Parcel Tax Measure Headed For March Ballot

Measure J would create $7.5 million to ensure funding for valued programs

Voters in West Contra Costa County will decide next month whether to approve Measure J, a parcel tax that would raise about $7.5 million a year for the financially-troubled West Contra Costa Unified School District.

The West Contra Costa Unified School District trustees unanimously approved the ballot measure at a special board meeting in December. The tax would be assessed at 6.8 cents per square foot on all building area for parcels in the district. Citizens 65 and older could apply for an annual exemption on single family residential units or multi-family housing units if they serve as their principal residence.

The measure requires two-thirds majority to pass and must overcome some community distrust of the district. Sensitive to community concerns the district crafted the measure so it specifies that the money will be used to fund programs valued by district residents and assure the money will be spent at the school and not the administrative level.

This includes maintaining reduced class sizes for kindergarten through grade three, purchasing text books and teacher materials, attracting and retaining qualified aides and counselors, enhancing core subjects and improving custodial services to keep facilities clean and in good condition.

The measure also calls for an annual independent audit of how the funds are used.

In November, only 79.8% of school district parcel taxes won voter approval and two of those were within the same district. Since 1998, 43 of 63 parcel taxes in the Bay Area have won voter approval.

The League of Women Voters will hold a meeting on the pros and cons of the ballot measure Tuesday, Feb. 17 at 7:30 p.m. at El Centro Royales, 6510 Gladys Ave. in the third floor meeting room. Call 527-1332 for information about the meeting.

The looming state budget cuts are going to impact our district even more so. We need to shore up our finances as best we can.

-- Helen Bean
PTA co-president

Orchestrating a Fundraiser: Kensington Education Foundation board member Hal Abrams believes the organization can raise the money needed to build a new music and art room.

"I see a good opportunity to entice the right people to make major gifts." Abrams, a professional fundraiser for the University of California, says Kensington Hilltop Educational Foundation weighs financial commitment

KEF must decide whether to commit $175,000 to ensure art and music room for renovated school

The Kensington Education Foundation will decide this month whether to pursue an ambitious fundraising campaign to replace the art and music room at Kensington Hilltop Elementary School, which will be lost in the school district’s $15.5 million renovation and expansion.

The foundation expects to need about $175,000 to pay for the room, which would be part of a new two-story structure that would connect the lower yard to the upper yard and house the school’s library and science room.

Currently the art and music classes are housed in a portable structure that will be removed from the grounds. A formula used by the school district intended to equitably use Measure M bond funds for school facilities did not allow the district to pay for the room.

Though $175,000 is about as much as the foundation raises a year, Hal Abrams, the newest member on the foundation’s board, believes it is an achievable goal that will require the group educate the community about the school’s need and require the foundation to solicit larger gifts than it traditionally has sought.

"People in the past that have great capacity to give haven’t prioritized the school as being in need of more than a few hundred dollars," said Abrams, a professional fundraiser for the University of California. "I see a good opportunity to entice the right people to make major gifts."

Perata pushes, then pulls, bill aimed at Scher controversy

Senator Don Perata withdrew a bill aimed to resolve the ongoing dispute between concert promoter Danny Scher and some of his neighbors over fundraising concerts at his home by stripping the county of its ability to regulate them.

Lindsey Graham, a legislative aid to Perata, said the senator pulled the bill after talks between supervisor John Gioia and Senator Tom Ajello provided Perata with assurances that the county is addressing the matter. Graham said the senator would not be opposed to the county passing a noise ordinance that would regulate the use of amplified sound, but felt homeowners should be free to hold fundraisers at their home without seeking permits from the county.

The bill, SB 952, was originally introduced last year. It would allow charity fundraisers as a permitted use within residential zones. Contra Costa County’s zoning ordinance currently allows charity fundraisers in residential zones with land use permits. The permit requirement allows the county to address issues regarding the frequency, scope and scale of fundraisers, including neighborhood noise and parking impacts.

"Local government’s right to control land use is fundamental in California. Neighboring families look to local government for protection and it is the county that is called, not the state, when there are noise or traffic problems," wrote Community Development Director Dennis Barry in a letter to the board of supervisors. "This situation is being driven by a single individual and should be resolved at the local level, not the State."

Supervisor Gioia scrapped plans for a county-wide noise ordinance after opposition from the county sheriff, who was concerned about enforcement. Gioia said he is now exploring the possibility of a Kensington-only noise ordinance that would be enforced by local police.

Perata’s Graham said Perata will introduce new legislation if a satisfactory resolution is not reached by the county.

Perata pushes, then pulls, bill aimed at Scher controversy

Spring Fling

KCC’s Vida Dorroh and Danielle Powers

Mark your calendars for this year’s Spring Celebration. The party will be held Saturday, March 13 at 6:30 p.m. at the Kensington Community Center. There will be free childcare with pizza and a movie for children. See page 3.
Letters to the Editor

An ounce of fire prevention
To the Editor:

In the aftermath of the dreadful fires in Southern California, people are far more aware of the similar possibilities in our area.

The dead vegetation around us could cause a similar debacle to what we watched for so many days. The indifference of individuals to fire danger needs to be addressed. A similar fire could quite easily occur here.

I live in Kensington on the bus line for many years and ride the bus. AC Transit need not apologize for the size of the present bus. For many years, AC Transit used the large bus on the same route. Several years ago, the smaller bus was introduced. Now, we are back to the large one.

The bus ran everyday from morning to midnight. Then the weekends were discontinued, and then, the hours were reduced to the present schedule.

During all those years it satisfied the residents’ needs. No one complained about size, noise, safety or emissions. We were grateful to have the bus service the community. For me, there was no problem with safety issues. The drivers do a good job driving the bus and maneuvering the tight spots.

Several years ago, budget cuts in the county funds reduced the service and maintenance of the roads. Breaks in the road are not uncommon. Unfortunately, no one seems to move to a community where there is an “existing nuisance” they decide to “fix it” by finding all sorts of excuses. Forcing AC transit to jump through hoops may seriously jeopardize community where there is an “existing nuisance” they decide to “fix it” by finding all sorts of excuses.

People need to lose their complacency and take action to make certain that the heavily populated East Bay hills remain fire free. Some of that action could be to contact the proper individuals who are in charge of fire prevention or local fire departments. Offers to assist community officials and those who have authority in the county could also be extremely important. Other actions by individuals could begin with a simple cleanup in their own area.

Now that rain has come many individuals will feel that it isn’t necessary to take care of dead vegetation - it will be too wet to burn. But the situation remains very dangerous and next spring the new growth will mix with what we have already and the situation will be far worse.

At present, protect your home by being more responsible. Be one of those individuals who take some action.

Diane Egelston
Kensington

Doggie doos and don’ts
To the Editor:

The following applies to any dog owners, dog sitters, or dog walkers who are allowing their dogs to leave droppings on their neighbors’ properties, the streets, sidewalks, parks or any other public spaces.

Pick up after your dog. It is your responsibility, and it is easy to keep bags with the dog’s leash so that you remember to have the necessary equipment. When you pick up after your dog, do not leave the bag of droppings. Take it home and put it in your trash can, or use a public trash can. That bag is your responsibility.

Every time I write a letter and return from the Kensington Hilltop Elementary School where I saw a father struggling to remove dog excrement from the wheels of his daughter’s stroller. There is a lot of dog excrement left on the hill next to the school parking lot.

Whoever allows their dogs to leave their droppings there is antisocial and irresponsible. Don’t we all have enough to do without having to remove dog excrement from our shoes? Don’t teachers have enough to do without having to clean up dog droppings tracked into their classrooms?

I have a dog. I walk her to school every day with my children. I let my dog out into my own yard before we leave every morning and I carry bags with me when I take her out. Please have the same courtesy for your neighbors that I have for you.

Diane Egelston
Kensington

Let AC Transit decide what size buses best suit its needs
To the Editor:

Lately there has been much negative publicity regarding the AC Transit 67 bus to the detriment of riders that use it.

I’ve lived in Kensington on the bus line for many years and ride the bus. AC Transit need not apologize for the size of the present bus. For many years, AC Transit used the large bus on the same route. Several years ago, the smaller bus was introduced. Now, we are back to the large one.

The bus ran everyday from morning to midnight. Then the weekends were discontinued, and then, the hours were reduced to the present schedule.

During all those years it satisfied the residents’ needs. No one complained about size, noise, safety or emissions. We were grateful to have the bus service the community. For me, there was no problem with safety issues. The drivers do a good job driving the bus and maneuvering the tight spots.

Several years ago, budget cuts in the county funds reduced the service and maintenance of the roads. Breaks in the road are not uncommon. Unfortunately, no one seems to move to a community where there is an “existing nuisance” they decide to “fix it” by finding all sorts of excuses. Forcing AC transit to jump through hoops may seriously jeopardize service to Kensington.

AC Transit should continue to do what is in the best interest of the agency and choose the size of bus best suited to its needs.

To the editor:

Kensington
Diane Egelston

Kensington Community Council continues annual fund drive

The Kensington Community Council thanks the following people for their recent donations to its annual fund drive. The generosity of community members provides critical support for Kensington’s recreation and education programs and the Kensington Outlook. If you would like to make a tax deductible contribution, please send it to the Kensington Community Council, 59 Arlington Avenue, Kensington 94707.

$100
Louis and Judith Alley
Carl and Lisa Brodsky
John and Martha Vlahos

$75
Jean Langford

$50
H.J and Jane Browne
Russell Dedrick
John and Lois Hoagland
Cameron Moore and Leslie Rickler
Robert and Oliva Shames
Karen and Peter Shebek

Kensington Park’s Tot Lot is one example of what community donations to KCC do.

The Kensington Community Council

The Kensington Outlook

An ounce of prevention
To the Editor:

In the aftermath of the dreadful fires in Southern California, people are far more aware of the similar possibilities in our area.

The dead vegetation around us could cause a similar debacle to what we watched for so many days. The indifference of individuals to fire danger needs to be addressed. A similar fire could quite easily occur here.

Tilden Park is currently very dry and, in certain areas, there is much long, dead grass. There are occasional broken tree branches that are also very dry. A strong east wind on a very warm day could prove catastrophic in the event of a spark in the wrong place.

People need to lose their complacency and take action to make certain that the heavily populated East Bay hills remain fire free. Some of that action could be to contact the proper individuals who are in charge of fire prevention or local fire departments. Offers to assist community officials and those who have authority in the county could also be extremely important. Other actions by individuals could begin with a simple cleanup in their own area.

Now that rain has come many individuals will feel that it isn’t necessary to take care of dead vegetation - it will be too wet to burn. But the situation remains very dangerous and next spring the new growth will mix with what we have already and the situation will be far worse.

At present, protect your home by being more responsible. Be one of those individuals who take some action.

Connie Lynch
Kensington

Kensington Park’s Tot Lot is one example of what community donations to KCC do.

The Kensington Community Council thanks the following people for their recent donations to its annual fund drive. The generosity of community members provides critical support for Kensington’s recreation and education programs and the Kensington Outlook. If you would like to make a tax deductible contribution, please send it to the Kensington Community Council, 59 Arlington Avenue, Kensington 94707.

$100
Louis and Judith Alley
Carl and Lisa Brodsky
John and Martha Vlahos

$75
Jean Langford

$50
H.J and Jane Browne
Russell Dedrick
John and Lois Hoagland
Cameron Moore and Leslie Rickler
Robert and Oliva Shames
Karen and Peter Shebek

Kensington Park’s Tot Lot is one example of what community donations to KCC do.

The Kensington Community Council thanks the following people for their recent donations to its annual fund drive. The generosity of community members provides critical support for Kensington’s recreation and education programs and the Kensington Outlook. If you would like to make a tax deductible contribution, please send it to the Kensington Community Council, 59 Arlington Avenue, Kensington 94707.

$100
Louis and Judith Alley
Carl and Lisa Brodsky
John and Martha Vlahos

$75
Jean Langford

$50
H.J and Jane Browne
Russell Dedrick
John and Lois Hoagland
Cameron Moore and Leslie Rickler
Robert and Oliva Shames
Karen and Peter Shebek

Kensington Park’s Tot Lot is one example of what community donations to KCC do.

The Kensington Community Council thanks the following people for their recent donations to its annual fund drive. The generosity of community members provides critical support for Kensington’s recreation and education programs and the Kensington Outlook. If you would like to make a tax deductible contribution, please send it to the Kensington Community Council, 59 Arlington Avenue, Kensington 94707.

$100
Louis and Judith Alley
Carl and Lisa Brodsky
John and Martha Vlahos

$75
Jean Langford

$50
H.J and Jane Browne
Russell Dedrick
John and Lois Hoagland
Cameron Moore and Leslie Rickler
Robert and Oliva Shames
Karen and Peter Shebek

Kensington Outlook

Editor
Daniel S. Levine
editor@kensingtonoutlook.com

Advertising Manager
Alanna Key
advertising@kensingtonoutlook.com

The Kensington Outlook is available online at www.kensingtonoutlook.com. A current issue of the Kensington Outlook is mailed to residents. Non-resident subscriptions are available at $10 a year by sending a check or money order payable to the Kensington Outlook, 39 Arlington Ave., Kensington, CA 94707.

The Kensington Outlook is published ten times a year by the non-profit Kensington Community Council. It is published monthly except for combined December/January and July/August issues. For advertising rates, space, availability and size restrictions please call. The advertising editorial deadline for the March issue is February 10. Send mail to the Kensington Outlook, 39 Arlington Ave., Kensington, CA 94707. The Kensington Outlook welcomes letters to the editor and reserves the right to edit and reproduce in the paper.

© Copyright 2003 Kensington Community Council

Let AC Transit decide what size buses best suit its needs
To the Editor:

Lately there has been much negative publicity regarding the AC Transit 67 bus to the detriment of riders that use it.

I’ve lived in Kensington on the bus line for many years and ride the bus. AC Transit need not apologize for the size of the present bus. For many years, AC Transit used the large bus on the same route. Several years ago, the smaller bus was introduced. Now, we are back to the large one.

The bus ran everyday from morning to midnight. Then the weekends were discontinued, and then, the hours were reduced to the present schedule.

During all those years it satisfied the residents’ needs. No one complained about size, noise, safety or emissions. We were grateful to have the bus service the community. For me, there was no problem with safety issues. The drivers do a good job driving the bus and maneuvering the tight spots.

Several years ago, budget cuts in the county funds reduced the service and maintenance of the roads. Breaks in the road are not uncommon. Unfortunately, no one seems to move to a community where there is an “existing nuisance” they decide to “fix it” by finding all sorts of excuses. Forcing AC Transit to jump through hoops may seriously jeopardize bus service to Kensington.

AC Transit should continue to do what is in the best interest of the agency and choose the size of bus best suited to its needs.
KCC makes Spring celebration evening affair

The Kensington Community Council’s annual Spring Celebration is not only offering neighbors a chance to meet, but also parents a night out. The event, sponsored by Marvin Gardens Real Estate and Andronico’s Market, marks its 16th year with a break from tradition. Instead of an afternoon gathering, this year the event moves to the evening. Free childcare featuring pizza and a movie is available.

The festivities kick off March 13 at 6:30 p.m. and will feature live music and a silent auction. Beer, wine and finger foods will be served. Tickets are $25 per person and available at the door.

Donations of art, books, jewelry and other goods and services are appreciated. This is an important fundraising event for the Kensington Community Council and helps support education and recreation programs in Kensington, as well as the publication of this newspaper. The organization is working to close a $9,000 budget deficit this year caused in part by a sharp rise in workers’ compensation insurance costs.

To donate an item to the silent auction, please call Danielle Power at 524-6737. If you would like to take advantage of the childcare that evening (and attend the party) please call Helen Horowitz at 525-0292.

Giobia breaks with committee recommendation to appoint county attorney to KMAC

Supervisor John Gioia broke from the recommendations of a nominating committee in naming new appointments to the Kensington Municipal Advisory Council.

The council is an appointed body charged with advising the Contra Costa County Community Development Department on land-use, planning, zoning, variance applications, code enforcement and code changes. The group acts as a community liaison between Kensington and supervisor Gioia.

Gioia named Richard Karlsson, chief assistant county council to Alameda County, to the seat held by David Jenkins. Jenkins had sought reappointment for a new term and had been recommended by a nominating committee made up of representatives of Kensington civic organizations.

Gioia said the decision was not a reflection on the work Jenkins performed for the council, but instead centered on the value he saw in adding someone with Karlsson’s depth of knowledge about county government legal matters, particularly at a time when Kensington is seeking to pass a new zoning ordinance and considering a noise ordinance.

Also appointed to the board was architect Patrick Tahara. Tahara will take the seat previously held by Ed Detmer, who applied for and was appointed to the second alternate seat. The second alternate position was created at the end of 2002, but never filled. There are a total of five members and two alternates on the board serving staggered terms of four years.
**Neighborhood Notes**

The West Contra Costa Unified School District board named Nancy Kawata principal of Kensington Elementary School. She replaced Robbie Mack who had served as interim principal of the school since the retirement of Judy Kantor.

"Kensington seemed to offer a wonderful opportunity -- great school, great community and great kids," she said.

Kawata takes the post at a time when the school district continues to face severe budget problems, seeks to pass a parcel tax and readiness for a major renovation of the school set to begin this summer to modernized the 55-year-old structure and bring it up to seismic safety standards. Kawata previously served as assistant principal and interim principal in the Travis Unified School District for two years. She served in separate coordinator positions for arts, visual performing arts, and technology education to Hilltop Elementary.

She was a teacher for 15 years in Travis and in Springfield, Ohio.

**Arlington Community Church names Felicity Wright pastor**

The Arlington Community Church named Felicity Wright as its new pastor. "I keep pinching myself and wondering ‘Have I died and gone to heaven?’ said Felicity Wright. "In fact, if I could have designed the ideal church in the ideal location, this would be it.”

While Wright is relatively new to ordained parish ministry, she has a particular interest in translating the Biblical message in everyday terms, especially to those who are discouraged by the rigidity and reactionary nature of some Christian churches.

"In fact, I treasure the United Church of Christ – the denomination of ACC – precisely because of its tolerance and openness to new ideas. The denomination is living proof of the fact that we are more likely to find God’s truth in our lives if we approach God and one another with an open mind and an open heart. Wright is a single mother of two. Both her children are now in college in Maryland. Wright lived in Maryland before moving to the Bay Area to finish her final year of seminary. Felicity Wright is a single mother of two. Both her children are now in college in Maryland. Wright lived in Maryland before moving to the Bay Area to finish her final year of seminary.

"In fact, I treasure the United Church of Christ – the denomination of ACC – precisely because of its tolerance and openness to new ideas. The denomination is living proof of the fact that we are more likely to find God’s truth in our lives if we approach God and one another with an open mind and an open heart.

Wright is a single mother of two. Both her children are now in college in Maryland. Wright lived in Maryland before moving to the Bay Area to finish her final year of seminary.

Believe it or not, this is a wonderful time to put your home on the market, and here are a few reasons why...

- Buyers this time of year are serious, creating the optimum environment for realizing the highest sales price.
- Housing inventories are low this time of year which gives your home maximum exposure.
- Interest rates are at historical lows and there are an abundance of buyers in most price ranges.

**Friends of Kensington Library names officers for 2004**

The Friends of the Kensington Library, a community organization dedicated to improving library services in Kensington through membership donations and book sales, named officers for 2004 at its January meeting.

Debbie Hamati will continue to lead the organization as its president. New member Nancy Okasaki becomes vice president and program coordinator for the group and Larry Sullivan will serve as treasurer.

The group is planning to set up a Valentine’s Poetry Night in February, but as of press time a date had not been set. The event will combine readings of published and unpublished works by local authors and feature a period of open mike readings by people who would like to share their work. Check the local bulletin boards at the Library or at the Kensington Kiosk in front of the drug store for the date of the event.

**Ham it up with Kensington’s Amature Radio Operators**

The Kensington Amateur Radio Operators, a group of residents who hold amateur radio licenses and are committed to assist the community in cases of earthquake, wildfires and other emergencies, is seeking new members.

The group maintains five stations throughout Kensington and is offering training for volunteers willing to man those stations in an emergency. Entry level ham radio operating classes will begin the last Tuesday of March at Alvarado School.

The group meets the second Monday of the month, starting Tuesday of March at Alvarado School. For more information call Marian Gade at 524-9815.
Kensington Community Education

Youth Classes

TENNIS
Alex Brown, USPTA tennis pro, offers classes to a minimum of four students.
To register
Call Alex Brown at (510) 524-5495.
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9am-10am
Fees (payable monthly):
$140/resident
$155/non-resident
Other students:
$125/resident
$140/non-resident
Administration fee: $25
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
Session:
Tuesdays and/or Thursdays
3:40-5:00 p.m.

TENNIS COURTS

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, 9:45a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
$32/month/resident
$36/month/non-resident
COMMUNITY CENTER

EXERCISE TO MUSIC
Non-impact aerobics; ongoing.
Instructor:
Non-impact aerobics; ongoing.

BUILDING E

EXERCISE TO MUSIC
Non-impact aerobics; ongoing.
Instructor:
Non-impact aerobics; ongoing.

MORTUARY • CEMETERY • CREMATORY
CHAPLS & URN GARDENS
Traditional Services & Cremation Specialists
One Location Serves All Your Needs
Eliminating Lengthy Cross Town Processions
CENTRALLY LOCATED IN
THE EL CERRITO HILLS
OVERLOOKING SAN FRANCISCO BAY
BEFORE YOU DECIDE, COMPARE OUR PRICES,
SERVICES AND FACILITIES
110 COLUSA AVE.
Located At The Top Of
Fairmount Avenue
• EL CERRITO •
1-800-756-5111
525-5111

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF BERKELEY
One Lawton Road, Kensington
Ministers:
The Rev. Barbara and Bill Hamilton, Hayward
SUNDAY WORSHIP
9:30 a.m. Adult Class
10:45 a.m.: Worship Service
6:30 p.m.: Youth Service
4 & Dutch School
525-0302

KASEP REGISTRATION
Tuesday, March 3
7:00 p.m. Kindergartners
7:15 p.m. Grades 1-6

There are a limited number of openings still available for some KASEP classes in the current session ending March 26. These spaces are available on a pro-rated basis. For more information call Helen Horowitz at the KCC office at 525-0292.
Kensington Calendar

Try it, you'll like it

The Friends of The Kensington Library will present its annual Dr. Seuss Birthday Party, to honor the good doctor's 109th birthday on Saturday, February 21 at 11:00 a.m. Dr. Seuss stories will be combined with a dramatization of "Green Eggs and Ham" performed by Myles and Melina Schaller. It will be followed by a meal of green eggs. There will also be a drawing for prizes. This event will be held at the Kensington Community Center. The event is free, but space is limited to only 50 children. Tickets will be handed out beginning Tuesday February 17th at the Kensington Library.

Sunday, February 1
Personal Theology Seminar: Alex Pappas, teacher of world religions at Alameda Community College, presents a talk on Theosophy: Meaning, Origin, and Basic Principles including karma, reincarnation, and Free Will at 9:30 a.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd. Info: 525-0302

Monday, February 2
The Kensington Community Council meets at 7:30 p.m. at the Kensington Community Center. Call to confirm: 527-1332 to confirm.

Tuesday, February 3
Kensington Library at 7
Family Storytime
Tuesday, February 3, 2 p.m. Info: 524-4374
Meeting at 1 p.m. and the free program at 7:30 p.m. for an evening of silly fun sponsored by The Friends of the Kensington Library. Space is limited. Free tickets will be available starting Feb. 9. Info: 524-3043

Tuesday, February 3
The Kensington Senior Activity Center, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. (enrolled agent) Q & A session. Informational seminars. Meet with tax specialist, Evan Appelman, E.A. (enrolled agent) Q & A session. Potluck lunch. Bring food for 4-6 people, or pay $3. Info: 526-9146

Wednesday, February 4
Family Storytime Kensington Library at 7 p.m. Info: 524-3043

Wednesday, February 4
The Kensington Study Group of the League of Women Voters Bay Area Program Planning including: Regional Governance and Planning, Natural Resources, Air Quality, Social Policy, Housing and Transportation. Call 527-1332 to confirm.

Thursday, February 5
The Kensington Senior Activity Center 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Alhambra Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. Meet with tax specialist, Evan Appelman, E.A. (enrolled agent) Q & A session. Potluck lunch. Bring food for 4-6 people, or pay $3. Info: 526-9146

Sunday, February 8
Personal Theology Seminar: Alex Pappas, teacher of world religions at Alameda Community College, presents a talk. The Theosophical Society and its leaders: H.P.Blavatsky, Occott, Leadbeater, Krishnamurti at 9:30 a.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd. Info: 525-0302

Tuesday, February 10
Family Storytime Kensington Library at 7 p.m. Info: 524-3043
Wednesday, February 11
Kensington Fire Protection District meets at 7:30 p.m. at Kensington Fire Station 1. Info: 524-3043

Thursday, February 12
The El Cerrito Garden Club will hold its regular meeting 9:30 a.m. at the El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Moeser Lane, El Cerrito. Bob Ehrhart, president of the Northern California Camellia Society will speak on growing camellias. $3 at door. Info: 234-0135

Thursday, February 12
Thursday, February 12
The Kensington Senior Activity Center 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Alhambra Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. Meet to manage your pain with Amy Aldrich, CCHT (certified hypnotherapist). Lunch $3. Info: 526-9146

Thursday, February 12
Family Storytime Kensington Community Services District meets at 7:30 p.m. at the Kensington Community Center. Call to confirm: 526-4141

Sunday, February 15
Ray Westergard, math teacher and presi- dent of the local chapter of Americans United for Separation of Church and State, speaks on Understanding and Protecting the Wall of Separation between Church and State at 9:30 a.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd. Info: 525-0302

Tuesday, February 17
Berkeley Garden Club presents "Vernal Pools: What? Where? When?": by Carol Witham, consultant on botanical and biological ecosystems of vernal pools of California and Nevada at the Epworth United Methodist Church, 1950 Hopkins St., Berkeley. Guests are welcome. Meeting at 1 p.m. and the free program at 2 p.m. Info: 524-4374

Tuesday, February 17
Family Storytime Kensington Library at 7 p.m. Info: 524-3043

Thursday, February 17
Montessori Family School Preschool/Kindergarten (Ages 3–6) through Elementary (Grades 1–6)

- Individualized Curriculum
- Student Diversity
- Low Student to Teacher Ratio
- Mixed-Grade Classrooms
- Music, Art and Spanish

Montessori Family School provides success for all children as they explore and master new concepts in a multi-sensory learning environment.

- Preschool & Kindergarten
  1850 Scenic Ave., Kensington, CA 94707
  (510) 488–2322

- Elementary
  1 Lawson Road, Kensington, CA 94707
  (510) 528–5233

For information or to schedule a tour, call:
Preschool/Kindergarten: (510) 848–2322
Elementary: (510) 528–5233

In cooperation with the Community School of the East Bay.

Investment Advice
Invesitment Management
Marshall White, CFP
Certified Financial Planner
- Stocks, Bonds, Mutual Funds
- Retirement Planning
- Estate Planning
- Inflation Protection
- Environmentally Sound Investing
- College Planning

- Gift Programs
- Tax Planning
  - Long Term Kensington resident
  - No commissions
  - Fee-only Independent advice
  - Free initial consultation

528–9484

Montessori Family School

Preschool/Kindergarten (Ages 3-6) through Elementary (Grades 1-6)

- Individualized Curriculum
- Student Diversity
- Low Student to Teacher Ratio
- Mixed-Grade Classrooms
- Music, Art and Spanish

Montessori Family School provides success for all children as they explore and master new concepts in a multi-sensory learning environment.

- Preschool & Kindergarten
  1850 Scenic Ave., Kensington, CA 94707
  (510) 488–2322

- Elementary
  1 Lawson Road, Kensington, CA 94707
  (510) 528–5233

For information or to schedule a tour, call:
Preschool/Kindergarten: (510) 848–2322
Elementary: (510) 528–5233

In cooperation with the Community School of the East Bay.
February 2004

Kensington Calendar Continued

a.m. to 2 p.m. at Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. Come see sides of the Amazon River with Jackie Hetman. Lunch $3. Info: 526-9146

Saturday, February 21
Kensington Symphony with guest conductor Eric Hansen and pianist Seth Montfort performs. Tchaikovsky, Rossini, arr. Britten. at 8 p.m. at the Northminster Presbyterian Church, 545 Ashbury Ave., El Cerrito. Suggested donation: $10; seniors, $8. Children free. Info: 524-4335.

Sunday, February 22
Mare Cromwell, poet, environmentalist, spiritual seeker and author of If I Gave You God’s Telephone Number, presents a talk My Spiritual Director is a Cherokee Native American at 9:30 a.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd. Info: 525-0302.

Tuesday, February 24
Family Storytime Kensington Library at 7 p.m. Info: 524-3043.

Tuesday, February 24
The Kensington Municipal Advisory Council meets at 7 p.m. at the Kensington Community Center. Call to confirm: 526-5546.

Tuesday, February 24
The El Cerrito Democratic Club meets at 7:30 p.m. at Northminster Presbyterian Church, 545 Ashbury Ave., El Cerrito, in the ground floor conference room. The program will deal with government, private businesses and the erosion of the right to privacy. Info: 527-2194.

Thursday, February 26
The Kensington Senior Activity Center 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. Hear from Officer Escobar of the Arlington police force about senior safety. Lunch $3. Info: 526-9146.

Sunday, February 29
Ann Jauregui, author and teacher in graduate psychology training programs, An Epiphany: Where does it come from and what is it good for? at 9:30 a.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd. Info: 524-3043.

Sunday, February 29
The Unitarian Universalist Center for Spiritual Development is sponsoring an afternoon with Dunyu Lamon Dorje Rinpoche on What is Buddha Nature? How to Find True Happiness at 2:30 to 5:30 at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 1 Lawson Rd. Rinpoche will discuss Buddhist philosophy and principles. Admission $20. Reservations and info: 527-4831.

Thursday, February 26
The Kensington Senior Activity Center 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. Hear from Officer Escobar of the Arlington police force about senior safety. Lunch $3. Info: 526-9146.

Sunday, February 29
Ann Jauregui, author and teacher in graduate psychology training programs, An Epiphany: Where does it come from and what is it good for? at 9:30 a.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd. Info: 524-3043.

Thursday, February 26
The Kensington Senior Activity Center 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. Hear from Officer Escobar of the Arlington police force about senior safety. Lunch $3. Info: 526-9146.

Sunday, February 29
Ann Jauregui, author and teacher in graduate psychology training programs, An Epiphany: Where does it come from and what is it good for? at 9:30 a.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd. Info: 524-3043.

Thursday, February 26
The Kensington Senior Activity Center 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. Hear from Officer Escobar of the Arlington police force about senior safety. Lunch $3. Info: 526-9146.

Sunday, February 29
Ann Jauregui, author and teacher in graduate psychology training programs, An Epiphany: Where does it come from and what is it good for? at 9:30 a.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd. Info: 524-3043.
From the case files of the KPD

Events in November and December

Kensington Police Department are currently investigating an incident that occurred on Colusa Ave. in Kensington. A man was reportedly struck by a vehicle while walking on the sidewalk. The vehicle fled the scene and the victim was transported to a hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

February 2004 Kensington Outlook

Classified Advertising

February 2004 Kensington Outlook

Page 8

Events in November and December

Kensington Police Department are investigating a case of vandalism that occurred on Willamette Ave. in Kensington. A resident reported that windows of their home were broken and spray paint was thrown on the property. The investigation is ongoing and anyone with information is encouraged to contact the police department.

From the case files of the KPD

Events in November and December

Kensington Police Department are investigating a case of vandalism that occurred on Willamette Ave. in Kensington. A resident reported that windows of their home were broken and spray paint was thrown on the property. The investigation is ongoing and anyone with information is encouraged to contact the police department.

Kensington Outlook

February 2004

free of charge at the police department at 217 fireman handling and storage. The locks are owned by the National Shooting Sports Foundation and in Project Childsafe, a national program from Project Childsafe.

Market and at the Community Center.

ping to mail letters as well as by Young's Arlington Pharmacy with people stop-

illegally parked in a handicap parking

enforcing a zero tolerance policy on handi-

professionalism.

recognition program as a way to improve its significantly larger than Kensington's.

address a range of issues from health and

independent accreditation agency's recog-

The department would be the first in national programs.

The Police Department is also participating in Project Childsafe, a national program.

The Kensington Police Department is free of charge at the police department at 217 fireman handling and storage. The locks are owned by the National Shooting Sports Foundation and in Project Childsafe, a national program.

and at the Community Center. They are

Firemen prepared for a fire at a home on Willamette Ave. in Kensington. A woman was reported to be trapped inside, but was eventually rescued by firefighters. The fire was caused by a malfunctioning electrical device and caused minimal damage.

from Santa Cruz - for possession of marijuana for sale.

A tenant on Stanford Ave. who was reported to be agitating his neighbor was found to be suffering from mental health issues. Police referred the man to a mental health professional.

on their phone. To have your phone company block international calls, you must call

jailed, injured or killed. Other scams may be directed at consumers who are looking to make international calls.

The Kensington Police Department is free of charge at the police department at 217 fireman handling and storage. The locks are owned by the National Shooting Sports Foundation and in Project Childsafe, a national program.

The department would be the first in national programs.

the month prior to the issue. Forms are available at the KCC office and online at www.kensingtonoutlook.com

The Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies completed its review of the Kensington Police Department and is expected to grant the department recognition status at its annual conference in March.

The department would be the first in California to successfully complete the independent accreditation agency's recognition program.

The recognition program evaluates police departments on a wide range of standards that address a range of issues from health and safety to reduced risk of high liability exposure. It represents a scaled down version of the organization's full accreditation program, which is geared for departments significantly larger than Kensington's.

The department said it embarked on the recognition program as a way to improve its professionalism.

Handicap Parking

The Kensington Police Department is enforcing a zero tolerance policy on handicap parking violations and will issue $257 fines for any violations.

The department will ticket cars not only illegally parked in a handicap parking space, but also motorists who standing or blocking access to a handicap spot.

The police said there have been problems by Arlington Pharmacy with people stopping by to pick up their prescriptions, as well as by Young's Market and at the Community Center.

Project Childsafe

The Police Department is also participating in Project Childsafe, a national program from the National Shooting Sports Foundation and funded by a U.S. Department of Justice grant that makes available gun locks to promote safe firearm handling and storage. The locks are free of charge at the police department at 217 fireman handling and storage.

Beware of phone scam

The police department said AT&T alerted them to a phone scam that tricks people into dialing phone numbers in area codes 809, 284 and 876 and result in excessive charges to the area code.

The scam involves voicemail and e-mail messages asking the recipient to call a number about a loved one who has been jailed,诱导和在结尾的受害人认为他们有-一个目标并且需要-于来拨打的电话。

The phone numbers are similar to 900 access codes 809, 284 and 876 and result in scams. The scam involves voicemail and e-mail messages asking the recipient to call a number about a loved one who has been jailed,诱导和在结尾的受害人认为他们有-一个目标并且需要-于来拨打的电话。

The phone numbers are similar to 900 access codes that are often advertised in phone directories and result in scams. The police department is warning the public to be cautious when receiving such calls.

Mr. Mighty Man Hauling. Clean out/up, recycling, removals. Weeding, hedge maintenance, interior, exterior. Lic. 639300, free est, see display ad inside.


Ms. Clutter Home organization for office and home. Call for your free consultation. Ms. Clutter Office organization.


Mass Mastery. Massage for the neck, shoulder, or back pain. ballpark fees include free est, see display ad inside.

The department said it embarked on the recognition program as a way to improve its professionalism.

Handicap Parking

The Kensington Police Department is enforcing a zero tolerance policy on handicap parking violations and will issue $257 fines for any violations.

The department will ticket cars not only illegally parked in a handicap parking space, but also motorists who standing or blocking access to a handicap spot.

The police said there have been problems by Arlington Pharmacy with people stopping by to pick up their prescriptions, as well as by Young's Market and at the Community Center.

Project Childsafe

The Police Department is also participating in Project Childsafe, a national program from the National Shooting Sports Foundation and funded by a U.S. Department of Justice grant that makes available gun locks to promote safe firearm handling and storage. The locks are free of charge at the police department at 217 fireman handling and storage.

Beware of phone scam

The police department said AT&T alerted them to a phone scam that tricks people into dialing phone numbers in area codes 809, 284 and 876 and result in excessive charges to the area code.

The scam involves voicemail and e-mail messages asking the recipient to call a number about a loved one who has been jailed,诱导和在结尾的受害人认为他们有-一个目标并且需要-于来拨打的电话。

The phone numbers are similar to 900 access codes 809, 284 and 876 and result in scams. The scam involves voicemail and e-mail messages asking the recipient to call a number about a loved one who has been jailed,诱导和在结尾的受害人认为他们有-一个目标并且需要-于来拨打的电话。

The phone numbers are similar to 900 access codes that are often advertised in phone directories and result in scams. The police department is warning the public to be cautious when receiving such calls.

Mr. Mighty Man Hauling. Clean out/up, recycling, removals. Weeding, hedge maintenance, interior, exterior. Lic. 639300, free est, see display ad inside.


Mass Mastery. Massage for the neck, shoulder, or back pain. ballpark fees include free est, see display ad inside.

The department said it embarked on the recognition program as a way to improve its professionalism.