

# KPCA News

Newsletter of the Kenwood Park Citizens Association, Inc.

**Promoting and enhancing the Kenwood Park neighborhood**

Volume 23, Issue 2 • October 2017

## President's Corner

Dear Residents,

Our second annual KPCA Fall Festival Potluck is coming up in October, more details here and at our website <http://kpcaonline.org/community-events>. It's a fun-filled event for all ages in our community. I hope to see all of our residents come, and in costumes if you desire. Speaking of good times, this is the second year that we have held "Front Yard Fridays" in Kenwood Park. We have had a great turnout and it was a rousing success. Running every Friday from June to September, different hosts sign up for each Friday and have some simple snacks and drinks in their front yards. It is a great casual way to meet your fellow neighbors or for new residents to meet people in the community.

*Continued on Page 5*

## Why I am a KPCA Member

by Mariam Lamech

When my family moved to Kenwood Park from nearby Cabin John, I quickly learned about the Kenwood Park Citizens Association - for one my new home had a KPCA Security sign which certainly piqued my interest, and a few weeks after we moved in I received a "newsy" newsletter in the mail which gave me a lot of insight about my new neighborhood and everything it had to offer. I continued to receive these newsletters in the mail and because the previous owners of my home had paid their dues till the end of the year, I was also receiving security benefits.

In June of that year when I read about the annual meeting notice in the newsletter, I decided I must attend. I walked to the Whitman cafeteria which was

*Continued on Page 5*

## FALL FESTIVAL POTLUCK!



KPCA's second neighborhood-wide Block Party and Fall Festival will be sponsored by Linda Chaletzky of Evers & Co. Real Estate, Inc.

Join us **Sunday, October 29, 2017, 4 - 6 p.m.**, for drinks, beer, wine, food, and entertainment in the 6100 block of Shady Oak. Everyone is encouraged to come in costume and participate in costume 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, other side dishes (no chips please) and desserts to contribute potluck style.

Many hands make light work! Please contact Mariam Lamech [membership@kpcaonline.org](mailto:membership@kpcaonline.org) or Elizabeth Haile [news@kpcaonline.org](mailto:news@kpcaonline.org) if you are interested in helping set up, volunteering, or to get more information.

Thank you to our sponsor:

**Linda Chaletzky**  
**EVERS & Co.**  
REAL ESTATE INC.

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

## Hello from the KPCA Board...

KPCA's annual meeting was May 23 and elections were held for six At-Large Board Member positions for 2017-2018. The slate was approved unanimously and we are so thankful to all who volunteered. The 2017-2018 KPCA Board is:

President:  
Krishna Collie, [pres@kpcaonline.org](mailto:pres@kpcaonline.org)

Vice-President:  
Linda Chaletzky, [vp@kpcaonline.org](mailto:vp@kpcaonline.org)

Secretary:  
Elizabeth Haile

Treasurer:  
Hannah Elson, [treas@kpcaonline.org](mailto:treas@kpcaonline.org)

### Committee Chairs

Security Patrol: Cameron Groves, [security@kpcaonline.org](mailto:security@kpcaonline.org)  
Community Outreach: Lindsey Dickinson, [news@kpcaonline.org](mailto:news@kpcaonline.org)  
Traffic and Safety: Katherine Kerxton, [traffic@kpcaonline.org](mailto:traffic@kpcaonline.org)  
Membership/Block Captains: Mariam Lamech, [membership@kpcaonline.org](mailto:membership@kpcaonline.org)  
Welcoming/Special Events: Sarah Najafi, [events@kpcaonline.org](mailto:events@kpcaonline.org)  
Communications: Elizabeth Haile, [news@kpcaonline.org](mailto:news@kpcaonline.org)

### At Large Board Members

Foroud Arsanjani, Lindsey Dickinson, Ed Elson, Joann Harrison, Katherine Kerxton, Mariam Lamech

**Would you like to start a special interest group, another Committee, or serve on an existing Committee? Please join us! Contact one of our Board members to find out how to get involved.**

Prospective block captains and the KPCA Board mingled at a cocktail party at the home of Ed and Hannah Elson on Sunday afternoon, September 17. It was an opportunity for all to discuss approaches to involving more neighbors in our community activities. There was a spirit of enthusiasm about our association and the many things it was doing to promote our safety and neighborly participation. Those who checked "Yes" to being a block captain on their membership form were invited. If you are interested in learning about being a block captain please contact Membership Chair, Mariam Lamech, at:  
**[membership@kpcaonline.org](mailto:membership@kpcaonline.org)**

## Security Patrol

*"I highly commend Urban Alarm. We have used them a couple of times while away and they provide regular and helpful reports. It's an excellent service."*

*"I am writing to praise the excellent services rendered of Andy Alvarez in monitoring our house during our extended absence."*

*"This company is the best that KPCA has ever had. They sent us regular reports and pictures of our house and garden, and we felt confident knowing that someone was watching the house."*

**Have you paid your Security Member KPCA dues? If so, then you can use Urban Alarm to monitor your home while you are on vacation too!**



Paid members can coordinate with Urban Alarm to take pictures of their home while they are away, or to move newspapers or packages, and even have their garage door monitored in case it is left open. You can also provide Urban Alarm with your alarm company phone number to respond as a first line of defense given the close proximity of a security patrol officer.

In addition to monitoring our neighborhood during certain hours of the day and night, Urban Alarm also offers discounted personal home alarm monitoring services for Kenwood Park residents, including six months of free monitoring for security members. Please call Urban Alarm at 202-265-2700 to have your existing home system evaluated.

The KPCA Board is currently exploring providing additional a-la-carte options for security members, including Enhanced Patrols (e.g., add 60 mins of patrol inclusive of 30 mins per week of stationary monitoring), Enhanced Patrols with Daily Patrol Reports (e.g., custom patrol procedures for your home, including walking around property), and Remote Video Monitoring from a central location. Look for a survey this winter to assess interest in these a-la-carte options.

In the meantime, if you haven't already, pay your July – June 2018 dues to become a Security Member and take advantage of these services! If you have any questions, please contact Cameron Groves at [security@kpcaonline.org](mailto:security@kpcaonline.org) or check our website at:

**[www.kpcaonline.org/kpca-security-patrol](http://www.kpcaonline.org/kpca-security-patrol)**

## News You Can Use...

Did you know you can find recommended contractors in *Washington Consumer Checkbook* for free? The Montgomery County Public library has back issues of *Checkbook* magazine, or you can access recommendations online at library computers. To log in to *Checkbook* you have to go through the library's webpage on a library computer.

Of course, you are also encouraged to post questions on the Kenwood Park yahoo email group listserv any time you want recommendations for area contractors, or have recommendations to share!

If you are not already on the yahoo group, email:

[kenwoodpark-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:kenwoodpark-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

with your street address and our moderator will add you. To post messages, simply email [kenwoodpark@yahoogroups.com](mailto:kenwoodpark@yahoogroups.com) and it will be sent to all on the list.

## Linda Chaletzky



A Washingtonian Magazine  
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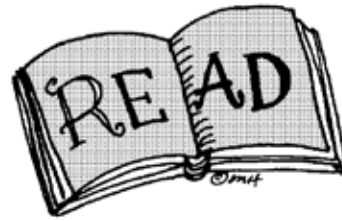
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[lchaletzky@eversco.com](mailto:lchaletzky@eversco.com)

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## See You At The FALL FESTIVAL POTLUCK!

Sunday  
October 29  
4:00-6:00 PM  
6100 Block of Shady Oak



## Book Club

The Kenwood Park Book Club will meet next on October 19 and we are reading *My Father's Tears and other stories*, a 2009 book by John Updike. For more information, please contact Sandy Gust at [book@kpcaonline.org](mailto:book@kpcaonline.org). We meet once a month and welcome new members!

## Neighborhood Services Available

- Carly Choppin (certified babysitter) 301-229-9139
- Esmee Najafi (Junior at Whitman available for babysitting; lots of experience) 202-730-5363 or [esnajafi999@gmail.com](mailto:esnajafi999@gmail.com)
- Naren Roy (Junior at Whitman; pet-sitting/dog-walking this summer, love to work with animals, has experience) 202-341-6063 or [narsebrocks@gmail.com](mailto:narsebrocks@gmail.com)
- Annabelle Plot (10th grader at French International School; babysitting, pet sitting, housesitting) 202-413-0557 or [annabellep03@gmail.com](mailto: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 [alturco@vifi.org](mailto:alturco@vifi.org)
- Julian Vazquez (College student with a driver's license offering pet sitting, dog walking and running errands around the Bethesda area.) Text 301-910-3013 or [julianvazquez06@hotmail.com](mailto:julianvazquez06@hotmail.com)
- Chris Fowler (Marbury Rd) (Cut your grass, water your plants, take care of your pets while you're on vacation, move heavy objects). 301-455-8187 or [chris.fowler419@gmail.com](mailto:chris.fowler419@gmail.com). References available upon request.

### GET LISTED HERE FREE:

Email our Communications Chair at [news@kpcaonline.org](mailto:news@kpcaonline.org)

## No Need To Be Nervous About Downsizing!

Homeowners who have begun to think about downsizing often feel overwhelmed by all their “stuff”. It’s becoming well known that adult children and grandchildren may only be interested in a few pieces their downsizing family members have collected. Silver, china, figurines, collectibles from travels, and even artwork dear to the parents hold little interest for their offspring. So it’s easy to see how daunting a task it might be to even begin thinking about how to meaningfully distribute what are felt to be treasures.

But it is important to note there are resources aplenty to help with these tasks. Downsizers wasn’t even an occupation a few years ago, but like staging, it has become a booming industry. These services can help with donations, shipping to family members, sales and disposal, as well as determining what pieces will work in a new home. It’s not too early to start planning a year or two in advance. There are a number of

reputable and reliable services in our area that can help homeowners over time (or quickly if the need be!) get the job done.

There are currently three homes for sale in Kenwood Park from \$1,295,000-\$1,757,029. One has been on the market 10 days and the other two 213 and 351 days. Two homes are for rent, at \$4750 and \$4995.

Since March 1st 14 homes have sold, ranging in price from \$900,000 to \$2,200,000. One is under contract with a list price of \$2,595,000. Eight homes have rented from \$3700-\$4600.

*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.

## Update from Montgomery County Quiet Skies Coalition

The Quiet Skies Coalition met on September 14 and is now in its second year of action to reduce airplane noise and pollution over our homes. Our work IS making a difference – in September, Governor Larry Hogan called on Attorney General Brian Frosh to sue the FAA, saying he’s “heard from countless Marylanders about how aircraft noise...have made residents miserable in their own homes with louder and more frequent flights.”

Montgomery County has also set aside money for hiring a law firm to investigate suing the FAA. Both lawsuits would examine whether the FAA correctly analyzed the environmental impacts of changing to NextGen.

The City of Phoenix, AZ recently prevailed in its legal case before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit against the FAA, challenging the legality of altered flight paths over Phoenix neighborhoods and historic sites. That decision cited the large number of public

complaints, so the Coalition thinks it is very important for each of us to continue sending complaints. Read more about these cases at <https://sites.google.com/site/208xxquietskies/news>.

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The Coalition will continue to work on several strategies to influence the FAA:

- ♦ community members’ filing complaints to DCA (**file noise complaints at [www.viewpoint.bksv.com/dca3](http://www.viewpoint.bksv.com/dca3)**)

- ♦ Montgomery County representatives’ participation in Working Group Recommendations to FAA

- ♦ Montgomery County and Maryland’s political leadership sending letters to the FAA

- ♦ and a lawsuit by Montgomery County against the FAA.

If you would like more information or are interested in getting involved, contact Kenwood Park’s rep, Joann Harrison, at [Joanharr@gmail.com](mailto:Joanharr@gmail.com)

## **Why I am a KPCA Member**—Continued from Page 1

filled with neighbors most of whom I had never met. While at the meeting, I learned about the Kenwood Park listserv which has proved to be so useful and that the association had an active board run completely by volunteers. I also learned about the KPCA website and realized that the newsletter which was keeping me up-to-date on neighborhood events was being mailed to every house regardless of whether they paid their membership dues. This was very different from my previous neighborhood, where the newsletter was only mailed to residents who paid their dues.

So when it was time to renew my membership I promptly mailed my check to cover both Security and Resident dues, both of which together were still less than \$1 a day. If one paid only Resident dues, this amount worked out to only \$0.23 cents a day. The vacation coverage the security company provided came in very useful when we planned a vacation but forgot to suspend our newspaper delivery. I was also very impressed with all the activities I was reading about and excited about the opportunities that I could avail of to be more involved and to get to know my neighbors. It was at one of these annual meetings that I raised my hand to join the board to work with other volunteers to help connect the neighborhood.

I hope those of you reading this, if you are already not doing so, will participate in the events KPCA has to offer – special interest groups, gardening, our upcoming Fall Festival, July 4th bike parade, back-to-school ice-cream social, and more – and form groups to meet your interests. Also, if you haven't yet joined or renewed your membership, please consider doing so.

Contact [membership@kpcaonline.org](mailto:membership@kpcaonline.org).



## **Garden Club**

Thank you to all who participated in the spring plant swap on May 6! And a HUUUGE thank you to Sinaly Roy, Sarah Najafi, and Raye Farr, who volunteer their time and backs to beautify and maintain the entrances to our neighborhood at Durbin/Radnor, Goldsboro/Millwood, and the circle on Lenox.

If YOU are interested in helping to occasionally weed, trim, mulch or plant at any of these locations please contact Garden Club coordinator Sinaly Roy at [garden@kpcaonline.org](mailto:garden@kpcaonline.org). KPCA can pay for supplies but we are looking for more people interested in helping occasionally.

### SARAH CRAWFORD-NAJAFI

Realtor

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[www.sarahcnajafi.com](http://www.sarahcnajafi.com)

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## **President's Corner**—Continued from Page 1

The signup for Front Yard Friday is exclusively through our listserv. If you have not done so already please join our Yahoo group listserv. Directions are at <http://kpcasonline.org/yahoo-group> or just send an email to [kenwoodpark-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:kenwoodpark-subscribe@yahoogroups.com) with your name and street address. The group is only for Kenwood Park residents. Once you have signed up you can post and receive messages. Traffic has picked in the last year with 274 of our residents on it and it's been a great way to get recommendations and share information about the community.

The most effective way to reach me is via email: [presk-pca@gmail.com](mailto:presk-pca@gmail.com). We have received new security signs and poles so if any KPCA security member wishes to get a new sign, please drop me a note.

Best,  
*Krishna Collie*

## **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.

**Meeting of Neighbors United  
October 2, 7:30 p.m.  
B-CC Regional Services Center  
4805 Edgemoor Lane, Bethesda**

The goal of Neighbors United is to establish a forum for reasoned discussion and action amidst growing signs of intolerance and bigotry in our nation and in our own community.

We welcome additional individuals interested in promoting a just and inclusive community here in Montgomery County. Do you care about these issues? Please join us for a special meeting to discuss recent hate incidents, possible responses, and to develop an action plan for the year.

For more information contact:

JoAnn Harrison [joanharr@gmail.com](mailto:joanharr@gmail.com)

## **TOP SAFETY REMINDERS for ALL KPCA NEIGHBORS**

1. When walking/running at night always wear reflective clothing. Even if you can see the drivers, they can't see you!
2. No cell phone use while driving – it's the law!
3. Drive cautiously and make complete stops at a stop sign.
4. When walking or running, walk against traffic; when biking, bike with traffic.
5. Teach your children the rules of the road as pedestrians and drivers!

## **PLEASE SLOW DOWN!**

The speed limit on Whittier Blvd is 30 mph. On every other street in Kenwood Park, the speed limit is 25 mph.

## **Walkers – A Heads Up!!**

We are getting to the time of year when it gets dark earlier and it is difficult for drivers to see people walking in the street. We have many walkers, runners and dog-walkers in our neighborhood, who for their own security and that of others, should wear reflective clothing of some kind. Dogs might ideally wear reflective collars or leashes.

KPCA has about 20 clip-on flashing reflectors to give out on a first-come, first-serve basis. For your own safety, please be vigilant and choose some type of reflective clothing or flashing light to wear when you go out in the evening or early morning. Contact Katherine Kerxton, [traffic@kpcasonline.org](mailto:traffic@kpcasonline.org), to pickup a free reflector and BE SAFE!



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# How Old is Your Cherry Tree?

by Ken Rubinson

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.

The cherry trees around the tidal basin are primarily Yoshinos and have a single-petal flower. Both types of these decorative cherry trees grow well in the D.C. area, which is in the middle of their climate range. (Our USDA Plant Hardiness Zone is 7a).

Many of the original Kenwood Park trees still survive and bloom gloriously each spring but are reaching the ends of their natural lifetime of about 40-50 years. Some that have died have been replaced

by individual homeowners. For those who would like to keep this tradition alive, there are several options. Our local garden centers stock both the Kwanzans and Yoshinos and they can also be purchased online, although these are usually smaller. I have used Willis Orchards, [www.willisorchards.com](http://www.willisorchards.com). If you are willing to start really small and are extremely patient, 2-3 feet tall saplings can also be purchased from the National Arbor Day Foundation on the web at [www.arborday.org](http://www.arborday.org). If you join the Foundation, the price to members is \$12 each.

Montgomery County will install certain types of shade trees on private property and assist with long-term care for free. Cherry trees are not included in

the species offered in this program, but there are other options. Check out details and how to apply at [treemontgomery.org](http://treemontgomery.org).

I have a few personal favorites for other kinds of trees. One of these is a Thornless Honey Locust, which I like because it has small leaves that are easily picked up by a lawnmower in the autumn, and the shade underneath the tree is quite light so the grass still can grow underneath it. One that I planted about 10 years ago is now taller than the top of the house.

Another option is the Elm. When I was growing up, we had roads that were arched with elms with their

branches meeting in the center as much as 100 feet above the road. They succumbed to Dutch Elm Disease, and, as noted by the Elm Research Institute, Dutch Elm disease wiped out over 100 million American elms across the nation between 1945 in 1975. The Elm Research Institute was founded to de-



velop a disease-resistant American Elm and in 1985, after extensive genetic engineering and field testing, the Institute introduced the American Liberty Elm. Over 300,000 have been planted with less than 5% reported lost to Dutch Elm disease. They offer a larger and smaller elm at [www.libertytreesociety.org](http://www.libertytreesociety.org), and I found that the smaller one grows just as well over time because its roots are better developed for its size. These trees grow 4' to 6' per year.

The more trees the better for our neighborhood, and starting earlier with less expensive, smaller trees now will give just as much pleasing shade as waiting for years and paying more.

# KPCA News

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

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## FALL FESTIVAL POTLUCK!

**Sunday, October 29**

**4-6 PM**

**6100 Block of Shady Oak**

**Music!**

**Food!**

**Come in Costume!**

**Prizes will be awarded for all ages!**

