these activities, please ask them to leave their boards at home if they do not understand how to ride it responsibly.

The police are patrolling the area, but are not able to be there all the time.

## Historic house renovated and sold



Bee Renovated recently remodeled a home on Coventry Road and, during the open house, a 90-year-old neighbor came by and told them she remembered the original architect/builder who lived in the home. His name was William Yelland.

Yelland was a famous Arts and Crafts architect in the area, working at the same time as other such notables as John Galen Howard, Bernard Maybeck, and Julia Morgan. Yelland lived in the house until he left the country to live in Europe, where he died. Perhaps the most famous Yelland building is Normandy Village, on Spruce Street in Berkeley, across from the university.

Bee Renovated had no idea of the history of the home until the neighbor happened by and told them of it. It turns out that they had emphasized the Yelland features, such as the gentle curves in the fireplace and on the interior ceilings. Yelland's daughter Rosie, when she was young, had left her signature and footprints in many places in the foundations, with dates and even the time of day, and they are still there today. Bee Renovated owners Jim Lewel and Sean Steer have managed to contact members of the Yelland family in Alameda, who attended the house opening party. Rosie now lives in Europe.

The house, on a double lot, sold almost immediately, after receiving four offers.

Bee Renovated buys local houses and restores them to their former glory, often going beyond the original by installing modern appliances and fixtures, while remaining true to the original theme and character of the property. They carefully match plaster textures and search for matching wood to renovate the ravages of time.

## New service keeps patrons informed



The Contra Costa County Library Web site now offers new tools to help you find a good book, music CD, or film. The new "Read It, Hear It, See It: Check It Out" page has lists of newly received titles, staff picks, and newsletters of reading suggestions. The lists of new titles catalog items that have been added to the collection in the past month and include books, audio books, music, and DVDs. Staff picks are reviews broken down by age level and format. If you sign up for the library's free reader's advisory service, you'll get great book suggestions by email. They will deliver customized annotated reading lists with links to the catalog, so you can place items on hold at your convenience. Booklists of up to 15 titles are sent on a monthly or bimonthly basis and include new and forthcoming titles, gems from the library shelves, and sleepers—as well as bestsellers. You can sign up for as many subject lists as you like, and you will immediately receive the most recent issue. You can change your choices or unsubscribe to the newsletter at any time.

# K E N S I N G T O N COMMUNITY EDUCATION



## KCC SUMMER CAMP 2008

Located in the East Bay hills, at 59 Arlington Ave., the Kensington Community Council (KCC) Summer Day Camp is for children entering first through sixth grades in fall 2008. The camp runs June 16 through August 22, Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Campers may enroll on a weekly basis. To ensure the best experience for each child, the camp has a maximum of 62 children per week on each field trip. They employ one director, a head counselor, eight counselors, a tennis instructor, and a specialty consultant each week to work with the campers. Drop-ins are not permitted.

Each week the campers will enjoy a field trip by private bus to points of interest around the Bay Area, such as Scandia, Waterworld, the Exploratorium, and the Jungle (no field trip week 3 due to July 4). Special activities include carpentry, gymnastics, dance, and drama. Tennis with Kim Roots happens three days per week. Come for the games, arts and crafts, hiking, and fun!

### Special Activities Schedule\*

<b>Week 1</b>	<b>June 16–June 20</b> <i>Carpentry with Sandy Thacker</i>
<b>Week 2</b>	<b>June 23–June 27</b> <i>Carpentry with Sandy Thacker</i>
<b>Week 3</b>	<b>June 30–July 3</b> <i>Sports and Games with Kim Roots</i>
<b>Week 4</b>	<b>July 7–11</b> <i>Gymnastics with Judy Baker</i>
<b>Week 5</b>	<b>July 14–18</b> <i>Gymnastics with Judy Baker</i>
<b>Week 6</b>	<b>July 21–25</b> <i>Sports and Games with Kim Roots</i>
<b>Week 7</b>	<b>July 28–August 1</b> <i>Hip Hop with Jackie and Jenna</i>
<b>Week 8</b>	<b>August 4–8</b> <i>Drama with Kelly Donahue</i>
<b>Week 9</b>	<b>August 11–15</b> <i>Drama with Kelly Donahue</i>
<b>Week 10</b>	<b>August 18–22</b> <i>Cooking with Janet Martorano</i>

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

### Field Trip Schedule\*

<b>June 18</b> <i>The Jungle</i>
<b>June 25</b> <i>Lake Temescal</i>
<b>No field trip (4th of July!)</b>
<b>July 9</b> <i>The Exploratorium</i>
<b>July 16</b> <i>Scandia</i>
<b>July 23</b> <i>Lake Anza</i>
<b>July 30</b> <i>Oakland A's game</i>
<b>August 6</b> <i>Waterworld</i>
<b>August 13</b> <i>Pier 39/Alcatraz/Aquarium</i>
<b>August 20</b> <i>The Jungle</i>

The cost for the Kensington Summer Day Camp is \$205 per week (with the exception the 4th of July week at \$155). This fee covers all transportation costs, snacks, entrance fees, activities, and a KCC Summer Camp T-shirt for field trips. A limited number of partial scholarships will be available. All fees must be paid and all forms completed by June 1, 2008, for the first five weeks of camp, and by July 1, 2008, for the last five weeks of camp.

### Registration

Open registration continues through spring 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the KCC Office (just beyond the tennis courts in Kensington Park) For further information, please call Esther Hill at the Kensington Community Council office at 525-0292. The KCC office is located at 59 Arlington Ave. KCC office hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

### Looking for a fun summer job?????????

**KCC needs you!** We have openings for summer camp counselors. We're looking for students who have completed their junior year in high school (or older), enjoy working with kids, and have patience and enthusiasm. Job applications are available at [www.aboutkensington.com](http://www.aboutkensington.com) or from our office at 59 Arlington Ave.

**PLEASE REGISTER FOR CLASSES AT  
KCC OFFICE • 59 ARLINGTON AVENUE • KENSINGTON • 525-0292**

### K A S E P KENSINGTON AFTER SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM *Monday–Friday 10 a.m.–4 p.m.*

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

**Sessions:** Spring session runs March 31 through June 6.  
Please visit [www.aboutkensington.org](http://www.aboutkensington.org) for more information on classes.

### K C C KENSINGTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL *Monday–Friday 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Esther Hill, Administrator, 525-0292*

**To register for class:** Please call the office unless otherwise specified. Some classes have enrollment limits; those registering will be notified if they cannot be enrolled.

**Tennis court reservations:** Reservations are for weekends and holidays only; the earliest is 9 a.m. Call Esther Hill (525-0292) for tennis court reservation information.

**Tennis court fees:** Kensington residents—\$2/45-minute reservation (singles); Non-residents—\$5.

**Community Center rental:** For information on renting the Community Center, call Helen Horowitz at the Kensington Police Protection and Community Services District, 526-4141.

### YOUTH & ADULT CLASSES

#### Tennis

Kim Roots offers tennis classes for youth and adults. Register with Kim at 526-6730.

**Fees:** *Adult classes*—5 classes:

\$40 per resident;  
\$45 per non-resident

*Youth classes:*

\$10 per class for residents;  
\$11 for nonresidents.

**Where:** Tennis Courts (West Court)

### KIM ROOTS' SUMMER TENNIS CLINIC, GRADES 1–6

**Session 1: June 16-20**    **Session 5: July 28-Aug.1**

**Session 2: June 23-27**    **Session 6: Aug 4-8**

**Session 3: July 7-11**    **Session 7: Aug 11-15**

**Session 4: July 14-18**    **Session 8: Aug 18-22**

**Fees:** \$75/session, resident (\$82.50 non-resident)

**Where:** Tennis Courts

Minimum: 5 students / Maximum: 10 students per class

Clinic includes stroke instruction, play, and ball-machine practice. For information, please call Kim Roots, 526-6730. Children are registered on a first-come, first-served basis in the KCC office, 59 Arlington Ave., Monday—Friday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Emergency card, registration, and waiver forms must be completed prior to the beginning of the session. For further information or to request an application, please call the KCC office at 525-0292.

### ADULT CLASSES

#### NEW! Sewn Pamphlets and Greeting Card with Painted Covers

The pamphlet stitch is an elegant way of constructing a small book without any glue. Each person can make at least two pamphlets and a greeting card! Paint your own covers with vibrant inks, a technique you can easily do again on your own. Learn how to sew, using just a few stitches and a clever slot-and-tab closure—great for booklets, greetings, or note cards. All levels welcome—beginners to advanced, teens and adults. Instructor: Elaine Chu.

**When:** Saturday, April 19, 2–4 p.m.    **Where:** Recreation Bldg. (Bldg. E)

**Fees:** \$30 class + \$10 materials (paid separately to instructor)

#### NEW! Sculptural Square Book With Ribbons

Make an impressive hardcover, origami-style book with folded pages and attached ribbon tie. Learn how to cover boards and to turn in the corners professionally. For the covers, choose from a wide selection of papers: solids, marbled, block prints, maps, and more. All levels welcome, teens and adults. Register at the KCC office: 525-0292. Minimum three students. Instructor: Elaine Chu.

**When:** Tuesday, April 22, 7:30–9:30 p.m.    **Where:** Recreation Bldg. (Bldg. E)

**Fee:** \$30 class + \$10 materials (paid separately to instructor)

*Elaine Chu loves teaching art and book arts and has exhibited in various craft shows. She has worked as a graphic designer and piano instructor internationally. She has a B.A. in music from Yale University and a B.F.A. in graphic design from University of Arts in Philadelphia. Elaine currently teaches in our KASEP program.*

#### Acrylic Painting



Stan Cohen (533-3003) leads this informal but professional workshop for established and serious beginning artists. Mornings are devoted to developing painting, with assistance available. Afternoons are reserved for class critique. Enrollment is limited. Instructor approval required.

**When:** Wednesdays, 9:45 a.m.–1:30 p.m.    **Where:** Community Center

**Fees:** \$32/month (\$36 for nonresidents)

#### Yoga for Health—New Time!

Harmonize your body, mind, and spirit. This class involves basic yoga poses, correct body alignment, breathing techniques, and relaxation. Develop strength, flexibility, endurance, and grace. Therapeutic concerns such as wrist, knee, neck and back pain, and stress reduction will be addressed. No prior experience required. All ages welcome. Please bring a mat to class. Instructor Nicole Becker, a registered yoga teacher, was trained in Anusara Yoga and has studied acupressure and qigong. 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 information, contact Nicole at 527-6443. To register, call the KCC office at 525-0292.

**When:** Tuesday 9:15–10:30 a.m.    **Where:** Community Center

**Fees:** Residents—Drop-in, \$15; \$75 for a series of six classes.

Nonresidents please add 10% (\$16.50/class; \$82.50 for six classes)

#### Monday Night Hatha Yoga 6:30–7:30 PM

Join a three-week session; a new session begins each month. Begin or deepen your yoga practice with a supportive group. Please bring a mat to class.

**When:** Class series—Mondays 6:30–7:30 p.m.

**Fees:** For residents: one-month pass—3 classes for \$30. Nonresidents: add 10% (\$33).

**Where:** Recreation Bldg., Room A (Bldg. E)

#### Thursday Hatha Yoga 5:30–6:30 PM

An ongoing class that will calm, restore, and revitalize you. Classic yoga postures and quiet attention to the nuance of movement help create a satisfying personal practice. Yoga postures, breathing techniques, and philosophy are covered. All levels of experience welcome. Please bring a mat to class.

**When:** Class series—Thursdays 5:30–6:30 p.m.    **Where:** Recreation Bldg., Room A (Bldg. E)

**Fees:** Residents—Drop-in, \$12. One-month pass (4 classes) for \$40.

Nonresidents please add 10% (\$13.20 for drop-in and \$44 for month pass)

*Instructor Claire Lavery is an experienced teacher who has been practicing and teaching yoga to all ages and abilities. Her studies have included Ashtanga, Iyengar, Integral, and Yin yoga; adaptive yoga; and yoga philosophy. She focuses on breathing, alignment, and adjustment to help students enjoy a deeper practice.*

**61st Annual**  
**Kensington Hilltop School**

# Spring Carnival

**May 10, 2008**  
**11am-3pm**

**Quilt Raffle!**  
**White Elephant Sale!**

**Games! Prizes!**  
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**Bake Sale!**

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**Spring Celebration cont'd from page 1**



## Donors and volunteers help mak

Last month's KCC Spring Celebration was a great success, due in large part to KCC member Vida Sarrafan, whose tireless energy was applied to weeks of organizing and overseeing the event. Other KCC and staff members who contributed to the event include, Vida Dorroh, Anne Forrest, Debbie Hayakawa-Wing, Esther Hill, Todd Hodson,

Bruce Morrow, Danielle Power, and Laurie Ushigusa. The silent auction was made possible by the kind donations and contributions of Arlington Pharmacy, Berkeley Chamber Performances, Alex Brown, Patty and Leo Carrousel, Elaine Chu, Patty Coluse, Contra Costa Civic Theatre, Vida Dorroh, D'Jour

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## The Spring Celebration a success

Floral and Antiques, Dream Dinners, Eclectix, Betty Anne Engel, Barbara Fracchia, Ruth Frassetto, Dena Fredric, Laurie Freeman, Joseph Holmes, Helen Horowitz, Wendy Hurley, Jacuzzi Street Jazzercise, Elizabeth Kavaler, Kensington Community Council, Claire Lavery, Merrill Lynch, More Than a Carpenter, Nation's Great Pies, Ted and

Lorraine Osmunson, Val and Joe Paola, Kate Peterson, Post Meridian restaurant, Jaima Roberts, Vida Sarrafan, Semifreddi's Bakery, Elaine Sinclair, Jan Stensland, Anne and Doug Stewart, Peter and Ann Tait, Barbara Tapp, Clif Taylor, Ten Speed Press, Carla Van Slyke, Jim and Dorothy Walker, and Yabusaki's Dwight Way Nursery.

# Peace Child

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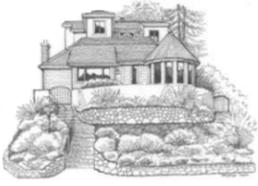
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### Pending Sales

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## Neighborhood Notes



Left to right: Kitty Ho, Jennifer Chen and Dejah Brown

### New staff at the bank

The Mechanics Bank at 279 Arlington Ave. has become revitalized since Nancy Zhang became the manager in January 2007. Three new staff members have joined the bank in the past year; Jennifer Chen and Dejah Brown started working there in July of last year, and in the past few weeks Kitty Ho has joined

the team. All three are customer service representatives, so expect to see their faces when visiting the bank. Zhang said to be sure to introduce yourself to the new staff on your next visit.

### Our Woman of the Year

Joan Haber was named the Contra Costa College Kensington Woman of the Year. Haber's resume reads like a book of community grassroots organizing, so full it's hard to imagine that she had time for anything else. A resident of Kensington for more than 50 years, Joan's touch has been felt throughout West County, from classrooms to courts, polling booths to food banks.

The quintessential political organizer, Joan has helped run political campaigns for numerous people and causes, helped "get out the vote," and helped get food to the hungry — to name just some of her efforts.

The mother of three sons who attended West Contra Costa schools, Haber was active with the schools for years, committed to a quality education for all. She worked on the district's integration program, organized district volunteers, served on PTAs, walked precincts for school bonds, and was a stalwart of the Democratic Party.

Haber has been married to her husband, Richard, for 62 years. Her activism has slowed down a little in recent years, but she's always up for a good political discussion. And she has found time for other activities, far from Contra Costa County. She has walked the Inca Trail, hiked from Sienna to Rome, and explored Sierra Nevada trails, guided by her energetic spirit.

### Donation in the name of the police

A \$500 contribution was made to KCC from Andrew Dhuey in honor of Chief Harman and the officers of the KPD.

### ACC summer camp

The third annual Peace Child Summer Arts Camp will take place at Arlington Community Church August 11–15. The day camp is for children ages 8–14, and activities will include dancing, acting, art, music, and puppetry. Directed by Michael Mansfield and Shanti Moorjani, the children will create and perform a musical theater production based on the themes of peace and kindness. The camp, which costs \$125, will meet between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m., with a Friday evening performance. Morning snack and lunch will be provided. More information can be obtained from the church: 526-9146.

### One-woman art show

Lorri-Marie Jenkins, of Benicia, will hold a one-woman show at Eclectix Gallery at the top of Fairmount Avenue in El Cerrito. Her work consists of found and collected bits of china and other objects, assembled into a variety of forms. She has made dresses out of bottle caps and marbles, a bust of a pregnant Madonna covered with religious images, and many whimsical tableaus consisting of pieces of clothing, photos, and many other historical and new materials. The show will run from April 25 through May 25.



### Help needed for school gardens

Parents and volunteers have started organizing teachers, parents, students, and the community to assist with garden projects on the Hilltop campus.

The first effort will be a fun work party on April 13 to get things started.

The group will create and develop outdoor classrooms for the children and general school beautification projects. One of the organizers, Stace Frame, said, "Be part of a group that gets their hands dirty, or donate some items you have around the house, or donate money and sponsor a learning planting bed for the children."

The group is asking for donations of redwood over 6 feet long, 2x4s, 2x6s, 2x10s, 2x12s, 4x4s, 2–3-inch bolts, wood screws, seeds, bagged earth, compost, fertilizers, bagged bark, decorative rocks, a garden shed, and tools in good condition. Also there is always a need for t-shirts that can become children's aprons, workbenches, seeds, seedlings, miniature fruit trees, and most importantly, your time.

The group is working on lunch and refreshment ideas also.

If you would like to participate, bring gloves and a few simple tools—trowels and spades, hammers, or just your hands. If you have a donation of materials, volunteers are ready to come and collect them from you. Email [garden@framebyframe.com](mailto:garden@framebyframe.com) to arrange a pickup.

The April 13 work party will go from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Hilltop School at the end of Highland Blvd.



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### Street light out?

If you have a defective or burned-out street light in your area, or even a downed electrical pole, you can contact Patty Edwards in the Special Districts Division of the county Department of Public Works. You can reach her at (925) 313-2286. If you do call in, please have the street light number or the street address of the fixture. Please don't call Edwards about other public works issues; she specializes in street lighting throughout the county.

### Cooks needed

The 2008 Hilltop Carnival will be held on May 10, the day before Mothers' Day, and organizers are already looking for people to help handle the barbecue. They will be cooking burgers, hot dogs, garden burgers, and sausages on the Dads' Club-built playground grill. They also need help with serving the food to the hungry masses. Volunteers are asked to make a one-hour commitment for any time between 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.

The required qualifications include the ability to: use at least one or preferably both hands, know which end of spatula/tongs/meat thermometer to hold, and know that the grill is generally not for sitting on. Previous experience at McDonald's or similar a plus. If you feel you may be able to match these qualifications, please contact Hanson Quan ([hanson.quan@gmail.com](mailto:hanson.quan@gmail.com)) of the Dads' Club. But please do so soon, as the choice cooking times may go fast.

### Hazardous waste costs

Last year Kensington residents made 186 visits to the West County Hazardous Waste Facility at Pittsburg Ave. in Richmond. The cost of these visits is assessed as the cost to run the center divided by all the visits in the year from all over the West County. The total cost, paid by Bay View for Kensington visits, was \$13,467, which calculates to \$72.40 per visit. Residents don't pay this directly, but it is part of the expenses that Bay View ends up charging homeowners in their garbage bills. If you decide to take items to the facility, please call Bay View at (925) 237-4617 before you go, so they can arrange for a permit.

### Successful eWaste

During the recent ewaste recycling day organized by the general manager and KPPCSD, four large truckloads of electronic goods were taken for recycling. This is a record amount of electronic waste. All the waste gets recycled locally; none gets transported to other states or countries.



### Recycle in the park

Four new recycling bins for cans and bottles will be placed in the park, to supplement the bins that went in last year. These will be placed by Jack Griffith, and it is expected that a couple will be located around the Community Center and another by the Recreation Building (Building E).

### Grads photo May 10

Seniors mark your calendars for this year's graduation photo. The event will take place on May 10 at 2 p.m. at Building E in Kensington Park. All seniors are encouraged to attend. This includes seniors who currently or previously lived in Kensington, and all those seniors who attended Hilltop Elementary for some or all grades, regardless of where they live. There will be a \$10 charge to cover pizza, drinks, fruit and dessert, as well as an electronic version of the photos.

### New district Web site

By the middle of April, the new Kensington Police Protection and Community Service District Web site should be in place. The site will be [www.kensingtonpolicecsd.org](http://www.kensingtonpolicecsd.org). Several months in the making, this new site is replacing the one that the department has used for the past few years. It will have a local events calendar, links to many local organizations, information about the police department, the crime log, details about renting the community center, and Kensington's waste management. Aaron Goble and his company PagePoint Web Solutions have done the work on the site. Goble is also responsible for [AboutKensington.com](http://AboutKensington.com), the new Hilltop School Web site, the Berkeley Unified School District, Shop El Cerrito, and many other local organizations.

### Dog runs under moving fire truck

A golden retriever escaped from its yard and ran onto the road in front of an on-coming Kensington Fire Department fire truck. Unfortunately the dog was killed in the accident. Dogs being walked should be on leash and in the control of a person at all times.

### Art show in El Cerrito

El Cerrito Art Association's 31st Annual Art Show will be held April 25-27 at El Cerrito Community Center. Fine art works will be displayed in a variety of two- and three-dimensional media, including oil, acrylic, pastel, collage, watercolor, and photography.

Artists will receive awards from donors, including the mayor of El Cerrito. A reception and awards ceremony will be held on Friday, April 25.

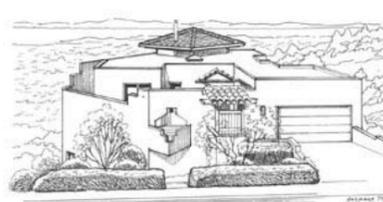
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## DEY & NIGHT HOUSESITTING

Days: 610-4638
Evenings: 233-1848

**Tuesday April 1**

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

**Thursday April 3**

**Babies & Toddlers Storytime.** 10:15 & 11:15 (two identical sessions). Free. Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave. 524-3043

**Lapsit Storytimes** for babies and toddlers up to age 3 and their caregivers. 10:15 and 11 a.m. El Cerrito Library, 6510 Stockton Ave. 526-7512.

**Spirit and the Arts,** an interfaith arts and drama program for children aged 7-14. 6 p.m. Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. 526-9146.



**The Faith Club** book discussion for adults. The Power of Questions, using the film Monty Python's *Holy Grail* as the basis for discussions. 6 p.m. Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. 526-9146.

**Ballroom Dancing Instruction.** 7:30 p.m. \$20 per couple. Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. 526-9146.

**Saturday April 5**

**Beginning Internet Class.** How to Search the Web. 10 a.m. El Cerrito Library, 6510 Stockton Ave. 526-7512.



**Tuesday April 8**

**Family Storytime.** See April 1.

**Dads' Club** General Meeting, 7 p.m. Multi-Purpose Room, Hilltop School, 90 Highland Blvd. 231-1415.

**Wednesday April 9**

**Astronomy Night** at Hilltop School. 6:30-8:30 p.m. 90 Highland Blvd. 231-1415.

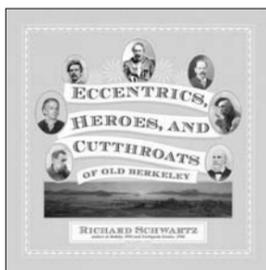
**KFPD** Kensington Fire Protection District monthly meeting. 7 p.m. Community Center, 59 Arlington Ave. 527-8395.

**The Mythic Jesus.** Richard Stomer. Four-week class, this and following Wednesdays in April. 7:30 p.m. \$30. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd. 528-3417.

**Thursday April 10**

**Babies & Toddlers Storytime.** See April 3.

**Lapsit Storytimes** See April 3.



**Richard Schwartz,** author of *Eccentrics, Heroes, and Cutthroats of Old Berkeley.* Slide talk on Berkeley's history from 1850 to 1925. 7 p.m. Free. El Cerrito Library, 6510 Stockton Ave. 526-7512.

**Sunday April 6**

**Personal Theology:** Talk by Alex Pappas: Vedanta, Yoga, Gita—How They Are Related to Each Other. 10 a.m. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd. 525-0302.

**Education Hour:** UU Bible Study, led by Rev. Lisa Sargent. 10 a.m. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd. 525-0302.

**Monday April 7**



**Family Story Time:** Here Kitty! (Stories about Cats). 7 p.m. El Cerrito Library, 6510 Stockton Ave. 526-7512.

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

# KENSINGTON

**Who's Afraid of the Light Brown Apple Moth?** UC Berkeley Prof. Miguel Altieri, Albany mayor Robert Lieber, environmental activist and Contra Costa County geriatric nurse John Davis, and vintner and farmer Rob Schultz. 7 p.m. Ecology Center, 2530 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 895-2312.



**The Faith Club** book discussion. Ownership, using the film *Il Postino* (The Postman) as the basis for discussions. 6 p.m. Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. 526-9146.

**Art Night.** 6:30 p.m. Hilltop School, 90 Highland Blvd. 231-1415.

**Spirit and the Arts.** See April 3.

**Ballroom Dancing Instruction.** See April 3.

**Saturday April 12**

**Once Upon a Time:** the Alchemy of Storytelling. Led by Carol Carlisle. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. \$40. Bring a bag lunch and snacks to share. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd. 528-9310.

**Spring Book Sale.** All items 50¢. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. El Cerrito Library, 610 Stockton Ave. Sponsored by Friends of the El Cerrito Library.

**Storyteller Kirk Waller** presents captivating stories for children of all ages. 11 a.m. El Cerrito Library, 6510 Stockton Ave. 526-7512. Part of National Library Week, sponsored by the Friends of the El Cerrito Library.

**Animal Crackers!** Performance features music and a saucy one-act play called "Finger Food," served with an array of treats (included with admission). 7:30 p.m. \$20; seniors/students \$15. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd. 525-0302.



**Kensington Symphony.** Geoffrey Gallegos, conductor. Kelsey Walsh, piano. Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 3; Schubert's Unfinished Symphony. 8 p.m. Northminster Presbyterian Church, 545 Ashbury Ave., El Cerrito. \$15; seniors \$12; Children free. 528-2829.

**Sunday April 13**

**Farmers' Market in new location.** Oak View Ave. between Colusa and Santa Fe Aves. 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

**Dads' Club Garden Work Party** at Hilltop School. 11 a.m. Everyone invited.

**Democratic Caucus** voting day. Email billwright@pipeline.com for details

**Personal Theology:** Talk by Barbara McGraw of Saint Mary's College, UU Mystics: Embracing the Spirit in Unitarian Universalism. 10 a.m. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd. 525-0302.

**Education Hour:** Walking our Talk: Dialogue to Live the Vision, led by Rev. Cathleen Diane Cox. 10 a.m. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd. 525-0302.



Internationally renowned jazz greats **Art Lande and Paul McCandless Duo.** 7 p.m. \$15/\$10 seniors. Hillside Club 2286 Cedar St. Berkeley. 845-1350.

**Monday April 14**

**El Cerrito Art Association** meeting and mini art show of members' work. 7:30 p.m. Garden Room, El Cerrito Community Center, Moeser Ln. 558-1078.

**Family Story Time:** Splash Splash! (Bathtime Stories) 7 p.m. El Cerrito Library, 6510 Stockton Ave. 526-7512.



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# CALENDAR

**Tuesday April 15**

**Berkeley Garden Club Spring Tea and Floral Design** presentation by Mary Crowell and Shane Looper. 1 p.m. Tickets at the door for \$8. Epworth United Methodist Church, 1953 Hopkins St. Berkeley, 845-4482.

Celebrate National Library Week: **Walter the Giant Storyteller.** Walter is really tall and loves books, stories, and people! Ages 3 and up. 6:30 p.m. Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave. 524-3043. *Sponsored by the Friends of the Kensington Library.*

**Thursday April 17**



Arlington Community Church **Bell Choir fund-raiser. Three-course dinner and show Tartuffe**, a French comic masterpiece by Moliere. \$50. Hotel Mac, 50 Washington Ave., Point Richmond. 526-9146.

**East Bay Collectors** meeting. 7:30 p.m. Community Center, 59 Arlington Ave.

**Lapsit Storytimes** See April 3.

**Spirit and the Arts** see April 3.

**The Faith Club** book discussion. Borders, using the film Babel as the basis for discussions. 6 p.m. Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. 526-9146.

**Ballroom Dancing Instruction.** See April 3.



**Mini Concert:** The Back Porch Pickers, a bluegrass group featuring Allan Jabbour, of the Library of Congress. \$15/\$12 senior, \$5 kids. 7:30 p.m. Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. 526-9146.

**Saturday April 19**

**Life Line Screening.** 9 a.m. Community Center, 59 Arlington Ave. 800-449-2350.

**Beginning Internet Class.** All About Email. 10 a.m. El Cerrito Library, 6510 Stockton Ave., El Cerrito. 526-7512.

**2008 Northern California Firefighter Recruitment Fair.** Meet women firefighters and fire department recruiters. Learn about an exciting career in the fire service. Check out the physical abilities test. 10 a.m.–4 p.m. 6723 Sierra Court, Suite G, Dublin, (916) 648-1717.

**Sunday April 20**

**Personal Theology:** Talk by Melanie Clark, marriage and family therapist. The Monastery of the Streets: Spiritual Work and Practical Mysticism. 10 a.m. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd. 525-0302.

**Education Hour:** Queer Theologies, led by Donna Sequeira. 10 a.m. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd. 525-0302.

**Brahms' German Requiem.** UC Alumni Chorus, University Men's and Women's Chorales, San Francisco Unitarian Universalist Church Choir. 3 p.m. \$15/\$10/\$6. Hertz Hall, UC Berkeley campus. 643-9645.

**Animal Crackers!** Funny Songs & Delicious Desserts. 1 p.m. See April 12.

**Monday April 21**

**Family Story Time:** Stories about Dinosaurs! 7 p.m. El Cerrito Library, 6510 Stockton Ave. 526-7512.

**Tuesday April 22**

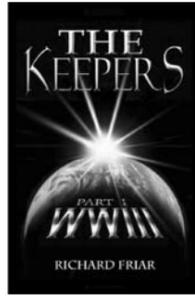
**El Cerrito Democratic Club** discusses health care. Pat Snyder, CCC Chair of Health Care for All, will discuss SB 840, Senator Sheila Kuehl's single-payer health care legislation. Pizza and drinks \$4. Onsite childcare for children ages 3-8, and a homework table for older children. 7:30 p.m. El Cerrito United Methodist Church, 6830 Stockton Ave. 375-5647.

**El Cerrito Book Club:** March by Geraldine Brooks. 7 p.m. El Cerrito Library, 6510 Stockton Ave. 526-7512.

**Family Storytime.** See April 1.

**Thursday April 24**

**Passover Seder.** 5:30 p.m. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd. 525-0302.

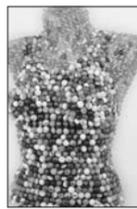


**El Sobrante Library.** Author talk: Richard Friar, author of *The Keepers*. Free posters. 6:30 p.m. Free. El Sobrante Library, 4991 Appian Way, El Sobrante. 374-3991.

Potluck Supper and Celebration of Buddhism as part of the **Spirit and the Arts.** 6:15 p.m. Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. 526-9146.

**Lapsit Storytimes** See April 3.

**Friday April 25**



**Eclectix Gallery:** Lorri-Marie Jenkins: A One-Woman Show. 7523 Fairmount Ave., El Cerrito. 364-7261.

**Saturday April 26**

**Garage Sale.** 10 a.m.–3 p.m. Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. 526-9146.

**Beginning Internet Class.** Useful Websites. 10 a.m. El Cerrito Library, 6510 Stockton Ave. El Cerrito, 526-7512.

**Sunday April 27**

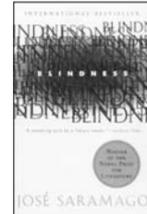
**22nd Annual Secret Gardens of the East Bay Tour.** 9 a.m.–5 p.m. \$50. 653-0317.

**Personal Theology:** Talk by Jacques Verduin, of the Insight Prison Project. Amor Sati: How Embracing our Faith and Engaging in Reconciliation Transforms Our Lives and Dignifies Our Suffering. 10 a.m. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd. 525-0302.

**Education Hour:** Unitarian Universalist Heritage and Tradition: led by ministers and seminarians. 10 a.m. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd. 525-0302.

**Kensington Library Book Club:** *Dancing at the Rascal Fair* by Ivan Doig. 7 p.m. Kensington Library, Arlington Ave., 524-3043.

**Monday April 28**



**Book Discussion Group** 7 p.m. Kensington Library. *Blindness* by Jose Saramago. Contact Louise ODea, 524-3043. *Sponsored by Friends of the Kensington Library.*

**KIC** Kensington Improvement Club monthly meeting. 7 p.m. Community Center, 59 Arlington Ave. 800-449-2350.

**Family Story Time:** Stories about Friends. 7 p.m. El Cerrito Library, 6510 Stockton Ave. 526-7512.

**Tuesday April 29**

**Family Storytime.** See April 1.

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

**Thursday May 1**

**Lapsit Storytimes** See April 3.

**Saturday May 3**

**KPPOA** Kensington Property Owners Association Annual General Town Hall Meeting. 10 a.m. Kensington Community Center, 59 Arlington Ave.

**Beginning Internet Class.** Health and Medical Information. 10 a.m. El Cerrito Library, 6510 Stockton Ave. El Cerrito. 526-7512.

**Sunday May 4**

**Farmers' Market** third anniversary celebration. 10 a.m.–2 p.m. Ocean View Ave.

**Personal Theology:** Joseph Adler of Diablo Valley College, author of *History of the United States: An Interpretation with Songs and Autobiographical Narration*, will sing to raise consciousness. 10 a.m. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd. 525-0302.

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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 February

- An Acura was stolen from Rugby Ave. It was recovered the same day by Richmond police and returned to its owner. Another car, this time a Civic from Grizzly Peak Blvd., was stolen and took nine days to be recovered, this time by El Cerrito PD. There were no suspects in either case.
- A person who ran a stop sign at Colusa Circle was found to not have a valid license. The vehicle was towed, and the driver walked, with a ticket in his pocket. About a week later, another driver was stopped on Oak View Ave. for running a nearby stop sign. This driver was also without a valid license, and the car was impounded.
- A burglar broke into a car on Wellesley Ave., took the garage door opener, opened a nearby garage, and stole miscellaneous tools valued at over \$600. The same night another garage was broken into on Wellesley and thieves made off with a motorcycle, tools, and stereo equipment worth over \$1800.
- A sign belonging to the city of Berkeley fell on a car on Colusa Ave., causing minor damage. This was unintentional, and there is no evidence of inter-city rivalry.
- A house under construction that was unlocked was burgled, and the robbers made off with \$2100 worth of construction tools, which were also unlocked. The same thing happened at another home under construction on Amherst Rd. This time the thieves got in through a window and made off with \$2000 worth of tools.
- Police were called to a home on Ardmore Rd. when a company cleaning air-conditioning ducts submitted an invoice that was \$280 over the quote. Police advised the resident to talk with their credit card company.
- Someone stepped onto a crosswalk on Arlington Ave. without looking for traffic. A car was stopped at the stop sign and was just starting to drive off when the pedestrian stepped in front of the car. The walker jumped onto the hood of the car to avoid getting hit. There were no serious injuries, and the person was able to walk away.
- A copper thief stole three 10-inch pieces of copper piping from a fence on Sunset Rd. The value of the copper was said to be \$75. Elsewhere in the state, a thief trying to steal copper wire from a power pole was killed when he cut into a 12,000-volt line. His body was found at the foot of the pole. Copper is currently worth about \$3.50 a pound.
- Someone living on Los Altos Dr. reported that they saw someone on their property with a flashlight. Unfortunately the homeowner waited six days to inform the police, who were unable to do anything about the incident.
- A parent called the police because the other parent was late for a custody exchange of their child. The exchange did happen well within the allotted time.
- A resident on Stratford Ave. called police when they noticed a flowerpot that usually resides on their back porch had been moved to the roof of their home, next to a window.



- A car was stolen from Kensington Rd. It has not yet been recovered. On Lawson Rd. someone smashed the window of a car and took two house keys.
- Someone doing exercises on Yale Ave. was reported as being a suspicious person, evidently by someone not into keeping fit.

- A driver's foot slipped off their brake pedal on Arlington Ave., causing the car to collide into the car in front of it. Only minor damage was done, but it was serious enough that both cars were towed.
- Graffiti was found on a No Parking sign on York Ave.
- A person saw a juvenile suspect damage a conduit on the side of the Community Center. The child fled before the witness was able to identify the person.
- Someone removed the tire and rim from the back of an SUV that was parked on Arlington Ave. The value of the stolen parts was reported to be \$400.
- An alert pedestrian on Coventry Rd. observed two men tampering with a locked car at about 9 p.m. When the men realized they were being observed, they made a quick exit in a pickup truck. No damage was done.
- An unleashed dog chased a cat on Columbia Ave. The owner was advised of the leash law. This dog is known to run free in the area while walking with the owner.
- A juvenile, reported as having "run away from home," had actually walked out after an argument with a parent. The kid was found at school the next morning and was reunited with the parent.
- A band rehearsing in a garage was making loud "noise" that disturbed the neighbors. The neighbors were advised that there is no law about making a noise in the late afternoon (except from a certain house on Coventry Rd.) and that the neighbors should talk with the young musicians.
- A resident reported that a person they did not know was walking down their street and suggested they were suspicious because they were unknown. The street: Colusa Ave. Police were unable to locate the stranger.
- Someone called the police because they did not like the attitude of their neighbor. But the resident asked the police not to talk with the "hostile" neighbor.
- There were three cases of identity theft. In one a person forged signatures on checks. No one knows how they got the checks. Another person had unauthorized charges on a credit card and a request for a loan they had not made. The third incident was of multiple applications for credit cards in the person's name that they knew nothing about.

<b>Kensington Police Department</b>	
Emergency	911
Police dispatch	236-0474
Non Emergency office (daytime)	526-4141
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