

KPCA News

Newsletter of the Kenwood Park Citizens Association, Inc.

Volume 17, Issue 3 • June 2011

President's Corner

As is common for this time of year, summer is here and then not here. In addition, now is the beginning of our 'KPCA year' meaning that once again, it is time to keep your KPCA membership going and support the security service. Letters are being sent and a copy of the form is also in this issue of the News.

In addition, the KPCA once again encourages everyone to replace absent Kwanzan cherry trees, the type you see blooming in the spring along the streets throughout Kenwood Park. We have found a reasonable source for the trees, As You Like it Landscaping, from whom we had great service the last time we campaigned for tree replacements. Alternative sources are also mentioned here in the News.

You will also find an announcement in the News of a Kenwood Park fourth of July gathering for all the families. It is being organized by Katherine Kerxton, and we hope everyone will come out to celebrate the day with our neighborhood.

I need to mention that our email system of @kpcaonline.org has been out of operation for the last month or so. We did not even notice that it was out except for some persistent (and frustrated) neighbors. The system is now back in operation, and we must apologize if anyone was bothered by no reply from info@kpcaonline.org, pres@kpcaonline.org, or news@kpcaonline.org. Please send the messages again.

Finally, at this time our web site www.kenwoodparkweb.net is only partially working. We have a vendor that is improving it, and we expect that it will be superior to what has gone before. If anyone has suggestions on what content or services should be included, please pass them along to me. We do plan on having each person's registration information, such as email address for our list-serve, to be accessible to changes and to be able to remove yourself from the site list if you so desire. One part will remain the same. Access to the site will be limited to residents of Kenwood Park and those who own homes here, and new applications will be vetted by our webmaster. The KPCA board believes that everyone's privacy is important and cannot be compromised.

Ken Rubinson
KPCA President

KPCA Calendar

KPCA Board Meeting

Contact pres@KPCAonline.org
The "Careers" room, ground floor
Walt Whitman High School

Garden Club

Meeting/event not yet determined.
See inside for contact information

Book Club

See inside for information

1st Annual Kenwood Park Fourth of July Parade

Join your friends and neighbors at the 1st Annual Kenwood Park Fourth of July Parade. Bring your decorated bikes and trikes for a ride along Radnor Road. Bring festive, four-legged friends too! Or come cheer on your neighbors, as they ride the parade route. The celebration begins at 10am at the Radnor Center blacktop (7000 Radnor Road). The parade kicks off shortly thereafter. The parade winds down with popsicles, cookies and a visit from the Fire Department. Please RSVP, or for any questions, contact Katherine Kerxton at kkerxton@gmail.com or 301-530-0090. We are also still looking for some volunteers to help out before and during the parade - please let us know if you can help!

Ken Rubinson, President (301) 263-0452 pres@KPCAonline.org
MSS Office: (301) 384-7777 (Hrs: M-F, 9-5) **Patrol car:** (240) 793-6255
Visit the KPCA web site: <http://www.kenwoodparkweb.net>

Cherry Tree Replacement

For half a century Kenwood Park has been graced by beautiful Kwanzan cherry trees lining its streets and planted by the original residents of the neighborhood on a collective basis. This has been a distinguishing feature of the neighborhood. Kwanzans are the second most numerous cherry trees around the Tidal Basin on the national Mall. They are double flowering, bloom 2-3 weeks later than the Yoshinos, and turn red/gold in the Fall. Many of the original Kenwood Park trees still survive and bloom gloriously each Spring. Others that have died have been replaced by individual homeowners with Kwanzans bought individually from commercial garden centers. Still other Kwanzans have died and not been replaced. The Kwanzans in our neighborhood are reaching their natural lifetime of about 40-50 years.

The KPCA board has proposed that we should get together to fill in the gaps in the plantings and try to restore the original beauty of the trees massed along the curbs (and on some streets, with branches forming an archway over the roads). We do not seek to remove any non Kwanzan trees that have been planted.

We have gotten the following prices from a vendor that has supplied trees to the neighborhood and has received compliments on the service from a number of recipients of As You Like It Landscaping. The costs depend on how soon you want mature trees in your yard. Here is the information on the sizes and prices that have been offered. (The term caliper refers to the diameter of the trunk approximately 6" above the soil line.)

1" caliper: Tree alone \$155 delivered; with installation \$230

2-2½ caliper: Tree alone \$315 delivered; with installation \$490

2½-3 caliper: Tree alone \$390 delivered; with installation \$570

3-3½ caliper: Tree alone \$465 delivered; with installation \$650

Heights range from about 8' -17' tall, depending on the caliper and supplying nursery.

In addition, many web sites offer Kwanzans. For example, at www.willisorchards.com, a 5'-6' saplings is \$25 plus shipping. Also, if you are willing to start really small and are extremely patient, 2'-3' tall saplings can be purchased from the National Arbor Day Foundation for \$13.50 each. If you join the Foundation for \$10, the price to members is \$9 each. The ordering information is at www.arborday.org.

This program is for KPCA members only. If you are interested in the mature trees, please call As You Like It at 301-279-7125 or they can be contacted on their website www.mylandscapers.com.

Tell them you are in Kenwood Park. Old trees and/or roots can be removed at additional cost. Note, you will have to water the new trees to keep them happy after installation.

Update on Recycling

The County's rules on recycling occasionally change. Here is an update on what the county does and does not accept:

They accept:

Plastic item type	Resin numbers	Examples
bottles	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7	Plastic bottles that contained food, drink and household products, medicine and vitamin bottles
containers, tubs and lids	2, 3, 4, 5	mayonnaise, peanut butter, yogurt, cream cheese and butter containers; deli and ice cream tubs; yogurt cups; medicine vials; detergent, pet food and kitty litter containers
pails and buckets		
Tupperware™ or Rubbermaid™ -type durable plastic containers and lids		
nursery and flower pots	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7	all colors of pots accepted
beverage (stadium) cups		fast food fountain drink cups

Some plastic recycling tips

- Labels and plastic rings around the neck of the bottles are okay.
- Please empty and rinse all containers, removing the tops and lids, before placing these materials in your blue bin.
- Place plastic bottles, containers, tubs and lids in your blue recycling bin with other commingled materials for curbside recycling collection.

The county does not accept:

- Any plastic bottle or container that held automotive products or hazardous materials
examples: motor oil, antifreeze and pesticides
- Plastic wrap, bags, or film
- non-bottle items made from resins #1 (polyethylene terephthalate) or any type of #6 (polystyrene and Styrofoam™ products)
examples: plastic knives, forks, and spoons; 4-pack and 6-pack plant containers, plastic egg cartons, "clamshell" containers, packaging from small electronics and toys, jewel cases from CDs
- Any container holding syringes or other sharps. Also, never place syringes or other sharps directly in the blue bin.

What about the lids?

Effective July 1, 2008, the county accepts plastic lids and caps in our curbside recycling program. Please take the caps and lids off of bottles and containers first before putting the plastic caps and lids into your recycling bin.

Metro Area Real Estate Anomaly

The Washington area real estate market continues to be an exception to markets around the country. For the 14th consecutive month there are price increases over the previous year. While “days on the market” and dollar volume of sales has fluctuated over the past year, the average price has shown unwavering improvement, all the more impressive since we are comparing it last spring’s market which was inflated by the First time Homebuyers Tax Credit.

The Case-Schiller report, which analyzes economic markets across the country reported that the Greater Washington Metro area showed the highest price improvement over any other real estate market in the country. Urban studies theorist Richard Florida attributes this success story to the high creativity level of the D.C. area population and the growth of hot neighborhoods, both in the city and in surrounding suburban areas, that both produces and attracts a smart, financially successful population. And of course there is the undeniable strength of the area as home to the Federal government, which supplies jobs and relative job security.

Kenwood Park is no exception. Home to a huge number of talented and creative individuals, our close-in neighborhood with larger homes on larger lots appeals to many. This is reflected in the general rapidity with which homes sell here. Two homes went to settlement in June and three more are under contract. There are three active listings at the moment: 6921 Granby Road at \$895,000, 5817 Plainview Road at \$929,000 and 5880 Marbury Road at \$972,000. None have been on the market more than a month. In terms of rentals there are currently two homes available, one for \$6000/mo and one for \$4300. Two other homes have applications registered and three have rented in the last 3 months after a short time on the market.

*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.

One-Stop All County Government Information at 311

MC311 is Montgomery County’s simple, three-digit, one stop phone number for customers to call (3-1-1) or site to visit (www.montgomerycountymd.gov/311) to obtain non-emergency County information and services and to enter service requests or send emails.

The system continues to grow and expand. As county residents become more familiar with it and the relative ease of reaching County services by simply dialing 311, the county expects call volume to continue to rise.

A recent survey of hundreds of 311 users showed about 75 percent of users satisfied with the time it took to reach a Customer Service Representative. Seventy-two percent were satisfied or extremely satisfied with the handling of their call. The survey showed 75 percent satisfied or extremely satisfied with their overall 311 experience.

MC311 has proved a valuable resource making more efficient the way the County delivers non-emergency customer service.

Email Notifications

The KPCA is now sending out neighborhood information by email about four times a year and also if there is a warning needed about safety issues in the neighborhood. These include if a theft occurs, the presence of aggressive solicitations being made house to house, and if a child has been made uncomfortable by interaction with a stranger in the area.

Montgomery County Police Advisory (2nd District/Bethesda)

Unlicensed Magazine Solicitors

In Montgomery County, door-to-door vendors who sell magazine subscriptions are required to be licensed by the Department of Permitting Services. For more information, check out:

<http://permittingservices.montgomerycountymd.gov/permitting/l/nfddv.htm>

<http://permittingservices.montgomerycountymd.gov/dpstmpl.asp?url=/permitting/l/nfddv.asp>

[http://www.amlegal.com/nxt/gateway.dll/Maryland/montgom/partiilocallawsordinancesresolutionsetc/chapter47vendors?fn=altmain-nf.htm\\$f=templates\\$3.0](http://www.amlegal.com/nxt/gateway.dll/Maryland/montgom/partiilocallawsordinancesresolutionsetc/chapter47vendors?fn=altmain-nf.htm$f=templates$3.0)

The vendor must display this license on their outer garment and it will have their photograph and the County Seal.

Many of these magazine sellers claim to be raising money for the local school sports team or they will use the profits to donate to charity. Several have claimed to be living in the neighborhood with their grandmother for the summer.

These sellers are typically in their early 20's. We have had complaints that they aggressively sell and have been verbally abusive. We have found that the sellers do not live in this region, but rather are bussed in and stay at local motels, often for a month at a time.

We would encourage our communities to report all illegal vending and suspicious activity to our non-emergency number

301 279-8000.

Please use 911 to report a crime in progress

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Fourth of July Local Block Parties

The Editor knows of one local block party in the planning stage for the 4th and suggests that other blocks might want to do the same, both to have fun and foster neighborhood spirit. Kenhill between Lenox and Durbin has done this several times in the last few years and the events have been very successful.

Neighborhood Services Available

Baby Sitters

Jill Sorcher (Certified) (301) 229-2328
J. Flaherty (301) 229-2602
C. Goldman (301) 320-1582
Michelle Dressner (301) 652-5453
Kendall Eisenberg (301) 263-9169
(certified babysitter, odd jobs, and mother's helper)
Olivia Barber (301) 760-7535
Anna Moulton (301) 229-1661
(pet sitter, dog walker)
Katie 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
Claire and Elise Mytelka (pet sitters) (301) 365-4056

Leaf Rakers, Snowshovelers, Odd Jobs

Chris John (mowing) (301) 229-2648
Shafi Noss (301) 325-8360
Amber White (301) 588-6474
(apamberpower@gmail.com) (loving and reliable dog walker)

GET LISTED HERE FREE:

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

Bridge

Interested in playing bridge or starting a bridge club in Kenwood Park? Please call KP residents Gloria Fitchett at (301) 229 8400 or Christina Lobo at (301) 229 3490. We could start playing soon.



We can help you reach your milestones and all the mile-pebbles



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To start a conversation, call us at (301) 468-2330.

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if you don't have time to clean your house, call me!

rose's cleaning services

304 sunny brook terrace, apto 723
gaithersburg md

301 603 9212

rosemeyredias@hotmail.com

Request for Vacation Coverage from the Security Service

The security service operates through the evening, night and morning.

If you want to make a specific request for vacation coverage or other specific service, call M-F between 9 AM and 5 PM before you leave town. Phone **301-384-7777**. A phone number of a local contact with a spare key is most helpful.

For an **evening emergency call 240-793-6255** (the patrol car). If there is any problem getting in contact immediately, call 301-384-7777 and ask for the supervisor of the Kenwood Park patrol service.

This service is available to members of KPCA who have subscribed to the security patrol. Non-members can easily sign up by contacting Ken Rubinson by phone or email, pres@KPCAonline.org.



Kenwood Park Book Group

The Book Club will meet next on July 11, and is reading *Nocturnes: Five Stories of Music and Nightfall*, by Kazuo

Ishiguro. Contact sjgust@msn.com for more info.

The Garden Club

The Garden Club Co-Chairs, Michael Berg and Carol Logun welcome ideas for projects and events, and volunteers.

Contact Michael Berg at mdberg@verizon.net, or Carol Logun at jclogun@earthlink.net.

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Kenwood Park Citizens Association

On behalf of the Kenwood Park community, the KPCA board would like to thank all the members of our community who have joined the KPCA in the past. Please renew your membership today. We urge others, including those who rent their homes, to begin their subscriptions this year. Your memberships fund the potluck dinners, the KPCA Newsletter, the neighborhood beautification activities, our website www.kenwood-parkweb.net, the children's Halloween party, the Garden Club, the Book Club, and liaisons with other citizens' organizations in Montgomery County. The KPCA also is a collective voice for our neighborhood with the county government on issues of concern.

In addition to the regular membership, we encourage everyone in the community to subscribe to the security patrol. The additional fee is modest in view of the benefits to our whole neighborhood. If more neighbors participate than in the past, we could have daytime service. Because of last year's response, we have been able to hold the fee the same for the third year.

- ◆ Our security patrol is present every night throughout the year and can respond more quickly than the county police since the patrol car is within a few blocks of your home.
- ◆ Upon advance notification of a vacation, the security officer will check a subscriber's home multiple times a night and will keep alternative phone numbers to contact you or a neighbor if necessary. They will place newspapers and packages out of view.
- ◆ If you have an alarm system, the alarm company can call the patrol if the alarm goes off and there is no response at the residence. The patrol can check the house and call the county police. The secondary responder can be the county police. This will prevent false alarms to the county, which imposes a charge beginning with the 2nd false alarm. Again, this service is for subscribers only.

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

This is our current information. Please make any corrections for our records and the new phonebook.

July 1, 2011, to June 30, 2012

Security patrol and KPCA membership together: \$282.

KPCA membership only: \$80.

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Title _____

Spouse's Name: First _____ Last (if different) _____

Street Address _____ Home Phone (____) _____

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

Please mail to: Austin King
KPCA Treasurer
6604 Millwood Rd.
Bethesda, MD 20817

Questions?: pres@kpcaonline.org

KPCA News

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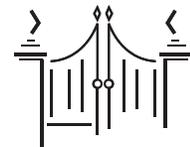


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Edward Elson, *Editor*