

2020 KPWCA Membership Form

Member Information

All information provided will be entered into the Membership Database

PLEASE check the boxes on the left below for information you want published in the Directory

Check these to publish in the Directory	}	<input type="checkbox"/> Name	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/> Address	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/> Home Phone	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/> Cell Phone	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/> Email	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>

Please enter amounts you would like to contribute to the following organizations or activities:

KPWCA Committees, Activities and Communications

- | | |
|------|---|
| \$25 | 1 Membership Fee (\$25 required for each household) |
| | 2 Herald Newsletter |
| | 3 Common Grounds Maintenance |
| | 4 Parks & Lake |
| | 5 Scholarships |
| | 6 Scout Packs and Troop |
| | 7 Halloween Fall Festival |
| | 8 Spring Egg Hunt |
| | 9 Unrestricted Community Use |

Other Community Support

- | | |
|--|---|
| | 10 Volunteer Fire Department |
| | 11 Robinson HS Drug / Alcohol Free Grad Party |
| | 12 Pools in Our Community |

Total Dollar Amount

Please make checks payable to **KPWCA** and mail to the address below, or return to your Block Captain

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

Alternatively, go to www.kpwca.org and pay using Paypal

Check appropriate box or enter check number below

Payment Type

- Cash
- PayPal _____

Check #

Volunteering: I'd like to learn more about volunteering with:



Instructions for Using PayPal

1. Go to the <http://www.kpwca.org> website.
2. Near the center of the page at the bottom of the box, click on the link beside Option 2: “[Google Form - KPWCA Membership](#)” to complete the form online. Proceed to item 5, below.
3. If you prefer to use a paper form, click “[KPWCA Membership Form and Paypal Instructions](#)” and right-click the form to save a blank copy to your local drive. Then, print it out and complete the first page by hand (Make sure your handwritten data is legible before giving it to your Block Captain.)
4. Decide what additional amounts over \$25, if any, you want to contribute. Make a note of the number next to that/those organizations or activities in the chart (items 2-12).
5. Click on the "Donate" button.
6. Enter in the **TOTAL** amount of your Donation: \$25 Membership + any additional.
7. If you have a PayPal account, log in.
8. If you don't have a PayPal account, that's ok, you don't need one! Simply click on the "Continue" button on the bottom left under "Don't have a PayPal Account?" Then enter your billing and credit card information. (You can be sure the transaction is secure if you see “https” near the beginning of the web address at the top of your browser window.)
9. Click Continue.
10. At the next screen, you will be asked to review your donation.
11. If you used the Google form, skip to step 13. Otherwise, under "Kings Park West Civic Association Membership", click on the little pencil icon or "Additional Contributions" if you are making optional contributions in addition to the \$25 membership fee. A drop down box will open up.
12. Refer back to the membership form and use the number in front of the organization or activity in the chart (2-12) to type into that box how your contributions above the \$25 are to be used.

For example, if you want to donate \$25 to the Volunteer Fire Department, you would enter 10-\$25. For a \$30 contribution to Parks and Lakes, you would enter 4-\$30, and so on.

13. Once that is completed, click "Donate Now" and you're done with your payment! If you're submitting a paper form, take note of the last four digits of your PayPal transaction number and write them beside “PayPal” at the bottom left of the form where you check the PayPal box.

If you don't use the on-line Google form, it's imperative that you provide us a paper copy of the form. Double-check to make sure "PAYPAL” is checked, the total dollar amount is entered and the date paid is clearly indicated at the top of the form. Then, be sure to give a printed copy of your completed form to your Block Captain.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us at membership@kwca.org.



September 2019

Vol. 49, Issue 6

Kings Park West Civic Association

Greetings Neighbors - I hope everyone had a great Labor Day weekend. The summer has gone by too quickly. Now that school is back in session, we see many students walking to and from Laurel Ridge, Oak View, Robinson and George Mason. Please remember to slow down and watch for pedestrians and bicyclists when driving around the neighborhood.

The beginning of fall means many of the Association activities will be underway soon. The annual membership drive will take place during the month of October. Your Association membership helps supports many important volunteer efforts, such as publishing The Herald, funding scholarships, sponsoring scouting groups, community social events, and grounds maintenance around our neighborhood entrances. Please know that your membership contributes greatly to the vibrancy of our community.

As preparations for the 2020 membership drive are underway, we recently had a change with the Membership Committee. Mike Karamah needed to step down as Membership Chair due to a new commitment. We thank Mike for his help over the last few months. I am very happy that Cherylyn LeBon has graciously volunteered to chair the committee. Cherylyn brings great organizational skills and wonderful energy to Membership and the Association! Welcome Cherylyn.

Please mark your calendars for the Annual Membership Meeting on **Tuesday, September 24 at 7:30 pm at Robinson Secondary School in Recital Hall**. We will be electing the Member-at-Large Board positions, presenting the 2020 Association Budget, and determining an amendment to the bylaw standing committees. I hope many of our members plan on attending. If you are unable to attend, please complete the proxy form within this edition of The Herald (Page 8) and send it with a neighbor who plans on attending. A quorum of twenty-five members is required to vote on the amendment to the bylaws.

We have a great volunteer opportunity to fulfill a Member-at-Large Board position; please consider volunteering. If interested, or if you have questions, please contact Mike Stonkey, Vice President, at vp@KPWCA.org.

Community Calendar

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
Columbus Day.....	Oct 14
KPWCA Board Meeting.....	Oct 15
Herald Delivery.....	Oct 19
Fall Festival & Parade.....	Oct 20
Halloween.....	Oct 31
Daylight Savings Time Ends.....	Nov 3
Election Day.....	Nov 5
Citizen Advisory Council.....	Nov 5

Continued on Page 5

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
 Cherylyn LeBon 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

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.

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
KPWHO@yaho.com

How Do I Advertise in The Herald?

CLASSIFIEDS: KPWCA Newsletter classified advertisements for the October 19th issue must be received no later than October 2nd 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.

The Herald

Published eight times yearly by the KPWCA.
 NEXT DEADLINE is October 2, 2019
 for delivery on October 19, 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 KPWCA 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 sarahglennon@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 3

The archery hunting program is underway in Pohick Stream Valley, Crooked Creek Park, and Kings Park West Park, as part of the efforts to control the deer population in Fairfax County. You may have received a letter from the County or noticed the red sign postings on the trees at the entrance to these parks. The program season runs from September 7, 2019 to February 22, 2020. Archery groups are permitted to conduct deer management at their assigned sites from Monday through Saturday during the season. Legal hunting hours in Virginia are thirty minutes prior to sunrise until thirty minutes after sunset. Sunday hunting is not allowed in the park. Additional information can be found at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/wildlife/archery-program.

The Board and I look forward to seeing many of you at the membership meeting. In the meantime, please contact me at president@KPWCA.org with any questions, feedback or concerns.

Best regards, Jeanmarie Roberson



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 via 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, please contact Michael Stonkey, Vice President KPWCA, at vp@kpwca.org or (703) 509-9725, between now and September 24th, or submit the nomination in person at the meeting.

THE GARDEN CORNER

By Charlie Boring

I am always trying to determine what garden plants are best grown in Kings Park West. It is also important to consider whether your family enjoys eating what the plant produces. Whether a plant does well or not depends upon temperature, soil, sun, water, and pests.

There is one crop that has produced well for me every year; let's look at my 2018/2019 garlic crop. Garlic does not compete well with weeds, so weeding is advised. Garlic needs at least six hours of direct sunlight a day. Soil should never be allowed to completely dry out, and should have some organic material in it.

As many of you may recall, I planted most of my garlic in October of 2018. I improved the soil with the addition of a bag of composted cow manure bought from Betty's Azalea Ranch, which would provide needed organic material and fertilizer. Using my handy little electric cultivator, I tilled the soil and removed the weeds, roots, rocks, and grass. Finally, I tilled in the cow manure compost. I had saved garlic cloves from my 2018 harvest to use as seed garlic. I believe I had five varieties of hard-neck garlic, Romanian Red, Bavarian, Korean Mountain, Silver Skin (might be soft-neck), and German White.

One reason that I like to grow my own garlic is because the garlic that you purchase in the supermarket is normally soft-neck garlic, which is not as savory, nor as strong a flavor, as the hard-neck varieties that I grow.

The patch of garden reserved for garlic was about five feet by eight feet. After tilling and leveling the soil, I used a broom handle to make five rows of six-inch deep holes. I dropped the garlic cloves in the holes, pointed end up, and covered them with soil. I planted seventy cloves. They sprouted in about ten days and grew through the winter, spring and early summer. In the very early spring, I decided to plant an additional twenty cloves in pots that I placed on my patio. They also sprouted early and grew through the early summer.



2019 Garlic Harvest



Typical Large Bulb

On July 6, I decided to harvest the garlic crop. Many of the garlic bulbs grown in the garden plot were quite large, but the ones grown in the pots were somewhat small, probably due to limited direct sunlight.

You can store garlic over the winter by placing the bulbs in cold storage. Once the upper garlic leaves have browned and died back, your garlic is ready to harvest. I left the garlic bulbs out to dry slightly in the sun for a few days. The weather was a bit damp, but I spread the cloves out in a single layer on my picnic table in order to allow the outer skins to dry out. The table is in the shade of my pergola, so there is no direct sunlight on the garlic. After a few days, I hung the garlic in a cool, dry place (my unheated shed) until ready to use. The garlic cloves should last through the winter for use in cooking. Care must be taken to keep the area cool, but not freezing, and out of direct sunlight.

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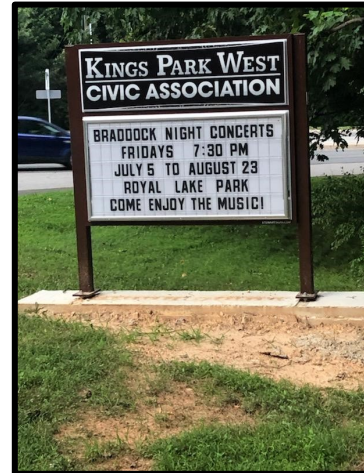
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KPW Signs Landscaping Project

The KPW announcement signs at Twinbrook and Commonwealth, Roberts Road and Commonwealth, and Tapestry Drive and Braddock Road, will be landscaped on Saturday, September 28th at 9 am. The landscaping effort will be an Eagle Project led by Cole Luther from Troop 697.



Volunteers and donations will be gladly accepted. Volunteers can sign up using the Signup Genius link at www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F48A4A82CAA8-kpwannouncement.

Volunteers will meet at Laurel Ridge at 8:30 am for team and job assignments. Snacks and water will be provided. Donations can be accepted onsite as well. Please make checks out to KPWCA.

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.

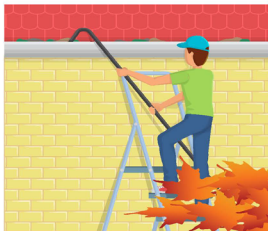
The Herald's List

by Mary Hovland and Cathy DeLoach

Fall Home Maintenance Tasks

Labor Day has passed, the pool has closed and the kids are back in school. With cooler weather right around the corner, there are several home maintenance tasks that should be taken care of in the upcoming weeks as the temperatures drop. Here's a checklist along with vendor recommendations from our very own KPW neighbors!

- ✔ Stow lawn mower.
- ✔ Store hoses and turn off outdoor water.
- ✔ Drain and turn off sprinkler system.
- ✔ Seal cracks around doors and windows.
Andrew Jones, (703) 298-8509.
- ✔ Clean gutters.
Mr. Mow, (703) 503-3130.
- ✔ Inspect roof.
Harry Cramer, (540) 295-9662.
- ✔ Direct drainage away from house.
Mr. Mow, (703) 503-3130.
- ✔ Get furnace serviced.
BlueStar Air Mechanical, Inc., (703) 717-8193.
- ✔ Prune plants.
- ✔ Check chimney for blockages, working damper.
Melvin Dunn, (703) 680-3015.



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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Friends of Royal Lake has been busy and we want to hear from YOU!

By Sarah G. J. Lennon

A very successful trail maintenance workday took place in mid-August to repair the circuit trail between the bridge over Rabbit Branch and the steps up towards Lakeview Swim Club. Thanks to the Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) for providing the gravel and a hardy band of shovel-wielding, wheelbarrow-pushing, rake-dragging and tamper-pounding volunteers!

The Friends of Royal Lake (FORL) leadership team met on September 11th to chart a course for the rest of 2019 and well into 2020. If you would like to join this team of dedicated individuals and contribute to FORL's efforts with your ideas and expertise, please contact Paul Gross (friendsofroyallake@gmail.com) and/or Sarah Lennon (parks@kpwca.org).

September 21st saw the Fall Parks & Lake clean-up taking action in concert with the FCPA and the Ocean Conservancy for a "Watershed Clean-Up Day." It is important to keep in mind that Rabbit Branch, flowing through KPW into Royal Lake, is part of the Pohick Watershed, and continues its journey into the Potomac River to the Chesapeake Bay and from there – the Atlantic Ocean! So that drink box, soda/beer can, fishing line, bag of trash from someone's car left by the side of the road, poop bag dropped by the side of the trail, or the poop deposit not picked up because "well, it's off the trail in the woods, in nature..." all can find their way into the greater environment, and that is not beneficial for any creature, human or otherwise!

Wow, what's next, you may wonder...? Well, so glad you asked!

NEXT Thursday, September 26th at 7 pm, is the next community-wide FORL meeting at Laurel Ridge Elementary School. We will be updating our matrix of planned and desired projects, so if you have an idea, suggestion or pet peeve, PLEASE come share (constructively, that is...!).

The FCPA would like to connect the circuit trail by the Lakeside Park playground to the rest of the trail that continues over the bridge at Rabbit Branch. As it currently stands, park patrons have to cross through the parking lot, which is not the safest, or walk through an uneven "social trail." So please join us later this fall (date still *TBD*) as we join forces with the FCPA to make that connection!

As always, FORL encourages student volunteers at our clean-ups and work-days; we love to support major scouting efforts, be they Eagle Scout or Gold Award projects, or working towards earning badges.

Hope to see you on September 26th!

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Eagle Scout Project Completed Supporting the IMA Program

By Greg Sykes (greg@grsykes.com)

Congratulations to Scott McDonald for completing a successful Eagle Scout project for the Invasive Management Area (IMA) program! On August 3, 2019, Scott led eleven recruits to eradicate invasive multiflora rose (*Rosa multiflora*) and Japanese holly (*Ilex crenata*). Other weeds found and pulled included Amur honeysuckle (*Lonicera maackii*) and rose-of-Sharon (*Hibiscus syriacus*). This site sat along the Shanes Creek trail but away from the imminent stream restoration project. Knowing that the work ahead would be tough with predictably hot, humid weather, Scott started the workday at 7:00 am and wrapped up by his noon deadline. The resulting twenty-four weed-filled bags were sent to the incinerator to prevent any developing seeds from spreading. In the larger scope, this restored area reduces habitat fragmentation by connecting the adjoining, healthy parkland sections. Subsequent monitoring conducted on all IMA sites, which are outside of the Eagle Scout project's scope, will remove any weeds emerging from seed or residual root fragments.

To prepare for this project, Scott attended other IMA workdays. Some of them focused on eliminating the same species within his project's scope, in which he learned how to identify the targets, the best removal strategies, and how to distinguish the invasive from native plants. This process involved learning how to use cool tools like a Weed Wrench. This device came in especially handy during Scott's project because the searing, dry days preceding the project date baked the ground and the Weed Wrench was the most effective way to extract the roots from the hardened soil. Scott also participated in garlic mustard pulls, which is unlike any of the weeds he targeted. However, garlic mustard sessions require extensive hikes through the forest, so this workday helped him learn the logistics behind moving volunteers and supplies.



Figure 1. Before work, invasive weeds densely choked this site (A). Most of the foreground is multiflora rose. A massive Japanese holly appears on the right edge of this image. After five hours of hard work, Scott's team cleared most of the non-native targets from this plot (B). The native plants present, seen in the foreground and left undisturbed, will grow and help this habitat heal. Photos by Bob McDonald.

Are you a Boy or Girl Scout who needs a merit project? If so, I am happy to work with you! The best way to find out if an IMA workday is a good fit for you is to first participate in some of the workdays that I lead. After attending the workdays and if you like the IMA option, send an e-mail to me at greg@grsykes.com, letting me know you would like a project and deadlines to complete it. **Always copy at least one parent or guardian in your communications with me!** We will then check out potential sites with your parent(s) and/or scout leader and go from there.

These sites are either untouched or underwent minimal IMA work, so you get the first, real stab at knocking out the targets! Scout work is covered under the Fairfax County Park Authority permits already issued to me, so I must be present during your workday. Many of the scouts loved doing IMA so much that they participated in subsequent workdays, even as young adults who long since completed their project! **Very important:** To have a successful IMA-based project, **you** must want to do this activity and decide for yourself that this is a project for you.

Once again, congrats to Scott for a terrific job and a well-earned Eagle Scout rank!

For further reading and links to additional resources, see the full article by scanning the QR code with your smart phone or go to: www.grsykes.com/pdf/eco-articles/93a_2019-09.pdf



* * * * *

R

REAL ESTATE CORNER

by Mary and Cathy

Potential home sellers frequently hear that spring is the best time to sell and indeed, spring is typically quite brisk for home sales. But autumn is the second busiest selling season! One of the greatest benefits of the fall market is that there tends to be fewer homes for sale, creating a competitive buying market. Currently, interest rates remain low, and a well presented home in a desirable neighborhood like Kings Park West could sell in just a matter of days or weeks.

Recent Sales and Active Listings

Model	Status	Address	List Price	Sold Price	Days on Market
Baron	Under Contract	5222 Nottingham Ln	\$715,000		8
Cromwell	Under Contract	5251 Ridge Ct	\$529,900		23
Duke	SOLD!	5004 Wheatstone Dr	\$574,000	\$562,000	66
Duke	Under Contract	5107 Pommeroy Dr	\$599,000		34
Duke	Under Contract	5361 Gainsborough Dr	\$525,000		31
Exp. Regent	For Sale	5120 Thackery Ct	\$699,990		8
Queen	For Sale	9708 Commonwealth Blvd	\$599,500		35
Queen	For Sale	10124 Commonwealth Blvd	\$695,000		35
Queen	SOLD!	5119 Lavery Ct	\$595,000	\$595,000	25
Queen	SOLD!	5334 Gainsborough Dr	\$749,500	\$760,000	12
Regent	For Sale	5118 Gainsborough Dr	\$610,000		82
Regent	For Sale	10169 Bessmer Ln	\$649,900		22
Regent	SOLD!	10197 Wavell Rd	\$650,000	\$662,000	7
Regent	SOLD!	10120 Eastlake Dr	\$650,000	\$650,000	23
Regent	SOLD!	4761 Farndon Ct	\$645,000	\$640,000	27
Regent	SOLD!	5105 Richardson Dr	\$650,000	\$650,000	4
Regent	SOLD!	4907 Gainsborough Dr	\$745,000	\$720,000	36
York	SOLD!	10167 Bessmer Ln	\$599,500	\$604,500	6

YTD KPW Homes Sold: **63**
 Average List Price: **\$606,104**
 Average Sold Price: **\$608,603**

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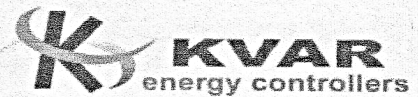
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Boy Scout Troop 1966

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.

Concerts at Good Shepherd

Series 2019-2020



We are excited to begin our eighth season of concerts by prominent regional and national artists with something to fit every music taste. Join us for a special season of three (3) superb concerts with an additional special performance in December.

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

Tickets are available through Brown Paper Tickets coqs.brownpapertickets.com

*Veterans Weekend Concert!

Veterans Weekend Concert! King Street Brass

Sunday, November 10, 2019 6:00 p.m.

Join the King Street Brass Quintet and organist Wade Meyers for a celebration of music from around the world. The King Street Brass includes musicians from the area's premiere military bands, and the concert will include a special patriotic salute to our veterans!



*Celebrating Valentine's Day!

Tower House Band ~ Sunday, February 16, 2020 6:00 p.m.

Back again by popular demand! This year's special Valentine Concert features these talented musicians playing music from the 60's to the present ~ guaranteed to get everyone on their feet!



*Washington Performing Arts

Children of the Gospel Choir ~ Sunday, April 26, 2020 6:00 p.m.

A Good Shepherd favorite, this dynamic group of young people will raise the roof with their own distinctive style, presenting high energy performances of traditional and gospel music.



*A Special Musical Offering at no additional cost.

***Sunday, December 8, 2019 6:00 p.m. Advent Lessons & Carols**



The Church of the Good Shepherd
9350 Braddock Road
Burke, VA 22015 703-323-5400



www.good-shepherd.net

Girl Scouts News – Service Unit 54-15

In addition to getting outdoors and learning new skills at Girl Scouts camps, many of the Girl Scouts in our neighborhood spent time serving our community this summer.



For example, Junior Troop 2681 wrapped up a Take Action project, and now Laurel Ridge Elementary School (LRES) has a new water bottle filler station and two new water fountains installed upstairs.

The girls started the project by observing that water in many of the older water fountains upstairs did not taste as good as the water in the newest fountain downstairs, and that many students and teachers did not use the downstairs bottle filler station as often as they would like because it is on a different floor than the classrooms they are in most of the day.

The girls spent the winter digging into why hydration is important for health and learning, looking at water under microscopes, and testing water for chlorine content. They met with an LRES assistant principal to gather information about the current water fountains, what goes into a decision to replace fountains, and to voice their thoughts about how students and teachers would benefit from bottle filler stations and new water fountains in more parts of the school building.

Finally, the girls made a presentation to the LRES PTA Executive Board about the learning, health and environmental benefits of water bottle filler stations and new fountains in other parts of the school building. As a result, the LRES PTA funded and installed a new water bottle filler station and two new attached fountains upstairs, and recently approved the installation of an additional station for this year, giving students more choices and closer access to filler stations and preferred water fountains.

Brownie Troop 54022 also spent time this summer helping others. Specifically, the girls made cozy blankets and donated them to Project Linus, which provides homemade blankets to children in need.

Also, about twenty Girl Scouts delivered The Herald in August to every doorstep in the Kings Park West neighborhood – that is over 1,800 homes! All proceeds from the deliveries went to SHARE, which provides financial assistance to Girl Scouts in our area, supports the maintenance of eight outdoor camps, and helps volunteers receive required training.

Do you have a child interested in joining Girl Scouts, or are you interested in volunteering with us? We have new Kindergarten troops forming, and openings in troops at many other grade levels. Please visit our website at www.gscnc.org for more information.

Are you interested in donating to SHARE to support Girl Scouts in our area? Please visit our Service Unit's SHARE campaign at www.givecampus.com/schools/GirlScoutsNationsCapitalAnnualGiving/service-unit-54-15-share-campaign#updates.



Cub Scout Pack 1967

Pack 1967 wrapped up the summer with three great events! In July, Scouts got to see science, technology, engineering, and mathematics in action by touring Duck Donuts in Fairfax. The Scouts learned that STEM is everywhere and is used in almost everything they encounter... and that science can be extremely yummy! In August, the Pack visited the National Museum of the American Indian for a tour of the museum. The Scouts learned about the many different tribes across America, how American imagery has been used to sell products, and of course, that the museum has a gift shop.



The Pack finished the summer with its annual cookout by Royal Lake. It was great to see so many friends again, find out what everyone did over the summer, and enjoy fantastic food. Some of the Den Leaders even brought the “Scouting to the outing” by cooking up some amazing desserts in their Dutch ovens. Nothing says a bunch of Scouts outside like a fruit cobbler in a Dutch oven.

As the school year begins, so to do our regular Pack and Den meetings. Our monthly Pack meetings are on the second Wednesday of the month in the Laurel Ridge Cafeteria from 7 to 8 pm. The individual Dens (Scouts in the same grade and gender) schedule their own Den meetings, but they usually meet twice a month. If your son or daughter is interested in Cub Scouts, feel free to contact our Cubmaster or any of our Den Leaders to learn a little more about what we do and when our next meetings are.

Cubmaster: Matt Jones (cubscout.pack1967@gmail.com)

- Lions (Kindergarten): Matt Jones, cubscout.pack1967@gmail.com
- Tigers (1st grade): Kevin Rudd, kevin.rudd@gmail.com
- Wolves (2nd grade): Jason Mann, jason.m.mann@gmail.com
- Bears (3rd grade-boys): Monty Lowe, hiker427nva@verizon.net
- Bears (3rd grade-girls): Christine Jones, christine_b_jones@yahoo.com
- Webelos (4th grade): Jason Mann, jason.m.mann@gmail.com
- Arrow of Light (5th grade): Nathan Klontz, nbklontz@gmail.com

Get Off the Couch*A roundup of family-friendly weekend events around the region...***September 28-29****Occoquan Arts and Crafts Show**

Now in its 50th year, this famous festival in the streets of Occoquan features hundreds of vendors with arts and crafts, live entertainment, and plenty of delicious food and fun for the whole family. *FREE* Saturday 10 am – 6 pm, Sunday 10 am – 5 pm. www.occoquanva.gov/occoquan-arts-crafts-show-official-site/

Turkish Festival

This year's theme is Antioch: Mosaic of Cultures, Land of Tolerance. This *FREE* celebration will include folk dancing, traditional Turkish music, a "kids' tent", and fortune telling. Shop at the Turkish Bazaar, and enjoy authentic Turkish coffee and other Turkish food. Sunday only. 11 am – 7 pm. Pennsylvania Avenue between 12th and 14th Streets NW. www.turkishfestival.org/

October 5-6**Taste of Bethesda**

At the annual Taste of Bethesda, you'll get to sample the foods of more than 60 restaurants, enjoy five stages of live entertainment and visit the kids' corner for arts & crafts, face painting and balloons. Saturday only. 11 am – 4 pm. www.bethesda.org/bethesda/taste-bethesda

Fall for Fairfax/Kidfest

Enjoy exciting, interactive and educational programs, entertainment and activities. Specially designed for families with elementary and pre-K aged children. Admission, most activities and entertainment are free. Saturday 10 am – 7 pm, Sunday 10 am – 5 pm. fallforfairfax.com

Fort Belvoir Oktoberfest

Oktoberfest is a four-day festival that highlights authentic German cuisine, beverages, music, and dancing. Enjoy an exciting carnival, Volksmarch 10K Walk and much more. This is a fun-filled event geared toward the whole family! *FREE* and open to all. Starts Thursday at 6 pm. Saturday noon – 11pm. Sunday noon – 8 pm. belvoir.armymwr.com/programs/oktoberfest

Greek Festival

Come out for authentic Greek food, desserts, dancing and entertainment. Friday and Saturday, 11 am – 9 pm, Sunday 12 – 8 pm. Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church, 3149 Glen Carlyn Road, Falls Church. saint-katherines.org/announcements/greek-festival

October 12-13**City of Fairfax Fall Festival**

Join us at the 43rd annual Fall Festival with over 400 arts, crafts, information, food & gourmet food vendors, children's activities and three stages of music and entertainment for all ages. *FREE* 10 am – 8:30 pm (vendors end at 5 pm, carnival ends at 8 pm).

Saturday only. 3999 University Drive.

www.fairfaxva.gov/government/parks-recreation/special-events/fall-festival

Clifton Day

Come celebrate nearby Clifton! Once again, the VRE is scheduled to provide special train service from Burke Center (10:08, 11:40, 1:18 and 2:53) and Rolling Road stations (the train ride to Clifton is FREE and the return trip costs \$5 for kids and adults, babies under two ride free). The festival will have family-friendly entertainment including live music, free face painting, a free petting zoo, pony rides in the barn and train rides. Sunday 9 am – 5 pm. Main Street, Clifton. www.cliftonday.com/

Fall for the Book Festival October 10-12

Fall for the Book is an annual celebration of reading sponsored by George Mason University and the City of Fairfax. Readers of all ages can meet their favorite authors. Multiple events for children and youth are scheduled at George Mason's Fairfax campus and throughout northern Virginia. fallforthebook.org/

October 19-20**Boo at the Zoo**

Kids can go trick-or-treating at the wildest spot in town during Boo at the Zoo. Celebrate Halloween early with more than 40 treat stations, a dance party and kids' karaoke. This frightfully fun evening is a magical time for the whole family. Advance tickets required. nationalzoo.si.edu/events/boo-zoo

Mount Vernon Fall Harvest Days

Celebrate the season with horse-drawn wagon rides, wheat treading, a straw bale maze, early-American games, music and demonstrations. 9 am – 5 pm. www.mountvernon.org/plan-your-visit/calendar/events/fall-harvest-family-days/

And happening all month, October 1st through October 31st: **Annual Fall Festival and Pumpkin Playground!** At Burke Nursery, 9401 Burke Road. www.pumpkinplayground.com/

And don't miss the Fall Festival at Cox Farms, September 21 - November 5. 15621 Braddock Road, Centreville, www.coxfarms.com/fallfestival.aspx

Family-Friendly Activities Happening at Mason

Fall for the Book October 10-12: fallforthebook.org/

Center for the Arts: cfa.gmu.edu/

October 6: Peter Rabbit Tales

Patriot Center: www.eaglebankarena.com/

October 2: Disney on Ice Presents: Road Trip Adventures

Men's and Women's Soccer and Women's Volleyball: gomason.com





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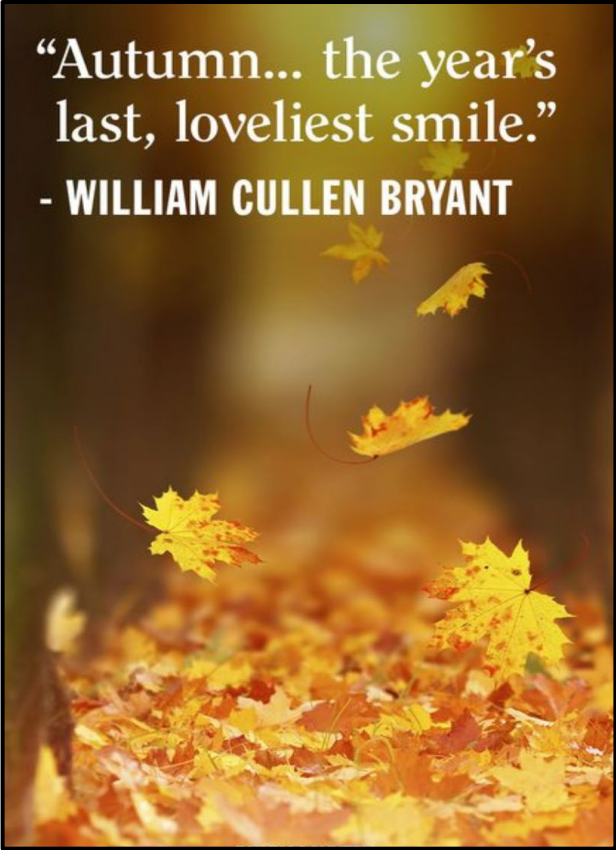
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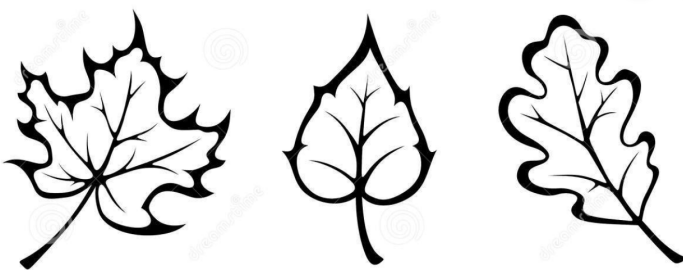
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“Autumn... the year’s
last, loveliest smile.”
- WILLIAM CULLEN BRYANT



The Seldom Seen Neighbors

By Greg Sykes (greg@grsykes.com)

Familiarity with wildlife tends to focus on common, conspicuous creatures such as robins, gray squirrels, ducks, geese, and deer. So many more critters crawl, swim, or fly hidden in our midst. This article introduces two seldom seen neighbors.

Most people have never seen the southern flying squirrel (*Glaucomys volans*) even though it is a common Northern Virginia resident, in part because this diminutive rodent is nocturnal. Their warning chirps sound like bird peeps, except most birds other than owls are asleep at that time of night. During daylight hours, flying squirrels snooze in their nests, which could be anything from a tree cavity (especially those suitable for woodpeckers) to a birdhouse. About the length of a chipmunk, flying squirrels even fit into wren-sized birdhouse openings! They layer nests with twigs in the lower section and soft material such as dried grass and moss up top. In here, they have two litters per year, breeding in late winter and early summer. Young are independent after three months and are able to reproduce at one year old. The wild rodents live around five years; the record for a captive specimen was 19 years! Their home territory averages six acres, but varies widely based on resources and the animal's gender. The species ranges across the eastern half of the U.S., extending north into southern Canada and south to fragmented Central American populations.

Flying squirrels do not “fly” with flapping wings as birds and bats do. Instead, these rodents glide by extending their appendages and the connecting membrane catches the air. In “flight,” the flattened tail becomes a rudder. When fleeing a threat, flying squirrels bolt up a tree, jump off and glide to the base of another tree, climb up that second trunk, jump and glide again, and continue to a safe zone.

Humans and flying squirrels are the only known vectors for *Rickettsia prowazekii*, the bacteria that causes epidemic typhus. This disease spreads through contaminated feces and infected lice and fleas. Fortunately, humans and flying squirrels rarely interact, so the risk of acquiring this pathogen from the squirrels is low. A good idea is to wear a respirator and disposable gloves when cleaning old nests, then wash up.

Flying squirrel populations are kept in check mostly by black rat snakes. Other natural predators include owls and small carnivores such as weasels and bobcats. In turn, flying squirrels eat a variety of nuts, supplemented with insects, bird eggs, fungi, lichen, and even scavenge on carrion! They are often social and seen foraging together. Seed dispersal, especially of nut trees, is a major ecological function performed by flying squirrels.

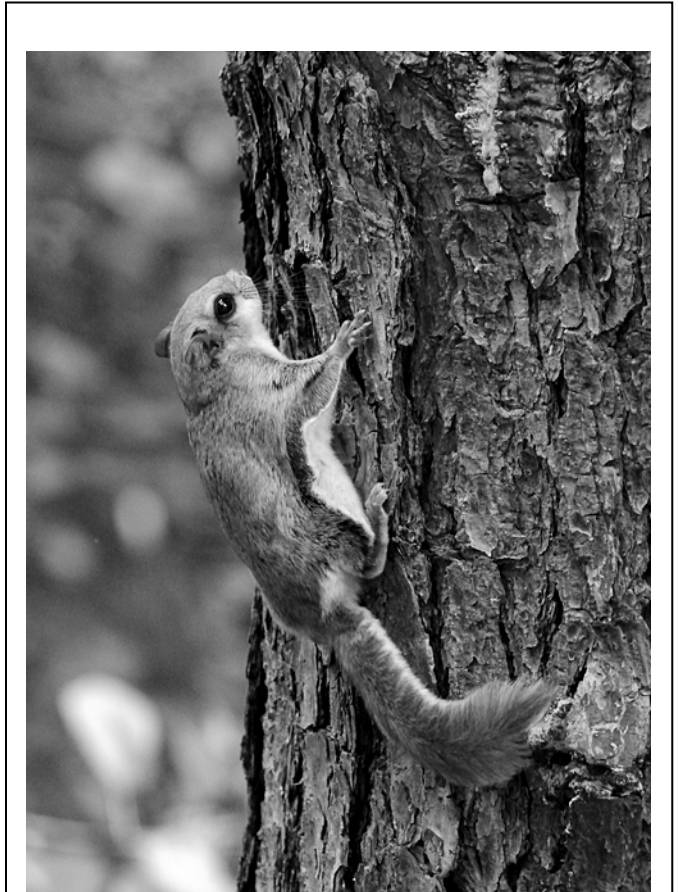


Figure 1. Many adaptations suit flying squirrels for their arboreal, nocturnal lifestyles, including large eyes, long whiskers, and sharp claws. This one is out in daylight because the author, not seeing any bird activity in a birdhouse, went to clean it and out sprang this critter! After a few minutes of clinging to the tree trunk, it climbed back to its nest box.

This next organism is one that few people see, but many certainly hear loud and clear in KPW! It is the Cope's gray treefrog (*Hyla chrysoscelis* subgenus *Dryophytes*). At three to four centimeters long, this frog may be one of the area's smaller species, but its blaring, sharp rasps pierce the summer evenings. Only the males call, attempting to entice females. Mating periods and winter hibernation are the only times Cope's gray treefrogs leave their arboreal homes. Breeding May through August, females reproduce twice per year. They lay eggs in places like vernal pools, which are detached from streams, ponds, and other fish-filled waters. Whereas the tadpoles are safe from hungry fish, wading birds and predatory aquatic larvae, such as dragonflies, control the frog population. In the trees, the adult amphibians gobble up insects, managing pest levels. They spend winters just under the soil surface at bases of trees. The high glycerol levels in their blood help these frogs survive through freezing temperatures. They live in the eastern half of the U.S. and southern Canada.

Whereas people often think of a toad's skin as dry and warty while a frog is smooth and wet, many of the world's Anura (the taxonomic order for frogs and toads) have skin textures and moistures falling between these two extremes – and the Cope's gray treefrog is one such species. Furthermore, this critter slowly changes color to fit its surroundings, from dark shades to light variations of mottled greens (the typical color of young frogs), grays, or browns. No wonder these guys are hard to spot! They secrete a poison that irritates mucosal membranes. In case of contact, wash hands thoroughly. This secretion deters predation and scientists think it might have anti-fungal properties. The best action is to leave them be – an excellent policy for all wildlife.

More information on flying squirrels is at:

www.nsr.ttu.edu/tmot1/glauvola.htm

dnr.maryland.gov/wildlife/Pages/plants_wildlife/Southern_FlyingSquirrel.aspx

animaldiversity.org/site/accounts/information/Glaucomys_volans.html

For Cope's gray treefrog:

virginiaherpetologicalsociety.com/amphibians/frogsandtoads/copes-gray-treefrog/copes_gray_treefrog.php

srelherp.uga.edu/anurans/hylchr.htm

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Figure 2. The Cope's gray treefrog looks identical to the gray treefrog (*H. versicolor*) yet these species never interbreed. The two frogs' calls are slightly different; only the Cope's call in this area, which is the basis of the pictured specimen's identification. Lab tests reveal that the Cope's chromosome count is diploid (one pair) whereas the gray is tetraploid (two chromosome pairs). Scientists think that these frogs shared a common ancestor 10,000 years ago or so.

* * * * *

Pack 1968

School is back in session, and that means our Scouts are hard at work starting on their badges, community service, and education for the year! We are recruiting new members in grades K-5. All are welcome, and we encourage you and your child to get involved in this wonderful organization that boosts confidence, teaches life skills and teamwork, and promotes qualities expressed in the Scout Oath – being trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent.

Over the summer break, our Scouts had a weeklong Patriot District Cub Scout Camp at Geshher Jewish Day School. The boys learned about BB guns and safety, archery, sling shots, climbed the rock wall, scout skills, STEM activities, and participated in sports stations. Along with Pack 1967, Pack 1968 traversed south on 81 to Goshen, Virginia in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains. We camped in canvas tents for a week without electronics, hiked, roasted marshmallows, played chess, canoed, swam, and shot BBs and arrows. Two of our scouts caught fish, some saw a snake and a bear, and many caught salamanders and crawfish. One day we clocked just over thirteen miles!



Along with Pack 1967, Pack 1968 marched the streets of Fairfax City for their annual Independence Day Parade. We placed second in the Scouts category with our float theme of campers roasting and cooking, while others rode in a canoe pulled by the leaders. At the end of the festivities, we tasted snakehead fish caught south of Fairfax by our local law enforcement. Yummy!

Our summer pool party at Kings Ridge was dampened with rain, but we still managed to have pizza and fun before the thunder rolled in!

We look forward to our annual fall campout coming up on October 5th at Riverbend Park. The Scouts and their

families will do skits, sing songs, roast hotdogs and marshmallows, and camp out. All family members are welcome, and this is a favorite Scout event!

Our postponed Raingutter Regatta will take place at Lakeside Park on September 29th from 2 to 3:30 pm. Come and learn what Cub Scouts is all about by joining us at this annual event! We will provide a boat to build and race on-site in our raingutter track, and siblings are welcome to race a boat as well! A new parent information meeting will be held prior to the Regatta at 1:30 pm, so come with your questions about Cub Scouts. Please send an email to our Cubmaster, Ed Ryan, at cubmaster.pack1968@gmail.com to RSVP so that we can bring enough boats. We hope you'll consider joining us this year!

Happy autumn!



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