

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

OCTOBER 2007

A PUBLICATION OF THE KENSINGTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

VOLUME 64 NUMBER 8

Harman takes the reins

Chief Harman welcomed as new police chief and general manager with formal ceremony and reception



The Harman family watch Chief Harman (far right) and the Kensington police during the pinning ceremony in the park

The Kensington Police Protection and Community Service District held a formal badge-pinning ceremony for the new chief of police and general manager, Greg Harman. The event took place on the lawn in front of the Community Center and was attended by many Kensington residents and a large number of police officers and support people that Harman has worked with in the past. People came to the ceremony from Daly City, Concord, San Francisco, Clayton, and from 911 call centers. Also attending were Harman's wife, children, and other family members. Stressing the family, Harman, who has now been on the job for a month, spoke of the need to get the police to all feel they are a family. He recalled how close he was to many of the people he worked with in the past and said he wants to foster the same feeling with his staff and the public here in Kensington. He told the audience that he once had hair down to his shoulders and played drums in a rock group.

Harman brings to the job extensive experience from work in Daly City, where some of his roles included being a detective, working on the fraud unit, being in charge of training, and organizing and running the administrative services of Daly City police services.

In an interview later, Harman told the *Outlook* that Interim Chief Brown Taylor saved the police department from imminent collapse during his tenure in Kensington. He said Taylor put out many fires, managed to avoid several potentially damaging confrontations and lawsuits, and through hard work was able to get the department onto a secure footing, making Harman's tasks much more straightforward. "Without Taylor's hard work, this department could easily have collapsed," he said. If it had done so, the sheriff's department would now police Kensington. Harman said he was very thankful for the work that has been done in the past year, as should be the residents of Kensington. Among the issues that have recently been dealt with is ongoing police training. At times in the past year, there were as few as five officers and sergeants working in Kensington. This led to increased overtime and left very little time for extracurricular activities, such as training.

In the past few months, Sergeant Angela Escobar has reconfigured the training schedule and has organized her fellow employees to get up to date with their training.

By the end of October, this process should be complete, and then Kensington will be among the best-trained departments in the county. At the same time, Harman is looking at ways to make training more enjoyable and challenging; now much of the police training involves watching DVDs or listening to tapes.

Harman is instituting a series of other changes that will enable the department to keep careful track of their preparedness, effectiveness in policing, and satisfying community needs, including updating their Web presence. Sergeant Hussain Khan, who has been with Kensington police department for many years said, "Harman is very concerned about officers getting along with each other." Khan also believes an adjustment period of about two months works both ways, with officers also needing time to adjust to a new management style.

Harman is due to get intensive training in managing special districts and will work closely with other area chiefs to quickly get acquainted with local institutions and personalities. He says he welcomes any input from the community.

Invitation to Kensingtonians Come to the parade

The Kensington Community Council invites everyone to come to the KCC annual Fall Parade and Picnic on Sunday, October 14. Children and adults are encouraged to wear costumes and to join in the parade along with the El Cerrito High School Marching Band, nursery schools, and the Scouts. Other local organizations are invited to participate as well.

The parade is sponsored by Mechanics Bank. It will kick off at the corner of Arlington and Amherst Avenues and will wind its way to the Community Center. Participants are requested to assemble at noon. The parade will begin at 12:30 p.m. This year's grand marshals will be the new Hilltop principal, Judy Sanders, and the new police chief, Greg Harman.

Live music and a barbecue lunch can be enjoyed at the Community Center. Lunch tickets will be available for purchase in advance at the Mechanics Bank starting Oct 6.

Children are invited to color posters, available from the Mechanics Bank. These have been specially designed by Hilltop art teacher Karla Clement to be entertaining for different grade levels and to allow kids



to express their own creativity. Stop by the bank to pick up an entry form.

Marvin Gardens is once again donating pumpkins for children to carve or paint. Just pass by their office on Arlington Ave. to collect a pumpkin, and then submit it for wonderful prizes to be awarded after the parade. The judging of the pumpkins will take place on the lawn outside the Community Center, where the winners will be exhibited.

The picnic will begin with the scout

honor guard raising of the flag. During the festivities the talented El Cerrito High School Jazz Ensemble will play a variety of jazz classics on the lawn outside the Community Center.

The Friends of the Kensington Library semi-annual book sale will be taking place in the parking lot behind the library from noon to 4 p.m.

After the picnic, the Arlington Community Church, just across the street from the Community Center, will hold a free ice cream social from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Ice cream and cookies will be served with plenty of songs and dancing.

KPPCSD wants your input

Special meeting October 17

Earlier this year, the Kensington Police Protection and Community Services District (KPPCSD), with input from the public, set out a list of goals and objectives for 2007. Areas covered were finance and administration, police, parks and recreation, and board effectiveness. Goals included assessing the financial need of the

district using revenue and expense reports, passing a balanced budget, working with the chief of police to ensure high-caliber services and a force that is responsive to the needs of the community, hiring a new chief/general manager, maintaining and improving the park facilities and assets, and evaluating board effectiveness. The most notable achievements accomplished so far this year are selecting a new chief/general manager, making the newly decorated Annex available for public use, opening up a public bathroom, and maintaining the park. Additionally the board has made significant advancements in negotiations with Bay Area Refuse and passed a budget, albeit a deficit one.

In addition to the regular KPPCSD meeting, the directors will hold a public meeting, on October 17, at 7:30 p.m., to share their progress and process with residents. Director Cindy Kimball said, "We want to be sure that we are indeed serving our community, as they have elected us to do."

This meeting will give the directors an opportunity to report on what they have done throughout the year to work toward their stated goals. They will present their progress, challenges they have encountered, and a path for the future so as to become even more effective in serving the community.



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Hey Kids!

Pick up your pumpkin while supplies last!



50¢ donation to UNICEF per pumpkin.

Enter our Jack-o'-Lantern carving contest. Bring your carved pumpkin to the Kensington Park after the Parade October 14th! For details, call Laurie at 524.0800, or stop in and see her at 289 Arlington Avenue.



Marvin Gardens will be recycling batteries for the people in our community. All you have to do is bring them into our office during business hours, and place them in our special "Big Green Box" in the plastic bags provided.

289 Arlington Ave., Kensington 524.0800

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Kensington Community Council kicks off Annual fund drive

Editor—As many of you know, the Kensington Community Council provides important services to our community. It operates the KASEP and KCC Summer Day Camp for our children, provides adult education programs, and brings the community together in several events at the Community Center. These include the Fall Parade and Picnic, as well as the Spring Celebration. This year we included a family spaghetti dinner and worked toward financing public toilets in the park. KCC also publishes this newspaper. Under the watchful eye of Esther Hill, our youth programs continued to provide our children safe, fun, and educational activities at an affordable price. Our Summer Day Camp sold out for the entire summer and attracted families from neighboring communities as its reputation spread. Our education program also continues its tradition of providing excellent after-school classes and sports to our elementary school students, as we add more and varied classes. While we look forward to another great year, KCC continues to face some significant financial challenges. We raise all of our income through contributions from the community. To continue with all these important activities, we once again appeal for your help. We appreciate any donation you can spare, so that the KCC can continue to improve the quality of life in Kensington.

Please use the envelope included in this paper to send us your donation today.

Bruce Morrow
President

Kensington Community Council

Kensington Park

Editor—I feel Kensington Park is one of the jewels of our community, but recently a crew of tree-pruners has butchered several trees by the tennis courts, taking off structural branches and leaving dead ones. In some cases there are stubs of branches several feet long. One tree looks as though it was cut in two, with its west side removed. Is this pruning to ensure that there is no shade on the tennis courts? Also a large branch of a sycamore by the play structure was removed, so now there is a view of the cars at the Youth Hut instead of a leafy branch.

Behind the Youth Hut there is spilled garbage, a broken handrail, and a post with a screw pointing up, so if you grabbed it the palm of your hand would be stabbed. Also a railing is lying across the walkway.

KENSINGTON
OUTLOOK

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Kensington, CA 94707-1307

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Advertising

Classified ad rates are \$6 a line with a minimum of 2 lines at \$12. A line consists of 45 spaces or characters. An online ad form is available at: www.kensingtonoutlook.com at the bottom of the back issues listings. Send all display and classified advertising mail to:
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Kensington, CA 94707

Deadlines

Advertising deadline October 8
Editorial deadline October 10

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There are three new magnolias near the Hansen bench by the Youth Hut, but they are dead, as are the several trees above the amphitheatre by "Fort Kensington." The pines above the grass field have several dead branches, one of which is broken off and resting on the branch below it. There is already one on the ground where it blew down. I suspect these could be a liability if they fell on someone.

The new plaques on the benches have been attached with screws that stick out about half an inch and would be very uncomfortable if leaned upon. Why aren't these plaques fastened as the old ones?

All of these things signify neglect and misguided application of the efforts needed to keep our park a pleasant and inviting place to go.

Jean Durham

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Look for our Face Painting booth at the KCC Parade & Open House on Sunday, October 14 at the Kensington Community Center, 59 Arlington Avenue, Kensington. We look forward to meeting our Kensington neighbors!

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Pet of the month

Meet Pepsi! Pepsi has more fizz than any bunny we've ever seen. He loves to be picked up and cuddled but is very energetic when allowed to run free. He is a five-month-old Burmese boy bunny who thinks he's a horse. He likes to jump hurdles and kick out his back feet. He will even perform tricks for apples and oats! His favorite music is country and western and, of course, Pepsi would love to go home with a young cowboy or cowgirl. Please visit him at RabbitEARS, open 7 days a week, 303 Arlington Ave., 525-6155.

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From the Editor—The editor has passed the preceding letter on to Helen Horowitz, park coordinator, and the garbage, the broken railing, and the protruding nail have been rectified.

Editor—Having worked for so many years on the planning and development of Kensington Park, I continue to take an interest in it, even though I am no longer an elected director of the Services District Board.

Quite recently I noted that a lot of cutting was done on the live oaks above the tennis

courts and in the picnic area at Kensington Park. Regrettably, it appears to have been done without regard to aesthetics or the health of the trees. One must wonder what prompted such aggressive and insensitive tree work. The thoughtless removal of major limbs from these live oaks leaves them looking butchered. Better for the trees if much less cutting or none at all had been done. To those responsible for the care of these trees and the management of the Kensington Park, one must ask, "How did this happen?"

Ciara Wood

May the circle be unbroken

An item on the Kensington Police Protection and Community Service District board meeting agenda in September recommended that the board vote to replace the asphalt pavement that runs around the grass circle in front of the Community Center. The present pavement has been patched many times over the years, and some edge areas are crumbling. Although not often walked, the circle is relatively sound. In June the board agreed to put the work out for bid, at an estimated cost of \$44,000. Director Cindy Kimball asked that they consider getting two bids, one for a full replacement and another for a "patch job." The board voted in favor of the complete replacement, by a vote of three to two, with directors McLaughlin, Gallegos, and Haxo voting for and directors Kimball and Wright voting against.

Director Kimball stated that she thought it was not an appropriate use of the district's money at this time. Ciara Wood, an exboard member, suggested that the board consider paving the circle with bricks, each paid for by a member of the community with their names engraved.

The district received three bids; the lowest, from Terra Nova Engineering, was for \$37,500. Jack Griffith, an engineer contracted to review the bid and oversee the work, said that it met all the requirements. The board, again in a three-to-two vote, accepted this bid. After the vote, the district is preparing to sign a contract for the work involved. It is estimated that the work will take one week, and completion of the work is expected to be by the first week of October. With this bid and the Griffith and Associates fee, the total expenditure is expected to be \$39,500.

In other paving news, AT&T has completed its work on the recently repaved sidewalk. The contractor for



AT&T, unfortunately, placed its concrete boxes in such a manner as to leave height differences the same as or larger than the original step that caused a pedestrian to trip, thus triggering the whole repaving process.

Now the county has marked Amherst Ave. for repaving, and the residents there are investigating working together to get one permit and have the construction company that worked on Arlington also work on Amherst, for a similar discounted price. It is likely that the county will work through many of the streets with sidewalks in Kensington, slowly getting them repaired and repaved, at homeowners' expense.

CORRECTIONS

—Judy Sanders was reported as the new head of Hillside School instead of Hilltop School.

—The garbage service was incorrectly stated as a tax assessment. Kensington residents are billed directly by Bay View Garbage and Recycling.

• Experience Matters •



- Alexandra Crisafulli
- Vivian Fendel
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November 2 • Illustrio

A trio of clarinet, viola and piano will perform:
Mozart's "Trio" K. 498 in e-flat Kegelstatt
Max Bruch's "Rumanische Melodie" Op.83 Nocturne and Allegro Vivace
Alfred Uhl's "Kleine Konzert"

December 7 • Complete Messiah G. F. Handel

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December 21 • Amahl and the Night Visitor

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When: Friday Nights
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Where: Arlington Community Church
52 Arlington Ave., Kensington, CA 94707

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2060 Tapscott Ave., El Cerrito
510/236.5800

MIDDLE SCHOOL (5-8)
Sunday, October 28, 2007
960 Avis Dr., El Cerrito
510/528.5800

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Marvin Gardens is recycling batteries

Since February 8, 2006, it has been illegal to dispose of household batteries in your garbage. Batteries contain harmful and caustic materials that can contaminate the water supply and environment if disposed of in regular garbage. Until recently, the only local place to dispose of these batteries has been at the Contra Costa County Hazardous Waste facility in Richmond. Now you can safely dispose of these batteries right on Arlington Avenue. Marvin Gardens Real Estate has kindly offered to recycle local residents' batteries with the use of the Big Green Box program. Simply take your batteries to the Marvin Gardens office on Arlington Ave. or their El Cerrito office on Fairmont Ave., and they will take care of disposing of the batteries for you. Tod Hodson, of Marvin Gardens, said that they welcome the opportunity to help keep Kensington green and clean. "As there are no local facilities for battery recycling in the community, Marvin Gardens is glad to be able to help out." Marvin Gardens recently became a Green Business, by reducing their energy consumption and by instigating a vigorous recycling program.

Tree trimming in the park



Workers pruning trees in the park

Recently the Kensington maintenance crew pruned the trees in the park. At the KPPCSD meeting it was noted that the trimming of the oaks and sycamore tree was done in an unhealthy and unaesthetic manner. A member of the public suggested that in future the district employ an arborist to do the tree trimming. Another suggestion was that an arborist be employed to oversee the trimming. District secretary Helen Horowitz, who is in charge of park maintenance, stated that it would be prohibitively expensive to have an arborist tell the workers which limbs to cut and where. She said the people who trimmed the trees were doing what they had been asked to do. The board heard the complaints and has taken no action to acquire the services of an arborist, although Horowitz is making inquiries about pricing and available services.



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New daytime Baby-friendly Book Club at the Kensington Library



If you want the intellectual stimulation and social contact of a book club but can't get away in the evenings,

the Kensington Library has a new option for you. The Baby-friendly Book Club meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m. when the library is normally closed. It is a place for people with babies and without to discuss a good book and get to know their neighbors. This club does not have a particular literary theme, and leadership of the meetings rotates. The book for October 9th is *The Year of Magical Thinking*, by Joan Didion. Copies are available for checkout at the library. Toys and board books are available for the babies.

Guess the pumpkin's weight October 22-29

Come by and see our big pumpkin and guess its weight. The person with the closest guess (without going over) wins the pumpkin! All children through age 12 may enter the contest.

KENSINGTON COMMUNITY EDUCATION

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Fall Pumpkin Parade and Picnic in the Park.

Sunday, Oct. 14, Noon.

Come join the parade with the El Cerrito High School Marching Band! Wear your Halloween costume and march down Arlington Avenue to the Kensington Community Center, where you can buy a delicious lunch, listen to the ECHS Jazz Ensemble, view decorated pumpkins, and mingle with neighbors and friends.

The parade assembles at 12 noon at the corner of Amherst and Arlington Avenues.

Smart and Green in Kensington

Three talks are sponsored by Friends of Kensington Library, Kensington Community Council, Marvin Gardens, and Contra Costa County Libraries Kensington Library.

All Free! All at the Kensington library:

Green and Healthy Homes Monday, Oct 29, 7-8 p.m.

Join Jan Stensland for a talk on creating a healthy environment in your home. Jan, a Kensington resident, has worked for several years in green building and design, specializing in healthy

building materials. Through her company, Inside Matters, she provides indoor environmental quality and sustainable design consulting, education, policy development, and research to a wide variety of clients, such as the Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence, Alameda County Waste Management Authority, San Francisco Asthma Task Force, and Kaiser Permanente, where she was the in-house healthy and green building expert. Her work has been described as "Mother Earth Meets Ms. Science," in that she brings a practical, commonsense approach based on sound scientific research to her passion for healthy buildings.

Commonsense Pest Management in the Home and Garden

Monday, Nov. 5, 7-8 p.m.

Laurie Swiadon worked with the Bio-Integral Resource Center (BIRC) for 10 years as an entomologist and Integrated Pest Management consultant. Now the office manager at Marvin Gardens Real Estate in Kensington, she is still affiliated with BIRC and continues to be passionate about replacing toxic pesticides with commonsense management techniques when dealing with household and garden pests, such as ants, rodents, weeds, lawn pests, and aphids. Her recommended techniques are

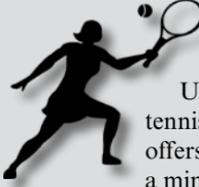
well researched and field tested and include the use of what BIRC refers to as "least-toxic pesticides" such as boric-acid-based insecticides and detergent sprays for insect problems.

Solar 101 for the Homeowner

Monday, Nov. 19, 7-8 p.m.

Jay Hermon will discuss how solar works and who it works for, rebates and incentives, and how to select a contractor. Jay Hermon is a solar energy consultant with REC Solar (<http://recsolar.com/>) specializing in residential grid tied systems. He is also a volunteer for NorCal Solar (<http://norcalsolar.org/>), which is the Bay Area's oldest nonprofit solar energy advocacy group.

ADULT CLASSES



Tennis
Alex Brown, USPTA tennis pro, offers classes to a minimum of four students. To register, call Alex Brown at 524-5495.
Fees: 5 classes: \$40 per resident / \$45 per non-resident
Where: Tennis Courts (West Court)



Acrylic Painting

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

When: Wednesdays, 9:45 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
Fees: \$32/month (\$36 for nonresidents)
Where: Community Center

Yoga for Beginners

Relax, nourish, and replenish your body through an easy, beginning-level yoga practice. Designed for those new to yoga as well as those who have practiced before. Discover a newfound sense of well being, ease, and grace through a simple series of hatha yoga postures, which encourage and promote body wisdom, health, and strength. Rejuvenate your system while practicing safely with care and attention to body awareness, alignment, and the breath. Please bring a mat to class.

Instructor Beth Hird has been studying yoga since 1975. She is a certified yoga instructor, a graduate of the 2004 Piedmont Yoga Studio Advanced Studies Program. She studied extensively with Rodney Yee, Claire Finn, and Richard Rosen and enjoys bringing patience, compassion, and humor to the practice.

When: Tuesdays, 7:30-8:45 p.m.
Fees: Residents, \$15 for drop in \$50/4 weeks (1 class/wk) \$100/8 weeks (2 classes/wk) Nonresidents add 10% (\$16.50/class; \$55 or \$110)
Where: Recreation Building, Room A (Building E).

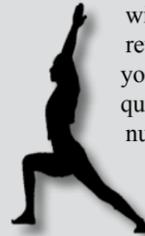
Yoga for Health

Harmonize your body, mind, and spirit. This class involves basic yoga poses, correct body alignment, breathing techniques, and relaxation. Develop strength, flexibility, endurance, and grace. Therapeutic concerns such as wrist, knee, neck and back pain, and stress reduction will be addressed. No prior experience required; all ages welcome. Please bring a mat to the class.

Instructor Nicole Becker, a registered yoga teacher, was trained in Anusara Yoga and has studied acupressure and qigong. She describes her teaching style as light-hearted and welcoming and strives to make each student feel cared for in his or her practice of yoga. For more information about the class, please contact Nicole at 527-6443.

To register, call the KCC office at 525-0292.
When: Tuesday 9:15-10:15 a.m.
Fees: Residents-\$12 for drop-in, \$50 for five classes. Nonresidents please add 10% (\$13.20/class; \$55 for five classes)
Where: Community Center

Thursday Hatha Yoga 5:30-6:30 p.m.



An ongoing class that will calm, restore, and revitalize you. Classic yoga postures and quiet attention to the nuance of movement help create a satisfying personal practice.

Yoga postures, breathing techniques, and philosophy are covered. All levels of experience welcome. Please bring a mat to class.

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

Fees: Residents-\$12 for drop-in one-month pass (4 classes) for \$40. Nonresidents please add 10% (\$13.20 for drop-in and \$44 for month pass)
Where: Recreation Building, Room A (Building E).

Monday Night Hatha Yoga 6:30-7:30 p.m.

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

Instructor: Claire Lavery
When: Class series meets Mondays, October 15, 22, and 29 November 5, 12, and 19 December 3, 10, and 17

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

Where: Recreation Building

YOUTH CLASSES



Gymnastics

Instructors: Judy Baker and Jean Jay. For more information about classes, call Judy Baker at 233-1833.

When: Tuesdays
Morning Kindergartners: 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m.
Advanced Beginners Grades 1-3: 2:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m.
Advanced Beginners Grades 4-6: 2:50 p.m.-3:50 p.m.
Where: Community Center

PLEASE REGISTER FOR THE CLASSES AT THE KCC OFFICE, 59 ARLINGTON AVENUE, KENSINGTON, 525-0292

K C C KENSINGTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Monday-Friday 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Esther Hill, Administrator, 525-0292

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

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

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

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

K A S E P KENSINGTON AFTER SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

Monday-Friday 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

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

Sessions: A few spaces are still available in the fall KASEP classes. A brochure and schedule are posted at www.aboutkensington.com/kasep.html. The fall session ends on Thursday, December 20. Registration for the winter session of KASEP will be held on Tuesday, December 4.

How well do you know Kensington?

1. Who named Kensington?
2. Kensington was originally the territory of which indigenous people?
3. Which city has the highest per capita concentration of Nobel Laureates in the United States?
4. On which street in Kensington were the most houses sold since 2005?
5. What was the population of Kensington in 1920?

1. In 1911, the area was named "Kensington" by Robert Brousefeld, a surveyor who once lived in the London borough of South Kensington.
 2. The Hutchin band of the Ohlone.
 3. You guessed it—Kensington!
 4. Purdue Avenue.
 5. In 1920 the population was 226, and by 1930 it had grown to nearly 1,500.

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KIC Town Hall features Dr. Harter and Police Chief Harman



The Kensington Improvement Club's annual Town Hall meeting will be held on Saturday, November 3, at the Community Center, from 9:30 a.m. to noon. This year, the lead speakers will include Dr. Bruce Harter, superintendent of the West Contra Costa Unified School District, and newly appointed chief of police and Kensington general manager Gregory Harman. Kensington Hilltop School's new principal, Judy Sanders, will also speak at the meeting. Additionally, Contra Costa County supervisor John Gioia and assemblywoman Loni Hancock will give presentations. Battalion chief Mike Pigoni will outline recent fire

department developments, and there will be speakers from other local groups.

The KIC Town Hall meeting is a popular event that provides a forum in which citizens can meet with local representatives and community volunteers. There will be plenty of time to ask questions of Dr. Harter and Chief Harman in this face-to-face, informal setting. A short annual meeting of the membership of the club will precede the invited speakers' portion of the program. Coffee and light refreshments will be provided free of charge, and copies of KIC's recent book, *Kensington, Past and Present*, will be available for purchase. Come early, get a cup of coffee, and meet your neighbors.

New jobs at the Police department

In a move to spread responsibility for administrative and procedural tasks at the police department, officers Rodney Martinez, Caesar Celada, and Doug Medina have taken on the job of field training officers, thereby removing some of the workload from the three Kensington sergeants. Officer Keith Barrow graduated from his 18-month probation period.



Local filmmaker has premiere

Kensington resident Dr. Michelle Peticolas is premiering her new film, *Facing Death ... with Open Eyes*, at Oakland's Chapel of the Chimes on October 18. This half-hour film is the first in a new four-part documentary series: *Secrets Of Life And Death*. It will be shown as part of the annual Day of the Dead activities. Questions and a discussion will follow the film.

Peticolas turns the camera on herself and four other Bay Area people to uncover truths about life and death. A rare disease strikes Robin, a newly divorced woman. Tighe, young, beautiful, and living in the Castro, tests positive for the AIDS virus. Rick, a writer and magazine editor, is diagnosed with lung cancer; he loses his freedom, his health, his looks, and his work. Ram Dass, author of *Be Here Now* and modern pioneer of conscious dying, is put to the test by a stroke.

Their four stories are woven together in a mosaic of words, images, and music, evoking loss, confusion, anger, and despair, and at last, discovery.

"The film is beautiful—gemlike, focused, and pure. [Peticolas] captured some of the poignancy and mystery that are in the room whenever a person faces death honestly," said Dr. Brad Stuart. Peticolas, who has been working on these films since 1999, has nearly completed the second film, *Caring for the Dying*. She leads a bereavement support group at Sutter VNA & Hospice and teaches classes on death and end-of-life at JFK University. By day she works as a legal secretary, manager, and trainer in San Francisco.

The film will be shown at the Julia Morgan Chapel at 4499 Piedmont Ave., Oakland, on October 18 at 7:30 p.m.



Annual Garden Party

Hilltop School will hold its 24th annual Garden Party Fundraiser on Saturday evening, November 10th, at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Kensington. Last year's event raised \$90,000 to help fund the school's science, computer, art, vocal music, and Read Naturally programs. It also provided for necessary classroom material and supplies.

The Garden Party is a fun-filled evening of food, wine, live music, a silent auction, and a live auction, featuring Hilltop parents Larry Polito as auctioneer and Jim Thomsen and Paul Normington, Dads' Club expresidents, as the emcees.

If you missed the chance to bid on them in past years, a few unique and highly desired items will be auctioned off again. Kensington Hilltop School president Rod Dunican won't guarantee an encore performance of last year, but in all probability the bidding for the very popular Dads' Club work party will be fiercer than ever!

The silent auction will once again provide a huge variety of valuable goods and services. Gift certificates to many Bay Area restaurants, getaways to places far and



Fire Department stays busy In August, the Kensington Fire Department made one call to extinguish a cooking fire, 2 to deal with downed power lines, 5 service calls, 2 to assist people locked out of their homes, several calls concerning smoke scares and service calls, and 16 medical calls, for a total of 27 incidents.



Pluggie the Hydrant The Kensington–El Cerrito Fire Department has acquired a new teaching aid, Pluggie the Hydrant. Pluggie is an interactive tool for teaching fire safety. He looks like an ordinary fire hydrant until his cap rises and he comes alive. His eyes light up, he moves, speaks, listens, and plays MP3s, all by remote control. Pluggie will be used in school classrooms, station tours, local fairs, and any other setting where a fire safety message is presented. The robot is the right size for teaching children and can communicate with them at their level. He is agile enough to maneuver easily in school classrooms and other restricted areas. His MP3 player plays prerecorded music and messages. Pluggie's eyelids open and close separately by remote control allowing him to wink, blink, and go to sleep. His eyes move left and right by remote control, allowing him to look at the children. The operator can talk through his loudspeaker. Pluggie made his first public appearance at the Tri-City Safety Day at El Cerrito Plaza in September.



Party and Fundraiser

near, carefully crafted student artwork, service certificates generously provided by local professionals, clothing, jewelry, and much more will make for a wonderfully boisterous silent auction. Debbie Polito, Garden Party cochair said, "Whether you are shopping for yourself or narrowing your holiday shopping list with terrific gifts, the Garden Party has it all. Most importantly, the final bid price of every item goes directly to programs that support our children, our school, and our community."

All Kensington residents are invited and encouraged to support this benefit, sponsored by the Kensington Education Foundation, with much support from the Dads' Club. The solicitation committee is seeking donations for the live and silent auctions. Cash is also gratefully accepted to help defray the cost of the event. Donations are tax deductible. To make donations to the auction, contact Beth Thomsen at 527-1319 or Nanette De Groot at 525-2835.

The event begins at 5:30. Tickets are \$50 in advance, \$55 at the door. For ticket information, call Catherine Mercurio at 527-1297 or Debbie Polito at 558-8345.

The advisory body is charged with making recommendations to the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors on land use, planning, zoning variance applications, code enforcement, and code changes.

Its five members and two alternates serve staggered four-year terms. Terms of council members Richard Karlsson and Patrick Tahara expire at the end of this year. Neither has indicated whether he plans to seek reappointment.

Other members of KMAC include Ray Barraza, chair, Pamela Brown, and Kay Reed. Alternate members are Christopher Brydon and Gordon Becker

Members are expected to review cases in advance, interact with the community and the County Community Development Department on issues that concern the council, perform other council functions outside of regular meetings, and occasionally attend hearings in Martinez. It would be helpful if applicants have experience reading plans and have knowledge of the area.

Applicants should be property owners and should demonstrate familiarity with the community and its land use issues. There is also a three-year residency requirement. Qualified individuals are encouraged to apply.

Applications are available at the library, or by calling the KMAC message line at 273-9926, or from Kate Rauch of Supervisor Gioia's office, 374-3231. Completed applications should be received by Supervisor Gioia's office no later than Friday, October 26. Interviews will take place in November or early December, and the Board of Supervisors will make appointments by the end of the year.

Local first aid training

The Kensington–El Cerrito Fire Department will be holding a CPR/first aid class at Arlington Community Church on Saturday, November 3. The class is open to all Kensington and El Cerrito residents. The cost is \$44 (\$22 for CPR and \$22 for first aid) and will begin at 9 a.m. with CPR, with a break for lunch on your own, and will resume at 1 p.m. for first aid. Call 215-4450 to sign up.

CERT Training

The Kensington–El Cerrito Fire Department is holding CERT Boot Camp training. This is a one-day course for those who do not have enough time to complete the full 20-hour training. The class will be held on October 13 at the Fairmont Neighborhood Center at 715 Lexington Ave., El Cerrito. Call 215-4450 to reserve a place.

KMAC seeks candidates to fill openings

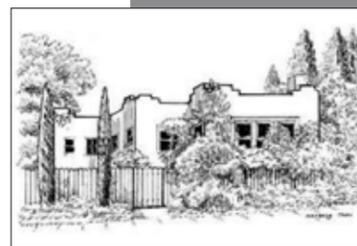
The Kensington Municipal Advisory Council is seeking applicants to fill two terms expiring at the end of this year.

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I am excited to invite you to visit my new interactive website, specifically designed as a way of connecting our community and sharing neighborhood news. At KensingtonVillageVoice.com you will be able to upload photos of community events, scenery, people, kids and pets. There is an interactive calendar where organizations are welcome to post upcoming events. Local merchants, you are also welcome to post information about your business, sales, featured items and promotions - it's complimentary. There are also numerous links to interesting and informative sites (please let me know of other sites you would like to see included).

I hope that you enjoy this new community site, and I hope you make use of it and most of all, have fun and stay in touch!

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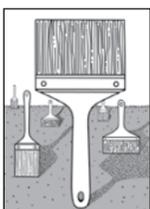


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Neighborhood Notes



Bats at the Community Center

The Friends of Kensington Library continue to break new ground. Previously they have brought us guide dog puppies, strange reptiles, and other unusual beasts, as well as clowns, magicians, interesting talks, and movies. Now they are bringing bats to the library.

The Bat Conservation Fund is presenting the Bat Show, starring live bats, on Saturday, October 27, at 1 and 3 p.m. Perhaps out of respect for the books, this show will take place at the Community Center. There will be 90 free tickets available for each of the two shows, available from October 20 at the Kensington Library. Children must be at least five years old to attend the program. Every child and adult attending must have a ticket. Call 524-3043 to check on availability.

County establishes drop-off sites for recalled toys

Contra Costa Health Services recently announced that the Contra Costa Lead Poisoning Prevention Project has established drop-off sites where parents can safely dispose of any toys recalled due to lead hazards. Both Fisher-Price and Mattel have issued recalls for groups of toys. In West County, the drop-off site is the office of District 1 Supervisor John Gioia, 11780 San Pablo Ave., Suite D, El Cerrito. Other sites are located in Martinez, Brentwood, Concord, and Pittsburg. For more information, call 866-349-5323.

FKL semiannual book sale

The Friends of the Kensington Library Book Sale will be held Sunday, October 14, 12 noon to 4 p.m., in the parking lot behind the library. Come by after the parade is over to rummage for books to read while eating your lunch at the Community Center. As usual, there will be many inexpensive books at the sale. This year's special event is a well-stocked silent auction from noon to 2 p.m. that will feature exceptional finds for book collectors. To donate books or to volunteer, call 524-3043.

Kensington gives to Goodwill

The September Green and Save waste reduction event at the Farmer's Market was a great success. From 9:30 a.m. until 1:45 p.m., a steady stream of donors dropped off reusable goods to be taken away by the Goodwill truck.

In fact, the response overwhelmed expectations. Planners had hoped the day's event would fill one Goodwill van. However, by 11:15 a.m. the first van was full and another had to be requested. People bringing donations were asked to return later, while organizers scrambled to obtain a second truck. Belongings of people who could not return were stacked in the parking lot until the van arrived. By 1:45 p.m. the second van was filled, and the collection was stopped. For four and a half hours, Kensington volunteers Kathy Stein, Pamela Brown, Shauna Rajkowski, and Tom Cavers worked without ceasing to unload cars, carry boxes and sacks filled with useful items to the Goodwill truck, and direct traffic. Stein, a long-time volunteer for many Kensington projects, said, "This was one of the best volunteer experiences I have ever had." Kay Reed, who was on vacation during the event, did much of the pre-event organizing. The organizers are hoping to repeat the collection next year, although they are hoping for more volunteers next time. Reed and Brown are both volunteer members of KMAC. If you are interested and would like to participate, contact Kathy Stein at 524-5393.

Hilltop School's new Outreach Program: Kensington Cares:

Kensington Cares is a way for the Kensington Hilltop school community to assist each other when they find themselves in need. The program is designed to help any Hilltop family when there is a situation or emergency that disrupts the family's ability to function.

Kensington Cares helps organize meals, play dates, transportation, and other support a Hilltop family might need during their time of need. Beth Thomsen (jthomsen@aol.com), with the help of several other Hilltop parents, is currently establishing basic guidelines and procedures so those who want to help can easily understand what they need to do to provide assistance, and those in need can get the help they deserve.

Flu shots

Kensington Pharmacy is once again offering flu shots, provided by Test-Med. The vaccination for the 2007-08 flu season will cost \$25, the same as last year. Medicare will pay for the vaccine for those with Medicare cards. The shots will be available from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Wednesday, October 3, 10, 17, and Saturday, October 6, 13, 20. No appointments are necessary. Test-Med expects to provide over a half million doses of influenza vaccine during this vaccination campaign.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, new strains of flu circulate every year, and the flu vaccine can prevent 66 percent or more of influenza infections in young children, with even higher estimates for people over 65. Vaccinating close contacts of children can also help decrease children's risk of getting the flu. Because children less than 5 years of age are at increased risk of severe flu illnesses, those between 6 and 59 months and the household contacts and caregivers of children 0 to 59 months are advised to get the flu vaccine every year. Children less than 6 months of age are most at risk for having complications from the flu, but they are too young to get the flu vaccine. To protect these infants, it is very important that their household members and out-of-home caregivers be vaccinated against the flu.

Night patrol

At a recent KPPCSD meeting, the new police chief was asked if he was going to reschedule police hours so that two officers would be on duty from 2 to 6 a.m. He replied that it would take at least two extra officers to enable this to happen. If there is ever need of additional officers, these can be called from surrounding communities, such as Albany and El Cerrito. Likewise, on occasion Kensington officers assist these departments in cases of extreme need.

Shai's to become The Arlington

Plans are well under way for the new owners of Shai's, Trish McDermott and Mark LaJoie, to take over the establishment in early November under its new name, The Arlington. Right now they are waiting for the county inspectors and the transfer of the licenses to be completed. As soon as this is done, Shai will be on his way to Hawaii and a new life running a coffee plantation and guesthouse. The new owners, who live a few houses up Arlington Ave., have plans to redo the inside and will concentrate on serving the community fresh, local, organic food and drinks. McDermott has a background in marketing and will make sure the place has a family-friendly atmosphere, while LaJoie will do the cooking. He has a passion for food that he wants to share with the community.

Many people stop them in the street asking them to be sure to keep their favorite of Shai's dishes. They intend to keep most of them and add new ones of their own. The Arlington will be open for coffee, pastries, and other morning treats and will serve toasted sandwiches and occasional hot dishes to eat there or take home, along with the traditional favorites. They are open to suggestions and plan to ease their way into the catering business, a mainstay of Shai's. They will serve beer and wine to drink on the premises and will also have a healthy kids menu, including take-out lunches.

Spirit and the Arts!

The Arlington Community Church, on Arlington Ave., has announced an eight-month series of weekly gatherings for interfaith education, fun, and community for everyone, ages 7 to 99. These will take place on Thursday evenings this fall, starting October 11. Twice a semester, the church will open to the community to provide intergenerational learning, food, and interfaith celebration. Activities will include music, dances, prayers, dramas, games, movies, and stories from sacred texts of many traditions, including ritual meals and experiences of interfaith traditions and spiritual practices. There will be a young peoples' group (ages 7 to 14) from 6 to 7:30 p.m. and a second adult book group that will be reading *The Faith Club*. Both groups may join together for the evenings of communal celebration of Spirit and the Arts. A church spokesperson said, "Through the arts, we will remember our shared spirit as we learn together. Come and join us for our free community kickoff celebration at 2 p.m. on Sunday, October 14, after the parade."

The topic for October is Jewish Spirit and the Arts. Later sessions will focus Islam, Christianity, African heritage, Buddhism, Confucian/Taoist teachings, Hinduism, and Native American beliefs. Call the church at 526-9146 to sign up and find out more.



Kensington Marmalade birthday invitation

For the past year, the Kensington Marmalade Company has been a favorite of visitors to the Kensington Farmers' Market. Now they are preparing to celebrate their first birthday party, though the company was founded in 2003. At present they produce eight varieties of marmalade, including Bergamont orange and Meyer lemon, tangerine, Rangpur lime and Valencia orange, and Go Bearss lemon lime, the last being popular with Cal supporters.

Alexandra and Tim Eisler started the company in Kensington after Alexandra, then a trade advisor for the British government, was told by a Devon jam maker that she had probably flown to England from California on the same jet as the strawberries. Eisler said, "And I was taking a sample of that very strawberry jam to a retailer back in San Francisco." She decided to transplant the old-fashioned English recipes and methods back to California using fruit from her backyard and the neighboring community. Once she started, neighbors called with offers of Meyer lemons, Bearss limes, and Marsh grapefruit, all grown organically, and often within 100 yards of the company.

"I'm shortening the journey from field to table," said Eisler, "while retaining the artisanal tradition of small-batch jam making, using local citrus and berries."

The Rangpur limes come from Edgcroft Rd., the Eureka lemons from Ocean View, and a recent batch of Marsh grapefruit grew on Coventry Rd. Other fruit, such as blood oranges, comes from the northern Sacramento valley, and Pixie tangerines come from Ojai.

Eisler said, "We are so grateful for all the support Kensington has given us this year." So they are having a party at the Farmers' Market. Apart from many samples, there will be drawings for prizes, face painting and tattoos for kids, and customer appreciation gifts to be given away at the celebration, which kicks off with a vendor breakfast.

Made in small batches, the marmalades and jams are available at the Kensington and Alameda Farmers' Markets, by phone at 524-5604, and online at kensingtonmarmaladecompany.com.

OBITUARY

Charlie Carver lived in Kensington for 58 years



Charles August Carver passed away September 14, at age 95. Carver grew up in Alameda, and began his studies at the University of the Pacific in Stockton. His education was interrupted by the Depression so he could work in his uncle's bakery and can salmon in Alaska. Later he returned to UC Berkeley, receiving a degree in history. There he met and married Helen Garzoli, in 1940. They were married for 49 years and had four children. She died in 1990.

Carver served in the Army during WW II, intercepting and interpreting messages from the Japanese. After his discharge, the family made their home in Kensington. He was active in the Boy Scouts, PTA, Dads' Club, camping and fishing with his family and lawn bowling. Carver worked for the FHA and HUD in San Francisco. He also taught appraising at UC Berkeley. After his retirement, he worked for 20 years as an appraiser and landlord.

In 2000, Carver moved to Irvine to be closer to his daughters and grandchildren. The week before his death, Carver was making plans for a fishing trip and to attend the post-season games of the Anaheim Angels.

Carver is missed by his brother Tom of Los Angeles, his sons Bill of Oakland, Donald of Alameda, his daughters Judith Bateman and Isabelle Nidever of Irvine, and five grandchildren.

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Stop by The Mechanics Bank Kensington office the week of September 17 to pick up an entry form. Have your child enter our Kid's Coloring Contest for a chance to **win a \$50 U.S. Savings Bond!** (Details in our Kensington office.)



Purchase barbecue lunch tickets in advance, Monday thru Friday, September 17 to October 12, at The Mechanics Bank and receive **50¢ per ticket off** the regular Open House price.



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Monday October 1

Castoffs Knitting Group . 7 p.m. Free. Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave. 524-3043.

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

Tuesday October 2

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

The Power of Myth in Movies. Richard Stromer. First Tuesdays, through May 6, from 7:30–9 p.m. Donation: \$40 Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd. Registration 682-6302 or 799-0747.

Wednesday October 3

Red Cross Blood Services volunteer orientations. Various East Bay opportunities available. 10 a.m.–Noon. Advanced sign-up is required. 594-5165.

Thursday October 4

Hilltop School PTA. 7 p.m. Multipurpose Rm., Hilltop School, 90 Highland Blvd. 231-1415.

Friday October 5

REV. SCOT SLOAN SPIRITUAL ADVISER
 FROM THE DOONESBURY ZONE

Exhibition of the political **Quilts of Dorothy Vance.** Benefit for Women for Peace. 5–8 p.m. and Sat. 11 am–3 p.m. Free. Hillside Club, 2286 Cedar St., Berkeley. 848-3227.

Mini Concert—Music and art in celebration of a medieval pilgrimage for the **Black Madonna.** Preconcert talk 7 p.m., concert 7:30 p.m. \$15. Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave., 526-9146.

Saturday October 6

Beginning Internet Classes. All about email. Call to sign up. 10–11 a.m. El Cerrito Library, 6510 Stockton Ave. 526-7512.

Quilts of Dorothy Vance. See October 5.

AMERICAN PASTORAL PHILIP ROTH

Dr. Naomi Seidman, Graduate Theological Union, talks about **American Pastoral** by Philip Roth, as part of Let's Talk About It: Jewish Literature—Identity and Imagination. 2 p.m. Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave. 524-3043. *Let's Talk About It: Jewish Literature, a reading and discussion series, has been made possible through a grant from Nextbook and the American Library Association.*

KENSINGTON

Sunday October 7

Personal Theology. Will you come and dance with me? Poetry and the spiritual journey. 9:30 a.m. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd. 525-0302.

UU Bible Study, led by Rev. Lisa Sargent. 10 a.m. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd. 525-0302, ext. 306.

Photo sessions for pets for holiday greeting cards. Noon–2:30 p.m. RabbitEARS, 303 Arlington Ave. 525-6155 for appt.

Women's Antique Vocal Ensemble (WAVE) performs "Transitions: Spanish Influence in the New World," a program of Hispanic Renaissance and Baroque music with Renaissance instrumental ensemble Alta Sonora. 8 p.m. \$15/\$10. St. Albert Priory Chapel, 6172 Chabot Rd., Oakland.

Tuesday October 9

Dads' Club 7 p.m. Multipurpose Room, Hilltop School, 90 Highland Blvd. 231-1415.

THE YEAR OF MAGICAL THINKING JOAN DIDION

Baby-friendly Daytime Book Club. Parents and their babies and other baby-friendly people. This month's book is *The Year of Magical Thinking* by Joan Didion. 10 a.m. Free. Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave., 524-3043.

Family Storytime. See October 2.

Wednesday October 10

KFPD Kensington Fire Protection District monthly meeting. 7:30 p.m. Community Center, 59 Arlington Ave. 527-8395.

Thursday October 11

Everything you wanted to know about **bromeliads** and a little bit more. Speaker: Tom Koerber, Bromeliads Society of San Francisco. 9:30 a.m.–noon. El Cerrito Garden Club, El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Moeser Ln.

Spirit and the Arts, for young people ages 7–14, 6–7:30 p.m. Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. 526-9146.

KPPCSD monthly board meeting. 7:30 p.m. Community Center Annex, 59 Arlington Ave. 526-4141.

Friday October 12

Hilltop School holiday.



Walking Our Talk: Dialogue to live the vision, led by Rev. Cathleen Cox Burneo. 10 a.m. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd. 525-0302.

Saturday October 13



Drumming as a Path to Spirit. Ann Riley. 9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Donation: \$40. To register, call 527-5141. Unitarian Universalist

Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd. 525-0302.

Guitarist Bob Reid presents his lively and interactive program of music for children of all ages and their families 11 a.m. Free. El Cerrito Library, 6510 Stockton Ave.

Tooth and Nail Pet Grooming. 12–4 p.m. RabbitEARS, 303 Arlington Ave. 525-6155 for appointment.

Bryan Baker and Friends play original piano version of Mussorgsky's Pictures at an Exhibition followed by culinary delights. 8 p.m. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd. 525-0302, ext. 306.

Sunday October 14



KCC Fall Parade. From Ace Hardware to the Community Center. 12 noon.



The Friends of the Kensington Library **Book Sale.** Noon–4 p.m. In the parking lot behind the library at 59 Arlington Blvd. 524-3043.

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CALENDAR

Arlington Community Church **ice cream social** and kickoff celebration for **Spirit and the Arts**. 2-3:30 p.m. Free. Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. 526-9146.

Walking Our Talk: Dialogue to live the vision, led by Rev. Cathleen Cox Burneo. 10 a.m. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd. 525-0302, ext. 306.

Personal Theology: Unitarian Universalism, Why It Matters. Bill Hamilton-Holway. 10 a.m. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd. 525-0302, ext. 306.



The Kensington **Marmalade Birthday Celebration.** Kensington Farmers' Market, 303 Arlington Ave.

Tuesday October 16

Red Cross Blood Services Volunteer Orientations Various East Bay opportunities available. Advanced sign up is required. 6-8 p.m. 594-5165.



The Tilden Trio: Berkeley Chamber Performances. Beethoven, Ravel, Arensky, Oliver. 8 p.m. Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant Ave., Berkeley. \$20. 525-5211.

Family Storytime. See October 2.

Wednesday October 17



Rev. Forrest Church of the N.Y.C. Unitarian Church of All Souls discusses his book, *So Help Me God! The Founding Fathers and the First Great Battle Over Church and State.* \$10 donation

Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd. 525-0302, ext. 306.

KPPCSD goals and objectives meeting. 7:30 p.m. Community Center Annex, 59 Arlington Ave. 526-4141.

Thursday October 18

Spirit and the Arts, for young people ages 7-14. 6-7:30 p.m. Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. 526-9146.

"Facing Death," a documentary, by filmmaker Dr. Michelle Peticolas. 7:30 p.m. \$12-15 donation. Oakland's Chapel of the Chimes, 4499 Piedmont Ave. 800-838-3006.

Friday October 19

Partnership as a Spiritual Practice. Led by Revs. Bill and Barbara Hamilton-Holway 7-9 p.m. and 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 20 with potluck lunch. Registration 525-0302. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, Lawson Rd. 525-0302.

Manga Maniacs: all things manga. Read, draw, watch anime, or test your knowledge of manga and anime trivia. Friday Tween Time 3:30 p.m. Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave. 524-3043.

Saturday October 20



California Plein Air Art Show. Hillside Club, 2286 Cedar Street, Berkeley between Arch and Spruce Sts. 9-5 p.m. Saturday and 11-5 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 21. 848-3227.

El Cerrito Democratic Club Annual Dinner and Mini-Convention. Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. 6 p.m. \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door. 375-5647.

How to Search the Web. Call to sign up. 10-11 a.m. El Cerrito Library, 6510 Stockton Ave. 526-7512.

Partnership as a Spiritual Practice. See Oct. 19.

Sunday October 21

Personal Theology: Activating present-moment awareness, with Michael Brown's Presence Process. Presented by Marion Pastor and David Curry, consciousness-raising explorers and members of UUCB. 10 a.m. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd. 525-0302, ext. 306.

California Plein Air Art Show. See Oct. 20.

Photo sessions for pets. See Oct. 7.

Queer Theologies, led by Donna Sequeira. Examines gay, straight, transgender, bisexual, lesbian, intersex, and queer theologies 10 a.m. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd. 525-0302, ext. 306.

Monday October 22



The Day of the Locust by Nathaniel West, Kensington Library **Book Club** 7 p.m. Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave. 524-3043

Tuesday October 23

Family Storytime. See October 2.

Thursday October 25

Spirit and the Arts. See Oct. 18.

Saturday October 27

Bat Show by the Bat Conservation Fund. 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Tickets at Kensington Library. Sponsored by the Friends of the Kensington Library. Kensington Community Center, 59 Arlington Ave. 524-3043.

Useful Websites. 10-11 a.m. El Cerrito Library, 6510 Stockton Ave. Sign up at 526-7512.

Kensington Symphony Geoffrey Gallegos, conductor. Daniel Glover, piano. Wagner, Liszt, Franck, Brahms. 8 p.m. Northminster Presbyterian Church, 545 Ashbury Ave., El Cerrito. Donation: \$15; seniors \$12; children free. 524-9912.

Sunday October 28

Personal Theology: The Question of the Supernatural: How do we steer between naïve gullibility and hard-line skepticism? Sarah Lewis, New College and Graduate Theological Institute. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd. 525-0302.

Halloween at the Farmers' Market. Bring the whole family for tricks and treats, freaky experiments by UC Chemistry Club 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Monday October 29

Jan Stensland, expert on green design and renovation. **Smart and Green Series.** 7 p.m. Sponsored by KCC. Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave. 524-3043.

Tuesday October 30

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

Family Storytime. See October 2.

OPEN HOUSE ARLINGTON CHILDREN'S CHOIR

For children who love to sing!

WHEN: Wednesday, October 10
TIME: 4:00 p.m.—5:15 p.m.
WHERE: Arlington Community Church
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Recent Sales Activity in Kensington

Address	Beds	Baths	List Price	Sold Price	Sold Date
4 Kenyon Ave.	2	1	\$695,000	\$720,000	08/03/07
298 Los Altos Dr.	4	3	\$990,000	\$1,400,000	08/06/07
207 Yale Ave.	2	1	\$749,000	\$801,000	08/07/07
29 Windsor Ave.	2	1	\$639,000	\$639,000	08/13/07
281 Lexington Rd.	3	1	\$639,000	\$685,000	08/13/07

Information deemed reliable but not guaranteed.



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From the case files of the KPD

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

Events in August

- An Arlington resident called to report that a motorbike in Berkeley had scratched his Lexus.
- A resident reported that her deceased husband's identity had been stolen. Someone was using his credit card in a video rental store.
- A car was pulled over in front of the police station. The driver was found to have expired registration, and it turned out that he also had no valid drivers license. He and his two passengers became pedestrians after their car was towed.
- A Ford Ranchero, was pulled over, also on Arlington Ave., because of expired tags. This driver had a license, but it was suspended, and he, too, became a pedestrian.
- A woman living on Columbia Ave. reported a hit-and-run accident to her Plymouth Voyager. Police found the culprit at home. She explained to the police who knocked on her door, "I was just about to contact the owner of the other car." The police were skeptical.
- A purse, a GPS device, cash, and a license were stolen from a car parked in the vicinity of Grizzly Peak and Beloit Avenues. The total value was \$260.
- A lady turned in her husband's handgun after he was committed for mental care.
- A high school student was reported trying to sell newspapers on Amherst Ave. He had no license and was advised to cease and desist.
- A thief, apparently after valuable recyclable metal, stole copper post caps and a railing from a house on Colusa Ave. The replacement cost was about \$400.
- Someone from Edgcroft Rd. called the police to help them locate a footpath. Police managed to find the required path on Coventry Rd., where it had been all the time.
- Police were called to a back garden on Coventry Rd., where three neighbors, one living on Marchant Ct., were unhappy with a tree trimming job that had been done by one neighbor's landlord. Police had to explain that bad tree trimming is not a crime.
- A purple Honda was stolen from a house on Arlington Ave. It was found in Albany before the owners knew it was gone. (Must have been the color.) The thieves were taken into custody.
- A person was reported as being suspicious because he was seen sitting on a step on Ardmore Path and eating a sandwich. Police advised him that there might be other more salubrious dining locations.
- A motorist delivering newspapers did a turn in a driveway on Wellesley Ave. and backed into a drainage ditch, where the vehicle got firmly wedged. Police called a tow truck to pull him out.
- Again, someone reported the broken light pole that has been lying on the corner of Arlington Ave. and Rincon Rd. Again, the police reported it to the county, and this time someone came and removed it, after several months and many calls.
- A woman living on Coventry Rd. called police because a driver had damaged the curb in front of her home when making a turn. Upon close inspection, police did indeed find a very small scratch in the concrete.
- Someone going for an interview parked their large BMW in the Sunset View Cemetery parking lot. They returned to find that thieves had made off with a \$2100 Gucci purse, \$600 in cash, an \$800 camera, \$50 lip gloss, a \$50 stereo, debit cards, and a junky \$10 pair of sunglasses. The keys had been left in the car.
- Unknown and unadventurous thieves stole an Acura from outside a house on Norwood Ct. It was later found very nearby, on Highgate Rd. Nothing was removed from the car. The suspects are thought to have used shaved keys to enter the car.
- Another car was unlocked with shaved keys, this time on Arlington Ave. The perpetrators removed a Pioneer CD player and speakers worth \$220.
- Someone removed the pricing digits from the sign at the gas station on Arlington Ave.



- Before taking her child from the baby seat of her car, a woman accidentally shut the car door, locking it with her keys and baby inside. Her husband brought a spare set of keys within minutes. The child was fine.
- A Honda Accord was broken into on Sunset Dr., and the thieves removed a \$100 chain saw and \$4 in change. The report was made to police several days after the event. The police ask you to report thefts or any suspicious event immediately. Several hours or days later greatly reduces the chance of them being able to do anything about your call.
- A moving truck parked on Avon Rd. rolled uncontrolled down the street, striking a vehicle and a water hydrant. The driver chased after it but couldn't arrest its progress. He said it was "like a scene from a movie."
- A resident called the police to complain of chalk marks made on a car tire on Highland Blvd. They wanted to know who would do such a thing.
- A dog chased a small deer into a yard on Yale Cir. The police were able to liberate the fawn while keeping the dog at bay.
- Someone whose daughter is living in New York received a phone call saying that the caller had their daughter and was going to rape her. It turned out to be a hoax.
- A bicyclist coming down the hill from the park onto Arlington Ave. ran the light and struck a moving car. No one was seriously hurt.
- A hit-and-run accident on Beloit Ave. scratched a Volvo and almost completely removed the driver's side mirror.
- A woman walking around the Blake Estate was accidentally locked inside the grounds when it closed. The police were able to get her out.
- While in Europe for three months, a Purdue Ave. resident found that someone had set up a credit card in their name and deposited \$5,800 into the account, presumably to establish a good record. Later the person withdrew \$11,900.
- An elderly sleepwalking woman fell in her home on Lake Dr. She sustained no injury.
- A resident of Beloit Ave. was alerted to a person attempting to break into their car by a driveway warning system. The person ran off and was not found.
- Two kids flagged down a police car to report that a passing green Dodge threw eggs at them on Ocean View Ave.
- A couple sat talking in a parked car on Arlington Ave., whereupon a neighbor came out and cursed at the man for parking in front her house.

Kensington Police Department	
Emergency	911
Police dispatch	236-0474
Non Emergency office (daytime)	526-4141
Kensington Fire Department	
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Kensington Outlook Classified

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