

# KENSINGTON PARK CIVIC ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



The holiday season is almost here. I don't know about you, but for me this year has flown by. We wish everyone good health and a prosperous New Year. I've gotten a lot of satisfaction being your president this year and will always do my best in serving the neighborhood and very much enjoyed my role helping neighbors and making Kensington Park a

**WE'LL BE HAVING OUR ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY/POT LUCK AT THE DECEMBER MEETING. BEVERAGES WILL BE PROVIDED. BRING A FRIEND.**

better, safer place to live. The officers representing Kensington Park do our best to make good decisions that will benefit everyone. We are not perfect and always value your ideas, opinions and suggestions on how to do things better. After all, this is your neighborhood too. Two goals we discussed for 2-15 are improving the landscaping of common

areas and entrances. Also, increase membership. I know you've heard this before. If we are to make real progress more neighbors are needed to contribute, not only financially but volunteering as well. We plan to write letters to absentee owners, an area of untapped resources. More ideas are welcomed, and you are always encouraged to attend our Board Meetings.

A reminder about our elections in December, If you desire to be an officer for the neighborhood in 2015 you must be present at the November 10th meeting to be nominated. You will also be required to be a member of the Association.

To all the volunteers in the neighborhood, thank you for everything you're doing. It's much appreciated.

Also, we'll be having our annual Holiday party/pot luck at the December meeting. Beverages will be provided. **BRING A FRIEND.** On behalf of your 2014 Board Members, have a safe holiday season. We wish you happiness, joy and laughter.

Sincerely, Charles, Joan, Millie, Ben and Francis

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Kensington Park Civic Association Meetings

Monday, November 10, 2014

Monday, December 8, 2014

Monday, February 9, 2014

All meetings take place at CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH, 3308 17th Street, from 7 p.m. to 8:15 p.m., with social time from 6:45 p.m. until 7 p.m. Light refreshments served.

## Highlights of Our Upcoming Meeting

Candidates for positions on the Kensington Park Civic Association Board of Directors will have an opportunity to introduce themselves to those attending the meeting. The introductions will be followed by nominations for candidates. Voting will take place at the Association's meeting in December.

Those at the meeting will also hear an update about what's going on with the utility property at the corner of Monica and 27th Parkway.

As well, there will be martial arts demonstration from Taganas Martial Arts.

The meeting runs from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Cornerstone Baptist Church on 17th Street, but there is social time beginning at 6:45 p.m., so come get to know your neighbors better.

Light refreshments served.

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## Turkey Triumph

Preparing Thanksgiving dinner is no small feat, but with the right preparation you are up for the challenge. Good planning is essential for making your loved ones say, "How do they do it?" Start now by making a list of everything you need, from appetizers to table settings to after dinner coffee. Prepare what items you can early, and don't hesitate to ask for help if the going gets tough in the kitchen.

Buying a Frozen Turkey?

Allow a full day of thawing in the refrigerator for each 5 pounds of turkey (example: 15lb bird 3 day thaw in fridge).

For faster thawing, thaw in cold water (keep turkey in original wrapping), change water every 20-30 minutes; plan on at least 30 minutes per pound.

Never put a frozen turkey into a deep fryer.

## No Bake Pumpkin Pie Cheesecake

- 1/2 cup cold milk
- 1 package (6 servings) vanilla instant pudding/pie filling
- 1 teaspoon pumpkin pie spice (substitute 1/2 tsp cinnamon)
- 1 cup canned pumpkin
- 2 1/2 cups non-dairy whipped topping
- 1 piecrust

Combine milk, pudding mix, and spice and whisk for 60 seconds. Add pumpkin and whisk; add whipped topping and whisk again. Spread mixture in pre-made crust. Refrigerate 2 hours, garnish as desired.

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## Turkey Day Football Schedule

Detroit Lions vs. Chicago Bears, 12:30 p.m., TV-CBS

Dallas Cowboys vs. Philadelphia Eagles, 4:30 p.m., TV-FOX

San Francisco 49ers vs. Seattle Seahawks, 8:30 p.m., TV-NBC

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## Kensington Park Civic Association

### 2014 Board of Directors

President: <b>Charles Carson</b>	<b>363-0794</b>
Vice President: <b>Francis Scheuer</b>	<b>720-5543</b>
2nd Vice President: <b>Ben Harrison</b>	<b>366-9479</b>
Secretary: <b>Joan Krushanski</b>	<b>366-8730</b>
Treasurer: <b>Millie Oberman</b>	<b>955-5058</b>

The Kensington Park Civic Association extends thanks to the Cornerstone Baptist Church on 17th Street for welcoming our group to meet at their location.

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## Security Report

The following is a list of incidents reported to the Sheriff's Office for July, August & September 2014

Vandalism	2 incidents
Burglary	3 incidents
Theft	3 incidents
Juvenile Disturbance	1 incident



## YOUR ADVERTISEMENT HERE

Advertise in the **Kensington Park Civic Association** Newsletter

- Business Card Size \$25
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## PROTECT OUR CHILDREN

Please remember that all streets in Kensington Park have a 25 mph speed limit.

Call the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office at **941-861-5800** to report speeders or other suspicious activity.



## Keep These Emergency Numbers Handy

These days, you can store practically all of your computer information on your cell phone – from your entire music collection to the latest dog-riding-a-skateboard video. You can also use your mobile device as a safety net in case of emergency. Take five minutes right now to tap these important numbers into your contact list so you'll be prepared if something happens.

**ICE** – This number, which stands for "in case of emergency," should be your emergency contact – a parent, spouse, close friend or whomever you want notified if something happens to you. Many emergency responders and hospital personnel know to look for this number.

**Home** – Your home phone number, if you have one. If someone finds your lost cell phone, he or she can call this number to let you know your phone is intact. Emergency personnel may also try it as an alternative number if there is no answer at the ICE number.

**Police** – In case you have an emergency or witness someone else who needs help, you can notify your local police station about the situation more rapidly if you already have the number stored in your phone.

**State highway patrol** – See a motorist stranded by the side of the road? Be a Good Samaritan and call the state highway patrol for assistance.

**Insurance company** – If you're in an accident, you can notify your insurance company right away and get roadside assistance or towing help if you need it.

**Your motor club** – Membership in an auto club can get you out of a jam. Store their 800 number in

your cell phone in case you lock your keys inside the car or get a flat tire.

A word about 911 and cell phones

While technology continues to improve, many wireless phones do not offer a way to determine a caller's location. If you call 911 in an emergency, be sure to mention your location, your phone number and what has happened.

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## Sarasota County Government Info

Sarasota County has one main number for most inquiries and comments: **941-861-5000**.

Operators are trained to ask a few questions in order to direct you to the right person or department.

The main email for the county is **countycontactcenter@scgov.net**.

Contact the county if you have a:

Question  
Request  
Comment  
Compliment  
Concern

Or to report:

Potholes  
Sidewalk and curb edging  
Street lights  
Traffic lights  
Storm drains (flooding issues)  
Trash on the rights of way  
Street signs

Other helpful numbers:

Sarasota Sheriff: **941-861-5800** (emergencies: 911).  
Code Enforcement: **941-861-6500**

Be an active participant in your community.



## Calvary Chapel Expanding in Kensington Park

*New Youth Center Brings Flurry of Construction Activity*

By: Bret Kanapaux, Kensington Park Resident

The buzz of heavy machinery can be heard in Kensington Park as Calvary Chapel Sarasota, easily the biggest landmark in the neighborhood, is growing. Situated along 27<sup>th</sup> Parkway, just west of Prudence Drive, the religious center is in the process of adding a brand new “Youth & Counseling Center” on its grounds.

The new addition is being constructed behind the main building which houses the chapel and a K-8 school. This new 7,200 square foot single story youth center will include a 154 seat auditorium, several counseling and classrooms, and a youth lounge.

“It’s not so much about entertaining them [the youth], but engaging them.” said Calvary Chapel Pastor Jim Burke.

According to the pastor, youth group activities can draw a crowd of up to 85 primary and high school age students, and are led by the chapel’s Youth Pastor, Shawn Howard. While the new building’s accommodations may be used for some other church activities, the main purpose is to provide a contemporary space for the youth group, which the pastor says has been steadily growing over the years.

It’s not just a new building at the rear of the property. While some of the construction project is taking place on the youth center, a more visible job is taking place on the west end of the property. The shuffleboard court was demolished in order to make room for the expansion of the parking lot. Included among

those parking spaces will be another entrance to the lot from the street.

Of course with all these changes, comes additional rainwater runoff. That will be handled by the addition of a large retention pond on the far west end of the property, near the existing cell phone tower.



In that area, an excavator crew has been busy removing trees and preparing to dig. When it’s complete, the retention pond will be just a few feet from the sidewalk that runs along 27<sup>th</sup> Parkway. The property changes also include plans for additional landscaping at various locations, and the planting of new trees.

As you might expect, Calvary Chapel’s 700 members, 5 Pastors and staff are excited about the new youth center project. “Family is the building block of society” said Burke, adding that the new facility will allow the pastors to “more effectively minister to families.”

While showing me around the property, Pastor Burke also spoke about his desire to conduct the chapel’s business with respect for the residents of Kensington Park, which has been the location of Calvary Chapel for the past 22 years. He expressed a hope that the construction of the new youth center is causing minimal disruption to those living nearby, and said the project is projected to be finished sometime between April and June 2015.

## Remembering A Special Neighbor:

### Joni DiPirro (1940 - 2014)

Kensington Park recently lost one of its own when Joni DiPirro passed away. Joni was kind, funny, a talented painter and conservator of antique paintings. She will be remembered as a loving mother and great neighbor who will be missed by those who survive her.

Kensington Park has lost someone very special.

Joni studied at the Academy of Florence, Italy and, from 1968-1972 she continued her studies with the late Florentine master Pietro Annigoni. Joni had a strong reputation in Buffalo's art circles. She also curated the Castellani Art Museum at Niagara University and worked with all the established art galleries in Buffalo, NY.

Collectors of her paintings include dignitaries from Italy, whose names are too many to mention, among them U.S. ambassador Stanley Siegel, and former first lady Hilary Clinton.

Kensington Park thanks you Joni for bringing joy to all who knew you.

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### Holiday Tree Safety

Firefighters around the nation respond to an average of 210 structure fires caused by indoor trees every year. A tree fire can fill a room with smoke in a matter of seconds, but before you stress, read these simple tips to help keep your home and family safe.

- Select a tree that looks fresh and has needles that do not fall off when touched.
- Place the tree at least three feet away from any heat source, including candles.
- Do not place the tree where it blocks doors or high traffic areas in the home.

- Check the water level in the tree stand every day.
- Use holiday lights that have been tested for safety and have a UL label.
- Turn off the tree lights before leaving the house or going to sleep.
- When the tree begins to drop its needles, it's time for the trash.

And it's not just fresh trees that are a problem.

If you have an artificial tree, make sure it is certified and labeled as fire retardant.

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### Get Involved in Kensington Park

The Kensington Park Civic Association is constantly working to make sure our neighborhood stays safe, looks beautiful, and has the resources it needs. The services provided by the association include security patrols, entrance landscaping, a community newsletter, welcome packets for new residents, neighborhood activities, and lobbying the county government for amenities and services.

The association needs your support in its quest to make Kensington Park a great place to call home. All are encouraged to join the association by paying \$25 yearly dues.

To submit your dues, please mail a check to The Kensington Park Civic Association P.O. Box 52574 Sarasota, Florida 34232. You can also visit [kensingtonparksrq.com](http://kensingtonparksrq.com), and use the PayPal feature, or call Association President Charles Carson at 941- 363-0794.

Do more than just live here, get involved and contribute.

Your support and participation are greatly appreciated.