



June 2023

Vol. 53, Issue 4

Kings Park West Civic Association

"If you can be anything, be kind."

Hey neighbors!

Happy summer to all, and I know many of you are eagerly awaiting the last day of school or kids coming home from college ... I know I am.

I thought I'd share some positive stories in this President's letter. We had a Volunteer Appreciation event at Royal Lake Park in early May, and it was wonderful to see so many who have donated their time, effort, and creativity to our community. The scout-cooked Dutch oven fruit cobblers were delicious, and the weather was perfect for an evening by the lake. I was able to talk to so many people from different volunteer groups, and it simply made my heart happy.

I was delighted to see two of the three seniors who won KPWCA scholarships and have a little chat, especially since I'd been a Girl Scout leader with them years ago! Congrats to Karena White, Sammie Macaranas, and Adam Dembicki—we wish you all the best in the coming years.

Additionally, we have secured a commitment from the Fairfax County Park Authority to pay for the porta-potty at Lakeside Park from March to November, and KPWCA will pay for December until February; the unit will be maintained for year-round coverage.

A large swath of invasive plants and bushes was removed from the area near the KPWCA sign on Commonwealth Blvd. Finally, the invasive Bradford pear trees in the median at the intersection of Commonwealth Blvd./Twinbrook Rd./Guinea Rd. have been removed. This creates a better line of sight at that busy intersection and removes the risk of tree limbs coming down in the road. Donna Thomas, one of our At-Large Board members, worked for months dealing with VDOT, the tree removal company, and much more to make those last two projects a reality.

What do all those things have in common? Community donations during the KPWCA Membership Drive made them all possible.

I hope you've already circled September 26 on your calendar so you won't miss the fall membership meeting, when we will be holding elections; please see Mike Stonkey's article on this. We heard all the comments on Facebook related to the membership campaign (which starts in October), and we are looking into what we can implement moving forward.

Additionally, we are looking for a new Parks and Lake Committee (and Road Raiders) leader, to give Tom McCook a well-deserved respite after many years of "hard labor." It's such an important role to play, but one that you can do work for you and put your own spin on. Time commitment is flexible; please reach out to Tom (kpwroadraiders@gmail.com) or me with any questions.

I want to ask everyone reading this—whether you're new to the neighborhood or have lived here for years—to think about what YOU can contribute to the Civic Association and our friendly little corner of the world where people help each other out. What ideas might you have to improve something?

As always, you can reach me at president@kpwca.org. See you around the neighborhood!

Visit us at kpwca.org

Community Calendar

Herald Delivery – June 24

Eid al-Adha – June 28

Canada Day – July 1

Independence Day – July 4

Bastille Day – July 14

Herald Content Deadline – August 2

Purple Heart Day – August 7

Herald Online- August 18

Sarah G.J. Lennon
President, KPWCA

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Dumpster Day	Mary Hovland		
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Halloween Festival	Keith Jodoin	kjodoin@gmail.com	
Scholarships	Gayle Ostrom	geestrom@gmail.com	

How do I join the Kings Park West Civic Association?	How do I get my news in The Herald?
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 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 an endorsement by the KPWCA.

The Herald	How do I advertise in The Herald?
Published eight times a year by the KPWCA. Next deadline: August 2, 2023, for online publishing August 24. 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.	Classifieds: Classified ads for the January issue must be received no later than August 2, 2023, 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. Advertisements: Advertisements are received by Gayle Ostrom; please email classifieds@kpwca.org for rates.

KPWCA Board Offices Open for Nomination

By Michael Stonkey, KPWCA Vice President

It's almost that time of the year again when we have elections for new board members. However, before I get to the legal speak, let me just say that I'm always amazed at how many people say after the fact:

"Oh, I would have volunteered if I was asked..."

Well, this fall is your opportunity, because we're asking for new volunteers to help us shape the future of the Kings Park West Civic Association.

On September 26, in accordance with the by-laws, KPWCA will hold elections for board member and director positions. You can be a nominee (or nominate another KPWCA member) for the open positions whose two-year terms expire as of our September 26, 2023, meeting.

Nominees must be KPWCA members in good standing (meaning dues paid for the year), willing to serve the full term, act on behalf of, and for the benefit of, the KPWCA and its members, and be approved by ballot by the members, or their proxies, present at the meeting.

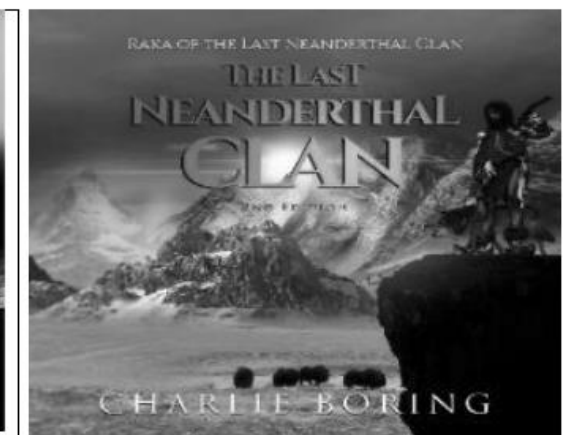
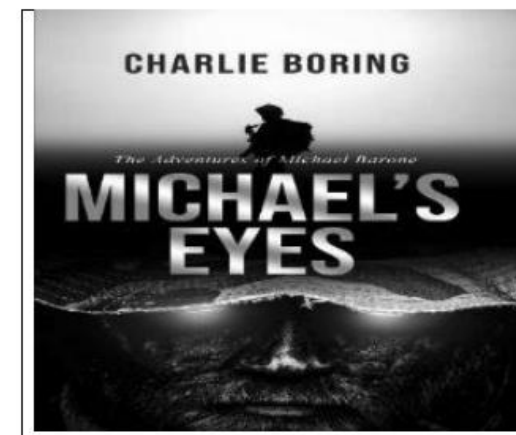
Two director positions and two member-at-large positions will be up for election. The incumbents of the director positions are Michael Stonkey (vice president) and Karen Emmons (treasurer). The incumbents of the member-at-large positions are Donna Thomas and Johnathan Reiser. Both Donna and Jonathan have expressed interest in running again for the member-at-large positions. We are accepting nominations for the vice president and treasurer positions. These positions must be filled for the Civic Association to function, and the incumbents **cannot** serve another term.

To nominate yourself or someone else prior to the meeting, contact Michael Stonkey, vice president of KPWCA, at vp@kpwca.org or (703) 509-9725, between now and September 26 or submit the nomination in person at the meeting.

If you have any questions about the responsibilities of the positions and time requirements, feel free to reach out to me or check out the job descriptions in our By-Laws on our website (kpwca.org)



Local Author, Charlie Boring, has published two books.





Freestanding Accessory Structure Location

Do you know about the Location Regulations for Freestanding Accessory Structures on Residential Lots in Fairfax County?.

Article 4 of the Zoning Ordinance regulates the type, size and location of freestanding accessory structures on a lot.

What is a Freestanding Accessory Structure?

An accessory structure is subordinate to a principal building on the same lot. Examples include detached garages, gazebos, playsets, and sheds.

Location in Front Yard

In most cases, any part of a property that lies between a street and the dwelling is a front yard. On lots that contain 36,000 square feet or less of land area, freestanding accessory structures are not permitted in any front yard. There are exceptions for the following to locate in front yards:

- ◆ **Trellises:** Up to two trellises are allowed, not to exceed eight feet in height and four feet in width.
- ◆ **Gates and gateposts:** Up to two gates are allowed, not to exceed eight feet in height; and up to four gate posts are allowed, not to exceed ten feet in height. Gates and gateposts must not exceed 15 percent of the lot width.
- ◆ **Basketball standards:** Must be at least 15 feet from a front lot line or street line, and 12 feet or the side setback of the applicable zoning district from a side lot line, whichever is less.
- ◆ **Flagpoles:** On a single-family lot, the height of a flagpole is limited to 25 feet and the flagpole may be located no closer than five feet from any front lot line or street line. The flagpole is also subject to the side and rear setback regulations that are described below.

Location in Side and Rear Yards (if not greater than 12 feet tall)

A freestanding accessory structure, which does not exceed 8.5 feet in height (measured from the highest point of the structure to the lowest point of adjacent grade, may be located in any part of any side yard or rear yard.

Turn Over

A freestanding accessory structure that is between 8.5 feet and 12 feet in height may be located as close as five feet to any side or rear lot line.

Location in Side and Rear Yards (if over 12 feet tall)

In a residential (R) zoning district, a freestanding accessory structure that exceeds 12 feet in height must meet the side setback requirement of that R district. In a planned development (P) district, the side setback may be determined by proffered yards. If there are no proffered yards, the side setback is eight feet in the PRC District and, in other P districts, the side setback is either the side setback of the most similar conventional R district or it can be equivalent to the distance of the existing dwelling to the side lot line. Further information on side setbacks for P district lots can be obtained from the Zoning Permits Section at 703-222-1082, TTY 711.

In all districts, a freestanding accessory structure that exceeds a height of 12 feet must be located a minimum distance equal to the structure's height from the rear lot line. For example, a detached garage that is 15 feet tall must be 15 feet away from the rear lot line.

Corner Lot Regulations

When applying the front yard regulations mentioned on Page 1, it is noted that corner lots have two or more front yards.

The rear lot line on a corner lot is the lot line that is most opposite and parallel the shortest street line. This is the lot line from which the applicable rear setback is required.

The applicable side setbacks must be maintained from all lot lines that are not the front lot line, street lines, or the rear lot line.

More information on zoning regulations for accessory structures is available from the Planner of the Day in the Zoning Administrator Division at 703-324-1314, TTY 711.

Structures over 256 square feet in size require a building permit. Also, most plumbing or electrical lines that are run to a structure require trade permits. Permit information is available from the Permit Application Center in Land Development Services at 703-222-0801, TTY 711, or email: LDSBuildingPermits@fairfaxcounty.gov.



To report a possible violation contact:

Fairfax County Department of Code Compliance
 12055 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA 22035
 Phone: 703-324-1300, TTY 711
 Web: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/code



To request this information in an alternate format, call the Department of Code Compliance.
 This Fairfax County, VA Publication (published July 2021) summarizes a few regulations. See relevant codes for specific requirements.

KPW Recommends

www.facebook.com/groups/kpwrecommends



by cathy deloach

Dirty Windows Contest Win Free Window Washing!

Now that pollen season has finally ended, it's time to clean our exteriors and let the beautiful sun shine in! Do your windows have noticeable dirt and grime? Post a picture of your yucky windows on the KPW Recommends Facebook page to be entered into a random drawing for free window washing. For **two** entries, write a compelling message on the soiled surface.



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The Fairfax Garden Corner

Charlie Boring

When I first moved to King's Park West in 1990, I would often see cottontail rabbits frolicking in the neighborhood and around Lake Royal. After a few years, they disappeared, probably because predators, such as foxes and often pet cats, had them for lunch.

In April, as I was working in my garden, weeding the strawberry and asparagus beds, a large rabbit leaped out of the asparagus bed. He/she did not seem particularly afraid of me and hung around the asparagus, waiting for me to leave. The return of rabbits to the area reminds me of a rule of nature that I learned years ago from my grandmother: "Where there is a void, one of nature's animals or plants will fill it."

In 2013, I planted two pomegranate bushes on the south side of my house. I like to plant in the landscaped area around the house using a method called edible landscaping. Using this method, the pomegranates were planted among the azaleas, other flowers, bush cherries, blackberries, and strawberries.

One of the pomegranates was an Angel Red variety that is supposed to have seeds small enough to allow swallowing of the seeds. The problem with this variety was that it was not well suited for zone 7a, which is our zone here in Kings Park West. I decided to plant this variety anyway. My theory was that if I planted it on the south side and near the house, it might have a micro-environment warm enough to survive our winters. I liberally used shredded hardwood mulch around the plant to protect the roots. Alas, it did not survive the first winter.

The second was a Russian red pomegranate that I projected would be able to survive winters in our zone, since it originated in a colder environment. I don't know if you recall the winter of 2013, but the temperatures

dropped to almost 0 degrees. My Russian red pomegranate survived that winter and continued to grow and bear fruit. I named her Tasha. She just calls me Dad.

A friend in Italy told me that, in order to produce more fruit, it is necessary to prune the pomegranate bush to rid it of unproductive growth. I also wanted to control the bush's height, so, I pruned it by top cutting. Apparently, that was a mistake, and the plant died back to the ground. I thought I had lost Tasha, but she has started growing new shoots from her roots. She is only a foot tall now, and I doubt that I will get any fruit this year.

This year I added a new, not-so-hardy plant to my garden that historically has proven suitable only to Zone 8. I am hoping that climate warming will allow my loquat tree to flourish.

I still have one rooted cutting from Tasha's pruning to give away to anyone that is interested in growing pomegranates. If interested, send an email to thefairfaxgardencorner@gmail.com.

This year my garden includes lettuce (for the rabbits), green beans, Swiss chards, tomatoes, garlic, eggplant, zucchini, peppers, peaches, pawpaws, pears, figs, cherries, blueberries, blackberries, raspberries, and a Vietnamese green called rau muong. I expect the rabbits, squirrels, chipmunks, and birds will devour most of the harvest, but I have already eaten cherries, strawberries, and asparagus. You have to be quick to get any fruit in King's Park West.

But back to the point of this story: The return of rabbits to our neighborhood is encouraged by a void of animals destined to eat my plants. I hope that I have planted enough for them and my own harvest.

Royal Lake Trail Project to Control Erosion

By Paul Gross

Eagle Scout candidate, Nick Luther of Scout Troop 697, has modified a section of the Royal Lake circuit trail with the goal of reducing erosion.

He worked extensively with the Fairfax County Park Authority, Friends of Royal Lake (FORL), and KPWCA to design the approach, determine and obtain appropriate resources, and complete the project. Tom McCook (FORL and KPWCA Parks and Lake lead) was the project sponsor.

The trail section of the modified Royal Lake circuit trail is in Royal Lake Park near the basketball courts. The design's objective was to modify the flow of water and reduce the extensive erosion on the trail. The design approach included adding three wooden rails (appear-like steps) on the trail to divert and spread the flow of water, thus reducing the flow of water directly down the trail.

We would like to thank Nick for taking on the project to improve the Royal Lake trail.



Parks and Lake Update

by Tom McCook

We had a great year this past school year with a few highlights.

September, December, March, May & June we had "normal" Road Raider days, ONLY 30 minutes on the second Saturday of the month, helping to improve the walkability of our wonderful community. Examples of the projects we accomplished are:

September – cleaned up the area around Commonwealth & Roberts and Robinson Secondary School

December – our annual effort to clear the sidewalks of Commonwealth at Crooked Creek Park from the tremendous amount of pine needles and leaves.

March – A new area! We found an old car bumper and over 15 bags of trash from the Guinea Road area, and we welcomed several new neighbors to support Road Raiders!

May – Pommeroy & Commonwealth – we cut back numerous bushes and low-hanging branches so that the sidewalks in this area (VDOT property) and safe for walking!

June – KPWCA sign improvement at Tapestry & Braddock, we improved the area with new plantings, cut back so over-grown bushes, and cleaned up a small, wooded area.

For BIG events in October, November, January, February & April – the neighbors gathered to conduct extensive clean-ups of the Royal Lake watershed for two hours on federal holiday Mondays or Earth Day in April. Shane's Creek, Crooked Creek, Rabbit Branch Park & Royal Lake for Earth Day to find that elusive plastic trash and make our environment better!!

We NEED more volunteers!

We plan similar events for the next school year, 2023-2024, and really need your support.

Please consider one Saturday or two to join our team!

If you have any questions, please give me a call/email.

Tom McCook
703.839.5205
Kpwordraiders@gmail.com

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world: indeed, it's the only thing that ever has... Margaret Mead

Road Raider objectives:

- a. Discover Nature, explore our parks and improve our community.
- b. Every single person and every piece of trash removed improves our Parks and environment.

Royal Lake Update

By Paul Gross

The Friends of Royal Lake (FORL) are pleased to announce the publication of the FORL Community Vision Plan for Royal Lake Parks. The plan's purpose is to determine and document community inputs for both a short-range and long-range vision for the parks: Lakeside Park and Royal Lake Park around Royal Lake. FORL's development of the plan involved a systematic approach with members of the community's participation. A significant input was a detailed park survey that yielded 433 responses.

The plan contains useful history and background information to support the complete understanding of FORL's vision, and the heart of the plan is split between:

Section III, Community Vision Projects, details 14 projects for enhancement and upgrade.

Appendix A, Royal Lake Proposed Upgrades and Enhancements, which provides an extensive, short-hand list of approximately 35 community desires for upgrades to park infrastructure organized into lists of completed projects, proposed, and planned capital improvements, and maintenance and ongoing support activities.

You may be wondering how the plan will be used. As FORL did four years ago with the first plan, we will use it as community input to Fairfax County political leadership, Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA), and the Department of Public Works and Environmental Services (DPWES) to reflect community views on park improvements.

The plan is a living document, and it is anticipated that Appendix A will be updated frequently.

The plan and supporting presentation will provide a convenient way for members of the community to track what has been accomplished and those future projects and tasks that are under consideration or proposed. The vision plan, vision presentation, and FORL Park survey are all available for your review on the FORL website at friendsofroyallake.org



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Site Work & Grading

and much more!

KPW Real Estate Corner
by Cathy DeLoach



Upgrading/Updating Before Listing? Is It Worth It?



Kings Park West is a neighborhood perpetually in demand. Our abundance of attractive amenities including walkable schools, pools, parks and lovely wooded lots continues to attract buyers. Drawbacks to for would-be KPW buyers? Dated kitchens, bathrooms, floor plans, and "aesthetics." So is it worth it to upgrade, or would selling "as is" render a similar financial outcome? Letting the buyer upgrade after sale?

A recent transaction in our neighborhood emphatically suggests that sellers should invest in upgrades to provide buyers with a move-in ready home and modern aesthetics - resulting in significantly more money at closing.

A Queen on Commonwealth Boulevard was listed in late December for \$620,000, the seller declining to do any upgrades prior to going on the market. The home sold in 13 days for \$575,000, \$45,000 under list price. The purchaser? An investor/flipper.



This home reappeared on the market in late March, fully upgraded, updated and staged. The list price? \$799,999. The home sold in 7 days for \$810,000, \$10,000+ over list. The upgrades could have easily cost \$100,000. However, had the original seller invested in those same upgrades, he would have netted a whopping extra \$135,000 at closing. Definitely worth doing.

Status	Address	List Price	Current Price	Status	Address	List Price	Current Price
SOLD!	4923 Wheatstone Dr	\$924,500	\$995,000	SOLD!	5302 Richardson Dr	\$750,000	\$750,000
SOLD!	10431 Finchley Ct	\$949,500	\$992,000	SOLD!	4900 Gainsborough Dr	\$729,500	\$741,000
SOLD!	10424 Collingham Dr	\$899,500	\$900,000	SOLD!	4787 Catterick Ct	\$750,000	\$729,900
SOLD!	5242 Morley Ct	\$849,500	\$883,000	SOLD!	10201 Lister Ct	\$675,000	\$728,000
SOLD!	5206 Claridge Ct	\$824,500	\$865,000	SOLD!	5127 Lavery Ct	\$729,950	\$716,000
SOLD!	4764 Farndon Ct	\$785,000	\$861,000	SOLD!	10448 Collingham Dr	\$674,500	\$685,000
SOLD!	5212 Mornington Ct	\$775,000	\$850,000	SOLD!	5213 Noyes Ct	\$700,000	\$680,000
SOLD!	4944 Gainsborough Dr	\$789,500	\$835,000	SOLD!	5115 Pommeroy Dr	\$675,000	\$675,000
SOLD!	10010 Eastlake Dr	\$784,900	\$815,000	SOLD!	10004 Commonwealth Blvd	\$725,000	\$675,000
SOLD!	10163 Bessmer Ln	\$749,000	\$810,000	SOLD!	9932 Commonwealth Blvd	\$620,000	\$575,000
SOLD!	9932 Commonwealth Blvd	\$799,999	\$810,000	Under Contract	5382 Gainsborough Dr	\$849,500	\$849,500
SOLD!	5215 Ashcroft Ct	\$795,000	\$795,000	Under Contract	5200 Pommeroy Dr	\$824,500	\$845,000
SOLD!	5418 Chatsworth Ct	\$785,000	\$790,000	Under Contract	5115 Pumphrey Dr	\$719,990	\$719,990
SOLD!	10158 Bessmer Ln	\$729,000	\$782,000	Under Contract	5100 Spring Rock Ct	\$620,000	\$650,000
SOLD!	10422 Stallworth Ct	\$765,000	\$765,000	Under Contract	5202 Commonwealth Ct	\$649,900	\$649,900
SOLD!	10161 Tapestry Ct	\$750,000	\$765,000	Under Contract	10303 Commonwealth Blvd	\$810,000	\$798,000
SOLD!	5218 Claridge Ct	\$755,000	\$755,000	Under Contract	5307 Richardson Dr	\$744,888	\$744,888
SOLD!	5313 Gainsborough Dr	\$750,000	\$750,000	For Sale	5210 Mornington Ct	\$ 800,000	\$ 800,000

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Taking a Look at Trails: Part 3

Greg Sykes (greg@grsykes.com)

Parts 1 and 2 of this series investigated good and poor trails with some ways to offset problems. This installment looks closer at trail issues.

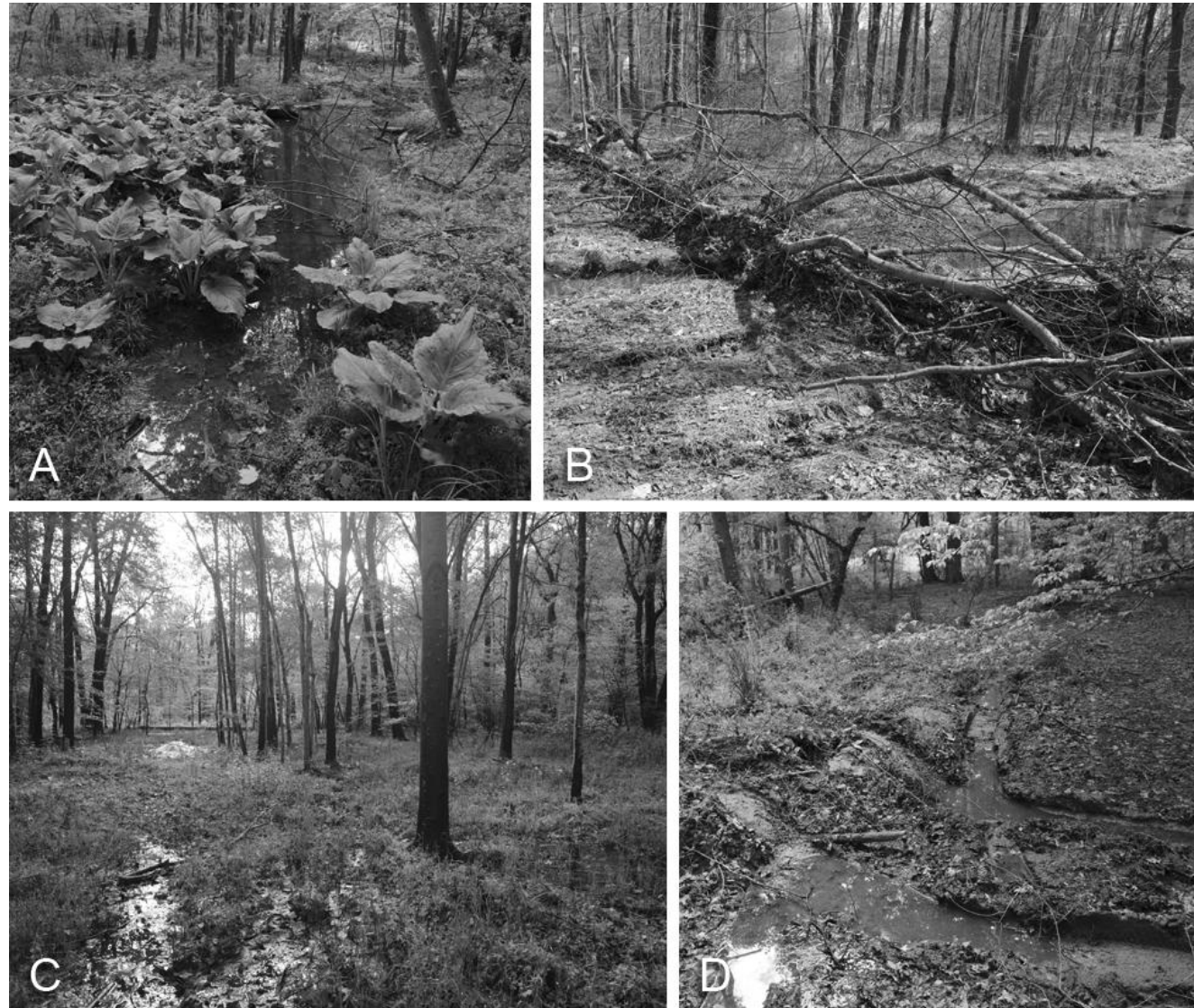


Figure 8. Filled with soggy wooded wetlands, sensitive vernal pools, and flash flood zones, the Crooked Creek Park vicinity epitomizes a bad place for trails. Saturated soil and wetland plants (A) such as the skunk cabbage (*Symplocarpus foetidus*) and debris piled from dangerous floods (B, with a pool towards the right in the back) are obvious signs that no trails should be situated here. All photographs were taken along the periodically cleared, low-lying sewer line easement, which is visible by the straight line of sight in the left side of image (C). Tire marks from a maintenance vehicle that kept getting stuck along this easement (D) reveal puddling after water drained out of the waterlogged soil. The notion of adding a trail through here is irresponsible regardless of public calls and political pressures to do so.

Another environmental concern is for the parkland’s archery deer management here. The program is especially needed due to large deer numbers, their impact on native plant populations, Chronic Wasting Disease’s presence in Fairfax County, and maintaining the herd’s overall health. Hunters’ tree stands must be at least 50 feet from trails and 100 feet from property lines, leaving little room to hunt should an official trail be placed here; more information is at <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/wildlife/archery-program>.



Figure 9. So-called “social trails” are forms of encroachment caused by people stomping and cutting in areas beyond the official trails for whatever reason. They take on many appearances—anything from a trampled path (A, with beige paint splashed on a tree trunk) to audacious brickwork (B). Social trails are never created with sustainability in mind and are vulnerable to previously discussed poor placement problems. The posted park rules state, “No animals, plants, minerals or artifacts may be disturbed or removed,” i.e., folks should leave no trace of their presence. Fairfax County Park Authority’s complete list of rules is published in the Park Policy Manual <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/publications/policy-manual>. Sites such as Huntley Meadows Park post cautionary signs where social trails start forming (C).

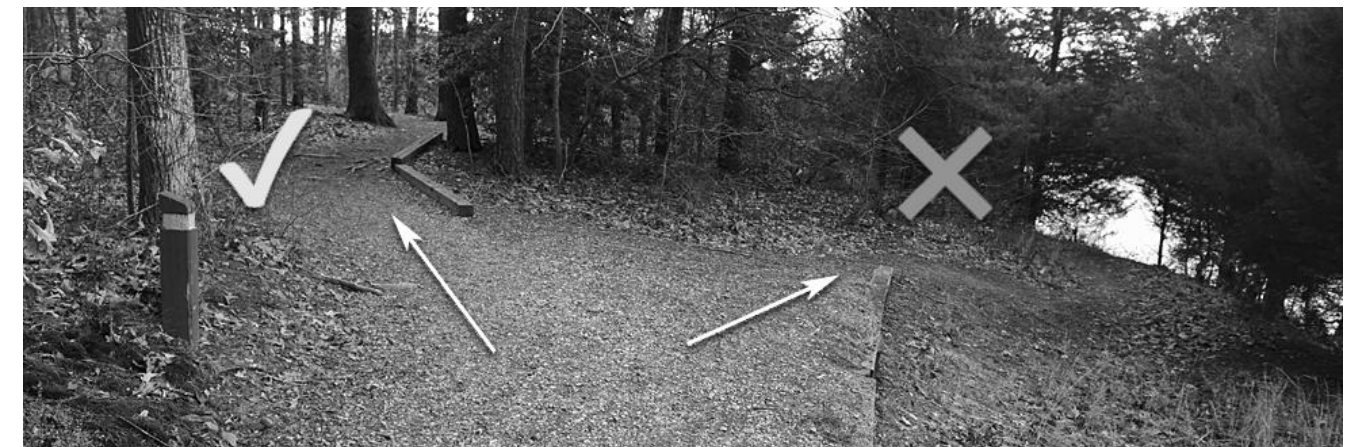


Figure 10. A good way to protect the parks is to stay on the main trail, shown here with a ✓, and off social trails. Using social trails only adds to the problems they cause. In this example, a park bench used to be near where the X appears but fishermen extended the path down to the lake. The best action for bank fishermen is to cast from open, grassy clearings or docks—away from poison ivy and where the fishing line gets tangled in branches. Submerged artificial fish habitats help improve the fishing at these designated areas.

This installment is available online at https://www.grsykes.com/pdf/eco-articles/122_2023-06.pdf. Part 4 concludes this series with an additional look at social trails. It shares an excellent resource for authorized trail maps.

The Problems with Digging in the Parks

By Greg Sykes (greg@grsykes.com)



Soil conservation is a major Fairfax County issue and is one of the factors driving the [Shanes Creek restoration project](#). Anyone digging for worms, "buried treasure," or other reasons, please do so on your property and not in the parks or common land. Pictured here at Royal Lake Park is typical of a bank where fishermen dig for bait worms and cause shoreline erosion. Furthermore, park workers have twisted ankles when they did not see the holes left and stepped in them, especially in forested sections. A great way to grow your own worms is with a compost pile; how to do so is easy and outlined in the article, *Free, Easy, Plentiful Live Bait for Fishing* (June 2020), the link is at https://www.grsykes.com/pdf/eco-articles/99_2020-06.pdf. Parents, if your kids are going fishing or exploring the parks, please make sure their shovels and picks stay home. Leaving no trace is the best way to visit natural areas. Thanks!

The online link to this article is https://www.grsykes.com/pdf/eco-articles/122a_2023-06.pdf

Friends of Royal Lake Newsletter Photo Contest: Calling All Photographers!

Many folks enjoy our Royal Lake parks with a camera at the ready. We invite all amateur photographers to send undoctored photos (cropped or light adjustment acceptable) to be considered for publication in the summer issue of the FORL newsletter.



Email a jpeg file with your entry by June 30 to:

jewelboxgardensbysuzanne@gmail.com

Include your name and a statement giving permission for your photo to be published in the newsletter if selected by the committee.



The five photo entry categories are:

- Art (natural)
- Animal (all species)
- Plant
- People*
- Scenic

*Photos of identifiable people must be accompanied by a release signed by the photo subject.

Enter up to 5 photos in as many categories as you wish!

Best of luck!

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KPWCA Scholarship Thank You

Dear KPWCA Scholarship Committee:

It is a great honor to receive your generous KWPCA Scholarship that will help fund the expenses of my education at St. John's University where I will pursue a degree in pharmaceutical chemistry.

Additionally, I also want to thank all the members of the KWPCA who work tirelessly to make our community a safe and charming space that allows young men and women to thrive. The collective effort of living in King's Park West serves as a reminder of the importance to give back to the community.

Once again, thank you for the scholarship. It is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,
Adam Dembicki

As I am moving on to the next chapter in my life at Virginia Tech to study Architecture.

I would like to thank the KPW community that provided me with a family that taught me many valuable lessons! It was really motivating and rewarding to give back to my community. Thank you to KPWCA to creating a beautiful place to grow up and giving me this opportunity!

Karena White

Would like to thank everyone for the opportunity to receive this scholarship. I have heard about it for many years and have always looked into applying. I would also like to thank the KPWCA and everyone in the neighborhood. I'll be attending Ithaca College in the fall and am so grateful that the community will help me while I'm there.

Thank you so much!

Sammie Macaranas



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Visit us on the web:
NVAHomeServices.com

Girl Scouts Updates!

In May, Girl Scout troops in kindergarten through 11th grade from KPW and surrounding neighborhoods embarked on an Enchanted Forest adventure at Camp Coles Trip in Stafford to hold their annual encampment event.

With 350 total participants (girls and adults), Scouts participated in high adventure activities like kayaking, canoeing, archery, slingshots, tomahawk throwing, and hiking! Scouts also did crafts, practiced fire-making skills, and dabbled in astronomy with the help of a giant inflatable planetarium on loan from the Girl Scout council. Over 20 Girl Scout troops camped overnight, some for the first time!

Can't wait to see what Girl Scout adventures await us next year! If you have a school-aged girl interested in joining a troop next year, please contact SU5415info@gmail.com.

Interested in joining Scouts? Email su5415info@gmail.com for more information on how to join for next school year!





Interested in Girl Scouts for Your Girl!

Girl Scouts become leaders by making new friends, building skills, and discovering the world around them. Call us or go online to learn more about how your family can become a Girl Scout family.

To learn more about Girl Scout opportunities for girls

Jennifer King and Nina Cox
 Laurel Ridge Troop Organizers
SU5415info@gmail.com

OR

Eric Schwartz
 Membership Specialist
 703-372-4345
eschwartz@GSCNC.org



<https://bit.ly/girlscouts-5415>

These materials are neither sponsored nor endorsed by the Fairfax County School Board, the Superintendent, or this school.



¿Te Interesa en Girl Scouts para su niña?

Las Girl Scouts se convierten en líderes al hacer nuevos amigos, desarrollar habilidades y descubriendo el mundo que les rodea. Texto o conéctese en línea para obtener más información sobre cómo su familia puede convertirse en una familia Girl Scout.

Para más información sobre las oportunidades para niñas de K-12 grado,

Texto o email:

Eric Schwartz
 703-372-4345

eschwartz@GSCNC.org

Estos materiales no están patrocinados ni respaldados por la Junta Escolar del Condado de Fairfax, el Superintendente o esta escuela.

gscnc.org | 4301 Connecticut Ave NW, Washington, DC 20008 | (202) 237-1670 | [@gscnc](https://twitter.com/gscnc)

Cub Scout Pack 1967 News

Pack 1967 was hosted by VFW Post 8469 for a special Memorial Day Pack meeting. Ken LaPlante spoke to the Pack about the true meaning of this day of remembrance. Scouts were also allowed to view the post's Battlefield Cross and learn about its symbolism and history. In addition, parents of our Scouts who are veterans shared their

personal stories with each Den, and discussed what this day means for them.

Scouts had a blast and learned the importance of honoring those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom.

The Pack has also been busy attending campouts and wrapping up all their rank advancements as we approach the end of the scouting year.

The Webelos attended a joint campout with members of the Boys Scouts on May 6-7 at Sandy Point State Park. The Webelos swam, hiked, fished, and learned a little about what camping will be like when they bridge next year. This included planning and cooking the meals themselves and tenting without their parents.



The Bears have been hard at work the past few weeks learning how to safely use pocketknives and plan out woodworking projects. They have also used Royal Lake to seek out living things and find evidence of animals that have passed through.

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

KPW SOCCER - RECREATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE

PRE-K TO 6TH GRADE

ALL PRACTICES AND GAMES AT LAKESIDE PARK (ROYAL LAKE)

FALL SEASON BEGINS: SEPTEMBER 9, 2023

REGISTRATION OPENS JULY 1: WWW.KPWSOCCER.ASSN.LA

A NEIGHBORHOOD TRADITION AND LOTS OF FUN!



Activity Page

I SPY Stars & Stripes



- 9
- 7
- 5
- 6
- 5
- 10
- 7
- 7
- 6
- 4
- 7
- 4
- 9
- 12

Sudoku

	8			3			
	2	6	5	8			4
		4	9			7	
		3				4	8
4		8		3	7	5	2
	9			6	3		
					2		
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2		5						
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		4						
			1	9				
	3	6	8		2		4	9
				2	6		8	
					3			
	1	2	4					

Word Search 4th of July

M V B C U A E M H A Q E Z Q F L I E V W
 D I H O D U N P Q I P W R Z Y F I G R X
 T W T C R E M K Z I X I H X E R L K B S
 Z H L P B C N X Y G O T I B H X R F N J
 O Q I N D E P E N D E N C E T O Z A K G
 O D A P E Y K L E D J S H X U M R C Q W
 S I I J K E D A R A P V I L J W H I B Q
 Z X H U S P U X V P E V B L B B H R J F
 K J P Z H A O C J K Q I O X I E F E H Y
 J W L Y I T A F Z B U P F E F B E M K R
 H M E W B R D E O I O Y A G T S E A M Z
 E F D R A I V Y Q I N O A W N G O R F W
 E V A Q R O L T N X Y L U J V M A F T G
 P R L B B T M O D E E R F L D H Z L N Y
 R E I F E I E D S U T J D G J Z P N F O
 C M H U Q C H Z B J M T M K D S J X D N
 O M P D U Z T L D M S P T Y Q O J J Y E
 I U S T E F N C G Z K V S S R I Y E I Q
 Q S B M X W A P S D H N D D N A L G N E
 T B T S F I R E W O R K S K D E Y V X P

- AMERICA
- ANTHEM
- BARBEQUE
- ENGLAND
- FIREWORKS
- FLAG
- FREEDOM
- INDEPENDENCE
- JULY
- LIBERTY
- PARADE
- PATRIOTIC
- PHILADELPHIA
- SUMMER

The Property Sisters have listed and sold almost half of all homes sold in Kings Park West year-to-date! That's 10 out of a total of 25 homes!



Status	Address	Original List Price	Current Price
Closed	4923 Wheatstone Dr	\$924,500	\$995,000
Closed	10431 Finchley Ct	\$949,500	\$992,000
Closed	10424 Collingham Dr	\$899,500	\$900,000
Closed	5242 Morley Ct	\$849,500	\$883,000
Closed	5206 Claridge Ct	\$824,500	\$865,000
Under Contract	5382 Gainsborough Dr	\$849,500	\$849,500
Under Contract	5200 Pommeroy Dr	\$824,500	\$845,000
Closed	4944 Gainsborough Dr	\$789,500	\$835,000
Closed	4900 Gainsborough Dr	\$729,500	\$741,000
Closed	10448 Collingham Dr	\$674,500	\$685,000



(571) 276-9421

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

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Mail advertisement and payment (KPWCA) to:

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MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING FOR TEENS AND YOUNG ADULTS:

Julia Bettge is a Licensed Professional Counselor who specializes in adolescent issues including anxiety, depression, life transitions, self-esteem, and relationships. Call or email to set up a free consultation. 703-213-2334 or juliabettge@protonmail.com or juliabettgecounseling.com

AFFORDABLE HOUSE CLEANING:

15 years of experience. Monday through Saturday, weekly, bi-weekly, move-in-move out. Free estimate and references can be provided. Call, text or email Giovanna at 571-236-0855 or gioturquoise12@gmail.com

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) or 703-378-4059 or mariasmartcleaning@gmail.com

ALTERATIONS FOR WOMEN AND MEN:

Custom dress making. Wedding dresses. Call Bok Kim at 703-323-0979.

PIANO LESSON:

Affordable. Over 35 years of experience. BA, MA and doctoral work in piano performance. Diverse, fun, challenging programs. Instruction tailored to individual goals and motivation. For a free trial, call (703)955-0058.

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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. Text or call Deborah at 571.278.7521

LAWN MOWING/YARD WORK:

Excellent lawn mowing, edging, and finishing touches by an industrious young man. Also able to do mulching, raking and other yard work. Please call or text Ethan at 703.677.0948

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 hbrady22@gmail.com.

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STATE AND PARK QUARTERS:

Fill out those collections with uncirculated coins. Contact Bob Mitchell at rktcoins@cox.net Appraisals are also done. Other numismatic services.

FUN PART TIME JOB FOR MOMS:

Local dog walking and pet sitting company, established in 2007, is currently seeking fit adults for permanent year-round positions. If you love dogs, walking, and the outdoors, we have the job for you. Join our team of local moms, retirees, and military spouses. You need a cell phone, a reliable vehicle, internet, and a flexible personality. Call Abbie at 703-473-9768.

PUZZLED BY SCOUT PATCHES?

Boy Scout and Girl Scout – I'll sew them on for you. \$2.00 per patch. Easy drop off and pickup in KPW. Call or text Louise at 703.867.1649.

SANDY'S FAMILY HAIRCUTS:

Family haircuts, color highlights. Cut and blow-dry, roller set, and up-style. Please call or text to make an appointment with Sandy at 571-594-9869 (Closed Sundays).

WINDOW CLEANING SERVICE:

MARINE WINDOW CLEANING LLC: An insured window cleaning company that offers interior and

exterior window cleaning services. Residential and storefront cleanings. Free estimates. Call, text or email at 703.559.5627 or marinewindowcleaning@gmail.com

HITEC-TTS, LLC

(licensed and insured): HITEC-TTS, LLC Home Remodeling & Handyman. Licensed & Insured. Discounted Rates for KPW Neighbors. For a Free Consultation & Estimate, Please TEXT Mike at: 703-679-7571

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 or protect.inspect@gmail.com

EXCEPTIONAL ELECTRIC SERVICES:

Sarah and Family Electrical. Neighborhood favorite on www.nextdoor.com. Circuit panel service and replacement; residential EV charging stations; whole house surge suppression; security lighting, fans, outlets; wiring, troubleshooting, repairs. Up Front Pricing on website. Major credit cards. Licensed. Insured. 703-495-3448 or ryan@sarahandfamily.com

www.sarahandfamily.com

FIVE STAR BOOK:

The Short Man of Nuremberg by M. Gilbert Steiner provides action, adventure and romance to keep your morale high. Introducing Gus, a Black Russian Terrier. Available on amazon.com.

ETHICAL DECISION MAKING:

Subscribe (at no cost to you) to Conscience Guide Team (YouTube or Rumble). Sheepdog and Shepherd will assist you in steering a steady course between Scylla and Charybdis. Subscribe and thrive.



2023 Community Survey

The Kings Park West Civic Association values feedback from the community. If you have any questions or would like to share additional thoughts, please contact membership@kwpc.org.



Scan this code or visit kwpc.org to complete the survey online:

1. Are you currently a member of the KPW Civic Association?

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

2. If you answered "No" to the first question, which of the following options best explains why you aren't currently a member of the KPW Civic Association? If you answered "Yes" or "I don't know," please skip this question.

Select all that apply:

- I'm not familiar with the Civic Association
- I forgot to join
- I don't think the Civic Association benefits me
- The \$25 annual dues are too expensive
- I live in an HOA and don't want to pay for both
- I don't understand the difference between the Civic Association and the HOA.
- I rent my home
- I don't live in KPW full time
- Other:

3. To the best of your knowledge, what does the KPW Civic Association do?

4. Please rate the following benefits of the KPW Civic Association on a scale of one to five, with one meaning not important and five meaning extremely important:

	1	2	3	4	5	Neutral/No Opinion
Halloween Festival						
Spring Egg Hunt						
Dumpster Days						
Park restrooms and dog waste stations						
Common area maintenance (including entrances, parks, and lake cleanups)						
College scholarships						
The Herald						
Membership Directory						
Website (kpwca.org)						
Advocacy with County and Park Authority officials						

5. Is there anything you'd like to see the KPW Civic Association do that we don't already?

6. Everyone benefits from the KPW Civic Association, but only half of residents are members, leaving us with limited resources. Would you support or oppose the following budget cuts?

	Strongly Oppose	Somewhat Oppose	Neutral/No Opinion	Somewhat Support	Strongly Support
Offering the Herald only to members					
Offering community events (including Halloween Festival and Spring Egg Hunt) only to members					
Eliminating the membership directory (printed and delivered every two years with contact info of members)					
Raising Civic Association membership dues from \$25 to \$30					

7. What do you think would motivate people to join the KPW Civic Association?

8. Do you have any suggestions for cutting the budget or raising additional funds for the KPW Civic Association?

9. What do you think would motivate people to volunteer for the KPW Civic Association?

10. Would you like to volunteer for the KPW Civic Association?

Select all that apply

- Block Captain/Membership
- Dumpster Day
- Herald Newsletter
- Parks & Lake
- Streets & Signboards
- Spring Egg Hunt
- Halloween Fall Festival
- Board/At Large Member
- No

11. Would you be interested in joining the KPW Civic Association email list?

- Yes | Email Address: _____
- No

12. The following information is optional. All information shared with us will be kept confidential.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

How long have you lived in KPW? _____

To submit your survey, please scan and email it to membership@kpwca.org or mail it to KPWCA, PO Box 7114, Fairfax Station, VA 22039.

Thank you for completing the 2023 Kings Park West Civic Association Community Survey! We value feedback from our neighbors and appreciate your time. If you have any questions or would like to share additional thoughts, please contact membership@kpwca.org.

