



January 2022

Vol. 52, Issue 1

Kings Park West Civic Association

Hey Neighbors!

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season, and I wish everyone a happy and healthy 2022.

“Be the Good” is a slogan I recently saw, and it really resonated with me, and I hope it will do likewise with many of you. With the recent snowstorm, it was very heartening to see all the gratitude posts thanking neighbors for shoveling driveways and clearing sidewalks and helping out when house emergencies struck. While getting the streets plowed is of paramount importance, but is something none of us have control over, ensuring the sidewalks are cleared IS within our power as a community and it is crucial to helping schools get back in session.

All the holiday lights and decorations throughout the neighborhood served to really brighten the end of the year and we appreciate those who submitted their homes to the KPWCA Holiday Yard Contest. Congratulations to the Chang/Gray house at 5346 Gainsborough for their first-place finish. And I want to give a huge shout out to Kaycie Hoffman for managing it all!

As we move towards spring, here’s hoping things turn around with regards to the virus and we can continue to find our new normal. I know I’m looking forward to a new and improved Egg Hunt, neighborhood Yard Sale Day and so much more! Please consider joining Friends of Royal Lake (FORL) as they embark on a new survey and update to the Royal Lake Community Vision Plan. The first meeting will be early February, with Supervisor Walkinshaw. Please email Paul Gross at [friendsofroyallake@gmail.org](mailto:friendsofroyallake@gmail.org) for more information or check out what’s going on at FORL’s website ([www.friendsofroyallake.org](http://www.friendsofroyallake.org)) or on Facebook.

Keep the great ideas coming, via email ([president@kpwca.org](mailto:president@kpwca.org)), Facebook (@Kings Park West Civic Association) or our website ([www.kpwca.org](http://www.kpwca.org)).

See you around the neighborhood!

**Sarah G.J. Lennon**  
President, KPWCA



<b>Kings Park West Civic Association</b> P.O. Box 7114, Fairfax Station, VA 22039-7114 General Information: <a href="mailto:info@kpwca.org">info@kpwca.org</a>   Community Association: <a href="mailto:kpwhoa@yahoo.com">kpwhoa@yahoo.com</a>   Website: <a href="http://kpwca.org">kpwca.org</a>			
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Halloween Festival	Keith Jodoin	<a href="mailto:kjodoin@gmail.com">kjodoin@gmail.com</a>	
Scholarships	Gayle Ostrom	<a href="mailto:geeostrom@gmail.com">geeostrom@gmail.com</a>	
<b>How do I join the Kings Park West Civic Association?</b> 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 <a href="http://kpwca.org">kpwca.org</a> 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.		<b>How do I get my news in The Herald?</b> The easiest way to get your news items in The Herald is to email the editor at <a href="mailto:editor@kpwca.org">editor@kpwca.org</a> . 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.	
<b>The Herald</b> Published eight times a year by the KPWCA. Next deadline: March 2 for delivery on March 26, 2022. 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.		<b>How do I advertise in The Herald?</b> <b>Classifieds:</b> Classified ads for the March issue must be received no later than March 2, 2022 to Gayle Ostrom, 4912 Gainsborough Drive, Fairfax, VA 22032 or at <a href="mailto:classifieds@kpwca.org">classifieds@kpwca.org</a> . 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. <b>Advertisements:</b> Advertisements are received by Gayle Ostrom; please email <a href="mailto:classifieds@kpwca.org">classifieds@kpwca.org</a> for rates.	

## Community Volunteers And Scouts Improve Trail Around Beautiful Royal Lake

by Andy Karp

On November 27 and December 4th, Boy Scouts from Troop 1966 and community volunteers organized by the Friends of Royal Lake (FORL) worked together to maintain and improve the trail around our wonderful lake, while enjoying the camaraderie of friends and neighbors. This was Ryan Pittman's Eagle Scout project, and he led the effort. The work consisted of installing two 24-inch diameter culverts across the trail, and placing crushed stone over nearby sections of the Royal Lake trail where puddles form after even moderate rainfall.

A terrific assortment of neighbors joined in this endeavor, including Scouts and their leaders, parents with helpful youngsters, Robinson High School students, and a couple of energetic retirees in their 70's. Also, Kathy Gross, who modestly didn't count herself as being one of the volunteers because she didn't lift a shovel, but she handled the sign-in sheets and took the photograph that accompanies this article.



The section of trail that was worked on is only a few inches higher than the lake, and in the past the trail had been built up so that it would not be regularly flooded whenever it rains. However, the raised trail became the equivalent of a dike, holding back water from the surrounding woodland from flowing into the lake. For that reason, culverts are needed. Otherwise, prolonged flooding in the woodland could endanger the natural habitat, killing trees that cannot survive water-logged soil and saturating the dike-like trail, causing the trail to swell upwards during freezing conditions and then settle in damaged condition when the weather warms up.

Last May community volunteers organized by the FORL, together with employees of the Fairfax County Parks Authority (FCPA) installed low-profile wooden culverts across the trail here. The wooden culverts worked well until a heavy rain in September caused the lake level to rise and cover the trail with a couple of feet of water, resulting in the wooden culverts floating up and away from where they belonged. To avoid a repeat of this problem, the FCPA and FORL decided that large-diameter metal culverts should replace the low-profile wooden ones. This was a major project because about sixteen tons of crushed stone had to be brought by wheelbarrows from the nearest place with truck access, which was 750 feet away. The crushed stone had to then be placed as a mound over each culvert, with minimal slope to allow easy walking on the trail going over them.

The loading and wheelbarrowing sixteen tons of material brings to mind a number one song from long ago, about "you load sixteen tons and what do you get?" The song was about hard-working coal miners who were poorly paid with credit vouchers, whereas our Scouts and community volunteers have been well-paid with the satisfaction of maintaining the trail for friends and neighbors to enjoy, with students earning community service hours and Scouts completing advancement requirements.

Over the two days a total of eight hours of muscle-strengthening aerobic exercise was done by ten Scouts and eleven community volunteers. The first day was the Saturday of Thanksgiving weekend, with everyone cheerfully burning off calories from Thanksgiving dinner, although it was bitter cold out. The work was completed the next Saturday when we were blessed with spring-like weather. The FCPA provided the new culverts and crushed stone.

This was the third and final set of trail maintenance workdays with FORL involvement in 2021, with previous workdays in May and August. It is anticipated that a similar sequence of workdays will take place in 2022. These workdays are an opportunity to enjoy the company of friends and neighbors as we keep the trail around our beautiful lake in good condition for everyone to enjoy.

# kings park west herald's list

[www.facebook.com/groups/HeraldsList](http://www.facebook.com/groups/HeraldsList)



by cathy deloach

## We Want to Help You Stay Safe

Current code recommends smoke detectors in the following places:

- On the ceiling or wall outside of each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of bedrooms.
- In each room used for sleeping purposes.
- In any building containing one (1) or more dwelling units regardless of when the building was constructed.
- In each story within a dwelling unit, including basements and cellars but not crawl spaces and uninhabited attics.



We want to help you keep your home and family safe. Our January/February contest is for free smoke alarms and installation as per Fairfax County guidance, provided by The Mary & Cathy Team and Edesigns Electric. To enter, head on over to the Kings Park West Herald's List and look for the above picture. In the comments, please put "I'm alarmed about safety!" A winner will be selected at random on March 1, 2022.

**Deadline to comment: February 28, 2022.**

Services provided by:



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**(202) 384-8265**

Don't feel like waiting until March for your safety upgrade? Fairfax County residents can get FREE battery-powered smoke alarms by contacting their local Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department station or by submitting a form at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fire-ems/free-smoke-alarms](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fire-ems/free-smoke-alarms). This handy QR code will take you to the site:



Last month, our contest prize was free gutter cleaning.  
 Congratulations to our winner, Mary Hatchell!

## KPW Community Association

The Kings Park West Community Association is the oldest and largest of several homeowners' associations (HOAs) in the KPW area. Other HOAs include the two townhome communities north of Tapestry Drive (KPW Townhouse Community Association and Kingsberry Homeowners Association), the townhomes west of Roberts Road at the end of Gainsborough (Park West Community Association), and the area of Headley and Stallworth Courts (West Park Community Association.) Additionally, the large parcel of unimproved land abutting Collingham Drive and properties on Kaywood Court belongs to the Signal Hill Mews Homeowners Association (Esabella Lane.).

While these HOAs have basic authorities and responsibilities under the Virginia Property Owners Association Act, each is governed by its own individual set of covenants and by-laws. Example: all KPW's streets belong to VDOT, so the Community Association has no snow plowing responsibilities or control over on-street parking. That may not be true for other HOAs in townhome communities. The covenants affect not only individual homeowners, but also the HOA itself as an organization. Example: our covenants do not mention residential solar panels and satellite dishes, which were essentially nonexistent in

1974 when KPW was built, and our covenants were promulgated. Therefore, the HOA has no authority to regulate or prohibit them unless the covenants are changed (by design a very difficult process requiring 75% of the members agreeing to do so at a special meeting!)

To clear up a possible misunderstanding, all homes in KPW Sections 16 through 22 are part of the Community Association—whether the home borders HOA common land or not-- and the owners are responsible for complying with the covenants and paying the annual assessment. Homeowners are also protected by the Community Association's status as a state-registered corporation, and by its liability insurance covering the common land. There are no special exemptions, exceptions, or "grandfather status".

The Community Association cannot grant an exemption or waive an assessment. If you were told by a realtor or seller that you were exempt from paying the assessment, it was probably because the previous owner had paid the current year's assessment prior to your closing. You would be responsible for paying future years' assessments.

## KPW Neighbor Assist

We had an early snow, and we are likely to have more coming soon. While a scant snowfall may be easy to clear, a medium to heavy snowfall can be dangerous.

Number 1: **Physical Exertion.** Snow can tax almost anybody not prepared or unable to exert the physical work to remove the snow. Taking breaks during the snow removal could help. Also, remember to hydrate before and during your work.

Number 2: **Slippery conditions.** The snow can cover hidden obstacles, like tripping hazards, holes and ice layers below. So be careful where you step. Concentrate on areas where you need to walk most often.

Our early snowfall this year, caught us and many others by surprise. Thanks to all those who help your neighbors. Our community is well known for responding to these needs, but it does cover the

entire community. We ask you to check on your neighbors, especially those living alone, those elderly or those needing help.

We ask that those in KPW who can help with snow removal to let us know. KPW does have seniors who need help.

This is a paid program.

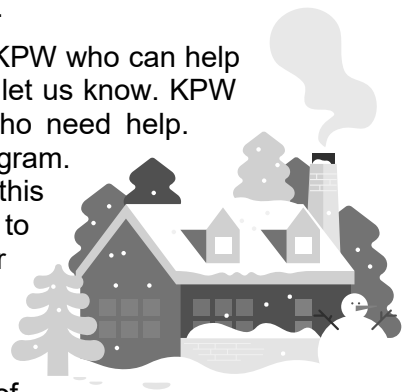
Those who request this service are willing to pay. The requester

and the provider will negotiate the charge. We will

collect the list of

providers and when a resident request it, we send them the list of providers to call. If you are interested in providing snow remover, email,

[NeighborAssist@kpwca.org](mailto:NeighborAssist@kpwca.org)



KPW Real Estate Corner  
by Cathy DeLoach



**2021 Was A Banner Year in KPW**

Despite the pandemic, despite divisive politics, despite everything we *didn't* like about 2021, the real estate market in Kings Park West was remarkably favorable compared to previous years: 90 homes transacted (up 7% over 2020), the average sales price of \$707,396 was up almost 10% over 2020, and an expanded King sold for \$958,000, 24% higher

than 2020's top sale price of \$770,000. Sellers with well-presented homes enjoyed multiple offers over list price and a short time on the market. We are expecting 2022 to continue to be a great market for sellers as long as interest rates remain low. Start preparing now if you would like to sell this spring!

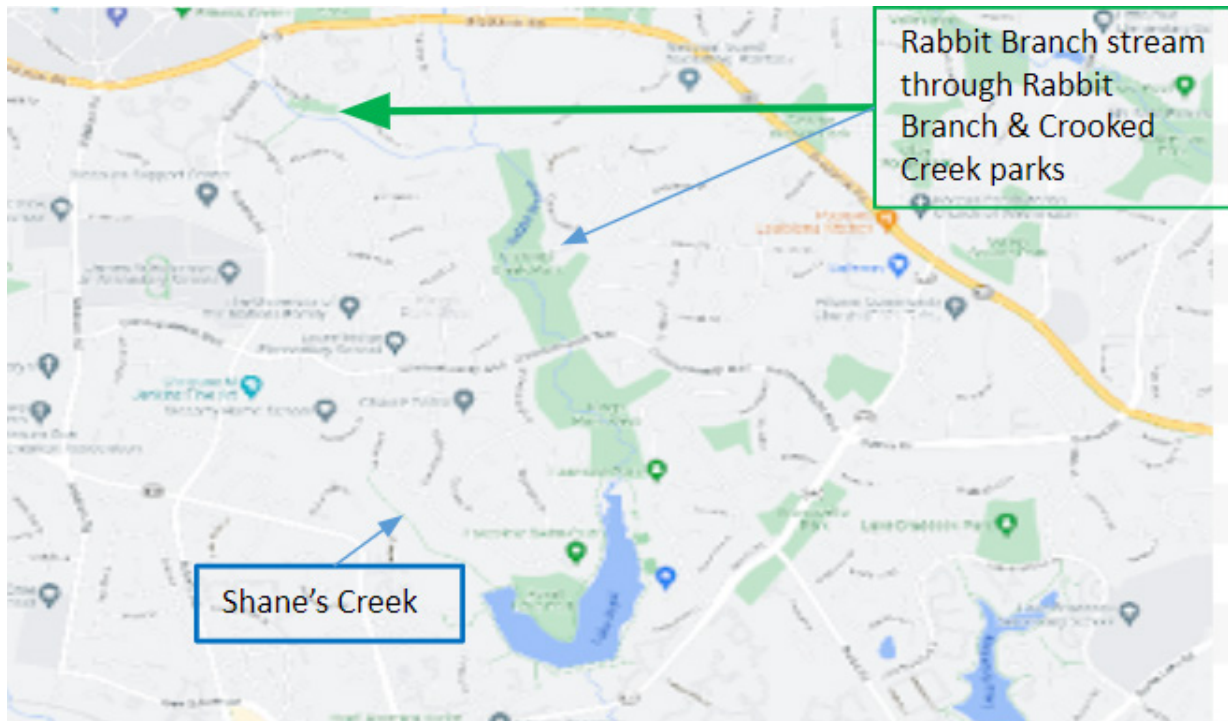
**KPW Home Sale Stats**

2021 Total Sold: 90  
Average Price: \$707,396  
Range: \$540,000-\$958,000

Address	Sales Price	Address	Sales Price	Address	Sales Price
<b>Baron: 12</b>		<b>Duke: 11 (cont'd)</b>		<b>Queen: 15 (cont'd)</b>	
4819 Gainsborough Dr	\$720,100	5002 Wheatstone Dr	\$720,000	10007 Commonwealth	\$760,000
10403 Headly Ct	\$770,000	9707 Galsworth Ct	\$720,000	9927 Commonwealth	\$699,000
5249 Kaywood Ct	\$670,000	5317 Orchardson Ct	\$785,000	10023 Eastlake	\$735,000
5271 Pumphrey Dr	\$831,000	5209 Stonington Dr	\$680,000	10175 Wavell Rd	\$720,000
4755 Tapestry Dr	\$712,000	5208 Stonington Dr	\$545,000	5304 Pommeroy Dr	\$750,000
10153 Tapestry Dr	\$785,000	5016 Gainsborough Dr	\$731,000	5200 Stonington Dr	\$745,000
4741 Farndon Ct	\$774,900	<b>Essex: 4</b>		4946 Gainsborough Dr	\$755,000
4739 Farndon Ct	\$575,000	10309 Collingham Dr	\$700,000	5023 Swinton Drive	\$720,000
5239 Harrowby Ct	\$785,000	10306 Commonwealth	\$630,000	<b>Regent: 17</b>	
10318 Collingham Dr	\$747,000	4905 Wheatstone (exp)	\$780,000	10011 Commonwealth	\$756,000
10329 Commonwealth	\$800,000	10163 Bessmer Ln	\$689,500	4916 Gainsborough Dr	\$775,000
4776 Farndon Ct	\$700,000	<b>King: 3</b>		10414 Headly Ct	\$685,000
<b>Cromwell: 5</b>		5006 Swinton Dr	\$665,000	5303 Kaywood Ct	\$775,000
10401 Ashcroft Way	\$803,100	4961 Swinton Dr	\$740,000	4992 Swinton Dr	\$750,000
4765 Tapestry Dr	\$750,000	5216 Claridge Ct (exp)	<b>\$958,000</b>	5213 Claridge Ct	\$785,000
10156 Tapestry Ct	\$775,000	<b>Prince: 10</b>		5354 Gainsborough Dr	\$785,000
10315 Commonwealth	\$770,000	5422 Chatsworth Ct	\$607,000	5105 Richardson Dr	\$778,000
10440 Stallworth Ct	\$725,000	5068 Coleridge Dr	\$820,000	5013 Swinton Dr	\$819,250
<b>Duchess: 9</b>		5115 Pumphrey Dr	\$615,000	4915 Wheatstone Dr	\$699,900
9616 Commonwealth	\$630,000	5243 Richardson Dr	\$635,000	5424 Gainsborough Dr	\$782,000
4919 Gainsborough Dr	\$630,000	4965 Swinton Dr	\$635,000	10015 Eastlake Dr	\$755,000
5121 Swift Ct	\$660,000	5202 Ellington Ct	\$540,000	9704 Galsworth Ct	\$715,000
4890 Wheatstone Dr	\$630,000	5212 Pommeroy Dr	\$800,000	5212 Noyes Ct	\$775,000
5209 Richardson Dr	\$700,500	5212 Claridge Ct	\$565,000	5018 Wheatstone	\$685,000
10006 Whitefield St	\$655,000	10029 Llewellyn Ct	\$583,000	5207 Stonington Dr	\$740,000
5244 Richardson Dr	\$680,000	9709 Commonwealth	\$596,500	4996 Swinton Drive	\$750,000
5319 Stonington Dr	\$680,000	<b>Queen: 15</b>		<b>York w/ basement: 2</b>	
5414 Chatsworth Ct	\$705,000	10028 Black Ct	\$650,000	5202 Commonwealth	\$540,000
<b>Duke: 11</b>		5218 Claridge Ct	\$635,000	10438 Collingham Dr	\$685,000
4910 Eland Ct	\$700,000	5328 Gainsborough Dr	\$753,000	<b>York no basement: 2</b>	
4936 Gainsborough Dr	\$640,000	5406 Gainsborough Dr	\$680,000	10316 Collingham Drive	\$550,000
5373 Gainsborough Dr	\$629,461	9718 Galsworth Ct	\$678,800	5416 Pumphrey Drive	\$555,000
5375 Gainsborough Dr	\$671,000	4879 Wheatstone Dr	\$720,000		
5305 Richardson Dr	\$750,600	9925 Commonwealth	\$730,000		

## Spring Royal Lake Planning

By Sarah G. J. Lennon and Paul Gross



Royal Lake watershed and contributory streams

Annual efforts to keep our beautiful lake and surrounding parks as clean as feasible, KPWCA, Road Raiders' and FORL teams have developed the following annual plans:

- Columbus Day: Clean-up the lower portion of Shane's Creek area: **Done**
- Nov 1 (FCPS Fall-break): Clean up the "upper portion" of Shane's Creek: **Done**
- MLK Day: Clean up Rabbit Branch Park (off Tapestry Dr.).
- President's Day: Clean up the Crooked Creek Park (off Commonwealth Blvd).
- Earth Day (April 23): Clean up Royal Lake (meet at Lakeside & Royal Lake parks)

Each of these activities is planned to support the environment, our local parks and Royal Lake. **We will meet at 9AM for two hours of dedicated actions to beautify our environment.**

**Neighbors of all ages** – a great opportunity to clean-up and support the Royal Lake park system. We look forward to your support!

**Students & Scouts** – a great opportunity for community support and service hours reporting.

**Gold Star & Eagle Scout candidates** – are you looking for a project? Let's get together & plan a project to support our parks and community.

Any questions,

Tom McCook  
703.839.5205;  
kpwroadraiders@gmail.com,  
join the KPWCA Parks & Road  
Raiders information email list



Our links:

- <https://kpwca.org/>
- <https://www.friendsofroyallake.org/about>
- <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100057148104070>

***Please forward this to friends & neighbors; let's get the community together to clean up the neighborhood!!***

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## Seeing the World Anew

By Greg Sykes ([greg@grsykes.com](mailto:greg@grsykes.com))

Wow! How did you spot that? How can you tell this species from that one? How are you able to determine a forest's age? How can you know that this trash was deposited here by a fox and not a sloppy person? These questions and more have answers rooted in heightened observation—a skill useful in many aspects of life, for example rearing children or diagnosing illnesses and car problems. For simplicity, this article only looks at biological applications in local parks or the backyard. Observation may involve multiple senses, such as confirming a spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*) by crushing its leaf, thereby releasing the zesty odors. However, never run around the woods rubbing every leaf or else risk getting a rude surprise from plants that are poisonous, thorny, or both!

Our ancestors needed heightened awareness for survival and our brains are still hardwired to see snakes and spiders, two potentially venomous animal groups, more readily than other creatures. Skills to detect additional things in daily life can be awakened with tools and exercises. Many paths lead to enhanced observations and this article provides some starting points.

In this age of ubiquitous cameras, anyone can take pictures and be a “photographer.” However, taking that snapshot often reduces attention to the moment and the image loses some of the subtleties that the eye perceives in life, with the latter being the reason many identification field guides have illustrations instead of photographs. Drawing and painting, especially from life, helps the viewer see details while gaining a better appreciation for the subject as a whole (Figure 1). An easy way to get started is with a pen (preferably India ink) or pencil set and a sketchbook (recommending 11x14 inches). At first, draw natural, stationary objects, such as wood, shells, foliage, and flowers. Start with line drawings and pay attention to the edges, noting variations like degrees of smoothness and irregularities. Line drawings are simple yet effective studies. As experience builds, return to this subject and experiment with values and colors. Try different angles, lighting, media, and techniques. Bonus: study sketches will improve and a novice may start producing nice artwork after only a year or two of diligent practice! There are many art books to help with this journey.

Creating a phenology wheel is another terrific exercise. Find an outdoor subject that is easily seen and immutable, such as a backyard object (e.g., large piece of deadwood, boulder, or shed), and make it the drawing's central focus. Decide on how many sections this picture has and divide the remaining empty parts of the page by that number. For example, divide by 12 to have one installment per month over a year or divide by 13 for a weekly chapter over a season—a wonderful way to document spring wildflower bloom periods. At set times over an established period, return to the picture and draw a segment as it is seen or choose subjects around that focal point. More information is at

<https://earthzine.org/phenology-wheels-earth-observation-where-you-live/>.

Explore the natural world with others by joining a nature journal club. It is an excellent way to share ideas and works while making friends with kindred spirits. In a sketchbook, notes and drawings on the same page document what is seen. Some of the results are true works of art! Clubs may offer workshops and classes, both outdoor and inside. Online forums and postings are ways to get feedback on existing pieces and ideas for new ones and approaches. The NOVA Nature Journal Club has a publicly open Facebook site at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/544583139673338>.

Improve awareness through solo observation drills, such as the following:

**Exercise 1:** Find a secluded natural area, maybe a forest or meadow. Bring a mat, notebook, and pen or pencil and sit for 15 minutes. Do nothing but observe everything from soil to sky. Is there a breeze? How is the humidity and temperature? What types of flora and fauna are around you? What smells are in the air? What do you hear—leaves rustling, streams gurgling, animal calls? Even if the session is drowned out by yet another loud leaf blower (note how far sound travels), rain starts falling, or some other unfortunate occurrence, it is all part of the objective observation. When the time is up, spend the next 15 minutes writing down everything viewed or sensed.

**Exercise 2:** Look up the animals found at the National Zoo, Frying Pan Park, or other accredited public place that houses animals. Before the visit, select three animals, preferably ones that you know little about and make it a learning experience. When you visit the first animal on this list, simply observe it for 15 minutes if it is on display (if the animal is not out, go to the next listed critter). What is the animal doing? How does it interact with other things in its area? Even if it is sleeping the whole time, what is it doing while it sleeps? Are its ears or tail twitching? How fast is it breathing? When the time is up, devote the next 15 minutes to documenting the observations.

The first exercise broadens awareness, and the second helps improve focus. In daily life, maintain that awareness while using focus as needed. As these studies proceed, you might wonder what a certain species is. Smartphone apps have limitations, but with your new skill sets, take notes and sketches so the species' name can be looked up later. Your attentiveness will be better in all walks of life. Isaac Asimov said, "The most exciting phrase to hear in science, the one that heralds new discoveries, is not 'Eureka!' (I found it!) but 'That's funny.'" Welcome to an enriched perspective of the world filled with new discoveries, great and small!

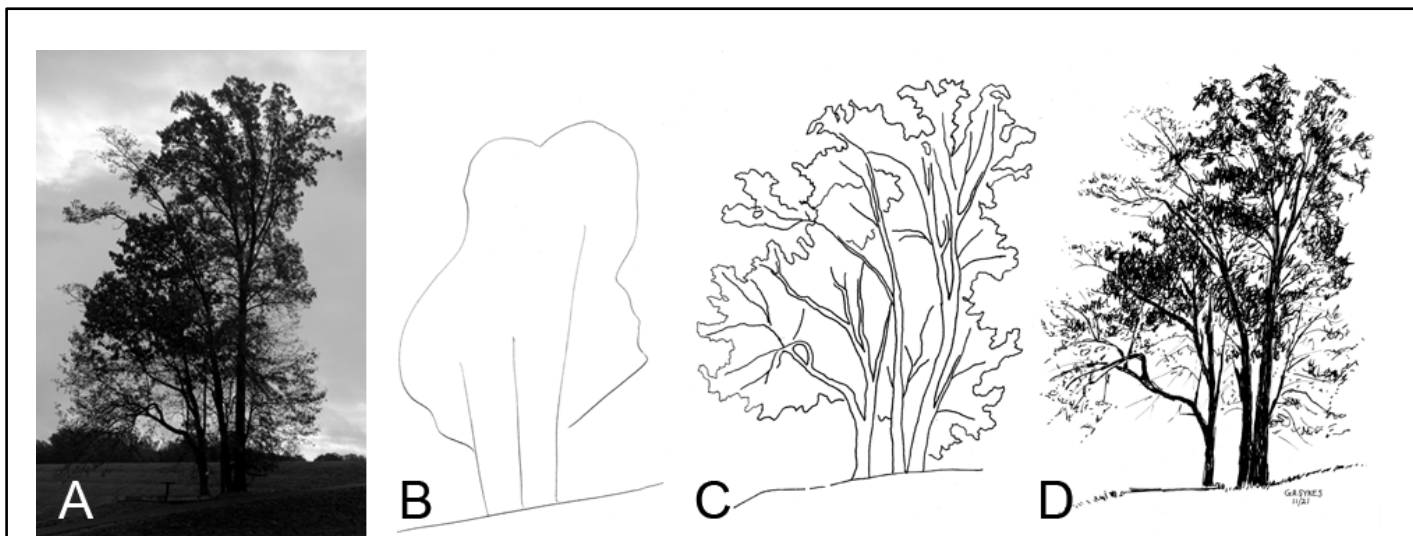


Figure 1. The subject of this study is the mixed species grove by the dam at Royal Lake Park, starting with a monochrome photograph (A). A quick sketch in ballpoint pen (B) is devoid of detail and uninformative; this image is only helpful in design composition. The line drawing (C) is a type of contour drawing, where edges are followed with a consistent line—in this case, using a Rapidograph pen and India ink. As this image has multiple pen lifts from paper, contour drawings often consist of a single line and minimal glances at the paper while the eye and hand coordinate in following the object. This technique can produce good art, but more often it is a tool to improve the way the viewer sees. In this example and without knowing the subject, the audience might guess it is trees or maybe a sea fan or kale leaves. The final sketch (D) used multiple Rapidograph pens and has a mix of lines, textures, and values. It has sufficient detail indicating trees. Omitting the background captured in the snapshot gives the sketch better clarity of the grove. The thinly clumping leaf coverage signifies autumn (spring has more even leaf distribution with smaller foliage—best captured using extensive stippling) and various forms suggest multiple species though the exact ones will require separate sketches of the specimens—subjects for new sketches!

When drawing from life, realize there will be changes in light, wind, and other external influences that alter what is seen. Some artists start sketches (visual notes) in the field, make written notes, and, yes, take snapshots, then complete the piece in the studio. Combining these tools is a great means of improving visual observations.

A PDF of this article is available at [http://www.grsykes.com/pdf/eco-articles/111\\_2022-01.pdf](http://www.grsykes.com/pdf/eco-articles/111_2022-01.pdf)



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We'll treat your home the same way we treat ours.

## Girl Scout Service Unit 54-15 News

A group of over 20 girls from our Association camped out at Sky Meadows State Park on a VERY cold November weekend. After hiking two miles to their site, they set up camp, prepared light-weight backpacking meals, visited some of the historic features at Sky Meadows, and enjoyed star gazing at the dark sky location. After s'mores and early to bed (because sleeping bags are WARM), they were serenaded by coyotes, but woke refreshed to break camp and hike back out. It was a fun trip and a great learning experience as they prepare for more challenging adventures



Girl Scout Troop 54051 earned and donated two Trex benches to Laurel Ridge by participating in two Trex Community Challenges from September 2019-April 2020 where they collected over 1,000 lbs. of film plastic from the community for recycling. The girls worked hard advertising, collecting and weighing the plastic, and bringing it to stores to be collected for Trex. The girls from troop 54051 would like to thank the community and let them know plastic can be dropped off for recycling at collection locations in grocery stores. **Please remember to recycle!**



Thanks to everyone who came out to Girl Scout Troop 4914's Holiday Photoshoot and Winter Wonderland! Families enjoyed crafts, fireside story time, and s'mores while having wonderful portraits and delightful snapshots taken.



## Pack 1967 News

Pack 1967 hopes everyone had a great holiday! Now that we back in the regular routine, the Pack is ready to get back to business learning new skills.

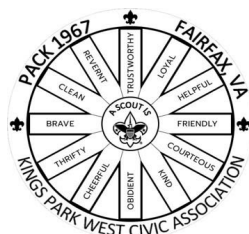
IN November, our Bear Den (3rd graders) visited an animal shelter to help make homes for cats. They also went on a night hike during the month as well. Our Webelos Den (4th graders) completed two adventures that taught real-life skills: the Build It and the Fix It adventures. In the Build It adventure, Scouts were given pre-cut materials to assemble and glue a wooden flag display case. They learned about the different grits of sandpaper and what they are used for and finished their cases by applying a wood stain of their choice. In the Fix It adventure, the Scouts learned how toilets work (and how to fix a clogged or running toilet), where their electrical panels were in their house, how to install drawer pulls, and how to check the oil level and tire pressure in a car. The Scouts also learned how to use a stud finder to find wooden studs behind drywall (and that guessing doesn't work very well.)



In December, the Webelos finished the calendar year by learning about engineering. The Scouts discussed the different types of engineers, learned how engineers plan, made their own technical drawings, and tried to put them into practice by building their planned gingerbread houses. Whether the houses were structurally sound was not important; they were all delicious.



Pack 1967 is looking for boys and girls from kindergarten through fifth grade. Scouting in-person with safe COVID-19 precautions. Campfires, Pinewood Derby race, outdoor fun, and making new friends. If you're interested in learning more about Cub Scouts, please contact us and join us for a Den meeting.



For more information contact:  
 Matt Jones, Cubmaster  
[CubScout.Pack.1967@gmail.com](mailto:CubScout.Pack.1967@gmail.com)



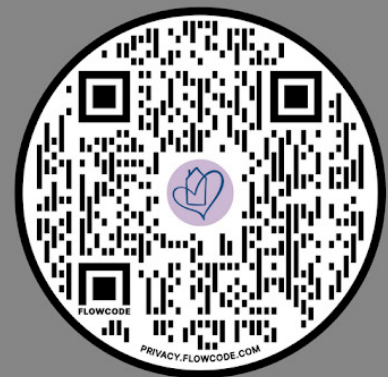
we are so

# excited!

Bet you thought this was a Super Bowl ad. Nah, the excitement is about the KPW real estate market! 2021 was a great year but 2022 is gearing up to be even better!

We would love to work with you on the sale of your home in this great upcoming market!

*Psst!* Sign Up Here for Our Chatty Little Newsletter!



**THE**  
**Mary & Cathy**  
*Property Sisters* **TEAM**

**(571) 276-9421**

**www.PropertySistersHome.com**  
**Long & Foster Real Estate**  
**6045 Burke Center Pkwy**  
**Burke, VA 22015**

**TheMaryandCathyTeam@LNF.com**

# KPW CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

## How to advertise in The Herald:

5 per issue for up to 35 words / \$40 per year (8 issues/up to 35 words)

Mail advertisement and payment (KPWCA) to:

Gayle Ostrom, 4912 Gainsborough Drive, Fairfax, VA 22032 || or email [classifieds@kwpc.org](mailto:classifieds@kwpc.org)

**ELEMENTARY TUTOR:** Grades 1-6 for reading, writing and math. Retired FCPS teacher with 30+ years of experience and KPW resident. Call, text, or email Hope Brady at 703.585-0445 or [hbrady@cox.net](mailto:hbrady@cox.net)

**COMPETITIVE MATH SERVICES, LLC** Seriously Fun Math virtually (Zoom) or in-person mentoring student excellence! Specializes in MS & HS Math (Algebra; Geometry; Pre-Calc including Trigonometry; Calculus & beyond)! 3-time MATHCOUNTS State Champion Coach in KPW! Website: [competitivemathservices.com](http://competitivemathservices.com) or E-mail [CompetitiveMathLLC@yahoo.com](mailto:CompetitiveMathLLC@yahoo.com)

**NEED HELP READING, WRITING AND SPELLING?** I am a trained Barton Reading and Spelling Systems tutor. Free screening is provided. On-line tutoring is available. Please contact Lisa Waldrop at 703.887.5618, [lisawaldrop2@gmail.com](mailto:lisawaldrop2@gmail.com) or check out my website [www.lrw tutoring.webs.com](http://www.lrw tutoring.webs.com)

**PUZZLED BY PATCHES?** Boy Scout and Girl Scout patches – I'll sew them on for you. \$1.00 per patch. Easy drop off and pickup in KPW. Call or text Louise at 703.867.1649.

**FAMILY HAIRCUTS:** Family haircuts, color, and foil highlight. Cut and blow -dry, roller set, and up-style. Call or text to make an appointment with Sandy at 571-594-9869 (Closed Sundays).

**LIFE COACHING:** Feel stuck, overwhelmed, struggling with change? Life coaching helps you find direction. Pandemic rates \$25./hour. Free confidential consultation. Email: [lifecoachingheer@yahoo.com](mailto:lifecoachingheer@yahoo.com) Life coach/retired psychologist, Dr. Kathy Heer.

**MARIA'S CLEANING SERVICE:** "Life's too short-let us do the cleaning" Weekly, bi-weekly, monthly. Licensed-insured-bonded. Free estimate. Contact Maria at 703-856-2512 (cell), 703-378-4059 or [mariasmartcleaning@gmail.com](mailto:mariasmartcleaning@gmail.com)

**HOME INSPECTOR & MOLD INSPECTOR:** Experienced, ASHI-certified Home Inspector in KPW. Home maintenance, pre-listing, and buyer inspections. Indoor Air Quality testing. Have a mold problem? I will find it! Call/text Tim:703-401-8881. [www.protect-inspect.com](http://www.protect-inspect.com) or [protect.inspect@gmail.com](mailto:protect.inspect@gmail.com)

**HAPPY HOUNDS DOG SERVICE:** Walking Dogs are happy dogs. Daily walks, let outs, overnight services and holiday care. Great references. Reliable and Trustworthy Service. Licensed and insured. KPW resident for over 20 years. Call Deb at 571.278.7521 or email at [Deb.Billings@yahoo.com](mailto:Deb.Billings@yahoo.com)



## 2022 KPWCA Scholarship Application

Mail completed form & required information to:  
 KPWCA Scholarship Committee  
 c/o Ostrom at 4912 Gainsborough Dr. Fairfax, VA 22032

**Deadline/postmarked by: April 22, 2022**

**The Kings Park West Civic Association will award up to three \$1,000 scholarships to 2022 graduating seniors whose parents or guardians are members in good standing of the KPW Civic Association as of the deadline of the application April 22, 2022.**

Each scholarship will be awarded on the basis of community service, civic activities and extracurricular service involvement (40%), academic achievement (20%), a written essay (20%), and a personal interview (20%). This scholarship is open to seniors who are enrolling in a 4-year college/university, 2-year college, trade or technical training, or formalized Gap Year program.

**Please type or write legibly in ink.**

- A. 1. Name \_\_\_\_\_
2. Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_
3. E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Please attached an **unofficial** copy of your transcript.
5. Self-reported ACT or SAT (if taken) \_\_\_\_\_
6. Parent/Guardian Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_
7. Parent Email \_\_\_\_\_
8. Name of High School \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Semifinalists will be asked to come for a panel interview on April 28 or April 29. Awardees will be notified by May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022.**

**This application must be signed by the applicant and his/her parent or guardian. Applicants will be disqualified if application instructions are not followed, including current membership with KPWCA or the application is incomplete. We understand that in applying for the scholarship we agree to abide by the terms stipulated.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of parent or guardian