

January 2023

Vol. 53, Issue 1

Kings Park West Civic Association

"If you can be anything, be kind."

### Hey neighbors!

Happy New Year and welcome to the first electronic Herald! We're trying to do our part to help the environment, reduce operating costs and enter the 21st century. I know that a number of other Civic Associations in the area are doing likewise.

As is the custom, for better or for worse, this time of year brings resolutions and goals for the new calendar year. There's just something exciting and renewing about opening up a new calendar, looking at the picture on the pages and envisioning what the coming months will bring! What are your goals for 2023? What would you like to see the KPWCA do this year?

One of my goals is to figure out a way to encourage more in the community to become Civic Association members, Community Calendar

Herald Publishing – January 31, 2023
Groundhog Day – February 2, 2023
Groundhog Day – February 2, 2023
GS Cookie Drive Thru – February 4, 2023
Valentine's Day – February 14, 2023
KPWCA Board Meeting – February 21, 2023
Herald Content Deadline – March 1, 2023
FORL Work Day – March 11, 2023
Herald Delivery – March 25, 2023
Spring Egg-stravaganza – March 26, 2023

striving for 50% participation. Another goal is to start to look for someone to step up as President when I complete my second (and last) term as President in Fall 2024.

Last year I took on another volunteer role, becoming the Vice Chair of a renewed Braddock District Council, which is a Council comprised of all the Community Organizations in the Braddock District. I want to bring together the different organizations to make our collective voices heard more strongly and clearly by our local governments and to share best practices, and identify solutions to common problems. If you have ideas or concerns that are perhaps broader than just KPW, please let me know!

On a much more mundane note, as we get deeper into winter with possible snowfall, icy rain and black ice, please remember to keep sidewalks clear and make sure that branches are cleared so they're not hanging down over the sidewalks. I know there are so many wonderful neighbors who help clear neighbors' driveways and sidewalks and I think that epitomizes the special quality of our little corner of the world.

As always, I appreciate constructive suggestions for ways to make the KPWCA better, increase membership and raise funds. You can always reach me via email and on Facebook. That said, I encourage people to use our website to find contact information for Board members and committee chairs (to inquire about membership status, for example), as well as local organizations and County officials; it is user-friendly and full of great information. Thanks, and see you around the neighborhood!

Sarah G.J. Lennon President, KPWCA

### **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

kpwca.org												
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<b>Community Support Services</b>												
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Dumpster Day	Mary Hovland											
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Special Activities	•	•										
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Halloween Festival	Keith Jodoin	kjodoin@gmail.com										
Scholarships	Gayle Ostrom	geeostrom@gmail.com										
	•	•	•									

### How do I join the Kings Park West Civic Association?

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.

#### The Herald

Published eight times a year by the KPWCA. Next deadline: March 1 for publishing on March 25, 2023. Note: Acceptance of articles and advertising **does not** constitute an 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.

#### How do I get my news in The Herald?

The easiest way to get your news items in The Herald is to email the editor at <a href="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 an endorsement by the KPWCA.

#### How do I advertise in The Herald?

Classifieds: Classified ads for the January issue must be received no later than March 1, 2023, to Gayle Ostrom, 4912 Gainsborough Drive, Fairfax, VA 22032, or at <a href="mailto:classified@kpwca.org">classified@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.

**Advertisements:** Advertisements are received by Gayle Ostrom; please email <a href="mailto:classifieds@kpwca.org">classifieds@kpwca.org</a> for rates.

## KPW Recommends

www.facebook.com/groups/kpwrecommends











by cathy deloach

### Seeking Recommendations for Estate Planning Attorneys

Win a \$100 Amazon Gift Card!

Do you have a will? A living trust? Medical power of attorney? If you don't have some or all of these documents, maybe you should consider the services of an estate planning attorney. The process will not only have you covered for the future, but can also help you find and organize important papers.

January is a great time to "put your house in order." To that end, if you have a recommendation for an estate planning attorney, look for the post below on the KPW **Recommends** Facebook page and leave your suggestion it in the comments section. From those who comment, we will select a winner at random to receive a \$100 Amazon gift card.

### ESTATE PLANNING ATTORNEY RECOMMENDEDS NEEDED!

Win \$100 Amazon Gift Card!

To enter the random drawing, post the name of your recommended estate planning attorney in the comments section.



#### **Ten Important Documents**

- Last Will and Testament
- Revocable Living Trust
- Beneficiary Designations
- Advance Healthcare Directive
- Financial Power of Attorney
- Insurance Policies/Financial Info
- Proof of Identity Documents
- Titles and Property Deeds
- Digital Logins and Passwords
- Funeral Instructions

### The Fairfax Garden Corner

Charlie Boring

For many gardeners in Kings Park West winter is a dismal season. To scratch a gardener's itch to grow something, there are a few tasks that we urban gardeners need to perform to get our gardens ready to plant.

One immediate task, if you want to germinate seeds indoors, is to plant your seeds in an appropriate germination medium. You can buy what you need such as germination pots and trays, or if you are a frugal gardener, you can make your own. Some years I have used solo cups in which to plant my seeds; I simply punched 4 holes in the bottom of the cup to allow adequate drainage and filled the cup with a good composted potting soil. To make your seedling pots from newspaper, here is a link providing a u-tube video with instructions on one method:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7dlGQP81yfo.

Decide what plants you want to grow from seeds. I advise the new gardener to grow plants that your family likes to eat. Involve the children and make the garden a family project. Some common plants that benefit from early indoor germination are artichokes, onions, leeks, garlic, tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, squash and melons. Plants such as peppers, onions, leeks, and early tomatoes can be transplanted into the garden as early as the first week of March, if covered to protect from a late frost. That means that these seeds need to be planted indoors early enough to give them about 8 weeks before you plan to transplant them.

Plants such as cucumbers and squash do better if transplanted during the first week of May or later. Some seeds do better if planted directly into the garden, such as beans, carrots, spinach, lettuce, and other greens.

In order to germinate your seeds, you will also need a source of light; a south facing window with good sunlight for at least 6 hours will suffice. You can also use daylight quality florescent lights, as I have, or you

can buy grow lights. Your seeds will need to be kept damp, but not soaked.

Plan on how you will prepare your soil for planting. Of course, you can buy everything you need; but I enjoy using a frugal approach. Your soil will need compost to help the soil to retain water. You can buy a bag of humus and manure for about \$3.00. A bag of compost costs about the same. Or you can visit the Fairfax Transfer Station and get some composted leaf mulch to mix with your soil for free. Your soil will also need fertilizer. You can use commercial nonorganic fertilizer; but I prefer to use organic. I normally use composted cow manure at a cost of about \$5.60 per bag.

When I transplant the little plants into their garden home, I improve the soil in the hole in which they are transplanted by adding a nutritious soil mixture. This year I am making my transplanting mix with peat moss (helps retain moisture), worm castings (the best natural fertilizer; a small amount will do), a small amount of azymite (provides needed minerals), a small amount of Epsom salts (causes the plant to have stronger stalks and greener leaves), some blood meal (rich in nitrogen) and bone meal (rich in phosphates and calcium).

I know the plants appreciate their rich, new home because they make me gifts of beautiful tomatoes, large zucchini, delicious eggplants, and plump bell peppers. But occasionally I find that the local squirrels and chipmunks raid the garden and take the gifts that the plants intended for me!

I imagine that the plants complain about this to Mother Nature; but I have no confidence that she listens.

So, as soon as I can, I must prepare to protect my garden from those little raiding bandits. But they are so cute; aren't they? Sometimes, I think that just sharing my garden with the little critters is worth the effort. Happy gardening!

### **Snow Safety for Kings Park West Residents**

Rose Luczak

Winter is a time of beauty and fun, but it can also be a time of danger. With the arrival of snow and ice, it's important for residents of Kings Park West to stay safe. Here are some tips for staying safe during the winter months.

- 1. **Dress appropriately:** Wear warm clothing, including a hat, gloves, and boots, to protect yourself from the cold. Choose footwear that has good traction to prevent slipping on ice.
- 2. **Take small steps:** Snow and ice can make it easy to slip and fall. When walking on snow or ice, take small steps and keep your feet close to the ground to maintain balance.
- Clear sidewalks: Clearing sidewalks of snow and ice is important for your own safety, as well as for the safety of others. Make sure to shovel sidewalks promptly after snowfalls to prevent slippery conditions.
- 4. **Use salt or sand:** To make sidewalks and driveways less slippery, consider using salt or sand. These materials help to melt snow and ice, making them easier to walk on.
- 5. **Avoid slippery surfaces:** Avoid walking on snow or ice-covered surfaces whenever possible. If you must walk on these surfaces, look for well-shoveled and well-lit areas.
- 6. Watch for black ice: Black ice is a type of ice that is transparent and difficult to see. It often forms on roads and sidewalks, making them

- slippery and dangerous. Be extra cautious when walking on black ice, and look for well-lit, shoveled areas.
- 7. **Drive safely:** Snow and ice can make driving more difficult and dangerous. When driving in winter weather, make sure to drive slowly and keep a safe distance from other vehicles. Always wear your seatbelt and ensure your vehicle is equipped with winter tires.
- 8. **Know your route:** Before driving in winter weather, plan your route and make sure to check weather and road conditions. Avoid taking shortcuts and stick to well-traveled roads whenever possible.
- Be prepared for emergencies: Make sure to have an emergency kit in your car in case of breakdowns or accidents. This kit should include a blanket, flashlight, food, water, and any necessary medications.
- 10. Check on neighbors: Winter weather can be especially difficult for elderly and disabled residents. Check on your neighbors to ensure they are safe and have what they need. If you can help with shoveling or running errands, do so.

In conclusion, taking steps to stay safe during the winter months is important for all residents of Kings Park West. By following these tips, you can enjoy the winter season while staying safe and protected from the elements. Stay warm and stay safe this winter!

### **Snow Reminders**

In the event Kings Park West sees some snow this winter, here are some helpful tips!

### **Parking**

Before snow falls, VDOT urges you to

- 1. Park in driveways, or
- Park on the odd-numbered side of the street to allow plows room to pass. Doing so allows plows to clear at least two-thirds of the width of our streets.

### **Plow Status**

For the status of plowing in northern Virginia neighborhoods, visit vdotplows.org.

### Shoveling

When shoveling driveways, you should shovel to the right (facing the road) and leave the last few feet at the curb until the street is plowed, as the truck will push some snow back into your driveway. Any snow you shovel to the left of a driveway may only be pushed back into your driveway by the plow.

### **Eating Fresh and Local through the Seasons**

Hanan Idilbi, Country Club View Resident

Did you know there is a community-supported agriculture (CSA) drop-off site in Country Club View? Kings Park West neighbors are eligible to sign up too!

If you are interested in receiving weekly fresh produce in the spring, summer, and fall, sign up to receive more information about the Potomac Vegetable Farms CSA program!

Community-supported agriculture (CSA) is a farming model that builds a mutually beneficial relationship between the farm and the customer: the consumer buys a share of the farm and in exchange receives a weekly supply of fresh produce.

There are many benefits to eating locally grown produce, including preserving local farmland and green space, nourishing ourselves with seasonal, fresh (and better tasting!) foods, and supporting the local economy.

Potomac Vegetable Farms has been growing and selling local vegetables for over 50 years. The

farms—located in Vienna and Purcellville—are woman-owned and operated and use ecoganic farming practices. They offer a wide selection, customizable for your needs and preferences: specifically, you can elect to receive a mini, regular, or robust share on a weekly or biweekly basis, and you always have the option of swapping items or rescheduling your share if you are out of town.

Sign-up for the 2023 CSA will occur on February 1, with weekly deliveries from June through November.

To be notified when it's time to sign up for the CSA in 2023 (with a pickup at Dillard Court in CCV), you can email:

- Hanan hanan.idilbi@gmail.com
- Becky at <u>becky@potomacvegetablefarms.com</u> to get on the Potomac Vegetable Farms' mailing list

More information about <u>Potomac Vegetable Farms'</u> <u>CSA.</u>

### Trail Alert: Shanes Creek Trail

Due to the stream restoration, the Shanes Creek Trail running between the Royal Lake loop and the Gainsborough Drive at Claridge Court entrance is now blocked at the midpoint.

You can walk down the trail but will need to turn back. There is no other good way around it, either, because the construction zone ends next to private property and extensive amounts of poison ivy before reaching the property lines.

Consider this path to the lake inaccessible until further notice.





### Friends of Royal Lake are the Best of Braddock!

by Paul Gross and Sarah G.J. Lennon

At the December 7 Best of Braddock event, Braddock District Supervisor James Walkinshaw presented an award to the Friends of Royal Lake (FORL) noting its accomplishments in "Neighborhood Beautification, Enhancement or Community-Building Efforts."

Virginia State Senator Dave Marsden awarded the FORL team with a Commendation certificate, and FORL also received a Congressional Record certificate noting that Congressman Gerry Connolly had recognized all the Best of Braddock winners on the floor of the House of Representatives.

We appreciate the recognition from the supervisor and the other elected officials in attendance, as well as the Braddock District Council and want to especially thank Gordon Goetz, a very active volunteer in the Braddock community who took the time and effort to nominate the FORL.

The award announcement highlighted FORL's dedication to Royal Lake and surroundings through its planning, analysis, and documentation of Royal Lake parks' needs and activities, such as the Friends of Royal Lake Community Vision Plan and point papers that highlighted improvements, all of which were presented to county officials.

Other activities were noted, inclluding the many volunteer efforts in responding to surveys and in participating in park cleanups, invasive plant management and trail maintenance. The FORL leadership team accepted the award; however, all of you who have participated in FORL efforts to improve the parks deserve a share of the credit for the award.



Photo caption:: Former Braddock District Supervisor John Cook, Fairfax County Chairman of the Board of Supervisors Jeff McKay, Paul Gross, Sarah Lennon, Braddock District Supervisor James Walkinshaw, Suzanne Doherty, State Senator David Marsden, Mary Boyer, Paul Strasberg, Frank Cumberland, Julie Strasberg, and State Delegate David Bulova. FORL leadership members not in the photo are Greg Sykes, Andy Karp, Tom McCook, and Shelly Tucker.

### **Kings Park West Community Association**

Larry Velte, President

If you are a member of the Kings Park West Community Association [the KPW homeowners association (HOA)]\* and are selling your home, Virginia law requires that you provide the potential purchaser with a HOA disclosure packet prior to closing.

The purpose of the disclosure packet is to fully inform the buyer of the existence of the HOA and the details of its operation. Its extensive contents include copies of the covenants and restrictions, the by-laws, the budget and the annual assessment (dues), the HOA's insurance policy information, the association's reserve study (long-term funding plan for repair of HOA infrastructure), and information about any pending lawsuits against the HOA or pending special assessments. It also contains a statement of whether any violations of the covenants exist on the property, such as unapproved structures or additions.

As part of this process, a member of the Community Association Board of Directors will look at the <u>exterior</u> of the property. Any covenant violations are subject to correction when the property changes hands. <u>If the HOA disclosure packet is not provided to the purchaser by the time of settlement, the purchaser can cancel the contract.</u>

There is no central HOA database for realtors to check. It is therefore <u>your</u> responsibility to inform your realtor that your property is part of the HOA so that the realtor can request the disclosure packet. If you are selling your home yourself, you are still required to provide the packet. You could perhaps come up with all the required information, after closely studying Section 55.509 of the Virginia Code.

The safer and much easier course of action is to request the packet through condocerts.com, and the Community Association's management company will assemble the documents. This requires you to establish a passworded account with CondoCerts. There is a \$264.08 charge for the packet as set by Virginia law (add \$58.69 for a rush job), and the packet is good for six months. This money does not go to the Community Association but reimburses those who must assemble the packet.

\*Note: HOA disclosure packets are required only for properties in the Community Association area of KPW (sections 16-22) and not for all KPW properties. If you are unsure, ask your realtor or contact us at kpwhoa@yahoo.com.

### **New Herald Publishing Schedule**

Starting in 2023, we'll have a new schedule for The Herald:

- Electronic only copies will be posted to kpwca.org in January, April, August, and October.
- Printed copies will be delivered to KPW houses in March, June, September, and December.

Want to submit content to The Herald or provide feedback? Email editor@kpwca.org.

Want to run a paid ad or a classified? Email classified@kpwca.org.



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### KPW Real Estate Corner by Cathy DeLoach



### 2022 HOME SALES IN KPW BY MODEL

Total Sold: **49** Average Price: **\$778,744** Range: **\$620,000-\$995,000** 

BARON: 5		KING: 6 (cont'd)						
10147 Bessmer Ln	\$967,000	9807 Commonwealth Blvd	\$762,000					
10152 Bessmer Ln	\$940,000	5203 Faraday Ct						
5221 Nottinghill Ln	\$890,000	9607 Commonwealth Blvd						
4839 Gainsborough Dr	\$880,000	CROMWELL: 1						
10303 Collingham Dr	\$780,000	5217 Pumphrey Dr	\$755,000					
BARON-EXTENDED:	1	PRINCE: 10	\$762,000   \$751,000   \$751,000   \$751,000   \$1					
10416 Ashcroft Way	\$950,068	5202 Ellington Ct	\$865,000					
DUKE: 5		5366 Gainsborough Dr	th Blvd \$762,000 \$751,000 th Blvd \$657,000 twell: 1 \$755,000 twell: 1 \$755,000 th Blvd \$865,000 th Blvd \$785,000 th Blvd \$727,000 th \$675,000 th \$640,000 \$625,000 ten: 2 \$900,000 ten: 4 \$855,000 ten: 4 \$855,000 \$765,000 \$755,000 XPANDED: 2 \$995,000 \$750,000 ten: 4					
5208 Stonington Dr	\$870,000	10029 Llewellyn Ct	\$835,000					
5327 Gainsborough Dr	\$760,000	9709 Commonwealth Blvd	\$785,000					
9895 Becket Ct	\$704,000	4881 Wheatstone Dr	\$784,900					
10311 Cascade Ln	\$700,000	4937 Gainsborough Dr	\$735,000					
10024 W Constable Ct	\$686,000	5203 Claridge Ct	\$727,000					
DUKE-EXPANDED: 2	2	4939 Gainsborough Dr \$675,00						
9803 Bronte Dr	\$881,000	5316 Gainsborough Dr	\$640,000					
9803 Bronte Dr	\$620,000	10010 Eastlake Dr	\$625,000					
DUCHESS: 5		10010 Eastlake Dr \$625,000 QUEEN: 2						
5018 Gainsborough Dr	\$805,000	5214 Noyes Ct	\$900,000					
5417 Gainsborough Dr	\$800,000							
9882 Becket Ct	\$710,000	QUEEN-EXPANDED: 1						
9811 Bacon Ct	\$675,000	5006 Wheatstone Dr	\$960,000					
5238 Morley Ct	\$630,000	REGENT: 4						
ESSEX: 4		5307 Kaywood Ct	\$855,000					
5107 Spring Rock Ct	\$820,000	5223 Tooley Ct	\$805,000					
5235 Nottinghill Ln	\$753,000	10432 Collingham Dr	\$765,000					
10415 Ashcroft Way	\$715,000	10171 Bessmer Ln	\$755,000					
5105 Spring Rock Ct	\$650,000	REGENT-EXPANDED: 2						
KING: 6		10025 Llewellyn Ct \$995,000						
5401 Gainsborough Dr	\$789,500	9803 Ward Ct	\$750,000					
10005 Eastlake Dr	\$775,000	YORK: 1						
5120 Swift Ct	\$765,000	10428 Finchley Ct \$711,00						

### **Vernal Pools**

Greg Sykes (greg@grsykes.com)

While walking through a natural area, folks might come upon a water feature that is bigger than a puddle yet smaller than a pond. To the novice, such wet spots are dismissed as worthless muddy pits that harbor mosquitos and need to be backfilled. Let's debunk these misconceptions and dive into the world of vernal pools!



Figure 1. This vernal pool's turbid waters signify that active animals live here. Photographed in May, the pool is starting to dry up, leaving the muddy foreground.

An aspect distinguishing vernal pools from other bodies of water is they are isolated from any waterways. These pools hold diverse life but no fish. A brief exception occurs when a vernal pool is in a floodplain, a deluge inundates the pool, and receding waters trap fish here, but those fish cannot survive for long. Under normal conditions, autumn rains begin filling the pools. Winter and spring precipitation sustain water levels. Since the pools are in shallow depressions, they may dry out during the hot summer months. Most vernal pools are natural features formed many centuries ago. Each season, pollen lands on the surface and settles to the bottom. Scientists can take core samples, identify the pollen species and abundance in each year's sediment layer, and get an idea about the region's historical plant populations.

Though devoid of fish, a huge number of aquatic organisms depend on vernal pools. In late winter, wood frogs (Lithobates sylvaticu) are the first amphibians to spawn here. Wood frogs cannot breed in running water or where fish occur, making healthy vernal pools critical to this frog's existence. Other amphibians that reproduce in vernal pools include spring peepers (Pseudacris crucifer), American toads (Anaxyrus americanus), and different salamander species. Northern green frogs (Lithobates clamitans melanota) mate throughout summer and late spawners can procreate in newly filling pools; their late-hatching tadpoles overwinter in the silty, leafcovered bottoms, then continue maturing when spring arrives. Adult red-spotted newts (Notophthalmus viridescens) may reside in deep pools that retain water throughout the year. Vernal pools support a huge range of aquatic invertebrates, from tiny copepods and Daphnia to predatory dragonfly and damselfly larvae. The murkier pools are especially exciting because they mean more life is stirring up the sediment (Figure 1). With so much biological activity, mosquito larvae in a vernal pool are more likely to be eaten than reach adulthood. In fact, very few mosquitoes fly around the average vernal pool. However, mosquitoes frequent human habitation where empty containers, clogged gutters, old tires, and other water-trappers encourage them to breed. Ways to defeat these backyard vampires are in the article, How to Battle Mosquitoes and Win (April 2014).







Figure 2. Wood frogs (A), surrounded by egg masses, use vernal pools in their large spawning events. Over the years, they may group together at the same or different pools in the immediate area. Other animals found in vernal pools include (B) copepods and (C) water boatman bugs (family: Corixidae).





Figure 3. Even as summer heat evaporates vernal pools, the moist soil may continue supporting wetland plants, such as (A) small water plantains (Alsuma subcordatum) and (B) common arrowheads (Sagittaria latifolia).

Vernal pools are such crucial components to healthy ecosystems that artificial ones are sometimes added to habitat restoration sites. Since these pools are relatively small, they are highly vulnerable. The water must be free from pollution and other human disturbances. Unlike flowing bodies of water where human-derived contaminants flush out, toxins concentrate in pools. Wood frogs and other species that have massive spawning events congregated in a few places once per year might use only a fraction of the vernal pools in an area but fill those few pools to capacity. In doing so, they are sure to find mates, but if anything happens to that pool prior to the tadpoles maturing and leaving, a generation is lost. Like so much of nature, vernal pools are more than they first seem and play important ecological roles.

Delve further into vernal pools:

Lentini, Joanna. April 2022. Why did the salamander cross the road? To reproduce, of course. Smithsonian 53(01):50-61.

https://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/why-did-the-salamander-cross-the-road-180979788/

http://www.lynchburgbiz.com/virginiasvernalpools/educate.htm https://www.wildlife.state.nh.us/nongame/documents/vernalpool-manual.pdf

https://www.epa.gov/wetlands/vernal-pools

### **Cub Scout Pack 1967 News**

Even as the temperatures have gotten colder, Cub Scouts in Pack 1967 have remained busy!

In December, Cub Scouts helped the Knights of Columbus Assembly 3596 and the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8469 lay Remembrance wreaths on the graves of our country's fallen heroes at St. Mary's Historical Church Cemetery. To cap off their day of service, the Cub Scouts also created handmade holiday greeting cards to give to the residents of the Armed Forces Retirement Home.



Also in December, Pack 1967 hosted a special emergency services event at Laurel Ridge Elementary School for its Cub Scouts and local area Girl Scouts. Fairfax 1, the Fairfax County Police Helicopter Division, landed and took-off at the ballfield at Laurel Ridge. Scouts had the opportunity to tour the helicopter and other Fire and EMS vehicles and talk with police and first responders about their work.



Are you interested to learn more about Cub Scouts and have a child in kindergarten through fifth grade? Visit our website to learn more! www.pack1967.org

### **Girls Scouts News!**

It's Girl Scout cookie season, and your friendly, neighborhood Girl Scouts are doing their prep work!

Recently, Cadette Troop 2400 and Junior Troop 54068 hosted a cookie rally for younger Girl Scouts. Five Daisy and five Brownie troops attended the event. Following a skit featuring an opening booth sale, Scouts went to different stations working on sales skills, making booth posters, playing cookie twister, creating a counter aid, and, of course, tasting all the cookies!

Additionally, Cadette Troop 1356 participated in a Girl Scout Cookie Cake Bake-Off, where they chose a cookie flavor, got creative, and baked their little cookies off resulting in some amazing creations!









The long wait is almost over—your home will once again be stocked with all the Girl Scout cookies you want if you stop by the annual Girl Scout Cookie Drive-Thru booth at Commonwealth Swim Club! Stop by on any Saturday between February 4 and March 11 from 11am to 3pm.

Please consider supporting cookie sales of local Girl Scouting troops as they work hard to earn funds for their activities. Examples of funded activities include community services in our own neighborhood, summer camps, and international and local troop travel. Your business helps Girl Scouts practice and build essential life skills like goal setting, decision making, money management, people skills, and business ethics. Give cookies to a friend, enjoy them yourself, or donate them to a local cause—every bite counts!



## We've Got Girlscout Coesties\*



















## KPW GIRL SCOUT COOKIE DRIVE-THRU

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EVERY SATURDAY FEB. 4 TO MAR. 11



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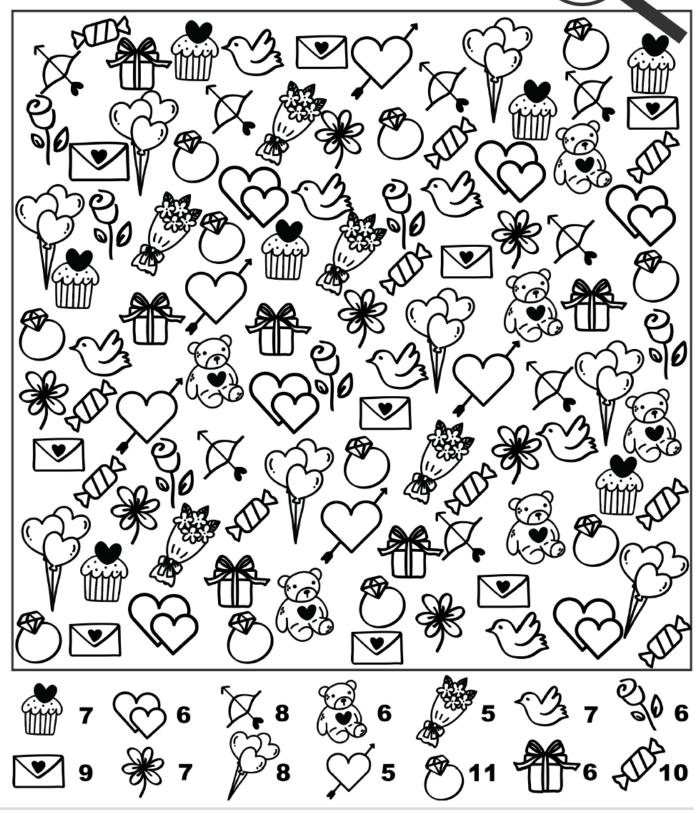
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### **Activity Page**

## I SPY Valentines



### Sudoku

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### **Coloring (Lunar Year)**



	Chinese New Year																		
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