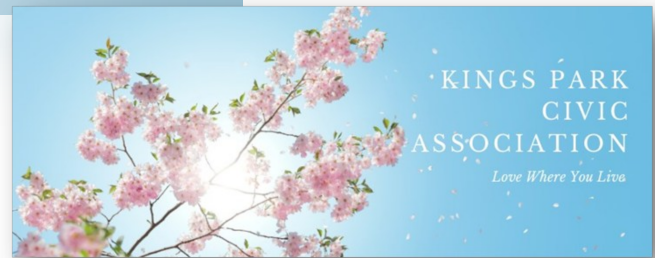




Kings Park Gazette

President's Corner

By Charlotte Hannagan



How is your street doing with
KPCA memberships for 2025?



The days are getting longer, temperatures are warming up, and the hummingbirds will be back in our neighborhood soon! It's been a long winter (note that I hate the cold, so any winter is long), and I look forward to enjoying my walks outside, and seeing lots of friends out and about the area.

We have received over 70 gazette survey responses, and about 40 of you requested to keep receiving the paper copy of the gazette. We will make sure this gets to you in the near future. If you'd like to receive a paper copy, please [fill out the gazette survey](#), and email it back to KingsParkCivicAssociation@gmail.com so we can add you to the distribution list (note that you have to be a current KPCA member to receive a paper copy of the gazette). If you have other thoughts or concerns, please also do email us as we love to hear from you!

Spring is usually a busy time in Fairfax County, and this year is no exception. The FY26 advertised budget plan is being discussed, FCPS is looking at their boundary policy, community pools are prepping for the summer season, gardens are thawing out before planting starts, spring sports are gearing up, and children are running around outside again. However you find your balance and joy, I hope the next few months are fulfilling and you are able to make time to enjoy time with family and friends.

The KPCA is busy preparing the next slate of events, including our annual children's egg hunt, the yard sale, and a Kings Park Park cleanup day. Please reach out if you have suggestions on how we can better serve you... and remember to renew your KPCA membership for the year!

Street	Total Homes	Count Registered	% Registered
Piccadilly Pl	24	8	33%
Salisbury Ct	6	2	33%
Lancashire Dr	10	3	30%
Callander Dr	36	10	28%
Parliament Dr	72	18	25%
Ventnor Ln	40	9	23%
Durham Ct	14	3	21%
Kenilworth Dr	44	9	20%
Cromwell Dr	108	22	20%
Kings Park Dr	71	13	18%
Kempton Dr	23	4	17%
Victoria Rd	131	22	17%
Trafalgar Ct	19	3	16%
Perth Ct	13	2	15%
Thames St	130	20	15%
Yorkshire Dr	37	5	14%
Eastbourne Dr	40	5	13%
Weymouth Dr	36	4	11%
Southampton Dr	100	11	11%
Derby Ct	10	1	10%
Rolling Rd	44	3	7%
Margate St	15	1	7%
Clydesdale Rd	50	2	4%
Avon Ct	6	0	0%
Burke Lake Rd	12	0	0%
Copperfield Ct	5	0	0%
Grantham St	6	0	0%
London Ct	13	0	0%
Ramsey Ct	39	0	0%
Strand Ct	5	0	0%

About the Gazette

The Gazette is issued quarterly: January, April, July, and October. Suggestions and submissions should be sent to Charlotte at 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 or contact Charlotte Hannagan.





Kings Park Civic Association

Board of Directors

President, Charlotte Hannagan
484-431-6448

KingsParkCivicAssociation@gmail.com

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

eric.deturk@gmail.com

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

sjcappa@gmail.com

VP of Events, Susan Metcalf
703-472-6512

Susan.metcalf@verizon.net

Secretary, VACANT

*VP of Finance,
Susan Malmberg*
703-425-1478

Susan.malmberg@gmail.com

*VP of Membership,
Leeann Alberts*

lawleeann@gmail.com

*Call Charlotte at 484-431-6448
with membership questions*

Treasurer's Report

VP of Finance, Susan Malmberg

Since August 1, 2024, Kings Park Civic Association income is **\$7,736**. Our income is made up of membership dues \$5,246, donations \$1,385 and advertising fees \$400.

Our expenses for the period are **\$7,884**. Payments were made for grounds maintenance \$2,405, community events \$2,270, Gazette printing \$1,443, administrative expenses \$1,216 and contributions \$550.

Thank you to all who have joined KPCA for 2025. Please volunteer and participate in community events to help forge stronger neighborhood bonds. Please share any ideas you have that you think will make Kings Park a better community.

Scan here to join the KPCA



Membership Update

VP of Membership, Leeann Alberts

As of March 1, 2025, **186** families were official members of the Kings Park Civic Association.

Is your street represented in our street competition? Show your KPCA pride and close the gap between the 2024 membership numbers and today's total! Thanks to all of the KPCA families who have joined!

We need to increase our 2025 membership in order to sustain all of the wonderful events and services provided by the KPCA! Payment of your dues will ensure your participation in the members-only as well as the all inclusive events that KPCA sponsors throughout the year.

Your membership will ensure that more Kings Park neighbors will be able to take part in the benefits that the KPCA offers, such as: social events, neighborhood camaraderie, grounds maintenance, Neighborhood Watch, and affiliation with local government organizations.

Your dues, involvement, and volunteerism to support KPCA help to keep Kings Park one of the most highly desired neighborhoods in the Northern Virginia area. Please join us!

To submit your membership for 2025, complete the membership insert from the January 2025 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 2025 Membership Form online at www.kings-park.org and then submit your payment electronically via PayPal or via Bill Pay by setting up KPCA on your bank's bill pay option and have your bank mail the check! (Hint: making this an annual recurring transaction ensures that you never forget to pay your dues!). Please note that if you have signed up for Bill Pay in the past you must adjust the amount to account for the small dues increase that took effect in 2023. Finally, we have included the QR code on this page that you can scan for the membership process.

If you have not completed the Gazette survey on the back side of the KPCA Membership Form included in the January 2025 Gazette, please submit it as soon as possible.

We look forward to another great year with KPCA!





Kings Park Social Events

VP of Events, Susan Metcalf

Kings Park Community Yard Sale: Kings Park Yard Sale, at everyone's own yard Saturday May 3rd 8am-12pm, a great way to start clearing out your house, garage, carport, shed, etc. The yard sale will be well advertised and we are putting balloons at each participating house to make them easier to spot and publishing a neighborhood map with all participating houses marked. This map will be included with all ads as well as given out to buyers as they come into the neighborhood. Questions? Comments? Or to have your house included on the map and balloon list, contact Susan Metcalf at Susan.Metcalf@verizon.net (and make sure I have your address so I can add you to the list)

Kings Park Junk Removal Day: May 3rd. In conjunction with the yard sale, the KPCA is sponsoring a junk removal day by teaming up with Out Junk Out for KPCA members only. For a KPCA discounted rate, you can make an appointment with Out Junk Out to come and remove unwanted items from your house. Please visit www.outjunkout.com to sign up and to receive our discounted rate, please mention KPCA Clean-up Day.

OTHER KPCA EVENTS

2025 SCHEDULE

MAY 03	YARD SALE AND JUNK REMOVAL DAY
JULY 04	4TH OF JULY PARADE & BAND CONCERT
AUG 05	NATIONAL NIGHT OUT
SEP 27	OKTOBERFEST (MEMBERS ONLY)
OCT 26	TRUNK OR TREAT
OCT 28	HALLOWEEN DECORATION CONTEST
DEC 05	KIDS' HOLIDAY PARTY (MEMBERS ONLY)
DEC 18	HOLIDAY DECORATION CONTEST



...AND SO MUCH MORE!

WWW.KINGS-PARK.ORG





Kings Park Royal Resident

The story of the traveling flag

As you may recall, the KPCA board has started a new initiative to honor residents going above and beyond to better the community. **Nominations for Royal Flag recipients can be sent to KingsParkCivicAssociation@gmail.com for consideration.**

Since our winter edition of the gazette, the Royal Flag made its way to two wonderful Kings Park residents.

The eighth recipient of the Royal Resident flag was **Vicky Budd**. Vicky has been helping to beautify her immediate surroundings for many years, and recently installed two (one was stolen) benches at the bus stop in front of her property. Vicky was nominated by a fellow resident, and we are so glad she was! Thanks Vicky for all you do!

The ninth recipient of the Royal Resident flag is **Andrew Rowland**. Andrew has been a vital support to the Dad's Basketball league, an initiative that has fostered connections, relationships, and friendships among residents. Andrew has also done a lot of work on native gardening, sharing lots of insights with the community about ways to garden responsibly. If you are interested in joining the basketball league, please reach out to

KingsParkCivicAssociation@gmail.com to be connected to Andrew. Congratulations Andrew!



Resources for Federal Employees

Thousands of County residents and their families will likely be affected by the federal government's plan to significantly downsize the federal workforce and budget. The County has a [variety of resources and services](#) that can help former federal employees, contractors and anyone else affected by job loss. There [is a job for everyone in Northern Virginia!](#)

Each member of Fairfax County's Congressional Delegation has provided access to resources, including the opportunity for federal employees to anonymously report abuses of power, review employment rights/civil service law, and understand whistleblower protections. If you or someone you know is a federal employee, review and share these resources, and subscribe to your federal representative's newsletters to stay informed.

Senator Mark Warner
[Resources](#)
[Newsletter](#)

Senator Tim Kaine
[Resources](#)
[Newsletter](#)

Congressman Don Beyer
[Resources](#)
[Newsletter](#)

Congressman
Gerry Connolly
[Resources](#)
[Newsletter](#)





2025 Seedling Sale

By Beverly Boschert

The 2025 Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District's annual native seedling sale has begun. To order packages of bare root seedlings go to: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/soil-water-conservation/native-seedling-sale>

In Your Backyard

By Beverly Boschert

Here are resources for gardening and care of your lawn. Happy gardening!

For information on climate, soil and pest control in your yard:

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/soil-water-conservation/you-your-land>

For information on yard waste and composting:

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

For information on Soil Tests and Master Gardeners:

<https://fairfax.ext.vt.edu/programs/testpage.html>

Get REAL: It's Real ID Time

By Susan Cappa

May 7, 2025 is an important date. In addition to being two days after Cinco de Mayo and a week before Mother's Day, it's the first day that a Real ID drivers licenses go into effect. A Real ID is



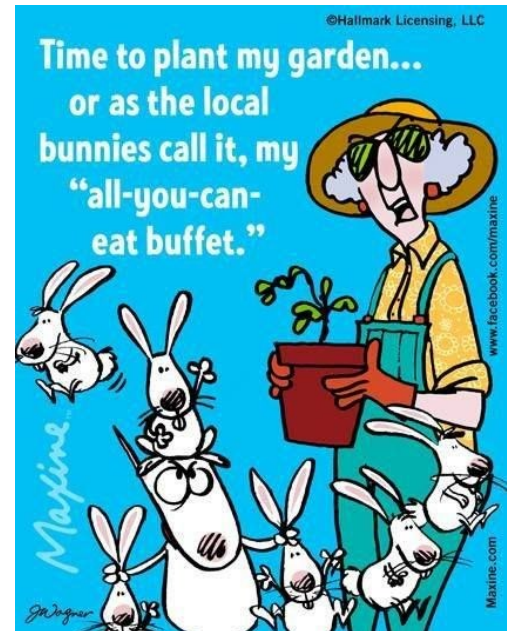
an upgraded version of a state-issued driver's license or identification card that meets federal security standards. In Virginia, Real ID's are optional and you don't have to replace your regular driver's license with a Real ID; however, if you

travel by plane or try to enter some federal buildings and military bases a regular driver's license just won't do; you must have a Real ID, or a valid passport after May 7! Even if you don't travel by plane, it's a good idea to upgrade to a Real ID, as a precaution because security restrictions are becoming tighter.

Since we have a new DMV Center on Braddock Road, it's easy to do. You can get all the data about Real ID's on the DMV website: DMV.Virginia.gov and can fill out the application

online. If you're not comfortable following the online instructions, you can make an appointment with the DMV office and fill out the application form there. DMV is located at **9855 Braddock Road**, call 804 497 7100 to schedule an appointment. Their hours are Monday through Friday from 8am to 5pm and Saturday from 8am to noon.

Whether you start the application process in person or online, you have to bring required identification documents to your DMV appointment. Bring one proof of identity (birth certificate or valid US Passport), 2 proofs of Virginia residency (such as utility bills or bank statements or mortgage statements), your Social Security card or number, and a proof of Virginia income. If your name has changed, bring proof of the change (marriage license, divorce decree). After the DMV officials receive your application and review your documents, you get a new picture and a temporary driver's license. Ideally, your Real ID would come in the mail in about 2 weeks; however, as the May 7 deadline gets closer, expect wait times to increase.





Climate Corner: Small Steps can Equal Bigger, Positive Changes

By Karen Vahouny

I'm happy to report that our first-ever *Climate Corner* generated positive feedback and suggestions, so we'll plan to continue.

One neighbor requested that we continue to solicit eco-friendly ideas and positive steps – and to share those with our 1,100 Kings Park residents via this newsletter column.

So, that's what we'll do! Here's a continuation of the prior column's "Top 10 list," which includes more positive environmental, energy and sustainability steps that members of our KP community have taken. I hope you can try some of these and that you'll continue to send more ideas.

One step at a time

A recurring theme is to start simply and make some small changes. The result: positive impact over the months and years. One KP resident wrote, "We tend to have better success when making one (or two) changes at a time."

Here are more ideas that we can add to our prior "Top 10" list. We'll now call this Our Top 20. (Smile)

11. Buy from local farmers. The Fairfax County [farmers' markets](#) kick off in April, with the Burke market (by the VRE station) on April 19 (8 a.m. to noon) and the Audrey Moore Rec Center market (on May 7 (2 p.m. to 6 p.m.)).

12. Bundle your Amazon orders (and click the Reduce Carbon option).

13. Cut disposable towel use: a reusable Swedish dishcloth is an eco-friendly way to clean the kitchen counters.

14. Reduce paper towel use by using small hand towels to dry hands.

15. Replace disposable paper napkins with reusable cloth napkins.

16. Start using a plant-based sponge for washing dishes. (Several people recommended this!) Here's [one](#) that I've started to use.

17. Use a five-gallon bucket with a screw top lid (kept outside with trash/recycling bins), as an interim step between the kitchen counter compost bin and final disposal at the farmers' market/landfill.

18. Try to avoid using single-use plastic straws when dining out.

19. Instead of printing documents and editing them "the old-fashioned" way, send it to yourself (or others) via email and use online comments/edits.

20. And #19 leads right into #20: Reduce paper. Save documents on your computer or laptop versus printing them out and filing them. Financial, tax, medical and other documents can be accessed online. Re-use wrapping paper from birthdays and holidays. (I can't tell you how many presents have been wrapped with what began as a large, wrapped gift. And it saves money, too!)

Future Climate Corner articles

Stay tuned for these in upcoming months. One article will spotlight a KP resident and Fairfax Master Naturalist, who will share ideas on ways to combine voluntarism with climate-positive steps. Another will feature a unique family volunteer project that generated both government and private sector support.

Have an idea for a Climate Corner article? We'd LOVE to hear from you.

Is there a step you've taken – big or small -- to help our planet?

If so, I hope you'll send a quick email to Charlotte Hannagan at kingsparkcivicasassociation@gmail.com.

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Pictures from Original Owner

The KPCA was lucky enough to receive some pictures from Kings Park in its infancy. With huge thanks to Geoffrey Tancredi, you can see some pictures from when his family's house was being built around 1964-65, and some of neighbors' houses under construction. The house was on Kenilworth, where they lived until the early 1970s. They remodeled the house before selling, and made the carport into an additional room. Geoffrey's parents bought the house for \$25,000, and sold it for around \$67,000. I'm sure we can all imagine what it would sell for today!

Have pictures from Kings Park you'd like to share? Please send them to KingsParkCivicAssociation@gmail.com; we'd love to see them and share them with the community!





Real Estate Corner

Active/Coming Soon Listings

Style	Address	List Price
DUKE	5616 EASTBOURNE DR	\$750,000

Under Contract Listings

Style	Address	List Price
None		



Sold

Style	Address	List	Sold	Subsidy	Final	Final	Date
		Price	Price	(Seller's Credit to Buyer)	Sold Price	Price Reduction/ Increase	
KING	5511 CALLANDER DR	\$625,000	\$646,000		\$646,000	\$21,000	02/21/25
KING	5418 EASTBOURNE DR	\$765,000	\$765,000		\$765,000	\$0	01/10/25
QUEEN	5515 EASTBOURNE DR	\$799,000	\$799,000		\$799,000	\$0	02/19/25

Provided by Susan Metcalf, Corcoran McEneaney

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.



Kings Park Resident Selected as Braddock Citizen of the Month

The January 10 issue of the Braddock Beacon, produced by the office of James Walkinshaw, our Braddock supervisor, recognized a KP resident as its January Citizen of the Month. This recognized Eric Vahouny's efforts in spearheading a cleanup effort (involving family members and friends) under the Rolling Road bridge, close to our Southampton Road entrance.

If there's a Kings Park resident (or group of residents) you'd like to nominate, please submit using this [nomination form](#).

Here's the article from the Braddock Beacon:

The January Citizen of the Month is Eric Vahouny of the Kings Park community! According to family members, Eric has always had a strong love of nature and an interest in protecting the environment. He also has a spirit of volunteerism inherited from his grandfather, Bob Mondloch, who was the leader in creating the Mondloch House shelter in Alexandria. While walking along a bridge for a major roadway in the Braddock District in Spring 2024, Eric noticed a large amount of trash under the bridge near the railroad tracks – the sight of the trash piles and their impact on the environment concerned Eric. When he notified his family members of the large pile of trash he had discovered, the family had just created the Mondloch Climate Collective (MCC) to focus on climate initiatives and extend their family's long history of volunteer activism. The family and a few neighbors agreed to clean up this large trash pile as one of their first environmental projects. Eric researched and contacted Clean Fairfax for assistance. They provided him with trash bags, gloves, and other supplies. When Eric and the MCC volunteers showed up to begin the cleanup, it quickly became evident that trash bags were not enough,



and that they would need more bags and steady feet to maneuver down the steep hill. After Eric and the eight volunteers cleaned up as much of the trash as they could, they contacted the Braddock District Office for guidance on how to dispose of the trash collected in bags and the remaining trash closer to the railroad tracks. The challenge they faced was in safely removing the trash near the busy traffic on the roadway. In the end, the entire cleanup project required coordination between Eric, MCC volunteers, Clean Fairfax, the Norfolk Southern Railroad, and the Virginia Department of Transportation. While it turned out to be a bigger project than the volunteers expected, Eric's discovery of this area in need of environmental cleanup led to a coordinated effort by several agencies to address the immediate issue. Thanks to Eric and the volunteers, the land area under the bridge was returned to a much-improved condition. Eric's spirit of volunteerism and environmentalism is why Supervisor Walkinshaw is proud to recognize him as the January Citizen of the Month.

Congratulations Eric!

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- Lap Lane & Facility Reservations
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1

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& May 1 entered to win
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Whimsey Corner

By Terry Boschert

All of you are historic survivors. Your ancestors once numbered as few as 10,000 humans. Here is a brief history of the challenges your direct ancestors faced.

The Black Plague: Scientists know that the bacillus travels from person to person through the air, as well as through the bite of infected fleas and rats. Both of these pests could be found almost everywhere in medieval Europe, but they were particularly at home aboard ships of all kinds, which is how the deadly plague made its way through one European port city after another.

[Black Death ☒ Causes, Symptoms & Impact](#)

The Black Death epidemic had run its course by the early 1350s, but the plague reappeared every few generations for centuries. Modern sanitation and public-health practices have greatly mitigated the impact of the disease but have not eliminated it. As many as 50,000,000 died, half of the European population from the plague.

[Black Death ☒ Causes, Symptoms & Impact | HISTORY](#)

Approximately 100,000 years ago, during the Paleolithic Era, the first known case of plague afflicted humanity. Although details are scarce, gleaned from the slightest traces in archaeological remains, during our early ancestors' residence in Africa it is believed that a great plague descended upon the region. Decimating the *homo sapiens* population, which dropped potentially as low as just 10,000 humans, the epidemic almost rendered our species extinct. In so doing, however, it is believed the survivors were sufficiently strengthened on a genetic level to endure future outbreaks and pandemics to consequently procreate through the ages. [20 of History's Most Devastating Plagues and Epidemics - History Collection](#)

The Antonine Plague, also known as the Plague of Galen, was an ancient pandemic that devastated the Roman Empire between 165 and 180 CE. In 178 CE the plague exploded once again. It is estimated the epidemic was responsible for the deaths of approximately five million.

Other disasters that killed millions of us: Plague of Cyprian during the 3rd century; Plague of Justinian in 541 and 542 CE, The Plague of 664 CE, the smallpox epidemic of 735-737 in Japan, "cocoliztli" killed tens of millions in the centuries following the Spanish arrival in the Americas, and many more examples exist.

You can understand what barriers your ancestors passed to produce you.

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 to volunteer!



Spring Edition

April 2025

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