

# Gazette

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2020



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## It's Time to Pay Your 2020 Dues!

by Susan Metcalf

It's time to pay your 2020 KPCA dues. Dues are \$25 per household, \$20 per household for seniors. There are four very easy ways to pay:

- **VENMO** - User Name is KPCA-Springfield Virginia. In the line "What's it for?", put your email address, home address, and "2020 KPCA Dues". In the bottom right hand corner click on Public and select **Private** for the transaction so others on VENMO do not see your home address and email address. We need your email and home address so we can mark you as paid - especially important for member only events!
- **PayPal** - Access this through the KPCA website under Membership.
- **Check** - Fill out the membership form included in this Gazette and return it along with a check payable to the KPCA in the envelope provided in this Gazette.
- **Bill Pay** - Set up KPCA on your bill pay option and have your bank mail the check to KPCA, P.O. Box 1243 Springfield VA 22151 (Hint: making this an annual recurring transaction ensures you never forget to pay your dues!)

We will never share your information, we use it only for KPCA related events.

Thank you for paying your dues and helping to keep the KPCA strong. The KPCA sponsors many excellent activities: Potluck Dinner, Senior Luncheon, Safety Day, Popsicles in the Park, 4th of July Parade and Picnic, Oktoberfest, Trunk or Treat, Kid's Holiday Party, Neighborhood Watch, Nub/Entrance Maintenance, Community Meetings, and Gazette. We need your dues and support to keep these events going.



## KPCA Calendar of Events

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| <b>March 19</b> | <b>KPCA Community Meeting</b> 7:00-8:00pm Kings Park Elementary    |
| <b>March 28</b> | <b>KPCA Potluck Dinner</b> 4:00-7:00pm Holy Spirit Catholic Church |
| <b>May 21</b>   | <b>KPCA Community Meeting</b> 7:00-8:00pm Kings Park Elementary    |

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

## From the President

Neighbors,

Hope everyone enjoyed the holidays and is looking forward to a prosperous New Year.

We have welcomed several new KPCA members to our annual community events, and hope that they will continue their involvement as both receivers and givers. The KPCA is only able to offer these events with the help of the many who volunteer their time and energy.

The Board has three new younger faces this year: Alison Maruca (1<sup>st</sup> Vice President), Shauneen Werlinger (2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President) and Christine Franklin (Secretary). We are grateful for these ladies stepping forward to volunteer their time to the community. You are already seeing their enthusiasm and contributions at our KPCA community activities. Look for more of their initiatives in the coming months.

As you know, with the declining number of KPCA members, the Board has decided to curtail some of our past community activities because of community participation, volunteer support and cost. The Spring Clean Up Day event that Roy Warner had been leading for many years will not be continued. The few 'members' taking advantage of the opportunity no longer justifies the time and volunteer hours devoted to the project, let alone the expense of operating rental trucks to pick up 'unwanted items' from resident's homes.

We are hosting the Community Potluck event this coming March. Although this will be another community event, we are hoping that the tagline "for KPCA members only" will encourage our members to invite a neighbor to join. 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 Kings Park Civic Association has been publishing a Kings Park Directory for many years. If you look through the pages you will notice there are more blank entries (non-members) than ever before. A recent discussion concluded that a paper directory is becoming obsolete, and is very seldom used for its intended purpose. It has become exceedingly difficult to keep the information up-to-date. After considerable deliberation the Board's decision was to cease publishing a Kings Park Directory. The savings is not just in the cost of printing, but in the many volunteer hours devoted to preparing the content for printing and hand delivery to residents and non-residents.

## Committee Chairs

### Community Potluck

Susan Metcalf 703-503-0176

*Susan.Metcalf@verizon.net*

Marie Cullerton 703-426-4904

*mcullerton42@mac.com*

### Emergency Preparedness

Sher Plunkett 703-503-0277

*sherplunkett@gmail.com*

### Environmental Awareness

Beverly Boschert 703-425-3478

*terry.boschert@verizon.net*

### Government Affairs

Ken Malmberg 703-425-1478

*ken.malmberg@gmail.com*

### Membership/

Marie Cullerton 703-426-4904

*mcullerton42@mac.com*

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*kennedy45TJ@aol.com*

### Public Safety and Neighborhood

#### Watch

Terry Boschert 703-425-3478

*terry.boschert@verizon.net*

### Social - Kids

Liz Rivera 703-978-3034

### Youth Community Services

Susan Metcalf 703-503-0176

*Susan.Metcalf@verizon.net*

## 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	jsobecke@gmail.com
<b>1st VP:</b>	Ali Maruca	484-269-7229	alisonmaruca84@gmail.com
<b>2nd VP:</b>	Shauneen Werlinger		shauneen.werlinger@gmail.com
<b>3rd VP/Communications:</b>	Susan Metcalf	703-472-6512	susan.metcalf@verizon.net
<b>Secretary:</b>	Christine Franklin		chsquaredii@gmail.com
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Susan Malmberg	703-425-1478	susan.malmberg@gmail.com
<b>Immediate Past President:</b>	Kayleen Fitzgerald	703-282-5110	briankayleen@aol.com

### About the Gazette

The Gazette is published every other month, and suggestions and submissions should be sent to [Susan.Metcalf@verizon.net](mailto: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](http://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 cont'd

As a reminder, KPCA is not an HOA or Community Association with covenants and fees for services, etc. The KPCA is totally dependent upon member dues (\$25 per year, \$20 for seniors). The Kings Park Civic Association represents the residents in matters of common concern before Fairfax County authorities and ensures that the common areas (VDOT right of way) are well maintained.

KPCA is currently planning a "Community Safety Day" in April or May. The goal is to remind residents what our public safety agencies provide, how to optimize personal and family preparedness, and how 'neighbors helping neighbors' makes a community stronger, more resilient, and a better place to live. Details coming in the next Gazette. If you have any suggestions or ideas let me know.

Also coming up is the 30<sup>th</sup> annual Senior's Luncheon (also in May), and of course the planning for the 55<sup>th</sup> annual July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade and Picnic has already started.

The Board arranges to have only four KPCA Civic Association community meetings a year - March, May (elections), September (budget approval), and November. The plan is to have a specific theme and appropriate program and activity for each meeting. We are always open for suggestions and topics of interest.

We continue to have had some rather unusual warm weather (and no snow) in December into early January that was contrary to the Farmer's Almanac weather prediction. The coldest period is still expected in February. Plan for the worst, hope for the best.

Remember to always be prepared, drive carefully, and be mindful of your neighbors. For your own safety make sure you shovel the snow from around the fire hydrant nearest your home.

In the event of a power outage it doesn't hurt to contact Dominion Power (automated system: 888-667-3000) to report the problem yourself. The Dominion Power automated tracking system provides an online map and status report (<http://outagemap.dom.com>) – use the *search locality* tab: "Fairfax, Virginia" and scroll down to see the Kings Park area.

Another reminder – if you think you smell natural gas odors in your home, immediately evacuate – wait until you are outside to call the FIRE Department (9-1-1). If you detect the odor of natural gas on your walk through the neighborhood please call Washington Gas, 703) 750-1400 or (800) 752-7520.

Have a happy and prosperous New Year.

Jim Sobecke

## March KPCA Meeting

Join us at the March meeting. Our speaker will be Tamara Sheiffer of the Fairfax County Park Authority. She will be speaking about Resource Protection Areas and green yard care actions like properly disposing of yard waste, reducing use of pesticides, planting native plants and trees, and removing invasive plants. This is a new Fairfax County Park Authority outreach program encouraging green actions on private property, especially near stream valley parks.

It should be a very informative and enjoyable program. We look forward to seeing you there!

March 19, Kings Park Elementary School 7:00pm-8:00pm.



## Kings Park Potluck Dinner

by Susan Metcalf

Kings Park 10<sup>th</sup>  
Potluck Dinner  
Kings Park's Community Event of the Year!

Saturday, March 28th  
4:00 - 7:00 PM  
Holy Spirit School Cafeteria  
RSVP by March 23, 2020

To RSVP, please email Susan Metcalf at Susan.Metcalf@verizon.net with your name, address, phone number, email, number of adults and kids attending and the ages of the kids that are attending. Ages of kids attending is only so we can get an idea of what door prizes to get.

Each family is asked to bring a ready to serve entree, salad or vegetable to share. It should be enough to feed your family and 6 others. The KPCA is supplying paper products, dessert, and drinks. Everyone in the community is invited to attend. Please RSVP by March 23.

So please RSVP now, join in the fun, and support our community.

Susan Metcalf and Marie Cullerton, Potluck Chairs



## Holiday Lights

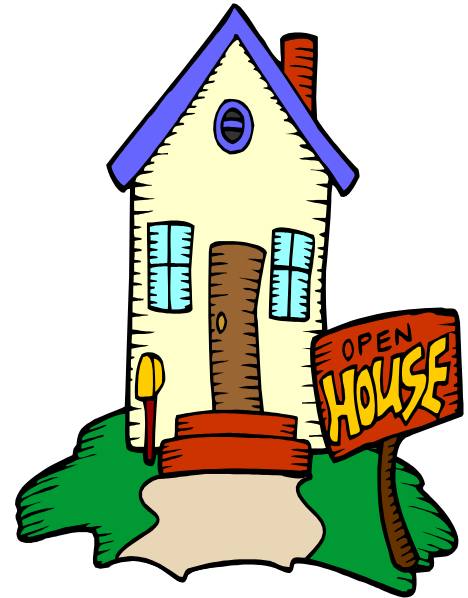
by Susan Metcalf

Thank you to everyone who participated in the holiday lights this season. Kings Park was very festive! Contest winners based on Kings Park Facebook posting were Southampton and Piccadilly. Residents on Piccadilly braved the cold and held an outdoor gathering. We look forward to doing this again next year with even more neighbor postings! Some photos below.



Photo Credit: Kendra Burnside  
Lori Bruss

# Real Estate Corner



### Active Listings

Style	Address	List Price
None		

### Under Contract Listings

Style	Address	List Price
Queen	8924 CROMWELL DR	\$575,000
Queen	5512 YORKSHIRE ST	\$579,000
Duke	8632 CROMWELL DR	\$535,000

Style	Address	List Price	Sold Price	Subsidy (Seller's Credit to Buyer)	Final Sold Price	Final Price		Date Closed
						Reduction/ Increase		
Duke	8900 PARLIAMENT DR	\$499,000	\$499,000		\$499,000	\$499,000		11/01/2019
Duke	8706 VICTORIA RD	\$499,900	\$505,000		\$505,000	\$505,000		12/16/2019
Duke	8710 CROMWELL DR	\$525,000	\$535,000		\$535,000	\$535,000		11/01/2019
Duke	5506 EASTBOURNE DR	\$540,000	\$540,000	\$5,000	\$535,000	\$530,000		12/13/2019
King	5514 MARGATE ST	\$530,000	\$530,000		\$530,000	\$530,000		12/19/2019
Queen	8526 PARLIAMENT DR	\$525,000	\$535,000		\$535,000	\$535,000		12/16/2019
Queen	8461 THAMES ST	\$590,000	\$580,000	\$2,000	\$578,000	\$576,000		12/16/2019

*Provided by Susan Metcalf, Avery Hess Realtors*

**703-472-6512**

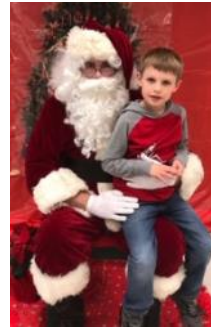
If you're considering buying, selling, or renting real estate, if you know anyone who is, or if you have any questions, please give me a call!

# Recent KPCA Member Events in Kings Park

KPCA Kids Holiday Party (brought to you by your KPCA Annual Dues)



Photo Credit: Susan Metcalf



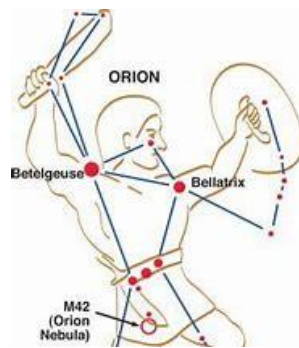
Special thank you to our KPCA Board, Volunteers, the Kings Park Band, and Santa Claus for making this a wonderful evening!

# Whimsy Corner

by Terry Boschert

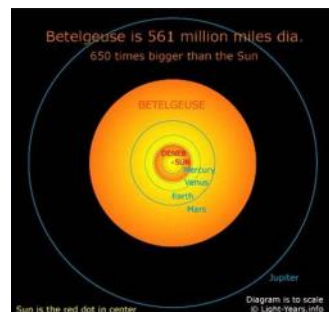
## Betelgeuse, a Long Way from Kings Park.

Betelgeuse (pronounced Beetlejuice) is a star and is part of the Orion constellation; top left of center in the photograph of the constellation.



Astronomers classify Betelgeuse as a red supergiant, the tenth brightest star in the night sky. As a red giant star, it has almost 20 to 30 times the mass of our rising and setting (from an Earth-based perspective) sun; Betelgeuse is around a thousand times the radius of the sun; if it was placed in the center of our solar system the star would reach beyond the orbit of Jupiter. Earth would not exist!

Betelgeuse lies around 520 to 700 light years from us. A very, very long way away from a human viewpoint, but relatively close from a Galactic standpoint. Because of the high mass of Betelgeuse, it can “burn” through its fuel (via nuclear fusion, just as our sun uses fusion for energy) in only around 10 million years; but by comparison, our sun is over 4 billion years old and still fusing away!. Betelgeuse, and any planets that circle it, won’t be as lucky. Betelgeuse fuses hydrogen into helium, then helium into oxygen and carbon, until it reaches the element Iron. When it reaches the production of iron, fusion can no longer occur and that is all she wrote for Betelgeuse. With the energy from fusion no longer pushing outward, the large mass of the star causes an extremely rapid collapse inward toward the center; in seconds, the star explodes into a powerful supernova, releasing vast amounts of matter and radiation, to include deadly



bursts of gamma ray radiation!

So, why am I boring you with facts on Betelgeuse? Well, mostly because Betelgeuse is at the age where it could go supernova at any time, 520-700 years ago, now, or a million years from now. What would happen to Earth once the debris (matter and radiation) from the explosion reaches us on our planet?

Betelgeuse is too far away for any major impact from the deadly gamma ray radiation caused by the explosion. Please don’t listen to any scare stories about the sky falling on us. It won’t. Instead, for 3-4 weeks, we will behold a glorious vision in our night sky, and probably our daytime sky as well.

Betelgeuse will appear as bright as a full moon; we humans could cast 2 shadows at night; one caused by the reflection of light from our sun off the moon and one from the light reaching us from the supernova! You may well be the first humans to observe such a sight; a once in a 40,000 hominid generational event!



Enjoy!

<https://www.solarsystemquick.com/universe/betelgeuse-star.htm>

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/quora/2019/03/12/what-will-happen-when-betelgeuse-goes-supernova/#2b9f5eb2459e>

**And Still Another Betelgeuse, also not in Kings Park.** I bring you the second Betelgeuse, Betelgeuse the movie.

The spirits of a deceased couple are harassed by an unbearable family that has moved into their home; they hire a malicious spirit to drive them out. Michael Keaton as Betelgeuse.





# The Neighbors

Compiled by Terry Boschert

