

KPCA News

Newsletter of the Kenwood Park Citizens Association, Inc.

Promoting and enhancing the Kenwood Park neighborhood

Volume 22, Issue 2 • May 2016

President's Corner

This is an exciting time for Kenwood Park, we have a few initiatives I would like to bring to your attention – our traffic and safety committee is doing outstanding work with Montgomery County to get a better understanding of the traffic patterns in our neighborhood. We are looking forward to working with the county to identify safety measures that will protect our residents. We will keep you posted on the findings.

We are also launching a new KPCA website, kpcaonline.org, the site will serve the community by disseminating information about our neighborhood, and while we are embracing the digital age we will still keep our quarterly newsletter. We will gladly accept any feedback to improve our site.

Finally, the KPCA will hold its annual meeting on June 7, 2016. Please come out and vote for the new board and let your voice be heard, we always welcome hearing from our residents on how we can make KPCA work for the neighborhood.

Krishna Collie
KPCA President

Calling All Residents of Kenwood Park to Subscribe to the Kenwood Park Listserve

So our community can be better connected, KPCA is encouraging residents to subscribe to the Kenwood Park Listserve (available on Yahoo Groups). Use of KPCA Net has been discontinued and KPCA will no longer send emails out through that web-based system.

The KPCA Board will use the yahoo groups listserv to disseminate our newsletter, board updates, and invitations to upcoming events, as well as relevant information from county leaders and police. Residents are encouraged to use the listserv to communicate with each other about anything: urgent news, social events (e.g. block parties) and for discussion about tradesmen

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for July 4th party**
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Don't Miss!

Annual Meeting and Presentation by Equity One, Westbard Developer

KPCA will hold its annual meeting on Tuesday, June 7, 2016, 8 p.m., at the Whitman High School cafeteria, 7100 Whittier Blvd. Annual meetings are open to the public and we encourage all neighbors to attend.

In addition to Board business and electing next year's officers, a presentation will be given by Equity One, the developer of the Westwood shopping center at Ridgefield and Westbard Avenues off River Road. We will have an opportunity to see plans for the new retail area and ask questions about its impact to our area during construction and after.

The KPCA Board is made up of the President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary, who each serve two year terms, as well as three to six At Large members who serve one year terms. We have various committees, two of which will be open.

Continued on Page 3

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

Kenwood Park ListServe—Continued from Page 1

and other references. We also hope that those in need of any kind of assistance might use the listserv to reach out to get the help they need from their neighbors.

The existing KPCA system of block captains will be able to function much more effectively with the help of the listserv so we hope all of you will subscribe. All you need is an email address (please note it is not necessary to have a yahoo email to subscribe).

Email kenwoodpark-subscribe@yahoogroups.com with the block you live on and our neighborhood moderator will add you. To post messages, simply email kenwoodpark-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com and it will be sent to all on the list. For more information on the Kenwood Park Listserv please visit: <https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/KenwoodPark/info>

Thank you to Steve Miller for setting up and moderating this vital community service!

Neighborhood Services Available

Carly Choppin (certified babysitter) (301) 229-9139

Ally (Alexandra) Turco (CPR Certified babysitter;
American Red Cross First Aid Certified)

240-620 5775 or alturco@vifi.org

Annabelle Piot (Marbury Rd) 8th grader at French International School, available for French tutoring, babysitting, house sitting. 202-413-0557 or annabellep03@gmail.com

Alex (French Int'l School) (avail for lawn care through July)
(202) 413-1193 or acpiot@gmail.com

Julian Vazques – College student with a driver's license offering pet sitting, dog walking and running errands around the Bethesda area.) Text 301-910-3013 or julian-vazquez06@hotmail.com.

Chris Fowler (Marbury Rd) (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). 301-455-8187 or chris.fowler419@gmail.com. References available upon request.

GET LISTED HERE FREE:

Email our Communications Chair at news@kpcasonline.org

NEW! FALL FESTIVAL!



We are also looking for volunteers to help plan our first-ever-neighborhood-wide block party and fall festival, Sunday, October 30. KPCA will be providing drinks, beer, food, tents and entertainment at the Whittier Woods fields, 7400 Whittier Blvd. Everyone is encouraged to come in costume and participate in our first-ever costume contests. Games will be set up for younger ones, and scary movies will be played later for older kids and adults. Neighbors are asked to bring dishes to contribute potluck style. Please contact Sarah Sarah@4najafi.com or Elizabeth at elizabeth_haile@hotmail.com if you can help us plan this new event.

Volunteer and Get to Know Your Neighbors

Our KPCA Welcoming Committee, Special Events Committee, and Membership Committee **are looking for more volunteers.**

The Membership Committee works to identify Block Captains so neighbors can get connected in times of need and to forward information from KPCA. Call or email our head of membership, Mariam Lamech, 301-229-3158, mlamech@gmail.com to find out more.

The Welcoming Committee would like to get in touch with new residents with a welcome and information on the neighborhood, as well as plan periodic get-togethers for newcomers to meet their neighbors. If you would like to volunteer for this committee, contact Chair Sarah Najafi at Sarah@4najafi.com.

KPCA puts on wonderful annual parties such as the July 4 family bike parade, Halloween party, and back-to-school ice cream social. We are hoping to plan an all-ages fall festival with movies, games, food and beer. Would you like to help with one of these? Have ideas for other events? Contact Elizabeth Haile elizabeth_haile@hotmail.com.

Annual Meeting—Continued from Page 1

The slate to be voted on is:

President – *Krishna Collie*

Vice President – *Linda Chaletzky*

Secretary - *Elizabeth Haile*

Treasurer - *Hannah Elson*

At Large Board Members:

Foroud Arsanjani

Benedetto Vitiello

Ed Elson

Katherine Kerxton

(Two At Large positions are open)

Committee Chairs are appointed and are currently:

Welcoming Committee/Special Events Chair – *Sarah Najafi*

Traffic and Safety Committee Chair- *Katherine Kerxton*

Membership/Block Captain Chair – *Mariam Lamech*

Communications Chair – *Elizabeth Haile*

Community Issues - open

Security Patrol Chair – open

The Community Issues chair would be someone who is interested in keeping up with news from the county and councilmembers, police, etc. and relaying relevant information to the Board for discussion and action.

The Security Patrol Committee Chair reviews the daily reports of the hours of the patrols, monitoring the times to make sure they comply with KPCA requests, and is the contact with Urban Alarm for any non-financial issues. Shelia Taube, the outgoing Committee Chair, is happy to speak with anyone interested about the duties.

Nominations from the floor for new officers are welcome, as are any suggestions and comments. The entire Board and all of our committee chairs welcome volunteers! Be a part of it! Volunteering for an event or serving on the Board is a great way to get to know your neighbors.

Only residents with current paid memberships can vote at the annual meeting or be elected. Our treasurer will happily accept payment for new memberships at the meeting or you can pay on our website:

www.kpcaonline.org,

or request a form to be sent to you from:

treas@kpcaonline.org.

SAVE THE DATE!

**INDEPENDENCE DAY
PARADE AND
CELEBRATION!**

Monday, July 4

10am - 12 noon



For the 5th Annual Kenwood Park Independence Day parade and celebration! Come out and join the celebration and meet your neighbors! This is one of Kenwood Park's big community events and we hope that everyone can join us.

Decorations are provided for kids to decorate their bikes, trikes, wagons and strollers. Pooches welcome. Our local volunteer fire department truck will lead the kids in a parade beginning at Marbury Court. Following the parade, we will have popsicles, fruit, cold drinks, crafts, giveaways and games for the kids.

If you would like to volunteer before or during the event, please contact Elizabeth Haile elizabeth_haile@hotmail.com

Peter Dressner - PC Repair Specialist

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2016 Spring Real Estate Market

The spring market is finally in full swing! Off to a slow start, the activity has clearly picked up. Often sellers wait for the azaleas to bloom to make their marketing move so it's not a surprise. More homes are becoming available for sale and the buyers are out there, as evidenced by the numbers showing up for open houses. In our zip code of 20817 alone, 79 detached homes have gone on the market in the last 14 days, and 37 other homes have gone under contract. All but five were listed in the last two months. In Kenwood Park, four homes were listed in the last two weeks, so that we currently have 6 homes available for sale, (one of those is also for rent), and we have four under contract. Whitman was once again named the best high school in Maryland so our neighborhood's desirability has been secured for another year!

The trends we are seeing buyers searching for in terms of home desirability, in addition to the classic ones of location, condition, price and schools, are open floor plan, energy efficiency, updates (of course), and the ability to move right in without doing any work. More and more we see buyers who have little time or money, and more importantly, little interest in making significant changes to a home. So it benefits sellers to update the baths and

kitchen, redo the floors and paint. Not only does that increase the home's "sale-ability", (ability to be sold), but it often will bring offers sooner and at a better price than if the buyers see the need to do these things themselves. And contrary to popular opinion, although disruptive, these improvements can be done quickly when not re-configuring a space.

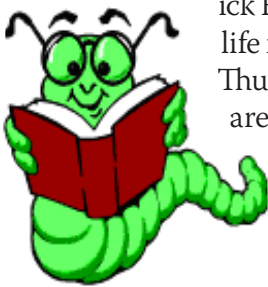
There has only been one house sold since January 1 in our neighborhood. It is at the corner of Lenox and Radnor, sold for \$550,000 and was being marketed as a tear down for \$1,499,075. But was withdrawn from the market as of January 30th although the sign is still up. There is one home for rent for \$5400, two have applications pending, and four have rented since January 1st. They range in price from \$3,300 to \$5900.

*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.

Kenwood Park Book Group

The Kenwood Park Book Club last discussed Frederick Forsyth's memoir *The Outsider*, a life in intrigue. We will meet next on Thursday evening, May 26 and we are reading a novel, Joseph O'Neill's *The Dog*. For more information, please contact sjgust@msn.com. We meet once a month and welcome new members!.



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.

Make Things Happen!

Be a candidate for one of the open positions

**Kenwood Park
Citizens Association**

Annual Meeting

Tuesday, June 7

8:00 P.M.

Walt Whitman High

See article on page 1 for more information.

Kenwood Park Kennel Club

Meet some of our members!



Pepito



Lucky



Moca & Suki



Would you like to join us at a future playdate? A get together for June is in the works. Email Neda for details at kpkennel@kpcasonline.org

We also have members with dogs who are interested in playdates during weekday mornings. If you would like to connect please let us know.

The Kenwood Park Kennel Club also is offering a new service – if you send us your information, we can reunite your pet with you in case they decide to take a longer-than-usual stroll through the neighborhood or go AWOL! If interested, send your dog's name, photo, and best phone number to contact you. We will then have them archived in our KPC Kennel Club library /online available for members to check in case of an emergency.

Garden Club

Come to our annual Spring Plant Swap, Sunday, May 15, 3 - 5 p.m. Durbin Triangle (corner of Durbin and Radnor Rd). This is a great time for transplanting perennials. Share plants taking over your garden, come see if there is something for that empty spot you've been meaning to fill, or just come to exchange tips and gardening ideas with your neighbors, over a glass of lemonade - You don't need to bring plants in order to take plants.

If you would like to donate plants, but can't make it to the event, you may leave plants on the front-stoop of 5724 Durbin Rd. the night before or any time Sunday morning.



- ◆ The appearance of our neighborhood entrances reflects our community pride. We are still looking for someone who would like to **adopt the**

garden plots at Goldsboro Rd/Millwood Rd entrance to Kenwood Park. On that corner, the small gardens below the Kenwood Park signs on both sides of Millwood Rd., were planted with perennials (mainly lilyturf) a few years ago and require minimal maintenance. This would be ideal for someone who lives on Millwood Rd. and would be willing to periodically pickup any trash, cleanup leaves, and perhaps plant annuals and spread mulch a couple times a year.

If you would like to help, or join with neighbors to Adopt a Spot, please contact Sinaly Roy at 301-229-3459 or Sinalymroy@gmail.com, who will help guide you through the process. Materials are paid for by KPCA.

- ◆ The Garden Club is considering plans to start a butterfly or honey bee garden for children, as well as an organized purchase and planting of new cheery trees along our streets. This was very successfully done 10 years ago to replace some original cherry trees that had died and we hope to implement again. Look for news on the list-serve and in upcoming newsletters.
- ◆ What other types of gardening-related efforts would you be interested in seeing Kenwood Park? If you would like to get out in the fresh air and work together to beautify our neighborhood, please contact Sinaly Roy at 301-229-3459 or Sinalymroy@gmail.com.



Millwood Circle Adopt a Spot in progress

Security Patrol Update

Security subscribers continue to be very pleased with the service being provided by UrbanAlarm. The KPCA Board requested that the hours for the patrol be adjusted to ensure greater visibility during the day, when contractors and other non-residents tend to be in the area. About half the patrol hours are now between 6AM and 6PM. We believe that the security patrol provides some crime deterrence making Kenwood Park even safer than adjacent neighborhoods. We would welcome additional subscribers so that we can increase the number of patrol hours.

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Business Card	2" h x 3 ² / ₃ " w	12 x 22	\$30
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Half-Page Horiz.	5" h x 7 ¹ / ₂ " w	30 x 45	Contact: Elizabeth Haile news@kpcaonline.org
Half-Page Vert.	10" h x 3 ² / ₃ " w	60 x 22	
Full Page	10" h x 7 ¹ / ₂ " w	60 x 45	

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Traffic and Safety Committee Update

Although the KPCA Traffic and Safety Committee was formed less than a year ago, we have jumped in and worked on many fronts. Committee members got the Department of Transportation to put in place traffic monitoring surveys, which are mechanisms that monitor the speed and frequency of cars. We await results from surveys on Millwood Rd. and Tanglewood Dr., and have requested surveys for Lenox and Plainview.

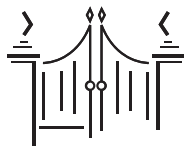
After much prodding, DOT placed a SMART Unit (Speed Monitoring Awareness Radar Trailer) on Plainview Rd. and is expected to place additional SMART Units on Millwood, Lenox and Tanglewood this Spring. These digital signs serve as a deterrent for motorists by flashing their speed, and also letting them know that neighbors and DOT are monitoring the area.

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 Committee Chair, Katherine Kerxton at kkerxton@gmail.com.

Note: as circulated on the listserve, police urge everyone to lock their cars and NOT to store spare keys in your car. Two cars in the Bethesda area were stolen recently due to spare keys being found.



Linda Chaletzky
Licensed in MD, DC & VA

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SAVE THE DATE!

INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE AND CELEBRATION

Monday, July 4

10am - 12 noon



KPCA Annual Meeting

and Presentation by

Equity One,

Westbard Developer

Tuesday

June 7

8 p.m.

Whitman High School cafeteria

**There's Only One Way to Reach the Nearly 650 Kenwood Park Residents
*Advertise in the KPCA News and on www.kpcaonline.org***