

# KPCA News

Newsletter of the Kenwood Park Citizens Association, Inc.

Volume 21, Issue 2 • May 2015

## President's Corner

KPCA is continuing to grow its membership roll. I want to thank the residents who have become members and extend an invitation to residents who may have been thinking about joining but are on the fence. Consider our value proposition: "Serving the KPCA community needs, through cohesive neighborhood and civic engagement." Becoming a member helps the Association foster a cohesive neighborhood and ensures that our civic voice is heard by our elected local representatives.

We currently have 40% of the 640 households in Kenwood Park that are either social or security members or both. 33% are Security members. For our FY beginning in September 2015, our goal is to increase our membership to 50%. Please consider joining as a social or security member. Your support enables us to hold our signature neighborhood events - 4th of July Children Bike Parade with Fire Truck and Halloween Costume Party - which brings our neighborhood together. With increased membership we can do more in the community and continue to support efforts in our neighborhood such as the Millwood circle beautification project led by Sarah Najafi and the Durbin Triangle beautification project led by Sinaly Roy. (Please see note in newsletter about the Durbin Triangle Memorial Park Bench initiative.) For residents interested in our security service offering, we have received very positive feedback about our security service - Urban Alarm. In addition to patrolling the community, they offer a vacation check service that has gotten rave reviews from our residents; we look forward to continuing with this firm in the Fall and will be advertising in the upcoming months to get new members for the fall. This service benefits our entire neighborhood. We will be distributing door hangers to non-members and past members as part of our advertising campaign in the summer months. Also look for a sign-up table at our 4th of July parade. Please consider joining so that we can attain our 50% membership goal.

KPCA continues to be a civic voice for community engagement; we have supported efforts to preserve community space in Bethesda Metro Park and make it an inviting place.

*Continued on Page 2*

## KPCA Calendar

### **4th of July celebration**

July 4 – 10 AM – Marbury Court

### **Book Club**

June 23- See Inside

### **Garden Club Plant Sharing**

June 7 – 3 to 5 PM

### **Kenel Club**

Pet Walkathon

June 20

See Inside

### **KPCA Annual Meeting**

June 30 – 7:00 PM - Bethesda Library

## Theft in Kenwood Park

There was an incident on Marbury Road near the corner of Durbin Road. Late at night, someone stole a very large clay pot from beside the garage door. They emptied it neatly on the grass and took the very attractive pot. It cost about \$90 at American Plant, but since it glistened, one speculation is that the thieves thought it contained copper and that is why they stole it.

Most of the crimes in our general area are thefts from autos. Please take some precautionary steps to lock your vehicles (along with your belongings) and entry points to the home. A great deterrent is to arm your home/vehicle alarm systems.

As the weather has now improved there will be an expected increase in door to door solicitations. Please never open the door to anyone you do not recognize.

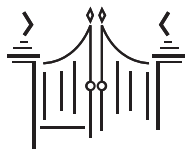
Urban Alarm will be providing increased presence at all neighborhood entry points during active patrol times.

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

KPCA supports the vision to turn the concrete Metro plaza area into a more successful community green space where the community can attend festivals, eat a take-out picnic, or just relax in the middle of downtown. KPCA is also supporting the redevelopment of Bradley Boulevard from Wilson Lane to Downtown Bethesda. The plan is to put in sidewalks and bike paths to make the journey into Downtown Bethesda pedestrian and bike friendly. This is a welcome effort and long overdue for those of you who have made the journey from our neighborhood into downtown. Finally, KPCA will be conducting a series of discussions with neighborhoods to gain a better understanding of traffic calming measures for our neighborhood. Residents have alerted me to the fact that commuters or neighbors are speeding or blowing through stop signs in Kenwood Park. As children go outside in the spring/summer months, please be careful and mindful of children playing, crossing the streets or riding their bikes in the neighborhood.

We have finalized our plans for the 4th of July and will have our Annual Meeting on June 30th. All residents are encouraged to come out to our annual meeting and let their voices be heard. I look forward to meeting you and speaking with you about our neighborhood and hearing your feedback about how we can continue to make living in Kenwood Park a rewarding experience. Please check your mailbox for an update in June regarding the 4th of July parade.

Krishna Collie  
KPCA President



Linda Chaletzky  
Licensed in MD, DC & VA

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## Opt-In for Open Garage Door Notification after 11 PM

Notice that our new Membership Form contains check boxes to let Urban Alarm know if you want to be phoned by them when they see your garage door is open. They will not phone after 11 PM unless you check the box that you want to be awakened. The patrol officer can wait while you check to see if all is well and close the door.

## FIRST TIME EVER DEAL FOR NON-SECURITY MEMBERS

**Summer patrol memberships, to watch your house while you go on vacation this summer.**

Just combine next year's dues plus \$100 to get vacation coverage between June 1 and September 14, 2015, preceding next year's dues period of September 15, 2015 to September 14, 2016. Summer-only memberships are not available.

**Please complete the membership form on page 6.**

## Neighborhood Services Available

### Baby Sitters

- L. Sorcher (Certified) (301) 229-2328
- G. Goldman (301) 320-1582
- Carly Choppin (certified) (301) 229-9139
- 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 (240) 507-8075
- Amber White (301) 588-6474  
apamberpower@gmail.com (loving and reliable dog walker)
- Alex (10th grader at French Int'l School)  
(202) 413-1193 or acpiot@gmail.com
- Chris Fowler Fowler (responsible boy in the neighborhood): cut your grass while you're away-water your plants while you're on vacation—take care of your pets, house while you're on vacation-move heavy objects. Call Chris who lives on Marbury Road @ 301-455-8187-Email: chris.fowler419@gmail.com. References available upon request for pet and house sitting!
- Julian Vazques (Whitman Senior student) is offering as loving and reliable pet sitter and dog walker. (301) 910 3013 or julianvazquez06@hotmail.com.

### GET LISTED HERE FREE:

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



**Bring your bikes, trikes  
& strollers to the  
4th Annual**

**POPSICLES  
& DONUTS**

**GIVE-  
AWAYS**

**Kenwood Park  
July 4th  
Parade & Celebration**

**COLD  
DRINKS**

**Marbury Court**

**CRAFTS &  
GAMES**

**Bike decorating: 10:00  
Fire engine-led parade: 10:30  
Festivities to follow**



## The Spring Market

The spring market got off to late start this year. Maybe it was due to the hard and long winter. Maybe not. But around the Metro area new listings and sales lagged for the first four months more than usual, and Kenwood Park was no exception. We are seeing multiple offers on properties located within walking distance to the Metro. A high “walk score” has become the hot ticket item and those home with low walk scores do not generate the same frenzied demand. (Walk score means walking distance to retail, restaurants etc.)

Three homes went on the market in Kenwood Park in January, and two sold in less than a week, indicating the demand was there and the supply was not. The other, (a potential short sale), sold in less than three weeks. Kenwood Park saw no new home sale listings in February, and March only brought two, one of which is still on the market and the other sold in five days. One other home went on the market in April in “Coming Soon” status (to be discussed below) but was not available to be seen until May 12 which is really the effective market date. And May brought two new sale listings and one new rental, all of which have now been on the market about a week. In terms of rentals, one home on the market for 272 days finally rented in April and another on the market for 101 days rented to begin June 1. Two homes went on the market for rent in 2015 and applications have been registered after just 6 and 20 days respectively.

There is a new status for listings in the multiple list service in addition to the familiar Active, Cont/NoKo (no kickout clause), Contract (no remaining contingencies) and Sold statuses. “Coming Soon” is used to generate buzz. It means there is a signed listing agreement between the sellers and a brokerage/agent but that the house is not yet ready for prime time. Coming Soon status can only be used for 21 days after which the property must become active in the system, available to be seen immediately and can be sold. But while it is in Coming Soon status, it cannot be shown to ANYONE by the agent or the seller, nor can an offer be accepted. The listing is not available to the general public to be seen on any internet site. Only agents are able to retrieve the information. It is used to inform all the other agents that the property will become available and to help them plan and strategize with their buyer clients. It also gives listing agents an opportunity to hear from other agents about whether the listing will generate interest. If you’d like to learn more about this status, just give me a call.

*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.

## MESSAGE FROM URBAN ALARM ON HOW TO SCHEDULE VACATION CHECKS

Hello All — there have been some concerns regarding the contact method for scheduling our vacation watch service. To clarify, the following methods are available to patrol members:

1. The quickest way to schedule a vacation watch is by filling out our vacation watch form, link below. The link is mobile friendly though a browser and the data received is encrypted. Once the form is complete and submitted I will confirm the submission with the customer. [https://docs.](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/12saky21xzwpcONE5JyyitWWB4TSqUK4zhv3O-wYjiHE/viewform?usp=send_form)

[google.com/forms/d/12saky21xzwpcONE5JyyitWWB4TSqUK4zhv3O-wYjiHE/viewform?usp=send\\_form](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/12saky21xzwpcONE5JyyitWWB4TSqUK4zhv3O-wYjiHE/viewform?usp=send_form)

2. Members can email me at: [andy@urbanalarm.com](mailto:andy@urbanalarm.com), containing all of the information and I will confirm it with them.

3. Members may still call my office extension, 202-265-2700 x.120. However, I am out in the field the majority of the time and there will be a delay in confirming it with them.

Members **should not** call the patrol hotline (202-684-2500) to schedule a vacation watch. The patrol service is not 24 hours and there are times where we are not manning the patrol phone and, if contact with that number is attempted, it would not be tended to until the next officer arrives for duty. In most cases, this is not until overnight and, in that case, it will be handled the next business day. If anyone has any questions please do not hesitate to ask.

Remember, please provide 24 hours notice if possible.

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## CONTRIBUTE TO THE SAFETY OF OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

We now have 33% of the homes in the neighborhood paying for the security patrol.

The patrol provides us with peace of mind, knowing that we live in a safer neighborhood. Almost all homes have a personal security alarm system as well. **Urban Alarm offers personal house alarms, or can take over existing systems, and for security patrol members, the first six months of monitoring service will be free.**

Our patrol can be the contact number for the alarm company, and provides a quicker response than the police. It can also prevent those pesky false alarm fees.

KPCA provides flashers to security members. These can keep late-night bike riders and walkers visible in the dark. Contact former president Ken Rubinson, or [news@kpcaonline.org](mailto:news@kpcaonline.org).

## SNOW BIRDS

We have a few households where the residents are gone all winter and they are receiving house checks daily. This requires significant time for those few households, taking time away from the overall community. When we had more subscribers, and could afford more total hours for the patrol, it was not such a problem. The standard commercial charge for each house check is \$25. We are reluctant to request additional payments from high-use residents at this time, but this is up for discussion at our Annual Meeting. At times when there are many vacation checks to do, if the first check of a house reveals all entries are secure, subsequent checks could be a little less detailed. The house checks have been excellent and appreciated but we need to be sure that they can be accomplished within the constraints of the time available and the need to patrol the entire neighborhood.



## Kenwood Park Book Group

The Kenwood Park Book Club will meet again on June 23 and is reading Elizabeth Warren's *A Fighting Chance*. For more information, please contact [sjgust@msn.com](mailto:sjgust@msn.com)

## KPCA GARDEN CLUB NEWS

### Spring Plant Sharing Social Sunday, June 7th, 3-5PM

Durbin Triangle (corner of Durbin and Radnor Rd)

Drop by our annual plant sharing event. Have some lemonade, meet neighbors, share plants and gardening tips.

All plants welcome (perennial transplants, divisions, ground-covers, etc., and houseplants too). You can take anything you like; you don't have to donate to take plants.

If you would like to donate plants but can't make it on Sunday, you can leave plants at 5724 Durbin Rd., front stoop (across from the triangle) anytime on Saturday, or on Sunday morning.

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

## Kenwood Park Kennel Club

### Pet Walkathon-Kenwood Park

To introduce neighbors, pets and the community together, we invite you to our 2015 Summer Pet Walkathon

**Date:** Saturday June 20th

**Time:** 9:00 AM

**Where:** Kenwood Park corner of Marbury and Lenox

Please be sure to keep your pet on a leash at all time. Pet owners are responsible for pets' behavior throughout the walk.

Pet prizes will be provided.

To register for the walk, please RSVP to [Kpkennel@kpcaonline.org](mailto:Kpkennel@kpcaonline.org) by no later than June 14. Please be sure to include your pet's name and approximate weight.

Additional details will be provided upon receipt of your registration request.

# Kenwood Park Citizens Association

**Please renew your membership today (or join for the first time).**

*September 15, 2015 to September 14, 2016*

Security patrol contribution and KPCA membership together: \$295.

Social KPCA membership only: \$85.

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

**Emergency Contact:** (Someone we can call if you are out of town or are disabled, even in the evening):

\_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks out to: Kenwood Park Citizens Association (or KPCA)

Please mail to:

KPCA Treasurer  
P.O. Box 127  
Gen Echo, MD 20812

Prefer to pay online? Go to: **[www.brightdoc.com/kpca](http://www.brightdoc.com/kpca)**

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

Yes       No

**Want your security membership to begin June 1 so you can request house checks this summer?** Add \$100 to the dues of \$295 above, for a total of \$395. Summer-only membership is not available.

# NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

A general meeting of the KPCA will take place on June 30, 2015 at 7:00 PM in the Bethesda Library. Refreshments will be served. All residents of Kenwood Park are welcome, regardless of membership status. According to the KPCA by-laws, elections are held at this time. The Directors-at-Large, who serve for one year, are up for re-election this year. We welcome nominations and volunteers. We may have up to six Directors-At-Large. Two committee chairs are vacant, for the Activities Committee and the Welcoming Committee. Topics to be discussed include excessive use of the patrol by some members, neighborhood issues, and issues outside Kenwood Park such as nearby developments.

BOARD MEMBERS	CURRENT MEMBERS	NOMINATED
<b>OFFICERS</b> (serve 2 yrs)		
President	Krishna Collie	
Vice-President	Linda Chaletzky	
Secretary	Foroud Arsanjani	
Treasurer	Hannah Elson	
<b>DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE</b>		
(serve 1 yr)	Ben Vitiello	Ben Vitiello
	Richard Berney	Richard Berney
	Ken Rubinson	Ken Rubinson
<b>STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS</b> (appointed, no term limits)		
Security	Sheila Taube	
Membership	Hannah Elson	
Community Issues	Herb Stone	
Publicity	Edward Elson	
Activities	Open	
Welcoming	Open	

## DONATE A MEMORIAL BENCH IN DURBAN TRIANGLE

Does someone in the community want to donate a bench to be placed in the Durban Triangle, with a brass plaque, in memory of a loved one?

It would require funds for digging up the grassy area between the trees (where it will go) connecting it with the plant bed, and putting down shredded bark and a few stepping stones to keep out the weeds, so the county can easily mow around it. At right is an example of one of the rustic style benches found in Del Mar, CA, with its plaque. Other styles are available in local shops. If you are interested, contact [news@KPCAonline.org](mailto:news@KPCAonline.org).



# KPCA News

Kenwood Park Citizens Association, Inc.  
P.O. Box 127  
Glen Echo, MD 20812

PRSRT STD  
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US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Bethesda, MD  
Permit No. 3109

**Mark Your Calendar**  
**Kenwood Park**  
**Independence Day**  
**Celebration**

**Sunday, July 4th**  
**Beginning at 10 a.m.**  
**at Marbury Court**  
*(See Page 3 for more information)*

## **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*