

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

July/August 2005

A publication of the Kensington Community Council

Volume 62 Number 5

## Path concerns lead to winding question of ownership

*County records may hold the key to questions of liability and responsibility for paths*

The dozen paths that provide short cuts through the winding streets of Kensington are one of the unique amenities of the hillside community. They not only provide emergency access, but also complex questions of responsibility and liability.

A group of residents were scheduled to sit down with county officials June 21 to begin unraveling some of these questions in the hopes of addressing the ill-repair that some of these paths have fallen into and determine who is responsible for their upkeep.

"The bottom line is finding out the ownership. The main principal is these paths

are an asset for Kensington," said Supervisor John Gioia, who is facilitating the meeting between residents and county representatives. "They encourage walking. They are great for that reason. But the questions are 'What are the maintenance issues' and 'What are the liability issues' and that helps dictate what a strategy should be."

In one case, a homeowner took it upon himself to fix and improve a path near his home by installing rail road ties to form stairs, although some say he may have potentially opened himself to liabilities as a result. In another instance, a homeowner directed drains from his home onto the path, which cut a gully into the walkway. Along another path, a concrete stairway is crumbling with no one to fix it.

Gioia's office believes the paths are pri-

vately owned and may belong to a developer that subdivided land, or a successor company or an heir. That's a question that needs to be researched. If the pathways are private property, the county could be prohibited from taking any action to maintain them.

But Kensington's Gloria Morrison, who has started to research the issue, has already uncovered documents that indicate in 1989 Kensington became included in an existing special lighting and landscaping district that she says still appears on the tax bills of local homeowners.

A board of supervisors resolution from May 16, 1989 annexes Kensington as part of the Landscape and Lighting District 1979-3 and shows the county taking responsibility for the maintenance and installation of landscaping along Arlington

Avenue, the Colusa traffic circle, and other landscaped areas "as required in future."

The resolution also states these responsibilities include the maintenance of the Kensington pathways "as directed from fiscal year to fiscal year."

There is also evidence that through this district, monies in the late 1990s and early 2000s had been allotted to and spent on maintaining certain paths within Kensington, Morrison said.

Lynn Wolter, another resident active in the issue, said she has never heard the paths referred to as "private property" and is anxious to see the matter resolved.

"I'm looking forward to getting to the bottom of all of this," she said, "so we can begin to develop a plan to solve the problem so the community can continue to enjoy these public pathways."



**CLASS OF 2005:** Back row, left to right: David Ball, Colin Blattel, Andrew Klaassen, Albert Carlen, Christa Whitney, Amy Strauss, Jane Marchant, Jordan Scher, Erin Sheehy, Erik Holtermann-Docto; Middle Row, left to right: Nicholas Kahl, Ryan Fukumori, Kevin Morrison, Allison Dedrick, Devyn Wells, Caitlin Kakigi, Becky Hobbs, Lauren Gesner, Alison Kosel, Lindsay McAlpine; Front Row, left to right: Caroline Crooms, Alexander Omi, Colson John, Randy Pang, Nicholas Negoro, Alistair Wilson, Alison Alter, Merrily Grashin, Anna Schumacher, Jessica Holmes, Not pictured: Jamie Dunaway, Alexandra Freed, Katherine Kramer, Josh Mangrum, Priya Patpatia, Carles Wu.

## Making the grade

*Hail and farewell to the class of 2005*

Kensington may be a small village, but once students graduate from the Kensington Hilltop Elementary School, the diaspora begins.

But around this time every year the graduating seniors of Kensington -- dispersed throughout area public and private high schools -- gather for an annual photograph to reunite with friends, share memories and allow the community to celebrate their accomplishment.

Below is a list of the students, the high schools from which they have graduated and the name of the colleges they plan to attend.

**Back row, left to right:** David Ball, El Cerrito High School, University of Michigan; Colin Blattel, El Cerrito High School, Boston University; Andrew Klaassen, El Cerrito High School, UC Davis; see "GRADS" page 2

## Kensington man rescues eight from capsized boat in path of tanker

A Kensington man diverted a tanker heading for eight people from a capsized sailboat in the frigid waters of the Carquinez Strait and pulled them to safety.

The tug boat Z-Four had just finished guiding an oil tanker out of port and was starting on its trip home to Alameda at around 1:30 a.m. June 12 when a radio call alerted the two-man crew to a capsized sailboat. Kensington resident Chales Jennings, engineer on the Z-Four, was heading below deck when he spotted an unusual light in the distance. He grabbed binoculars and realized it was a person waving a frantically flashlight and alerted Captain Mark Farran

to radio the tanker that was travelling about 600 feet behind it to veer out of the way.

"If the ship had hit them, somebody would have died, if not all of them," said Jennings. "They were lucky."

The tugboat then made its way to the four men and four women, all in their 20s, who clung to the overturned vessel. Jennings tied a long wooden ladder to the back of the boat and allowed the people to grab on and then pulled them to safety along with tug boat captain Farran.

The people, who had been in the 60 degree water for more than half an hour with nothing more than shorts and T-shirts,

wrapped themselves in towels and blankets and were taken to land by a Coast Guard boat that arrived on the scene.

Jennings said all the people could do was keep saying "thank you." One insisted on having his number as he left for the Coast Guard ship and Jennings, anxious to get the man into the care of the Coast Guard as fast as possible, reached into his pocket to pull out a red business card.

It turned out the card was for his side business as a performer in the winter and simply read "SANTA CLAUS -- You Better Be Good -- North Pole" along with his phone number.



**LIFESAVERS:** Mark Farran and Charles Jennings

The man looked at the card and read it and then looked back at Jennings.

"Are you kidding?"

Jennings smiled and said, "No. Christmas came early for you this year."

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## Letters to the Editor

### Prepare for fire season

To the Editor:

Due to the winter's high rainfall and the heavy growth of fuel on the hill sides, there will be a very high danger of another devastating wildfire this year.

We need to start protecting ourselves right now by each of us individually reducing the burnable material on our property.

This effort by the City should be not only be commended but supported in every way possible.

Charles Smith  
Berkeley

### Concerts are not short or sweet

To the Editor:

There is a big hullabaloo regarding the professional style fundraising concerts by Danny Scher in my neighborhood and it's important people know the facts. Some say it is just a few hours, a few times a year, but I beg to differ.

Outdoor events for 200-300 people involve much preparation that is disruptive to those who live nearby: leaf blowers for hours, trucks beeping and bringing in equipment, caterers and noisy carts, constant sound checks and music blaring from the loudspeakers to entertain the workers before and after the outdoor events.

Those homeowners who live nearby, who value their serenity and privacy while being outdoors in the Summer, certainly don't get it when Mr. Scher, the fundraiser, is in concert mode.

We all have a right to our privacy, peace of mind and sustained property values. When we were looking for a house in Berkeley, we chose not to put an offer on a house that was near a park that held plays. So this type of situation has a psychological effect on a buyer, and can be limiting.

Sincerely,  
Marilyn Stollon  
Kensington

## Grads: ready for college

*continued from page 1*

Albert Carlen, El Cerrito High School, Chico State University; Christa Whitney, El Cerrito High School, Smith College; Amy Strauss, Marin Academy, Whitman College; Jane Marchant, St. Mary's High School, George Washington University; Jordan Scher, Bentley School, Mt. Holyoke College; Erin Sheehy, El Cerrito High School, UCLA; Erik Holtermann-Docto, El Cerrito High School; Cabrillo College.

**Middle Row, left to right:** Nicholas Kahl, St. Mary's High School, Santa Barbara City College; Ryan Fukumori, Berkeley High School, Columbia University; Kevin Morrison, El Cerrito High School, UC San Diego; Allison Dedrick, El Cerrito High School, Stanford University; Devyn Wells, El Cerrito High School, UC Davis; Caitlin Kakigi, El Cerrito High School, Harvard University; Becky Hobbs, Berkeley High School, UC Berkeley; Lauren Gesner, St. Mary's High School, Clark University; Alison Kosel, Bentley School, Pomona

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College; Lindsay McAlpine, Athenian School, Brown University;

**Front Row, left to right:** Caroline Crooms, St. Mary's High School, Swarthmore College; Alexander Omi, St. Mary's High School, UC Riverside; Colson John, El Cerrito High School, DVC; Randy Pang, El Cerrito High School, UC Berkeley; Nicholas Negoro, El Cerrito High School, San Diego State University; Alistair Wilson, El Cerrito High School, UC Riverside; Alison Alter, Berkeley High School, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo; Merrily Grashin, El Cerrito High School, NYU; Anna Schumacher, El Cerrito High School, UC Davis; Jessica Holmes, El Cerrito High School, UC Santa Cruz;

**Not pictured:** Jamie Dunaway, Golden Gate Apple, undecided; Alexandra Freed, Head Royce, Whitman College; Katherine Kramer CPS, University of Pennsylvania; Josh Mangrum, El Cerrito High School, UC San Diego; Priya Patpatia, Miramonte High School, USF; Charles Wu, Albany High School, UC Merced.



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## Group says 'Renew your library - It's overdue'

A group of residents hoping to lead Kensington to a successful bid of a portion of \$600 million in library construction bond funds headed for the June ballot, have begun the nitty-gritty groundwork of determining the community's needs and desires.

The 15-person group called the Kensington Library Renewal Project is studying what other libraries obtained funding through a previous bond measure and are working to complete the preparation of a survey of community members.

Libraries are no longer just a place for books and periodicals. New libraries are being built with public meeting rooms, computer centers, auditoriums, cafes, children's areas, youth centers and more. The community must determine what its needs and desires are and whether the will is there to make a significant financial commitment to raise the one-third matching funds

needed to access the bond money. The group is expected to begin the process of surveying community members late this summer.

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

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

The group is seeking volunteers to assist with the community interviews and information gathering. To participate contact Debbie Hamati at 526-6273 or send e-mail to dahamati@prodigy.net or speak to Kensington librarian Amy Colleen.

## Johnston leaves WCCUSD to become dean at National U

Gloria Johnston, superintendent of the West Contra Costa Unified School District, is stepping down from her post Aug. 15 to become dean of education for National University in La Jolla.



Johnston leaves as the district is embroiled in negotiations with four unions in a fight over lifetime healthcare benefits that threaten to financially cripple the district. The district must now scramble to find a new superintendent to oversee its 4,000 employees and more than \$260 million a year budget.

Under Johnston's tenure the community passed two general obligation bonds totaling \$430 million dollars to rebuild aging facilities and an \$8 million parcel tax in 2004 to support critical education programs.

## KPD organizing neighborhood watch program in Kensington

The Kensington Police Department is hoping to enlist residents in the fight against crime by organizing neighborhood watch programs.



Residents interested in organizing a neighborhood watch should contact the department's crime prevention sergeant Angela Escobar or officer Dominic Boutain at 526-4141 ext. 40

The intent of the program is not to turn neighbors into gun-toting vigilantes, but to use residents as eye and ears for law enforcement.

The police department will also participate in "National Night Out Against Crime," an event sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch that is used to educate communities about crime prevention.

## Park plan approved, but bathrooms hinge on fundraising

The Kensington Police Protection and Community Services District at the end of May approved a \$275,000 plan to develop the next phase of Kensington Park, but financial constraints have left the fate of proposed bathrooms in the hands of community fundraising.

The plans call for the development of the lower portion of the park behind the tennis courts and along the bay side. It would transform an under-utilized portion of the park that is dominated by asphalt into a tree-lined area with winding paths and elevated terrain.

A total of \$220,000 for the park will come from Proposition 40, a 2002 measure that earmarked money for parks. The remaining funds

will come from the district, but it must raise an additional \$75,000 to be able to install a prefabricated two-room restroom unit.

In the absence of bathrooms many people have been forced to cut short visits to the park or availed themselves of trees or bushes to seek relief.

District boardmember Ciara Wood is spearheading a fundraising effort. Anyone who would like to participate in the fundraising can contact her at 525-7806. People are also invited to send a contribution to the district by sending a check to KPPCSD and send it to 217 Arlington Ave, Kensington, CA, 94707.

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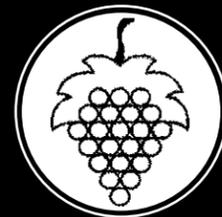
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# Neighborhood Notes

## Dad's Club honors outgoing officers at annual party



Incoming Dad's Club co-President Paul Normington, outgoing President Larry Polito, Debbie Polito, incoming co-President Jim Thomsen.

The Kensington Hilltop School Dad's Club honored its outgoing officers recently at its annual year-end dinner at the Kensington Bistro.

The club, open to all parents, serves as the school's unofficial cadre of maintenance men, gardeners and barbecue cooks. The group is a vestige of a club once found in schools across the nation that survives locally in a handful of East Bay elementary schools. Its work, which included co-sponsoring the school's major fundraising events and organizing work parties, has softened the blow of budget cuts.

Dad's Club officers for the 2004-2005 school year included President Larry Polito, co-Vice Presidents Paul Normington and Jim Thomsen, Treasurer Mike Barry, Secretary Stephen Godfrey and marketing and outreach head Rodney Dunican.

## ACC's Rider honored

Christine Rider, a long-time member of Arlington Community Church in Kensington was honored by the estimated 120 congregations of the Northern California-Nevada Conference of the United Church of Christ as the UCC Outstanding Woman of the Year. The celebration lunch was held as part of the conference's Annual Meeting at Asilomar on May 20.

## Children's choir debuts



Shanti Moorjani directs the new Arlington Community Church Children's choir at its June 3 debut.

The sixteen-member Arlington Children's Choir under the direction of Shanti Moorjani, made their debut performance June 3 at the Arlington Community Church.

The concert included a program of diverse works, including traditional folk tunes from Europe, Broadway tunes, classic choral masterpieces, and modern children's pieces. The choir is exploring the possibility of a trip to England next summer.

## Student wins scholarship

Kensington's Elisabeth Aultman, an entering senior at El Cerrito High School, has won a Japan America Friendship Scholarship.

The scholarship, funded by the Japanese government, will allow Aultman to live with a host family and study in Japan this summer. Aultman won the award through a nationwide competition. She will meet with dignitaries, study Japanese language and culture and attend classes with Japanese teenagers.

## School raises \$7,300 for tsunami victims



A child packages shirts

A Kensington Hilltop Elementary School fundraising effort to help victims of the tsunami that ravaged parts of Southern Asia at the end of December, raised more than \$7,300.

The funds are being split between Americares and Save the Children.

The idea began with teacher Janet McKnight, who involved teachers, parents and students in a T-shirt sale. The navy blue shirts, which sold for \$10, read in green ink "resilience, perseverance, hope. I Care. In Support of Tsunami Relief 2005."

"It's really touching to see how much community support we got and how much everybody really cared about the cause," said Patty Coluse, a parent who designed the shirt.

## Kensington's Goble named Rotary president

The Albany Rotary Club named Kensington resident Aaron Goble as its president effective July 1.



Goble will be charged with maintaining the club's involvement in community activities and strengthening its membership.

The Albany Rotary Club, chartered in 1929, has 45 members from the business and educational communities.

Goble a Kensington resident for six years, operates PagePoint Web Solutions, which publishes the online guide About Kensington (www.aboutkensington.com) and makes the Kensington Outlook available online. He has been a member of the Albany Rotary Club since April 2002.

## Novelist helps readers find the next great novel



For some book lovers a sense of dread accompanies the nearing end of a book. Now, thanks to a new service of the Contra Costa Library called NoveList, there's no need to fear.

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It also includes features for teachers and parents as well. Along with booktalks and recommended booklists, NoveList offers picture book extenders that include summaries, discussion questions, and activities for such books as "Duck for President" by Doreen Cronin or "The Wolf's Chicken Stew" by Keiko Kasza. Over 100 Picture Book Extenders are available now with new titles added every month.

To access NoveList you need a Contra Costa County Library Card. Go to the Contra Costa County Library's website at <http://ccclib.org> and click on the "Research and Ebooks" link. For additional information contact the Kensington Library at 524-3043.

-- Amy Collen

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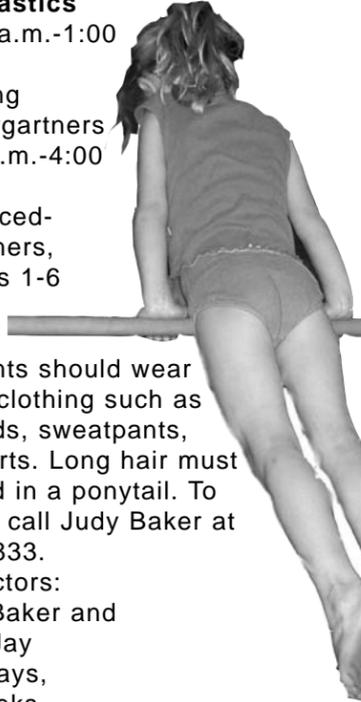
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**NOTICES**  
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**Tennis Court Reservations**  
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Students should wear loose clothing such as leotards, sweatpants, or shorts. Long hair must be tied in a ponytail. To enroll, call Judy Baker at 233-1833.  
Instructors:  
Judy Baker and Jean Jay  
Tuesdays, 10 weeks  
April 4 - June 7

**COMMUNITY CENTER**

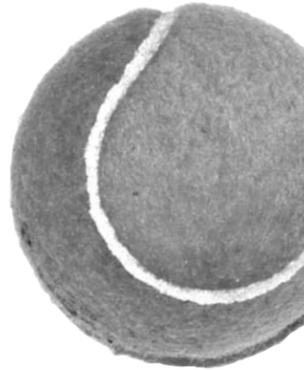
### Tennis

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

Instructor:  
Alex Brown  
524-5495  
Tuesdays and/or Thursdays  
3:40-5:20 p.m.

Fees (payable monthly):  
\$10 per class/resident  
\$11 per class/non-resident.

**TENNIS COURTS**



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SPRING SESSION  
April 4, 2005 - June 8, 2005

Helen Horowitz  
Director  
525-0292  
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Elma Conley  
On-Site Supervisor  
525-0292  
during class hours

Sandy Thacker  
Curriculum Coordinator  
482-1258

## Adult Classes

### Acrylic Painting

Stan Cohen 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. Instructor: Stan Cohen

Wednesdays,  
9:45 a.m.-1:30 p.m.  
\$32 per month residents  
\$36 per month non-residents  
Non-residents add 10 percent  
**COMMUNITY CENTER**



els using the Reiley Method, a process of painting which is broken down into steps. Students will learn how to do a "wash-in" under-painting and how to mix the "controlled palette," starting with a gray scale from black to white, with all other colors mixed and arranged in corresponding value scale. Students will learn to see color and shape in terms of the value pattern of the subject. Materials and paint application techniques will be discussed. Work of current and past great painters will be studied. Students will be encouraged to develop their own style and may use an open palette if they prefer.

For more information, call Barbara Ward at 528-2983. To sign up, call the KCC office.

Instructor: Barbara Ward  
Thursdays, 7 p.m.-10 p.m.  
Community Center

### Exercise to Music

Non-impact aerobics; ongoing.  
Instructor: Michele Dorntge  
Tuesday, Thursday: 9:15 -10:15 a.m.  
Fees per resident (10 weeks):  
\$40/1 x week, \$80/2 x week  
\$4.50 drop-in Non-residents add 10 percent  
**COMMUNITY CENTER**

### Dog Obedience Training

Handlers must be at least 14 years of age. Dogs must be at least five months old, have had all their shots, and be accustomed to a leash.  
Instructor: Lewis Cuccia  
233-4500



Wednesdays Beginners: 7-8 p.m.  
Current session started: April 6  
Call to find out when next session begins.  
6 weeks: \$40 per resident  
\$45 per non-resident  
Conformation: 8-8:45 p.m. \$4/class  
Intermediate/Advanced: 9-9:45 p.m. \$4/class

### Tennis

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



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REALTY

# Kensington Calendar

## A birthday bash



Enjoy the Latin Jazz of Misturada on the Fourth of July at the Berkeley Marina.

Celebrate the country's birthday with a full day of fun starting at noon on the Fourth of July along the south shore of the Berkeley Marina. Decorate your bike, trike, stroller, or even your head at the East Bay Depot's free booth located near the Shorebird Nature Center. Adventure Playground is open 11a.m.-8 p.m. Try the giant slide or splash in the water at the beach or visit the arts and crafts booths. There will be a total of 15 international food booths to feast at and two stages of live music featuring the Latin jazz of Misturada, the funk and soul of Otis Goodnight, Dixieland jazz from Bob Mielke's Bearcats, belly dancers and more from noon until 9 p.m. The event climaxes with fireworks off the end of the Berkeley Pier at 9:30 p.m. Admission is free. The event is alcohol-free. Free valet bicycle parking. No cars after 7pm. Parking is \$10. Sponsored by the City of Berkeley. Info: 548-5335 or visit [www.ci.berkeley.ca.us](http://www.ci.berkeley.ca.us).

### Sunday, July 3

**Social Action Summer Forum:** speaker on Microcredit, a system of self-help in developing nations at 9:30 a.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley at 1 Lawson Rd. in Kensington. Info: 525-0302

### Saturday, July 9

**A six-week class** for adolescent and adult dogs and family members of all ages begins. Class includes walking on a loose leash, recall, sit, down, stand, stay, no jumping, and more, with Sasha Futran, certified dog trainer. Cost is \$125 for six sessions on Saturdays 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at RabbitEars, 303 Arlington Ave., Kensington. Sign up now at 525-6155

### Sunday, July 10

**Social Action Summer Forum:** Robert Gould, MD, Chair, Northern California Physicians for Social Responsibility. Dr. Gould will speak on the health and environmental effects of global warming at 9:30 a.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley at 1 Lawson Rd. in Kensington. Info: 525-0302

### Sunday, July 10

**Domestically raised mice and rats** are popular pets. They are readily available, relatively inexpensive and easy to care for, and usually enjoy human handling. Learn about habitat, handling, hygiene, diseases, food and water at 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at RabbitEars, 303 Arlington Ave, Kensington.. \$20 donation for Bay Area Rats Rescue & Care, Info: 525-6155

### Monday, July 11

**Computer Literacy:** How to do your own on-line medical research at 7 p.m. at the Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave.. Sign up for a seat. Info: 524-3043

### Monday July 11

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

### Wednesday, July 13

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

### Thursday, July 14

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

### Saturday, July 16

**Learn loose leash walking** and other city manners with Sasha Futran, dog behavior modification consultant. Cost - \$35 (or two one-hour classes for \$60), Saturday July 16, noon -1 p.m. at RabbitEars, 303 Arlington Ave, Kensington. To pre-register call 525-6155

### Sunday, July 17

**Social Action Summer Forum:** Stand Against Domestic Violence. A presentation with video on the work this outstanding organization does with and for battered women and men at 9:30 a.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley at 1 Lawson Rd. in Kensington. Info: 525-0302

### Monday, July 18

**Summer Music Bootcamp** for children ages 7 to 12 through July 22, sponsored by Arlington Children's Choir, 52 Arlington Blvd., Kensington For registration and Info call Shanti 843-7745

### Monday July 18

**Computer Literacy:** How to find articles in back issues of magazines and newspapers using the library's databases at 7 p.m. at the Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave. Sign up for a seat. Info: 524-3043

### Saturday, July 23

**Teach your dog to come** when called no matter the distraction -- exercises and practice strategy by Sasha Futran, certified dog trainer. Cost - \$35 (or two one-hour classes for \$60), noon to 1 p.m. at RabbitEars, 303 Arlington Ave, Kensington. To pre-register call 525-6155

### Saturday, July 23

**Editor Christine Hunsicker** signs and reads select passages from a new edition of *Travelers' Tales*, a collection of writing by dog lovers who didn't say good-bye, but who packed the dog toys and took Spike with them--as well as stories by travelers who made new canine friends on the road from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at RabbitEars, 303 Arlington Ave, Kensington.

### Sunday, July 24

**Social Action Summer Forum:** Rita Maran, Professor of International Affairs at UC Berkeley, will speak on recent developments at the UN at 9:30 a.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley at 1 Lawson Rd. in Kensington. Info: 525-0302

### Monday July 25

**Computer Literacy:** Word Processing basics using Microsoft Word at 7 p.m. at the Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave. Sign up for a seat. Info: 524-3043

### Tuesday, July 26

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

### Tuesday, July 26

**The El Cerrito Democratic Club** meets at 7:30 p.m. in Makemie Hall at the Northminster Presbyterian Church, 545 Ashbury Ave., El Cerrito. Anthony D'Agostino, professor of history from San Francisco State University, speaks on "World Trends in Relation to Globalization."

### Saturday, July 30

**Breakfast and birding walk** with experienced birder Robbie Fischer in the Berkeley hills. 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. at RabbitEars, 303 Arlington Ave, Kensington. Cost - \$25 includes continental breakfast. Call to register 525-6155.

### Saturday, July 30

**Learn about local holistic vets** and homeopathic remedies that can be used in emergency situations at 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at RabbitEars, 303 Arlington Ave., Kensington. \$45. Info: 525-6155

## Summer pastime



The annual Contra Costa County summer reading program is under way and runs through August 20. This year's theme is "Dragons, Dreams and Daring Deeds." Readers can pick up reading records at the library anytime and can cross off numbered shields for every 20 minutes of reading completed toward a goal of 15 hours. Prizes will be given out three times at five, ten and 15 hours read. The Kensington Library is located at 61 Arlington Avenue, Kensington. Info: 524-3043 or <http://ccclib.org>

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- Four Kensington Hilltop Elementary School alumni
- Sponsors of the Kensington Spring Celebration
- Sponsors of the Annual Kensington Parade and Pumpkin Carving contest
- Ron was a founder of the Kensington After-School Enrichment Program (KASEP) and the Kensington Educational Foundation (KEF)
- Annual Supporters of the Garden Party, Kensington Nursery School and Sky Town

Todd and Ron focus on service to their clients, and as a result have been the top-producing agents in Kensington over the past six years, having represented over 50 buyers and sellers.

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# Kensington Calendar Continued

**Sunday, July 31**  
**Social Action Summer Forum:** David McPhail, School of the Americas (now called the Western Institute for Security Cooperation), will speak and show a film at 9:30 a.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley at 1 Lawson Rd. in Kensington. Info: 525-0302

**Saturday, August 6**  
**Help your pup with socialization skills.** Early training techniques by Sasha Futran, certified dog trainer. Cost - \$100 for four, one-hour sessions on Saturdays noon to 1 p.m. at RabbitEars, 303 Arlington Ave, Kensington. Call to register 526-6155

**Sunday, August 7**  
**Social Action Summer Forum:** Eric Mills, Coordinator for Action for Animals, focuses on exploitation of animals in rodeo, live animal food markets, and exotic animal acts at fairs at 9:30 a.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley at 1 Lawson Rd. in Kensington. Info: 525-0302

**Thursday, August 10**  
**Learn loose leash dog** walking and other city manners with Sasha Futran, dog behavior modification consultant 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at RabbitEars, 303 Arlington Ave, Kensington. Cost - \$35 (or two one-hour classes for \$60). Call to pre-register 525-6155

**Wednesday, August 10**  
**Kensington Fire Protection District** meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Kensington Community Center. Call to Confirm: 527-8395

**Thursday, August 11**  
**The Kensington Police Protection and Community Service District** meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Kensington Community Center. Call to confirm: 526-4141

**Sunday, August 14**  
**Join experienced birder Denise Wight** for a continental breakfast and birding walk 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. at RabbitEars, 303 Arlington Ave, Kensington. Cost - \$25 (includes breakfast). Call to pre-register 525-6155.

**Sunday, August 14**  
**Social Action Summer Forum:** Ruby Long. At 66, Ruby joined the Peace Corps and spent two years in Uzbekistan. She will share her adventures and experiences teaching and living there at 9:30 a.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley at 1 Lawson Rd. in Kensington. Info: 525-0302

**Thursday, August 17**  
**Teach your dog to come** when called no matter

the distraction -- exercises and practice strategy by Sasha Futran, certified dog trainer at 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at RabbitEars, 303 Arlington Ave, Kensington. Cost is \$35 (or two one-hour classes for \$60). Call to pre-register 525-6155

**Sunday, August 21**  
**Social Action Summer Forum:** Virginia Handley. Virginia has been a lobbyist for animals in the California legislature for 30 years. She represents several groups and will discuss the politics of animal rights at 9:30 a.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley at 1 Lawson Rd. in Kensington. Info: 525-0302

**Saturday, August 27**  
**The Contra Costa Community Development Department** holds a free home composting workshop from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Kensington Community Center. Reservations are required. Info and reservation: (800)750-4096.

**Sunday, August 28**  
**Social Action Summer Forum:** Dr. Chris O'Sullivan returns to us from a Fulbright in Jordan. His enormous and profound understanding of the politics of the Middle East is exciting and informative at 9:30 a.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley at 1 Lawson Rd. in Kensington. Info: 525-0302

**Tuesday August 30**  
**Auditions for the Arlington Children's Choir.** Children ages 8 - 14 with a love of singing. Repeats on Wednesday, August 31. For appointment and info call Shanti 843-7745

**Tuesday, August 30**  
**Kensington Municipal Advisory Council** meets at 7 p.m. in the Kensington Community Center. Call to confirm: 273-9926

**Wednesday, August 31**  
**Singers needed** to help read through SATB choral music 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Blvd. Kensington. Info: Shanty 843-7745

## Family Storytime

Join the fun at the Kensington Library every Tuesday night at 7 p.m. at the Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave.. Info: 524-3043

## Obituaries

### Robert Williams, former Red Cross worker, dies at 93

Robert H. Williams, a Kensington resident with a more than 30 year career with the American Red Cross, died May 25. He was 93.

Born September 6, 1911 in Wisconsin, Williams held various title in his work with the American Red Cross rising to manager and Director of Disaster Services. One highlight of that time was a three year peri-

od as a field director in Hawaii.

Williams is survived by his wife of 69 years, Doris Williams; daughter, Sandie Cohn of San Jose; and three grandchildren and a great granddaughter.

A private family service was held in accordance with his wishes. Memorial contributions can be made to the American Red Cross or the charity of your choice.

### Charlotte Emery, longtime resident, dies at 86

Charlotte Emery, a longtime resident of Kensington, died June 11. She was 86.

She is survived by her daughters Rita Emery, Susan Emery, Carole Sidebotham and her husband Jim; son Ken Emery and his wife Vickie; as well as her brother Richard Siwinski, and her sister Rita Janke.

Her husband Byron Emery died in 1981.

Funeral Services have been held with interment at Sunset View Cemetery, El Cerrito. The family requests that in lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to The Hall of Health, 2230 Shattuck, Berkeley, CA 94704.

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# From the case files of the KPD

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

## Events in May

○Vandals sliced the webbing on the tennis net at Kensington Park causing an estimated \$165 in damage.

○A Kingston Road resident reported a neighbor instructed a gardener to enter his property without his consent and cut vines and flowers that she said were blocking sunlight on her property. She apologized.

○Sunset Cemetery told police an employee discovered someone had planted an unauthorized garden on the property.

○A Coventry Rd. resident reported the theft of about \$5,000 of property including golf clubs, a brief case and electronics from his 1996 Ford.

○An Eldridge Ct. resident reported the theft of a 1996 Saturn valued at \$4,000. The vehicle was recovered a few blocks away from where it was taken.

○A household goods delivery company called police to complain an Oak View Ave. resident refused to sign an invoice showing a washing machine ordered over the Internet and delivered by the company had been received. The resident complained that the driver would not help him carry the machine into the house as promised by the website. He eventually signed the invoice.

○A Kenyon Ave resident reported someone dumped a Dewalt radial saw in her driveway. Police suggested she place it on the curbside with a sign that read "free." Police say no one saw it since.

○The manager of the Mechanics Bank complained of a suspicious person loitering and possibly drinking in the parking lot on the roof of the bank. Police found alcohol bottles in paper bags and chased the man across the rooftop of Young's Market before catching him. The man, a resident known to police, was verbally combative, but agreed to leave the property.

○A woman putting her grandchild into her car with the engine on watched the seven-year-old put the car into gear and drive it into two other vehicles parked in the lot. No one was hurt.

○A Berkeley Park Blvd. resident after going from business to business on Colusa Ave. and waiting hours for the unidentified owner of a car blocking his driveway to return, instructed police to tow the vehicle so he could run his errands.

○Police attempted to serve a warrant on a Kensington resident at the request of Contra Costa County authorities, but couldn't because the man was in custody in Santa Rita. Police faxed the warrant to Santa Rita authorities.

○A Berkeley Park Blvd. resident, who days before had police tow a car blocking his driveway, called police again to have them remove a different car blocking him from removing his car.

○An Ocean View resident reported hearing early morning gunshots. Police investigated and determined the noise was most likely the sound

of the Sunday morning paper hitting the pavement as it was delivered along her street.

○Police arrested a 43-year-old Berkeley man for public intoxication after stirring the man from unconsciousness on Colusa avenue.

○An Arlington Ct. woman reported a call from a female at 5 a.m., who the woman in her groggy state said she thought was her daughter. The discussion covered sexual topics and the woman offered personal details and names before becoming suspicious. The call lasted an hour, after which the woman called her daughter and discovered she had not been talking to her.

○An ongoing dispute over the ownership of a car registered to a Kensington man and his former girlfriend took a turn when she confronted him on Arlington Ave. The woman, who has been making the payments on the car, reached in and pulled the key from the ignition and after some struggle tossed it over a fence. He tried calling 911 on his cell phone, but she grabbed that too and threw it over the fence. Police arrived because of reports of the argument and the man allowed the woman to drive off with the car.

○A woman called police to say a suspicious man was on the ground of the Carmelite nunnery on Rincon Rd. The man turned out to be the son of a care provider to one of the nuns and was visiting his mother. So when police arrived looking for a suspicious man, they found none.

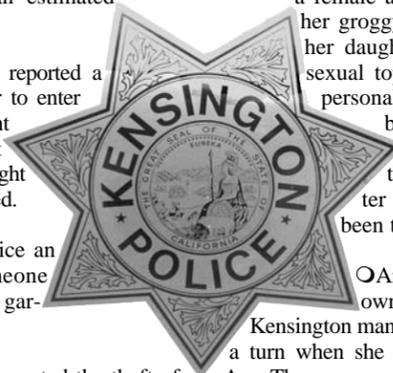
○A Berkeley woman who was riding her bike at 3 a.m. on Colusa Ave. was stopped for not having a light. Police arrested her after discovering she was wanted on an outstanding warrant for possession of narcotics paraphernalia.

○A Kerr Ave. resident reported the theft of an estimated \$3,500 in property including a \$1,000 Buddhist scroll, in a residential burglary.

○Police arrested a 46-year-old El Cerrito male for driving under the influence after he registered a blood alcohol level of between .09 and .10 at a checkpoint.

○Several dog owners have told police a man who walks his dog along their streets has threatened to pepper spray their unleashed dogs, even though they were contained within their property. The man told one woman, whose dog barked at him, that if he had a gun he would shoot the dog. Police know the man from past pepper spray incidents and have attempted to contact him to encourage him to engage in a more neighborly discourse with fellow dog owners in the future.

○A woman called police to document an incident on Berkeley Park Blvd. after her son tripped on some tools left on the sidewalk. The woman, who is of Middle Eastern descent, said the homeowner who owned the tools witnessed the incident and told her that her son was stupid for tripping over them and that she should "go back to her country."



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