

KPCA News

Newsletter of the Kenwood Park Citizens Association, Inc.

Promoting and enhancing the Kenwood Park neighborhood

Volume 24, Issue 2 • October 2018

President's Corner

Dear Residents,

Well, at the moment we don't have a President. And so your Newsletter Editor will fill in, and I will briefly make two points.

The first point is that we don't have a President. We have always had a President since the 1980s and they have been young and old, male and female. Every one of them will tell you that they enjoyed the experience and had fun. You get to meet and discover the interesting people who live here. You can control the agenda, call meetings at your leisure, delegate stuff to be done, get other people on the board to do the real work of pursuing specific projects, have them report back, chastise them (gently) if they haven't done the work they promised to do. If you like to schmooze with people, you would like this job. Best of all, it is low stress and very social at the same time. Contact anyone on the Board or any of our previous Presidents (I can furnish contact information) to find out what they thought of the job. There is not much on-the-job training needed. Your Board members can get you up to speed. You can learn from this issue of the Newsletter that there are some other vacancies which you are also welcome to inquire about. Feel free to contact any Board member and especially our most recent President Krishna Collie who can give you some good insights.

The second point has to do with the direction that the Association may be taking. For the last several years membership has been solidly one-third of the neighborhood. Historically, the motivation to have the As-

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Block Party and Fall Festival

Sunday, October 14 • 3:30 to 5:30 PM
6100 Block of Shady Oak
(Rain Date: October 21)

See Back Page for Complete Information

Why Join the KPCA Listserv?

A description of the local listservs serving our community

A listserv is an electronic mailing list used to communicate with a select group of people. Using email, neighborhood news, events, and important alerts can be quickly broadcast. Here you can learn about our upcoming social activities. Are you looking for a roofer, or lawn service, a handyman, piano teacher, or a pediatrician? Ask your neighbors for a recommendation. Neighborhood teenagers can offer services such as babysitting, snow shoveling, or dog-walking and other odd jobs. Someone nearby may be selling a treadmill, or fish tank, or crib. Someone could be asking if anyone else's water is brownish, or if anyone else's water bill was that high, or ask what that constant loud noise is. A lost dog could be reported, and a photo included. A suspicious-looking person ringing doorbells could be reported.

The Kenwood Park Citizens Association used to keep a listserv based on the voluntary directory on

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Foroud Arsanjani, Acting President vp@KPCAonline.org

Visit the KPCA web site: <http://www.kpcaonline.org> for the latest news and events

Our Recent 4th of July Event



Kenwood Park's 8th Annual Kenwood Park Independence Day parade and celebration was a hot one this year! Yet many new faces were on hand to help celebrate. Ice cold lemonade, popsicles and watermelon helped all beat the heat, as well as the shade lent by our generous neighbor's yards on Marbury Court.



After plenty of time for treats and bike and wagon decorating, the Glen Echo Fire Department led families on a shortened parade around the block. Afterwards, kids were invited to climb on the truck.

A huge thank you to all those who volunteered their time and made this a big success, especially DJ Evan Smith and parade founder Katherine Kerxton! Our July 4th party is one of Kenwood Park's biggest community events. Would you like to help make it happen next year? Contact Krishna Collie at kzcollie@gmail.com.

Community Interests and Concerns Survey to be done by KPCA

KPCA will distribute a survey to find out the interests of KPCA members in building bridges between the generations, strengthening community connections and supporting seniors wishing to age in place. We are committed to a vibrant community in which neighbors voluntarily assist one another. We hope every family will complete this survey.

All of us need an occasional helping hand, whether we're seniors hoping to remain in the homes we've lived in for many years, overwhelmed parents having to be in too many places at the same time, or persons of any age recovering from an accident or illness. The survey will be distributed to your homes during the next two months.

How to Reach KPCA Board Members and Club Chairs

Function	Name	E-mail
President	OPEN	pres@kpcaonline.org
Vice-President	Foroud Arsanjani	vp@kpcaonline.org
Secretary	Patty McAllister	
Treasurer	Hannah Elson	treasurer@kpcaonline.org
Security Chair	Cameron Groves	security@kpcaonline.org
Membership Chair	Krishna Collie	membership@kpcaonline.org
Communications, newsletter	Ed Elson	news@kpcaonline.org
Traffic & Safety Chair	Katherine Kerxton	traffic@kpcaonline.org
Community Outreach	JoAnn Harrison	community@kpcaonline.org
Activities Chair	OPEN	events@kpcaonline.org
Welcoming Chair	OPEN	
Garden Club	Sinaly Roy	garden@kpcaonline.org
Book Club	Sandy Gust	book@kpcaonline.org
Kennel Club	Neda	kpkennel@kpcaonline.org

Please note the three open positions. Briefly, the Activities Chair oversees our social activities and clubs, and reports to the others on the Board. These clubs and activities mostly have their own leaders and volunteers from year to year. The Welcoming Chair in the past has greeted new residents personally, making people feel that our community is friendly and inclusive. Informative handouts are brought to them (gotten from the county library), as well as our newsletter. Please volunteer by sending an email to any Board member who you would like to ask more about what the job entails.

Our Beloved Dogs

Here in Kenwood Park we love our dogs, and they can be seen walking their owners at all hours. Most of them are very good dogs, and their owners know most of the rules. We have many newcomers in the neighborhood, however, and occasionally someone breaks the law, so here are excerpts of the Montgomery County regulations about dogs.

LAWS ABOUT LOOSE DOGS¹ A dog is “at large” if it is outside the owner’s property and not leashed. (Penalty: \$100 for first offense, \$500 for each subsequent violation) The dog owner must prevent threats to a person or another pet that occurs outside the owner’s property, such as biting, chasing, tracking, inhibiting movement, or jumping. (Penalty: \$500). If the loose dog has no collar, we couldn’t identify someone’s pet from a rabid dog, and anyone bitten would have to get painful rabies shots. Report non-emergency complaints to the Animal Services Division by calling the Police non-emergency number at 301-279-8000.² Examples include at large dogs, injured animals, barking dogs (\$100 fine), defecation complaints, and odor complaints. Emergency calls to 911 are appropriate if there is an animal attack in progress, or there is cruelty being done to an animal. **If the animal is in the roadway notify 911**

immediately. This is a traffic hazard because the dog could dart in front of a car and cause an accident and people (and the dog) could be injured.

DOG WASTE (POOPER-SCOOPER) LAWS¹ Dog waste is more than a neighborhood nuisance when stepped in. It is a health hazard by attracting rats, who eat it. Fleas and mosquitos on the rats could spread diseases, including west nile virus and bubonic plague. A dog may not defecate on property outside of its owner’s property, unless the owner immediately removes and disposes of the feces. (Penalty: \$100) If the feces is picked up in a plastic bag, and this bag is ultimately placed inside another plastic bag, it may be put out for disposal in the normal household trash (NOTE: DOUBLE-BAGGING IS REQUIRED). Using someone else’s trash can is considered “illegal dumping” and is not allowed.³ If photo evidence is available it can be reported and can be prosecuted. (Minimum fine: \$500)

DANGEROUS ANIMALS¹ Montgomery County has approximately 800-900 reported cases per year in which an animal bites a human, and several occurred in Kenwood Park last year. The Animal Services Division investigates each of these bites as part of its rabies-control responsibilities and to protect the community from dangerous animals. An animal is considered potentially dangerous if it bites a person, or has killed or injured another pet, or has attacked without provocation. If it does any of these again it will be declared dangerous (In other words, a second offense). The penalty for failing to keep a dangerous animal confined: \$500 – \$2500 and/or impoundment.

ANIMAL MATTERS HEARING BOARD (DOG COURT)⁴ Finally, if a neighbor consistently breaks the law, a case can be brought to the Animal Matters Hearing Board. The board can make decisions which are reviewed by the county Attorney, such as paying damages and including removal of the dog. Failure to comply carries a \$500 fine for the first offense, and a \$750 fine for subsequent offenses.

Footnotes:

1. <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/animalservices/asd/laws.html>
2. <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/animalservices/about/contact.htm>
3. <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DEP/contact/illegal-dumping.html>
4. <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/animalservices/asd/board.html>

Kennel Club

For news and activities of the KPCA Kennel Club contact Neda at kpkenel@kpcaonline.org.

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Trick Question: “How’s The Market?”

I’m often asked “How’s the market?” You wouldn’t think this was a trick question, but in fact it is, and so the answer frequently is “It all depends”. Well, that’s evasive, you think. She must not have her finger on the pulse. But in fact, how the market is depends on what your particular interest is.

If you are thinking of selling, you want to know if prices are high, low or going up. You want to know if there are a lot of serious buyers looking. You want to know how much competition there is. And you want to know about mortgage rates.

If you are thinking of buying you, too, want answers to those questions. It’s just that depending on which side of the transaction you are on you will want opposing answers!

A seller will want minimal competition and the prices to be high. Of course, a buyer will want little buyer competition and the prices to be low. So the same market looks very different depending on your perspective.

If you ask an agent that question they may answer based on their own productivity. If they are having a good year they may say it’s fabulous – if a bad year, that it’s slow. If you ask a lender they may say it’s a good year based on lots of refinancing but not necessarily lots of new sales.

When you ask that question, you’ll get your best answer if you indicate your position of interest from the outset. Otherwise the response may not answer your question at all.

What can be said about today’s market is that inventory remains very low, rates are creeping up very slowly, there are multiple offers on homes that have been thoughtfully renovated and there are many interesting loan programs to be had. There are rumblings on the street about a possible slow down in 2019 (no one has a crystal ball!) and that inventory will begin to inch up. So far prices remain high and inventory has not shown an appreciable upswing.

In Kenwood Park there are 6 houses on the market for sale. Three were built in 2018 and are priced from \$2,099,000 to \$2,189,600 and one is older, a 1963 build for \$1,189,000. One 2018 build is under contract. The active listings have been on the market an average of 136 days. Nine homes have sold since our last newsletter in March, all built between 1957 and 1968, with sales prices between \$940,000 and \$1,329,900. They were on the market an average of 22 days. We can see the more expensive new construction is taking significantly longer to sell than the more modestly price older homes.

There are currently 5 homes for rent between \$3195 and \$5000/month. Thirteen homes have rented between \$3750 and \$8500/month, the latter being 5823 Goldsboro Road.

*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, or dfitchett@msn.com.

Peter Dressner - PC Repair Specialist

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Why Join the KPCA Listserv?

(continued from front page)

its website, kpcaonline.org. This directory is now no longer functioning. The Board has decided to use the **Kenwood Park** listserv developed by Yahoo, at <https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/KenwoodPark/info>. This is moderated by Kenwood Park resident Steve Miller. It currently has 300 members, or half our neighborhood of 639 homes. You can read and submit emails without joining Yahoo, but you do need to have an account and log into Yahoo to view uploaded photos. So far, there have not been a lot of ads on this site. It is lightly used, and may average one email per day. To join, send an email to kenwoodpark-subscribe@yahoogroups.com and ask to join.

The next biggest local listserv by members is **20817BB**, which is also a Yahoo group, at <https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/20817BB/info>. This group has 1,763 members, and takes members from the whole 20817 area, which has 14,000 homes, plus those neighborhoods in the Whitman school district outside of 20817. It originally got started in the Burning Tree elementary school community and subsequently decided to allow anyone who resides in the Whitman cluster boundaries to join. Word-of-mouth is its primary source of members. Although discussion or debate online is discouraged, it occurs, and many people post news, questions about referrals, and items being sold. They generate about 30 messages a day during most months, but as with all Yahoo groups, you can elect to receive one daily email with a digest of all messages rather than individual ones.

If you want to join a bigger group in order to get more referrals or sell to a larger group, try **Nextdoor Ken-**

wood Park. When joining, you will by default view and post messages to 31 other surrounding neighborhoods as well, encompassing up to Burning Tree in the north, Carderock Springs to the west, Sumner to the south, and downtown Bethesda to the east. This gives the site over 8,000 members! If you wish, you can turn off neighborhoods you don't want to include to keep it more local. They have only 705 members in their Kenwood Park area (which actually goes beyond our boundaries, and includes homes north up to Wilson Lane and east up to the Edgemoor neighborhood, and contains 1,546 households). This site has a lot of ads interspersed with their posts. There could be about 25-30 emails per day, so you may want to have a separate email account for this listserv (or for all of them), or choose to get only a daily digest. To join, click a link on the Nextdoor web site, <https://nextdoor.com/neighborhood/kenwoodpark--bethesda--md/>.

The first question on our KPCA membership form is "Would you like your email to be added to the **Kenwood Park** listserv"? If you check Yes, our treasurer will send your email address to the moderator of the Kenwood Park Yahoo group, the most local listserv, just for our neighborhood. If you already belong, just leave that line blank.

Traffic and Safety Committee Update

We welcome your feedback on anything related to traffic and safety in our neighborhood. Please forward all comments, questions or concerns to Katherine Kerxton at traffic@kpcaonline.org.



Book Club

The book club will meet next on Thursday, October 25, and is reading *In Search of Mary Shelley*, by Fiona Sampson. For more information contact Sandy Gust at book@kpcaonline.org.



If you are interested in helping to beautify and maintain the entrances to our neighborhood at Durbin/Radnor, Goldsboro/Millwood, and the circle on Lenox, please contact Garden Club coordinator Sinaly Roy at garden@kpcaonline.org. KPCA can pay for supplies but we are looking for more people interested in helping occasionally. Thank you to those who have already clearly been hard at work keeping these public areas tidy!

For more info contact Sinaly Roy at garden@kpcaonline.org

President's Corner—Continued from Page 1

sociation rested upon the provision of a security patrol. Within the last decade a social goal evolved motivating a number of community events (Fall festival, July 4th parade, pot lucks, plant swaps, Front Yard Fridays, Back-to-School-Social, several clubs, etc.) which have been very successful and have been attended by many members of our community. We have not attained the growth in membership in the security patrol that would allow us to have a more robust, full-time coverage of the neighborhood. We understand that advances in home security technology have made many of us question the need for a roving patrol, though there is crime outside the home, in the streets, that the patrol deters. It is true that the crime rate in Kenwood Park is low, and some of us have felt that a visible patrol has helped to keep it that way. There is no question that the social events have provided a sense of community and cohesion for Kenwood Park, attracting as they have done, children, parents, empty nesters and older folks. Therefore we on the KPCA Board hope that you will support an organization that has provided a sense of safety, community, and local citizen-participation in a worthy enterprise.

Edward Elson
Newsletter Editor
news@kpcasonline.org

Information from our Security Chairperson Cameron Groves

Thank you to everyone who completed the KPCA Board Security Member survey (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KL7FMCG>).

One of the items the KPCA Board is exploring is providing an a-la-carte menu for security items, and this survey provided feedback by Kenwood Park residents. While the survey is still active for anyone who wishes to provide continued feedback, the results are summarized as follows:

Security Patrol: In general, from the survey results and responses we received, the patrols are seen as value added.

Dues: We continue to get feedback that the dues are too high, and calling out that an a-la-carte option would be desired.

Monthly Summary: The Board should publish a monthly summary of how the patrol efforts support the community.

A-la-Carte Option in Security: Opinions were about equally divided on an al-la-carte option. The Board would be interested in hearing specific proposals. For example, those requesting house checks beyond a certain number could be billed per house check, as opposed to those only interested in routine surveillance of the neighborhood, and who might pay lower dues. Other ways of specializing particular services and attaching particular charges would be of interest to the Board.

Neighborhood Services Available

Carly Choppin (Whitman sophomore, certified, experienced babysitter) I'm available evenings and weekends and I love kids of all ages! 301-229-9139

Esmee Najafi (Senior at Whitman available for babysitting; lots of experience) 202-730-5363 or esnajafi999@gmail.com

Naren Roy (Junior at Whitman; pet-sitting/dog-walking, love to work with animals, has experience) 202-341-6063 or narsebrocks@gmail.com

Annabelle Piot (at French International School; babysitting, pet sitting, house-sitting) 202-413-0557 or annabellep03@gmail.com

Claire Ryan (Senior at Whitman, certified babysitter who loves taking care of kids of all ages) 240-393-3579.

Ally (Alexandra) Turco (CPR Certified babysitter; American Red Cross First Aid Certified) 240-620 5775 or atturco@vifi.org

GET LISTED HERE FREE:

Email our Communications Chair at news@kpcasonline.org

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If you haven't renewed your KPCA membership yet, please use this form

The KPCA Board would like to remind our residents about the Security Patrol service that monitors our neighborhood on a regular basis during the day/nights.

- ◆ **Vacation Monitoring** – As a KPCA Subscriber you can obtain monitoring of your home when you are away. The patrol can provide pictures of your home and move newspapers or packages to an alternative location so they are out of sight. Just complete the Vacation Watch Request form at: www.urbanalarm.com/watch.
- ◆ **Alarm Company Point of Contact** – KPCA subscribers can provide the Security Patrol phone number to their alarm company to respond in an emergency, given the close proximity of a security patrol officer. Contact patrol@urbanalarm.com.

[com](http://www.urbanalarm.com) and 202-684-2500 to reach the Patrol Security Operations Center.

- ◆ **Garage Door Monitoring** – The patrol can monitor whether your garage door is open and contact you in the event it is left open by accident or otherwise.
- ◆ **Kenwood Park Streets Monitoring** – The roving patrol keeps a lookout and deters crime in the streets, such as vandalism against cars and theft of property. They have discouraged loiterers around the schools in the past, and deter crimes of opportunity.

Questions? Please do not hesitate reaching out to our security chair with any questions at Cameron.Groves@gmail.com

SECOND NOTICE

(The first one was mailed to everyone in June)

KPCA MEMBERSHIP FORM

July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019

- Security Patrol plus Resident membership, both: \$295 Resident membership only: \$50

LAST NAME _____ FIRST NAME: _____

SPOUSE's LAST NAME: _____ SPOUSE's FIRST NAME: _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

HOME PHONE _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

Would you like your email to be added to the Kenwood Park listserv?

Yes ___ No ___ (If yes, please ensure you have noted your email address above). Please note the KPCA Board will use the KP listserv to update residents about community updates and alerts.

KPCA is working on adding street captains for each block. Would you like to receive emails from your street block captain? Yes ___ No ___

Would you like to be a street captain for your block? Yes ___ No ___

EMERGENCY CONTACT (Someone KPCA can notify in case of an emergency):

SECURITY MEMBERS ONLY: In the event the patrolling security officer notices your **garage door** is open and it is after **11 pm**, would you like to receive a call about your garage door being open? (Please note the patrol car drives around the neighborhood at varied times during the day or night. The patrol has your phone number only if you are a security patrol member.) Yes _____ No _____

You may pay online at <http://kpcasonline.org/join> or mail a check payable to Kenwood Park Citizens Association, Inc. (or KPCA) and your form to:

KPCA Treasurer
PO Box 127
Glen Echo, MD 20812

KPCA News

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Glen Echo, MD 20812

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Block Party and Fall Festival

Sunday, October 14 • 3:30 to 5:30 PM

6100 Block of Shady Oak

(Rain Date: October 21)

Join us for KPCA's 3rd neighborhood-wide Block Party and Fall Festival on Sunday, October 14, from 3:30 to 5:30 PM, for drinks, beer, food, and entertainment in the 6100 block of Shady Oak. (Rain date October 21).

All ages are encouraged to come in costume and participate in costume and dance contests. A moonbounce and games will be set up for younger ones to allow plenty of socializing for the adults. Lasagna and hot dogs will be provided and neighbors are asked to bring salads, side dishes (no chips) and desserts to contribute potluck style. Please contact Mariam Lamech mlamech@gmail.com or Elizabeth Haile Elizabeth_haile@hotmail.com if you are interested in helping set up, volunteering, or to get more information.

Sign up to help bring chairs or help in other ways here: www.SignUpGenius.com/go/60B0E49A9A82E5-kpca2

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