



June 2026

Vol. 56, Issue 2

Kings Park West Civic Association

Hey neighbors!

Put August 1st on your calendar. We are getting together for a summer barbecue at Royal Lake, and I hope you will come. We are still working out the details, but here is what I know: there will be good food, good people, and a celebration for our volunteers. If someone in Kings Park West deserves that recognition, please send us their name. Details on how to nominate are coming soon. We also have a couple of open roles if you have ever thought about getting more involved:

- **Membership Chair:** We are looking for someone with a communications background who wants to help us reimagine how we welcome and engage with our members.
- **Vice President:** We are looking for someone who has led a team, a committee, or a community group and wants to bring that experience to our board. The VP will help run the Eggstravaganza, our beloved spring egg hunt, and pitch in where needed.

Come find us on August 1st and we can tell you more. Hope to see you there.

As always, feel free to contact me at president@kpwca.org with any ideas or suggestions. See you around the neighborhood!

Helen Santoro
President, KPWCA

Community Calendar

Loving Day – June 12, 2026
 The Herald Delivery – June 13, 2026
 KPWCA Membership meeting – June 13, 2026
 KPWCA Monthly Meeting – June 16, 2026
 Juneteenth – June 19, 2026
 Father's Day – June 21, 2026
 Independence Day – July 4, 2026
 KPWCA Monthly Meeting – July 21, 2026
 The Herald Deadline – August 15, 2026
 KPWCA Monthly Meeting – August 18, 2026
 Back to School Day – August 24, 2026
 Labor Day – September 7, 2026
 Patriot Day – September 11, 2026
 Grandparents' Day – September 13, 2026



2026 AT A GLANCE

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
18th: Scholarship Form opens for applications	14th: Herald Submission Deadline	14th: Herald Delivery 22nd: SPRING EGGSTRAVAGANZA	11th: Dumpster Day! 10th: Scholarship application deadline	16th: Herald Submission Deadline	13th: Herald Delivery 13th: Membership meeting
Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Happy 4 th of July!	15th: Herald Submission Deadline	12th: Herald Delivery 22nd: Fall Membership Meeting	17th: FALL FESTIVAL!	14th: Herald Submission Deadline 14th: Dumpster Day!	12th: Herald Delivery

KINGS PARK WEST CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Kings Park West Civic Association 5616i Ox Road #7114 Fairfax Station, VA 22039 General Information: board@kpwca.org Website: kpwca.org		
Officers		Email
President	Helen Santoro	president@kpwca.org
Vice President	Vacant - this could be you!	vp@kpwca.org
Secretary	Pamela Thibodeau	secretary@kpwca.org
Treasurer	Alan Morris	treasurer@kpwca.org
Members-at-Large	Jeremy Hatfield Rosemary Cox-Galhotra Jonathan Reiser	boardmember1@kpwca.org boardmember2@kpwca.org boardmember3@kpwca.org
Committees		
Common Grounds Maintenance	Laura Hall / Linda Reamy	
Membership	Vacant - this could be you!	
Parks and Lake	Shannon Leary	parks@kpwca.org
Communications		
Herald Content Editor	Coming soon!	editor@kpwca.org
Herald Layout Editor	Rose Luczak	editor@kpwca.org
Herald Advertising and Classifieds	Vacant - this could be you!	classified@kpwca.org
Signboards	Jonathan Reiser	boardmember3@kpwca.org
Web Admin	Tim Hartle	website@kpwca.org
Community Services		
Invasive Species	Greg Sykes	greg@grsykes.com
Special Activities		
Fall Festival	Keith Jodoin	kjodoin@gmail.com
Scholarships	Pamela Thibodeau	board@kpwca.org

How do I join the Kings Park West Civic Association? Visit our website (kpwca.org) to complete the online membership form and to pay online. You can also print the membership form from the website to fill it out and mail your form and check to PO Box #7114 Fairfax Station, VA 22039	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 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 Published in print four times a year and hand-delivered to all 1,900 homes in KPW. Next deadline: August 15, 2026 for September 2026 print edition. Note: Acceptance of articles and advertising does not constitute an endorsement by the KPWCA nor liability for products or services advertised in its publications.	How do I advertise in The Herald? Please contact classifieds@kpwca.org for more information on publishing an ad or a classified in The Herald. The deadline for submissions for the September edition is August 15, 2026. The 2026 ad pricing structure is: <table><tr><td></td><td>1-2 issues</td><td>3-4 issues</td></tr><tr><td>▪ 1/8 page</td><td>\$30/issue</td><td>\$27/issue</td></tr><tr><td>▪ 1/4 page</td><td>\$55/issue</td><td>\$50/issue</td></tr><tr><td>▪ 1/2 page</td><td>\$110/issue</td><td>\$100/issue</td></tr><tr><td>▪ Full page</td><td>\$360/issue</td><td>\$350/issue</td></tr></table> Classified ads are \$5 per issue for 35 words.		1-2 issues	3-4 issues	▪ 1/8 page	\$30/issue	\$27/issue	▪ 1/4 page	\$55/issue	\$50/issue	▪ 1/2 page	\$110/issue	\$100/issue	▪ Full page	\$360/issue	\$350/issue
	1-2 issues	3-4 issues														
▪ 1/8 page	\$30/issue	\$27/issue														
▪ 1/4 page	\$55/issue	\$50/issue														
▪ 1/2 page	\$110/issue	\$100/issue														
▪ Full page	\$360/issue	\$350/issue														



IN KINGS PARK WEST

By Linda H. Bassert

I visited a client recently, on completion of her project, so I could see the most recent installations, and take photos. After she had shown me through the transformed spaces, she shared that her husband had commented, "I love our House!" She replied to him, "No - I love our HOME!"

They had moved into a home which had some rooms with dark wallpaper, and deep colors. A basement home office had dark built-in cabinetry. Other spaces had neutral walls with skimpy window treatments in the same neutral colors, just disappearing into the rooms. These were not the right choices for this couple.

After we made key changes to many of their paint colors, added café shutters in some spaces which previously had blinds, to open up the view, we then added new fabric window treatments in four rooms. The end result was making the home lighter, airier, and with better color and pattern relationships across the spaces. They loved the feeling each space gave them and felt it was more personal in ways years of living in military housing had never felt.

Her comment caused me to consider – **what does transform a house into a home?** The answer has been different for every client, and for friends and family alike. I am going to address this topic across several articles, since the topic is complex.

I've discerned five different priorities when working with a client to create a transformation. For some, it's all about **comfort**. This homeowner, or this family, needs comfortable seating with ways to put their feet up, comfortable sleep-inducing mattresses, and soft rugs and carpeting, the kind which feel great under bare feet. Seating needs to fit their body with the right seat height and depth to be comfortable, and a sofa might need to be wider and deeper to serve as a napping zone when not needed for a large group, while having some supportive pillows on that sofa for times when that deep sofa is used for sitting up. If pets are allowed up on the furniture, is there room for a lounging pet and a human to be comfortable on the same shared seating? Is furniture at a good conversation distance, so the space feels comfortable for everyone in it?

Is there an uncomfortable echo in the room? If so, it may need rugs, or draperies, to soak up some of that sound.

Comfort is also a consideration in the dining room: Are the dining chairs the kind you can comfortably linger in, as conversations continue past the meal, or does everyone want to flee to another room rather than remain in hard and uncomfortable seating? One of my clients specifically stated this as a goal – she wanted a dining room where people could linger for hours. We chose cozy colors, and very comfortable upholstered dining chairs, to help achieve that transformation.

And of course, we need a comfortable bed to sleep, and a comforting space in which to start and end our day.

Once those elements are in place, then what are the colors which make spaces feel relaxing and cozy, warm and inviting? Which color of lighting works best for mood lighting



Before – The Dining Room had harsh colors, a smaller table, and only two chairs.



After – A cozy Dining Room Transformation.

at night, and for task lighting in a few places? And which choice of window treatments give a sense of privacy where it is needed, and allow for light and temperature control at the windows? Home is a place to unwind, relax, and recharge.

For some, convenience and efficiency are paramount. For this homeowner, the questions are different. How do we change the kitchen cabinets to store things better, and make it easier to find kitchen tools, and easier to work in the space to do the kind of cooking we like to do? How do we organize a pantry area to make it work better for food storage? How do we organize our closets to function better? Do we need more closet space?

In the bathrooms, perhaps taller toilets are needed, or wider countertops, and better storage below. Would a shower be more convenient to use than a tub/ shower combo? How do we improve lighting, and add dimmers so we can adjust the volume of light for how the space is being used? Can we change out windows to tilt in for cleaning? How do we organize the garage so that it functions better as a workshop as well as a place to house our cars and sports equipment, and other storage needs? How do we adjust furniture placement for better and more efficient traffic flow through the rooms? Would a more open floor plan make more sense the way we live in the house?

This homeowner also asks, "What technology could make things more convenient?" Alexa, Google Home, Apple HomeKit, and even hardwired home integration systems such as Control Four and Savant all can enable us to turn on lamps with voice control, operate TVs and computer monitors easily, and open and close window treatments, with pre-scheduled scenes and timing, or operated via remote control and apps. All garage doors and televisions

now come with remote controls. More and more clients are looking to add that convenience throughout the home, with automated draperies, shades, and lighting. As more manufacturers look to include automation in what they offer in their product lines, costs are coming down, and adoption rates are rising.

There are three other priorities to address, so stay tuned!

Do feel free to reach out and ask, if you need help, or would like insights on how to transform your house to feel more at home, in Kings Park West.

Sincerely, Linda

Linda Bassert is the Design Principal of Masterworks Window Fashions & Design, LLC, an award-winning interior design and decorating firm, based from her Kings Park West home. Linda was named Designer of the Year 2024 at the 2024 International Window Coverings Expo Grace Awards, and her business has been awarded Best of Houzz 2025 in Design and Service. Masterworks can be found on Houzz, Facebook and Instagram, as well as at www.masterworksdesign.com

KPW Grown Flowers For Every Occassion

Flowers for DIY Bouquet Bars, Bridal Showers, Birthday Parties, and Special Events.

Nature's Beauty Flower Farm offers buckets of fresh, locally grown flowers for celebrations of all kinds.

Looking for a bouquet instead? Visit us at the Burke Farmers Market every Saturday from 8 AM-12 PM, or join one of our monthly flower subscriptions.
Locally Grown. Seasonal. Sustainable.

Nature's Beauty Flower Farm
www.naturesbeautyflowerfarm.com



Order Flowers Today



KPW Recommends



by cathy deloach

Mosquitoes don't suck...oh wait! Yes, they do!

As the weather begins to warm up, it's the perfect time to enjoy the outdoor spaces you've worked so hard to enhance. Don't let a swarm of mosquitoes disrupt your tranquility!

At the DeLoach household, we adore outdoor living, and we've done research and trial-and-error experimentation to find the best products. Our top choice for tackling mosquitoes is undoubtedly KICKOUTOR® Mosquito Repellent, easily accessible on Amazon.

[Click here to order.](#)

You can place them in pots filled with rocks or soil or consider using decorative incense holders. Be sure to grab some before your next outdoor gathering!



To seek recommendations from your neighbors, or to recommend a contractor or service that has done an amazing job, head on over the the KPW Recommends Facebook group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/kpwrecommends>.

FORL: Neighbor Volunteers Work to Improve the Royal Lake Trail

By Andy Karp

On April 11th, a group of 21 neighborhood volunteers joined with the Friends of Royal Lake (FORL) to eliminate some of the puddles and muddy stretches that form on the trail when it rains. Work was done along the south side of the lake, between Shane's Creek and the earth dam.

The Fairfax County Park Authority provided "stone dust" (also called "crushed stone"), which we spread on problematic stretches of the trail, with care to slope the trail surface towards the lake to help with draining.

We were joined by Rachel Kolb and her Girl Scout Junior Troop 54148 who came out in force (along with parents) and shoveled and spread gravel over a long stretch of trail.

In addition to adding stone dust, work included placing pipes under the trail to bring water from one side to the other instead of having it flow across the trail. The inlets to these pipes were preceded by adding two French drains to minimize clogging and maximize flow.

The French drains collect water on the side of the trail away from the lake and are connected to a pipe that crosses under the trail to bring the water towards the lake. The inlet part of a French drain consists of a trench with a perforated pipe surrounded by gravel, placed in an area that needs draining. This is connected to a pipe that conveys the water to a better location. For more information on French drains, please go to the Friends of Royal Lake website (friendsofroyallake.org) for an article in the Spring 2026 Newsletter.

FORL appreciates all the support from the volunteers to make this a successful workday to improve the Royal Lake trail.

BEFORE WORK ON TRAIL

AFTER WORK ON TRAIL



April 5, 12 hours after
5/8 inch of rain



April 30, 12 hours after
3/8 inch of rain



Progress on New Rabbit Branch Stream Valley Trail

By Paul Gross

Construction on the new Rabbit Branch Stream Valley Trail is nearing completion. As many of you know, this trail runs from Commonwealth Blvd. (across from Crooked Creek Park) to Lakeside Park. Most of the new paved trail is complete. What remains is the installation of a new fiberglass bridge (across the unnamed tributary of Rabbit Branch) and completion of the area from that bridge to the Royal Lake circuit trail. The Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) anticipates the bridge material to be received and installed in June. The new bridge will be of the same type and style as the Rabbit Branch bridge installed on the Royal Lake circuit trail in December 2025. The contractor has until September to complete the trail; however, we anticipate an earlier completion date that is based primarily on the delivery and installation of the bridge.

In a previous Herald article, we explained the purpose and funding of the trail. Not covered in that article is that this trail will have some unique features because it is in a stream valley. The trail has two types of paving--concrete and asphalt. FCPA has evaluated the trail's impact on the surrounding area and came up with a low maintenance solution for a sustainable trail during normal times and high-water situations. The section of the trail with concrete is designed for infrequent high-water situations. Based on location, the concrete section of the trail is designed to allow the water to flow over the trail during high-water without damaging the trail and impacting the environment. The remaining sections of the trail will be asphalt. In those sections, FCPA has installed six French drains to assist in controlling water on those parts of the trail.

We are looking forward to the new trail as it will be an entrance to the park that will provide easier access for those living in another part of Kings Park West and will be a pleasant walk.



Community-Led Speed Calming on Commonwealth Blvd

By Rosemary Cox-Galhotra

As a homeowner in KPW for nearly 13 years, I love our neighborhood and realize how important Commonwealth Blvd is to our community. In addition to heavy car travel, it is also frequently crossed by pedestrian and bicycle traffic as we visit the pool or Lakeside Park or as our kids walk or bike to school. Over the years, KPW residents have flagged excessive speeding on Commonwealth Blvd as a significant safety hazard for those attempting to walk across or park along the road, pull in and out of their driveways, or make turns onto Commonwealth Blvd.

While we can and should work with Fairfax County Police to ensure the 25 MPH speed limit is enforced, there is a program in Fairfax County called the **Residential Traffic Administration Program (RTAP)** that enables a **community-led effort** to install **speed calming measures** on roads that meet specific criteria. Portions of the eligibility criteria are determined through a traffic study. I am writing to update you on our effort to install speed calming measures on Commonwealth Blvd using the RTAP program.

With the support of the Kings Park West Civic Association (KPWCA), KPW residents started the RTAP process in October 2025 for **Commonwealth Blvd between Guinea Rd and the 3-way-Stop at Gainsborough Dr.** The county conducted a traffic study on October 29, 2025, and **we easily qualified for the program.** The criteria for the program and our study results are listed in the table below. (Note that the 85th percentile speed for eastbound traffic was almost 20 MPH over the posted speed limit!).

We next assembled a task force of KPW residents to work directly with the Braddock District Supervisor's office and Fairfax

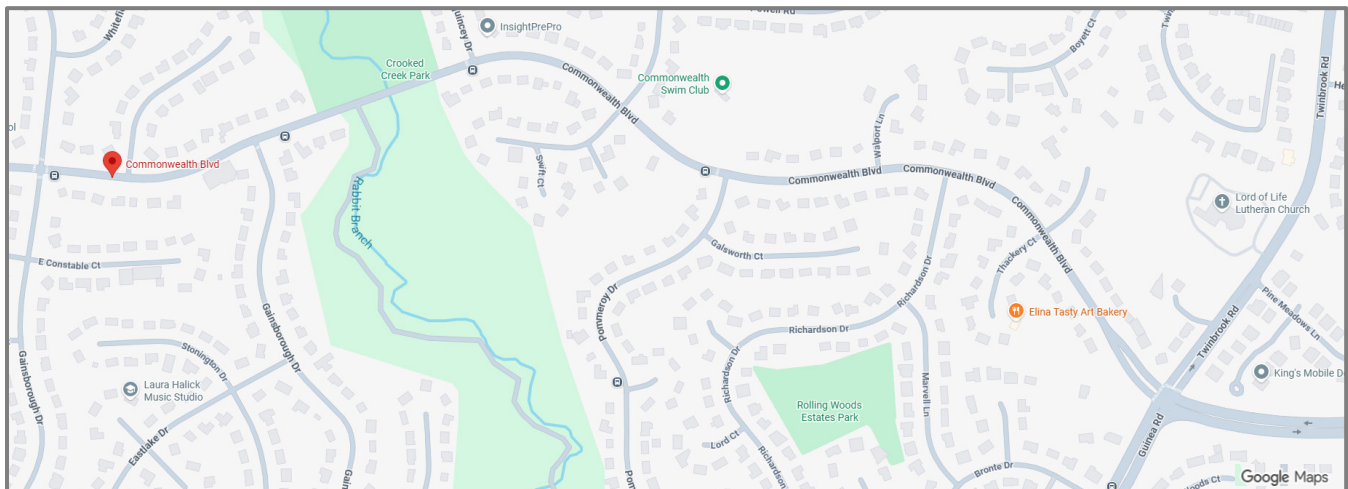
County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) on this issue. In April 2026, the task force met with FCDOT, who **recommended strategic placement of speed humps** (12 ft. long x 3 in. tall) **and/or speed tables** (22 ft. long x 3 in. tall) – these are gentle slopes, NOT harsh speed bumps – to slow traffic on Commonwealth Blvd and improve overall safety in our community. **We are now reaching out to a subset of homeowners along Commonwealth Blvd to ask for their support in installing these speed-calming devices near their homes.** Next, FCDOT will host a community meeting to discuss the plan in detail and answer any questions. We will publicize that event well in advance.

As mentioned, the RTAP program is designed to be a community-led effort. It will culminate in a balloting process for our neighbors who are located around these speed calming devices. We will share more information, including who is in this voting area and when and how to vote, as soon as it is available. (I realize yet ANOTHER vote may not be exciting, but I assure you this will have a DIRECT, positive impact on our neighborhood.) At least 50% of homes in the balloting area must turn in a YES vote for these speed calming measures to be adopted (not voting counts as a NO).

At this stage, I want to invite any neighbors who have immediate questions or want to **get in touch with the taskforce** to please email us at: boardmember2@kpwca.org. We are happy to speak with you!

Likewise, any neighbors who would like to assist with this effort are encouraged to reach out. Thank you!

CRITERIA	QUALIFIER	REQUIREMENT MET?	24-Hour Traffic Study Result (10/29/2025)
Road Type	Residential street classified as local, collector, or minor arterial	Local	
Speed Limit	25 MPH	Pass	
Traffic Volume	500-6000 vehicles in 24-Hour period	Pass	5,229
85 th Percentile Speed	Greater than or equal to 35 MPH in one or both directions	Pass	Eastbound: 43 MPH Westbound: 38 MPH



IMA Concepts Adapted by Other Institutions

By Greg Sykes (greg@grsykes.com)

In 2006, the Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) launched a two-year pilot project called the Invasive Management Area (IMA) program. Briefly, volunteer site leaders were trained by FCPA staff to host habitat restoration workdays that 1) removed specific invasive plant species and 2) may involve native plant reintroductions. The site leaders had FCPA permission to work only on FCPA property; volunteers joining the session worked under an umbrella permit while the site leader was present. Royal Lake Park started IMA workdays in 2007 after I learned about the program and became a site leader. Since then, IMA has evolved with different species added to the target list, techniques applied, additional site leaders, and expanded work zones within parkland.

While site leaders do their best to manage invasive plants within FCPA grounds, these weeds continue entering the parks by washing or blowing in from adjacent land, seeds eaten and deposited by wildlife, seeds tracked in by feet or fur, vegetative growth entering from nearby properties, and people illegally dumping yard debris that takes root. Many neighbors are addressing the invasive plants on their residential parcels and planting natives—and each neighbor doing so helps tremendously! What about larger entities? Here are stories of three such places that are adapting IMA concepts to their properties.



Lauri Snider of St. Stephen's United Methodist Church and KPW resident reached out to me after participating in several Royal Lake IMA workdays. Years earlier, her daughter, Jean Lee Ritter, earned IMA-based Girl Scout merit badges. Lauri wanted to remove invasive plants from approximately one acre of the church grounds' natural area to make it a more hospitable community resource. I met with Lauri and several other members of St. Stephen's congregation for detailed plant identification and to demonstrate eradication methods. Having worked with me, Lauri already had field experience. More than two dozen congregation members were enthusiastic about restoring a native habitat, resulting in excellent volunteer turnouts and donations for tools such as the weed wrench. St. Stephen's is conducting the urban forest renewal project in partnership with the United Methodist General Board of Global Ministries, an agency of the United Methodist Church that collaborates with partners in more than 100 countries to connect the church in mission and alleviate human suffering. The agency provided St. Stephen's with international networking opportunities, training

and guidance aligned with United Methodist social principles through its EarthKeeper program, and a grant to support native plant acquisitions needed. After six workdays so far, the St. Stephen's team has made tremendous progress in ridding their plot, now called Sanctuary Woods, of English ivy, privets, porcelainberry, rose-of-Sharon, Higan cherry, Amur honeysuckle, multiflora rose, Japanese honeysuckle, Japanese holly, and oriental bittersweet. Newly sprouted native plants are already visible in places where the invasive species were removed.

In all cases, I conducted on-site walks and consultations, pointing out the natives and invasives. We discussed strategy, such as why removing a large, seed-bearing invasive on the edge has greater immediate importance than hitting smaller growths centered in the site: stopping the spread is the first priority. We ranked the worst invasives as high priority to be removed ASAP and the most efficient eradication means. We discussed which targets are appropriate for children's participation (safely removed with hand tools) and which ones should be best for adults or professional maintenance crews only (those involving power tools and herbicides). Strategy also meant remaining committed over years. Completed sites need routine monitoring for the same targets reemerging from residual seed banks, root fragments, and reintroductions or new invasive species, such as



mile-a-minute, exploiting recent clearings. We also surveyed around the properties beyond the sites, seeing which nearby invasive plants could easily spread back. In some cases, we saw what grew in neighboring properties so we are aware of species that can impact site recovery. Many people, including fellow IMA site leaders, are eager to start replanting plots with natives, but folks should go slow. The restoration plants can hide an invasive species' reemergence and confound the weed's removal. For GMU and Robinson, we discussed how their IMA-like programs directly help IMA at Royal Lake because both campuses are upstream, so their seeds carried by waterways can deposit onto parkland. Logistics were the site leaders' responsibility: gaining permission to work the land, funding for tools and supplies, recruiting volunteers, and debris disposal. Equally important, having first aid training and insurance in case of accidents.

From time to time, I am asked to see a site's progress and offer suggestions. These sites are coming along beautifully! Besides the good done for habitat restoration and preventing weeds from spreading further, such programs give people valuable land

stewardship experience that can be applied at home and other areas. Folks can then share those seeds of knowledge!

These invitational consultations are done by me as a private citizen and biologist and not part of a FCPA extension service. If

you belong to or work for an institution, such as an HOA, school, or religious center, and would like to seriously formulate a committed plan to restore a native landscape, I am happy to provide free guidance! Contact me at greg@grsykes.com.



Figure 2. Before the St. Stephen's workdays, English ivy smothered the area close to the Little Library (A). Volunteers cut ivy windows on tree trunks and uprooted the groundcover ivy (B) resulting in a restored site (C) that will receive continued monitoring for any other emerging weeds. Photos by Lauri Snider.



KPW Real Estate Corner by Cathy DeLoach



As of May 22, 2026, a total of 14 homes in Kings Park West have successfully closed, which is a notable decrease compared to 2025, when 23 homes had closed by the same date. In 2026, the average sales price has risen by 4%, increasing from \$885,494 in 2025 to the current figure of \$922,327. Additionally, the average days-on-market stands at 14, slightly up from 12 days at this time last year.

Current KPW Statistics*

of Homes Sold: 14 (\$755,000 - \$1,400,000)
 Average Sold Price: \$922,327
 Average Days on Market: 14
 # of Houses Under Contract/Pending: 10
 (\$800,000 - \$1,200,000)
 # of Houses For Sale or Coming Soon: 11
 (\$675,000 - \$1,250,000)

**as of May 22, 2026*

YEAR-TO-DATE SOLD PROPERTIES (as of May 22, 2026)

Model	Address	Price	DOM
Baron	5203 Mornington Ct	\$1,400,000	38
Baron	5262 Pumphrey Dr	\$1,100,000	0
Baron	10429 Headly Ct	\$1,050,000	13
Regent	4797 Tapestry Dr	\$911,000	5
Cromwell	5206 Pimlico Ct	\$885,000	3
King	5122 Pommeroy Dr	\$880,000	36
King	5105 Coleridge Dr	\$876,580	5
Prince	9891 Becket Ct	\$875,000	5
Prince	10016 Raeburn Ct	\$875,000	24
Queen	5370 Gainsborough Dr	\$875,000	13
Queen	5342 Guinea Rd	\$845,000	25
Duke	4954 Swinton Dr	\$800,000	1
Prince	10125 Commonwealth Blvd	\$785,000	20
Prince	4914 Wycliff Ln	\$755,000	39

What's Cookin' KPW?

Recipe by Tim Hartle

White Jell-o

There are some recipes that become favorites not because they are fancy, but because they are the first thing people ask about at a party. This creamy "White Jell-O" is one of those simple, surprising treats: cool, smooth, lightly sweet, and a little different from the usual gelatin dessert. Our neighbor loved it so much after trying it at a gathering that they had to ask for the recipe — and now we get to share it with all of you.

Ingredients

- 1 package plus 1 teaspoon Knox gelatin
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup sugar
- $1\frac{1}{2}$ cups water
- $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon almond extract
- 8 ounces Cool Whip
- 16 ounces sour cream

Directions

In a saucepan, bring the gelatin, sugar, water, and almond extract to a boil. Remove from heat and let cool for 20 minutes. Stir in the Cool Whip and sour cream until well combined. Pour into a suitable mold and refrigerate until set.

Contributor's Note:

Simple and delicious — unlike regular Jell-O. I liked this so much that I got the recipe from someone at a party!

Calling all cooks and bakers!

Do you have a favorite recipe you would like to share with your neighbors? Please send it to editor@kpwca.org and your recipe may be featured in one of our upcoming issues. Our next issue will be published in June, which will be a perfect time to share a favorite summer recipe!



The Herald Book Nook

A book review by Brenda Patience

The Correspondent is a contemporary novel written by Virginia Evans, primarily told through documents and letters penned by its main character, Sybil Van Antwerp. Sybil is a 70-year-old, retired attorney who is meticulous, brilliant, and has lived quite an accomplished and privileged life. We see her day-to-day play out in a series of letters written to her neighbors, her children, former colleagues, and even a helpful stranger she met online.

Early on, we learn that Sybil is losing her sight, which puts her letter writing practice at risk. Through the pages, we witness companionship, grief, joy, and reconciliation. I found this book to be quite moving and the characters to be memorable, especially Ms. Sybil herself.

I would recommend this to fans of historical fiction, familial drama storylines, and those just in need of a well-written, meaningful novel.



KPW Troop 1966 – Thank you Kings Park West

Troop 1966 wants to thank our wonderful neighbors and friends in KPW for supporting our Spring Mulch Spreading Fundraiser. If you missed out this time, Don't worry —there will be another opportunity in the fall! Remember, you provide the mulch we'll handle the spreading!



Your Support helps the troop to be able to afford monthly camping trips. Our latest trip - Spelunking in the Shenandoah mountains. It's not just crawling through caves getting into and out of tight spots and getting muddy. They learned about orienteering, using a map and compass!

Interested in Scouting?

Contact us! We meet every Tuesdays at 7pm at Lord of Life Church, Burke



Scan me!



Cub Scout Pack 1967 News

Pack 1967 has enjoyed a busy and fun spring. In March, the Scouts held their AOL bridging ceremony, where our 5th grader AOL Den officially bridged over from Cub Scouts to Scouting America Troops. This marks the official end to their time in our Pack and the beginning of their new adventure on their Scouting journey. We are so proud of all our AOLs and wish them all the best in their new Troops. In April, the Pack held its spring campout at Bull Run Regional Park. As always, the campfire was

spirited and lively with plenty of marshmallows to go around. The Scouts are now busy finishing up their rank requirements as the Scouting year end soon approaches. In June, we will hold our end of Scout year bridging ceremony where all Scouts will officially cross over into their new ranks. If you are interested in joining Pack 1967 or want to check out our Pack at one of our planned summer activities, please email cubscout.pack.1967@gmail.com.



CommonwealthSwimClub.org
Join the Family Fun this summer!



Commonwealth Swim Club

Sparkling clean water

Excellent and dedicated lifeguard staff

Welcoming community environment

CSC Cudas Swim and Dive teams

Cuda Critters swim lesson program for young swimmers

Contact our Membership Chair at cudas.membership@gmail.com

New family memberships only \$399

Proudly Servicing
NoVA Neighborhoods
for over 25 years:

- ✓ Circuit Panel Service & Replacement
- ✓ EV Charging Stations
- ✓ Surge Protection
- ✓ Lighting, Outlet & Fan Installation
- ✓ Wiring, Repairs
- ✓ Troubleshooting & more!
- ★ 100% Locally owned and operated.
- ★ Licensed & Insured

FREE ESTIMATES



Voted #1 Electrical Service since 2016 @ nextdoor.com



Protect Your Home's Safety

Call us about your electrical concerns today!

Ever notice flickering lights? Circuit breakers tripping? Outlets or switches that feel/smell hot or don't work? Left unrepaired, these electrical issues can cause house fires. Protect your home, contact us for help now!

703/495-3448 info@sarahandfamily.com
sarahandfamily.com



The Outdoor Man

would like to **THANK YOU** for letting us service your lawn maintenance needs for 39 years. As Summer approaches and life gets hectic, it is easy to forget your lawn. We do more than just cut, we care for your lawn! Let The Outdoor Man enhance or renovate your landscape in 2026.

Serving you from the ground up!



Yard Clean-up, Mulching, Shrub
Pruning, Lawn Mowing, Edging, Fix
Drainage Problems & Landscape

Member NVNLA
Licensed and Insured

Call 703.425.1748

Email: georgekyle@aol.com



A Veteran Owned Company

Sudoku

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

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



BRX ROOFING
BY A&C CONTRACTORS

Your Local Roofing Experts in Fairfax, VA

Over 15 Years of Trusted Experience

Proudly serving Fairfax homeowners with
quality roof repairs, replacements, inspections

Special Discount for KPW Residents!

Mention your Kings Park West address and get
exclusive savings on any roofing project!

Why Choose BRX Roofing?

- ✓ Licensed & Insured
- ✓ Reliable, Local Crew
- ✓ Free Roof Inspections & Estimates
- ✓ High-Quality Materials & Workmanship

Based in Fairfax, Virginia

(703) 386-6439

brxroofing@gmail.com

Here comes Summer!

Search hidden words for the months of June, July, August, and September

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

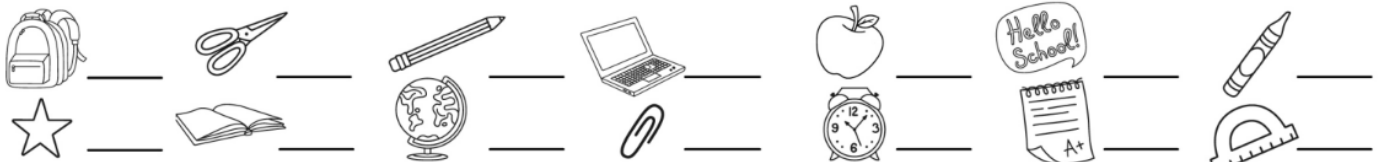
SUMMER
 SUNSHINE
 WATERMELON
 LEMONADE
 POPSICLE
 POOL
 SPRINKLER
 PICNIC
 FIREFLIES
 BUTTERFLIES
 GARDEN
 SUNFLOWERS
 CAMPING
 HIKING
 BASEBALL
 PLAYGROUND
 BACKPACK
 SCHOOL BUS
 BACK TO SCHOOL
 FATHERS DAY
 JUNETEENTH
 INDEPENDENCE DAY
 LABOR DAY
 GRANDPARENTS DAY
 CONSTITUTION DAY
 FIREWORKS
 PARADE
 FLAG
 SEPTEMBER



I SPY SUMMER



I SPY BACK TO SCHOOL!



Property Sisters' Featured Properties

\$1,250,000

10174 Bessmer Ln
For Sale



Baron (expanded)

\$1,200,000

10215 Commonwealth Blvd
Under Contract



Baron

\$979,500

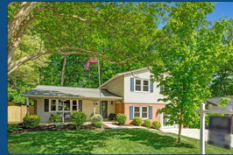
10424 Collingham Drive
Under Contract



Regent

\$934,500

5267 Pumphrey Dr
Pending



Regent

\$924,500

10007 Commonwealth Blvd
Pending



Queen

\$876,580

5105 Coleridge Dr
SOLD!



King

\$875,000

9891 Becket Ct
SOLD!



Prince

\$849,500

5211 Stonington Dr
Pending



Duchess

\$755,000

4914 Wycliff
Sold!



Prince

\$675,000

5310 Gainsborough Dr
For Sale



Prince



(571) 276-9421

www.PropertySistersHome.com

Long & Foster Real Estate
6045 Burke Center Parkway
Burke, VA 22015

TheMaryandCathyTeam@LNF.com

KPW CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

How to advertise in The Herald:

Deadlines for the quarterly printed Herald:

Deadline: Delivery:
Feb. 14 March 14
May 16 June 13
Aug. 15 Sept. 12
Nov. 14 Dec. 12

\$5.00 per issue for up to 35 words. \$20.00 per year (4 issues/up to 35 words).

E-mail advertisement to classified@kpwca.org And mail payment – CHECKS ONLY made out to KPWCA (NO MONEY ORDERS OR CASH) to:
Kings Park West Civic Association P.O. Box 7114 Fairfax Station, VA 22039

AFFORDABLE HOUSE CLEANING: 20 years of experience. Monday to Friday, weekly, bi-weekly, monthly. Free Estimates. References can be provided. Text me 571-236-0855 Giovanna.

ALTERATIONS FOR WOMEN AND MEN: Custom dress making. Wedding dresses. Call Bok Kim at 703-323-0979.

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.

EXCEPTIONAL ELECTRIC SERVICES: Sarah & 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 or www.sarahandfamily.com.

MARIA'S CLEANING SERVICE - Life's too short – let us do the cleaning. Weekly, biweekly, monthly. Licenses, insured, bonded. Free estimate, Contact Maria @ 703-856-2512 (cell), 703-378-4059 or mariasmartcleaning@gmail.com

NOT GROCERY STORE FLOWERS: Kings Park West–grown specialty cut flowers from Nature's Beauty Flower

Farm. Seasonal, fresh, and local. www.naturesbeautyflowerfarm.com

PLUMBING SERVICES: Hot water heater repairs -replacements- faucet fixture-toilets-disposers- vanity installation-water-gas line repairs -heating - A/C repairs-replacements. Serving KPW since 1993. Follow on Facebook. Please call John Master plumber at 703-472-0150. E mail hrrsld@gmail.com. Class A contractor. Licensed-insured.

SUITE DOG'S BOARDING: When you're away your dog can play...with us! Suite Dog's Boarding hosts small dogs in our KPW home for individualized, private care. www.Suitedogboarding.com contact: Nona at 202-489-2693.



KPW family-owned

Lowest rates

\$500 Monthly Unlimited Daycare Pass*

Large cage-free play areas

Dog-loving staff

FREE evaluation for KPW dogs*

*** Springfield & Vienna locations only.**

DAYCARE | BOARDING | GROOMING

A Dog's Day Out

2025 Northern Virginia MAGAZINE BEST PET CARE

