

# Gazette

MARCH/APRIL 2018



## Kings Park Clean Up Day

by Roy Warner

This year's annual Kings Park "Clean Up Day" will be held Saturday, May 5th from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. Large trucks from Fairfax County will be stationed in the parking lot by the basketball courts off the Trafalgar Court entrance to KP Park for disposal of large items that trash companies will not pick up. You can take your items directly to the trucks at Trafalgar or call Roy Warner to schedule a pick up by neighborhood volunteers. More volunteers are needed so please contact Roy if you can help (and remember to bring gloves!). The Kings Park Civic Association will rent at least two 14' U-Haul trucks to pick up your large items and deliver them to the county trucks but you must call at least a week in advance to schedule a pick up.

KPCA dues make this service possible. KPCA membership is required if you need help with your large items. Volunteers will have membership forms with them when they pick up items from your home, so you can join the KPCA that day if you have not yet done so.

Our community is indebted to all those who have helped in years past. We are grateful to all our volunteers for their assistance. Call Roy at 703-250-5328 to volunteer or schedule a pick up. Please do not wait until the last minute as we cannot honor last minute requests for help. Thank you.



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Acceptable Items (OK!)	Unacceptable Items (Not OK!)
Sofas and sofa beds	Construction materials (i.e., dry wall)
Refrigerators and freezers	Flooring materials
Sheds (already broken down)	Paint
Other large items your trash company will not pick up	Used motor oil, tires

### KPCA Calendar of Events

**March 15** KPCA Community Meeting 7:30-9:00pm Kings Park Elementary  
**April 5** KPCA Board Meeting 7:00-9:00pm  
**May 2** KPCA Senior Luncheon 1:00pm Hunan West  
**May 3** KPCA Board Meeting 7:00-9:00pm  
**May 5** KPCA Clean-up Day - This is for large item pickup.  
**May 10** KPCA Community Meeting and Elections 7:30-9:00pm Kings Park Elementary

For a complete calendar of KPCA events go to [www.Kings-Park.org](http://www.Kings-Park.org)

## From the President

WIND! Enough said. Are you surviving the unusually wet weather and the cycling of seasons every few days? Spring is just around the corner!

The annual KPCA Community Potluck dinner for 2017 was cancelled. It would have been the 10<sup>th</sup> annual), and we had to make that same decision this year. The committee was again unable to secure a *suitable* location for this year. The cost to rent LBSS keeps increasing so much each year that using that venue is no longer viable. But we are still trying to see if the KPCA Community Potluck Dinner can be restarted next year. A special thanks to Marie, her committee, and the rest of the volunteers that had made the Annual Pot Luck a Kings Park Civic Association tradition.

Reminder - the KPCA also sponsors the Community Clean-up day, Storm Drain Clean-Up, 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade and Picnic, Oktoberfest, Trunk or Treat, and the Children's Holiday Party. All these activities are supported by your annual dues and made possible by the fabulous volunteers that do all the planning, preparation, and execution. Please pay your dues!

The date for another of our popular KPCA traditions – the Seniors' Luncheon has been set for Wednesday MAY 2. That event is hosted by Hunan West and we want to again than Allen for his hospitality for I believe the 28<sup>th</sup> year. Reminder that all KPCA members that fit the 'senior' category are welcome to join us for a great meal and festivities.

If you haven't heard by now the Braddock Road Widening Study was completed and the next phase is underway. Several meetings were held to seek comments regarding specific "Intersection Improvements" specifically affecting the Kings Park community. The Burke Lake Road and Braddock Road and the Kings Park Drive and Braddock Road intersections were open for discussion with the county engineers and several considerations were recorded for further evaluation. The most significant action will be a decision on the location(s) for elevated walkways at those locations. Once we hear back from the County, KPCA will hold a Community meeting to get your input and comments.

The Braddock Road Widening Project (as it was originally titled) has not yet been formally presented with Recommendations to the Board of Supervisors.

The next big event for KP is the annual Clean-Up Day on Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup>. See the article that gives you all the information about who, what, when, and where. Roy Warner has graciously taken on the organization and leadership of this monumental task each year since 1984.

## Committee Chairs

Community Potluck	Susan Metcalf	703-503-0176	<i>Susan.Metcalf@verizon.net</i>
Emergency Preparedness	Sher Plunkett	703-503-0277	<i>sherplunkett@gmail.com</i>
Environmental Awareness	Beverly Boschert	703-425-3478	<i>terry.boschert@verizon.net</i>
Government Affairs	Ken Malmberg	703-425-1478	<i>ken.malmberg@gmail.com</i>
Membership/	Marie Cullerton	703-426-4904	<i>mcullerton42@mac.com</i>
	Jean Kennedy	703-323-8878	<i>kennedy45TJ@aol.com</i>
Public Safety and Neighborhood Watch	Robert Rivera	703-978-3034	<i>roblizrivera@yahoo.com</i>
	Terry Boschert	703-425-3478	<i>terry.boschert@verizon.net</i>
Social - Kids	Liz Rivera	703-978-3034	
Youth Community Services	Susan Metcalf	703-503-0176	<i>Susan.Metcalf@verizon.net</i>

### KINGS PARK CIVIC ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 1243 Springfield VA 22151

*www.kings-park.org*

#### Board of Directors

<b>President:</b>	Jim Sobecke	703-978-2035	<i>jsobecke@verizon.net</i>
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#### About the Gazette

The Gazette is published every other month, and suggestions and submissions should be sent to *Susan.Metcalf@verizon.net*.

The KPCA reserves the right to not publish any material it deems inappropriate. To advertise, see the advertising form at *www.kings-park.org* or contact Susan Metcalf.

If you are moving and want to continue receiving the Gazette, join the KPCA and let us know that you need the Gazette mailed to you at your new address.

## From the President

It's not too early to start thinking about the 4th of July celebration. Fortunately, both the Parade and Picnic fared well last year. The Parade and Picnic are always well attended. We are in need of many more to volunteer to help coordinate the picnic portion of the celebration this year. It's not a big task – preparations are well documented but the set up and coordinating the Park activities requires many helping hands. We have had to down-size a little bit - only because we can only do so much with the limited resources (people!) that step forward to contribute a little of their time and energy.

The parade part of the celebration will continue to start earlier (11:00am) to make it easier on all the participants. We will still be awarding the younger participants a commemorative July 4<sup>th</sup> medal. We can always use some additional help in organizing the start of the parade and safety along the parade route.

Looking forward to better and warmer weather!

Jim Sobecke

## Senior Luncheon

The Kings Park Civic Association will host its annual luncheon for seniors at Hunan West Restaurant in the Kings Park Shopping Center on Wednesday, May 2 at 1:00.

Please note that all Kings Park Seniors are welcome but that the lunch is free of charge only for current members of the Civic Association. If you are not sure your dues are paid please contact Marie at [mcullerton42@mac.com](mailto:mcullerton42@mac.com) or 703-426-4904.

Please email Marie at [mcullerton42@mac.com](mailto:mcullerton42@mac.com) if you will be attending. Please provide your email address, home address and phone number or call Marie at 703-426-4904 with the information.

Since not all members are on Next-door please let your neighbors know about the Senior Lunch. Marie will get in touch with those who plan on attending. Thank you to Alan at Hunan West for keeping this event affordable and convenient for so many years.



**HELP WANTED:** New volunteers needed for Kings Park Neighborhood Watch. Flexible hours, great community service rewards. Requirements: ability to drive or ride in private vehicle. Contact [terry.boschert@verizon.net](mailto:terry.boschert@verizon.net) immediately!

## Facts & Trivia: Neighborhood Watch

by Joe Camacho

Whenever you sign up for a Kings Park Neighborhood Watch (KPNW) patrol, you sometimes discover some KP facts or trivia from the partner you patrol with. Some KP residents like to do patrols during the day, evening, or at night. You can schedule yourself by contacting the KPNW coordinator ([terry.boschert@verizon.net](mailto:terry.boschert@verizon.net)) for a patrol that's convenient or for an opening that is unfilled. Some folks like to drive while others like to be the passenger. Some even prefer to do patrols primarily with their KP friends. There are even some folks who like to stop for or pick up coffee during the patrol or go for lunch afterwards.

Here is some trivia about KP that I've picked up or shared:

1. The patrol route is about 18-19 miles long.
2. Takes about 60-90 minutes to complete.
3. About 30 streets are patrolled.
4. There are 13 cul-de-sacs in KP.
5. There are 5 neighborhood double intersections: 1) Thames and Southampton; 2) Victoria and KP Drive; 3) Cromwell and KP Drive; 4) Victoria and Parliament; and 5) Cromwell and Parliament. These intersections easily cause confusion when specifying location(s) on our Next Door on-line discussions.
6. Street with most intersections: Southampton (14).
7. One baseball field.
8. One children's park playground.
9. Two tennis courts, and
10. Four basketball courts.

So, contact the KPNW coordinator today and check out some of the above facts or trivia as you patrol ([terry.boschert@verizon.net](mailto:terry.boschert@verizon.net)).

# Whimsy Corner

by Terry Boschert

## Kings Park, the Neighborhood That Almost Wasn't

An Alternate Present Day. You are driving west on Braddock Road in the evening rush. The loud roar of jet engines interrupts the near chaos of your commute; still another commercial passenger jet passes overhead on its way to the Eisenhower-Burke International Airport. Commercial and business buildings surround you; their home-bound employees fill Braddock Road with traffic and horns. "When will someone pay attention to this unbearable traffic?", you wonder. "Something needs to be done, a study, something; one road, even if it is 6 lanes, can't carry this east-west rush hour load alone. And the tolls are sky-high." You chuckle at your pun, but quickly lose that bit of humor as you slowly, oh so slowly, plod on towards your home in George Mason Forest, the closest subdivision to the Eisenhower-Burke International Airport and just east of George Mason College. Another jet passes overhead. You turn up the volume of your streaming service.

This imagined scenario could have been real. Washington National Airport opened for business in 1941. By 1950, the airport was judged to be not suitable for the larger passenger jets then flying, or about to fly, the skies of America.

President Eisenhower, as recommended by his advisors, selected the Burke area as the site for a new international airport. That was when the few residents of Burke learned that their land was condemned and would be purchased by the federal government.

The federal government either acquired or intended to acquire about 4,500 acres of land for the proposed airport. But things began to go amiss for the airport planners. The citizens of Burke, around 300, fought back; they formed the Burke Civic Association to respond as a group to the challenge. Lawyers and an editor from the Washington Post lived in Burke and legally and publicly built obstacles to prevent any further acquisition of land. One farmer obtained a permanent injunction "to block the airport from building within 12,500 feet of his 100-acre farm". Numerous temporary injunctions filled the air. Surrounding communities expanded around the site more rapidly than expected. The project was grounded. Almost 900 acres of the government-owned, but no longer needed, land later formed Burke Lake Park. The rest of the acreage was auctioned off to form the planned community of Burke Center.

But this story does not have a completely happy conclusion. Many of the Burke residents, who had accepted the government buyout, did not return to

their old homesteads. And when Burke was abandoned as an international airport site, federal government attention, without a public hearing, turned to the less-expensive and less populated land of the Willard area of Fairfax County.

History by Mike Grinnell

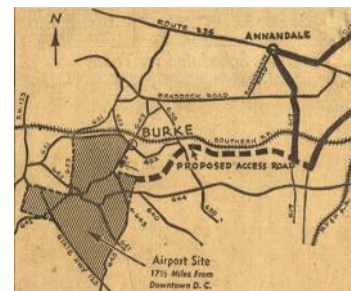
<https://ggwash.org/view/64277/how-burke-battled-congress-and-the-president-to-turn-away-dulles-airport>

The residents of Willard could not maintain the coherence of the Civic Association they formed to fight the government demands. Everyone went their own way to contest the land acquisition. The government paid an average of \$500 an acre, and more than 300 buildings were bulldozed. Between January 1959 and April 1961, the 87 property owners deeded 9,800 acres to the federal government. Shiloh Church received \$4,000, and the congregation and church graveyard were relocated to the present-day location near Conklin, to which several other black families from the Willard area had moved.

Dulles Airport opened in 1962.

<http://www.loudounhistory.org/history/dulles-airport-history.htm>

There you have it. We live in Kings Park because of the actions of the 300 people who formed the Burke Civic Association. These citizens of 1951 had the feistiness, solidarity, legal expertise, and the ability to use newsprint to reach the general-public, and successfully combated the takeover. Their actions are the reason you live in Kings Park; Braddock Road, however, remains a problem in either scenario.



Map of proposed site from the Evening Star on June 14, 1951.

**GOVERNMENT SALE  
AT PUBLIC AUCTION**  
ORIGINAL BURKE AIRPORT SITE-  
FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA  
**SATURDAY, JUNE 13, 1959**

Top of GSA Flyer advertising the sale of condemned properties. Image by GSA.

# Real Estate Corner



**Active Listings**

Style	Address	List Price
KING	5527 EASTBOURNE DR	\$525,000
PRINCESS	8606 VICTORIA RD	\$524,900

**Under Contract Listings**

Style	Address	List Price
QUEEN	5200 KINGS PARK DR	\$449,500
QUEEN	8919 BURKE LAKE RD	\$619,000

**Sold**

Style	Address	List Price	Sold Price	Subsidy (Seller's Credit to Buyer)	Final Price		Date Closed
					Sold Price	Reduction/Increase	
DUCHESS	8520 LANCASHIRE DR	\$529,000	\$525,000	\$3,200	\$521,800	\$7,200	02/22/18
DUKE	8702 VICTORIA RD	\$514,900	\$526,700	\$0	\$526,700	-\$11,800	02/01/18
KING	8621 KENILWORTH DR	\$519,001	\$515,000	\$3,000	\$512,000	\$7,001	01/22/18
KING	8627 THAMES ST	\$599,999	\$600,000	\$0	\$600,000	-\$1	01/11/18
QUEEN	8918 VICTORIA RD	\$570,000	\$562,500	\$3,000	\$559,500	\$10,500	01/31/18

*Provided by Susan Metcalf, Avery Hess Realtors*

**703-472-6512**

If you're considering buying, selling, or renting real estate, if you know anyone who is, or if you have any questions, please give me a call!



# It's That Time of the Year!

by Marie Cullerton

It's that time of the year to reflect on how we live and where we want our community to go.

It's that time of the year to consider what we can do for our community. It's that time of the year for us to become part of our community. It's that time of the year to pay our Kings Park dues.

Kings Park is a friendly community where we all look out for each other. The Civic Association has maintained its unique character by committing to a quality of life that we all want. So how do we attempt to provide this quality of life with the money collected from dues.

Well, first off we maintain our entrances, nubs and common areas. This is accomplished by paying a contractor and by volunteer work. In May, we have our annual Clean-Up day. The county brings in trash trucks to the park for us to get rid of unwanted stuff. Volunteers will come to your home and pick up large items. Our quality of life is only maintained when we maintain our property.

Our Seniors enjoy a lunch at a local restaurant where they get a chance to meet and greet each other. It's important that we don't forget those residents who have made Kings Park what it is today.

July is our annual picnic in the park - preceded by our parade. During the picnic the Kings Park Band plays patriotic music for our enjoyment. It's our chance for all residents to come together. It's amazing how many kids who have moved out come back to visit their parents and come to the parade and picnic with their children.

What is that wonderful aroma - guess it's Oktoberfest. Members get together for home-made brats and sauerkraut. Along with strudel and other German foods. Many of our residents have served in the military and have lived in Germany and many others have traveled to Europe and enjoy the memories this gathering provides. Prost!

In December we celebrate the winter season with a Children's Holiday Party. The participants are serenaded by our Kings Park Band while doing crafts and enjoying the cupcakes they won during the Cupcake Walk. Our children look forward to visiting with Santa during this annual event.

The association also pays dues, insurance fees and donates to local organizations including the Kings Park Band. Remember we are a volunteer organization. Members of our board have attended many meetings to ensure our voice is heard for the Braddock Road improvements.

And let's not forget the Gazette delivered to all residents and the directory provided to members. Kings Park is about making memories.

Please fill in the form provided as an insert in this Gazette, and mail your check in the envelope provided. You may also go to our website [www.kings-park.org](http://www.kings-park.org) and pay by PayPal. Please fill out the form exactly as you want your name to appear in the directory. If you have a spouse or significant other please list his/her name.

Thank you for paying your Kings Park Civic Association dues and for helping us maintain your quality of life.

## 2018 Native Seedling Sale: Plant List

by Beverly Boschert

The native species included in the [NoVa Conservative District's 2018 seedling sale](#) have been announced!

This year's species were all chosen for their deer tolerance. While no plant is completely deer-proof, these seedlings are less susceptible. They help clean our water and air, prevent soil erosion, provide valuable habitat, and add beauty and resilience to your landscape. Enjoy!

The Shrub and Small Tree Package (\$16.95) will include two each of the following: Common Witch Hazel, Silky Dogwood, False Indigo Bush, Spicebush and Shadblow Serviceberry. The Tree Package (\$11.95) will include two each of Eastern Redbud, Shortleaf Pine and Pawpaw. All species are Virginia natives and wildlife friendly! Online ordering ends April 11 and seedling packages can be picked up at the Packard Center in Annandale on April 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/soil-water-conservation/native-seedling-sale>

# Parliament, Your Community Pool

by Erica Hosken

**When I was growing up summers meant a relaxing break from school, largely spent at the pool.** The pool was my social center, where I started my mornings (earlier than I liked for swim team), frequently came back in the late afternoon to watch the diving competitions or for a movie night. As I grew, it became the place where we would all gather during college breaks to reconnect with friends we didn't see through the rest of the year.

**When I had kids of my own, I couldn't wait for them to build their own summer memories poolside.** We first joined the pool when I was still carting my youngest around in her stroller and we never left the confines of the baby pool. As they grew, they participated in **Parliament swim lessons** learning how to put their head in the water, blow bubbles and eventually move from one end of the shallow end all the way to the far end of the pool. Eventually all three of my kids joined the **swim team**, one joined the **dive team** too. I still remember the first time I was able to **swim a few laps for exercise** while they confidently navigated the pool with their own friends – my own sort of parental pool freedom!

**We've now been members of Parliament Pool for almost ten years and have all built our own treasured memories** and look forward to creating new ones. Every Memorial Day we enjoy seeing friends of different ages and stages whom we don't always get to see throughout the year and noting how much taller many of them have gotten in those 9 months.

**Reflecting on what Parliament has provided for us over the years, I realize how much more than just a pool it has been in our lives.** I have had the opportunity to meet other parents with older and younger kids, many who have become great friends. I learned from both the kids and their parents what Kings Glen and Lake Braddock would be like while mine were still in Kings Park. At this point, I look forward to seeing some of those same kids return over their summer break from their experiences at university. **I've now met neighbors and friends, with and without kids, whom I never likely would have known without our Parliament Pool membership.** My kids have learned to swim and have participated in many swim practices and meets. We've spent early mornings melting in the sun and evenings cheering for our fellow Panthers in the rain. We meet friends at the pool for as many raft nights as possible and look forward to relaxing sunny days spent poolside.

**Neighborhood pools are part of vibrant and caring communities.** Whether you're looking for:

- A place for your child to learn how to swim
- Swim and/or Dive teams
- Lap lanes for exercise
- Fun filled raft nights
- Adult socials
- Community Connections

And so much more...

Parliament has it all and is waiting for you to join the fun. **If you value the sense of community the pool helps build and want to ensure that it continues to thrive in Kings Park for years to come, join Parliament this summer and start making memories to last a lifetime.**

For more information, visit our web site at [www.Parliament-Pool.com](http://www.Parliament-Pool.com) or share your favorite Parliament memories on our Facebook Page at [www.facebook.com/ParliamentPool](http://www.facebook.com/ParliamentPool). We'd love to hear from you and look forward to meeting you at the pool this summer!



**Join us at Parliament Pool this summer!**



## The Neighbors

by Terry Boschert



**Save Lake Accotink** is a non-profit organization that was formed in response to the danger that Lake Accotink may disappear as part of the ongoing Lake Accotink Park Master Plan Revision.

Lake Accotink is an invaluable resource to the community. Perhaps more than any other lake in Fairfax County, it serves a diverse socio-economic and multi-ethnic population. We cannot afford to lose the recreational opportunities and the wildlife habitat Lake Accotink provides. The lake is vital to the environment. It provides a home to protected animals, such as bald eagles, and traps polluting sediment from upstream. Without the lake, nearly twice as much sediment would clog lower Accotink Creek, killing aquatic wildlife, including an endangered species of freshwater mussel.

As part of Fairfax County Park Authority's (FCPA) Lake Accotink Park Master Plan Revision, FCPA has proposed six options for the future of the lake. Three of these options, which the county seems to favor, get rid of Lake Accotink as we know it along with its wildlife and environmental benefits. The other park amenities would also be removed.

. The details are far from decided, but the estimated initial cost of Option C is \$45M, which will require a park bond. We need as many signatures as we can get by May 28, 2018 to get the bond on the 2019 ballot.

Visit, [savelakeaccotink.org](http://savelakeaccotink.org) to sign the online petition, learn of ways to support Save Lake Accotink, and find more information. Truly yours, Allan B. Robertson

## Resolutions

by Beverly Boschert

In 2018 I resolve to:

- Join the Kings Park Civic Association – information is in this Gazette.
- Attend more civic association meetings (on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month at Kings Park Elementary School). Stay informed about your neighborhood.
- Keep leaves, snow and debris from the curbs around my home. Please, always do this so there is nothing but rain down the drain.
- Serve on a committee with the Kings Park Civic Association. Contact [jsobecke@gmail.com](mailto:jsobecke@gmail.com) to volunteer.
- Help with beautification and clean up. Contact [jsobecke@gmail.com](mailto:jsobecke@gmail.com)
- Drive or bike 2 or more Neighborhood Watch Patrols. Contact [terry.boschert@verizon.net](mailto:terry.boschert@verizon.net) to arrange a day to patrol.
- Help with the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade and/or picnic. Read the KP Gazette in May to see who to contact.
- Keep clutter from my yard and/or carport to help maintain an attractive neighborhood.
- Help with the Octoberfest. Please don't wait this long to help but do check the KP Gazette in July to see who to contact.

It is not necessary to do all of the above but at least 3 of these would be helpful for your neighborhood!  
Invest in **Kings Park**, a great place to live!



# Retro Kings Park

by Terry Boschert

From the March/April 1981 edition of the Kings Park Gazette, Volume 16, Number 4.

## Association Officers:

President: Joe Spencer

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: Charlene Garten

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: Sheila Bishoff

Treasurer: Susan Thomas

Recording Secretary: Shannon Griffin

Corresponding Secretary: Elaine Slupe

Past President: Ron Cundick

Kings Park Entrances: Our Garden Club has volunteered to beautify our two entrances into Kings Park by planting ivy on the steep banks that are currently overrun with weeds.

Spring Clean-up: With Spring approaching, we need to make plans for general cleaning of our individual yards and common grounds such as the Park and our entrances. It is planned to continue our policy of hiring resident teenagers for mowing – trimming our common grounds.

Boy Scouts: The boy scouts from Troop 1121 will begin regular scheduled, bi-monthly (every-other month) newspaper drive on March 14.

Calendar of Events: March 8-14, Girl Scout Week. March 14, Newspaper Drive. March 14, 10AM – 2 PM, Girl Scout Celebration Kings Park Community Room. March 17, Lake Braddock PTO, 7:30 PM, Teen Age Drinking.

FOR SALE: We remodeled. Left-overs for sale: Dishwasher (portable) GWC \$40; stove (turquoise Caloric -- works but not too pretty) \$25 or will sell parts!

KPCA Spring Dinner Dance: 6:30 PM, April 25, 1981, Springfield Hilton, 6:30 Cocktails. 7:30 Dinner, 9-1 Music and Entertainment.

## Improve Your Circulation



(Spring Dinner Dance Image from the March/April 1981 Gazette)



Walk across the street. Can you see and read your house number? If not, add your address to house siding or street curb and avoid cold pizza or emergency services delays.