

KPCA News

Newsletter of the Kenwood Park Citizens Association, Inc.

Volume 22, Issue 1 • March 2016

President's Corner

Dear Neighbors,

KPCA continues its work in the community, through the excellent work that is being done by our Public Safety and Traffic Committee. This committee is engaged with Montgomery County and the Board of Ed (School Bus traffic from Radnor School) about the safety issues in our community. We have met with MCPD to highlight the safety concerns and have mentioned areas where speeding and stop sign running endangers the residents. They will enforce the traffic laws in our community, please be aware of your fellow residents and drive safely through our neighborhood. Commuters who "cut thru" Kenwood Park can expect MCPD to enforce the traffic laws. There are also traffic studies planned for our community so we can gather data about traffic patterns. Our annual KPCA potluck is coming up, hope to see you all there!

Krishna Collie
KPCA President

KPCA Traffic and Safety Committee Report

by Katherine Kerxton

Our recently formed KPCA Traffic and Safety Committee had a busy fall and winter addressing traffic and safety issues within Kenwood Park. We have been working closely with community members as well as county officials to prioritize and respond to the concerns that many KPCA residents have expressed about the safety of our streets:

This past October, with the support of the Kenwood Park Citizens Association (KPCA), and the efforts of Lindsey Dickinson, the committee posted an online survey regarding traffic and pedestrian safety. The survey will serve as a baseline to help us prioritize the

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KPCA Calendar

Potluck Dinner

Sunday, March 13, 2016

6:30 to 8:30PM

See details inside

Book Club

February 25

See Inside

Kenel Club

See inside

**It's the season to
start planning a block party**

See inside

Join KPCA, Support KPCA

What does KPCA do for you? In addition to connecting neighbors with a newsletter and website, we provide annual parties, interest clubs, community support, and a security patrol.

This year KPCA also wants to help you meet your neighbors by sponsoring block parties! Have your block captain contact us and we'll help subsidize it. Don't know your neighbors? Don't have a Block Captain? Contact us and we'll tell you how to do it.

Block Captains make contact lists for their street (we provide the list) so neighbors can get connected in times of need and to forward information from KPCA. Call or email our head of membership, Mar-iam Lamech, 301-229-3158, mlamech@gmail.com.

To join the Kenwood Park Citizens Association for September 15, 2015, to September 14, 2016, either find the form on our web site, <http://www.kpcaonline.org>, or request one sent to you by email from news@KPCAonline.org.

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

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Kids at the KPCA Halloween Party in October

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, high school students)
both CPR certified, Children's Hospital,
baby sitting certificate (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
prefers Whitman area
- Paula Yabar, a junior at Whitman HS. I am a native
Spanish speaker from Peru. Baby sitting since I was 14.
paulayabar36@gmail.com (240) 361-1808

Leaf Rakers, Snow Shovelers, Odd Jobs

- Daniel Strauss, Whitman HS student lives on Kenhill Rd,
offering snowblowing service.
Daniel.Strauss98@gmail.com or (301) 229-2553
- 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 (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 Mar-
bury 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 lov-
ing and reliable pet sitter and dog walker. (301) 910 3013 or
julianvazquez06@hotmail.com.
- Hector Gobet, lives on Lenox Road, 202-770-5950, or *hec-
torgobet@gmail.com*.



CALLING ALL POSSIBLE CUB SCOUTS

Is your little boy interested in joining the Cub Scouts? KPCA has been the community sponsor for Pack 933 for many years. The meetings were held at Bradley Hills Elementary School. The Pack has not been active for the last few years, but if there is interest, it can be started up again. For information, please contact Dick O'Connell at *dick.oc2009@gmail.com*, or 240-476-3036.

GET LISTED HERE FREE:

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

KPCA Potluck Dinner



Join your neighbors at our 20th

“Taste of Kenwood Park” Neighborhood Potluck

6:30 - 8:30 PM, Sunday March 13

Concord Saint Andrews Church
(corner of River and Goldsboro Roads)

Drinks and pizza will be provided by KPCA. All ages welcome.

We ask guests to bring dishes to serve 8

Suggested dishes for last name starting with:

A-J: Main Course

K-S: Fruit/Dessert

T-Z: Salads/Sides

(If applicable, bring dishes hot or your own heating device)

To make sure we have enough food and drink, please RSVP with number attending to:
Elizabeth Haile (202-237-5281) or elizabeth_haile@hotmail.com

KPCA first started sponsoring this “Taste of Kenwood Park” in 1997! Come whenever your schedule allows and enjoy international dishes from neighbors, meet new friends and connect with neighbors.

Volunteers welcome, please contact Linda Chaletzky at 301-320-2630 if you'd like to volunteer.

Will the trends continue into 2016?

Kenwood Park averages about 15 home sales each year over the last ten years. 2015 was no different. It will be interesting to see what 2016 brings. I'm sure that you, like me, have fielded comments from out-of-towners about how our neighborhood must have turnover as a result of elections. And I'm sure you've explained, like I have, that the election years have little impact. Historically, when Washington was a sleepy southern town, those who came to the area for political jobs returned to their home states when they lost their positions. Now, with its cosmopolitan atmosphere, culture and world class food, people stay. In fact, the most change occurs amongst renters in DC. Congressional aides tend to be impacted by the elections to a greater extent in the short term than any other group.

The trends we will be watching in 2016 involve mortgage rates, the desire of millennials to live close to commerce, and the retirement plans of baby boomers. Mortgage rates have been expected to be on the rise for a long time but have remained historically low. If the Fed raises its overnight rate again, and maybe again after that, will mortgage rates follow in time? Hard to know. Buyers have been taking low rates for granted. Perhaps if they see rates rise it will spur them to make purchases sooner than otherwise planned. Of course, there would then be a need for increased inventory. Perhaps that will help our neighborhood's desirability. But baby boomers need places to move to and what is being built today is either excessively costly, too far out, or too small. More

and more I hear people say they'd move if only there was someplace to move to.

One significant issue for us is our walk score. (See www.walkscore.com) It runs between 9 and 13 out of 100 – very low. Millennials and boomers alike are looking for high walk scores and it's one of the first things they check when looking at property. They want the convenience of being able to walk to restaurants, shops and entertainment. It's just as important (and maybe more important) than schools, which they feel they can improve upon by being involved. So yes, you can walk to downtown Bethesda from Kenwood Park, but not easily. Will this trend persist? Again, hard to know.

The mix of the elections, rates, and the millennial/boomer connection will be interesting to watch this year. Let's hope Kenwood Park continues to be a sought after destination.

Since January 1 one home has sold, at the corner of Radnor and Tanglewood for \$550,000. And one new build has come on the market on Marbury Road for \$2,599,000.

*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.

Bridge Club

Kenwood Park has a Social Bridge Club that meets on weekday mornings or afternoons in neighbors' homes. We are looking for more singles and couples interested in playing at the intermediate level. Please join us! If you are interested in learning more, call Christina Lobo (301) 229-3490 or Gloria Fitchett (301) 229-8480.

HOW TO SCHEDULE VACATION CHECKS WITH URBAN ALARM

Letters to KPCA security patrol members were mailed with magnets containing the phone numbers and URLs you will need. To summarize, either:

1. At least 24 hours ahead (if possible), fill out their vacation watch form at www.urbanalarm.com/watch.

or

2. Send an email to the patrol supervisor, andy@urbanalarm.com, containing all of your information. He will confirm it.

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 when they are not manning the patrol phone. If that number is attempted, it might not be tended to until the next officer arrives for duty, which could be the next business day.

Peter Dressner - PC Repair Specialist

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Tel: 301-718-1088 Blog: bethesdapcrepair.wordpress.com

KPCA Traffic and Safety Committee Report *(continued)*

needs of the community and our approach with the Montgomery County Department of Transportation and Police Department. From the 94 survey respondents we concluded that:

(1) residents feel with respect to traffic in Kenwood Park: 8.5%, extremely safe; 27.7%, very safe; 50.0%, moderately safe; 4.3%, slightly safe; 3.2%, not safe at all;

(2) the top concern is speeding (90.4%); number two concern is not stopping at stop signs (51.8%); number three concern is cut-through traffic (34.9%) and

(3) streets with the greatest concern for pedestrian traffic are: Millwood, Marbury, Lenox, Durbin, Tanglewood and Radnor Roads and Whittier Blvd.

- ◆ There have been at least two children hit by moving vehicles, that we are aware of, within the past few months in our area; two too many.
- ◆ Committee members have been vigilant in working with the Department of Transportation and Montgomery County Council Member Roger Berliner's office to put in place **traffic monitoring**. Thus far, traffic surveys have been implemented on Millwood Rd. and Tanglewood Dr., results still pending. We have also requested traffic surveys for Lenox, Plainview, and Whittier. If deemed necessary, we will use results of the traffic surveys to implement additional traffic calming measures with community approval.
- ◆ This spring DOT is expected to place SMART Units (Speed Monitoring Awareness Radar Trailer) on various streets in the neighborhood. These **speed monitoring signs** will serve as a deterrent for motorists by educating them as to the speed they are traveling on our neighborhood streets.
- ◆ In November the KPCA board met with Officer Oliver Janney, Community Services Officer, 2nd


District. We spoke to him about the concerns we have regarding traffic violators throughout the neighborhood and have requested speed reinforcement in the form of **radar cameras and/or ticketing**. We hope to have MCPD out in the community in the near future.

- ◆ In response to concerns regarding the apparent high speed of **MCPS school buses** on route to the Radnor holding school, specifically on Millwood and Tanglewood Roads, a member of the KPCA board reached out to President of MCPS, Pat O'Neil. Action was taken immediately to monitor the bus drivers' speed and general driving within the neighborhood. Although most drivers were well within the posted speed limit of 25 mph, we have noticed a significant slowing down of buses since they were monitored. For additional concerns with MCPS buses, please contact the MCPS depot directly at 301-469-1070. The committee also spoke directly with the principal of Wood Acres Elementary, the current school housed at the holding school on Radnor, to discuss the various issues raised by our Kenwood Park residents of school related traffic and pedestrian use of Radnor, Brite and Tanglewood.

As neighbors, we all need to be vigilant in terms of how we drive and walk through the neighborhoods. Please be respectful of others when driving by obeying all traffic signs and driving cautiously throughout the neighborhood – and NOT using your cell phones while driving. We have a busy and active community with many school children and pedestrian walkers and runners. Just following some of the basics "rules of the road" will go a long way in keeping everyone safe:

- ◆ *drive cautiously and make complete stops at stop signs;*
- ◆ *when walking, walk against traffic and when biking, bike with traffic;*
- ◆ *wear reflective clothing when out at night and*
- ◆ *kids (both big and small) need reminders too!*

We are always interested in hearing from you throughout the year. Please send any questions or concerns to Katherine Kerxton at kkerxton@gmail.com.



Kenwood Park Book Group

The Kenwood Park Book Club will meet next on February 25, and we are reading a novel, *The Three Weissmanns of Westport* by Cathleen Schine. For more information, please contact sgust@msn.com.

Kenwood Park Kennel Club

Keep an eye out for an April playdate and in the meantime...

Foods Your Dog Should Never Eat

by Neda Mehrpour-Arsanjani

Can a little reward from the table really hurt your dog? There's a lot of "people food" your dog should never eat. And, it's not just because of weight. Some foods are downright dangerous for them -- and some of these common foods may surprise you.

Avocado: Avocados contain a substance called persin that can be toxic to dogs. Persin is in the leaves, seed, and bark, as well as in the fruit. **Grapes and Raisins:** Grapes and raisins can cause kidney failure. And just a small amount can make a dog ill. **Persimmons, Peaches, and Plums:** The seeds from persimmons can cause inflammation of the small intestine in dogs. They can also cause intestinal obstruction. Peach and plum pits contain cyanide, which is poisonous to both humans and dogs. The difference is humans know not to eat them. Dogs don't.

Alcohol: Alcohol has the same effect on a dog's liver and brain that it has on humans. But it takes far less to do its damage. Just a little can cause vomiting, di-

arrhea, central nervous system depression, problems with coordination, difficulty breathing, coma, even death. And the smaller the dog, the greater the effect.

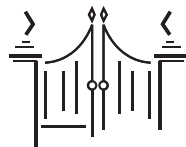
Coffee, Tea, and Other Caffeine: Caffeine in large enough quantities can be fatal. And there is no antidote. Symptoms of caffeine poisoning include restlessness, rapid breathing, heart palpitations, muscle tremors, fits, and bleeding. **Sugary Foods and Drinks:** Too much sugar can do the same thing to dogs that it does to humans. It can lead to obesity, dental problems, and possibly the onset of diabetes. **Milk and Other Dairy Products:** Milk and milk-based products can cause diarrhea and other digestive upset, as well as set up food allergies (which often show up as itchiness).

Macadamia Nuts: Macadamia nuts can be fatal. As few as six raw or roasted macadamias can make them ill. **Onions and Garlic:** Onions and garlic in all forms -- powdered, raw, cooked, or dehydrated -- can destroy a dog's red blood cells, leading to anemia. **Chocolate:** Most people know that chocolate is bad for dogs. The toxic part is theobromine. It's in all kinds of chocolate, even white. Eating it, even just licking the icing bowl, can cause a dog to vomit, have diarrhea, and be excessively thirsty. It can also cause abnormal heart rhythm, tremors, seizures, and death. **Candy and Gum:** Candy, gum, toothpaste, baked goods, and some diet foods are sweetened with xylitol. It can cause more insulin to circulate through your dog's body. That can cause his blood sugar to drop and can also cause liver failure. **Salt:** Eating too much salt can cause excessive thirst and urination and lead to sodium ion poisoning.

If Your Dog Eats What It Shouldn't and gets sick, please call ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center-- (888) 426-4435, emergency help at once. The original content for this article comes from:

www.Webmd.com/foods_your_dog_should_not_eat

To be added to the Kennel Club communication list please contact Neda, kpkenneel@kpcaonline.org.



Linda Chaletzky
Licensed in MD, DC & VA

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KPCA

Potluck Dinner



Please Join Your
Neighbors!

6:30 - 8:30 PM,
Sunday, March 13

See Page 3 for More Information

Community News

Although we have a security patrol, and therefore the lowest crime rate of all the neighborhoods around us in Montgomery County, we are not totally immune from crimes of opportunity or targeted activity. Since the last Kenwood Park crime report in this newsletter, we have had two thefts from cars and one case of vandalism in our neighborhood. There were thefts from vehicles on Radnor Road and Highboro Road. A group of youths committed vandalism against a vehicle parked in a driveway on Plainview Road. A neighbor reported it to our patrol, who has kept a lookout for them.

You should be aware of a huge development being planned just below Kenwood, which will encompass the present Whole Foods shopping center, as well as across River Road to include the Giant shopping center. It extends down to Little Falls Parkway. It will likely impact our traffic on River Road during the construction. For those who want more info on the Westbard plan, here is a link:

<http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/viewer.shtm#http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/community/westbard/documents/WestbardWorkingDraft-FinalWeb.pdf>

Adopt a Spot-Beautification

By Sarah Najafi

We are proud of Kenwood Park and we strive to have it look its best. This includes cleanliness in the streets, neat houses and gardens, and above all attractive and well-maintained plantings in some of the key intersections and entry points of the neighborhood.

You will most likely have noticed the entrance from Goldsboro onto Millwood has a small wall with Kenwood Park written on it on each side of Millwood Road. There are small plots of land in front of each wall. **These are calling out for someone to adopt and maintain them!** Seasonal plantings of flowers, or perennial planting would be highly appreciated. You can easily Adopt this Spot!

Another area you may have noticed is the triangle on Durbin road, coming from Bradley. This area has already been adopted by Sinaly Roy, but it gives a good idea of what can be done.

The Millwood Circle has also been adopted and ideally needs some more plant contributions, and Sarah Najafi would love volunteers to help her weed and up keep the circle.

If you see other areas that you would like to adopt, please get in touch with me, and we can discuss the procedure. Sarah@Anajafi.com. Digging in the dirt is a great family activity and gives such a sense of accomplishment when your work blooms.

**Join as a
Security Patrol
Member
Today!**

**Feel Safer
Tomorrow!!**

KPCA News

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

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KPCA Potluck Dinner



Show our diverse community your best ethnic dish

6:30 - 8:30 PM, Sunday, March 13

See Page 3 for More Information

Acknowledgements

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

Edward Elson, *Editor*