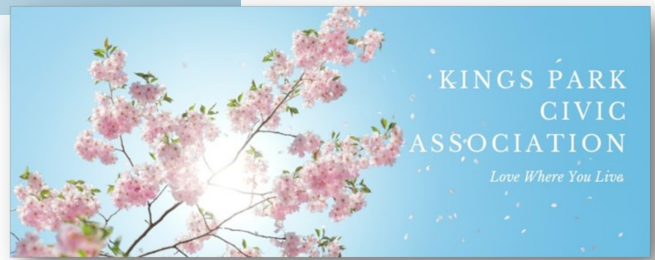




# Kings Park Gazette



## Kings Park - Love where you Live



*Kings Park Civic Association*  
Join/Renew for \$30/year\* and help  
support much of what makes our  
neighborhood so special!

\*Senior Memberships are \$25/year

+ Social events such as the 4th of July Parade, National Night Out, Oktoberfest, Holiday Christmas Party, and

Decorating Competitions

+ Neighborhood grounds maintenance

+ Quarterly Gazette

+ Neighborhood Watch

Questions? [kingsparkcivicassociation@gmail.com](mailto:kingsparkcivicassociation@gmail.com)

Website: <https://kings-park.org/> - Follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/kpcava>

## About the Gazette

The Gazette is published quarterly: January, April, July, and October. Suggestions and submissions should be sent to Charlotte at [KingsParkCivicAssociation@gmail.com](mailto:KingsParkCivicAssociation@gmail.com). 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 Charlotte Hannagan. If you are moving and want to continue to receive the Gazette, join the KPCA and let us know that you need the Gazette mailed to you at your new address.





## Kings Park Civic Association

### Board of Directors

President, Charlotte Hannagan  
484-431-6448

[KingsParkCivicAssociation@gmail.com](mailto:KingsParkCivicAssociation@gmail.com)

VP of Social Outreach,  
Eric DeTurk  
908-616-8508

[eric.deturk@gmail.com](mailto:eric.deturk@gmail.com)

VP of Community Safety,  
Susan Cappa  
703-424-8475

[sjcappa@gmail.com](mailto:sjcappa@gmail.com)

VP of Events, Susan Metcalf  
703-472-6512

[Susan.metcalf@verizon.net](mailto:Susan.metcalf@verizon.net)

Secretary, VACANT

VP of Finance,  
Susan Malmberg  
703-425-1478

[Susan.malmberg@gmail.com](mailto:Susan.malmberg@gmail.com)

VP of Membership,  
Leeann Alberts  
[lawleeann@gmail.com](mailto:lawleeann@gmail.com)

Call Charlotte at 484-431-6448  
with membership questions

## Treasurer's Report VP of Finance, Susan Malmberg

Since the beginning of the KPCA fiscal year on August 1, 2023, our income is **\$1,525**. This is made up of \$435 membership, \$280 Gazette ads, \$285 donations, and \$525 Oktoberfest revenue.

The expenses for this period are **\$5,206**. The payments were for \$644 Gazette printing, \$100 Community Event, \$1,123 Oktoberfest, \$97 National Night Out, \$1123 Mowing, \$550 Contributions, \$657 Web expenses, and \$475

Administrative expenses.

Thank you to all who became members last year, and please remember to join again for 2024. Please volunteer for and participate in our community events.



*The KPCA Board wishes everyone a healthy and joyous holiday season*

## Membership Committee Update VP of Membership, Leeann Alberts

As of December 1, 2024, 345 families have paid their 2023 KPCA dues. Membership in the KPCA is only \$30 per calendar year (\$25 for seniors).

In 2024, KPCA plans to sponsor many wonderful events and activities including: Kings Park Park Clean-Up, Adopt-a-Highway, the 4th of July Parade and Band Concert, Summertime Movie Night, National Night Out, Oktoberfest, Trunk or Treat, the Kid's Holiday Party, Halloween and Holiday Decoration contests, Neighborhood Watch, Nub/Entrance Maintenance, Community Meetings, KPCA Gazette, local government organization representation and more. Some of these events are for the entire Kings Park community, while others are for KPCA members only.

We need your volunteer support and your dues to sustain all of these events and to fund additional activities as time goes on!

To submit your membership for 2024, complete the membership insert from the this edition of the Gazette, include either cash or check and mail to:

**Kings Park Civic Association**  
**P.O. Box 1243**  
**Springfield, VA 22151-1243**

You may also complete the 2024 Membership Form online at [www.kings-park.org](http://www.kings-park.org) and submit your payment electronically via PayPal or BillPay. Finally, you can scan the QR code on this page!

Scan here to join the KPCA





# Kings Park Social Events

By Susan Metcalf, VP of Events

## Upcoming:

**KPCA Holiday Lights Contest:** Kings Park is already getting into the holiday spirit and looking very festive. Judging for the Annual KPCA Holiday Lights Contest will occur December 18 from 4:00pm to 8:00pm. Five winners will be chosen by our esteemed judges and announced on the KPCA Facebook Page and given the coveted yard flag to advertise your winning decorations for a week. All decorated houses will be included in the judging, but if you want to make sure your house is viewed by the judges, email Susan.Metcalf@verizon.net. To be fair to everyone, if you won last year, please still decorate, but you will not be eligible to win.

**Kings Park Yard Sale:** at everyone's own yard Saturday May 4 8am-1pm, a great way to get rid of stuff so start clearing out your house, garage, carport, shed, etc. in preparation.

## Recent events:

KPCA Annual Children’s Holiday Party was a great success with holiday music by the Kings Park Band, Arts and Crafts, a Cupcake Walk, and an appearance by the man in red, Santa Claus. This event has been held each year since the beginning of the neighborhood.

KPCA Scavenger Hunt – Thanks to everyone who participated. Winners were: Team Campbell, Team Bruss, Team Benedict, Team Stuart, and Skippy & Co.

Our KPCA Halloween Decoration Contest with our contest winners – 5525 Eastbourne Drive, 8652 Cromwell Drive, 8702 Cromwell Drive, 5320 Weymouth Drive. There were so many awesome decorations in Kings Park this year that the judges had a hard time picking. Winners won the coveted yard flag in their yard for a week, bragging rights, Facebook mention, and Gazette mention. Thanks also to our fa-boo-lous judges!

Kings Park Trunk or Treat, always a fun time with all the kids dressed up in costumes and the cars decorated. We would love to have more cars participating and are going to have a trunk decorating contest. So start thinking about your ideas!

Oktoberfest – Everyone had a fun time with KPCA German Band playing, Homemade Brats (by our Kings Park Sausage meister Don Metcalf), Potato Salad, Sauerkraut, and Strudel.



Scavenger Winner Team Skippy & Co.



## Energy Saving Tips By Beverly Boschert

As winter approaches, Dominion Energy Virginia is reminding customers of energy-saving tips to help save money and providing bill payment assistance options for customers in need. The fall and winter months typically bring higher energy bills as customers use more electricity to heat their homes.

Start with these four changes to prepare for cooler temperatures ahead:

- Set the thermostat at 68 degrees or lower during colder months.
- Install a smart thermostat that automatically lowers the temperature overnight or while no one is at home.
- Caulk, seal and weather-strip around all seams, cracks, and openings – especially exterior doors and windows – to protect your home from drafts. Check air filters monthly and change them when dirty. Also,

check ductwork for leaks and tears.

- Schedule a **virtual home energy audit** to find more home energy savings.

More energy conservation tips can be found on **Dominion's website**. A full list of all Dominion Energy customer assistance options is **available online** or by calling 866. 366.4357.

<https://www.dominionenergy.com>





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<p><b>Ryan Minton</b>            ryan@ryans-landscaping.com            www.ryans-landscaping.com            https://www.facebook.com/RyansLandscaping.NOVA</p>	<p>P.O. Box 5504            Springfield, VA 22150</p>
<p>Office: 703.569.4505            Cell: 703.967.2939</p>	

## Meet your KPCA Board: Susan Metcalf VP of Events

I am Susan Metcalf, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-President of Events. I am also the neighborhood Realtor proudly serving Kings Park. I have been on the KPCA board in one capacity or another since 2006. Our family has lived in Kings Park for over 29 years and love it here. My husband, Don, and I have four children who have all grown up in Kings Park and four granddaughters that have us completely wrapped around their little fingers. You will often see me walking around the neighborhood and at KPCA events with them. It is so cool for me to see our grandchildren enjoying the same Kings Park events that our kids enjoyed growing up. Our family believes in volunteerism, so our kids grew up volunteering for the KPCA by delivering Gazettes, being on the Youth Committee, helping with

the Senior clean up day, helping at the pot luck dinner, and anything else that was needed. I am a Navy daughter so I was born on the west coast and migrated east when the Navy sent us. I have lived in Northern Virginia since elementary school and watched Lake Braddock Secondary School get built and attended it when it opened. I graduated from Auburn University (War Eagle!) with a major in Accounting with a minor in Computer Science – we still used CRTs, ticker tape and punch cards then. In my spare time I love cooking, reading, quilting, gardening, and socializing. Hope to see you around the neighborhood, it's the best place to live!



# RECYCLING THOUGHTS

By Beverly Boschert

Glass bottles and jars are not acceptable in our curbside recycling. Residents should reuse glass containers or bring them to one of the purple, glass-only recycling containers in the region. If this is not possible, glass should be placed in the trash.

The Purple Can in West Springfield behind the Springfield District Government Center at 6140 Rolling Road is very convenient for recycling your glass.

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/recycling-trash/glass>



# Kings Park Girl Scouts—More than Cookies

By Angela Leese

Kings Park Girl Scout Troops are having all sort of adventures this year!

Troop 54098 (fourth and fifth graders) welcomed four special guests who told them all about the amazing roles they serve in society like a museum curation editor, mushroom forager, and geospatial analyst. The girls were able to ask them questions about their roles like "Why did you choose to do this?" and "Did you go to school for this? Who taught you" and, because they are that age, "What's the weirdest part of your role?"

Other troops in the neighborhood have gone camping, explored STEM careers, learned how to take care of animals and administer first aid, and so much more!

If your daughter - Kindergarten through 12th grade - would like to join Girl Scouts, email Angela Leese at [anleese@gmail.com](mailto:anleese@gmail.com).





## “LITT’L BIT O’ BRIT” TOUR

By Sandy Kester, Kings’ Park resident since 1999

‘allo, Ducky. ‘ow are ya? We’re in the midst of it being monkey’s outside (cold) winter, yeah? Well, jump on board our friendly warm tour bus as we discover our neighborhood street names and origins. On this tour, we are going right to the top, not to the monarch but to: Parliament (Drive).

What are the differences between the parliamentary style of governing and our presidential system? Here’s some facts from others gleaned from the good ole internet: The major difference between these two systems is that in a presidential system, the President, is directly voted upon by the people. The executive leader in the parliamentary system, the Prime Minister, is elected from the legislative branch directly.

The President only responds to the people, the Legislative branch can’t really do anything to threaten the President. As a result, he can make it more difficult for the legislative body to move anything forward. The Parliament, on the other hand, can cast a vote of “No Confidence” on the Prime Minister and replace him. This tends to make the Prime Minister subservient to Parliament.

According to Wikipedia, “the main advantage of a presidential system is that it yields a strong and clear executive. This is important, especially in times of crisis or war. In contrast, parliamentary systems often result in fragile or even an absent executive leader. For example, Belgium was once left without a leader for 541 days because their parties couldn’t agree. Israel frequently calls for early elections due to the governing coalition collapsing. Australia, as of 2018, no prime minister has lasted a full term in office because the parties themselves are consumed with infighting.”

Well, there you ‘ave it. A little information about parliamentary style verses presidential style of governing.

Jump on board with us next time, Chum. Who knows what we’ll learn then. Cheers, Love!





## Leaping into 2024!

By Beverly Boschert

I am thankful for the great neighborhood I live in. Kings Park is home and I appreciate:

- Neighbors who volunteer to serve on the KPCA board,
- Neighbors who volunteer to help with KPCA activities,
- Neighbors who attend KPCA activities,
- Neighbors who schedule patrols for KP Neighborhood Watch,
- Neighbors who patrol for Neighborhood Watch,
- Neighbors who keep their home and lot attractive,
- Neighbors who keep their sidewalks clear of snow,
- Neighbors who join KPCA every year.

Happy New Year Neighbors!

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## Snow Removal for All in Kings Park

This year, all of Kings Park will be plowed when there's snow and ice. Previously, Frontage Road (also known as the Rolling Road Service Road) was not plowed, because no government had jurisdiction. However, thanks to the staff at Supervisor Walkinshaw's office, plus Fairfax County Road Staff and VDOT, we have now worked out who has jurisdiction over all Kings Park streets. Here's what to do if you are not plowed, regardless of where you live.

If you live anywhere other than Frontage Road, your streets are plowed by the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT). If you have issues with plowing, **contact VDOT online** or at **1-800-FOR-ROAD (367-7623)**. Residential streets are plowed after interstates, emergency routes, and high volume roads. If you live on Frontage Road, your street is plowed by Fairfax County. The county plows only a few miles of streets as part of the Fairfax County Road Maintenance and Improvement Program. If snow hasn't been removed from Frontage Road, **email the Maintenance & Stormwater Management Division** or call them at 703-877-2800. When reporting the plowing issue, **identify the street as the Rolling Road Service Road, not Frontage Road**. If you live on this street, keep this information handy, since this is the first year that the Frontage (or Rolling Road) plowing

procedure might be implemented by Fairfax County. (The procedure was developed last year, but there was no snow last year; however, we have verified that the plowing procedures are still in effect.) Since Frontage Road (or the Rolling Road Service Road) is a priority 4 road, it will be plowed after police stations, hospitals, and other county facilities. However, it will be plowed, if we keep reminding them by calling or emailing.





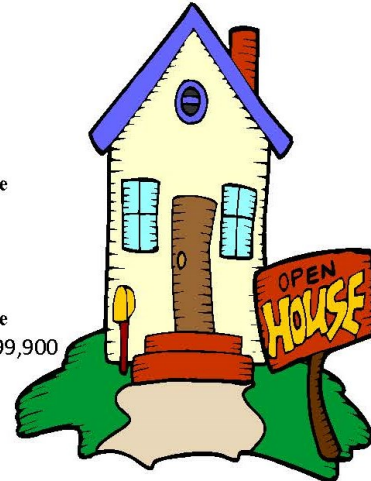
# Real Estate Corner

### Active/Coming Soon Listings

Style	Address	List Price
None		

### Under Contract Listings

Style	Address	List Price
Queen	5303 ROLLING ROAD	\$699,900



Sold		List	Sold	Subsidy (Seller's Credit to Buyer)	Final Sold Price	Final Price Reduction/ Increase	Date Closed
Style	Address	Price	Price				
Duchess	5624 EASTBOURNE DR	\$675,000	\$650,000		\$650,000	-\$25,000	9/12/2023
Prince	5307 ROLLING RD	\$629,900	\$631,000	\$15,775	\$615,225	-\$14,675	10/31/2023
Prince	8621 CROMWELL DR	\$789,999	\$770,000		\$770,000	-\$19,999	12/1/2023
Princess	8905 VICTORIA RD	\$659,000	\$659,000	\$5,000	\$654,000	-\$5,000	10/6/2023
Queen	5512 YORKSHIRE ST	\$700,000	\$680,000		\$680,000	-\$20,000	11/3/2023
Queen	5306 WEYMOUTH	\$739,000	\$739,000		\$739,000	\$0	11/8/2023

*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!

This is a paid advertisement.





## Best of Braddock: Kings Park Represented!

The Braddock District Office, with support from the Braddock District Council, celebrated the annual “Best of Braddock” in early December. The inspiring event recognizes citizens across the district who are making a difference. We are incredibly fortunate to live in such a wonderful district, and even more so to have two winners in our very own neighborhood! Marcia Pape, a long-time Braddock District Staff, was recognized for being the Most “Can-Do” Public Employee, and Eric DeTurk won the coveted “Citizen of the Year” award. Please congratulate them when you see them out and about!

### **Marcia Pape, Braddock District Staff , Most “Can-Do” Public Employee**

Marcia is a tireless employee at the Braddock District office and has been for almost a decade, for both Supervisors John Cook and James Walkinshaw. She’s at meetings all the time, day or night. Marcia puts in extra time and effort to help navigate the complex world of land use. She conducts site visits and tracks down County staff to get the answers necessary, whether it’s anything from obtaining a permit to build a deck, to handling a major multi-unit construction project.

In land use issues, Marcia is always thinking of the needs of affected neighbors or community groups, making sure they’re informed of the progress and included in the conversation. Marcia’s knowledge of the Braddock District improves the quality of every interaction.

Marcia has taken on additional responsibilities such as serving as the staff lead for the Task Force on the Future of Lake Accotink. She took the time to study every report, analysis and proposal related to the lake. She’s also knowledgeable about the Braddock Road Multimodal Improvement Project, managing the communications with VDOT and the surrounding communities and following the changes to the plan which began in 2014.

In addition to her service at the Braddock office, Marcia is an active appointee on the Fairfax County Athletic Council. She finds the time to volunteer with the ECHO food pantry and Gracing Spaces, a nonprofit providing furniture and more to individuals going through a transition in their housing.

### **Eric DeTurk, Kings Park, Citizen of the Year**

Eric, full-time government employee and father of two beautiful girls, has an incredible can-do attitude, and is extremely active in the community. Eric is the first VP of Social Outreach for the Kings Park Civic Association - but he does so much more! He organized the first "Kings Park National Night Out" this summer, with vendors from across the community, music, food, and fun for all ages. He's also the lead for the Park Volunteer Team and helps clean-up our beloved Kings Park Park. When a resident mentioned some plants were getting too tall and reducing road visibility, Eric went out and trimmed them. He can often be found walking the streets of Kings Park, delivering gazettes to residents. Anything that needs to be done, Eric is eager and on it! Eric is also the Kings Park Kings Glen PTA Treasurer. He stepped into this extremely hands-on role this summer - and has made a huge impact on that community as well. Eric spent countless hours this summer in trainings to get up to speed on everything PTA, and has come away energetic and full of ideas on how to improve and streamline operations. Eric can often be found at both schools, helping with various PTA tasks and being a welcome helping hand. Our community is better because of people like Eric in it. Oh, did we mention he also bakes delicious cheesecakes and often donates them to community events?

The first “Adopt-A-Highway” clean-up was a huge success—stay tuned for our next event in the spring!






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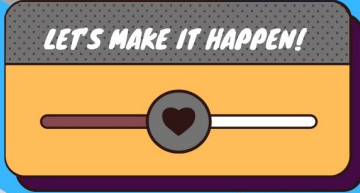

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## Message from Supervisor James Walkinshaw

As we enter the winter season and look forward to a new year, my office and the County continue to provide services and prepare for the challenges ahead.

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) is preparing for the upcoming winter season. Equipment, materials, and staffing are in place and ready to go the moment winter weather arrives. Read VDOT's page with winter weather resources at [virginiadot.org/travel/snow.asp](http://virginiadot.org/travel/snow.asp).

When inclement weather arrives, motorists are encouraged to visit [511virginia.org](http://511virginia.org) or call 5-1-1 for up-to-date information on road and traffic conditions before travel.

Year-round, my office at 9002 Burke Lake Road maintains donation boxes for two great organizations, ECHO ([echo-inc.org](http://echo-inc.org)) and the Annandale United Methodist Church Mission Center ([annandalechurch.com/missions](http://annandalechurch.com/missions)), which serve our neighbors in need. Visit their websites for information on requested items.

My office is available to all residents should you face an issue in our shared community. For assistance, please call the

Braddock District Office at (703) 425-9300, email [braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov), or come see us at 9002 Burke Lake Road. 'Slow Down' signs are also available at my office.

My office publishes a weekly Walkinshaw Advisory message and a monthly Braddock Beacon newsletter. To subscribe, visit [bit.ly/braddocklist](http://bit.ly/braddocklist).

I hope that all Kings Park Residents enjoy the holiday season and I look forward to serving you for another term starting in 2024.

Yours in service,  
Supervisor James R. Walkinshaw



## Whimsey Corner By Terry Boschert

Selected Facts about our Earth. Earth is the only planet that we know of in the Universe that can keep us alive. Any extraterrestrial aliens out there, please let me know if I err in that statement. I need a topic for my next Whimsey Corner article.

The Earth is around 4.6 billion years old. Earth is the third planet from our Sun and is the largest of the terrestrial planets (Earth, Mars, Venus, and Mercury). The Earth is the densest planet in our Solar System and is the only planet not named for a mythological god or goddess. The Earth's atmosphere is composed mainly of nitrogen (78%), oxygen (21%), argon (.93%), and carbon dioxide (0.03%). We breathe less than ¼ of the contents of our atmosphere.

In 536 A.D., a world-wide dust cloud blocked out the sun for a full year, resulting in widespread famine and disease. The population of more than 80% of Scandinavia and parts of China starved to death, 30% of Europe died in epidemics, and empires fell. No one knows the exact cause.

Imagine that you are swimming out in the calm ocean and then suddenly you are being sucked down into a huge, tumbling underwater waterfall! Yes, this terrifying moment could be your personal glory if you swim near an island called the Republic of Mauritius that is located 1,240 miles from Africa's southeast coast, near Madagascar.



In the very early life of Earth, a Mars sized planet, dubbed Theia, collided with Earth-1 creating Earth's moon and Earth -2. We live on Earth-2, by the way. Whatever life and geological features Earth-1 may have harbored, the collision completely obliterated it. This collision with Theia left behind massive hunks of Theia's guts within Earth's mantle AND spawned the debris that would go on to create our moon.



Earth-1 absorbed large pieces of Theia! The absorbed pieces combined are bigger than our Moon! Two massive, distinct blobs are embedded deep within the Earth. One lies

beneath Africa and another below the Pacific Ocean. These blobs are thousands of miles wide (size of a continent) and likely denser with iron compared with the surrounding mantle, making them stand out when measured by seismic waves.



The Earth is almost 25,000 miles around. With extreme engineering, one could build a road that surrounds the Earth. If a car, never in need of a refill, speeds at 100 MPH, the exhausted driver would reach the endpoint of the road 10 days and 10 hours later. I do not volunteer.

[facts about earth - Search \(bing.com\)](#)

### KINGS PARK PATROL By Beverly Boschert

Kings Park Neighborhood Watch schedules patrols of the KP neighborhood on non-holiday workdays.

As a volunteer for Neighborhood Watch, you have your choice of day and time of day to help. We have a suggested route to follow on the patrol. There is a sign to display on the vehicle during a patrol. A patrol takes about 1 ½ hours. Preferably two people drive a patrol together. We also welcome solo drivers.

We need new volunteers to help patrol. This is a great opportunity for any resident wanting to get to know Kings Park better or for student needing driving hours or community service hours. Help by driving a patrol once a month or once a quarter. All are welcome!

Email [terry.boschert@verizon.net](mailto:terry.boschert@verizon.net) to volunteer!



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