

Bringing The Community Together

KENSINGTON OUTLOOK

Available Online at www.KensingtonOutlook.com

JULY/AUG 2012

A PUBLICATION OF THE KENSINGTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

VOLUME 69 NUMBER 6



KASEP Administrator, Marty Westby (left) and MC and Marvin Gardens Real Estate Co-Owner, Todd Hodson (right) flank the KCC's crack raffle ticket sellin' team at last month's KCC Movie Night, raising money to help the Kensington Community Council support civic projects.

Movie Night – 2 Thumbs Up!

Siskel and Ebert would have given the Kensington Community Council's first *Family Movie Night* two thumbs up!

Under unusually warm and clear skies about 40 families and friends – over 100 people in all – enjoyed a balmy June evening in the open air, watching Pixar's *Toy Story 3*. People brought blankets and chairs to lounge on while eating light suppers before the movie. Kids played with beach balls and munched on popcorn as the movie rolled at dusk.

The KCC sends thanks to all the people and businesses that made it possible to bring a movie night to Kensington. Pixar and the Gould family helped to provide the movie and many of the raffle items; Marvin Gardens Real Estate and Mechanics Bank and their enthusiastic staffs were ever-present as sponsors and participants. Thanks also go to Nation's for the donation of gift cards and to Arlington Wine and Spirits for a donated case of wine for the raffle.

The Kensington Community Council was thrilled to be able to provide an evening's entertainment for the community. Energized by the success of the first movie night, the KCC Board will be announcing in an upcoming edition of the *Outlook* the next movie night – coming soon to a community center near you!

National Night Out - Tuesday, August 7th

Last year's National Night Out celebration involved over 37 million people in over fifteen thousand communities from all fifty states, Canadian cities, and U.S. territories and military bases, worldwide. NNO 2012 is expected to be even bigger.

The intent of this annual community-building campaign is to: (1) Heighten crime prevention awareness; (2) Generate support for, and participation in, local anti-crime programs; (3) Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and (4) Send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

Along with the traditional outside lights and front porch vigils, most cities and towns celebrate NNO

with a variety of special neighborhood and city-wide events, such as block parties, cookouts, parades, festivals, safety fairs, youth events, and visits from local officials and law enforcement. Last year Kensington had a number of such gatherings – a number that grows every year. Look for the parties to start at around 6pm, this year, on Tuesday, August 7th.

NNO Coordinator, Officer Doug Wilson, invites all Kensington residents to start thinking about having NNO parties at their homes or on their blocks. According to previous years' hosts, it's simple and it's fun. Doug will help you with materials, suggestions, solutions, and support.

see NNO, Page 4...

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SELECT LISTINGS



Spectacular Bay View Contemporary with four bedrooms, 2½ baths & fabulous kitchen with fine woodwork by Lignum Vitae. Beautiful, private garden. Offered at \$1,095,000.
Listing agent:
Candace Hyde-Wang

935 Grizzly Peak Boulevard, Berkeley

Gorgeous views, spacious floor plan, 4 brs, 3 baths. Lovingly maintained, large living rm, formal dining room, eat-in family kitchen. On a large lot near the village shops. \$TBD.
Listing agent: Mitch Lucio.



267 Amherst Avenue, Kensington

925 Grizzly Peak Blvd, Berkeley: Captivating Craftsman cottage w/ spectacular Golden Gate view. 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, family room or au pair/in-law. \$TBD. Listing agent: Candace Hyde-Wang 8th,

marvingardens.com



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

More Crime Needed to Bring Unit Cost Down?

In a letter published in the June *Outlook*, one writer suggests that because Kensington has a low crime rate, the taxpayers are paying a very high price for each of the relatively few crimes actually committed in our town. Therefore, he appears to suggest, if more crimes were committed, we'd be paying a lower price for each crime. What a deal.

While it certainly is true that investigating crimes can be costly, responding to crime is hardly the department's only responsibility. It seems obvious to me that the department's most important job is preventing crime – along with the trauma and expense that crime brings...

Preventing crime entails, among other things, frequent and attentive patrolling of our neighborhoods. It requires periodic officer trainings. And it requires developing and maintaining cooperative relationships with neighboring police departments. It also means reaching out to educate willing citizens on how best to discourage criminals from preying on Kensington homes and businesses.

As evidenced by our community's relatively low crime rate, Kensington's police dept. does a highly creditable job of preventing crime. And that is why, in my opinion, the taxes our household pays towards police svcs are a good investment.

Kathy Stein
Beverly Rd.

A letter to Chief Harman appeared in the June issue of the *Kensington Outlook* detailing the number of violent and property crimes that occurred in Kensington between 2001 and 2010. The article takes the police budget and compares it to the number of these crimes and shows a cost of \$18,000 per crime and \$100,000+ per cleared crime. The inference seemed to be that these costs were high and law enforcement in Kensington was not as cost effective as it needs to be.

I would agree that cost effectiveness is a critical factor in any budget. Were the police budget (i.e. the number of police on duty) reduced there would be a lower cost per crime, but it also likely would be followed by an increased number of crimes. Ironically, increasing the number of crimes would further lower the cost per individual crime. I also believe that a reduction in the police budget would result in a decrease in the number of crimes cleared thus further increasing this cost.

It appears to me that cost effectiveness is a valid point, but it also needs to take into account the operational efficacy and deterrent value of an adequate police presence in this community.

Dan O'Brien
Highland Blvd.

Is Pretending Too Much to Ask?

Dear Editor,

Thank you for your continuing coverage of Kensington's ongoing negotiations

with Bay View Refuse and Recycling Services. One question: do you think the title of your article in the May issue of the *Outlook* (*Bay View Recycling Services Back at Trough*) is a good example of unbiased reporting? It would certainly seem as though the intention was to portray Bay View in a negative light. Does the Editor (or the KCC) feel that the community needs help formulating an opinion on Bay View? Given that the *Outlook's* bias has been well established with respect to the KPPCSD, seeing evidence of this bias creeping into other community issues isn't exactly a welcome development. Can you at least pretend to be neutral on the issues, or is that too much to ask?

Eyleen Nadolny

Mind Numbed, Resident Remains Baffled

Editor, *Kensington Outlook*,

I am shaking my head in disbelief after reading the latest issue of the *Outlook*. The full page explanation by Chief Harman doesn't explain what I need to know after having been assessed \$500 a year to support the Police Department. I recall one of the justifications given for the assessment were the "excellent" crime statistics Chief Harman had announced with "justifiable" pride. Now we are told that for 2008, 2009 and 2010 those statistics were inflated by an average of 47.53% a year. And where are the complete 2011 figures? The Chief's full-page explanation was mind numbing. I waded through it and remain baffled. We are told in numbing detail what happened when we know what happened; 47.53% average inflation of reported statistics is what happened. WHY it happened is what is important. How in heavens name are the people who did the "how it was done" unable to say why they did it. The Chief/GM is the accountable official. I think we should be told why it happened. We are told that no one knows and I think that's quite astounding when only two people including the Chief were involved in the recording and presenting of the falsely inflated figures. Maybe I'm wrong but I recall being told that we need 11 sworn officers to give us the protection we need and that too was a reason for the \$500 a year assessment. Now I see that we have only 9 sworn officers and that 5 are the supervisors of the remaining 4 officers. Will someone please tell me where the money is going and why we do not have the 11 sworn officers we have been told are needed to afford us an acceptable level of protection. For me this raises the question of what the Chief's total compensation package is. Where is the truth? And why isn't KPPCSD alarmed in the face of highly disquieting facts? The taxpayers of Kensington have a right to clear and unambiguous answers about how and why our money is being spent.

Leonard Schwartzburd
Coventry Rd.

Town Morphing Into Bowl of Spaghetti?

Dear Editor:

The disfiguration of our natural setting and beautiful views with the black communication wires strung in senseless abundance all over the place is self-destruct(ive). Do we want to disfigure and destroy our community? There must be another way. We need to find a solution before we become a bowl of black spaghetti.

Sincerely,
Ruth Roots

See Letters, Page 5...

KENSINGTON COMMUNITY EDUCATION

KIDS AFTER SCHOOL

Kensington Community Council's After-School Enrichment Program (KASEP) offers a wide variety of children's classes for kindergarten through sixth grades. Classes are kept small so that our talented instructors can focus on each student, giving individual as well as group instruction. Class sessions are either 10 or 12 weeks long.

The FALL KASEP Registration and catalog of classes will be on our website, www.AboutKensington.com, late Aug. 2012. In addition, KASEP Registration Packets will be sent home the last week in Aug. from your child's teacher at Hilltop Elementary. Check the backpacks!

KASEP Registration night is scheduled for Tuesday, September 11th. FALL KASEP CLASSES start Monday, September 24th and end December 14, 2012. Lottery slips are due at the office by noon, Monday September 10th. Questions? For more information contact Marty Westby at KCC email kccrec@yahoo.com, or call 525-0292. Walk-In: KCC Recreation Building Office, Monday - Friday, 10am - 4pm.



Flower Crown Princesses



Tennis taught each week at KCC Summer Camp!

KCC SUMMER DAY CAMP 2012

KCC Summer Day Camp opened with a game of kickball and ended the day with the traditional counselor vs. camper dodgeball game. Campers enjoyed "the sawing, sanding and hammering" with Sandy in carpentry. Each week camp introduces a specialty teacher for an artful experience. July brings golf, gymnastics, jewelry for guys and gals plus cooking, and drumming. School pals play ping-pong together, share Lego creations and make time for friendship.

Located in the East Bay hills at 59 Arlington Ave. in Kensington, the Kensington Community Council (KCC) Summer Day Camp is for children entering 1st through 6th grades in the Fall 2012. The camp runs from June 11th through Aug. 17, 2012, Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00pm. Campers may enroll on a weekly basis. Cost is \$225 per week/per camper. There is a 5% sibling discount. Extended care 8:00 - 9:00am and 5:00 - 6:00pm is available for an additional fee.

Each week, campers enjoy a field trip by private bus to points of interest around the Bay Area, such as Angel Island, Scandia, Oakland Zoo, and the *Bladium* in Alameda. Kim Roots, our KASEP tennis instructor, continues to teach campers tennis 3 days a week. Different hand-on crafts, such as gymnastics, cooking, jewelry creation, and games with Kim are afternoon workshops taught by talented specialty teachers.

KCC Summer Camp Registration forms can be downloaded from the website www.AboutKensington.com

(Changes in the schedule may be made for unexpected circumstances)

KCC Summer Camp ACTIVITIES SCHEDULE

- Week 1** June 11- June 15
Carpentry with Sandy
The Jungle
- Week 2** June 18 - June 22
Robots, Dinosaurs and Tote Bag Printing
Oakland Zoo
- Week 3** June 25 - June 29
Engineering w/Lance Akiyama
Adventure Playground/
Fishing Berkeley Pier
- Week 4** July 2 - July 6
Golf with Aida Wong
Camp Closed on 4th /Short Week \$190
- Week 5** July 9 - July 13
Gymnastics with Judy Baker
Lake Anza/Little Animal Farm
- Week 6** July 16 - July 20
Cooking with Vicky Brodt
Bladium-Alameda: Soccer/
Rock Climbing
- Week 7** July 23 - July 27
Fun with Percussion and Drumming
Scandia-Miniature golf
- Week 8** July 30 - Aug. 3
Sports & Games with Kim Roots
Lake Temescal/Sugar Cone Cafe -
Ice Cream
- Week 9** Aug. 6 - Aug. 10
Jewelry for Neck, Wrist, Waist w/Shelly
Angel Island Picnic and Exploration
- Week 1.** Aug. 13 - Aug. 17
Cooking with Vicky Brodt
Bladium-Alameda: Rock Climbing/
Inflatables

ADULT RECREATION CLASSES

ACRYLIC PAINTING
Wednesdays, 9:45am - 1:30pm
\$32/month (\$36/nonresidents)
Community Center

Stan Cohn and his band of artists are taking a break for the summer. They'll resume painting their artwork on Wednesday, September 5th. To join this creative group, call Stan directly at 533-3003.

CLASS REGISTRATION

KCC/KASEP Office: 59 Arlington Ave., Building E (Across the grassy field above the tennis courts in Kensington Park), Kensington CA 94707. Email: kccrec@yahoo.com. Telephone: 510-525-0292.

Tennis Court Reservations: For weekends and holidays only, beginning at 9am. Call the KCC office for information. **Court Fees:** Residents - \$2 for a 45-min. singles reservation. Nonresident: \$5. **KCC Summer Camp** uses the tennis courts Monday - Friday, 9:00 - 12:30pm for camp lessons, June 11 - August 17th.

Kensington Community Center Rental Information: Please call KPPCSD (Kensington Police Protection & Community Services District) at 526-4141.

Seeking Creative People!

Do you have a special skill or interest you want to share with children or adults? KCC welcomes talented individuals interested in working with the KCC's After-school program, as well as with its Adult Education Program. If interested, please call Marty Westby at KCC • 525-0292.



KCC Summer Camp Adventures in Carpentry



Welcome KCC Summer Camp Counselors! Front: Taylor Doty, Caitlin Taffe, Heather Bates, Hannah Kessel, Sarah Hamik. Back: Jacob Fong, Danny Schumacher, Ethan Houser, Andrew Northrup
Not pictured: Annie Chin, Anthony DeLuka, Katie Ponce, and Patrick Schlesinger.



KASEP Teacher End of Year Thanks! Front: Elaine Chu, Art & Boomaking; Cricket Johnson, Yoga and Drama; Marty Westby, KCC Administrator. Back: Kim Johnson and Becky Stephens, Oversight Committee; Sandy Thacker, Carpentry; Carolyn Holm, Everyday Art; Shelly Cournoyer, Jewelry Creation; Jennifer Phalen, Office Staff; Tati Argue, Hip Hop; Xinrong Searcy, Mandarin; Lori Kniceley, Trash to Treasures.



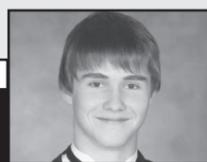
EGADS!

Taylor Doty (w/friend)



STILL...

Maddie Kirkby



...MORE...

Martin Cottal



...GRADS!

Brian Seegers

Market Update



730 Wellesley Ave., Kensington
New Listing. 3++BR/2+BA plus separate guest suite. Big San Francisco Bay views!
Offered at \$988,000



37 Lam Court, Kensington
New Listing. Gorgeous remodel! 5BR/3.5BA. Coveted cul-de-sac loc. Grand scale proportions
Offered at \$1,345,000

Sold - Represented the Seller!



463 Michigan Avenue, Berkeley
Shingled 3BR/2BA Traditional. Panoramic views.
Originally offered at \$885,000



478 Vermont Avenue, Berkeley
50's Modern with 3+BR/2.5BA
Originally offered at \$825,000



226 Cambridge Ave. Kensington
Charming 2BR/1BA Traditional with views
Originally offered at \$638,000

Currently it is a sellers market in Kensington!
Inventory is low and so are the interest rates.

Considering selling? This could be your window of opportunity. If you would like to know the value of your home, call me. The meeting is confidential and complimentary.

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Neighborhood Notes

Mollie Hudson Graduates, is Named to Dean's List

A graduate of Urban School of SF, Mollie Hudson, the daughter of local residents, David Hudson and Jan Schreiber, graduated with a degree in history from Macalester College in St. Paul, Minnesota, this May. Based on a grade point average of 3.75 or above, Mollie was also named to Macalester's Dean's List for academic achievement during the spring semester of the 2011-2012 school year. Go, Mollie!



Carnival a Grand Success

An estimated 500 parents, kids, and other Kensington residents thronged to this past May's Spring Carnival at Hilltop Elementary. The fundraiser for the school netted over \$18,000 – funds that will be sorely needed with the failure of Proposition K on the June election ballot – and a new record for the event. The spring carnival is the biggest fundraiser for the PTA, which provides educational assemblies for all grades, up-to-date emergency packs for each student, safety programs, such as the crossing flags installed at intersections throughout Kensington, and advocacy efforts to inform the community about legislation to improve education in our state. Hilltop receives no federal funding and has seen its state funding continually cut to the point where they're operating on a bare minimum budget, with the parent groups having to help purchase basic supplies like paper(!), and fund essential programs like reading intervention. Congrats to Carnival co-chairs, Kim Keller and Rochelle Clewer, and all the volunteers and participants that made the event such a great success! (Jeesh – paper?!)

Ex-Hilltop School Teacher, Rob Johns – now Truckin'!

After 20 years of teaching, last year, beloved Hilltop Elementary instructor, Rob John, decided to retire from teaching and go into business for himself. His original dream of opening a brick-and-mortar restaurant has morphed into a trendy food truck, and his business, WhipOut! – affectionately named after his two whippets – will serve artisan American comfort food, with truck-made smoked meats, cheeses, sauces, and pickles. Sliders, desserts, specials, small-brew root beer, lemonade, and sweet tea are all on the menu. Rob says, "Quality, value, and flavor – mix those with wit and whimsy, and you've got WhipOut!" Join Rob for his opening day, featuring live music and balloons, ("and whatever else I can pull out of my hat") on Sunday, July 15th at the Kensington Elementary School playground, from 4-7pm. Then catch him Sunday, July 22nd, from 10am to 2pm, at the Kensington Farmer's Market. Check out the WhipOut! Project at www.Kickstarter.com.



Community Emergency Response Team Training

Concerned residents with a common interest in disaster preparedness attended El Cerrito/Kensington's CERT training in May. The newly trained include: Shirley Wang, Renne Solari, Jen Treuting, Ruth Richards, Chelsea Liu, Cynthia Scott, Teresa Albro, Sarah Sirchuk, Albert Ibrahim, and the Westby family. CERT Program Coordinator, Battalion Chief Dave Gibson, and his team taught this one-day class essential information designed to better prepare us, our families, and our community for an earthquake or fire disaster. More information on upcoming classes is available at www.kensingtonfire.org.



Community Emergency Response Training Graduates – and their weapons of choice. Photo: Marty Westby

Grads Keep on Comin'!

Additional graduating seniors, who were unable to be present for the May group photo, include Gabriel Reynoso-Palley (on his way to Yale), Stephanie Ribet (off to Princeton), Maddie Kirkby (Albany High to UC Davis), Martin Cotteral (ECHS to San Jose State Univ.), Brian Seeger (ECHS to Univ. of Wisconsin, Madison), Taylor Doty (ECHS to Duke), and Katrina Zhelesnyak (on her way to Georgetown). Congrats, grads!

...NNO, from Page 1

On the night of your block party, gathering, or BBQ, an officer will stop by and talk about Neighborhood Watch. If you're lucky, a fire engine may also drop by – always a big hit with the kids!

Interested in hosting, or attending a party? For more information, contact NNO Coordinator, Officer Doug Wilson at dwilson@kensingtoncalifornia.org, or 526-4141, ext. 38. More info, free materials, downloadable invites, and fun items available for purchase at www.NationalNightOut.org. We'll leave the light on for you!

May at the Circus Pub:
Bill Wright and Threat Level Orange



Ex-KPPCSD President, Bill Wright, and his band, Threat Level Orange, played last May at the Circus Pub on Colusa Circle



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...Letters, from Page 2

Shooting Cats

To My Kensington Neighbors,

On a splendid Saturday afternoon in May, one of my two cats was brutally shot with an air gun in the vicinity of my Kenyon Ave. house, which lies on the route to Kensington School. The poor cat had to undergo emergency surgery – the lead shot completely shattered his right rear heel bone – and now remains in a cast for eight weeks, immobilized in a cage. Two metal fragments removed during surgery are in the possession of the Kensington Police Department; a third is lodged in the cat's body.

Airsoft guns, air pistols, air rifles, pellet guns, BB guns – all of these things, thanks to strong gun lobbies – are legal to possess in the state of California, and do not require a license or background check for their use. But as this terrible incident and too many others suggest, these projectile weapons can be just as dangerous as powder-fired ones. Because they use compressed air to propel the bullet, instead of an explosive like gunpowder, they have no “report” and are almost impossible to hear. But their impact on flesh and bone is unmistakable.

It should go without saying that these weapons have no place in a sane community. A feline flaneur, or for that matter, a squirrel, can be effectively chased with a water pistol. Anything beyond that is simple cruelty.

Shoshana Wechsler

Crime Cost Data

Letter to the Editor:

Thanks to Casey Bowden for his crime cost data. Can we have earnings data?

Unhappily, these data will have little impact. The issues are political, not economic. Long lists of non-crime activities will be published to show the PD's “true worth”. More basically, Bowden's data will be of little interest to Kensington folks, who have long been committed to high cost - feeble benefits from public services and employees from CCC to DC.

But the brouhaha is enormously entertaining. A resident is delighted that police showed up at his house. This is known as task performance. It is what people do at work, usually for much less than \$100,000 a year (overtime, overtime). The inverted organization chart: I was amused to meet again the old management joke, “Where the inmates run the asylum.”

Board members claim to set policy. But policy is made in Sacramento by the police and fire (and “education”) establishments, along with the people they elect and control. A savings of \$20,000 is announced: a nice laugh here.

While herself engaging in admirable Tea-Party behavior – speaking truth to power – Cathie Kosel finds that a good way to confound her establishment opponents is to accuse them of Tea-Party behavior. The ultimate political insult here, if not in Podunk. Hilarious!

The editor inserts an article from an AARP publication advocating consensus, biparti-

see Letters, Page 9...

Be yourself – everyone else is taken. – Oscar Wilde

From the Files of the KPD

Excerpt From May 2012

• 2012-2890 – On 5/01/2012, Officer Ramos responded to the 100 block of Purdue Ave. on a report of an identity theft.

• 2012-3237 – On 5/15/2012, Officer Ramos responded to the unit block of Windsor Ave. on the report of a burglary.

• 2012-3240 – On 5/15/2012, Reserve Armanino responded to the unit block of Windsor Ave. on a report of an identity theft.

• 2012-3271 – On 5/16/2012, Sergeant Hui responded to the 1600 block of Oak View Ave. on the report of a traffic collision, and arrested the driver for driving under the influence of alcohol.

• 2012-3486 – On 5/26/2012, Officer Ramos responded to the unit block of Arlington Ave. on a report of a non-injury hit and run collision.

• 2012-3517 – On 5/27/2012, Officer Ramos responded to the unit block of Kerr Ave. on a report of vandalism.

• 2012-3540 – On 5/29/2012, Officer Ramos responded to the 200 block of Colgate Ave. on a report of a petty theft.

• 2012-3583 – On 5/30/2012, Officer Ramos responded to the unit block of Purdue Ave. on a report of a burglary.

• 2012-3584 – On 5/30/2012, Officer Ramos responded to the 200 block of Grizzly Peak Blvd. on a report of a petty theft.

• 2012-2987 – On 5-05-2012, Officer Turner took a report of a cat being shot with a pellet gun in the unit block of Kenyon Ave. The cat is expected to make a full recovery. If you have any information concerning this case please contact Detective Stegman at 526-4141.

• 2012-3117 – On 5-11-2012, Officer Turner conducted a traffic stop of a vehicle in the 100 block of Colusa Ave. He made contact with the two occupants, and as (the result of a records check it was discovered that) the passenger was wanted out of Santa Cruz County for \$20,000.00. The passenger was arrested and booked for the outstanding warrants.

• 2012-3182 – On 5-13-2012, Officer Turner assisted El Cerrito Police with a search for a DUI driver who fled on foot during a traffic stop.

• 2012-3286 – On 5-15-2012, Officer Martinez responded to the 200 block of Arlington Ave. for reported lost or stolen license plates. The suspect(s) removed the victim's two license plates and replaced them with stolen license plates out of Oakland.

• 2012-3295 – On 5-17-2012, Sergeant Barrow took a report of identity theft from the unit block of Santa Fe Ave. This case is under investigation. the unit block of Santa Fe Ave. This case is under investigation.





Amy Kurzer
Broker Associate
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amykurzer@marvingardens.com



• KENSINGTON MARKET UPDATE •

	LIST PRICE	SOLD PRICE	BR/BA
• Highgate	\$1,459,000	\$1,390,000	6/3
• Windsor	\$860,000	\$843,500	3/2
• Kenyon	\$659,000	\$685,000	2/3
• Coventry	\$535,000	\$639,000	2/2
• Coventry	\$535,000	\$565,000	2/1

Currently Pending: 12

Source: EBRDI MLS-information deemed reliable but not guaranteed.

If you are thinking of listing your home, buying a property, or would like to receive my e-newsletter about the local housing market, please let me know.

Listen Believe Emerge





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In Memory...

Leo P. Ruth

1927 – 2012

Leo P. Ruth, prominent educator in teacher education and in the teaching of reading and writing, died peacefully at his home in Kensington, on May 3, 2012 after a brief illness. He was 85 years old.

Leo was born in Sacramento and grew up in Chico, California. After high school, he attended Chico State College and graduated with a B.A. in history. Then, at the University of California, Berkeley, he earned a Master's Degree. Later, he studied for, and was awarded, a PhD from UC Berkeley. Both advanced degrees were in the field of education.

Leo started out teaching English at Yuba City High School. After 3 years he moved to the Bay Area, where he taught English and reading at San Leandro High School for 10 years, also serving as English Department Chairman. Then he was hired by the Graduate School of Education at UC Berkeley as a Supervisor of Teacher Education, where he remained for 32 years, retiring in 1991.

Hundreds of teachers throughout Central California and beyond – Leo's former student teachers – remember with pride and gratitude his firm guidance and warm, empathic support in the formative days of their own careers. Leo was committed to enhancing and recognizing the importance of classroom teachers in their struggles against uninformed social and political influences.

Professional publications include “Who Has the Power? Policymaking and Poli-

tics in the English Language Arts,” in *Handbook of Research on Teaching the English Language Arts*, ed. James Squire, et al (2003); editor of the “Assessment” section in *Encyclopedia of English Studies and Language Arts*, Alan Purves, Gen. Ed. (1994); author, with Sandra Murphy, of “Designing Writing Tasks for the Assessment of Writing” (1988); and editor of two editions of reading textbooks for 7th and 8th grade.

Leo was also an influential member of the National Council of Teachers of English, the California Association of Teachers of English, and the Central California Curriculum Study Commission.

Leo's life was all about books and reading. He was a founding member of a small, dedicated reading group of older academics like himself who still looked to him for advice on how to get the best out of a book.

He also loved theatre, state fairs, jazz festivals, travel, and cats – interests he shared with Deborah, the love of his life, and wife of 43 years, by whom he is survived. He's also survived by two brothers – Al Ruth and his wife Diana, and Leland Ruth and his wife Therese, five nephews and two nieces, plus seven grand-nieces and nephews.

A private interment was held at Sunset View Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be sent to The Diablo Vista Retired Teachers Association and The Curriculum Study Commission of the Central California Council of Teachers of English, the Landmark Heritage Society of the Berkeley City Club, the Aurora Theatre, or the Berkeley Repertory Theatre.

KENSINGTON KALENDAR

July 1 Social Action Summer Forum: Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley's Delegates to General Assembly report back from this year's General Assembly in Phoenix. 11 am-noon. Free. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd, Kensington, 525-0302, www.uucb.org

July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Kensington Farmers' Market. Live produce and live music every Sunday, 10am-2pm. Colusa Circle at Oak View Ave. 847-0801 or KensingtonFarmersMarket.org

July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 AA Meeting at the Arlington Community Church upstairs lounge. All are welcome. 526-9146

July 2 "Castoffs" Knitting Group. All levels welcome and some help provided. Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave. 7pm. Free. 524-3043.

July 3, 10 17, & 23 Family Story Time. Fun stories, songs & rhymes for young children and their families. Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave. 6:30 pm. Free. 524-3043.

July 7 Bobby's Birthday Party & Guinea Pig Adoption Fair. Meet rescued guinea pigs looking for homes, over cake. No presents please, but donations for guinea pig veterinary care are gratefully accepted. 1-5pm. RabbitEARS, 7523 Fairmount Ave.

July 8 Social Action Summer Forum. Ujima Family Recovery Services: Rosemary Corbin and board members speak about this award-winning program for mothers coping with addiction. 11am-noon. Free. UUC of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd, Kensington. 525-0302 or www.uucb.org

July 11, 18, 26 Yoga at the Arlington Community Church. All ages. 4:45-6pm. Drop-ins welcome; small fee. 381-0997.

July 5 Pacific School of Religion's Tuesday Night Talk: Paul Schneck on The New Negro from Germany. 1798 Scenic Ave., Berkeley. 7pm.

July 8 Knitting at the Arlington Community Church. 11:30am. Knit shawls, hats, scarves and mittens for those in need. 526-9146

July 9 Author and Naturalist, Laura Cunningham will discuss her book *A State of Change: Forgotten Landscapes of California*. Kensington Library, 7pm. Free. 524-3043.

July 9 Landscape Painter, Dale Laitinen speaks. EC Art Assoc. mtg. Garden Room, EC Community Ctr., 7007 Moeser. 7pm. Free. 526-6241

July 10 Pacific School of Religion's Tuesday Night Talk: Hubert Locke on Girding for Battle: Faith, Politics, and the November Elections. 1798 Scenic Ave., Berkeley. 7pm.

July 12 Women's Fellowship at the Arlington Community Church. 6:30pm. Join us for a potluck, wine and good conversation. 526-9146

July 14 Peanuts: On-The-Go! Schulz Museum is coming to the library. Get to know the Peanuts gang at a hands-on event. Ages 5 & up. Kensington Library. 11am. Free. 524-3043.

July 14 Rabbit Adoption Day. Meet rescued bunnies needing a forever home. 1-5pm at RabbitEARS, 7523 Fairmount Ave., EC. 356-4233

July 15 Social Action Summer Forum. Arthur J. Hatchett, Executive Director, Greater Richmond Interfaith Program (GRIP): "The Many Faces of GRIP: Some history and present work." 11am-noon. Free. UUC of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd., www.uucb.org

July 16 Village Rythms: African Village Celebration. Onye Onyemaechi, master percussionist, educator and performing musician, engages students and families in a participatory experience of African Village life. Kensington Library, 7pm. Free. 524-3043.

July 16-20 Bunny Bootcamp. 5 days of intensive bunny worthiness training, through art, play, literature and hands-on tactics. Ages 9 and up. Pre-registration req'd. 11am-3pm at RabbitEARS, 7523 Fairmount Ave., EC. 356-4233

July 17 Pacific School of Religion's Tuesday Night Talk: John Shelby Spong on Judas Iscariot. 1798 Scenic Ave. Berkeley. 7pm.

July 19 Constellation Crafts and Cookie Moons. Make constellation crafts, star origami and cookie moons. Night sky inspired fun for t(w)eens ages 10 & up. Kensington Library, 4pm. Free.

July 19 & 26 Baby & Toddler Story Time. Stories, songs & action rhymes for young children and their caregivers. Kensington Library. Two identical sessions 10:15am & 11:15am. Free.

July 22 Social Action Summer Forum. Rev. Caroline Knowles, on "To Honor the Fallen, Heal and Celebrate the Living - Working with Returning Veterans." 11 am-noon. Free. UUC of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd, Kensington.

July 23 Book Club. Discussion of *The Great Fire* by Shirley Hazzard. Kensington Library, 7pm. Free. 524-3043.

July 24 Pacific School of Religion's Tuesday Night Talk: Bob Johansen on Leadership Skills for an Uncertain World. 1798 Scenic Ave., Berk. 7pm.

July 24 Mad Science: Fire and Ice. Science experiments, "shivering" scissors, and bubbly showers for kids & families. Kensington Library, 6:30pm. Free.

July 24 El Cerrito Democratic Club meets to review state ballot measures and vote on endorsements. Free. (\$5 pizza social at 6pm; meeting at 6:30.) All are welcome. Zion Presbyterian Church, 545 Ashbury Ave., EC.

July 26 Down to the Bone: Understanding Bone Health & Osteoporosis Prevention w/Dr. Lani Simpson. 7pm, EC Library, 6510 Stockton Ave. 526-7512.

July 27 Bridge at the Arlington Community Church. Potluck at 5:30pm.

July 28 Night Sky Story and Craft. Dream big with a starry story and craft. Ages 3 and up. Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave. 11:15am. Free.

July 28 Small Critter Adoption Day. Meet hamsters, guinea pigs and rabbits looking for homes. 1-5pm at RabbitEARS, 7523 Fairmount Ave., EC.

July 29 Social Action Summer Forum. Norman Bowen, on "International Relations." 11am - noon. Free. UUC of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd, Kensington.



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Town Meetings

Kensington Community Center
59 Arlington Ave., Kensington

KCC - July 2nd (No Aug. Mtg.)
Kensington Community Council
7:30pm • 525-0292 • 1st Mondays

FKL - July 3rd; Aug. 7th
Friends of the Kensington Library, 7pm at the Library, 61 Arlington Ave. 1st Tuesdays

KPSC - July 9th; Aug. 13th
Kensington Public Safety Council
EQ & Disaster Preparedness
2nd Mondays 6:30pm. 501-8165

KARO/ECHO - July 9th
Amateur Radio Operators
2nd Mondays of odd months
7:30pm. 524-9815

KFPD - Aug. 8th (no July mtg)
Fire Protection District
2nd Wednesdays 7:30pm. 527-8395

KPPCSD - July 12th; Aug. 9th
Police Protection and Community Services District
2nd Thursdays 7pm. 526-4141

KIC - July 23rd; Aug. 27th
Kensington Improvement Club
4th Mondays 7:30pm. 527-3062

KMAC
Municipal Advisory Council
Last Tues. 7pm. (Call Supe. Gioia's ofc to confirm: 374-3231, ext. 5)

KPOA
Property Owners Association
Meets quarterly. 559-8232

KFM - Every Sunday
Kensington Farmers' Market
Sundays, 10am-2pm. Colusa Circle at Oak View Ave. 847-0801 or KensingtonFarmersMarket.org

KENSINGTON KALENDAR

Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Yoga at the Arlington Community Church, 4:45-6pm, all ages. Drop-ins welcome, small fee.

Aug. 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 Baby & Toddler Story Time. Stories, songs, & action rhymes for young children and their caregivers. Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave. Two identical sessions 10:15am & 11:15am. Free. 524-3043.

Aug. 5 Social Action Summer Forum. Dr. Stephen Zunes, Professor of Political Science at University of San Francisco: "The United States and Iran." 11am-noon. Free. UUC of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd. www.uucb.org

Aug. 5, 12, 19, 26 Kensington Farmers' Market. Live produce and live music every Sunday, 10am-2pm. Colusa Circle at Oak View Ave. 847-0801

Aug. 5, 12, 19, 26 AA Meeting at the Arlington Community Church 8-9pm, upstairs lounge. All are welcome. 839-8900 or centraloffice@eastbayaa.org

Aug. 6 "Castoffs" Knitting Group. All levels welcome and some help provided. Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave., 7pm. Free. 524-3043.

Aug. 7 National Night Out. See Page 1.

Aug. 7 Pacific School of Religion's Tuesday Night Talk: Devin Zuber on Sermons in Stones: American Environmental Thought and Swedenborgian Nature Mysticism. 1798 Scenic Ave. Berkeley. 7pm reception; 7:30 talk.

Aug. 7, 14, & 28 Family Story Time. Fun stories, songs & rhymes for young children and their families. Kensington Library, 6:30pm. Free. 524-3043.

Aug. 9 Women's Fellowship at the Arlington Community Church 6:30pm. Potluck. 526-9146

Aug. 11 Star Wars Crafts and Fun. Join us for Star Wars-inspired crafts and fun for young jedis! Best for ages 5 and up. Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave. 11:15am. Free. 524-3043.

Aug. 11 Knitting at the Arlington Community Church 11:30am. Knit shawls, hats, scarves and mittens for those in need. 526-9146

Aug. 11 Rabbit Adoption Day. Meet rescued bunnies looking for new homes. 1-4pm. RabbitEARS, 7523 Fairmount Ave., EC. 356-4233

Aug. 12 Social Action Summer Forum. Susan Strong: "The Metaphor Project - Mainstreaming the Progressive Message." 11am-noon. Free. UUC of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd, Kensington. www.uucb.org or 525-0302

Aug. 13-17 Guinea Pig Boot Camp. 5 days of guinea pig worthiness exercises through art, play, literature and hands-on tactics. Age 9 & up. Pre-registration is required. 11am-3pm. RabbitEARS, 7523 Fairmount Ave., EC. 356-4233

Aug. 20 Trombonga Musical Performance. Trombonist Pat Mullen and her Trombone Quartet will perform at the Kensington Library. Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave. 7pm. Free.

Aug. 24 Bridge at the Arlington Community Church. Potluck at 5:30pm. Beginners welcome. 526-9146

August 25 Small Critters Adoption Day. Meet rabbits, guinea pigs, and hamsters needing homes. 1-4pm. RabbitEARS, 7523 Fairmount Ave., EC.

Aug. 26 Social Action Summer Forum. Writer Coach Connection: Volunteers from UUCB speak on this program in the public schools. 11 am.-12 noon. Free. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd, Kensington. 525-0302 or www.uucb.org

Aug. 21 Dinosaurs take over the Kensington Library. Display of 500M-yr old bones and other fossils, dino-eggs, dino-tracks, and more. Ages 3 and up. Kensington Library, 6:30pm. Free.

Aug. 21 Origami Workshop for Teens, by Aimee Haire. Students in grades 6-12, free. Call or register online at ccclib.org. Sponsored by the Friends of the El Cerrito Library. 4:30-6pm, 6510 Stockton Ave. EC. 526-7512.

Aug. 27 Book Club. Discussion of *Moonstone* by Wilkie Collins. Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave., 7pm. Free.

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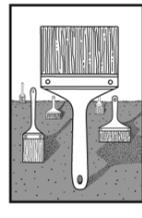
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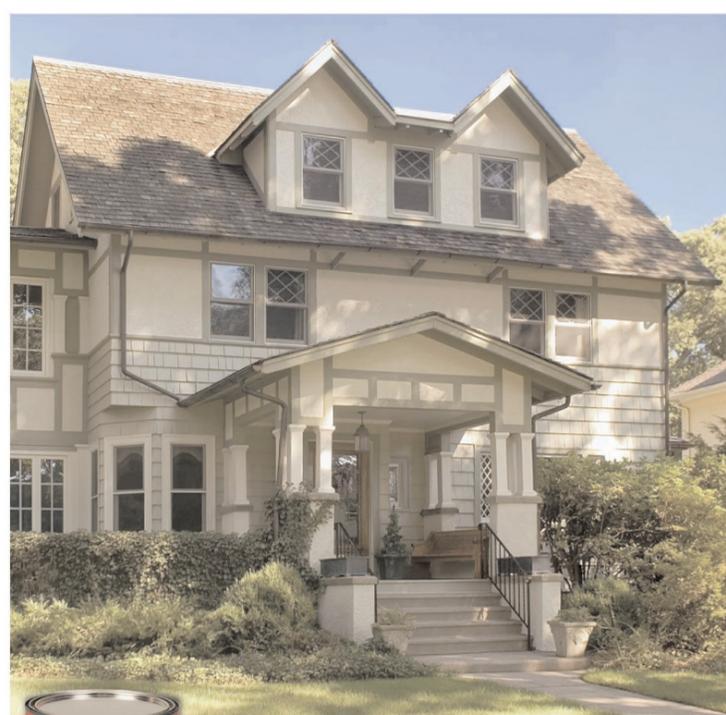
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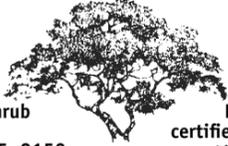


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...Letters, from Page 5

sanship and avoidance of gridlock. This, of course, was written after the 2010 elections when those nasty Tea-Party people had the gall to engage in conviction politics. Before 2010, the AARP's army of lobbyists helped push through federal control of health care with only one vote from the other party in the House.

Meanwhile, after helping ban foie gras, Nancy Skinner shows up to honor the founder of the "Planned Parenthood" (nice euphemism, that) Center. The State lets you do whatever you want with little human creatures – no consensus needed – but July 1, baby ducks will be protected into adulthood. Lucky them. How bipartisan is Skinner's list of honored activists? Just kidding folks.

Great fun most of it. More, please.

*Mal Walker
Amherst Ave.*

**The Value of a Crime
NOT Committed**

Dear Editor:

I would like to add my thoughts on the discussion initiated by Casey Bowden's letter in the June Outlook.

In the average each year, how many crimes DO NOT occur in Kensington because of our highly visible police force? The presence of our police – with time to patrol residential areas – encourages those intent upon committing crimes to simply go elsewhere.

Lack of crimes to solve is a good measure of the effectiveness of our police.

*Ray Barraza
Amherst Ave.*

The opinions expressed in Letters to the Editor are those of the contributors. They do not necessarily represent the opinion of The Outlook, its editor, or the publisher, the Kensington Community Council.



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