

KPCA News

Newsletter of the Kenwood Park Citizens Association, Inc.

Volume 18, Issue 2 • April 2012

President's Corner

The KPCA has been busy over the winter, and here is what is happening now that spring has arrived.

First, our spring potluck dinner will be on Sunday, April 22nd. See the details in the announcement elsewhere in the News. Children and grandchildren are most welcome, and everyone is encouraged to find time to attend.

Second, the KPCA encourages you to replace cherry trees that have died that were lining the streets in front of your homes. An article in the News suggests many options to get the trees, which range in size from foot-high sapling to large, mature trees.

Third, our new website at www.kpcaonline.org is nearing completion. When it is ready, with any bugs worked out and with all the functions we want, we will send out an email to our old list-serve enrollees about the website's features and instructions for use. Unfortunately, we found it necessary for you to re-enroll as a Kenwood Park neighbor for the new site with our webmaster vetting the enrollment. Of course, this is not much of a burden if you have forgotten your login name or password, since you can put in whatever you wish anew. However, this means that to preserve the privacy of our neighborhood access, a delay between registering and use of the site is necessary. We expect the working of the website to be self evident and also clearly explained, and we will print the instructions in the next edition of the News as well. Our phonebook will be available on the site where the information will appear when either a name or the address entered.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the potluck.

Ken Rubinson
KPCA President

KPCA Calendar

Potluck Dinner

Sunday, April 22, 2012

6:30 to 8:30PM

Concord St. Andrews United Methodist Church
See further details inside

KPCA Board Meeting

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

Book Club

See inside for information

Words of Wisdom from Kenwood Park Resident Herb Stone

When you have to replace your trash can, select a rectangular one - doesn't roll in the wind as much as round ones, at least not as far. Select one with an attached lid, or tie the lid to a bin handle, so the lid doesn't end up in the middle of the street while the bin, with luck is curbside or on the grass. Mark your bin with your house number, and if you are near an intersection where both streets have numbers very close, at least street initials, using automotive touchup paint.

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 have a double-petal flower, 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 the ends of 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.

Many web sites offer Kwanzans. For example, at www.willisorchards.com, a 5'-6' saplings is \$20 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.

Also, our local garden centers have some stocks of them for planting this spring.

In addition, 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—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. 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 no matter what the size.

KPCA POT LUCK DINNER

Sunday, April 22, 2012

6:30 to 8:30PM

Concord St. Andrew's United Methodist Church
(Corner of Goldsboro and River Road)

Last name starting with:

A -D: Main Course ♦ E - K: Fruit/Dessert

L-P: Salads ♦ Q - Z: Main Course

Please bring enough for 8 people. Drinks will be provided.

RSVP: Lucia Gregori (301) 263-0678

lgregori@verizon.net or potluck@kpcaonline.org



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Market's on the Upswing, But...

February showed a marked improvement in the close-in Metro area, compared to January, when the numbers were almost the same as the previous year. The dollar volume of sales was up 9% from last February, average price was up 4.3% and days-on-the-market (DOM) was down 3.3%. Once again, the big leader in our area was the District, with a huge 21% increase in dollar volume of sales, an 8% increase in average price and a noticeable 20 day decrease in DOM. However, the dollar volume of sales was DOWN in Montgomery County by 5.06% with a rise in price in the county of only 1.3%.

The attraction for first-time homebuyers and empty-nesters of living in "walkable" neighborhoods contributes to the success of the District. So much of Montgomery County has low "walkability" although we do have that much of Washington the comfortable homes on attractive tree-lined streets.

Current trends are making neighborhoods near Metro stops, shopping and restaurants the most desirable. Combine that with DC's leafy neighborhoods, which is unusual for most big cities in the US and it is clear why DC's real estate market continues to thrive.

That being said, there continues to be a shortage of homes for sale in lower Montgomery County and Northwest DC. Kenwood Park currently has two homes for sale: 5825 Tanglewood Road for \$1,049,000 and 6508 Kenhill Road for \$1,750,000. The home at 6112 Shady Oak Lane is under contract and the home at 5880 Marbury Road will go to closing on April 6. Sold since the last newsletter are 6813 Granby Rd., 6708 Pemberton St., 6817 Millwood Rd. and 7008 Millwood Rd.

*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.

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.

Since all our neighbors do not have email or are not registered, we ask that the safety information be relayed by those who do receive the messages to their unconnected neighbors. If you wish to join in and have these messages delivered to you, we will encourage you to join our website. Our website is presently down, but we hope to have it up and running in the near future.

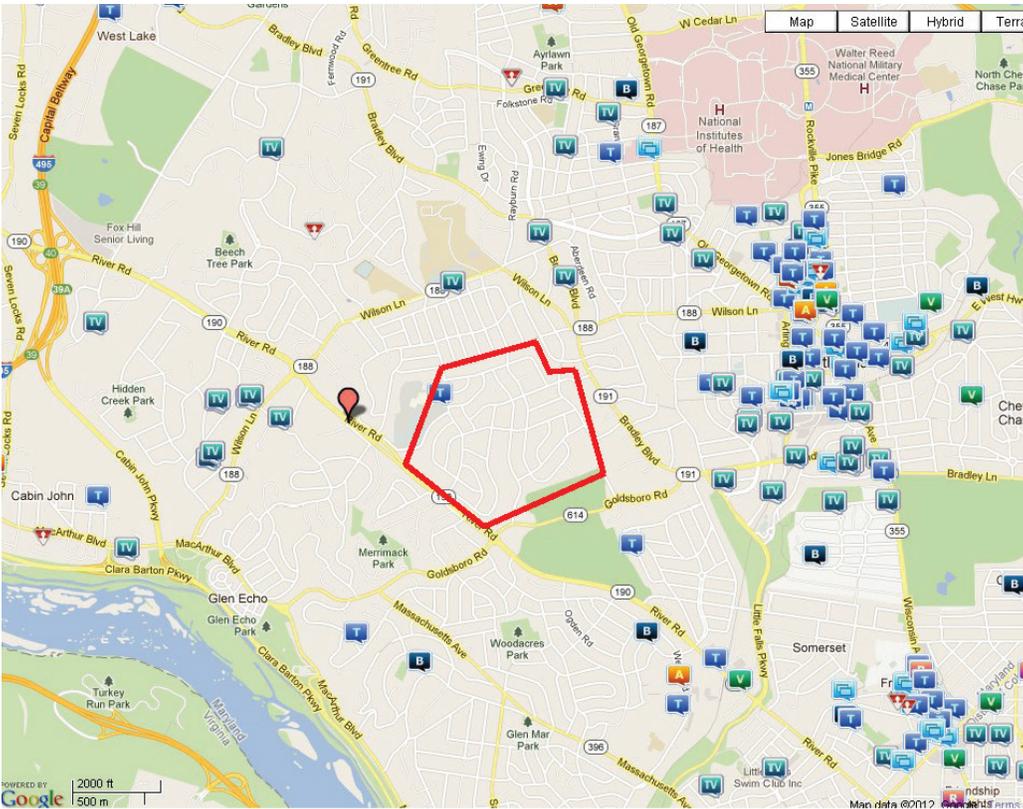
Employment for Seniors

The 50+ Employment Expo will be held on May 21, 2012 at the North Bethesda Marriott Hotel & Conference. It is free to all vendors and participants.

Last year we had 3500+ seniors looking for full time, part time and seasonal employment.

For additional information contact:
Micki Gordon
301-255-4231
mgordon@AccessJCA.org

Crime Nearby, But Not in Kenwood Park



The adjacent map shows crime in Bethesda between January 30 and March 26.

The area encompassed by the red border is Kenwood Park. Looks like our security patrol is helping to keep crime at bay.

Map Key:

- B Breaking & Entering
- T Theft
- TV Theft of Vehicle
- A Assault

Reprinted from:
www.crimereports.com

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 in the Spring.

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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.

Neighborhood Services Available

Baby Sitters

L. 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
Abby Lederman	(301) 263-0432

Leaf Rakers, Snowshovelers, Odd Jobs

Chris John (mowing/snow plowing near 6608 Millwood Road))	(301) 229-2648
Shafi Noss	(301) 325-8360
Amber White	(301) 588-6474
<i>(apamberpower@gmail.com (loving and reliable dog walker)</i>	

GET LISTED HERE FREE:

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



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practice

6171 Executive Blvd
North Bethesda, MD 20852
301-468-2330
scott.m.berman@ampf.com
www.ameripriseadvisors.com/scott.m.berman

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Kenwood Park Book Group

The Kenwood Park Book Club is reading the novel *Exile*, by Richard North Patterson and will meet next on April 18.

Contact sjgust@msn.com for more information.

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MONTGOMERY COUNTY POLICE ADVISORY

2nd District / Bethesda
Officer Denise Gill

You are the “eyes and ears” of your neighborhood. You know what would be normal activity on your street. Most communities have many strangers in them every day. Some are doing lawn work, construction work, or domestic work. They usually are perfectly legitimate. But when you see a stranger, take a moment to observe their behavior. If it appears suspicious, call us.

NON EMERGENCY NUMBER 301 279-8000

This accomplishes several things. You get a marked police vehicle in your neighborhood and we have a chance to determine whether a stranger may be involved in criminal activity.

Remember, theft is a crime of opportunity.

What about unfamiliar vehicles?

How about jotting down that tag number and vehicle description? This kind of information is absolutely critical. Some burglars use a “lookout” and they may be waiting in a vehicle nearby.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP
2nd District Police / Bethesda

In Emergencies always dial 911

**Starting a new business?
Buying or selling a franchise?
Considering a merger or acquisition?**

Whether you’re just getting off the ground, established and looking to grow, or ready to retire or sell, Kenwood Park resident and small business attorney Dave Hotes can help. Leveraging experience gained at large downtown firms, Dave formed Bethesda Law Group – a local firm that understands and supports entrepreneurs, as well as small- and medium-sized businesses. We offer expertise in entity formation, contract drafting and negotiation, as well as taxation and transactions.



4520 East West Hwy, Suite 700, Bethesda, MD 20814
301.469-3352 • dave@bethesdalawgroup.com
www.bethesdalawgroup.com

KPCA News

Kenwood Park Citizens Association, Inc.
6818 Millwood Road
Bethesda, MD 20817



BERT SPENCER
REALTOR®, GRI, ASB

Potomac Village Office
10244 River Road
Potomac, MD 20854
Office: 301-983-0060
Home: 301-229-5693
Cell: 301-518-6360
Fax: 301-983-8134

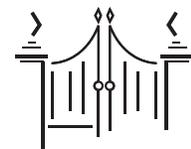


LAWRENCE Q. KLINE, LLC

General Contractor

5621 McLean Drive
Bethesda, MD 20814

240-876-9277
E-mail: lkmagic@aol.com



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www.lindachaletzky.com

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EVERS & CO.
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4400 Jenifer Street, NW
Washington, DC 20015
(202) 364-1700 Ext. 105

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Edward Elson, *Editor*