

Block # _____

Date: _____

2021 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	If cancelled due to COVID restrictions, donations will be reallocated to Other Community Support.

Other Community Support

	10 Volunteer Fire Department
	11 Robinson All Night 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:



Using PayPal to Join the KPWCA

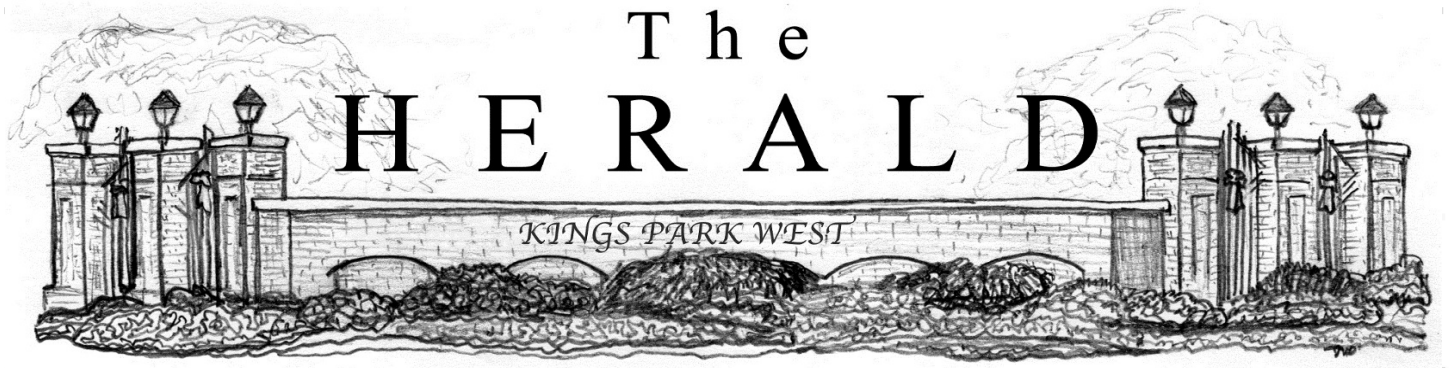
Using the online form:

1. Visit kpwca.org
2. Near the center of the page, at the bottom of the page, click on the link beside Option 2: "Google Form – KPWCA Membership" to complete the online form.
3. Click the "Donate" button.
4. Enter the **total** amount of your donation. This will be your **\$25** membership **and** any additional amounts, if any, you want to contribute.
5. If you have a PayPal account, log in (see step #6 if you do not have PayPal).
6. If you don't have a PayPal account, just click on the "Continue" button on the bottom left under "Don't have a PayPal account?" Then enter your credit card and billing information.
7. Click continue.
8. At the next screen, you will be asked to review your donation.
9. Click "Donate Now"—and you're done!

Using the paper form but paying via PayPal:

1. Visit kpwca.org
2. If you prefer to use a paper form, use the form included in this edition of The Herald OR click "KPWCA Membership Form and PayPal Instructions" and right-click the form to save a blank copy to your computer. Then, print it out and complete it.
3. 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).
4. Click the "Donate" button.
5. Enter the **total** amount of your donation. This will be your **\$25** membership **and** any additional amounts, if any, you want to contribute.
6. If you have a PayPal account, log in (see step #7 if you do not have PayPal).
7. If you don't have a PayPal account, just click on the "Continue" button on the bottom left under "Don't have a PayPal account?" Then enter your credit card and billing information.
8. Click continue.
9. At the next screen, you will be asked to review your donation.
10. Under "Kings Park West Civic Association Membership," click on the pencil icon or "Additional Contributions" if you are making optional contributions beyond the \$25 membership fee. A drop-down box will open up.
11. Refer back to the membership form and use those numbers in front of the organizations or activities (2-12) to indicate how your contributions above the \$25 should be used. For example, if you want to donate \$30 to Parks and Lakes, you would enter 4-\$30.
12. 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 of the form where you check the PayPal box.
13. **Important!** If you don't use the Google form, it is imperative that you send in your paper form. Make sure "PayPal" is checked on the form, the total dollar amount is entered, and the date paid is clearly indicated. You can give a printed copy of your form to your block captain.

Questions? Don't hesitate to contact membership@kpwca.org.



October 2020

Vol. 50, Issue 7

Kings Park West Civic Association

Hi Neighbors! In the September Herald, we heard from Jeanmarie Roberson in her last letter as KPWCA president, and now, it is an honor and privilege to write my very first president’s letter!

As some may know, at the September 29 annual membership meeting, a new Board was voted in for a three-year term. While we said farewell to Jeanmarie, Jim Mays, and Frank Cumberland, we welcomed Andrew Madras (treasurer) and Karen Cosgrove (secretary). They are both relatively new to the community and I again want to thank and applaud them for volunteering! Mike Stonkey continues as vice president, and our members-at-large remain Kaycie Blaylock, Adrienne Barna, and Jonathan Reiser. Tom McCook took on a new role as well, stepping up as the new Parks and Lake Committee chair. Thanks, Tom!

Community Calendar	
KPWCA Board Meeting.....	Oct 20
Halloween Parade.....	Oct 25
Halloween.....	Oct 31
KPWCA Membership Drive Ends.....	Oct 31
Daylight Saving Begins.....	Nov 1
Election Day.....	Nov 3
Veterans Day.....	Nov 11
KPWCA Board Meeting.....	Nov 17
Herald Deadline.....	Nov 18
Thanksgiving Day.....	Nov 26
Herald Delivery.....	Dec 12

I am excited to take on this new position on the board and look forward to working with the community and hearing your ideas and suggestions. I would like to broaden the appeal of KPWCA membership and volunteering and increase our social media visibility. There are more than 1,800 homes in KPW, and last year there were only roughly 900 memberships. That’s 50%! How can we encourage more folks to 1) join the Civic Association; and 2) find some way to volunteer in the KPWCA and the community? We can always use more helping hands, different skills, and great ideas!

For example, Donna Pennypacker graciously volunteered to run the membership drive, but there are a number of discrete tasks that can be filled by other individuals. Additionally, we have an *immediate need* for a few more block captains to facilitate the annual membership drive that is currently underway. Being a block captain is not a terribly time-consuming job, but it is vital for the community! Block captains help to get current information for the residents of their street(s)/block for the directory (printed every other year, due to be published this year). They also promote membership, distribute forms, and, if you choose, collect dues and can serve as the connective tissue for our community. Basically, the strength and vibrance of our community is sustained by our dedicated block captains!

These are some of the captain-less blocks:

- **Block 50:** Swinton Dr. 5017-5035, Wycliff Ln. 4900-4902.
- **Block 57:** Bessmer Ln. 10177-10198.
- **Block 58:** Bessmer Ln. 10167-10176.
- **Block 85:** Collingham Dr. 10426-10450.
- **Block 100:** Vertain Ct. 9801, 9807-9011.

As some may know, I have served in the Civic Association in various roles for more than 15 years -- as Block Captain, Membership Committee Chair, and Parks & Lake Committee chair, where I also ran the monthly Road Raider cleanups. I’ve seen first-hand, on multiple occasions how important it is to have teams rather than individuals carrying the loads!

As Kofi Annan said, “If our hopes of building a better and safer world are to become more than wishful thinking, we will need the engagement of volunteers more than ever.” That seems ever so relevant right now, doesn’t it?!

So, please, give this some thought and feel free to email me at president@kpwca.org for more information or with ideas!

Thanks, Sarah Lennon

Kings Park West Civic Association P.O. Box 7114, Fairfax Station, VA 22039-7114 General Information: info@kpwca.org Community Association: kpwhoa@yahoo.com Website: kpwca.org			
Officers		Email	Phone
President	Sarah Lennon	president@kpwca.org	(703) 978-5608
Vice President	Mike Stonkey	vp@kpwca.org	(703) 509-9725
Secretary	Karen Cosgrove	secretary@kpwca.org	(703) 426-2868
Treasurer	Andrew Madras	treasurer@kpwca.org	(703) 978-0417
Members-at-Large	Adrienne Barna Kaycie Blaylock Jonathan Reiser	boardmember2@kpwca.org boardmember1@kpwca.org	
Committees			
Common Grounds Maintenance	Laura Hall Linda Reamy	bagg@kpwca.org	(703) 978-6641 (703) 978-1564
Community Support Services			
Consumer Affairs	Mary Hovland	consumer@kpwca.org	
Dumpster Day	Mary Hovland		
GMU Student Liaison	Vacant		
Neighbor Assist	Bruce Wallachy		(703) 401-0275
Welcoming	Melissa Morgan	welcome@kpwca.org	
Communications			
Herald Content Editor	Monica Grover	editor@kpwca.org	
Herald Communications Editor	Sara Rezk	editor@kpwca.org	
Herald Advertising and Classifieds	Gayle Ostrom	classified@kpwca.org	
Signboards	Adrienne Barna		(703) 323-0518
Web Admin	Kathy Shifflett	website@kpwca.org	
Membership	Donna Pennypacker	membership@kpwca.org	
Parks and Lake	Tom McCook	parks@kpwca.org	
Invasive Species	Greg Sykes		(703) 426-8246
Special Activities			
Spring Egg Hunt	Pack 1967		
Halloween Festival	Keith Jodoin		
Scholarships	Gayle Ostrom	scholarships@kpwca.org	(703) 323-0206

<p align="center">How do I join the Kings Park West Civic Association?</p> <p>Send your name, address, and phone number, along with a check for \$25 to KPWCA, P.O. Box 7114, Fairfax Station, VA 22039-7114, or visit kpwca.org and pay via PayPal. Members receive the Community Directory and support from community programs like Scholarship Awards, community school activities, parks and lakes clean-up, and a free subscription to The Herald.</p>	<p align="center">The Herald</p> <p>Published eight times a year by the KPWCA. Next deadline: November 18 for delivery on December 12. Note: Acceptance of articles and advertising does not constitute endorsement by the 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 community news, get a subscription. Send \$25 per year to: Kings Park West Civic Association, P.O. Box 7114, Fairfax Station, VA 22039-7114.</p>
<p align="center">How do I advertise in The Herald?</p> <p>Classifieds: Classified ads for the November issue must be received no later than November 18 to Gayle Ostrom, 4912 Gainsborough Drive, Fairfax, VA 22032 or at 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 or \$40 per year (8 issues/35-word ad). Found items listed free.</p> <p>Advertisements: Advertisements are received by Gayle Ostrom; please email classified@kpwca.org for rates.</p>	<p align="center">How do I get my news in The Herald?</p> <p>The easiest way to get your news items in The Herald is to email 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 the KPWCA.</p>

Volunteer Opportunities

Membership Co-Chair: Kings Park West Civic Association needs your help! A membership co-chair position is open, and we are looking for someone to help us! This is a shared effort in overseeing the annual membership campaign, which is held during the month of October. This volunteer will coordinate with the block captains, answer emails, prepare packets, and coordinate on data entry with a dedicated group of volunteers! Please consider getting involved and helping KPW. Interested? Questions? Please email president@kpwca.org.

Friends of Royal Lake (FORL) Trail Maintenance Volunteers: Every three months, the FORL or organizes a morning when neighborhood volunteers work to improve problem areas on the trails around Royal Lake.

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 & Lake Committee: *A few hours per month in the months leading up to the April and October clean-ups.* We are looking for 3-5 motivated members to help plan and organize twice-a-year park/lake clean-ups. Please contact Tom McCook at parks@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.

Road Raiders: *30 minutes month.* Performs common area clean-up around neighborhood once per month early Saturday mornings. Please contact Tom McCook at trmccook@gmail.com.

Invasive Management Area: *3 hours a few times per year.* Details at grsykes.com. Send an email to greg@grsykes.com and ask to be on the volunteer distribution list.

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Thank You to Our KPWCA Board Officers

The arrival of fall means transitions for KPWCA, including a new membership drive and the election of new board members. In this even year, KPWCA members elect new board officers, which means three long-time officers will leave the board.

Our President for the past six years, Jeanmarie Roberson, will step down as she has served the maximum number of terms in this role. Jeanmarie stepped up to be president when the KPWCA was in need of a community member to volunteer for this role. Over these years, she has ensured that the KPWCA is in a solid position, particularly with regard to support for community activities, financial status, and membership. Under Jeanmarie’s leadership, connections and support for the larger community and activities within KPWCA have expanded, maintenance of the common grounds has improved, the liability status of KPWCA has been examined and appropriate protections implemented, the message boards have been replaced, and membership has been mostly consistent.

As Jeanmarie turns over the leadership to the next KPWCA president, she can be proud of the leadership she has provided. The community is indebted to Jeanmarie and we thank her for her many contributions to making KPW a wonderful community.

Our secretary, Frank Cumberland, will also step down due to the term limit of six years. Frank has been instrumental in recording the activities of the KPWCA and the board over these years. He has also worked to increase the social media presence of the KPWCA. Frank is active in many local community activities outside his KPWCA secretary responsibilities and, as a result, has increased the awareness of the board and the KPWCA in general about activities such as the Friends of Royal Lake work and the task force for the development of the former NOVA training site.

The community will miss Frank and his support of the many KPWCA activities. Thank you for your contributions to our community!

Our treasurer, Jim Mays, will step down after four years of service. Jim has been instrumental in keeping membership and finances moving forward smoothly. He has reviewed all financial records and practices and developed a manual for future treasurers to use and updated and streamlined many of the descriptions of KPWCA committees. Jim also has an interest in further development of the KPWCA website.

We thank Jim for his commitment to the board and the treasurer role and appreciate his bringing consistency to many of the KPWCA records and activities.

As members-at-large for the KPWCA board, we’ve enjoyed working with Jeanmarie, Frank, and Jim and wish them well as they move to different activities. Given their commitment to strengthening our community, we are sure you will see them around.

Adrienne Barna, Kaycie Hoffman, and Jonathan Reiser
 KPWCA Board Members-at-Large

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Kings Park West
Real Estate Corner
by Cathy DeLoach



YTD Homes Sold in KPW

65 homes have closed with an average sold price of **\$638,573**. Average list price was **\$630,520**. Highest sold price thus far in 2020: **\$760,000**. Average days on market: **14**.

Address	List Price	Sold Price	Address	List Price	Sold Price
4946 Carriagepark Rd	\$515,000	\$515,000	10401 Carriagepark Ct	\$499,888	\$510,000
5220 Tooley Ct	\$724,900	\$720,000	4876 Wheatstone Dr	\$609,888	\$609,888
5111 Lavery Ct	\$589,500	\$600,000	5239 Pumphrey Dr	\$675,000	\$675,000
10401 Headly Ct	\$698,000	\$680,000	9812 Bacon Ct	\$645,000	\$646,000
10154 Tapestry Ct	\$735,000	\$735,000	10324 Collingham Dr	\$689,888	\$708,888
10001 Commonwealth Bvd	\$659,000	\$665,000	4943 Gainsborough Dr	\$689,000	\$700,000
10417 Collingham Dr	\$609,000	\$630,000	10435 Finchley Ct	\$699,900	\$699,900
5021 Wheatstone Dr	\$649,500	\$700,000	4938 Gainsborough Dr	\$625,000	\$630,000
10023 W Constable Ct	\$584,999	\$585,000	5215 Pommeroy Dr	\$635,000	\$662,000
5103 Spring Rock Ct	\$524,900	\$524,900	5200 Ellington Ct	\$624,997	\$650,000
10178 Bessmer Ln	\$575,000	\$622,000	4908 Wheatstone Dr	\$649,500	\$690,000
4966 Swinton Dr	\$669,500	\$690,000	5103 Walport Ln	\$630,000	\$615,000
5241 Nottingham Ln	\$649,900	\$671,035	4752 Tapestry Dr	\$599,888	\$595,000
10426 Collingham Dr	\$715,000	\$744,000	10409 Ashcroft Way	\$515,000	\$525,000
10428 Collingham Dr	\$715,000	\$735,000	9807 Lord Ct	\$630,000	\$660,000
10431 Finchley Ct	\$739,500	\$750,000	4946 Gainsborough Dr	\$625,000	\$645,000
10026 W Constable Ct	\$549,900	\$603,200	5381 Gainsborough Dr	\$625,000	\$625,000
10002 Eastlake Dr	\$649,500	\$652,747	5230 Nottingham Ln	\$718,000	\$715,000
5100 Pommeroy Dr	\$625,000	\$670,000	5259 Pumphrey Dr	\$575,000	\$567,000
5118 Pommeroy Dr	\$625,000	\$658,500	5203 Claridge Ct	\$579,888	\$579,888
5070 Dequincey Dr	\$630,000	\$647,000	10200 Lister Ct	\$617,000	\$602,000
5230 Richardson Dr	\$639,888	\$680,000	10120 Commonwealth Bvd	\$665,000	\$655,000
4792 Catterick Ct	\$579,900	\$579,900	4962 Swinton Dr	\$579,900	\$550,000
4845 Carriagepark Rd	\$515,000	\$525,000	10432 Finchley Ct	\$669,888	\$669,888
9894 Becket Ct	\$622,000	\$630,000	10009 E Constable Ct	\$619,900	\$600,000
4909 Wheatstone Dr	\$619,000	\$626,000	10166 Tapestry Ct	\$725,000	\$728,000
10329 Commonwealth Bvd	\$750,000	\$760,000	5017 Gainsborough Dr	\$600,000	\$575,500
9932 Eastlake Dr	\$699,500	\$709,500	9708 Commonwealth Bvd	\$595,000	\$572,000
10161 Tapestry Ct	\$625,000	\$635,277	10124 Commonwealth Bvd	\$655,000	\$655,000
9802 Ward Ct	\$625,000	\$639,250	10204 Bessmer Ln	\$650,000	\$615,000
10342 Commonwealth Bvd	\$659,000	\$670,000	9606 Commonwealth Bvd	\$649,900	\$630,000
5204 Pumphrey Dr	\$450,000	\$505,000	4906 Heversham Ct	\$599,000	\$555,000
10186 Wavell Rd	\$599,999	\$633,000			

WMATA Bus 17K/L Proposed Changes

In 2021, WMATA intends to **eliminate** the Kings Park West 17K/L express buses that go to and from the Pentagon.

More information on the proposed Metro bus and rail service cuts may be found

here: <https://www.wmata.com/about/board/meetings/board-pdfs/upload/20200916-BOARD-3A-FY21-PH-Auth-and-Bus-Fare.pdf>

The 17K/L will be out of service until June 2021 and taken out of service permanently in FY 2022 if the WMATA Board of Directors approve these drastic service changes.

In addition to the 17K/L, WMATA intends to permanently eliminate the 18G/H/J and the 29C/W. These permanent service cuts will reduce WMATA bus service in Fairfax, Burke, Annandale, and West Springfield by 33-50%, with no supplemental or replacement service along these routes by the Fairfax Connector.

A public hearing will be scheduled in the near future, and your input may be submitted here: <https://www.wmata.com/about/board/public-comment.cfm>.

Everyone who rides these routes or is concerned about the changes is encouraged to reach out to Braddock Supervisor Mr. James Walkinshaw (braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov) and Fairfax County Chairman Mr. Jim McKay (chairman@fairfaxcounty.gov). The WMATA Riders' Advisory Council (RAC) is also a good resource and may be reached at racomment@wmata.com.



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Kings Park West Block Captains Needed

Kaycie Blaylock

By the time this issue of the Herald has come out, our fall membership meeting will already have happened. But by the time you are reading this, our annual membership drive will be well underway. That means that we will be relying on our block captains to rally the neighbors to make sure that our neighborhood needs are supported, especially in this unusual time.

The role of the block captains is to get current information for the residents of their street for the directory, which is printed every other year and is due to be published this year. They also promote membership, distribute forms, and if you choose, collect dues. Basically, the strength of our community is sustained by our block captains. Thank you for all you do! Juan and Marge are the captains of my block, and I greatly appreciate that they introduced me to what our civic association does.

All of this being said, we currently need block captains for the following blocks:

- Block 1: Commonwealth Blvd. 9600-9616, Thackery Ct. 5102-5106, Twinbrook Rd. – All
- Block 50: Swinton Dr. 5017-5035, Wycliff Ln. 4900-4902
- Block 57: Bessmer Ln. 10177-10198
- Block 58: Bessmer Ln. 10167-10176
- Block 63: Allenby Rd. 4808-4811, Gainsborough Dr. 4907, 4911, Rodney Ct. – All, Wheatstone Dr. 4867-4874
- Block 65: Cascade Ln. – All, Gainsborough Dr. 4923-4940
- Block 85: Collingham Dr. 10426-10450
- Block 100: Vertain Ct. 9801, 9807-9011

Thank you for considering donating your time to keep our neighborhood wonderful!



Seeps and Springs

Greg Sykes (greg@gsykes.com)

The familiar image of a waterway's source is a spring bubbling near a mountain peak and forming rills that cascade into the valleys below. As this description depicts some upland headwaters, much more spring water emerges and feeds into these winding waterways along their course to the ocean. Several types of springs exist based on the local geology, such as hot water springs powered by volcanic activity and fracture springs, where water flows along bedrock cracks.

Throughout Northern Virginia, the common way water emerges naturally from the ground is called a seep or spring. Between the surface and some set depth, a soil core sample or profile shows various soil layers. Each of these layers consists of a different geology, such as clay, sand, gravel, loam, humus, and stone sheets. Porosity, or the ratio of gaps to solids a material has, determines the amount of water and air that can enter. Rain water percolates downward into porous soil layers and is absorbed.

Once the water encounters a layer that either drastically slows or stops its motion, it accumulates into a water table. Water follows that solid layer, still heading downward but at less of a declining angle. Finally, the water-saturated soil breaks a lower-elevation surface at the seep or spring and continues running above ground as a small stream. Seeps slowly release ground-filtered water, allowing streams to flow perpetually; without seeps (i.e., imagining every surface was impermeable), all rain would run off immediately after it fell, leaving dry creek and river beds without water reserves flowing for drier times. Unlike snowcapped mountain regions, water from melting snow and ice contributes to waterways for only a short time in the Mid-Atlantic states. Depending on the underground reservoir size and depth, seeps continue dripping water from days to months without a replenishing rain.

In addition to feeding and enlarging waterways, enabling them to support fish and other aquatic life, seeps create their own unique ecosystem. When the ground water loses dissolved oxygen either naturally (e.g., passing through rotting vegetation) or through human-induced contamination (e.g., petroleum spills, septic fields), seep areas appear red or rust-colored. Iron-reducing bacteria, which live on the anoxic and oxygenated zone interface, are responsible for this discolored ooze. Simply stated, the bacteria derive energy from dissolved iron, organic compounds and nitrates resulting in iron oxide (rust) as a waste product. On a macro-scale, seeps give rise to specialized plant communities, such as magnolia bogs, which are named after the large and predominant sweetbay magnolias (*Magnolia virginiana*). Other plants found here may include skunk cabbage (*Symplocarpus foetidus*), cinnamon fern (*Osmundastrum cinnamomeum*), blueberries (*Vaccinium* sp.), and club mosses (*Lycopodium* sp.).

(Continued on next page.)



Figure 1. This seep, seen with its waters reflecting skylight, trickles from a small, subterranean reservoir. It is in a fern gully at Royal Lake Park's entrance near Gainsborough Drive and Claridge Court. It continues oozing groundwater long after rainwater ceases flowing from the nearby storm drain outfall.

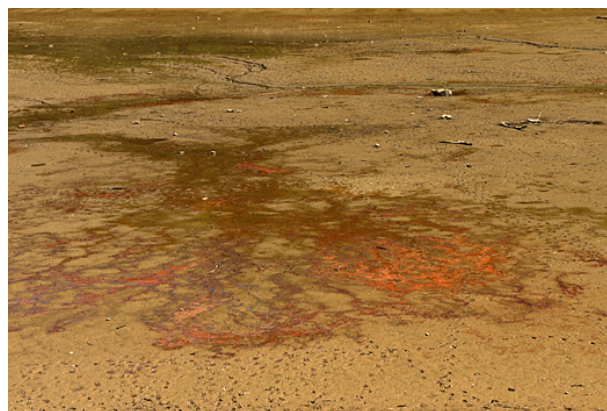


Figure 2. During Royal Lake's dredge (2016-17), the previously submerged ground displayed iron seeps that veined into a wet lattice before reaching Shanes Creek. These areas remained soggy throughout the dry dredge even after vegetation concealed portions of this watery network. A polarizing filter cut glare to show the seeps' red coloration.

(Continued from previous page.)

Starting right where the water springs from the ground, seeps are especially important homes and nurseries for many amphibian species since its waters lack hungry fish that would eat eggs and tadpoles. Birds, mammals, insects, and other animals find ways to benefit from this habitat. A distinctive feature about bogs is that the water perpetually runs except in extreme droughts. The ground is alive as water trickles through the bog just like life-giving blood flows through capillaries. Even though the water movement is slow and might appear to be stationary, it is not a stagnant pool or mud puddle.

These sensitive ecosystems number a fraction of what used to be present due to habitat loss, especially overdevelopment. Pavement blocks water from soaking into the ground and recharging the aquifer. In their rush and greed to rapidly squeeze as many houses as possible into a new subdivision, some builders inappropriately placed homes on seeps or shallow water tables. The result is a perpetually wet basement.

Unlike a seep, surface runoff is what wets a basement for several hours after a storm and then the area dries out. Seeps can occur on lawns or keep sidewalks wet for days or weeks after the last rain. The pavement can be a slip hazard as it becomes slick, especially with algae growth or when iced over.

Again, this phenomenon is different from natural runoff or openings from buried gutter downspouts poorly placed next to sidewalks. Regarding gutter drains, the best practice is to have them open no more than 15 feet from the house so the water filters into the soil; unloading this water onto pavement contributes to potential slip hazards. Without ground filtration, any filth that settled on the roof is carried into storm drains where it discharges directly into streams. Better yet, direct roof water into rain barrels or a rain garden! Planting trees and converting lawns into biodiverse native gardens help absorb water away from the house.

Anyone still having problems with moisture or floods in the basement should contact a professional contractor to explore remedial options.

For color images, visit http://www.grsykes.com/pdf/eco-articles/102a_2020-10.pdf.

Additional information on seeps is available at:

- <https://www.arlingtonmagazine.com/bogged-down/>
- <https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage/natural-communities/ncpc4>
- https://www.usgs.gov/special-topic/water-science-school/science/springs-and-water-cycle?qt-science_center_objects=0#qt-science_center_objects



Figure 3. A closeup of an iron seep during the lake dredge shows where it bubbles from the ground (bottom) and then flows down a gentle slope.

What Does Habitat Restoration Look Like?

Greg Sykes (greg@gsykes.com)



For color images, visit http://www.gsykes.com/pdf/eco-articles/102b_2020-10.pdf.

Many Eco-Articles discuss habitat restoration. Folks wondered how the process looks once plants start growing back.

That answer depends on many factors, such as the type of restoration, its location (e.g., a deep forest or open meadow), weather patterns, soil conditions, proximity to water, how long the area has had to recover, and even how other people treat—or mistreat—the site.

Pictured above is an example of habitat restoration at the Royal Lake Park’s Dundalk Street entrance, photographed in early September. This plot festered with many invasive weeds, especially multiflora rose (*Rosa multiflora*), Himalayan blackberry (*Rubus armeniacus*), and a princess tree (*Paulownia tomentosa*). Two years after the last major workday, it now bursts with native species (A), such as paleleaf sunflower (*Helianthus strumosus*), late boneset (*Eupatorium serotinum*), jewelweed (*Impatiens capensis*), bottlebrush grass (*Elymus hystrix*), asters, and blackberries.

Already, pollinators benefit from this project, such as the Sachem skipper (*Atalopedes campestris*) on the sunflower (B) and the thread waisted wasps (*Eremnophila aureonotata*) mating on boneset (C). It is a work in progress and still has remnants of stiltgrass and broadleaf dock (*Rumex obtusifolius*) to be removed. As trees grow and block the light, shade-tolerant plants will replace some of the direct sun-loving species.

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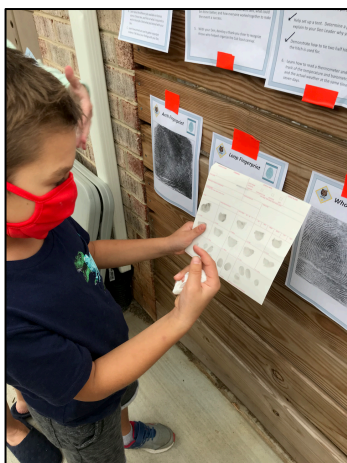
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Pack 1967 News

Pack 1967 hope everyone is healthy and happy. Being at home makes life a little different these days, but the Scouts of Pack 1967 and their families are making due and hope you and your family are as well.

Now that school is completely back in swing, so are the Scouting activities in Pack 1967. Our Wolf Den (second graders) went fishing early in the morning on Sunday, September 13 at Lake Royal. Even while wearing masks and keeping their distance, the Scouts still were able to see their friends and learn a new skill. The Scouts were successful in catching a variety of small fish using their fishing poles and hand lines. Then just three days later, the Den got together for a baseball clinic during its September 16th meeting. The Wolves practiced fielding, hitting and baserunning while social distancing.



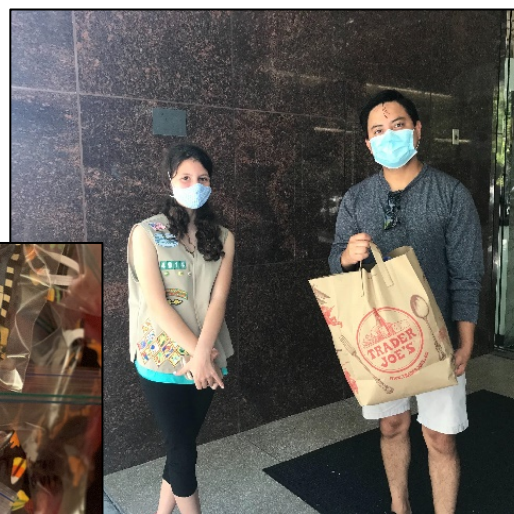
The Bear Den (3rd graders) resumed their in-person meetings with proper precautions as well. Masks are required, hand sanitizer is plentiful, and the Scouts work to keep their distance. In September, the Bears planned a hike for November and learned how to work together to set up a tent. Later in the month, the Bear Den learned about forensics. They tested various substances (salt, sugar, baking soda, and corn starch) and then used what they learned to identify a mystery substance. The Fairfax County Police even came to the meeting to talk to the Scouts about how they used forensics to solve crimes. The Scouts ended the meeting taking their own fingerprints and identifying what print type they had.

If you're interested in learning more about Cub Scouts, what we do, and how we're adapting to the new environment, please contact us and join us for a Den meeting. For more information contact us at CubScout.Pack.1967@gmail.com.

Local Girl Scout Completes Silver Award

Over the summer, Maricela Garcia-Ferguson of Girl Scout Troop 4914 and a current 8th grader at Lake Braddock Secondary School, completed her Silver Award Project. Maricela had been planning to provide care items for children in immigration shelters but was met with challenges of getting things to children in shelters.

When COVID-19 hit, needs changed, and there was an acute need for reusable face masks for children and their families. Maricela, with the support of family and volunteers, provided 200 masks to children and families through the Capital Area Immigrants' Rights Council.



Girl Scouts "Time Travel" Through a Weekend of Outdoor Fun

On September 19 & 20, the Girl Scouts of Service Unit 54-15 participated in their annual Service Unit Encampment at Camp Coles Trip in Stafford. It was the first "large" event held in all of Girl Scouts of the Nation's Capital Council since the COVID-19 stay-at-home orders began in March. Normally, encampment is a time when all the troops in the Service Unit (group of troops), do a weekend of overnight camping with a wide game, communal dining, and of course a campfire sing along! However, as with all things COVID-19, this year's event looked different. They were not able to sleep over, eat camp food in a large dining hall, or be in groups larger than 15 people, but they were able to get outside and try new things.



Using the theme of 20s through time, the girls "traveled" from the 1520s to the 2020s participating in various activities that someone in each decade would do. Girls made butter, started a fire, communicated using semaphore, and launched bottle rockets. Depending on their ages, girls also had the opportunity to kayak or canoe on the Aquia Creek, use a sling shot, practice archery, and throw tomahawks. Although, not the type of Encampment experience Girl Scouts are used to attending, it was a beautiful weekend, with high adventure sports, lots of learning opportunities, and tons of fun!



Girl Scouts in KPW are meeting virtually and doing socially distant in-person activities. If you are interested in becoming a Girl Scout or volunteering with GSCNC, please email su5415info@gmail.com.





Join Cub Scouts!

Pack **1967** Fairfax, VA

Pack 1967 wants boys and girls from kindergarten through fifth grade. Scouting in-person with safe COVID-19 precautions. Campfires, Pinewood Derby race, Raingutter Regatta, outdoor fun, and make new friends.

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CubScout.Pack.1967@gmail.com



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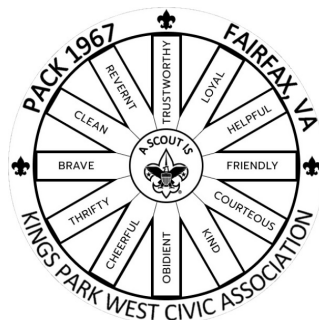
*****This is a BSA Eagle Scout Project by Michael Sorenson, Troop 1966,
to benefit the patrons of the Salvation Army food pantry.*****



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Yours in Scouting – Pack 1967


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      by cathy deloach

As I take my daily walks around our neighborhood, I'm amazed at the progress of outdoor home improvements. We are truly using this stay-at-home time to enhance our surroundings. To help further this trend, I am offering a contest for you to win either a free window washing or power washing of your home.

Here's how to enter:

- Take a picture of either your dirty windows or siding/exterior.
- Caption this picture.
- Post it on the KPW Herald's List page: www.facebook.com/groups/HeraldsList.

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