

KENSINGTON OUTLOOK

September 2004

A publication of the Kensington Community Council

Volume 61 Number 7

Group charges district skewed public process

West Contra Costa Unified School District officials said the \$15.7 million Kensington Hilltop school project continues on schedule despite charges from some parents and neighbors that the district ignored requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act in pushing forward with it.

In a letter to superintendent Gloria Johnston in August, a group calling itself the West Contra Costa Residents for A Responsible School District expressed frustration over a "lack of meaningful public participation, inadequate identification and evaluation of potential impacts, and lack of transparency in the planning and implementation of the Project."

"Sadly, we have realized that district staff provided false information and knowingly misdirected members of the community seeking information about the project," said the letter, which was signed by seven people including parents of incoming kindergarten students and residents of Arlmont Dr., whose properties border the school. "The public's right to information and its right to review and comment on the project was usurped and undermined repeatedly by district staff, despite numerous requests and comments from concerned parents and community members during meetings in March and

See "SCHOOL" page 3



OLD SCHOOL: A group of former Hilltop students pose for a commemorative photo during the Homecoming Reunion and School Celebration this summer. See page 4

KASEP plans full slate of classes despite construction

that will be introduced this year.

"We're confident the quality of our program will bring parents in despite the relocation," said Horowitz. "Parents tell us the program is important to their children's' lives and they want to continue with it."

KASEP wrestled with whether it would need to interrupt the program because of the relocation of Hilltop students, but

determined community demand would allow the program to run at full capacity.

The school district is offering after-school bus service from the Portola campus to the community center where KASEP is housed.

Registration for fall classes begins September 7 at 7 p.m. For more information, see page 5.

Countywide open space measure fails in mail-in vote

A \$175 million parcel tax that would have provided funds for Contra Costa County to acquire and maintain open space failed to muster the votes it needed to pass.

The mail-in vote, conducted in July, provided property owners with a weighted vote based on the size of the tab the parcel tax would have imposed on them.

The weighted vote sunk the measure by a 53.8 percent "no" vote. Had the ballots not been weighted to give larger landowners a greater say in the matter, the measure would have squeaked by with a 50.1 percent of the vote.

The measure did win the support of environmental groups and some large cor-

porations in the county, but it was opposed by the Contra Costa Taxpayers

How property owners voted

Weighted
Yes: 46.2 percent
No: 53.8 percent

Unweighted
Yes: 50.12 percent
No: 49.88 percent

Source: Carol Kane & Associates

Association and several city chambers of

commerce.

The measure, which would have cost single-family homeowners between \$20 and \$30 a year, did win the support of homeowners. Supervisor John Gioia, a driving force behind the measure, said he believes support was strong within the west county.

"One of the things we may want to explore in the future is whether it makes sense to vote on it by regions in the county," said Gioia. "It's disappointing, but there is still a strong commitment in this county to support open space and we will explore open space funding opportunities in the future."

County fines concert promoter for fundraiser

Fundraiser for MoveOn PAC featuring Bonnie Raitt promises to give 'em something to talk about

Contra Costa County issued a \$100 fine to concert promoter Danny Scher for holding a fundraising concert at his Kensington home in July saying it violated zoning laws.

Though some neighbors have long lobbied the county to take actions against Scher for holding similar concerts, this is the first time the county has issued a fine. Previously the county's Building Inspection Department warned Scher he needed a land use permit to hold such events.

Scher said he will appeal the fine and plans to move forward with a fundraiser Sept. 12 for MoveOn PAC featuring Bonnie Raitt, Taj Mahal and Will Durst. The event is expected to raise as much as \$250,000 for the progressive political action committee as the national election moves into its final weeks.

"No one in this county has ever had to get a permit to have a fundraiser at their home," said Scher. "At some point we have to call this for what it is. It's about me being harassed by just a couple of neighbors."

The controversy between Scher and his neighbors has extended well beyond the confines of Coventry Road.

It has led to call for a countywide ordinance now being drafted to protect people's rights to use their homes for fundraisers, the drafting of a Kensington-only noise ordinance to protect people's right against unreasonable noise intrusions and even the threat of a statewide legislation carried at the behest of Scher by senator Don Perata, D-East Bay, to allow for fundraisers in homes.

Perata pulled the bill only after winning assurances from county officials that they would resolve the problem by passing an ordinance to make clear that fundraisers are an allowable use of a person's home.

See "FINE" page 2

Marching orders



Mechanic's Bank's Tony Kallingal and Marvin Gardens' Todd Hodson back the event

The annual KCC picnic and parade will march down Arlington Ave. to Kensington Park October 17. The event begins at 12:30 p.m. It is sponsored by The Mechanics Bank. Marvin Gardens Real Estate, which is providing additional support, will hold its annual pumpkin carving contest. To volunteer to help with the event please call KCC at 525-0292

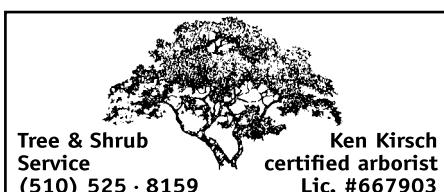


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FINE: New laws being drafted

Continued from page 1

It is unclear whether that ordinance, now being drafted by county staff, would create restrictions on those events, such as prohibiting the sale of tickets to the public, apply limits to advertising an event or restricting the number of events a person could hold in a year.

Scher has long contended that the fundraisers on his property represent a normal use of his home. His property features an outdoor amphitheater and can accommodate up to 250 people.

Some neighbors, though, have pushed the county to put a stop to the events. They say they are not opposed to Scher holding fundraisers, but complain the events are inappropriate for the residential neighborhood because they are commercial in nature. They note the events are promoted in the media, offer tickets to the general public and use amplified sound.

The county apparently agreed. The notice of the fine issued by the county noted that the concert held as a benefit for the Berkeley Jazzschool on July 23 between 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. was promoted on the Jazzschool website and in an article in the San Francisco Chronicle. The event was also open to the public.

"This has gone on for two and a half years. People want to say this is only a few cranky neighbors, but this is a continuous and flagrant violation," said Toni Folger-Brown, co-chair of the Coventry Neighborhood Group. "I believe that if the neighbors hadn't been diligently pursuing this the county would have diverted its eyes."

The notice gave Scher until August 30 to appeal the fine. The fine escalates with each future offense.

Scher, who said the event raised \$25,000 for the Jazzschool, said in these tight times for budgets his event represent a low-

Kensington Outlook

Editor

Daniel S. Levine
editor@kensingtonoutlook.com

Advertising Manager

Alma Key
advertising@kensingtonoutlook.com

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The Kensington outlook is delivered free to residents. Non-resident subscriptions are available for \$10 a year by sending a check made payable to the KCC to the Kensington Outlook, 59 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 and editorial deadline for the October issue is September 10. Send mail to: Kensington Outlook, 59 Arlington Ave., Kensington, CA 94707. The Kensington Outlook welcomes letters to the editor and reserves the right to cut and edit those for clarity and length.

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Kensington Community Council

impact way to raise money for good causes and should be encouraged by society.

"If I had a loud party only once, the county could tell me to stop, but that's for being a nuisance," he said. "I may be a pain in the ass, but I'm not a nuisance."

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SCHOOL: District says "We followed the law"

Continued from page 1

April 2004.

The letter went on to express the group's concerns about the environmental review process, public participation, unmitigated impacts, traffic issues at the temporary campus and hazardous substances at the Hilltop campus.

Bill Savidge, district engineering officer, denied the group's allegations and said the school district adhered to state requirements. "We believe we followed the law and did all the notifications," he said.

The Hilltop project includes the construction of a new two-story structure that will house the library, music, art and computer rooms. It will stand about 40 feet high and be within 15 feet of the property line along the lower playground. Neighbors fear it will tower over their backyards and be an imposing view out of some windows.

One key issue is whether the school district inappropriately split the mandated environmental impact report for the construction at the Hilltop campus and the temporary relocation of the school to the Portola campus. The district treated the construction at Hilltop and the relocation of students to Portola as two separate projects.

The district applied for and was granted an exemption from having to create a full environmental impact report for the Hilltop project because it said the project would not change the number of students at the campus.

That's left homeowners whose properties border the school with no formal public process other than a lawsuit to force the

school district to make the changes to the project they might seek. So far the homeowners have not filed suit and have been in ongoing discussions with the school district.

At a recent meeting on the grounds of Hilltop, three of the homeowners met with the district's Savidge and the architect on the project. Spray-painted lines on the property outlined the borders for the new building that will go on the lower yard. For the homeowners there the bulk of the building and its location seemed to become apparent for the first time.

Savidge was clear that the district has no intention of altering its plans for the building, but he did agree to bring an arborist and landscape architect to explore ways to increase the density of a buffer of trees between the school and its neighbors and minimize the visual and noise impacts. So far, that's done little to appease homeowners.

"It's been a very frustrating process. I think that one feels totally unrespected when you find there is a building going up of that dimension and nobody bothered to mention it to you," said Gerald Bourne, an Almont Rd. resident, who said he first learned about the new building at a March 2004 public meeting. "You get the feeling that the school board feels they are beyond reproach and beyond needing to try to have any interaction with the community. The interactions I've had with them ever since I learned of this have been completely without substance."

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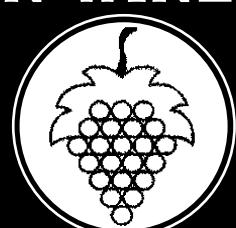
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Neighborhood Notes

Butcher wraps it up at Arlington Meats after 40 years

Gordon Napolitano, the familiar face from behind the Arlington Meats counter within Young's market, retired at the end of August, ending a family tradition of selling meat in Kensington for 66 years.

Napolitano started working in Kensington in 1964 at the business started by his grandfather.

He left the family business to work for Lucky's for five years, but returned to take it over when his father retired.

Napolitano said he has no special plans for retirement other than to spend time with his wife who has been ill in recent years, see his two children and six grandchildren.

Napolitano, who lives in Pleasant Hill, said he will miss his customers, recalling the kindness they showed when they learned his wife was sick.

"We've got the best customers any-



COUNTER ACT: Gordon Napolitano retires

where," he said. "My wife got ill a couple of years ago and they kept sending flowers and candy and no one ever met her. They treat you like family."

Mother and daughter answer call for blood in Bay Area

Kensington's Virginia Mueller, 82, stopped by the American Red Cross Blood Center in Oakland in June to make her 60th blood donation.

Her daughter Helen Cardiff joined her as she made her 30th donation of blood.

The Bay Area's blood supply is critically low and more donors are needed – you must be at least 17 years old, but there's no upper age limit as long as you are in good health and weight a minimum of 110 lbs.

To make an appointment to donate blood, call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE or go online to www.BeADonor.com



BLOOD RELATIONS: Virginia Mueller and her daughter Helen Cardiff make a habit of giving blood.

Reunion draws grads from five decades of school's past



MEMORY LANE: Attendees view old school photos

The Homecoming Reunion and School Celebration this summer drew about 350 graduates, parents and teachers from

Kensington Hilltop Elementary's history to see the school as they remembered it and get a glimpse of its future.

The crowd shared memories, enjoyed live music and lunch and viewed plans for the school's reconstruction and expansion.

Kensington Education Foundation organized the reunion with donations from Albertson's El Cerrito Plaza, Richmond Safeway, Albany Safeway, North Berkeley Safeway, Arlington Market in Richmond View, Aidell's Sausages, Niman Ranch, Colusa Market and Sarber Camera's.

The library is just a few keystrokes away for students



With the new school year getting under way the good news for students is they can now do library research from home with a computer and a Contra Costa County library card.

The library's Research Center can be found at <http://ccclib.org/>. From there users can access databases on various topics including social issues, biographies, country profiles, and literature.

There is also Student Resource Center Gold, which contains thousands of primary source documents and up to 1.7 million full-text periodical and newspapers articles.

The multimedia gallery features maps, flags, images, video and audio.

Students in kindergarten through grade 5 might search Kids InfoBits, which has information about animals, people, plants and more.

For students who need to ask someone a question about their homework, free live homework help is available for 4th to 12th graders and for students in college introductory courses are available from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. every day.

Of course, Kensington Library staff is always happy to help you find materials or search the databases at the library.

-- Liz Ruhland



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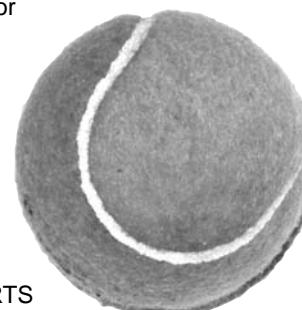
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Registration begins for KASEP's fall session

Registration for the fall session of the Kensington After School Enrichment Program will be held in the Community Center at 59 Arlington Ave. on Tuesday, September 7.

Registration for kindergartners begins at 7 p.m., and registration for students in first through sixth grades starts at 7:15 p.m.

Registration packets will go home with Kensington Hilltop Elementary School students on Thursday, September 2, and will be available in the Kensington Library and the KCC office on Friday, September 3. Classes will begin on Monday, September 27. For more information call Helen Horowitz at the KCC office.



SECRET OF OUR SUCCESS: KCC salutes our 2004 Day Camp staff for a wonderful summer. Standing: Joe Starkey, Evan Horowitz, Kristen Ikeda, Matt Houser, Elly Sullivan, Andrew Erdmann, Alejandra Perez Orozco Seated: Lauren Aczon, Teddy Firestone, Jessica Smith, Valeria Fike-Rosales, Ryan DeLaRosa

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To Register for Class
Call the office unless otherwise specified. Some classes have enrollment limits. Those registering will be notified if they cannot be enrolled.

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Kensington Calendar

Geisha Fans



"**Geisha: Beyond the Painted Smile!**": A docent from the Asian Art Museum will give a slide show and talk about the exhibition, discussing how geisha have been perceived in the West Monday, September 13 at 7 p.m. at the Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Avenue. The Friends of the Kensington Library is sponsoring the even Info: 524-3043

Wednesday, September 1

The newly formed **Arlington Children's Choir** will audition boys and girls ages 8 to 14 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at 52 Arlington Ave. Your child should come prepared to sing a song. No experience necessary, only a love of singing and a desire to perform. Additional auditions will be held September 8. Info: 843-7745

Thursday, September 2

The Kensington Senior Activity Center 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Choices Discussion & Swatterball Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. Info: 526-9146

Sunday, September 5

Personal Theology Seminar: Walter Truett Anderson, political scientist, author, syndicated columnist speaks on Growing Old and Growing Up: The Life Stages of Enlightenment at 9:30 a.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Road, Kensington. Info: 525-0302

Tuesday, September 7

Registration for the Kensington After School Enrichment Program begins at 7 p.m. in the Kensington Community Center. Info: 525-0292

Tuesday, September 7

Family Storytime Kensington Library at 7 p.m. Info: 524-3043

Wednesday, September 8

The League of Women Voters of West Contra Costa County, Kensington Study Group meets to discuss local issues at 1:30 p.m. at the home of Winifred Marshall, 660 Coventry Road, Kensington, at the cottage in the rear. Call to confirm: 524-7704

Wednesday, September 8

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

Thursday, September 9

The Kensington Senior Activity Center 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. program: Jackie Hentman slide presentation on Crete.

Thursday, September 9

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

Monday September 13

Computer Literacy: learn word processing basics using Microsoft WordPad at 7 p.m. at the Kensington Library.

Tuesday, September 14

Family Storytime Kensington Library at 7 p.m. Info: 524-3043

Thursday, September 16

American Rhododendron Society, Cal Chapter meets at 7:30 p.m. at the Lakeside Park Garden Center, 666 Bellevue in Oakland. The yearly propagation program is featured this month. Bring rhodie or azalea cuttings to share. Info: 223-0443

Monday September 20

Computer Literacy: How to do on-line medical research at 7 p.m. at the Kensington Library.

Tuesday, September 21

Joseph Coulson, El Cerrito resident and author of Vanishing Moon, reads from his debut novel about a working-class family through five decades from the Great Depression to the Vietnam War 7 p.m. at the El Cerrito Library, 6510 Stockton Avenue, El Cerrito. Info: 526-7512

Saturday, September 11

Round table discussion led by Barbara Zerbe Macnab, chair of the local ACLU chapter on September 11 and its aftermath on your civil liberties, 11 a.m. at the El Cerrito Library, 6510 Stockton Avenue, (510) 526-7512.

Sunday, September 12

Personal Theology Seminar: Huston Smith, life long professor of religion and philosophy, Jesus: All Over the Map: What's Going on? at 9:30 a.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Road, Kensington. Info: 525-0302

Tuesday, September 14

The El Cerrito Democratic Club discusses ballot measure and hosts candidates for the El Cerrito City Council 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary of the Northminster Presbyterian Church at 545 Ashbury Ave., El Cerrito. Info: 526-4874

Tuesday, September 14

The Unfolding National Tax Disaster and How America Can Respond A Two-Session Berkeley Forum presentation begins with Background and Options. Alan Auerbach, Burch Professor of Tax Policy & Public Finance and John Ellwood, Professor of Public Policy, UC Berkeley at 7:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Road, Kensington. Info: 525-0302

Thursday, September 16

The Kensington Senior Activity Center 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. Program: Officer Angela Escobar of the Kensington Police Department on scams and cons

Sunday, September 19

Personal Theology Seminar: Marlene Aron, artist, poet and lecturer on Van Gogh speaks on Religion and Spirituality in the Life and Work of

Vincent Van Gogh at 9:30 a.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Road, Kensington. Info: 525-0302

Sunday, September 19

Blessing of the animals at the Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. at 10 a.m. outside at the Youth Hut area for worship and blessing. Friendly animals of all sorts (including human) are welcome.

Tuesday, September 21, 2004

Berkeley Garden Club presents "Richmond Paradise" by Don Mahoney, garden manager of the Strybing Arboretum 1 p.m. at Epworth United Methodist Church, 1953 Hopkins St., Berkeley. Info: 524-4374.

Tuesday, September 21

Family Storytime Kensington Library at 7 p.m. Info: 524-3043

Tuesday, September 21

The League of Women Voters of West Contra Costa County will be meeting on September 21st at 7:30 p.m. at El Cerrito Royale, 6510 Gladys Ave., El Cerrito. Info 233-0199

Soothe your child's savage breast



Berkeley Youth Orchestra performs

The Berkeley Youth Orchestra holds auditions by appointment through September 10. For information, visit www.byyo.org or call 663-3296.

The East Bay Youth Band, an ensemble for woodwind, brass and percussion grades 6 to 9 will hold auditions Sept. 4 at Piedmont Middle School. for more information visit www.ebyb.org or call 444-4857 for an audition time.



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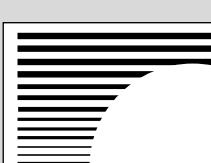
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Kensington Calendar Continued

Wednesday, September 22

The Kensington Area Republican Women's Club will meet at noon at the Mira Vista Country Club, 7900 Cutting Blvd. in El Cerrito. A speaker will discuss election issues. Lunch \$15. Reservation deadline Sept. 17. Info: 524-5689

Wednesday, September 22

The Unfolding National Tax Disaster and How America Can Respond A Two-Session Berkeley Forum presentation concludes with Recommendations. David Cay Johnston, Pulitzer Prize winning author of Perfectly Legal: The Covert Campaign to Rig Our Tax System to Benefit the Super Rich-and Cheat Everyone Else, and Chuck Collins, co-author of Wealth and Our Common-wealth: Why America Should Tax Accumulated Fortunes at 7:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Road, Kensington. Info: 525-0302

Thursday, September 23

The Kensington Senior Activity Center 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. Program: Dorthell and Dina piano and singing.

Sunday, September 26:

Arlington Community Church meets at 10 a.m. at 52 Arlington Ave. in the sanctuary for a special healing service in the style of Taize -- a meditative and gentle way to pray for and find peace. Childcare is available.

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Thursday gathering includes times for socializing (5:30-6 pm), sharing a meal (6-7 pm), worshipping (7-7:30 pm) and learning together in the Core Curriculum Programs (from 7:30-9 pm). Dinner reservations are required. Call the church office at 525-0302. The Core Curriculum Programs will include a series of sessions on UU heritage and values. Contact the church at 525-0302 for details.

The Bay and Beyond

Some 60 etchings and watercolors of Kensington artist Elizabeth Kavalier will be on display through Sept. 30 at the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, third floor, 101 Eighth St. in Oakland 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays. Info: 464-7773



Sunday, September 26

Personal Theology Seminar: Marlene Aron, artist, poet and lecturer on Van Gogh speaks again on the Religion and Spirituality in the Life and Work of Vincent Van Gogh at 9:30 a.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Road, Kensington. Info: 525-0302

Monday September 27

Computer Literacy: How to find articles in back issues of publications using the library's databases at 7 p.m. at the Kensington Library

Tuesday, September 28

Family Storytime Kensington Library at 7 p.m. Info: 524-3043

Thursday, September 30

The Kensington Senior Activity Center 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. Program: John Woo presentation on Scandinavia

Thursday, September 30

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



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Kensington Outlook

Obituaries

Sally Wilts, long-time artist and FKL member, dies at 68

Sally Kissinger Wilt, an artist, writer and long-time member of the Friends of the Kensington Library, died July 18 after a long battle with breast cancer. She was 68.

Wilt, who lived in Kensington for 38 years, originated the Business Sponsors' Program for the Friends of the Kensington Library. The program provided financial assistance to many library programs.



Raised in South Bend, Indiana, Wilt graduated Magna Cum Laude with special honors in English from Indiana University. She was a member of Delta Gamma Sorority and Phi Beta Kappa.

As a painter and printmaker, she studied in Austria with Oskar Kokosha and then moved to San Francisco in 1962 to study with Richard Diebenkorn at the San Francisco Art Institute. She later taught art and nature classes for the Audubon Society and the University of California, Berkeley Art Museum.

As a community activist, she helped the East Bay Park District secure the rights to ridgeline land in Kensington adjacent to Tilden Park. She loved to travel and lived in many countries during her thirty year marriage to her former husband, Fred Wilt, retired professor of Cell Biology at UC Berkeley.

She is survived by her daughter, Laura of Oakland and her sister Pat of Elkhart, Indiana, as well as numerous nieces, nephews and their children.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Sally Kissinger Wilt Children's Book Fund of the Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Avenue, Kensington, CA 94707.

George Brecher, innovator in blood analysis, dies at 90

George Brecher, an innovator in blood analysis, died of complications relating to Parkinson's disease July 5. He was 90.

Brecher was an internationally acclaimed scientist who earned his medical degree from Charles University in Prague, Czechoslovakia. During his long career he served as Chief of Hematology in the Department of Clinical Pathology at the National Institutes of Health for 13

years after which he served as a professor at the University of California at San Francisco medical school, where he founded and headed the Department of Laboratory Medicine for 12 years.

After leaving UCSF he continued to do research at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory at UC Berkeley.

Brecher's accomplishments continue to influence medicine today in the areas of blood cell, bone marrow, stem cell biology, transfusion and hormonal stimulation of red cell production. He was an innovator in the automated analysis of blood.

Brecher was honored by the French Legion of Honor and received the Distinguished Service medal of the U.S. Public Health Service, the Medal of Merit of the Charles University in Prague, and presidency of the American Society of Hematology.

He is survived by his wife, Eva Brecher; a daughter from a previous marriage, Eva Baker; 4 step-children, Manuel Buchwald, Miguel Buchwald, Monica Sullivan, and Claudio Buchwald; 3 grandchildren and 2 greatgrandchildren.

Paul Munk, long-time Kensington resident, dies at 83

Paul Munk, a long-time Kensington resident who worked for 35 years at Chevron Research in Richmond, died June 22. He was 83.

Born in Czechoslovakia January 16, 1921, Munk came to the United States in 1940.

An avid skier, backpacker and hiker, he was active in the Sierra Club and Boy

Scouts. He also enjoyed photography, woodworking and gardening.

He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Anita; 3 sons, and 5 grandchildren. A memorial service was held August 19.

Memorial gifts may be sent to the Alta Bates Summit Foundation.

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From the case files of the KPD

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

Incidents in June and July

OA landlord confronted a former tenant on her front yard on Ardmore Rd. and was verbally abusive. The dispute related to a security deposit for a property in Richmond.

OPolice responded to a landlord-tenant dispute on Arlington Ct. The tenant, who previously tore up an eviction notice, was refusing to move. The landlord accused the tenant of locking her and her husband out and turning off the lights when they were still in the house.

OPolice stopped a 42 year-old female from Berkeley for speeding and then arrested her for driving under the influence. She had a blood alcohol level nearly twice the legal limit.

OA Sunset Dr. resident reported the theft of beach towels, beach chairs and other property valued at approximately \$340 from his vehicle parked inside his open garage.

OKensington Police assisted El Cerrito police in response to a robbery at 1:51 a.m. when a white van backed into the storefront window of a scooter store on San Pablo Avenue. Police arrested three people.

OAn ongoing dispute between neighbors on Arlington Ave. continued when police were called to turn off water that was shooting over a fence and wetting bags of Quickcrete cement, tools and workboots on the other side. The woman who turned on the water said she didn't realize the water was wetting items on the other side of the fence.

OA Hilltop Elementary School parent asked police to document a complaint over the way the school disciplined a child who had struck her 11-year-old son. The child lost recess privileges for the remaining two days of school. The parent wanted the student suspended.

OA Berkeley Park Blvd. resident reported the theft of a 1991 Honda Civic valued at \$2,000 from the apartment parking lot in which it was parked.



OA resident on Yale Ave. reported the theft of approximately \$2,000 in jewelry from her home.

OA The owner of a small terrier was bit by her own dog when she sought to protect it from an raccoon that chased the two during a walk on Amherst Ave. The woman lifted her dog off the ground along with the raccoon, which had attached itself with its teeth to the dog's hind quarters. The woman unsuccessfully kicked at the raccoon and fled with her dog down the street when the raccoon released it.

OA A woman reported she was verbally accosted outside of the community center after a meeting of the Kensington Municipal Advisory Council by other participants in the meeting who disputed the truthfulness of a comment she made relating to a long-running dispute over a survey and variances.

OPolice approached two men sleeping in a car at the Chevron station on Arlington Ave. When an officer noticed one of the men had a gun he ordered the men to exit the vehicle. Police arrested the men, who were in possession of burglary tools, methamphetamine and bullets. The gun was a toy.

OA A woman released from a mental facility returned to the Sunset Dr. home she had lived in 30 years ago believing she still lived there. The owner allowed her to enter and go up to a bedroom where she went to sleep. Policed explained to the woman she no longer lived there and sent her to the county hospital.

OA A woman called police after hearing noises at 3:30 a.m. in her Columbia Ave. home fearing a prowler was afoot. Police told the woman to remain in the kitchen while they inspected the upstairs. The officer opened a closet to discover two large, foraging rats.

OA A contractor reported the theft of more than \$2,000 worth of tools from an open garage on a construction site.

OA A female youth with a provisional license that restricts her from driving after midnight or with passengers ran a stop sign at 12:31 a.m. Police called her mother, who thought her daughter was in bed. The mother came to drive her daughter and friends home.

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Lost cat near Colusa Cir Aug 8. Hannah is black female 15yo spayed, front declawed, usually friendly. Please call 510-469-7117. Very much missed. Reward \$\$\$ if found.

KENSINGTON OUTLOOK CLASSIFIEDS

Kensington Outlook classified ads cost \$6 per line (\$12 min). A line is 45 characters or spaces. The deadline for classified ads is the tenth of the month prior to publication. All ads must be pre-paid and payment must be accompanied by a Kensington Outlook classified ad form. Pick up ad forms at the KCC office at 59 Arlington Ave. Bldg. E. in the Kensington Park beyond the tennis courts. You can also download ad forms from www.kensingtonoutlook.com.

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