

Gazette

DECEMBER 2017



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Kids Holiday Party

The Kings Park Civic Association Annual Kids Holiday Party was held on December 1st and was a huge success. We had holiday music by our beloved Kings Park Band, arts and crafts, a Cupcake Walk, and an appearance by the famous man in red, Santa Claus!



Thank you to everyone who attended! It was so much fun! Liz Rivera and her merry band of volunteers did a fabulous job. Thank you to everyone who donated cupcakes and coffee. A special thank you to the Kings Park Band for all the great, festive music. Thank you to all our volunteers. And last but not least, thank you to our wonderful Santa Claus who always takes his time to really pay attention to each child and make him/her feel special. Photos on page 6.

The Leaves

The leaves had a wonderful frolic.
They danced to the wind's loud song.
They whirled, and they floated, and scampered.
They circled and flew along.

The moon saw the little leaves dancing.
Each looked like a small brown bird.
The man in the moon smiled and listened.
And this is the song he heard.

The North Wind is calling, is calling,
And we must whirl round and round,
And then, when our dancing is ended,
We'll make a warm quilt for the ground.

Anonymous

Postscript

And while your heart is all a'flutter,
Don't forget to clean the gutter.
Really, really wants to remain Anonymous



KPCA Calendar of Events

January 3	KPCA Board Meeting 7:00-9:00pm
January 18	KPCA Community Meeting 7:30-9:00pm Kings Park Elementary
February 7	KPCA Board Meeting 7:00-9:00pm
March 7	KPCA Board Meeting 7:00-9:00pm
April 4	KPCA Board Meeting 7:00-9:00pm
May 10	KPCA Community Meeting 7:30-9:00pm Kings Park Elementary

For a complete calendar of KPCA events go to www.Kings-Park.org

From the President

From the President

Neighbors -

The 5th Annual Oktoberfest was another great success and we hope the KPCA members that attended enjoyed the great food and entertainment. Although the weather was great (Sunny and HOT!) everyone enjoyed the food and entertainment by the Kings Park German Band. We are always open for suggestions on how to make it more festive. This tradition began as an alternative for the rained out 4th of July Picnic, but we all saw it as another opportunity for KPCA members to get together and have fun.

The annual Trunk or Treat for the younger ones (and adults) is another KPCA tradition and we hope you all enjoyed it. The last KPCA sponsored event for members was the Children's Holiday Party on December 1st Kings Park Elementary School. We had a great response and many newcomers were welcomed.

With the declining number of KPCA members we have decided to make some of our community events "for KPCA members only." A lot of volunteer time, preparation, and planning go into making these events a return on the investment our members make to continue the efforts of the Kings Park Civic Association programs.

The Board has again decided to have KPCA Civic Association meetings only 5 times a year – January, March, May (elections), September (budget approval), and November. The plan is to have a specific theme and appropriate program and activity for each meeting. I am open for suggestions. We are not limited to an evening meeting, but could arrange for several related events and/or activities over the course of a week.

The Farmer's Almanac predicts that "winter will be 'mild and wet' in our area. The term 'wet' in winter seems to hint at icing conditions, which can be more dangerous than snow! Plan accordingly – what is your *snow* emergency plan?

The subject of the September KPCA Community meeting was emergency preparedness. I expected to see more neighbors in attendance since we had earlier indications of an interest in what we can do as a community in being prepared. A lot of good information was provided and the discussions were worthwhile. I cannot stress enough that being prepared is very important – right now time is on your side.

Committee Chairs

Community Potluck

Susan Metcalf 703-503-0176

Susan.Metcalf@verizon.net

Emergency Preparedness

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Liz Rivera 703-978-3034

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Susan Metcalf 703-503-0176

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KINGS PARK CIVIC ASSOCIATION

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www.kings-park.org

Board of Directors

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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

Plans are in the works to designate 'Rally Points' at several locations in Kings Park to be used in case of an emergency. A Rally Point is a place to go to report an emergency, gather for safety, and consolidate information about damage (i.e., trees and powerlines down), people injured, or trapped. The Rally Point becomes a reporting location for the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) to formulate a situation report that can be reported by radio directly to the 9-1-1 center / Emergency Operations Center. A Kings Park Community Emergency Planning Guide is in the works.

We cordially welcome all in the community to join us in offering best wishes and holiday cheer to old friends and neighbors. Make this holiday season an opportunity to meet the many new families that have made Kings Park their home. We are seeing a lot of newcomers to Kings Park and are grateful that many are stepping forward to play an active part in the Civic Association. The KPCA Board will be enjoying the holiday season with our friends and families. Hope to see you at our next KPCA Community Meeting on January 18, 2018.

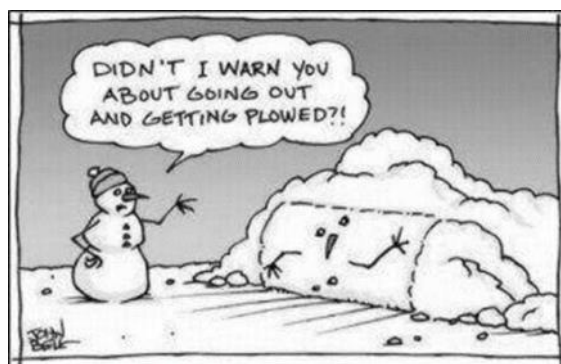
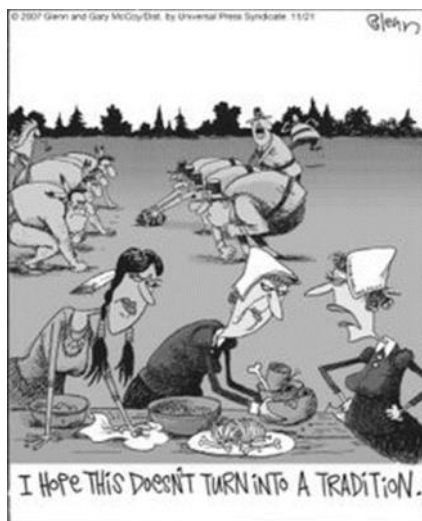
Have a happy and joyous holiday season.

Respectfully,

Jim Sobecke

The Neighbors

by Terry Boschert



Whimsy Corner

by Terry Boschert

Global Warming, Climate Change. Among some groups (a few state governments, certain political, religious, and quasi-scientific crowds) and individuals (self-proclaimed scientists and just plain trolls), there is fightin' words. Not for me. All I want to capture in this article are the changes we Virginians may expect according to the Environmental Protection Agency. Check it out for yourself at:

<https://19january2017snapshot.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-09/documents/climate-change-va.pdf> and at: <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/sinking-atlantic-coastline-meets-rapidly-rising-seas/>

Weather and Climate. I don't mean to make this paragraph sound like a boring tutorial, but the two are different. The difference between the two? Elapsed time. Weather measurements and predictions cover hours, days, and sometimes weeks. Climate measurements and predictions cover decades, centuries, and more, of observed, measured, and analyzed weather. Climate influences daily weather conditions; the examination of weather conditions over many, many years influences climate understanding and predictions; both weather and climate influence our everyday lives.

Eighty years. This time-span is well within our human life-time. You know people right now who will be alive in 80 years. Who knows, you may be among them. So, in 80 years, what do the articles say about the much-argued phrases "Global Warming" and "Climate Change" as it applies to all of us, our families, friends, and neighbors?

Impact on Virginians over our lifetimes. According to observations and analyses, we currently feel the impact of climate change. The EPA article states "Most of the state has warmed about one degree (F) in the last century, and the sea is rising one to two inches every decade. Higher water levels are eroding beaches, submerging low lands, exacerbating coastal flooding, and increasing the salinity of estuaries and aquifers." The amount of carbon dioxide has increased "by 40% since the 1700s". Polar ice sheets are shrinking; glaciers are melting; Spring comes earlier than it did. OK, so what does that mean to us Virginians?

"Temperatures are likely to rise above 95 degrees approximately 20-40 days in the southeastern half of Virginia, compared to around 10 days per year today." We in Kings Park can expect similar warmer temperatures. Heat-loving plants, insects, animal life, all will migrate north to Fairfax County. Rainstorms are likely to become more severe as will droughts. Water temperatures in our swamps, bays, and coastal marshes will also rise which will affect our harvest of blue crab, striped bass, rockfish, bluefish, sea trout, bay scallop, and summer

flounder. Birds that depend on these systems for food and shelter, such as the Bald Eagle and Great Blue Heron, will also be impacted.

With increasing temperatures, ocean-spawned storms may become more numerous (not for certain); such storms will probably become more intense (more certain). Rising ocean temperatures will decrease the amount of ice in ice caps and glaciers world-wide. Our coastal homes, business, and infrastructure (highways, power lines, fresh water sources) will feel the impact of rising seas, sinking ground along our coast lines, and saltwater intrusion. Ironically, our sinking coastline is the result of the last ice age.

In 80 years, the sea level along Virginia shores may rise by sixteen to forty-eight inches. In fact, 30 or so million years ago, with warmer temperatures across Earth and little or no ice caps at the poles, the Virginia shoreline was west, yes west! of Richmond. And the last ice age, which ended 12,000 years ago, moved the Commonwealth's shoreline 75 miles to the east of its current position; Chesapeake Bay was dry land. So, changes to our beaches because of climate change can occur and have occurred.

Summary. With rising seas and increasing heat, we will experience eroding shorelines, salt water invading fresh, impacts on both our and our pet's health, higher energy costs, more intense storms, home and business structural damage, both heat stress and drought effects on crops and livestock, loss of tidal systems and barrier islands, and not-good impacts on the ecosystems that survive the changes.

What can we do? Well don't bury your head in the sand! You are likely to find your refuge filling with briny water and bothersome insects from the south! Instead, look for opportunities to prepare for what is to come; our vote for politicians and protective bond measures; maybe build our home away from home a little further from shore or in the mountains; acquire more efficient machines to cool and de-humidify our homes and businesses; make that move to a better paying job to afford possibly higher seafood and land agriculture costs; move lighthouses; and get used to change. Good luck to us all!

Native Virginians Separated by Time:



Real Estate Corner



Active Listings

Style	Address	List Price
DUCHESS	8520 LANCASHIRE DR	\$529,001
QUEEN	8918 VICTORIA RD	\$570,000
QUEEN	8919 BURKE LAKE RD	\$635,000

Under Contract Listings

Style	Address	List Price
KING	8621 KENILWORTH DR	\$519,001
KING	8627 THAMES ST	\$599,999

Sold

Style	Address	List Price	Sold Price	Subsidy (Seller's Credit to Buyer)	Final Sold Price	Final Price Reduction/Increase	Date Closed
PRINCE	8715 CROMWELL DR	\$485,000	\$485,000	\$12,500	\$472,500	(\$12,500)	10/27/17
DUCHESS	5530 KINGS PARK DR	\$489,000	\$489,000	\$3,000	\$486,000	(\$3,000)	11/29/17
DUKE	8425 THAMES ST	\$550,000	\$535,000	\$0	\$535,000	(\$15,000)	11/27/17
KING	8612 CROMWELL DR	\$519,900	\$510,000	\$0	\$510,000	(\$9,900)	10/25/17
KING	5411 SOUTHAMPTON DR	\$603,900	\$602,000	\$0	\$602,000	(\$1,900)	09/26/17
PRINCE	8517 LANCASHIRE DR	\$485,000	\$485,000	\$9,700	\$475,300	(\$9,700)	11/13/17
PRINCE	8805 PARLIAMENT DR	\$515,000	\$510,000	\$0	\$510,000	(\$5,000)	10/11/17
PRINCESS	8403 THAMES ST	\$595,000	\$593,000	\$0	\$593,000	(\$2,000)	09/25/17
QUEEN	8941 BURKE LAKE RD	\$539,900	\$535,000	\$16,050	\$518,950	(\$20,950)	10/05/17
QUEEN	5612 EASTBOURNE DR	\$575,000	\$575,000	\$6,000	\$569,000	(\$6,000)	11/30/17
QUEEN	5625 SOUTHAMPTON DR	\$579,900	\$575,000	\$0	\$575,000	(\$4,900)	11/01/17

Provided by Susan Metcalf, AveryHess 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!

Recent KPCA Events

Annual Trunk or Treat and Kids Holiday Party - A Good Time Was Enjoyed By All



Our Very Own Kings Park Band. Thank you Santa!!!



It wouldn't have happened without all our wonderful volunteers!!



Photo Credit: Susan Metcalf, Michelle Stanley, Christopher Bateman, Liz Rivera, Britta Berge

Retro Kings Park

by *Terry Boschert*

From the November 1, 1974 edition of the Kings Park Newsletter, Volume 13, November 9.

Association Officers

President: Kinzo Yamamoto
1st Vice President: Marvin (Shep) Crow
2d Vice President: H. Fred Hutchinson
Treasurer: Gaylord Anderson
Recording Secretary: Marion Gunnell
Corresponding Secretary: OPEN
Past President: Bob Mitchell

The President's Letter (extracts)

I also know that many residents cannot climb the lone flight of stairs to the Community room. So, this next meeting will be held at the Kings Park Elementary School Cafeteria, 8 P.M., Tuesday, November 12.

It has been proposed that the Kings Park Civic Association sponsor a Christmas party for the children of Kings Park in the Kings Park Shopping Center Community Room during the holidays.

Kings Park Executive Board Notes: A new surface is being put on the Tennis Courts. Should be ready the week of October 15. Our multi-use court is next, folks.

FOR SALE: Cherry bedroom set \$175, Assorted size window screens for King model, \$7 for all.

Ads for businesses in Kings Park Shopping Center:
Fortuna Restaurant, Kings Park Hardware and Garden Center, Kings Park Hairstylists.

Put A Stamp On It!: Seventy-Seven Sparkling Stories Showcasing How Stamps Have Intercepted Historical Events

Forward Written by Our Very Own Kings Park Resident Ken Herst, Book Written by His Father Herman Herst, Jr

WHAT do the Charlie Ross kidnapping, the Dunning sale, Britain's female mason, Sherlock Holmes and the Littlewood's pool, the founding of the YMCA, George Sloane, and the Madeline Smith Postcard all have in common? Stamps! Stamps were an important part of these historical events.

Even though we don't often think of stamps in the context of making history, those small, decorative aspects of the mail system are far more than just there to decorate the envelope. At the heart of every letter, every postal moment for hundreds of years, stamps can be found, changing history as we know it.

In this book, author and stamp historian Herman Herst, Jr. shares with us about the rich history of several historical events and the way that stamps influenced them. Told with good humor, perspective, and solid documentation, Herman Herst, Jr. offers us insight into the smallest details of the mail industry - stamps - and shows us that history is often staring back at us every time we mail

Put A Stamp On It has just been published and is available through Amazon.com and wherever books are sold. Ida Busch Herst, the widow of the late Herman Herst, found his manuscript for this book on a shelf in his office 13 years after his death. His son, Kings Park Resident Kenneth Herst, edited it and had the book published in his memory.

Herman Herst also wrote *Nassau Street, Fun and Profit In Stamp Collecting*, *The Compleat Philatelist*, and *Herst's Outbursts*. He was a lecturer on stamp collecting. This book combines his magical story telling while illustrating the enduring connection between philately and history.

The book can be ordered through Amazon.com and in Barnes and Noble for \$20.00. It can also be ordered directly from Ken Herst. For Kings Park Residents only, this book is available for \$15.00. Contact Ken Herst at kenherstbook@cox.net. You can pick the book up at his house on 8504 Thames Street or he will deliver it to you.

Makes a great Christmas Gift!!

