

April 2017

Vol. 47, Issue 3

Kings Park West Civic Association

Happy spring! The signs are everywhere – warm weather, the flowers and trees are blooming, and the grass is greener and growing. It is also a busy time for the Association, with many upcoming activities.

The spring park clean-up for our community was held April 1st at Royal Lake Park, Rabbit Branch Park and Lakeside Park. Removing trash from the parks and stream valleys helps protect our natural resources and makes Kings Park West a better place to live. We appreciate the efforts of all who volunteered. Many thanks to Sarah Lennon for organizing the event. Also, the Royal Lake Master Planning is making good progress. A community survey to get broad community input on the future vision for Royal Lake Park is mentioned within this issue.

I hope you had a chance to attend the annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 2nd. The weather was beautiful, and many happy families hunted for colorful eggs. Check out the great photos on our Facebook page. Many thanks to Dawn Cassidy and Cub Scout Pack 1967 for planning and hosting such a fun event for the community again this year.

The scholarship committee is diligently working on the 2017 scholarship program, with applications due on May 1st. The Civic Association will award up to three \$1,000 scholarships to 2017 graduating seniors whose parents or guardians are members of the Association. You can find the scholarship application within The Herald and on the Civic Association webpage.

I am excited to announce that the KPWCA Volunteer Appreciation Dinner and Members Meeting (to follow) will be held on May 2nd. The Board is anxious to see all of our awesome volunteers. I hope you will plan on attending this event for pizza, salad and desserts. So, please mark your calendars, as it is time to celebrate!

***Volunteer Appreciation Dinner
Tuesday, May 2nd at 6:30 pm
Members Meeting at 7:30 pm
Laurel Ridge Cafeteria***

Looking forward to seeing you at the Volunteer Dinner in May! And in closing, with the warmer weather now upon us, please watch your speed around our neighborhood, as our children are out playing and having fun. Please contact me at president@KPWCA.org with any questions, concerns or comments.

Sincerely, Jeanmarie Roberson

Community Calendar	
Scholarship Deadline.....	May 01
Volunteer Appreciation Dinner.....	May 02
KWPCA Membership Meeting.....	May 02
Citizen Advisory Council.....	May 02
KWPCA Community Yard Sale.....	May 06
Braddock District Council.....	May 10
Spring Dumpster Day.....	May 13
Mother's Day.....	May 14
KPWCA Board Meeting.....	May 16
Memorial Day.....	May 29
Herald Deadline.....	May 31
Citizen Advisory Council.....	Jun 06
Braddock District Council.....	Jun 14
Herald Delivery.....	Jun 17
Father's Day.....	Jun 18

KINGS PARK WEST CIVIC ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 7114, Fairfax Station, VA 22039-7114

www.kpwca.org

OFFICERS

President	Jeanmarie Roberson	703-425-1286
Vice-President	Steve McCarty	703-978-0222
Secretary	Frank Cumberland	703-426-2868
Treasurer	Jim Mays	703-978-0317
Members-At-Large	Adrienne Barna	703-323-0518
	Mary Crowder	703-239-2581
	Karen Hasselman	703-272-3658

COMMITTEES

B.A.G.G **Vacant**

Community Support Services

Consumer Affairs	Mary Hovland	703-946-1775
Dumpster Day	Mary Hovland	703-946-1775
GMU Student Liaison	Vacant	
Neighbor Assist	Bruce Wallachy	703-401-0275
Welcoming	Melissa Morgan:	welcome@kpwca.org
Zoning, Code, Safety	Jackie Agnew	703-862-8471

Communications

Herald Newsletter:

Display Editor	Leah Larson-Taylor	703-283-0208
Communications Editor	Samantha Juni	703-395-4049
Herald Advertising	Samantha Juni	703-395-4049
Herald Classifieds	Ejona Lika:	classified@kpwca.org
Signboards	Adrienne Barna	703-323-0518
Web Admin	Kathy Shifflett:	website@kpwca.org
Membership	Patti Dickerson:	membership@kpwca.org
NW Coord.	Tara Mooney:	tarajmooney@yahoo.com
Parks & Lakes	Sarah Lennon	703-978-5608
Invasive Species	Greg Sykes	703-426-8246
Signs, St.s, Sidewalks	Jeff Root	703-323-4438

Special Activities

Easter Egg Hunt	Pack 1967	
Halloween Festival	Karen Hasselman	703-272-3658
	Jeanmarie Roberson	703-425-1286
Scholarships	Gayle Ostrom	703-323-0206

Email Addresses for KPWCA Inc.

OFFICERS

President	President@KPWCA.ORG
Treasurer	Treasurer@KPWCA.ORG

COMMITTEES

Membership	Membership@KPWCA.ORG
Welcome Coordinator	Welcome@KPWCA.ORG
Consumer Affairs	Consumer@KPWCA.ORG
Zoning	Zoning@KPWCA.ORG
B.A.G.G.	BAGG@KPWCA.ORG
Parks & Lakes	Parks@KPWCA.ORG
Signs, St.s, Sidewalks	St.s@KPWCA.ORG
Neighborhood Watch	Watch@KPWCA.ORG
Scholarships	Scholarships@KPWCA.ORG
Neighbor Assistance	NeighborAssist@KPWCA.ORG

HERALD STAFF

Editor	Editor@KPWCA.ORG
Classifieds	Classified@KPWCA.ORG
Advertising	See Below
General Information	Info@KPWCA.ORG
Community Association	KPWHOAA@yahoo.com

How Do I Advertise in The Herald?

CLASSIFIEDS: KPWCA Newsletter classified advertisements for the June 17th issue must be received no later than May 31st by Ejona Lika, 9810 Bronte Drive, Fairfax, VA 22032, or email classified@kpwca.org. Please print clearly, and include payment to KPWCA. Furnish your name, address, and phone number. Rates: KPWCA members, \$2 for each 15 words; nonmembers, \$5 first 25 words, plus \$3 for each additional 15 words. Found items listed free.

ADVERTISEMENTS: KPWCA Newsletter Advertisements are received by Samantha Juni; please email editor@kpwca.org. Contact Samantha for rates.

How Do I Get My News in The Herald?

The easiest way to get your news items in The Herald is to e-mail the editor at editor@kpwca.org. We invite items on neighborhood schools, churches, organizations, and other noteworthy neighborhood news. News items and letters will be published if deemed suitable and as space permits. We reserve the right to edit any item submitted to The Herald. Acceptance of news items does not constitute endorsement by KPWCA.

How Do I Join the Kings Park West Civic Association?

Send your name, address, and phone number, along with a check for \$20.00, to KPWCA, P.O. Box 7114, Fairfax Station, VA 22039-7114. Members receive the Community Directory and support from community programs such as Neighborhood Watch, Scholarship Awards, community social activities, Parks & Lakes Clean-up, and a free subscription to The Herald. Alternatively, go to www.kpwca.org and pay using PayPal.

The Herald

Published eight times yearly by the KPWCA.
NEXT DEADLINE is May 31, 2017
for delivery on June 17, 2017

Note: Acceptance of articles and advertising does not constitute endorsement by KPWCA, nor liability for products or services advertised in its publications.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: If you are moving out of the neighborhood and want to keep in touch with what's happening, gets a subscription. Send \$20 per year to:

KINGS PARK WEST CIVIC ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 7114, Fairfax Station, VA 22039-7114.

Volunteer Opportunities

Parks & Lakes Committee: We are looking for 3-5 motivated members to help plan and organize twice-a-year park/lake clean-ups. *A few hours per month in the months leading up to the April and October clean-ups.* Ideas to make the clean-ups fun and inviting are welcomed! Please contact Sarah Lennon at parks@kpwca.org and/or sarahjlennon@gmail.com.

B.A.G.G. Coordinator: *1-2 hours per month.* Coordinates annual contract for common area maintenance, coordinates purchase/delivery of mulch for common areas, coordinates common area clean ups with volunteers, monitors the KPW subdivision signs and signboards for maintenance and arranges for repairs. Please contact Jeanmarie at president@kpwca.org.

Neighbor Assist Volunteers: *As needed.* Looking for friendly callers (a great way to volunteer without having to leave your home), computer experts to provide IT assistance, and handyman volunteers. Contact Bruce Wallachy at wallbdc@gmail.com or call 703-401-0275.

Road Raiders, *1/2 hour each month.* Performs common area clean-up around neighborhood once per month early Saturday mornings. Please contact Sarah Lennon at sarahjlennon@gmail.com.

Invasive Management Area, *~3 hours a few times per year.* Details found at <http://www.grsykes.com/main.php?page=32>. Send an e-mail to greg@grsykes.com and ask to be on the volunteer distribution list.

KPWCA VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER



WHEN: MAY 2ND, 6:30 PM TO 7:30 PM

WHERE: LAUREL RIDGE ELEMENTARY CAFETERIA



WHY: TO THANK OUR MANY VOLUNTEERS

Calling all Committee leads, Block Captains and Membership, Neighborhood Watch, BAGG, Consumer Affairs, Neighbor Assist, Welcoming, Zoning, Herald staff, Signboards and Signs, Streets, and Sidewalks, Web admin, Parks and Lakes, Invasive Species and Road Raiders, Scholarship, Halloween Festival and Easter Egg Hunt volunteers. Come have some pizza, salad, and dessert! Meet and greet your fellow volunteers from across Kings Park West. You are appreciated for every act, no matter the size, that contributes toward making King Parks West such a warm and remarkable community. Come, take a break, hear and see the latest, and enjoy dinner with your fellow neighbors.



Recommended By-Law Amendment

Frequency of Membership Meetings: The Board requests the membership to consider reducing the number of membership meetings from thrice annually to twice. This change requires amending our By-Laws. The Board is confident that the business of the Association can effectively be presented to the membership twice a year. Also, the By-Laws will continue to stipulate that additional meetings of members shall be held at the request of the President or the Board of Directors, or upon the written request of at least twenty-five (25) members in good standing.

The following amendment to the By-Laws will be presented for approval at the May 2nd membership meeting:

ARTICLE VI – MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

Section 1 – Scheduling and Location

1. Meetings of members shall be held in or about each September, ~~January~~, and April on dates selected by the Board of Directors. The September meeting shall be deemed the Annual Meeting of Members of the Association.

In order to put this amendment to a vote, we will need a quorum of twenty-five (25) members. If you are unable to attend, I encourage you to consider filling out the proxy form below and giving the form to a member who is planning to attend. Please email me if you have any questions at president@KPWCA.org.

Kings Park Civic Association
PROXY FORM

Proxy Form:

Each active civic association member as listed on membership form may vote on Association business. Any current member wishing to vote by proxy must complete this form. This form may be given to a KPWCA member who will attend any time prior to a regular or special meeting of the Association. Proxy forms received after such meeting will not be accepted.

Name: _____

Address: _____

I assign _____ the authority to vote on my behalf regarding Association matters.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Note: Membership Status of all parties will be verified upon presentation of a proxy. No individual may serve as proxy for more than two (2) members. Please contact editor@kpwca.org to obtain another proxy form.

Fun in the sun all summer long!

Lakeview Swim Club

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Don't miss our opening weekend open house: May 27th and 28th

Lakeview Swim Club is King Park West's favorite pool for family fun!

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- Get fit with our Masters Swim Program and private trail head access to Lake Royal trail
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Lakeview Marlins Swim & Dive ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Friday, April 28, 2017 - 7:30 - 8:30 pm

Laurel Ridge Elementary School Cafeteria

- Register for the Lakeview Marlins swim and dive teams
- Purchase your team swim suit
- Pre-order Lakeview spirit wear
- Sign up for your favorite volunteer positions

Lakeview Board members will be on hand to process memberships and take questions.

*Lakeview Swim Club | 5352 Gainsborough Drive | www.lakeviewmarlins.com
Follow us at [Facebook.com/LakeviewSwimClub](https://www.facebook.com/LakeviewSwimClub)*



Cub Scout Pack 1967 had a great time hosting the annual KPW Egg Hunt at Lakeside Park on Sunday, April 2nd. Neighborhood families gathered at the playground, and the children rushed to hunt over 3,000 eggs filled with candy and surprises. The kids were also delighted to create Easter-themed crafts and visit with the KPW Bunny!

Next on the horizon for our pack is the annual Spring Campout. This year's event will be held in April at Lake Fairfax. This is a much-loved event where our families gather to camp overnight, and the boys enjoy participating in organized games, skits, and an evening campfire.

Come join us! Pack 1967 meets monthly, generally on the second Wednesday of the month in the Laurel Ridge cafeteria. Individual dens (boys of the same age) meet about twice a month on a selected day to work on achievements, participate in projects, or have fun together. If you have any questions, we can be reached at CubScout.Pack.1967@gmail.com.



REAL ESTATE CORNER

by Mary and Cathy



After an extended winter with low home inventory, listings are on the increase. Buyers are eager to get into Kings Park West, so it's a great time to list your home for sale if you're contemplating a change. Interest rates are ranging from 4.09 to 4.14% which is still very attractive to buyers. Well-presented homes should sell quickly for a good price.

Status	Model	Address	List Price	Sales Price
Active	Baron	10430 Stallworth Ct	\$654,900	
Active	Baron	10412 Headly Ct	\$632,000	
Active	Duchess	5018 Gainsborough Dr	\$574,900	
Active	Prince	5202 Ellington Ct	\$540,000	
Active	Prince w/ addition	5113 Pumphrey Dr	\$575,000	
Active	Queen w/ addition	10196 Wavell Rd	\$625,000	
Active	Regent	4909 Sideburn Rd	\$530,000	
Sold	Baron	4910 Heversham	\$644,900	\$643,400
Sold	Baron	10158 Tapestry Ct	\$660,000	\$660,000
Sold	Baron w/addition	10412 Collingham Dr	\$659,900	\$659,900
Sold	Baron w/addition	5244 Ridge Ct	\$699,000	\$685,000
Sold	Duchess	10206 Bessmer Ln	\$529,000	\$517,000
Sold	Duchess	5371 Gainsborough Dr	\$455,000	\$455,000
Sold	Duke	4932 Gainsborough	\$560,000	\$560,500
Sold	King	9710 Galsworth Ct	\$540,000	\$530,000
Sold	Queen	9888 Ridge Ct	\$565,000	\$555,400
Sold	Regent w/ addition	10010 Raeburn	\$625,000	\$633,000
Under Contract	Baron	4763 Farndon Ct	\$669,900	
Under Contract	Baron w/ addition	10174 Bessmer Ln	\$695,000	
Under Contract	Duchess	5105 Pommeroy Dr	\$569,900	
Under Contract	Duchess	5414 Chatsworth Ct	\$549,000	
Under Contract	Duke w/ addition	5221 Pommeroy Dr	\$559,000	
Under Contract	King	5110 Pommeroy Dr	\$564,900	
Under Contract	Prince	10193 Wavell Rd	\$539,999	
Under Contract	Prince	9814 Covent Ct	\$550,000	
Under Contract	Regent	10011 Whitefield St	\$464,000	
Under Contract	Regent	5206 Stonington Dr	\$599,900	
Under Contract	Regent w/ addition	5012 Swinton Dr	\$574,888	
Under Contract	York	10402 Headly Ct	\$499,900	

KPW Stats

10 Sold YTD
 12 Under Contract.
 7 Active listings.
 Average List Price: \$582,965
 Average Sold Price: \$589,920

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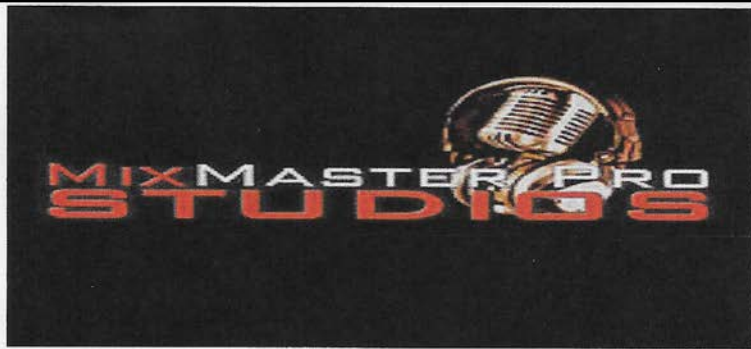
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GMU Food Pantry

By Mary Crowder

(703) 239-2581

Mary.Crowder@verizon.net

The neighborhood continues to donate food to the George Mason “Pop Up Pantry”. We delivered 135 pounds of food to the campus on March 30th. Thank you for your generosity! We have hungry students across the street. I have a bin on my front porch for anything you’d like to donate. They need non-perishables: toilet paper, paper towels, snack food, cereal, pasta sauce, pasta, shampoo, soaps, conditioners, deodorant, canned chicken, microwaveable food, and canned fruit.

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No Foolin', KPW has great volunteers...but EVERYONE should pick up the trash!

Saturday, April 1st, saw a three-part harmony of park clean-ups at Rabbit Branch, Royal Lake and Lakeside Parks, with nearly thirty people helping protect our environment. THANK YOU to those who came out! It was a fun morning getting together with neighbors, enjoying the spring weather, and doing some good for our community. Next year, we will try to pick a date that has fewer conflicts with other community events.

Some folks seem to think that all of those beverage containers, straws, plastic bags, bottles, cans, and other items of trash (gas grills, construction materials, steering wheel covers?) simply wash away into the storm drains and magically disappear. This picture shows too clearly what negligence looks like! Trash accumulates in the parks, pollutes our local streams, and winds up in our very own Royal Lake. But it doesn't stop there! KPW is at the headwaters of a Potomac River tributary, and we can trace Royal Lake to Pohick Creek to Pohick Bay to Gunston Cove to the Potomac River to the Chesapeake Bay to the Atlantic Ocean – and some of our local trash can end up on the massive trash vortexes in the ocean.

I've heard from some folks that they carry bags with them on their walks through the neighborhood and around the lake, and that's awesome! There's no need to wait for the Spring or Fall Park Clean-ups to help out. Encourage others to pick up trash whenever they find it – in the park, in the street – it doesn't matter. It also doesn't matter if someone tossed the trash deliberately or sanitation workers accidentally spilled some while collecting garbage or recyclables – trash is trash and has an impact. Let's see if our deliberate actions can have a *bigger* impact in the coming months and years!



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THE GARDEN CORNER

By Charlie Boring

The urban gardener is faced with a number of challenges associated with the fact that growing a garden in an urban environment is a bit more complicated than in a rural setting. In Kings Park West, some of those challenges are: 1) sunlight – shade created by houses and trees limits the areas where sun-loving plants can be grown; 2) space – most of our lots in Kings Park West are not extremely large, and therefore, finding space for the plants you want to grow can be difficult.

One solution to these problems is the use of a technique called “edible landscaping.” Landscaping with *edible* plants can give you more room to plant vegetables, and can also be very attractive landscaping. Edible landscaping, especially when paired with organic gardening practices, enhances the beauty of any yard, garden or landscape. So the use of edible landscaping is a win for the gardener and a win for the landscaper. My preferred method is to plant my vegetables among my flowers and flowering shrubs. If you want your landscape to be attractive and edible, you need to plan.

Decide what flowers, flowering shrubs and vegetables you want to plant. I like to experiment, but essentially, you need to plant your taller plants toward the rear of your landscape bed, so that the taller plants do not rob the sunlight from the shorter plants. For flowers, I tend to let my spouse decide what to plant. She has planted a mix of annuals and perennials, including roses, pinks, zinnias, chrysanthemums, snow bells, day lilies, hydrangea, azaleas, hostas, tulips, gladiolas, and many others. For our vegetables, we like to plant tomatoes, eggplants, peppers, various types of greens, various types of beans, onions, leeks and garlic. We have also planted artichokes with some success.

Speaking of artichokes, it is important to start them indoors and transfer them outdoors around March 1st to allow adequate vernalization in order to promote fruiting. Vernalization is the process of exposing plants to cool temperatures to promote fruiting. When a frost threatens, it is important to cover the transplanted artichokes to prevent damage.

We also like to plant fruits. We have planted blueberries, blackberries, bush cherries and strawberries. In selected areas, we have planted fig trees. For fig trees in the Kings Park West area, you need to select a hardy variety, such as the Chicago Hardy Fig, and plant it near a protected area that gets adequate sun, perhaps near the house. In order to ensure the production of fruit prior to the first frost, it is advisable to use the “six and pinch” method. After a fig shoot produces six or seven leaves, pinch off the end of the shoot. This will promote early production of fruit, and therefore, an early harvest.

My spouse plants her roses, azaleas and hydrangeas toward the fence or the house. She leaves room between these tall flowering bushes for a tomato or an eggplant. We also intersperse pepper plants in the plan where they get plenty of sunlight.

We plant four types of beans: Oriental yard-long beans next to the fence, pole beans, also next to the fence, and two types of bush beans in front of them. Bean plants are a nitrogen fixer which adds nitrogen to your garden soil. In front of the pole beans, or in the front landscape border, we also plant mustard greens, Swiss chards and bright-light chards. These plants allow us to harvest an abundant amount of greens for our table.

In October, we planted a small garlic bed with five varieties of hard-neck garlic. After growing through the fall and winter, the garlic is about 12 inches tall, and will be ready to harvest in July. We also planted a few leeks and some perennial onions, Egyptian walking onions. These onions allow harvesting all year, even during the cold months.

I planted three fuzzy kiwi vines that are intended to cover our pergola and three hardy kiwi vines that run up a “T” trellis system. Finally, we have added a few other fruit trees, a fuyu persimmon, a cherry tree, three peach trees, a jujube, two Asian pears and two pawpaw trees. I will write more about the pawpaw trees in later articles.

Enjoy your garden!

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We Want Your Opinion on the Kings Park West Parks

With the dredging of Royal Lake essentially complete and the lake now starting to fill back in, the Friends of Royal Lake (FoRL) are looking to engage with the Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) regarding important existing and future park facilities and programs. So the question you may ask is, “How can I make my voice heard in assisting FoRL in representing my interests?” – these may range from the maintenance or rehabilitation of current park features to the development of new ones. Well, there are many ways; however, a useful and important first step for FoRL is to gain a better understanding of the community’s interests.

We have developed a short survey that is designed to help us gain that understanding. Our intention is to gather the results of the survey, present them to the community to develop a list of specific prioritized projects, and then present that community list to Supervisor Cook’s office and the FCPA to develop a timeline of park improvements. It should be noted that when we refer to “parks,” we are including Royal Lake Park, Lakeside Park, and the adjoining parks.

Please take a few minutes and complete the survey, which can be found at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/forlsurvey>

Additionally, consider attending the upcoming planning meetings:

- May 11, 2017, Thursday, at 7:30 pm, at **Oak View Elementary School Room 163 (the music room)**
- June 8, 2017, Thursday, at 7:30 pm at **Oak View Elementary School, Room 163 (the music room)**

If you have any questions about the survey or meetings, please contact us at friendsofroyallake@gmail.com.



The 45th Annual CCWC Homes Tour, Silent Auction and Market Place, hosted by the Clifton Community Woman’s Club, will be held Thursday, May 18, 2017. Tour: 9:30 am - 4:00 pm. Silent Auction and Market Place: 9:30 am - 5:00 pm at the Clifton Presbyterian Church. Proceeds from the Tour and Silent Auction benefit local charities and scholarships through the Club’s 501(c)(3) Charitable Trust. Enjoy guided tours of extraordinary homes in Clifton and Fairfax Station, the historic Clifton Primitive Baptist Church, and a wreath-making demonstration at the Clifton Masonic Lodge. Tour Tickets: \$25 in advance, \$30 the day of the tour. Free Admission to Silent Auction and Market Place. Please visit www.cliftoncwc.org or call 703-830-1866. Ticket sales begin in April.





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The Herald's List

by Mary Hovland and Cathy DeLoach

May Contest - Win Window Washing!

Put on your thinking caps and get those creative juices a-flowing. Our May Contest offers a great prize: Free window washing provided by E&R Services, (703) 932-8087.



Contestants must write a cinquain, a five-line poem that adheres to the following content and syllabic guidelines:

Line A: One vague or general one-word subject or topic - two syllables.

Line B: Two vivid adjectives that describe the topic - four syllables.

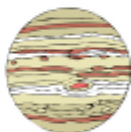
Line C: Three interesting "-ing" action verbs that fit the topic - six syllables.

Line D: Four-word phrase that captures a feeling about the topic - eight syllables.

Line E: A very specific term that explains Line A - two syllables.

Examples:

Planet
Graceful, ringed
Spinning, whirling, twirling
Dances with neighbor Jupiter
Saturn



Insect
Hidden, hungry
Preening, searching, stalking
Waiting peacefully and praying
Mantis



The Kings Park West Herald's List Facebook Page is an interactive community resource for KPW residents. Requests and recommendations come in daily, and offers searchability and immediate access to recommendations. Post your own requests or recommendations.

www.facebook.com/groups/HeraldsList



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Invasive Species Profile: Wax-Leaf Privet (*Ligustrum japonicum*)By Greg Sykes (greg@grsykes.com)**Genus Native Range:** Japan and Korea**U.S. Introduction:** Early 1800s**Life Cycle:** Perennial shrub**Means of Spreading:** Berries, eaten by birds which pass the seeds; some suckering**Commercially Available:** Yes**Control Method:** Hand-pull seedlings and saplings. Mature bushes may require mechanical tools, such as a Weed Wrench. Cut down large shrubs leaving two feet of defoliated branches; continue manually removing new growth until the plant dies (takes approximately two years).**Good Alternative Species:** Members of *Kalmia*, great rhododendron (*Rhododendron maximum*), American holly (*Ilex opaca*)

The previous Eco-Article examined [Chinese privet](#) and the problems it causes in Northern Virginia. Keeping with the olive-themed Invasive Species Profiles, this edition sheds light on the wax-leaf privet (*Ligustrum japonicum*). Also called Japanese privet, this ornamental shrub came to America shortly after 1800. The thick, glossy leaves remain evergreen. The deep green foliage densely covers the branches. All privets possess leaf pairs appearing opposite each other along the stem. Wax-leaf privet is used either in hedges or as a solitary specimen. Like Chinese privet, wax-leaf privet blossoms in late spring and produces berries lasting into the fall and winter. However, the fruits and leaves are toxic to people, pets, and most native wildlife, except for some bird species capable of eating the berries. These birds subsequently spread the seeds, thereby helping wax-leaf privet become an unrestrained weed. Native to Japan and Korea, wax-leaf privet lacks adequate biological and climatic controls in the southeastern United States, where it escaped cultivation and invades woodlands, meadows, and other natural areas. Though not as pervasive in Northern Virginia as Chinese privet, Invasive Management Area (IMA) volunteers routinely encounter and remove wax-leaf privet before this weed completely infests Fairfax County parks.

For evergreen alternatives to wax-leaf privet, consider native azalea relatives (not the ubiquitous evergreen Asian hybrids), such as great rhododendron (*Rhododendron maximum*), mountain laurel (*Kalmia latifolia*), or sheep laurel (*K. angustifolia*) integrated into the hedge or as an individual bush.

To join one of Royal Lake's IMA site leaders on a workday, please contact any or all of us asking to be on our volunteer distribution list(s):

Angela Thornburgh – anthornburgh@gmail.comMaryAnne Boyer – nickmaryanne@yahoo.comSuzanne Doherty – jewelboxgardensbysuzanne@gmail.comGreg Sykes – greg@grsykes.com

For more information on wax-leaf privets:

<http://www.invasiveplantatlas.org/subject.html?sub=3034><https://www.fs.fed.us/database/feis/plants/shrub/ligspp/all.html><https://www.ncsu.edu/goingnative/howto/mapping/inverse/privets.html>

Weakley, Alan S., J. Christopher Ludwig, and John F. Townsend. 2012. *Flora of Virginia*. BRIT Press, Fort Worth, TX. pp. 1554. floraofvirginia.org

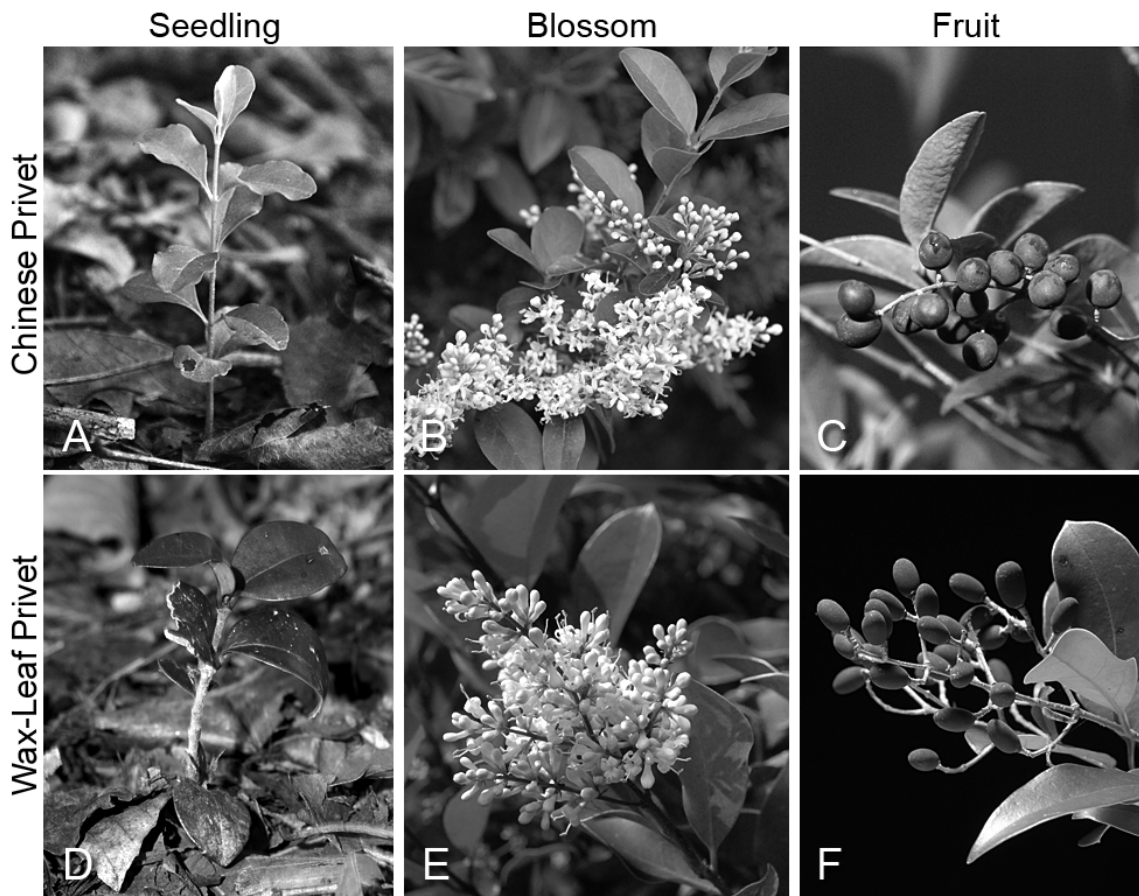


Figure 1. These images compare Chinese and wax-leaf privets. Their seedlings (A, D) look like miniature versions of the mature plants. Next to not planting any privets at all, identifying and pulling these weeds at this early stage is the second easiest way to stop them from spreading. Both species' sweet smelling flowers bloom in early June (B, E), but the ripened fruits (C, F) cling to the branches during the autumn and winter months.

* * * * *

For further reading and links to additional resources, see the full article by scanning the QR code with your smart phone or go to: http://www.grsykes.com/pdf/eco-articles/74_2017-04.pdf



Concerts at Good Shepherd

Concert Series 2017

Choral Arts Chamber Singers

Sunday, May 21, 2017 ~ 6 p.m.



The chamber ensemble from the nationally renowned Choral Arts Society of Washington, under the direction of Scott Tucker, will present a program of music from Renaissance to contemporary. The Choral Arts Chamber Singers have performed throughout the region and will be featured on the concert series at the historic Dumbarton Church and the Choral Arts Society.

* A special feature is a free reception with an opportunity to meet and mingle with performers and enjoy fabulous appetizers.



The Church of the Good Shepherd

www.good-shepherd.net

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703-323-5400

Get Off the Couch

A roundup of family friendly weekend events around the region...

April 29-30

Virginia Touch-a-Truck

Big rigs, fire engines, and more! Kids of all ages can climb on and in big trucks and service vehicles. Saturday only, 10 am – 3 pm. First hour is "horn free". Ages 13 months and older \$5. First 300 kids receive a free die-cast vehicle. At Dominion High School, 21326 Augusta Drive, Sterling. virginiatouchatruck.com

Shenandoah Apple Blossom Festival

Festival runs through May 7th. Bloomin' Wine Fest, carnival with midway and other events. Prices vary. Carnival is open noon – 11 pm, Saturday, noon – 10 pm, Sunday. In Winchester. thebloom.com/

May 6-7

Revolutionary War Weekend

Experience life during the Revolutionary War. Over 700 reenactors will be in action on the grounds of Mount Vernon. Visit soldiers in their camps, inspect the troops, and view battles. 9 am – 5 pm, Saturday and Sunday. Included with regular admission to Mt. Vernon. mountvernon.org/

Around the World Embassy Tour

See Embassies and Consulates of countries around the world as part of Passport DC. Food, art, dance, fashion, and music from more than 45 participating countries. Saturday only 10 am – 4 pm. *FREE* Throughout NW Washington. (It's recommended that you bring a government-issued ID). culturaltourismdc.org

May 13-14

The 15th Heritage India Festival

South Asian culture and heritage will be celebrated. Dance competitions, food, shopping and kids' activities. Admission is \$5, children age five and under are free. Saturday noon – 9 pm, Sunday noon – 7 pm. At Dulles Expo Center. hifestival.com/

May 20-21

Shortcut to Europe Embassy Tour

The member nations of the European Union open their doors during Passport DC. Enjoy dance, food, film, and art of 28 European countries, including Portugal, the United Kingdom, Belgium, Germany, Poland and Greece. Even little Luxembourg gets its day in the sun. Saturday only 10 am – 4 pm. *FREE* Throughout NW Washington. (It's recommended that you bring a government-issued ID). culturaltourismdc.org

Taste of Arlington

Ballston hosts the annual Taste of Arlington food festival. Food vendors, kids' zone, beer and wine garden, and new this year, a Bark Park with a pop-up off leash dog park. Admission is *FREE* but there is a charge for vendors and some attractions. Sunday only, noon – 6 pm. On Wilson Blvd in Arlington, VA. ballstonbid.com/taste/

Fiesta Asia

In honor of Asian-Pacific Heritage Month, this street fair encourages visitors to explore different cultural experiences. Held in DC along Pennsylvania Avenue. Vendors, performers, martial artists and more will be on hand. Saturday only 11 am – 7 pm. *FREE* www.fiestaasia.org

May 27-28

Opening Weekend for your neighborhood pool! Most pools offer a free trial all weekend. Check the schedule for Ribbon cutting, Cookouts, Movies under the Stars, etc. csc-cudas.com, krswim.org, lakeviewmarlins.com

Delaplane Strawberry Festival

Sky Meadows State Park, Delaplane. Live entertainment, children's games, pony rides, hayrides, petting zoo, 5K fun run, raptor exhibit, antique cars, food, crafts and strawberries. 10 am – 5 pm. \$20 per car in advance and \$25 per car at the gate. www.delaplanestrawberryfestival.com

June 3-4

Greek Festival

Come out for authentic Greek food, desserts, dancing and entertainment, starts Friday at 6 pm. Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church, 3149 Glen Carlyn Road, Falls Church.

Movies on the Potomac

The National Harbor presents the film "Moana" on its huge outdoor screen. The movie starts at 6 pm, Sunday only. *FREE* On the water at National Harbor. <https://www.nationalharbor.com/movies-on-the-potomac/>

June 10-11

Celebrate Fairfax!

The 25-acre site is filled with more than 300 exhibitors, food vendors, and interactive activities. Live concerts on eight stages, a petting zoo, the Fairfax County Karaoke Championship, carnival rides, and great festival foods. celebratefairfax.com

Family Friendly Activities Happening at Mason

Patriot Center www.patriotcenter.com
June 4, 9 - 21: Lots and lots of Graduations scheduled!

Center for the Arts: <http://cfa.gmu.edu/>
April 30: Keyboard Conversations® with Jeffrey Siegel: The Genius of Chopin

Baseball and Softball: <http://gomason.com>

April 24: "Evening Under the Stars" Observatory event: <https://cos.gmu.edu/observatory/>

Summer Camps: <http://summercamps.gmu.edu/>

Mother Knows Best!



Lorem ipsum

“Do your homework, eat your vegetables and ALWAYS call The Mary & Cathy Team for home sales in Kings Park West!”

In the first quarter of 2017, The Mary & Cathy Team successfully marketed the majority of homes sold in Kings Park West. Furthermore, these homes sold 50% faster and for more money than those handled by the other guys. Listen to your mother and call The Mary & Cathy Team. And wash your hands.

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Sold! \$565,000

Duchess

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Under Contract in 4 Days!

Duke

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CARPOOL: KPW to L'Enfant Plaza. 5/4/9 schedule. 6 AM to 3:30 PM, Timely drivers, Riders \$2.50 / ride. Call Bob @ 703-426-2618

EVENING CARPOOL RIDERS FROM PENTAGON

WANTED: Looking for riders to depart Pentagon ~5:30pm. Please contact Brian at (703) 447-0288 or lexlewthor@yahoo.com

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FUN PART TIME JOB FOR MOMS: Local dog walking and pet sitting company is currently seeking fit adults for permanent year round positions. Est in 2007. Love dogs and the outdoors? Come join our dynamic team. Cell phone, internet, flexibility, and a reliable vehicle are a must. Call Abbie at 703 473-9768.

HIRING: Kings Ridge Swim Club is hiring lifeguards and pool operators for the 2017 season. Applicants must have current certification or be in the process of obtaining. (Information on training opportunities available.) Competitive wages for responsible, hardworking applicants. Contact Susan Lemery at SELemery@fcps.edu or Kimberly Sanders at hawkandhoo@verizon.net

KPWCA Scholarship Application

Mail completed form & required information to:

KPWCA Scholarship Committee

PO Box 7114

Fairfax Station, VA 22039-7114

Deadline/postmarked by: May 1st, 2017

The Kings Park West Civic Association will award up to three \$1,000 scholarships to 2017 graduating seniors whose parents or guardians are members in good standing of the Association as of the date of the application. Each scholarship will be awarded on the basis of community service, civic activities and extracurricular service involvement (40%), academic achievement (20%), a written essay (20%), and a personal interview (20%).

Please type or write legibly in ink, for all pieces – particularly emails.

- A. 1. Name _____
2. Address _____ Phone # _____
3. E-mail address: _____
4. Parent/Guardian Name(s) _____
5. Parent Email _____
6. Name of High School _____

- B. On a separate sheet of paper, list your community service, employment or volunteer work, extracurricular service activities, church service or any non-academic honors you have received. List only those activities and awards in high school. Describe these activities and indicate your level and # of years of involvement, including leadership responsibilities.
- C. Following this list, write an essay, not to exceed 350 words, about your involvement in one or more of these service activities. The Kings Park West Civic Association is looking for individuals who are providing or have provided exemplary service to the community, our country or to the world. Tell us why you chose to do the work you did, what you have learned from the experience and how you believe you have contributed to others.
- D. Attach an official transcript in sealed school stationery, authenticated by the school transcript official. Transcript will include your grades covering the first seven semesters of high school.
- E. Attach a copy of your SAT or ACT test scores.
- F. If you choose, attach information about financial hardships of which you wish the committee to be aware.

Semifinalists will be asked to come for a personal interview on May 10th or May 11th, 2017.

Finalists will be recognized during the Robinson Senior Awards Ceremony on June 14, 2017 at 4pm.

This application must be signed by the applicant and his/her parent or guardian. Applicants will be disqualified if application instructions are not followed or the application is incomplete.

The student's information may be used as a possible nomination by KPWCA for a Best of Braddock Awards. These awards are given annually by the Braddock District Council and Supervisor Cook in recognition of those who contribute to the betterment of life and services in the Braddock District.

We understand that in applying for the scholarship we agree to abide by the terms stipulated.

Signature of applicant

Signature of parent or guardian