

August 2019

Vol. 49, Issue 5

Kings Park West Civic Association

Summer is the time to get out around the community and enjoy our many neighborhood amenities.

Our three neighborhood pools are busy with fun activities, and are a great way to cool off from the summer heat. Or, maybe you have had a chance to stop by the Braddock Nights Summer Concerts at Royal Lake (5344 Gainsborough Drive) on Friday evenings from 7:30-8:30 pm. By the time this edition of The Herald is on your doorstep, there will be one concert remaining in the season. The Pietasters will perform on August 23rd, wrapping up the summer season. I hope you have enjoyed this fun summer community event.

Also, many volunteers continued their good work to keep the community vibrant and well maintained this summer. The Friends of Royal Lake continued with improvements to the trail around Royal Lake, improving the trail from Lakeside Park towards the Lakeview Pool vicinity. The annual fall lake cleanup will be held on September 21, 2019 this year to coincide with International Coastal Cleanup day. The KPW Road Raiders, who focus on cleaning specific spots throughout KPW, meet on the second Saturday of the month from September through June. Organized by Tom McCook, the next meeting is on September 14 at 7:30 am at Roberts Road and Commonwealth Boulevard. And the new KPWCA signboards were recently installed in three key locations around the community. We are excited about a developing scouting project for landscaping beds to enhance the area around these signboards. Many thanks to all of our volunteers!

The KPWCA Annual Fall Membership Meeting will be held on **September 24, 2019 at 7:30 pm at the Recital Hall, Robinson Secondary**. Please mark your calendar for this important meeting. We will review for approval the 2020 budget, elect the Member-at-Large Board position, and vote on a bylaw amendment. It is important that we have a quorum of at least twenty-five members at the meeting. I encourage you to please attend, but if you cannot make it, please fill out a proxy form and give it to a neighbor or Board member who is attending.

The 2020 budget is published within this edition of The Herald. It is the recommendation of the Board that the annual membership dues be increased to \$25 to continue to provide the funds for the Association programs. Please refer to the article by Jim Mays, KPWCA Treasurer, within for the specifics and take a moment to look over the budget.

Community Calendar	
KPWCA Board Meeting.....	Aug 20
Labor Day.....	Sep 2
Citizen Advisory Council.....	Sep 3
Herald Deadline.....	Sep 4
Braddock District Council.....	Sep 11
KPWCA Board Meeting.....	Sep 17
Herald Delivery.....	Sep 21
Autumn Begins.....	Sep 23
KPWCA Membership Meeting.....	Sep 24
Membership Drive Begins.....	Oct 1
Herald Deadline.....	Oct 2
KPW Community Yard Sale.....	Oct 5
Braddock District Council.....	Oct 9

Continued on Page 3

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	Mike Stonkey	703-509-9725
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

Common Grounds Maintenance
 Laura Hall 703-978-6641

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

Communications

Herald Newsletter:
 Content Editor Leah Larson-Taylor 703-283-0208
 Communications Editor Sara Rezk 571-277-0782
 Herald Advertising and Classifieds
 Gayle Ostrom classified@kpwca.org
 Signboards Adrienne Barna 703-323-0518
 Web Admin Kathy Shifflett website@kpwca.org

Membership
 Mike and Rima Karame membership@kpwca.org

Parks & Lakes	Sarah Lennon	703-978-5608
Invasive Species	Greg Sykes	703-426-8246

Special Activities

Spring Egg Hunt		Pack 1967
Halloween Festival	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">Welcome@kpwca.org
Consumer Affairs	Consumer@kpwca.org
Common Grounds Maintenance	BAGG@kpwca.org
Parks & Lakes	Parks@kpwca.org
Scholarships	Scholarships@kpwca.org

HERALD STAFF

Editor	Editor@kpwca.org
Classifieds	Classified@kpwca.org
Advertising	Classified@kpwca.org

General Information Community Association

Info@kpwca.org
KPWHOA@yahoo.com

How Do I Advertise in The Herald?

CLASSIFIEDS: KPWCA Newsletter classified advertisements for the September 21st issue must be received no later than September 4th by Gayle Ostrom, 4912 Gainsborough Drive, Fairfax, VA 22032, or email classified@kpwca.org. Please print clearly, and include payment to KPWCA. Provide your name, address, and phone number. Rates: \$5 per issue for 35 words. \$40 per year (8 issues/35-word ad). Found items listed free.

ADVERTISEMENTS: KPWCA Newsletter Advertisements are received by Gayle Ostrom; please email classified@kpwca.org 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 September 4, 2019
 for delivery on September 21, 2019

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

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.

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 Tom McCook at trmccook@gmail.com or call 703-839-5205.

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.

Continued from Page 1

It is also time to elect the Member-at-Large Board officer. I am pleased to say that Adrienne Barna and Jonathan Reiser are willing to continue to serve on the Board for another term. Sadly though, Mary Crowder will be stepping down. We are thankful for her valuable contributions and service on the Board. We will need one new nominee for the Member-at-Large position for election to a two-year term. I encourage you to please consider helping. The Member-at-Large assists with general administration of the Board, meeting once a month. You will be joining a committed group of your neighbors focused on promoting community spirit and enhancing the neighborhood. Please contact Mike Stonkey, Vice President, via email at vp@kpwca.org, if you are interested.

Lastly, the Board is also requesting a bylaw amendment to the list of standing committees of the Association. This change is needed to accurately identify the current active committees, which have changed over the years. Please see the article within The Herald detailing the recommended bylaw amendment.

Mike Karame and Cherylyn LeBon of the Membership Committee are excited about the “meet and greet” with the block captains, which will be held before the membership meeting at 6:45 pm on September 24. We have a few block captain vacancies, which is another wonderful volunteer opportunity and a way to meet your neighbors.

Enjoy the rest of the summer! Please contact me at president@KPWCA.org with any questions, concerns or comments.

Best regards,
Jeanmarie Roberson

REAL ESTATE CORNER


by Mary and Cathy



Supply and demand! The number of homes offered for sale this year is down 36% over last year, meaning that buyers are competing for the smaller inventory of available homes. If you've been contemplating a change, it's a great time to sell your Kings Park West home!

YTD KPW Homes Sold: 56
 Average List Price: \$600,385
 Average Sold Price: \$603,366

Model	Status	Address	List Price	Sold Price	Model	Status	Address	List Price	Sold Price
Baron	For Sale	10401 Headyly Ct	\$695,000		Prince	Sold	10001 Eastlake Dr	\$550,000	\$580,000
Baron	Sold	10412 Headyly Ct	\$709,900	\$730,000	Queen	Coming Soon	10124 Commonwealth Blvd	\$719,000	
Baron	Sold	10410 Ashcroft Way	\$699,900	\$705,000	Queen	Sold	10103 Dundalk St	\$614,900	\$590,000
Cromwell	For Sale	5251 Ridge Ct	\$549,900		Queen	Sold	5304 Pommeroy Dr	\$625,000	\$625,000
Duchess	Sold	5307 Richardson Dr	\$580,000	\$580,000	Queen	Sold	4919 Wycliff Ln	\$574,900	\$570,000
Duke	For Sale	5107 Pommeroy Dr	\$629,000		Queen	Under Contract	5119 Lavery Ct	\$595,000	
Duke	For Sale	5361 Gainsborough Dr	\$525,000		Queen	Under Contract	5334 Gainsborough Dr	\$749,500	
Duke	Sold	9606 Commonwealth Blvd	\$490,000	\$470,000	Regent	For Sale	5118 Gainsborough Dr	\$625,000	
Duke	Sold	5311 Richardson Dr	\$599,500	\$599,500	Regent	Sold	5105 Richardson Dr	\$499,500	\$505,000
Duke	Sold	4910 Eland Ct	\$550,000	\$570,000	Regent	Sold	10120 Eastlake Dr	\$650,000	\$650,000
Duke	Sold	5128 Lavery Ct	\$575,000	\$585,000	Regent	Sold	4761 Farndon Ct	\$645,000	\$640,000
Duke	Sold	4905 Wycliff Ln	\$544,000	\$535,000	Regent	Sold	5303 Kaywood Ct	\$619,000	\$622,500
Duke	Under Contract	5004 Wheatstone Dr	\$574,000		Regent	Sold	5315 Stonington Dr	\$585,000	\$580,000
Essex	Sold	5239 Nottinghill Ln	\$599,000	\$599,000	Regent	Under Contract	10197 Wavell Rd	\$650,000	
Essex	Sold	10181 Bessmer Ln	\$649,900	\$666,050	Regent	Under Contract	4907 Gainsborough Dr	\$745,000	
Essex	Sold	4925 Gainsborough Dr	\$549,000	\$549,000	York	Sold	10316 Commonwealth Blvd	\$524,990	\$532,500
King	Sold	5112 Lavery Ct	\$630,000	\$620,000	York	Under Contract	10167 Bessmer Ln	\$599,500	



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Questions?

Please Contact your Troop Organizer:

Leah Fogarty
leahkerkman@gmail.com

Or

Michele Randall, GSCNC
Membership Specialist, GSCNC
mrandall@gscnc.org
703-372-4352

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KPWCA FY20 Draft Budget
James Mays, KPWCA Treasurer

The Board has prepared a draft FY20 budget for the October 1, 2019 to September 30, 2020 Fiscal Year. The FY19 budget and expenditures are on track as of the end of the third quarter.

The FY20 budget is based on this FY's budget income and expenses to date, with several differences. In Fiscal Year 19:

- We replaced three signboards as a special capital improvement project, which was a non-recurring capital improvement cost.
- We have been publishing the KPWCA Directory every other year in odd fiscal years, so that expenditure will not occur in FY20.
- The membership dues are being increased to \$25.00. Besides inflation costs, there are other reasons for the increase. Some examples are:
 - The FY19 participation rate (955 members) was about 200 less than in FY12 (1150 members).
 - In 2014, we decreased scholarships from three to two. However, we are budgeting for three in FY20.
 - We are increasing the Scout budget to account for the increase in BSA participation by girls joining Packs and Troops.
 - Increased on-line payment processing costs from our PayPal account

The draft FY20 budget requires optional donations and/or savings to balance it.

The membership drive allows members to make voluntary donations for community interests. Optional member donations and their expenses are not part of the budget process. We put the optional donations into QuickBooks restricted accounts, and only spend the optional donations for what they were intended.

This year (FY19) our members generously donated to these activities:

All Night Graduation Party Robinson HS Donation	\$1,191.00
All Night Graduation Party Thomas Jefferson HS Donation	\$195.00
Common Grounds Maintenance Donation	\$1,800.00
Fall Halloween Festival Donation	\$471.00
Herald Newsletter Donation	\$894.00
Parks and Lake Donation	\$2,232.00
Scholarship Donation	\$929.00
Scouts Donation	\$660.00
Spring Egg Hunt Donation	\$348.00
Unrestricted Community Donation	\$2,257.00
Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department Donation	\$4,279.00

Total Optional Donations	\$15,256.00

The membership drive required twenty-three deposits in October and November with an average of twenty-six checks and cash on each deposit. More deposits were made in December. Members using PayPal for their dues (184 last year) make Membership Committee and Treasurer duties faster and easier.

The expenses are provided to the end of the third quarter of FY19. Members that would like to see the FY19 actuals and comment on the draft FY20 budget are encouraged to attend the September 24th fall membership meeting at Robinson Secondary Recital Hall at 7:30 pm, where the FY20 budget will be discussed and approved.

Kings Park West Civic Association
Monthly Board Budget Report
FY 19 (October 2018 through September 2019)

	To Date Q 3		
	Oct '18 - Jun 19	FY19	FY20
Income			
Annual Member Dues	18,360.00	19,000.00	23,750.00
Directory Ads-published odd FYs	870.00	200.00	0.00
Herald Classified Ads	791.50	700.00	700.00
Herald Display Ads	6,215.00	8,500.00	8,500.00
Herald Subscriptions	40.00	50.00	50.00
Investment Income	5.45	20.00	10.00
Other Income	0.00	0.00	0.00
Savings/Optional Donations	0.00	28,530.00	2,715.00
Total Income	26,281.95	57,000.00	35,725.00
Gross Profit	26,281.95	57,000.00	35,725.00
Expense			
Admin & Misc Activities			
Bank Charge	0.00	60.00	60.00
BDC of Community Assoc Dues	0.00	100.00	100.00
Insurance-D&O/General Liability	3,595.00	5,000.00	3,600.00
Other Misc Expenses	353.06	150.00	200.00
PayPal Fees	240.95	140.00	275.00
State Corporate Registration	25.00	25.00	25.00
Tax Prep & Filing Fees	99.00	100.00	100.00
Volunteer Appreciation Dinner	342.57	260.00	350.00
Total Admin & Misc Activities	4,655.58	5,835.00	4,710.00
Herald Newsletter Committee			
Herald Administrative Expense	62.06	10.00	100.00
Herald Delivery-\$350/issue	1,750.00	3,000.00	2,800.00
Herald Printing-8 issues	10,458.08	14,000.00	14,200.00
Total Herald Newsletter Committee	12,270.14	17,010.00	17,100.00
Maint of Common Grounds Committ			
Area Maintenance Contract	2,872.00	3,000.00	3,200.00
Beautification & Gardening Grp	137.59	150.00	150.00
Message Board Maintenance	16,800.00	16,800.00	100.00
Utilities	124.79	210.00	180.00
Total Maint of Common Grounds Committ	19,934.38	20,160.00	3,630.00
Membership Committee			
Admin Expenses	152.08	120.00	150.00
Block Capt Appreciat'n-100 blks	0.00	300.00	300.00
Directory Printing-odd FYs, \$3K	3,080.75	3,100.00	0.00
Welcome Package/Marketing	0.00	100.00	100.00
Total Membership Committee	3,232.83	3,620.00	550.00
Special Activities			
Spring/Fall Dumpster Day	1,553.00	1,500.00	1,600.00
Winter Holiday Decortng Contest	0.00	75.00	75.00
Yard of the Month	0.00	100.00	100.00
Total Special Activities	1,553.00	1,675.00	1,775.00
Standing Committees			
Halloween Fall Festival Committ	2,700.03	4,000.00	3,000.00
Parks and Lake Committee	136.43	250.00	300.00
Scholarship Committee	2,000.00	3,000.00	3,050.00
Scholarship Expenses	50.00	50.00	0.00
Spring Egg Hunt Committee	360.20	300.00	360.00
Web and Social Media Committee	115.80	150.00	200.00
Total Standing Committees	5,362.46	7,750.00	6,910.00
Youth Group Support			
Grad Party Robinson HS	250.00	250.00	250.00
Scout Packs and Troop	700.00	700.00	800.00
Total Youth Group Support	950.00	950.00	1,050.00
Total Expense	47,958.39	57,000.00	35,725.00
Net Income	-21,676.44	0.00	0.00

KPWCA Board Offices Open for Nomination

By Michael Stonkey

During August and through September 24th, you can be a nominee (or nominate another KPWCA member) for the three Member-at-Large positions whose two-year terms expire as of our September 24, 2019 meeting.

The nominees must be willing to serve the full term, act on behalf of and for the benefit of KPWCA and its members, and be approved by ballot by the members, or their proxies, present at the meeting.

The incumbents of these positions are Adrienne Barna, Jonathan Reiser, and Mary Crowder. Two of the three incumbents, Adrienne Barna and Jonathan Reiser, are eligible to run for at least one more two-year term and have expressed interest in doing so.

To nominate yourself or someone else prior to the meeting, contact Michael Stonkey, Vice President of KPWCA, at vp@kpwca.org or (703) 509-9725, between now and September 24th, or submit the nomination in person at the meeting.



Recommended Bylaw Changes

By Jeanmarie Roberson, President, KPWCA

The Board requests the membership to approve changing the Standing Committees of the Association. This change requires amending our bylaws. The Board, in conjunction with the Committee chairs, has reviewed how our active committees (that are being sponsored by the Association) differ from our current bylaws. It is therefore the recommendation of the Board that the Standing Committees as listed in our bylaws be updated to reflect the current line of business, thereby aligning with the Association’s annual budget.

The following amendment to the bylaws will be presented for approval at the annual membership meeting on September 24, 2019:

ARTICLE IV - COMMITTEES

Section 1 - Standing Committees

1. The Standing Committees of the Association shall be ~~Beautification and Gardening Group (B.A.G.G.); Communications; Community Support Services;~~ Membership; ~~Neighborhood Watch;~~ Parks and Lake; ~~Signs, Streets, and Sidewalks; and Special Activities.~~; Herald Newsletter; Common Grounds Maintenance; Web & Social Media Communications; Scholarships; Halloween Fall Festival; and Spring Egg Hunt.
2. Committees shall be chaired by an Association member in good standing. A committee chair appointment shall not be effective until approved by the Board of Directors. The appointment shall be for a period terminating at the end of the President's term of office, but the chair shall continue until a successor is appointed and approved.
3. The scope and budget of each standing committee's assignment shall be reviewed and identified ~~in writing~~ by the Board of Directors at the beginning of each fiscal year and provided to the Committee chair.

In order to put this amendment to a vote, we will need a quorum of twenty-five members. If you are unable to attend, I encourage you to consider filling out the proxy form 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 West Civic Association
PROXY FORM**

Each active civic association member as listed on the 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.

JOIN US! – NEW BLOCK CAPTAINS NEEDED

By Mike Karame & Cherylyn Harley LeBon

In preparation for the Civic Association's annual Membership Drive that starts in October, we want to welcome back all our existing block captains, but we need to recruit some new ones! Block captains are necessary for a successful membership drive, and it is a wonderful way to meet your neighbors and make the community even more welcoming. Time commitment will be mostly during the month of October, and will require two to three hours of your time.

The following blocks need captains: Block 1, 7, 8 and 100. However, please keep in mind that some Block Captains have been working multiple blocks, and they could use some help as well! For a listing of all blocks and Block Captains, see pages 13-17 in the most recent KPWCA Directory, or email Mike at membership@kpwca.org.

Please remember that membership in KPWCA is valuable and rewarding for the entire family and community. It is what makes our community so wonderful! Here's a list of a few benefits:

The Herald, our KPWCA newsletter, published eight times a year
Scholarships of \$1,000 for up to three high school seniors of KPWCA members
Dumpster Day
Scout troop sponsorships
Grounds maintenance and improvement around entrances, parks, and lake
Welcome program for new residents
Community social events - Halloween party and Spring Egg Hunt
And much more!

SAVE THE DATE:

Block Captains will gather at 6:45 pm before the KPWCA Membership meeting on September 24, 2019, at the Robinson Secondary School Recital Hall. Please come and meet your fellow block captains and neighbors.

The Herald's List

by Mary Hovland and Cathy DeLoach

Decluttering Contest to Continue!!!!

It has been so inspiring to read about all the de-cluttering projects taking place in Kings Park West this summer. If you haven't checked it out yet, head on over to the Facebook Kings Park West Herald's List page. Our neighbors have been sorting, cleaning and culling all summer long. And winning prizes!!!

Due to the popularity of this contest, we are continuing it through the last week in August. So post your before and after photos, organization tips, and de-cluttering techniques to the Facebook page for a chance to win fabulous prizes. And even if your entry doesn't win, you might learn about a new and cool way to keep your home looking neat and clean.



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Cub Scout Pack 1967

Pack 1967 started off the summer with a bang... a rocket-propelled, wet bang, with our annual water rockets in the park event in June. Scouts made water rockets out of two-liter bottles, added fins and other decorations, and took turns launching them in the park. We had a number of very imaginative rockets, but everyone's favorite rocket was any that required the Cubmaster to manually launch, soaking him thoroughly each time. On July 4, Pack 1967 teamed up with Pack 1968 for the second year in a row to march in the Fairfax City Independence Day Parade. It was close competition, but the two packs' float won second place in the Scouts judging. Way to go, Scouts! Later in July, the Pack went fishing at Lake Royal and even caught something!



In June, some of our older Scouts attended sleep away camp in Goshen, Virginia, where they camped in the forest for a week, learned about nature, honed their archery and BB gun skills, swam in the lake, acquired new Scout skills, learned how to live without internet access (cell phone service is pretty minimal in the woods), and even made a new sign for the camp! In July, some of our younger Scouts attended the Patriot District Day Camp, where they learned Scout skills, how to safely use a bow and arrow, BB gun, and sling shot, and how to avoid mud after some of the torrential downpours... who are we kidding? They never avoided the mud, but they did have a great time!



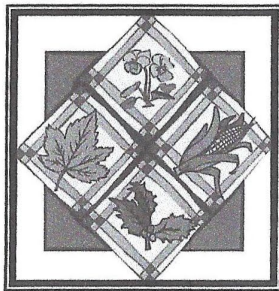
Pack 1967 will end the summer with a cookout at Royal Lake Park on Sunday, August 25th at 4 pm. Please let us know if you plan to come at bit.ly/packpicnic1967 so we have enough of everything. If your son or daughter is interested in Cub Scouts, come on out to join us for dinner and learn a little more about what we do. If you have any questions or want to contact a Den Leader, we can be reached at CubScout.Pack.1967@gmail.com.



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Boy Scout Troop 1966

Chartered by the Kings Park West Civic Association since 1973

Fall Mulch Sale

Delivery Date: Sat., Oct. 12, 2019

- Double-shredded, dark brown, finely-screened hardwood mulch. 3 cu. ft. bags (\$4.50 per bag).
- You do not need to be home to receive your order. Beginning at 8am, friendly Boy Scouts will neatly place & stack bags along the side edge of your driveway unless otherwise noted (no backyards please).

Ordering is as easy as 1-2-3!

1. Fill out the form below
2. Make check payable to Boy Scout Troop 1966
3. Return form and payment to:

Troop 1966 2019 Fall Mulch Order
10150 Bessmer Lane
Fairfax, VA 22032

**Orders must be postmarked by Sat., Oct 05, 2019 or hand-delivered by Mon., Oct. 07, 2019.
Due to the supplier's firm ordering lead times, late orders cannot be accepted. Sorry.**

If you have questions, please e-mail Troop1966.Mulch@gmail.com

Boy Scout Troop 1966 2019 Fall Mulch Sale Order Form

Please make check payable to "Troop 1966"

# of bags (5 bag minimum)		X \$4.50=	\$
Full Name:			
Address:			
Is this a pipestem?		Subdivision Name:	
Phone:		Email:	
Any specific instructions?			

Thank you for supporting your local Scout Troop. All proceeds support Troop 1966's Outdoor Activities program.

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**We die. That may be the meaning of life.
But we do language. That may be the
measure of our lives.**

--- Toni Morrison



Night Lights

By Greg Sykes (greg@grsykes.com)



At first glance, this image looks like an underexposed photograph taken on an overcast day and marred by blemishes and scratches. In reality, this picture is of the darkest corner of a Fairfax yard at 10:30 pm. The “marring” is firefly signals! This digital composite* visually approximates the problem that fireflies have with light pollution. A streetlight blazes in the top left corner, neighbors’ lights illuminate the foreground, local urban areas add a glow, and moon and stars contribute a small portion of light. Around the world, scientists are noticing decreases in firefly populations – more than what can be attributed to pesticide applications (including treatments against adult mosquitoes and ground-dwelling grubs, both known to harm fireflies), climate change, or habitat loss. In regions brightly lit at night, male fireflies emit their mating signals as usual, but the females apparently are unable to see the male flashes and fail to reply with a responding twinkle. The firefly species that signal only at night are more prone to light pollution impacts than those emerging at sunset. This type of urban detriment on wildlife is akin to songbirds chirping louder or at higher pitches in cities than their rural counterparts to be heard above city noise pollution.

Many people love watching firefly displays, which begin in late May, peak in June, and continue throughout the summer with occasional stragglers into autumn. These beneficial beetles (calling them “lightning bugs” is a misnomer) are voracious predators in their larval stage, targeting soil invertebrates. In turn, mites and certain fly maggots prey on the developing fireflies, thereby keeping the beetle population in check. Fireflies may spend one to two years in the larval stage and several weeks at each of their other life stages: egg, pupa, and adult. Depending on the species, firefly adults may consume pollen and nectar, thereby benefitting from pollinator gardens. Other fireflies forego any eating while fireflies in the genus *Photuris* lure and devour males from different firefly species! With few exceptions such as that last example, adult fireflies glow without too much concern of becoming dinner themselves because they produce foul-tasting defense chemicals.

Now we know a bit about fireflies and how light pollution affects these charismatic critters. Furthermore, underrated light pollution harms many other organisms including humans. The quality of light is as important as the brilliance, such as the blue casts from LEDs that disrupt people’s sleep more than warm-toned bulbs. Steps to reduce light pollution are as easy as turning off a light switch. When folks work in the yard after

Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on Earth

–Muhammad Ali

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!!

FALL PARKS & LAKE CLEAN-UP

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 21, 8A-11A

This is a fantastic opportunity to help protect our natural resources, meet some new neighbors, have fun and make the world a better place! This fall we are doing the Parks & Lake Clean-Up earlier so we can join the Fairfax County Park Authority's partnership with the Ocean Conservancy for its International Coastal Cleanup on September 21st. We all know (*right?!?!?*) that Royal Lake is part of the Pohick Watershed that flows to the Potomac River, the Chesapeake Bay and the Atlantic Ocean. So, we have an opportunity to contribute to the greater Coastal Cleanup right here in our very own back yard!

Clean-up teams will start at Royal Lake Park (by the tennis courts) and Lakeside Park (by the playground), as well as a targeted team starting from the Royal Lake Park side entrance located at 10101-10103 Dundalk Street. Service hours can be earned.



The Parks & Lakes Committee is looking for motivated neighbors to help plan and organize twice-a-year park/lake clean-ups.

We need *YOUR* ideas to make the clean-ups successful, fun and inviting!

For more information on volunteering with Parks & Lake, please contact Sarah Lennon at parcs@kpwca.org and/or sarahgilennon@gmail.com.

The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.

– Gandhi

Friends of Royal Lake Is Gearing Up for Fall!

By Sarah G. J. Lennon

Following on the success of our Spring trail repair workday, we hit the trail again on August 17th to repair a segment of the circuit trail between Lakeside Park and Lakeside pool. The Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) again generously provided a large pile of crushed stone, and with a wheelbarrow brigade and many strong backs combined with community-minded spirits, we addressed soggy spots of the trail. Friends of Royal Lake (FORL) plans to have trail maintenance/repair workdays on a quarterly basis (roughly August, November, February and May). FCPA is interested in a joint workday sometime in October to develop a link between the Lakeside playground and the rest of the trail by the bridge over Rabbit Branch (circumventing the parking lot). Stay tuned for details! Additionally, several FORL top priority projects have been submitted for the 2020 Bond proposal, thanks to FORL's engagement with FCPA.

The next FORL Community meeting will be at Laurel Ridge Elementary School on September 26th at 7 pm. Please come and let us know what is on your mind!

As a reminder, no matter what part of Royal Lake and its surrounding parkland is most important to YOU (trash, trails, water quality, picnic tables, playgrounds and ball fields?), chances are FORL is working on something related to it! We have a trails spreadsheet with tangible, discrete projects. We also have a large (*and growing!*) network of volunteers. We need "Project Champions" to spearhead some of these efforts. Everyone can make a difference! We continue to look for ideas from the community to improve our parks. We also seek new members for our FORL leadership team.

Please watch for more information on Facebook and Nextdoor. A FORL website is forthcoming, but you can "like" us on Facebook right now! As always, you can email me at parks@kpwca.org or Paul Gross, President of FORL, at friendsofroyallake@gmail.com for more information, to share your expertise as a FORL volunteer, and to get on our mailing list.



Thank You Notes from the 2019 KPWCA Scholarship Recipients

I would like to thank the wonderful KPWCA Scholarship Committee for the time and thought that they dedicated to the scholarship process. Furthermore, I want to thank the Kings Park West community for being such a nurturing, welcoming environment in the eleven years I have lived in this neighborhood. As my mother's childhood neighborhood and the residence of both my family and my grandparents, I know that I will always see Kings Park West as home.

*Thank you again,
Ella Gilles*

Kings Park West Civic Association,

I would like to thank the KPWCA for awarding me this year's scholarship, and it is my privilege to accept it. Living in and being a part of the KPW community for the last four years has been a fantastic experience, and I appreciate the faith and support of the KPWCA in awarding me the scholarship. I am incredibly excited to, with the KPWCA's help, attend The College of William and Mary in the fall, and look forward to returning to Kings Park West to visit family and friends in the future.

Thank you for your time,
Dean Sherman

THE GARDEN CORNER

By Charlie Boring

Most husbands with even a tiny bit of common sense eventually come to realize that the wife is usually right. My wife, Marisa, is no exception, and she has been insisting for years that my hardy kiwi vines were not worth the effort that they required to produce fruit. Now, I won't admit to being stubborn, but I was a bit difficult to be convinced that I was wrong about the hardy kiwis.

You see, the largest hardy kiwi harvest that we have had from our two Anna variety female vines and one male vine is about two quarts. These vines grow like mad and will take over a yard, if not pruned three or four times a year, and that is a lot of work. I am an urban gardener; thus, I do not enjoy a lot of back-breaking garden work. If pruned properly, the three vines will still take a four-by-twenty-two-foot space away from other gardening projects. You can make some good kiwi preserves from that small three-quart harvest, or eat them fresh like grapes; but the harvest is probably not enough to justify the crop. Marisa pointed out that in that space, we could grow a lot more produce planting other garden crops. So, I painfully, and with a huge amount of regret, pulled my hardy kiwi vines out of the ground. It was probably my imagination, but I believe I heard them begging me to reconsider. I even imagined that I heard their sighs of resignation.

So, the hardy kiwi vines are gone and I still have my trellis made from three "T" poles with wire connecting them. How can I use this space considering the availability of the trellis? Under the kiwi vines, I had previously allowed spiderwort and other bulb-producing flowers to grow, so I need to remove those bulbs. I decided that my first project would be to plant some cucumbers that could benefit from the use of the trellis for vertical gardening. I also decided to try to grow some cantaloupes which could also be run up a trellis, with some adjustments.

I removed the flowers by digging them up with a shovel. After removing the bulbs, I needed to improve the soil, since it has not been improved in several years. I purchased some composted cow manure from Betty's Azalea Ranch that should provide needed organic material and fertilizer. Using my handy little electric cultivator, I tilled the soil, then removed the weeds, roots, rocks, and grass. Finally, I tilled in the cow manure compost.

I also created a soil mixture to add to the hole in which I planted the cucumbers and cantaloupe. The mixture is my standard potting soil mix. It is made from one-part composted manure, one-part peat moss, two-parts repurposed potting soil from last year, three cups of worm castings, one-half cup of rock minerals, one-quarter cup of blood meal, and one-quarter cup of Epson salts. I put three cups of this mixture in the hole before transferring my cucumber plants.

The cucumbers and cantaloupe will run up a construction wire fence that I attached to metal poles, and if they grow long enough, they can reach the trellis wires. As the cantaloupe vines produce larger fruit, I may need to provide support. For supporting cantaloupes, I will cut plastic bags into individual bags and place the melons in them and tie the bags to the wire fence with strong twine. An alternative method is to employ bags made from netting and used for lemons, onions, etc. As of this date, I am harvesting about fifty cucumbers from six vines. The cantaloupes are not yet producing melons.

If anyone is interested, I still have a gojiberry plant that needs a good home. Send an email to thefairfaxgardencorner@gmail.com.



Kings Park West Neighbor Assist

Our Handymen are ready to serve, but we have had few requests. While we love our KPW homes, we know that they are not perfect and need some help at times. We offer you the opportunity to have some of the constant irritants repaired. The Handymen are also residents of KPW and are dedicated to helping you stay and enjoy living in your KPW house. A reminder: these services are offered to all KPW residents. The labor is free to you, but we will ask you to cover the cost of parts and other materials involved.

Just give us a call at **703-401-0275**, or email us at our new email address: **KPWNeighborAssist@gmail.com**. We changed our email now that we are independent of the KPW Civic Association.

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Take a look at a few of their most recent transactions, listed below. Or better yet, call them to schedule a presentation to learn what they can do for you.



Cathy & Kellie,
more cheerful here!

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Prince
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10001 Eastlake
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\$20k Over List!

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Duke
What A Price For A Duke!

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Duchess
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