



April 2018

Vol. 48, Issue 3

Kings Park West Civic Association

Greetings!

I hope you had a chance to attend the annual Easter Egg Hunt on March 18th. Many happy families hunted for colorful eggs and enjoyed a special visit from the Easter Bunny. We were fortunate that the weather cooperated this year, although the temperature was cooler than average – that seems to be our spring weather pattern this year. Many thanks to Dawn Cassidy and Cub Scout Pack 1967 for planning and hosting such a fun event for the community again this year. This is the fifth year that Dawn and Pack 1967 have coordinated this awesome event! We appreciate the continued support.

The Northern Virginia Training Center Task Force has been busy meeting and attending field trips to help gather information on the potential development of the former training center located at Braddock Road and Burke Station Road to an Erickson Continuing Care Retirement Community. Areas of interest include building density, building height, and potential impacts on traffic are being reviewed by the task force. There will be a community meeting hosted by Supervisor Cook on the Northern Virginia Training Center/Erickson project on April 23, 2018 at 7:00 pm in the Robinson Gold Cafeteria.

The scholarship committee is also busy working on the 2018 scholarship program, with applications being due on May 6th. The Civic Association will award up to three \$1,000 scholarships to 2018 graduating seniors whose parents or guardians are members of the Association. Please find the scholarship application within The Herald and on the Civic Association webpage. We encourage our KPW high school seniors to apply.

I am excited to announce that the KPWCA Volunteer Appreciation Dinner and Members Meeting (to follow) will be held on Tuesday, May 1st. The Board is anxious to see all our awesome volunteers. I hope you will plan on attending this event and join us for pizza, salad and desserts. Please mark your calendars, as it is a time to celebrate!

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner
Tuesday, May 1 at 6:30 pm ***Members Meeting at 7:30 pm***
Laurel Ridge Cafeteria

A special improvement project was recently completed. KPWCA was the fortunate recipient of an Eagle Scout Project from Nicholas Boyer of Boy Scout Troop 1115, who constructed and installed shelving in the KPWCA shed. This project improves the organization and storage of our supplies and materials for use at our sponsor events. We are truly grateful for this great Eagle Scout project; this enhancement will assist in our setup/takedown of community events in the future.

Sincerely, Jeanmarie Roberson

Community Calendar	
Volunteer Appreciation Dinner.....	May 1
KPWCA Membership Meeting.....	May 1
Citizen Advisory Council.....	May 1
Spring Dumpster Day.....	May 5
Scholarship Deadline.....	May 6
KPWCA Community Yard Sale....	May 6
Braddock District Council.....	May 9
Mother's Day.....	May 13
KPWCA Board Meeting.....	May 15
Memorial Day.....	May 28
Herald Deadline.....	May 30
Citizen Advisory Council.....	Jun 5
Braddock District Council.....	Jun 13
Herald Delivery.....	Jun 16

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
	Jonathan Reiser	571-423-8030

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	Jeanmarie Roberson 703-425-1286
	Keith Jodoin kjodoin@gmail.com
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

Community Association	Info@kpwca.org
	KPWHOAA@yahoo.com

How Do I Advertise in The Herald?

CLASSIFIEDS: KPWCA Newsletter classified advertisements for the June 16th issue must be received no later than May 30th 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 30, 2018
 for delivery on June 16, 2018

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

Herald Classified Ads Coordinator: *2-4 hours per issue.* Receives and organizes all classified ads by coordinating communication with interested parties, manages and submits fees, and maintains the ads and payment records database. Please contact classified@kpwca.org or call 703-459-4577.

Herald Display Ads Coordinator: *2-3 hours per issue.* Coordinates communication with interested parties for business ads, manages and submits fees, and maintains the payment records database. Please contact editor@kpwca.org.

KPWCA Sign Posting: *30 minutes per month.* KPWCA maintains three signs that serve to keep KPW residents informed of community activities. We have a team for each sign and would like to add a member to each team. Responsibility is to post announcements provided by the KWPCA Board periodically throughout the year.

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.* 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 at www.grsykes.com/main.php?page=32. Send an e-mail to greg@grsykes.com and ask to be on the volunteer distribution list.

Public Meeting on the Northern Virginia Training Center (NVTC) Site

There will be a community meeting on the future of the NVTC site on April 23, 2018 in the Robinson Gold Cafeteria at 7:00 pm.

The property was purchased by Erickson Living, a provider of senior living retirement communities, in late 2017. Braddock District Supervisor John Cook convened a task force to ensure Braddock District residents are involved in the consideration of uses for the redevelopment of the property. The task force is gathering community input regarding building heights and density, impact on traffic, and potential community uses (playgrounds, parks, ballfields, affordable housing, etc.) for some part of the property. These items (and many others) will be discussed at the meeting, and community input is welcome.

I hope to see you at Robinson on April 23rd for this important meeting.

Frank Cumberland
NVTC Site Task Force Member

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A Cup of Tea for Mom and Me

Girl Scout Unit 54-15 is inviting all girls and their mothers (or another special adult) to a Mother Daughter Tea event for girls that are rising kindergartners and older at St. Stephens Church in the Fellowship Hall.

This event is for both active Girl Scouts and non-Girl Scout families.

This is a free event! There will be a mother/daughter photo booth, tea and lemonade, plus a buffet of fruit, dessert, and tea sandwiches. We will have a fun craft for each mother/daughter set to present to each other as gifts.

Please RSVP: www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0F48A4A72BA31-mother

Questions? Contact Terra Wathen at gstroop1356@gmail.com

~ **Cut out and give to your mother as a delightful Mother's Day present** ~

You are invited to:

A Cup of Tea for Mom and Me



RSVP: www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0F48A4A72BA31-mother

Kings Park West 2ND Ever Remodeled Homes Tour Fundraiser for KPW Pools

By Tony Vellucci

Have you ever driven by a home in KPW and seen all the activity on the outside as a remodeling takes place on the inside? The dumpster is there in the driveway, and each day it fills up with something – like a cabinet or toilet that looks just like the cabinets or toilets in your house. Do you ever wonder how other folks have remodeled that kitchen or bathroom in the same model as yours? We do too! Now is your chance to see the inside with a KPW homes tour!

The first KPW Remodeled Homes Tour was held in September 2009, and the proceeds went to benefit the Katie Thelin Playground at Royal Lake Park. It was an unqualified success, and over the years, several KPW residents have asked when there will be another one. Well, this is it.

It's here, and it's tomorrow – April 22nd – from 12:00 – 5:00 pm.

Sponsored by Mary & Cathy, the proceeds from the event will go to our three KPW community pools – Commonwealth Swim Club, Lakeview Swim Club, and Kings Ridge Swim Club. Each will receive 30% of the proceeds – the remaining 10% will go to the Civic Association (KPWCA) as a donation requesting the Park Authority to install a sign for our community's namesake park – Kings Park West Park on Commonwealth Boulevard.

Tickets will be on sale today, April 21st, at Commonwealth and Gainsborough (four-way stop) from 2:00 – 4:00 pm, and also tomorrow, April 22nd, from 12:00 - 2:00 pm. Tickets are \$20.00 per person, or \$30.00 for two. Checks should be made payable to KPW Special Events. This is made possible by the wonderful homeowners, our neighbors in KPW, who have so generously offered to open their homes to ticket holders. A listing of homes will be sent by email to all who sign up at least 48 hours beforehand so you can plan your route. For those who sign up at the last minute, we'll have hard copies for your use.

So come on out! See other KPW homes! Meet your KPW neighbors! And support our KPW community pools!



Adventures 'N Learning – Spring 2018

Join the Shepherd's Center of Fairfax every Monday for six weeks, April 9th – May 14th (9:30 am – 2:45 pm). We start with gentle exercise, followed by speakers on topics such as health, history, community, personal development, finance, and more. Afternoon breakouts are book club, and bridge or canasta. *Bring a brown bag lunch.* Lord of Life Lutheran Church, at 5114 Twinbrook Road in Fairfax, is providing space and hosting this series of classes. The cost is \$30 for six weeks (on Mondays). To register, please call the office at (703) 426-2824, or go to our website and print the registration form and class schedule: www.scfbva.org.

Dementia Caregiver Support Groups

Shepherd's Center of Fairfax-Burke sponsors a monthly meeting on the second Tuesday of *each month* (noon – 1:30 pm) for caregivers to learn and to share with others experiencing similar challenges. Before attending, contact the facilitator, Eileen Thompson, at (703) 451-8626 or Eileen.thompson1@gmail.com.

REAL ESTATE CORNER

by Mary and Cathy



Fairfax – With interest rates rising and the inventory of available homes diminishing, the pace of home sales in Northern Virginia has slowed compared to last year, said Lorraine Arora, the 2018 Northern Virginia Association of Realtors® Chairman of the Board. However, home values are holding, with the median price at \$500,000, and homes are selling at an average of 97.7% of the original listing price.

The limited inventory has resulted in shorter days on market as buyers snap up available homes.



According to the NVAR, "The spring market is just getting started. Prospective sellers can be confident that there are eager buyers in Northern Virginia."

The takeaway? It's great time to sell.

KPW STATS

11 Sold YTD
5 Under Contract
2 Active listings
Average List Price: \$577,926
Average Sold Price: \$573,455

Address	Model	List Price	Sale sPrice	DOM	Status
10329 Commonwealth Blvd	Baron	\$650,000	\$658,000	24	SOLD!
10178 Bessmer	Cromwell	\$569,900	\$562,900	6	SOLD!
4745 Fardon Ct	Cromwell	\$549,000	\$530,000	88	SOLD!
10307 Nantucket Ct	Cromwell	\$575,000			Under Contract
10206 Bessmer Ln	Duchess	\$560,000			Under Contract
9702 Commonwealth Blvd	King	\$500,000	\$482,000	76	SOLD!
5102 Pommeroy Dr	Prince	\$524,200	\$521,400	136	SOLD!
10021 Whitefield St	Queen	\$599,900			For Sale
9712 Commonwealth Blvd	Queen	\$529,900	\$521,000	161	SOLD!
5211 Claridge Ct	Queen	\$575,000	\$580,000	7	SOLD!
5307 Stonington Dr	Queen	\$659,000			Under Contract
10023 Eastlake	Queen w/enclosed garage	\$575,000	\$560,000	18	SOLD!
4988 Swinton Dr	Regent	\$585,000	\$584,750	6	SOLD!
5208 Ellington Ct	Regent	\$650,000			Under Contract
5118 Pumphrey Dr	Regent	\$573,000			Under Contract
10028 Eastlake Dr	Regent w/addition	\$725,000	\$735,000	86	SOLD!
5240 Ridge Ct	York	\$499,740			For Sale
5275 Pumphrey Dr	York w/basement	\$525,000	\$521,500	5	SOLD!

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Get Off the Couch*A roundup of family friendly weekend events around the region...***April 28-29****Shenandoah Apple Blossom Festival**

Running through May 6th. It kicks off with the Bloomin' Wine Fest and includes a carnival with midway and other events. Prices vary. Carnival is open noon - 11 pm Saturday, noon - 10 pm Sunday. In Winchester. thebloom.com/

May 5-6**Around the World Embassy Tour – Passport DC**

Get an inside look at Embassies and Consulates of countries around the world. There will be food, art, dance, fashion, and music from more than 40 participating countries. Saturday only 10 am - 4 pm. *FREE* Throughout NW Washington. culturaltourismdc.org

May 12-13**The 15th Heritage India Festival**

South Asian culture and heritage will be celebrated. There will be 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/

European Union Embassy Open House

The member nations of the European Union open their doors during Passport DC. Enjoy dance, food, film, and art of 28 European countries. Saturday only 10 am – 4 pm. *FREE* Throughout NW Washington. (Recommended that you bring a government-issued ID). culturaltourismdc.org

May 19-20**Opening Weekend Commonwealth Swim Club**

Come out for the Grand Reopening at 11 am for the 5K run/walk, raffle drawings, swimming, diving, lawn games, basketball, music, dinner and more. commonwealthswimclub.org

Fiesta Asia

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

Taste of Arlington

Food vendors, kids' zone, beer and wine garden and a Bark Park with a pop-up off leash dog park. Admission to the festival is *FREE* with a charge for vendors and some attractions. Sunday only, noon - 6 pm. Wilson Blvd in Arlington. ballstonbid.com/taste/

May 26-27**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. commonwealthswimclub.org, krswim.org, lakeviewmarlins.com.

Delaplane Strawberry Festival

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

June 2-3**Imagination Bethesda**

Children's street festival featuring costume characters, face painters, dance troupes, theatre performances and hands-on arts activities. *FREE* Saturday 10 am - 3 pm. Bethesda, MD. www.bethesda.org/bethesda/imagination-bethesda

Herndon Festival

Downtown Herndon. The free summer festival features live entertainment, international foods, carnival rides and games, children's entertainment, a business exposition, 10k & 5k races, a Fitness expo, fireworks and more. www.herndonfestival.net/

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.

June 9-10**Celebrate Fairfax!**

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

June 16-17**Taste of Reston**

At Reston Town Center, voted "Northern Virginia's Best Food Festival" by Virginia Living magazine. Great food, live entertainment on three stages, the Family Fun Zone! and the Wine 'n Dine area. PARKING IS FREE.

Family Friendly Activities Happening at Mason

Patriot Center www.patriotcenter.com

Congratulation to all families attending graduation ceremonies this month!

Center for the Arts: cfa.gmu.edu/

April 29: Keyboard Conversations@ with Jeffrey Siegel: *Bach and Chopin - A Musical Kinship*

Baseball and Softball: gomason.com

April 23: "Evening Under the Stars" Observatory event: cos.gmu.edu/observatory/

Summer Camps: summercamps.gmu.edu/





GMU Pantry Update

By Mary Crowder

On the 4th, my neighbor and I delivered 160.7 pounds of food to the Patriot Pantry. This brings our total donations to 1,492.1 pounds.

High-need items are protein bars, chips, crackers, shakes, shampoo, conditioner, shaving supplies, toilet paper, laundry pods, canned fruit, pasta and pasta sauce, mac & cheese, and small cereal bowls. Of course, you may have other ideas about what a student would like. They say we always bring interesting items!

I check the bin on my front porch daily and deliver the donations at least once a month. Thank you so much for your generosity!



**Improve our Park Trails
Saturday May 19th, 8 am – 12 pm**

The Friends of Royal Lake, Kings Park West Civic Association & Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) are holding a joint workday to improve the circuit trail around Royal Lake.

Please come and join your friends and neighbors for a morning of park trail improvement. Our park volunteers will work with FCPA employees who will provide the equipment and material to improve the trail.

On May 19th, we will meet at the Royal Lake Park parking lot at 8 am.

High school students can earn service hours.

For more information on volunteering for this activity please contact Paul Gross at friendsofroyallake@gmail.com.

St. Mary's Spring Sale
5222 Sideburn Drive
Gifts and Bake Sale
Mother's and Father's Day Gifts
Plus Spring and Baby Gifts
SAT – May 5 – 4 to 6 pm
SUN – May 6 – 9 am to 2 pm

EARTH DAY CARNIVAL
SATURDAY, APRIL 21
12-4 PM - RAIN OR SHINE!



Celebrate Earth Day with Lord of Life Preschool! There will be crafts, games, a bounce house, a recycling truck, insect collections, a presentation by a Nature Center and much more. Lunch and snacks will be available for purchase. Proceeds benefit the Fairfax Preschool Playground.

Cost: \$10 per family



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- **Championship-winning NVSL Swim & Dive Teams**
- Longest daily hours in Kings Park West!

Lakeview Marlins Swim & Dive
ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Friday, April 27, 2018 7:00- 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
- Meet the coaches and team members

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

The 46th Annual

Clifton Homes Tour

Hosted by the Clifton Community Woman's Club to benefit our 501(c)(3) Charitable Trust

May 18, 2018



Tour: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Tickets: \$25 in advance, \$30 the day of the tour

Silent Auction:
 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
 Free Admission
 Clifton Presbyterian Church

Proceeds benefit local scholarships, charities and food banks.

- ❖ Tour Four Elegant Clifton Homes
- ❖ Visit Two Historic Clifton Churches
- ❖ Shop at the Silent Auction, Wreath Sale and Trinkets and Treasures at Clifton Presbyterian Church

www.cliftoncwc.org or kaygilbert@cox.net

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Kings Ridge Swim Club

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Invasive Species Profile: Yellow Archangel (*Lamiaeum galeobdolon*)

By Greg Sykes (greg@grsykes.com)

Native Range: Europe and western Asia

U.S. Introduction: exact date is uncertain; brought as an ornamental

Life Cycle: perennial vine

Means of Spreading: underground root growth (stolons); seeds

Commercially Available: yes, though some states ban it

Control Method: hand-pull small patches, ensuring to remove all root fragments. Large, established plots may need glyphosate-based herbicidal application for effective eradication.

Good Alternative Species: [wild strawberry \(*Fragaria virginiana*\)](#), green-and-golds (*Chrysogonum virginianum*), Virginia waterleaf (*Cornus amomum*), marsh marigold (*Caltha palustris*), and golden Alexander (*Zizia aurea*), native mints (*Pycnanthemum* sp.)



Figure 1. Another common name for *Lamiaeum galeobdolon* is “aluminum plant” since the foliage’s variegation casts a metallic sheen (A). Yellow archangel blooms in April (B). The squared stems and opposite leaves help to indicate it is a mint relative.

Comments: There was a time when gardeners looking for a plant with attractive foliage and pretty flowers would choose yellow archangel (*Lamiaeum galeobdolon*, previously under the genus *Lamium*). After all, this predominantly European species spreads readily and is easy-to-grow, adapting to many soil conditions and any amount of sun or shade. Therein lies the problem: yellow archangel, a member of the mint family, Lamiaceae, grows too easily and spreads uncontrollably! Many folks who planted yellow archangel regretted their decision after realizing that the weed is not so much a groundcover as it is a ground smotherer. It rapidly overtakes an immediate area with subterranean runners called stolons. Seeds, up to 800 per plant per year, expand the plant’s coverage even further. Without any natural controls, yellow archangel crowds out most plants except for other non-native invasive species.



Figure 2. This yellow archangel patch grows in Kings Park West Park, within the Royal Lake watershed. It is hemmed in by a creek and other aggressive, non-native invasive weeds, such as [garlic mustard](#) and English ivy.

As if yellow archangel overrunning flowerbeds is not bad enough, it engulfs forest floors, streambanks, and other natural areas with equal ease. This weed often escapes cultivation and enters natural areas through seed dispersal and/or when its stolons extend past the fence line. Another means of proliferation occurs when gardeners pull and illegally dump the live plants into parks and common spaces; the viable plant takes root or seeds germinate and the yellow archangel begins a new conquest.

One way to get rid of yellow archangel, especially while the plot is still small, is by digging it up. This technique requires removing every single bit of root or a new plant will sprout from the root fragment. Properly dispose of it by placing the debris in an opaque plastic bag and throwing it into the trash destined for incineration or the landfill—do not mix it with recyclable yard waste! Since people often miss some of the roots during the first purge, returning and pulling new shoots is the key to eradication. Due to this species tenacity, glyphosate-based herbicide applications are sometimes needed, especially for large patches. The Fairfax County Park Authority targets yellow archangel, with Invasive Management Area (IMA) volunteers using hand-pull techniques and by hiring licensed contractors to treat plots with herbicides.

Achieving an appearance or function similar to *Lamium* is easily accomplished with native species. The spotted foliage on Virginia waterleaf (*Cornus amomum*) provides interesting leaf colorations. For groundcovers, consider [wild strawberry \(*Fragaria virginiana*\)](#) or green-and-golds (*Chrysogonum virginianum*)—the latter sports yellow flowers, too! Golden Alexander (*Zizia aurea*) is not a true groundcover but spreads; its blossoms emerge in the spring. Canary-colored petals also punctuate the vernal efflorescence of a terrific clumping plant, marsh marigold (*Caltha palustris*). Gardeners desiring Virginia native mints can choose from many species, especially the mountain mints (*Pycnanthemum* sp.) such as the short-toothed mountain mint (*P. muticum*) and hoary mountain mint (*P. incanum*).

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.com
 Mary Anne Boyer – nickmaryanne@yahoo.com
 Suzanne Doherty – jewelboxgardensbysuzanne@gmail.com
 Greg Sykes – greg@grsykes.com

More information on yellow archangel is at:

<https://www.invasiveplantatlas.org/subject.html?sub=14085>
<https://www.invasive.org/browse/subinfo.cfm?sub=14085>
<http://www.badplants.com/show/plant/Yellow-Archangel/489>
<https://www.kingcounty.gov/services/environment/animals-and-plants/noxious-weeds/weed-identification/yellow-archangel.aspx>
<http://goodoak.com/info/weeds/yellowarchangel.pdf>
http://www.shim.bc.ca/invasivespecies/_private/yellowarchangel.htm
<http://www.oregon.gov/ODA/shared/Documents/Publications/Weeds/YellowArchangelPlantPestRiskAssessment.pdf>
<https://davesgarden.com/guides/articles/view/920/>

Packham, J.R. 1983. Biological flora of the British Isles. *British Ecological Society* 71(3):975-997.

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The Herald's List

by Mary Hovland and Cathy DeLoach

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“Spring” Park Clean-Up was a Chilly Success!

By Sarah Lennon

The KPW Civic Association’s Parks & Lake Spring Clean-Up that took place on April 7th was well-attended; we removed dozens upon dozens of bags of trash from the parks, lake and stream beds! As the threat of an historic spring snowfall faded, more than 60 individuals turned out in the grey and windy cold to give Mother Nature a much-needed spring cleaning. Students from George Mason University and Robinson Secondary School joined Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and other dedicated members of our neighborhood, including a community-minded team from Target!

We also had new team leads take groups to targeted areas to hit the trash hot spots; thank you to Greg Sykes for making this idea a reality. Some other new features of the semi-annual clean-up were a nature/trash scavenger hunt for kids of all ages organized by Girl Scout senior troop 1733, and a fun fair which included an egg toss, arranged by the Mary and Cathy team and supported by a great trio from the Kings Ridge Swim Club once the clean-up was done. They also provided food from My Favorite Muffin. Raffle prizes were donated from more local businesses than ever before, including Oh George!, Orangetheory Fitness, Tropical Smoothie Café, Sun & Moon Yoga, World Karate, Anytime Fitness, Target, and University Mall Theatres; Giant and McAlister’s donated drinks. So please thank those establishments with your patronage!

Also, as a part of the clean-up, five brave KPW residents – Mike DeLoach, Sarah Francia, Tom McCook, Tony Vellucci, and Leanna Wilson – kicked off the Mud, Muck and Water Brigade; they started at Crooked Creek Park and made their way downstream along the banks and in Rabbit Branch stream picking up trash along the way. The bold brigade found several fallen trees and logs that acted as barriers where plastic bottles, cans and tennis balls had been trapped. Climbing over the trees and logs, they were able to extract a significant amount of trash before it got to Royal Lake. A second outing is being planned now for early May, again starting at Crooked Creek Park and heading upstream to Braddock Road. Be sure to watch Facebook, NextDoor, and the KPWCA website to get the details.

The Fall Clean-Up and Community Fun Day will be in the October timeframe, and we hope to see many of you then!



Pack 1967 News

Cub Scout Pack 1967 participated in three exciting events during March of 2018. Several dens joined together on March 3rd to take a tour of the rock quarry in Lorton. The boys had a fabulous time donning “hard hats” and exploring the massive excavating machinery. We would like to extend a big thank you to the Vulcan Materials Company for being such generous and educational hosts!

Pack 1967’s speed and show category first place winners from each den competed in the Patriot District Pinewood Derby on March 10. Four of our twelve competitors placed and received a trophy:



Nicholas Glaze - 1st Place Speed Tigers
 Sam Corley - 3rd Place Show Bears
 Chris Jones - 3rd Place Speed Bears
 John Laun - 1st Place Show AOL

On March 18, Cub Scout Pack 1967 was proud to once again host the annual Kings Park West Egg Hunt. Neighborhood children enjoyed festivities and scooped up lots of eggs from the field at Lakeside Park during the event.



Come join us! Pack 1967 meets monthly, generally on the second Wednesday evening of the month. Individual dens (boys of the same age) meet about twice a month on a selected day to work on achievements, participate in projects, and have fun together. If you have a child in grades K-5 and would like more information about joining our pack, please email us at CubScout.Pack.1967@gmail.com.



THE GARDEN CORNER*By Charlie Boring*

For this article, I would like to describe my latest gardening project, growing artichokes in Kings Park West. You might question the advisability of this endeavor, since you have probably read that most artichokes consumed in the U.S. are grown in California, a much milder climate than Northern Virginia. I was drawn to try this crop when I read that Thomas Jefferson had grown artichokes at Monticello in Northern Virginia. Jefferson brought artichokes to Virginia from France and Italy. If he could do it in the 1700s, I thought that I should give it a go as well.

The first step, as in planting anything, was to decide what variety of artichoke to plant. The most popular variety in the U.S. is the globe artichoke, probably followed by the imperial. During my recent trip to Italy, I saw a variety called the Italian Purple Artichoke and decided to try that one. I ordered my seeds online from Sustainable Seeds around the beginning of the year and received them in seven days.

In order to grow artichokes in a colder climate, like Northern Virginia, you have basically two choices: you can grow them as an annual, or you can grow them in containers as a perennial. In order to grow them as a perennial, you will need to place them in a protected space during the winter, such as a garage or enclosed shed, to prevent them from freezing. Artichokes require a long growing season, so I planned to germinate them inside under lights, and transplant them into their final home in early March. A requirement to get the plants to flower in the first year is to expose the plants to temperatures below 50 degrees, but above freezing, for 90-120 hours.

I obtained ten plastic solo cups from Marisa's picnic basket, punched drainage holes in the bottom, filled them with a potting soil that I had microwaved for six minutes to kill possible soil microbes, and planted two seeds per cup about half an inch deep on January 15. I placed the cups on a root warmer in a small greenhouse in my basement under two daylight-quality shop lights for twelve hours per day. By January 25, the artichokes had germinated; 16 of the total 22 seeds germinated.

I am going to plant eight of the plants into my backyard raised garden bed. I will also plant a few on the south side of my house among my landscape plants. I should have about four left, and I am going to try to plant them into containers and grow them as perennials. For containers, I found a great buy on Amazon, a pack of six 10-gallon fabric container bags for \$10.00.

Before transplanting the tiny plants into the garden, you need to "harden them." That means that you place them outside in the sun, wind and temperatures (above frost) for increasing periods of time, gradually getting them accustomed to the outside environment. I start with one hour for a couple of days, then two hours, three hours and finally four hours before transplanting them. Seven to eight days is enough.

Artichokes need at least eight hours of sun per day, so pick your transplant location accordingly. A plant can grow five feet across and five feet tall, so leave about three feet between plants. Artichokes are heavy feeders, so they need very rich soil. Preparation of the soil in my raised bed includes tilling and removing other plants and roots and application of about three inches of leaf mulch obtained from the Fairfax Transfer Center. I will also add three bags of humus and manure purchased at Home Depot for about \$3.50 per bag.

Finally, before transplanting, I will dig a one-foot diameter hole and fill it with a mixture of one-part peat moss, one-part composted cow manure, two tablespoons of azurite, two tablespoons of Epsom salts, a cup of blood meal fertilizer and a half cup of bone meal fertilizer. A similar mixture will be used for the containers.

I hope to harvest at least three artichokes per plant, if not more. It is going to be a lot of fun! I will publish an update later in the year.

Happy gardening.

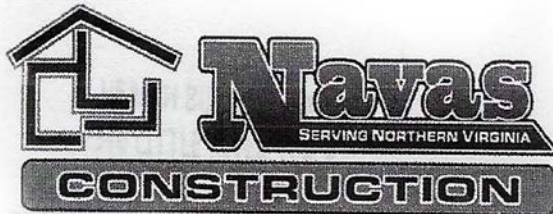
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KPWCA Scholarship Application

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Deadline/postmarked by: May 6th, 2018

The Kings Park West Civic Association will award up to three \$1,000 scholarships to 2018 graduating seniors whose parents or guardians are members in good standing of the KPW Civic Association as of the deadline of the application, May 6th, 2018. 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%). This scholarship is open to seniors who are enrolling in a 4-year college/university, 2-year college, trade or technical training, or formalized Gap Year program.

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 panel interview on May 16th or May 17th, 2018.

Finalists will be recognized during the Robinson Senior Awards Ceremony on June 6th, 2018 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, including current membership with KPWCA 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