

# KPCA News

Newsletter of the Kenwood Park Citizens Association, Inc.

Volume 21, Issue 1 • January 2015

## President's Corner

Happy New Year to all of our residents. The KPCA in 2015 will continue to work for our residents' needs - we stay committed to strengthening community bonds and advocating for our residents in the county. We encourage all 600 families in Kenwood Park to join KPCA - 2 levels of membership are available - social and security (includes social). So far we have about 1/3 of the community as members. We would like to see that number increase to at least half with a goal of reaching 75% membership by the end of the year. Please take a moment to consider joining the KPCA. Your participation and involvement in the community matters, and this is a vehicle for engagement with your fellow neighbors.

The new security service - Urban Alarm - is doing a great job in our neighborhood, based on the feedback that I have been receiving from residents. The thoroughness of the vacation checks and the ability to email residents a report with pictures of their house while they are away brings peace of mind while on vacation.

Our next event, the KPCA Potluck, is scheduled for February 22 at the Unitarian Church (corner of River & Whittier). This will be a great opportunity to sample dishes and meet your neighbors. This will not be your average potluck, we plan on having childcare to keep the little ones entertained. In the past we have had members prepare tasty ethnic dishes, but if you can't spare the time, consider picking up a dish at the market just before the potluck and just come. We would really like to meet and greet you. We bring in a lot of take-out pizzas, intended for children, but we see adults tipping in the pizzas as well. We are pulling out all the stops to make this a successful potluck,

I have been googling "successful potluck tips" to glean a few ideas to make this event a success, however, no matter how much googling I do, the key to a successful event will be our residents showing up - I look forward to meeting you at the Potluck.

All the best 2015 and beyond —

Krishna Collie  
KPCA President

## KPCA Calendar

### **Potluck Dinner**

Sunday, February 22, 2015

6:30 to 8:30PM

River Road Unitarian Universalist Church

See details inside

### **Book Club**

February 24 - See Inside

### **Garden Club**

See Inside

### **Kennel Club**

See Inside

## **A Few Citizen Comments on the New Security Patrol**

*"...great to have a security service back at work in our neighborhood"*

*"...alarm company does great vacation checks"*

*"Sat afternoon about 3 PM I saw Urban Alarm vehicle with patrolwoman Celice doing housecheck on my next door neighbor. Very pleasant person. Surprised to find her out and about during daytime, but's that good"*

A resident on Goodview Street said she was out of the country for a few weeks and was delighted with the service from the new security patrol. Every morning she would open her email and see a picture of her house taken the night before. She said *"It made me feel so happy!"*

From a resident on Kenhill: ... *"we used the security patrol while my husband and I were both abroad. Every day we received an email with photos attached. Knowing that someone was not only checking the front of the house but walking all the way around was very reassuring."*

**Krishna Collie, President (301) 320-4150 [pres@KPCAonline.org](mailto:pres@KPCAonline.org)**  
**Visit the KPCA web site: <http://www.kpcaonline.org> (under construction)**

# Security Patrol Update

The patrol is now circulating continuously through the streets of Kenwood Park overnight in a clearly marked vehicle. They will notify security members if they see open garage doors (but see special note on open garage doors below) or a problem. For vacation checks the company will do a walk-around of the house, more than once an evening if time permits, checking doors and windows, and placing mail and newspapers out of sight. If an email address has been provided, the patrol officer will send a report, with photos, to the house check requestor at the time of the house inspection. For those who don't wish to provide an email address, a print-out of the same report will be dropped off to the address the next day.

Any KPCA member who has paid for the patrol services can call (202) 684 2500 for assistance. The company has informed us that calling that number activates a patrol hotline voice menu. The caller, upon submitting his or her zip code, can connect directly to the patrol car, or use the option to connect with a supervisor to schedule a vacation watch. Hence, the

only number a security member needs for either purpose is (202) 684 2500. This number is manned 24 hours a day, seven days a week. **PLEASE PROVIDE AT LEAST 24 HOUR'S NOTICE IF POSSIBLE TO REQUEST VACATION CHECKS.**

If you encounter any difficulty at all please contact our President at once, contact information on the masthead. We want to correct any glitches as fast as possible.

The Board members are receiving real-time email transmissions from Urban Alarm, reporting the time of appearance and departure of the patrol car daily (nightly), as well as incidents/events occurring in the community during patrol hours which the community should be aware of, and a summary of all house checks each night. The Board has been pleased with the surveillance which has been provided.

The Membership Form can be found on the first page of our web site at [www.kpcaonline.org](http://www.kpcaonline.org), or you can request it by email at [news@kpcaonline.org](mailto:news@kpcaonline.org).

**Don't Miss the  
KPCA Potluck Dinner**



## Special Note Concerning Garage Doors

**IF YOUR GARAGE DOOR IS FOUND OPEN AT NIGHT.**

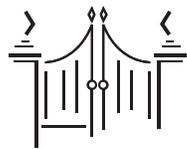
When our Security Patrol sees your garage door open at night, they record this in their log. The patrol phones the occupants, but doesn't phone after 11 PM because they have found that many people do not appreciate being awakened to be told about this. There may be small children in the house they don't want to be awakened. When the patrol calls the subscriber, they will offer to wait nearby while the person checks the garage and closes the door. This will also apply to open car trunks and windows, which they have also observed in our neighborhood.

We have added an Opt-In to the Membership Form found on our web site, [kpcaonline.org](http://kpcaonline.org). It reads:

**If the Patrol sees your garage door open,  
do you want to be phoned after 11 PM?**

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If you are a Security Patrol member already, and you want to opt-in immediately, notify our news editor at [news@kpcaonline.org](mailto:news@kpcaonline.org), and your name, address, and phone number will be put on a list that the security patrol will keep.



**Linda Chaletzky**  
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**#1 Agent  
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for the Last Five Years!**

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# KPCA POT LUCK DINNER

*Sunday, February 22, 2015*

**6:30 to 8:30PM**

River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation  
(Corner of Whittier Boulevard and River Road)

*Last name starting with:*

A –D: Salads ♦ E – P: Main Course

Q – Z: Fruit/Dessert

**Please bring enough for 8 people. Drinks will be provided.**

**Important: RSVP number coming and number of small children to:**

Lucia Gregori (301) 263-0678

*lgregori@verizon.net*

We have such an international neighborhood that we get a nice assortment of international dishes to taste. Please put a card with the name of your dish and major ingredients.

We plan to have babysitters on site to keep the children occupied.

We realize that many residents have very full schedules and may not have time to prepare a dish. As our President states above, we would like to see you even if you only have time to pick up something at the market. In addition, we stock up on take-out pizza, allegedly for the children, but many of us enjoy a slice or two of the pizza. Nobody, but nobody, goes away hungry! And, you can come and go as your schedule requires.

Note: We will not have the facility to heat up food. People will have to bring the dishes hot or bring some kind of heating device.

We would appreciate volunteers to help in the preparation. Please contact Lucia.

## What Will 2015 Bring?

According to MRIS, the area's multiple list system, prices in the Metro area are now within 2% of what they were at the area's market peak. Inside the beltway, we've been at the 2007 level for a while. (It was the wider area that experienced the greatest decline when the market skidded to a halt after 2007.) This development was helped by this past December's performance. Montgomery County and Northern Virginia showed an increase of 13.5% in dollar volume in sales over last December and DC saw a whopping 10.4% increase in price. Hopefully this is a bullish sign for 2015. Sellers can be confident that they aren't "leaving money on the table" from 2007 levels when they sell in today's market.

On top of all that, rates are at one of their lowest points in history. If you haven't refinanced in a while it may make sense to do so now. And if you or your children are think-

ing of buying, this is the time to do it – before the spring rush. Buyers can also be confident that they are buying when rates are the lowest and the rebound of the market demonstrates that it does come back after a tumble.

Kenwood Park has only one home currently active for sale. It has been on the market almost 3 months and had one price reduction. Currently it is priced at \$1,549,000. One new build is under contract. Everything else has sold. There are two homes for rent in the MRIS system, one for \$3500 and one for \$4300.

*Contributed by Linda Chaletzky  
lchaletzky@eversco.com*

\*Statistics are taken from the Metropolitan Regional Information System for three areas: Washington, D.C., Montgomery County, Maryland, and Fairfax County, Arlington, Alexandria, and Falls Church in Virginia.

### Montgomery County Police Offer for You

We have a police community service officer with the 2nd district, who, among other assigned duties, will visit any home and offer professional advice on making a home more safe and secure. This can be scheduled by calling Officer Oliver M. Janney, the Community Service Officer, with office at 2nd District Headquarters, 7359 Wisconsin Ave. Bethesda, 20814, and phone 240-773-6728.

The Commander of the 2nd District has stated in his citizen-advisory meetings, and in a letter to KPCA that, from his experience, the presence of a neighborhood security service has a deterrent effect on crime in that neighborhood, and that the police welcome the presence of such a service.

**Peter Dressner - PC Repair Specialist**  
MS Windows, Apple OS X, Linux  
Serving Bethesda Inside Beltway + Adjacent Neighborhoods  
Networking, Virus Removal, PC Problem Resolution  
Data Recovery and Data Backup, Parental Controls  
New PC Setup and Data Transfer, Pre-Purchase Advice  
Located in Kenwood Park, Bethesda  
Flexible Hours (24/7) Email: [bethesdapcrepair@gmail.com](mailto:bethesdapcrepair@gmail.com)  
Tel: 301-718-1088 Blog: [bethesdapcrepair.wordpress.com](http://bethesdapcrepair.wordpress.com)

### Neighborhood Services Available

#### Baby Sitters

- L. Sorcher (Certified) (301) 229-2328
- C. Goldman (301) 320-1582
- Michelle Dressner (301) 652-5453
- Katie Choppin (certified) (301) 229-9139
- Carly Choppin (certified) (301) 229-9139
- Anne Charpentier (certified) (301) 320-4310
- Bailey and Hannah (sisters, H.S. students, both CPR cert., Children's Hospital, babysitting cert. (301) 312-8606
- Ally (Alexandra) Turco (CPR cert. Amer. Red Cross First Aid cert. (240) 620-5775
- Dana Vazquez (senior at Whitman) (301) 910-3262  
Red Cross First Aid and CPR cert.  
Native Spanish speaker from Argentina

#### Leaf Rakers, Snowshovelers, Odd Jobs

- Isaac Bacon (Whitman HS student) is offering to do snow shoveling, firewood delivery, and any other odd job  
[IsaacBacon43@gmail.com](mailto:IsaacBacon43@gmail.com) (240) 507-8075
- Amber White (301) 588-6474  
[apamberpower@gmail.com](mailto:apamberpower@gmail.com) (loving and reliable dog walker)
- Alex (10th grader at French Int'l School) (202) 413-1193 or [acpiot@gmail.com](mailto:acpiot@gmail.com)

#### GET LISTED HERE FREE:

Leave name and phone number with Editor, Edward Elson, at (301) 320-2837 or email [news@kpcaonline.org](mailto:news@kpcaonline.org)

# What Does Our Low Crime Rate Cost?

If one examines the number of crimes that occurred in the last 12 months in our police beat (E2) to the area to the south toward the district line (E1) and to the east (D2, which includes the Bethesda commercial district) we find that our area has the fewest crimes. There were only 39 burglaries, robberies and assaults in our E2 district. In our Kenwood Park neighborhood, there were only four burglaries. Most occurred near the River Road entrance at Whittier Blvd. There were several burglaries and assaults at the end of Whittier Blvd near Wilson Lane (which is outside Kenwood Park, though nearby). As a result, we have asked the Patrol to pay special attention to Whittier Blvd.



The Security Patrol costs only 81¢ per day, a small price to pay for a safe neighborhood.

Your dues go 100% to pay for the Security Patrol and for our neighborhood activities. The KPCA Board members are volunteers, and get no salaries or perks. We own no property, and there is therefore no overhead. Your dues are a really good deal for the peace of mind and community spirit they support.



## Kenwood Park Book Group

The Kenwood Park Book Club is reading *Reflections on the Revolution in Europe: Immigration, Islam and the West*, by Christopher Caldwell. We will meet next on February 24. Contact [sjgust@msn.com](mailto:sjgust@msn.com) for more information

## KPCA GARDEN CLUB NEWS

The Garden Club Fall Social Bulb Planting Party was held on Sunday afternoon, Oct. 26, 2014 at the Durbin Triangle. A few residents showed up to dig and bury bulbs and plants, and get a great workout in the process. A young preschooler even pitched in. Look for the displays of daffodils this spring!

Sinaly Roy, our head of the Garden Club, has adopted the Durbin Triangle under the county's Adopt a Spot program. She has agreed to keep the spot tidy, and may plant flowers and add niceties to it. She is thinking of a park bench, which someone may want to donate in honor of someone, and add a plaque. She thought it might be nice to have a wooden sign that says Welcome to Kenwood Park, like those seen at the entrances to Battery Park or Huntington Terrace.

Contact: Sinaly Roy at [sinalymroy@gmail.com](mailto:sinalymroy@gmail.com) to learn about future events.



Would someone like to adopt Millwood Circle? ☺

## Kenwood Park Kennel Club

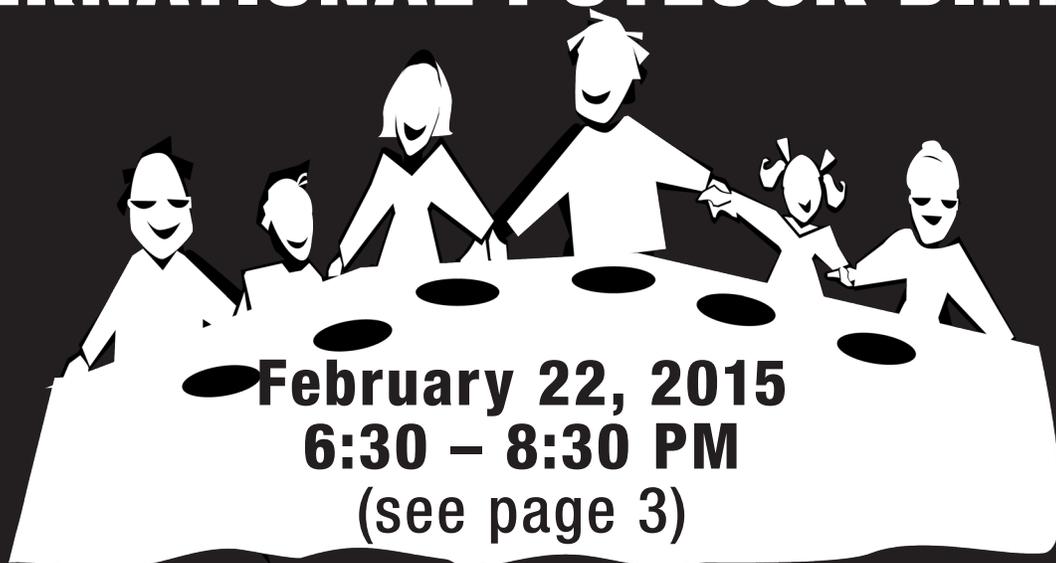
In light of the interest shown by KP residents for a dog get together, KP Kennel Club is preparing for our next Yappy Hour. If anyone is willing to host or help with the next party, please contact Neda [kpkennel@kpcasonline.org](mailto:kpkennel@kpcasonline.org).

# KPCA News

Kenwood Park Citizens Association, Inc.  
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Bethesda, MD 20817

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## KENWOOD PARK INTERNATIONAL POTLUCK DINNER



**February 22, 2015**  
**6:30 – 8:30 PM**  
**(see page 3)**

### **Acknowledgements**

Thanks go to Hannah Elson and Krishna Collie for helping to prepare this newsletter, and to Ken Chaletzky of Copy General for our printing and mailing.

Edward Elson, *Editor*