

Correspondence

...from front page

local government to keep such correspondence in the office in a file. As to why past correspondence should be removed, he said, "It shouldn't be on the website. You cannot select some to be on and some not to be on. They have to be all on or all off. [Correspondence] is not put on the website in local government. I've worked in four other jurisdictions, and that was never done. There can be potential liability issues."

After questioning, Constantouros said that letters and emails related to an item on that upcoming meeting's agenda could be included in the board packet. That, however, assumes that people read the agenda, compose their letter or email that "takes a position or recommends a position," according to Constantouros, and do it in time to get it into the packet.

District administrator Lynn Wolter, to whom the directive was addressed, said that she had received no instruction to include emails or letters related to an item on the agenda. In that January 11 directive, the board packet is not mentioned. But this brings up another issue: how could residents get their correspondence included in the board packet if the agenda and the packet are released at the same time? Board agendas must be posted 72 hours ahead of a meeting.

Wolter said that she no longer participates in creating the board packet. "Most of it is created by the board now," she said in an interview February 11. "I'm not sure what the timing is. I don't know what's on the agenda in most cases until the monthly report has been created." She added that unless she receives another directive pertaining to correspondence on agenda items, she has to go by the initial directive, which says that any correspondence is kept at the office. "I'm not sure what is driving this, it arrived out of the blue," she said.

Several residents wondered why Constantouros, rather than the board, initiated this new directive. Constantouros, they pointed out, is not an elected official, so why is he creating policy? Constantouros responds, "I acted as the general manager. I handle the administration of the district. It's not really a board decision. It's correspondence, which is part of the administration of the district."

Other residents linked the new policy to other actions. By email, Dane Gillette wrote, "The police board's recent decision to eliminate the long-standing policy of attaching all applicable documents for a meeting to the online agenda is quite troubling. . . . Equally troubling the board is apparently purging this information from all prior agenda packets, at least going back to 2017 and 2018. Kensington citizens take an interest in local [matters], but cannot always attend board meetings, much less go to the district office to review relevant material. This new policy deprives many members of the community from knowing what issues are of concern to their neighbors. Coupled with the board's cancellation of meetings, last-minute rescheduling in the middle of a work day, refusal to engage with the public at the meetings, and purging of other information from the district website, it is clear that a majority of the board has no interest in transparency. One is left to wonder why?"

Constantouros maintains that the new directive does not restrict access to the board. "The public has quite a few ways to make their views known," he said. "They have many opportunities to comment on issues."

In other district news, the board settled the long-standing Fadi Saba/Chih Lin case, paying almost \$90,000 to the couple. Part of the terms of the agreement is that Saba received a finding of factual innocence for a 2017 arrest, the Kensington police did not admit wrongdoing, and no

one can comment upon the case or its aftermath.

Beware of Work-at-Home Scams

It is becoming more common for people to look for ways to supplement their income, and job listings for "work-from-home" jobs are becoming more popular because they are so convenient. Scammers already know this and they use this knowledge to target their victims. There are some easy ways to spot this scam early. If the "company" offers high pay for very little work, or doesn't require any previous experience, it may be a scam. Be especially cautious of employers who require you to pay for training up front with the promise of paying you back once you start the job. Conduct research on every employer you are considering. Sometimes, newspapers or websites may unknowingly share advertisements for services that are actually listed by scammers. Report these directly to the website or newspaper, as well as the Better Business Bureau, the Federal Trade Commission, and your state's Attorney General.

Be a fraud fighter! If you can spot a scam, you can stop a scam.

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MARCH 2019

A PUBLICATION OF THE KENSINGTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

VOLUME 77 NUMBER 2

Second Theft at Hilltop School in Four Months



Thieves left the water but emptied almost all the emergency gear from the large shipping container in the school's lower yard. Photo by Sheryl Rabinovici.

By Sharyl Rabinovici, PTA Board Emergency Readiness Representative

On the morning of January 7, staff and parents at Hilltop School were dismayed to find that three storage sheds—the Dads' Club emergency, gardening, and Running Club supply containers—had been broken into, for the second time in four months. Back in September, thieves hacked through the lock loops to break into two outdoor containers, taking approximately \$1,000 worth of disaster preparedness and fundraising equipment. School groups had nearly finished replacing the stolen items when thieves struck again over Winter Break.

Unfortunately, the second theft was more serious. The thieves cut the gate chain locks to access the campus by car and rifled

through all the storage sheds they could find. From the disaster container alone, all the search and rescue gear such as stretchers, helmets, respirator masks, vests, and gloves were taken, as well as all the medical supplies and \$1,200 worth of 25-year shelf life nutritional tablets, just purchased last May. All together, these thefts have set us back an estimated \$7,000.

This is a difficult blow to a parent-led program that had painstakingly raised the funds and built up the stockpile over two decades. Cathy Travlos is Hilltop's computer instructor and a parent who helped maintain the container in the early 2000s. "The teachers and staff take our responsibility to keep our students safe here very seriously," she explained. "The school community has worked really hard over the years to be prepared to keep everyone safe in an earthquake. It's really disheartening."

"This theft affects our entire community, not just our school," says Eliza Sarasohn, who co-leads the school's annual fundraising carnival. "We had stockpiled enough supplies to be a resource for neighbors, in addition to students and faculty. And now that we have to replace everything, it's going to severely impact our fundraising efforts for the entire year. This money was meant to go for academic and enrichment programming for our students, not to restock emergency supplies."

And while the theft of the emergency and safety supplies was most urgent, the Dads'

See Hilltop Theft, page 4

Directive Deletes Residents' Correspondence

By Linnea Due

On Friday, January 11, KPPCSD general manager Tony Constantouros sent an email to Lynn Wolter, copied to board members and Ann Danforth, the district's lawyer. The subject line read "Handling of Correspondence to the District," below which, in all caps, was the heading: "One-Way Communication."

Wolter was instructed to keep a correspondence file at the district offices, which would be available to any person wishing to view it. Correspondence would no longer be posted on the district website (letters and emails were part of board packets that are posted on the site). Moreover, Wolter was directed to "remove correspondence that has been previously posted on the website as far back as is feasible."

Why? And who ordered this change in policy? Board president Eileen Nottoli said that Constantouros "came up with it," which Constantouros agrees is the case. Nottoli says that the why is because "there is such confusion about what goes in and what doesn't go in."

The second set of directives to Wolter describes correspondence that relates to suits, claims, court proceedings, and complaints of misconduct by any employee, contractor, or agent of the district. These are to be kept in a separate folder, not available to the public, marked "confidential." Copies of these documents are sent to Danforth, the Special District Risk Management Authority, and Constantouros.

When reached by phone February 7, Constantouros said it is typical practice in

See Correspondence, back page

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Pending ~ 8648 Thors Bay, El Cerrito
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Thanks to the community members who have already stepped up and financially supported the upcoming renovation, which will start soon. If you can help, please visit the Kensington 360° website: www.kensington360.org to donate online or checks can be mailed to Kensington 360°, 59 Arlington Avenue, Kensington, CA 94707.

Your friends and neighbors who have already donated and/or pledged:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
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We welcome matching gifts, and all donations are tax-deductible. Thank you for your continued support!

Correction: In a January 31 email, Fire Chief Michael Pigoni reported the correct estimated cost of the sirens as follows (emphasis Pigoni): "The cost per siren was ESTIMATED between \$50K to \$80K each depending on type, mounting options, location, power availability. The ESTIMATE of 'upwards of \$500K' I spoke about to the board was a minimum [for] four sirens but more likely up to six and included costs to contract with the county to control the sirens, CEQA studies and consultant fees. \$500K was an ESTIMATE for the entire system." We regret the error.



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APRIL 2019 DEADLINES:

Advertising Deadline ❖ MARCH 8
Editorial Deadline ❖ MARCH 10

The Kensington Community Council is dedicated to the improvement, development, and education of the community, and to the promotion of social welfare in Kensington. It enriches the community by providing educational and recreational programs for all ages and by publishing the Outlook, a monthly newsletter that covers local events and issues.

KCC also provides a forum for all Kensington community groups to meet and coordinate their respective efforts toward the common good of the community.

Opinions expressed in Letters to the Editor are those of the writers and do not reflect the opinion of the Outlook, its editor, or the Kensington Community Council. Letters must be signed and include the resident's phone number and address (which will not be printed). Letters 350 words or under will appear in the print edition (space permitting). Any letter over 350 words will be printed in the online edition only. Publication of letters and articles is subject to space and the editor's discretion. Obituaries of Kensington residents are printed without charge. All material must be received by the 10th of the month preceding issue date; submit by email to editor@kensingtonoutlook.com. No press releases or PDFs; Word documents or text in the body of an email are acceptable. Use one space, not two, after all periods.

KENSINGTON OUTLOOK

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PUBLISHER

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K E N S I N G T O N

Community Education

KASEP Kensington Afterschool Enrichment Program

KASEP SPRING SESSION IS COMING UP ON THE CALENDAR VERY SOON!

- Tuesday, March 5th at 7:00pm for Kindergarten and 7:30pm for Grades 1-6 for online registration at <http://kensingtoncommunitycouncil.org>
- The class schedule and brochures went home in student's backpacks from school the week of February 25th. There are extra copies available at the KCC office and at the Kensington library.
- Spring classes begin Monday, March 18th and end Friday, May 24th.
- **Important Dates: Spring Break is April 1st to April 5th - "NO KASEP CLASSES"**

Sandy Thacker, KASEP carpentry teacher for 35 years is taking a well-deserved break spring session and will be returning for 1 week summer camp, and FALL Session 2019.

Heads Up! Locations and schedule changes for the Spring session!

- Please look at the brochure either the hard copy or on line to see where your child's class is being held. Due to the proposed construction of the community center, some classes will be held at the Arlington Church. There will be additional staff to ensure the safety of the students crossing the street.
- Tuesday's (2:30 - 3:40pm) and (3:50 - 5:00pm) - Play-Well TEKologies is back with thousands of Lego parts. Build engineer-designed projects such as: boats, arch bridges, catapults, and battletracks, etc.
- Girls Inc. Stem class and Gurus Education continues on Thursday and Tuesdays for grades 4-6th.



KCC Summer Camp 2019

Hard to imagine, but KCC is in gear, planning a terrific KCC Summer Camp 2019! KCC Summer Camp is for children entering first grade in FALL 2019 up through 6th grade. This year's camp is filled with exciting field trips around the bay such as The Jungle, Oakland Zoo, Lake Anza, and the ever popular Scandia Center to name a few. Each week there is a new place to discover! New this year is paddleboard lessons at 101 Surf Sports in San Rafael and swimming at the pool at McNears Beach.

Camp starts Monday, June 10th and goes until Friday, August 16. You may enroll by the week. KCC camp offers tennis lessons, daily arts and crafts with an afternoon of sports & games along with a themed activity such as carpentry, hip hop dance, golf, STEM science projects, Legos, plus more!

Online enrollment starts February 26th and is on-going. Our website will have all the details by the end of February. at <http://kensingtoncommunitycouncil.org>



Tai Chi for Arthritis and Fall Prevention

Tuesdays, 9:30-10:30am, Community Center, \$10

In the United States, it has been recommended by the Arthritis Foundation and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention for its effectiveness in bringing pain relief, improving balance, and significantly reducing falls. This class is suitable for all people, regardless of physical condition. It is however, especially helpful for people who may be experiencing some health difficulties. The exercises incorporate all the health enhancing benefits of regular tai chi, but focuses on movements that are safe and relatively simple to do.

For further information, contact Nobuo at: nnishi50@gmail.com or 510-495-4860

Acrylic Artists

Wednesdays, 9:45 - 12:30pm, Community Center, \$9
Open Studio, lots of natural light. Come paint with other artists. Easels and tables are provided. Bring your canvas, paints, and creativity. Friendly group!

Tai Chi Chuan

Fridays, 9:30-10:30am, Community Center, \$10
A gentle martial art, tai chi is a safe, rewarding activity for people of all ages and all levels of health. Tai chi incorporates both mind and body. Nobuo Nishi, instructor, has been teaching for 18 years.

KCC/KASEP Office: 59 Arlington Ave., Bldg. E (Across the grassy field above the tennis courts in Kensington Park), Kensington CA 94707.
E-mail: kccec@yahoo.com, or call 525-0292. M-F, 1:00-5pm.
Tennis Court Reservations: For weekends and holidays only, beginning at 9am.
Call the KCC office for info. Court Fees: 45-min. singles reservation: Residents: \$2; Nonresidents: \$5.
Kensington Community Center Rental Info: Please call Andrea at the KPPCSD (Kensington Police Protection and Community Services District) at 510-526-4141.



High School Senior Photo

Let the tradition continue! Calling all high school seniors who live(d) in Kensington, or who attended Hilltop Elementary School for all or part of their elementary school years – you are invited to join other alumni for the annual Kensington High School Senior Photo. Tell your Hilltop classmates.

The photo shoot is scheduled for Sunday, May 5th at 4:30pm. Location: KCC Office /Recreation Building. Come early to catch-up with old friends! The photo will appear on the cover of the June *Outlook*.

KCC/KASEP Office: 59 Arlington Ave., Bldg. E (Across the grassy field above the tennis courts in Kensington Park), Kensington CA 94707.
E-mail: kccec@yahoo.com, or call 525-0292. M-F, 11:30am-5pm.
Tennis Court Reservations: For weekends and holidays only, beginning at 9am.
Call the KCC office for info. Court Fees: 45-min. singles reservation: Residents: \$2; Nonresidents: \$5.
Kensington Community Center Rental Info: Please call Andrea at the KPPCSD (Kensington Police Protection and Community Services District) at 510-526-4141.

Passings

Demetra "Dee" Andronico, born on September 10, 1920, passed away peacefully in her home from natural causes on January 2. She is survived by her brother, Gus (Lillian), two sons, Frank and Bill (Rhonda), her daughter, Connie, and her three grandchildren Kendall, Lauren and Grace. She was predeceased by her parents Chris and Helen Petrakos, her brother John, and her loving husband of 51 years, John.



The daughter of Greek immigrants, Dee was born in Stockton and raised in Sacramento where she attended Sacramento High School and subsequently received a business degree from Sacramento State. As a teenager, it was clear that she was fiercely independent and had a sense of what she wanted for herself. These attributes served her well her entire life. Dee's father suddenly passed away when she was eighteen, and Dee went to work to support her two younger brothers and mother. After WWII began, she supervised the quartermasters department at McClellan Air Force Base.

Dee married the love of her life, John, in 1948 in Sacramento. John had laid eyes on her eight years earlier when she played violin at the 1939 World's Fair on Treasure Island. John told his friend as they watched Dee's performance, "One day, I am going to marry that girl." In 1948, less than one year after their formal introduction, Dee married John, beginning a beautiful 51-year union filled with family, friends and community.

The couple began their married life in Berkeley and moved one year later to Kensington. Dee worked at Park & Shop Market on Solano for three years prior to dedicating her life to raising her family. She was involved in numerous organizations including the Kensington Hilltop Elementary PTA, Children's Hospital (Acorn Chapter), Children's Home Society, Twenty Women's Investment Group (TWIG) and the Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society. Dee possessed a true love for life that inspired those who came to know her. She enjoyed travel, bridge, golf, cooking, music and following Bay Area sports teams. And she particularly enjoyed spending time with her family.

Deborah Xochitl Morrison, born September 23, 1972, died in Los Angeles December 17. Armed with a big smile, she attended Kensington and El Cerrito schools where she played the saxophone. She was always a free spirit and eventually settled in Los Angeles where she worked using her computer skills. Deborah is survived by her parents Glenn and Gloria Morrison and her siblings Anne Michele, Susan, and Michael.

Gone too soon; always remembered.



Kensington Circle Mascot and beloved neighborhood dog, Ramsey, passed away on January 29, at 84 dog years. Ramsey began his life as a released Canine Companion, Inc. dog. He quickly overcame this disappointment and rose to the positions of Circle Mascot, Good Will Ambassador, and Canine Assistant at Dan Lynch Company. Aside from the professional demands of visiting job sites and greeting clients, his duties included frequent visits to Kensington Circle merchants including Circle Salon, Semifreddie's, Nan Phelps Photography, and Kensington Veterinary Hospital where he received numerous pets and treats. For a decade his sunny disposition and nonstop tail wagging earned him the affection of all.

If he stares hard enough, the glass might disappear.

NAN PHELPS PHOTOGRAPHY

• WORKSHOPS •

In Depth Tools of the iPhone Camera **Mark Altenberg**
Saturday, March 16, Noon-3

The iPhone is an amazing camera. You'll get to know how to take better pictures (and video!); how to organize, edit and share them. Sure you can go to the Apple Store or on the Web to learn a lot of this but it's great to get to know people in your own community!

Print Your iPhone Photos **Mark Altenberg**
Saturday, March 23, Noon-3

The objective of this workshop is to get your best pictures out of your camera and have a project ready to print by the end of the workshop. Bring your iPhone and laptop. Projects include books, calendars, fine prints and more.

Finding Beautiful Light **Nan Phelps**
Saturday, March 30, Noon-3

Turn your eyes on to the quality of light all around you. Help it out when needed. As Duane Michaels said, "Light is not just light, it is all. Bad light is rude, and one should never be photographed in rude light."

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Originally offered at \$988,000



477 ARLINGTON AVE
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254 TRINITY AVE
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Janitorial staff found the container open on the stormy morning of January 7. Three tall rolling shelves were emptied of contents and other gear was left out in the rain. Photo by Virginia Delamora.

Hilltop Theft

...from front page

Club lost items used in annual fundraisers. For instance, a popcorn machine used at the Carnival and other events was stolen in the first theft, and a snow cone machine and a replacement popcorn machine were taken four months later. The club also lost tools.

School principal Judy Sanders said that parent groups are working with school and community leaders to address the loss and to create a new strategy to halt thefts. "We're not going to let these thefts stop us from being prepared and wisely moving forward," she said. Community members are invited to contribute generously to a GoFundMe campaign (www.gofundme.com/restock-hilltop) to replace stolen items and help fund a plan to prevent future thefts. Please consider that a well-prepared school makes a well-prepared neighborhood. Thank you!

December Police Log

- 1 HAZARD, Coventry Rd/Edgecroft. Large main drain clogged. RP lives next door to the drain & says she called this in days ago but drain is still clogged. Left voicemail for CCC Public Works.
- 2 TOWED VEHICLE, Ocean View. Veh. parked in no parking area, farmers' market.
- 3 VANDALISM, Arlmont Dr. Someone from the Community Center party tagged the back of RP's res. on Friday night.
- 5 IDENTITY THEFT, reported to KPD.
- 6 SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE, Colusa/Valley Rd. New model, HMA sunglasses and mustache and HFA in jeans and dark colored sweater walking in between houses and she had a black bag. Parties have departed towards Berkeley. Unable to Locate.
- SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE, Avon Rd. Orange open bed pickup truck occ by 2 males. Rang doorbell and asked if rp wanted her asphalt re-paved. She declined but asked them to leave quote. Subjects left without leaving any contact info. Last seen sb Avon.
- 7 MISC PUB AUTO, Yale/Amherst. Female driver blocking roadway refusing to move. Unable to locate.
- SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE, Beloit. Mail was stolen from rp's home on a rainy day, since then umbrellas are showing up and disappearing at rp's walkway. RP is concerned.
- 8 DISTURBANCE OF PEACE, Edgecroft Rd. Loud party on Arlington.
- SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE, Eureka Ave. Vehicle idling in middle of intersection. One occupant. Dark-colored Toyota.
- 9 THEFT, Arlington Ave. Taxi driver advised that rider claimed to have gone up into apartment to get credit card; however, he has yet to return for 20 min. . Disposition: Log Note Only.
- IDENTITY THEFT, Cambridge Ave. Unknown resp used rp's personal info to obtain credit and open a bank account in Oakland.
- SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE, Rincon Rd. Red small car, another small car, occupied. Report unfounded.
- 10 SUSPICIOUS PERSON, Lenox/Beverly. Walking back and forth past house, HMA or WMA, younger, now walking toward Coventry. Slim, hat with wide brim, backpack, green jacket. Unable to locate.
- RECKLESS DRIVING, Ardmore Path. Veh driving 15 mph, swerving, possible drunk driver. Unable to locate.
- PETTY THEFT, Arlington Community Church. Cover was stolen from RP's motorcycle. RP is caretaker of church.
- 11 HAZARD, Oceanview. Cable/phone wire down to ground. Adv. Confire.
- 12 IDENTITY THEFT, Coventry Rd. RP got call yesterday from "social security" saying that there is a warrant out for her arrest and her credit card has been used by someone else.
- 13 HIT AND RUN, property damage. Marchant Ct.
- 14 SUSPICIOUS PERSON, Yale Ave. A male subject came to RP's door and asked for rp to get her bills so they could go over paper work. RP refused and subject left. UNK descrip.
- 15 ANIMAL CALL, Beverly/Stratford. Small dog inside vehicle. Situation checks out OK.
- 16 SUSPICIOUS PERSON, Garden Dr. Tall, thin BMA wool hat on foot looking into RP's car. Unable to locate.
- 18 SUSPICIOUS PERSON, Ardmore Rd. WMA wearing a coat, twenties, claiming he's from Greenpeace, knocked on RP's door, other doors, heading towards the Arlington. Unable to locate.

- 19 PETTY THEFT, Purdue Ave. Auto, unlocked doors, money taken from wallet and from vehicle worth up to \$60.
- 22 BURGLARY, Trinity Ave. Back side window broken, gym bag stolen.
- SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE, Arlington Ave. Male looking in windows, unknown description.
- DISTURBANCE OF PEACE, Yale Circle, noise complaint.
- SUSPICIOUS PERSON, Rugby/Yale aves. WMA 50s-60s, wearing a jacket, weaving and walking in the middle of the street talking loudly to himself, seen going into yard on east side of Rugby. Possibly taking a small package south of Rugby. Unable to locate.
- DISTURBANCE OF PEACE, Coventry Rd. Noise complaint for a party.
- PERSON SEEKING ADVICE, Arlington Ave. Needs advice regarding ongoing dispute with neighbor over a tree. Advised that this is a civil matter but insists she needs advice from an officer.
- 23 WELFARE CHECK, Stratford Rd. WMA looks to be intoxicated on sidewalk, has tattoos.
- DISTURBANCE OF PEACE, Kensington Hilltop. At least three juveniles making noise.
- 24 Grizzly Peak/Wildcat Canyon. CHP transferred an RP for a stop sign that was down. I advised that it's Berkeley PD, RP called back, adv. that BPD transferred her to us, said it was Kensington's. Wildcat Canyon isn't on our street list and isn't in RIMS for Kensington. Called BPD and they claim it's ours, even though we don't have Wildcat Canyon.
- 26 SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE, Wellesley/Arlington. RP driving in area and saw subjects taking mail from residence. WMA with beard and BFA.
- ANIMAL CALL, Wellesley Ave. Dogs left alone for the past 24-36 hrs, patio door is open, on and off barking...would like a welfare check, requesting officer respond to his residence first. Follow-up: Dog sitter flaked out and a neighbor called about the dogs last night. Per RP, now they have her mother arriving tonight around midnight to take care of the dogs.
- 28 WELFARE CHECK, Ardmore/Kingston. WMA 70s, no shoes, walking green bike. Unable to locate.
- 29 ROBBERY, Safeway on Solano, Albany. Suspects: three 18-year-old females and a 20-year-old female. Four females were placed under arrest for robbery after they were seen by a witness placing unpaid merchandise inside a shopping basket and exiting the store without paying for the items. In the process of exiting the front door, one of the suspects shoved the RP away from the front door and another suspect later threatened to use pepper spray in order to avoid apprehension. The thieves were detained and positively identified as the thieves. KPD officer assisted.
- 31 MISC PUB AUTO, Ardmore Rd. Vehicle hit while parked on Saturday night, believes respon. is cat sitter at the res across the street. Advised she looked at her veh and noticed blue paint on her bumper. Also, stated she observed cat sitter in the past almost back into her veh. Disposition: The cat sitter's vehicle was not involved.

January

- 3 ROBBERY, Coventry Rd. Two subjects both armed w/guns #1 blond WMA 20s blk hoodie pulled up blue jeans gloves, #2 BMA thin build curly hair hoodie pulled up l/s on Colusa toward Coventry on unk description bikes no facial hair or jewelry for either, WMA was disarmed, BMA departed with gun still in his possession.
- 4 RECKLESS DRIVING, Kenyon Ave. Almost hit several cars, almost went head-on into another vehicle. Subject pulled into driveway of residence.
- VANDALISM, Arlington Ave. ATT conjunction box at corner of Norwood tagged with graffiti.
- 5 ASSISTANCE TO OUTSIDE AGENCY. Moeser Lane/Kearney St., El Cerrito. Out with ECPD on a high-risk stop.
- PETTY THEFT, Valley Rd. \$40.00 water pump stolen from sidewalk area.
- VEHICLE ACCIDENT, Cowper Ave. Vehicle into tree, no injuries. Fire contacted.
- 7 SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE, Arlington Ave. Male stated, "We've got a hostage situation and trying to do a head roll, never legal but they keep trying to justify it and he does this all the time." then disconnected. Unable to locate source of complaint.
- PETTY THEFT, The Neighborhood Preschool, Highland Blvd.
- PETTY THEFT, Norwood Ct. RP's prescription drugs were stolen from his kitchen by a locksmith.
- VEHICLE THEFT, Norwood Ct.
- MISC. CIVIL MATTER, Ardmore Rd. RP wants to know if she can bring her ex's gun to KPD so that he can pick it up instead of going to her home.
- 8 COMMUNITY-ORIENTED POLICING, Kenyon Ave. Radar speed sign battery change-out.
- 9 SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE, Yale Ave. RP wants to report that one of his blank checks was found by a subject who endorsed it to herself.
- WELFARE CHECK, Lenox Rd. RP selling magazines for Discover Unlimited Possibilities. While speaking with an elderly lady, a WMA in his 30s dingy t-shirt baggy, sweat pants [arrived?]. RP indicated the subject physically grabbed the lady and shoved her away from the door, almost causing her to fall. RP was concerned for the elder lady's welfare.
- SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE, Kenyon Ave. RP believes neighbor was yelling at pizza delivery driver and heard delivery person possibly say they want to call the police.
- IDENTITY THEFT, Lam Ct.
- 10 VANDALISM, Kenilworth Dr. Passenger front window. Hasn't touched so doesn't know if anything was taken. Subject may have cut themselves left, a bloody cloth.
- BURGLARY, Highland Blvd.
- PERSON SEEKING ADVICE. Occurred at Kensington Hilltop Elementary School on Highland Blvd. Would like to talk about installation of camera because of the recent break-ins at the school.
- DISTURBANCE OF PEACE, Yale Ave. Noise, possible fighting, dogs barking.
- WELFARE CHECK, Oak View Ave. RP heard someone calling for help in the area and wants a welfare check. UNK which address but RP believes it might be right across from her res.
- 11 HAZARD, Trinity Ave. Heard power line explosion, sparks coming.
- 12 DISTURBANCE OF PEACE, Arlington Ave. Noise, extremely loud live band at large white corner house. 14 SUSPICIOUS PERSON, Canon Dr. WMA 40s, wearing tan work clothes and hood up carrying a large baseball bat. Unable to Locate Source of Complaint.
- SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE, Franciscan Way. Heard several gunshots, 4-5 doors north closer to Anson/Franciscan. RP's aunt heard the gunshots. RP only wants contact if necessary. Unable to Locate Source of Complaint.
- 15 BURGLARY, Colgate Ave. Discovered his vehicle was broken into.
- 16 SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE, Coventry Rd. RP would like to speak to an officer regarding suspicious incident with neighbor.
- SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE, Edgecroft Rd. Related to above incident, also wants to speak with an officer re neighbor.
- HAZARD, Coventry, Arlington. Fallen tree onto power lines sparking, other callers advising near 829 or 841 Coventry, pole down w/blown transformer, last caller advising no injuries no current arcing, power out west side on Arlington and Ardmore.
- DISTURBANCE OF PEACE, Highland Blvd. Yelling heard coming from driveway, one male voice heard, flashlight seen.
- 18 ANIMAL CALL, Colusa/Ocean View. Blk dog barking in backseat of vehicle possibly all day windows up. Misc Public Service Provided.
- BURGLARY, Colusa Ave. Auto, just discovered, RP was in restaurant for 40 mins and came back and discovered window smashed.
- 19 SUSPICIOUS PERSON, Kensington Hilltop Elementary School on Highland Blvd. WMA 45yrs old gray hair brown work boots jeans pushing mountain bike around. Unable to Locate.

Continued on page 6

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21 SUSPICIOUS PERSON, Dan Lynch Co. Inc. on Colusa Ave. WMA, 30-40s, curly hair, grn army jkt, walking in middle of street shouting obscenities. Is headed nb or possible may have turned on Lynn St.

BURGLARY, Kerr Ave. Contractor advising res. was broken into last night or early this morning. Tools taken, unknown what else

22 BURGLARY, Colusa Ave. Garage broken into last night and bicycle stolen. Gray Janis bicycle.

23 SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE, Arlington Ave. Pickup truck with subjects throwing lemons at RP's vehicle. Unable to locate.

IDENTITY THEFT, Coventry Rd. RP states someone was attempting using her name and address to make online purchases, RP received letter yesterday from Montgomery Ward that purchases were attempted on January 11.

REQUEST FOR EXTRA PATROL, Kenilworth Dr. RP believes a subject who frequents the area of Kenilworth and Arlington is suspicious. I/s yesterday WMA 30's-40's brown hair brown facial hair thin build frequents the area of the Arlington and walks around . RP requesting area check. I advised RP to call PD when she sees him again.

VEHICLE ACCIDENT, Sunset Dr/Arlington. Lt blue toyt prius sideswiped another vehicle, unable to separate cars. BYRON, I THINK THIS IS THE ONE WE HAVE A PHOTO OF. IF WE HAVE ROOM, USE A SMALL PHOTO.

ANIMAL CALL, Los Altos Dr. Loose dog in the area, well-groomed dk colored standard poodle 50-60 lb circling block near Grizzly Peak.

ANIMAL CALL, Beloit Ave. Lost dog, RP is in gray BMW.

24 SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE, Arlington Ave. 2 purses blue/turquoise ifo a residence possibly a yellow/orange house.

PERSON SEEKING ADVICE, Norwood Ave. Son tagged an AT&T box and wants to know if he can clean it.

26 SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE, Coventry Rd. Vehicle with Texas plates took off e/b on Coventry, one WMA or HMA occupant.

RECKLESS DRIVING, Exxon on Arlington. Silver 4d Honda high rate of speed, cut off fire engine departng incident. Warning given.

27 GRAND THEFT, Highland Blvd. Laptop, phone, headphones, and clothing taken from unlocked vehicle.

28 DISTURBANCE OF PEACE, Kensington Hilltop Elementary School. Family heard yelling in French. Disputing parties separated, matter resolved.

SUSPICIOUS PERSON, Berkeley Park Blvd. BMA, red shirt, white long sleeve shirt under, baseball cap, heading SB towards Thousand Oaks. Subject soliciting magazines, possibly casing. Another subj came by a few days ago. Unable to Locate.

29 ANIMAL CALL, Edgcroft Rd. Has an opossum in her backyard, possibly dead. Provided her with CCC Animal Services phone numbers.

911 CALL, Arlington Ave/Westminster. Intoxicated driver, very slow, crossing lines.

30 CITIZEN ASSIST. RP came to report an elderly female neighbor has been throwing salt on his 2001 Ford Taurus station wagon on a consistent rate for approximately 1 year. Estimates it has happened 40 times. She was told it was okay to throw salt around the property as a blessing but she continues to throw salt on the Ford that used to belong to his mother who is now deceased. He does not want to pursue any prosecution or action that will result in her getting "in trouble."

IDENTITY THEFT, Edgcroft Rd. RP noticed fraudulent charges on her bank account. Transactions made in Sacramento.

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Kensington Calendar

Locations:

Arlington Community Church (ACC), 52 Arlington Ave., 526-9146
 Kensington Community Center, 59 Arlington Ave., 525-0292
 Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave., 524-3043
 Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley (UUCB), 1 Lawson Rd., Kensington, 525-0302, www.uucb.org

Ongoing:

Tai Chi for Arthritis and Fall Prevention Tuesdays, 9:30-10:30am, Community Center, \$10

Acrylic Artists Wednesdays, 9:45-12:30, Community Center, \$9. Self-directed artists come together to paint. Easels and tables provided. Friendly group.

Tai Chi Chuan Fridays, 9:30-10:30am, Community Center, \$10

Jazzercise with Kevin Knickerbocker Mondays-Fridays, 9am \$20 class or \$55 unlimited per month. ACC.

Mindful Yoga with Wendy Beckerman Tuesdays, 9:15am, bring yoga mat. \$18 drop-in or discount for series. ACC.

Israeli Folk Dance Wednesdays, \$6, lessons/beginners 8pm, request dance party starts at 9pm. ACC.

Two Matrix Meetings on Tap

By Eileen Nottoli, KPPCSD board president

How can the KPPCSD provide top police services on a tight budget? Matrix will present key findings on its evaluation of the Kensington Police Department and ways to provide public safety in partnership with other law enforcement agencies at two community meetings. Identical presentations are at 7:30pm Thursday, February 28 and 10am Saturday, March 2, at the Community Center. The estimated costs for a full service contract and best-practices in-house police services are essentially equivalent and more expensive than our existing budget. One option might be partial contracting for certain services. A formal bid would best identify the costs for full or partial contracting.

March

March 2 Kensington Symphony

Orchestra, soloists, and the combined choirs of UUCB and UUSF will present the Beethoven Mass in C Major Op. 86, Mozart Violin Concerto in D Major K. 216, and Mozart Divertimento for Winds K. 188. Franklin Chang, violin soloist. Bryan Baker and Geoffrey Gallegos, conductors. UUCB, 7:30pm. \$20 general, \$15 students at door or Brown Paper Tickets.

March 3 Dr. Beverly Allen, visiting professor at Stanford. "Marija Gimbutas' Archaeology of the Sacred Feminine." UUCB, 9:30am. Free.

March 4 Kensington Library Knitting Club "The Castoffs" All levels welcome. Please bring your own needles and yarn. Learn new stitches, share your talents, and meet new friends. 6:30pm. Free.

March 5 Coventry & Kaluza Crazy-ness! This zany duo saves the day with circus skills and comedy! All ages welcome. Kensington Library, 6:30pm. Free.

March 7, 14, 21 & 28 Baby & Toddler Storytime Stories, songs, puppets, scarves, shaky eggs, and loads of fun! Kensington Library. Two identical

sessions 10:15am & 11:15am. Free.

March 7, 14, 21 & 28 Read to Dogs

Each week one to three calm & gentle therapy dogs will be at the library, waiting for kids to read to them (or parents of younger kids can do the reading). Call or come by to schedule an appointment. Drop-ins often also work. 2:30-3:30pm. Free.

March 7 Everybody's Fellowship ACC, 6pm. Monthly potluck supper and program for ACC members & guests. Always free and open to all that would like to join.

March 9 & 23 Technology Tutoring for Seniors with Kensington Library's new Teen Tech Expert. She will provide answers to all of your Apple brand device questions every 2nd & 4th Saturday from 10am-1pm in the Adult Reading Area. Sign up in advance for a one-hour one-on-one session. These sessions are intended for beginning to intermediate Apple brand product users. Please bring your questions, device(s) and necessary passwords with you. Sign up at circulation desk or telephone for assistance. Free.

March 9 and 23 Heartfulness Meditation: An Introduction Learn to Meditate with Dr. Som Soni from the Shri Ram Chandra Mission Meditation & Retreat Center. Dr. Soni and his wife Gita will answer questions and lead a beginner's guided heartfulness meditation. Kensington Library, 10:30-12pm. Free.

March 10 Rev Kristin Schmidt will share her reflections on the place where theology and real life meet. "What Really Matters." UUCB, 9:30am. Free.

March 10 Community Classical Concert ACC, 4pm. Donation only. Marvin Sanders, flute, Lena Lubotsky, piano, Marie Ishida, piano. Performing music by Bach, Hayden, Chopin, Andriasov.

March 11 & 25 Kensington Library's Digital Docent will answer your eReader and digital library questions every other Monday by appointment at 1pm. This one-on-one 60-minute appointment is intended for people seeking assistance with eBooks and eReaders. Sign up at Info Desk. Please bring your device. Free.

March 11 Modeling Clay Fun! Make animals and more out of brightly colored modeling clay. Create a turtle, dragon, truck, unicorn, or anything else from your imagination! Some design ideas and basic instructions provided. Best for ages 3 through elementary school. Kensington Library, 3pm. Free.

March 12, 19 & 26 Family Storytime Lots of picture books, songs, rhymes, and fun! Stuffed animals & pajamas welcome. Kensington Library, 6:30pm. Free.

March 16 Girls Inc. Tiffany Harris, executive director of Girls Inc., will talk about the nonprofit organization that serves girls ages 6-18 at more than 1,400 sites across the US and Canada. Christ Lutheran Church, 780 Ashbury Ave., El Cerrito. 10am, free, all are welcome.

March 17 Dr. Judith Berling, dean and professor emerita of Chinese and comparative religions at GTU. "Learning to 'Unsettle' Myself: A Spiritual Journey." UUCB, 9:30am. Free.

March 18 Memoir Group ACC, 10am. Free Monthly Memoir Group led by Ruth Robinson in the Fireside Room.

March 18 Demystifying Peppers and Tips for our Gardens: A Master Gardener Talk 6:30pm in the Kens-

ington Library. Come hear Bonnie Dwyer talk about the ease of growing peppers in our hillside communities. Bonnie is a UC Master Gardener, who will bring us her knowledge about peppers. Peppers can be used as ornaments, edibles, ointments! There will be time for Q&A. This is a great learning opportunity for West County hillside garden enthusiasts.

March 19 Microscope fun! Don't miss this great time messing around with microscopes! Kensington Library, 3pm. Free.

March 22 Bridge Night ACC, 6pm. Monthly potluck and bridge play at all levels for ACC'ers and new guests.

March 23 CommUniTea at Raxakoul, 4-6pm. Longtime Kensington artist and spiritivity guide Keiki Fujita presents a tea and coffee tasting along with samples of yummy treats from Raxakoul. Neighbors can connect with each other in a warm community event complete with food and talk.

March 24 Phil Cousineau, documentary filmmaker, author of over 35 books, host of "Global Spirit" on PBS. He will discuss the impassioned conversations and profound dialogues from the Parliament of World Religions in South Africa, with film clips from their award-winning documentary, as well as insights gathered from his decades of work with Huston Smith. "A Seat at the Table: Struggling for American Indian Religious Freedom." UUCB, 9:30am. Free.

March 25 Kensington Library Book Club Discussion of *Mr. Bridge* by Evan Connell. Book Club is open to all. 6:30pm. Free.

March 31 Rev. Dr. Chris Schriener is a minister emeritus and a retired psychotherapist. He is the author of six books, including *Bridging the God Gap: Finding Common Ground Among Believers, and Atheists and Agnostics*. "The Mystery of Consciousness." UUCB, 9:30am. Free.

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New Minister Starts at ACC

By Linda Young

Rev. Nate Klug will serve as Arlington Community Church's new minister beginning March 1. Rev. Klug was born in Minneapolis and grew up outside of Boston. A 2013 graduate of Yale Divinity School, he previously served UCC churches in Iowa and Redwood City, where he worked for the last two years.



Klug says that he loves to preach, offer pastoral care, lead discussions and studies, and engage with people of all ages. He is especially excited about the opportunity to work with the people of Arlington Community Church to envision a creative future for ministries of community outreach and creation justice.

Klug has multiple talents. He is the author of two books of poetry, and his writing appears in *The Nation*, *The New York Review of Books*, and *The Best American Poetry 2018*. He teaches creative writing workshops at the GTU and serves on the board of the Center for the Arts and Religion.

He is married to Rev. Kit Novotny, an associate minister at First Church Berkeley (UCC). They live in Albany with their seven-month-old daughter, Zoe May, and their terrier, Increase. They love to eat at the Butcher's Son deli and praise God for the Ohlone Greenway, where they can often be found jogging, riding bikes, or pushing a stroller.

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Town Meetings
KCC-MAR 4, Kensington Community Council 1st Mondays, 6:30pm. 525-0292
KPSC-MAR 11, Kensington Public Safety Council Earthquake/Disaster Preparedness 2nd Mondays, 6pm. 501-8165

KARO/ECHO-MAR 11, Amateur Radio Operators, 2nd Mondays, 7:30pm. 524-9815
KFPD-MAR 13, Fire Protection District 2nd Wed., 7pm. 527-8395 -see website or call for location.
KIC-MAR 25, Kensington Improvement Club 4th Mondays, 7:30. 524-7415

KPPCSD-MAR 14, MAR 28, Police Protection and Community Services District 7:30pm. 526-4141
 Check district website for updates.
Kensington Farmers' Market Live produce & live music every Sunday, 10am-2pm, Colusa Circle



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On January 16, one tree fell and damaged another in the small lot on the corner of Coventry and the Arlington. An arborist determined that the other trees on the lot were diseased, and they too were removed. Live oaks will be planted to replace the trees. Photo by Anna-Maria Hertzler.

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