



The Kenwood Oaks Neighborhood Association



Springfield, Virginia 22152

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www.KenwoodOaks.org

Have you seen our neighborhood fox?

Our neighborhood fox, "Harry Kenwood Fox" (aka "Harry K. Fox" or "Harry K"), pictured here, is from one of most common and widespread fox species: the red fox (*Vulpes vulpes*). Foxes are found on almost every continent and the *Vulpes* genus are "true foxes" of small to medium-sized *canids* (the dog family) characterized by possessing a long, narrow snout, and a bushy tail, or brush. Most foxes live 2-to-3 years, but they can survive for up to 10 years or even longer in captivity. And, the red fox has a typical auburn pelt, the tail normally ending with white marking.

Unlike many *canids*, foxes are not usually pack animals. Typically, they are solitary, opportunistic feeders that hunt live prey. The diet of foxes is largely made up of invertebrates, however their diet also includes rodents, rabbits and other small mammals, reptiles, (such as snakes), amphibians, grasses, grasshoppers, berries, fruit, fish, birds, eggs, and all other kinds of small animals. Most species of foxes generally consume around two pounds of food every day. Foxes store excess food, burying it for later consumption, usually under leaves, snow, or soil.



We have Marianne Wendling of Park View Court to thank for this fine digital photo. We also have Marianne to thank for naming our neighborhood fox, "Harry Kenwood Fox". It is probably a good idea to mention that Marianne Wendling's picture was taken while she was in the house. While it may appear that Marianne was very close, this is a zoomed version of the photo. We don't want to give the impression that it is safe to get close to the fox nor to feed them. They can be rabid and they need to be kept "wild".

Foxes are normally extremely wary of humans and are not kept as pets; however, the silver fox was successfully domesticated in Russia after a 45-year selective breeding program.

Useful Web Links:

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/
Link to Fairfax County Gov't.

www.geocities.com/wsca2000
Link to West Springfield Civic Association.

www.fema.gov
Link to Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

Important Telephone Numbers:

Police, fire and ambulance for a non-emergency:
703-691-2131

Poison Control:
800-222-1222

Power Outage:
888-667-3000

Cable Outage:
703-378-8440

Sewer Line Breaks:
703-323-1211

Animal Control:
703-830-3310

Voting Information:
703-324-4735

Traffic Tickets:
703-691-7320

Recycling Information:
703-324-5052

Fairfax Schools:
800-839-3277

Fairfax County Government:
703-324-3185

Foxes are readily found in cities and cultivated areas and, as in "Harry K's" case, seem to adapt reasonably well to human presence. Fox attacks on humans are not common, but have been reported and foxes can become rabid. Therefore, the best advice is to exercise an abundance of caution and leave "Harry K" and his extended family alone.

"Harry K's" ancestors include both the native American red fox and the European red fox. The European reds were brought over to the colonies, like Virginia, in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Because they had more aggressive hunting and breeding traits than our native American reds, they dominated the gene pool and "Harry K's" relatives in America are almost indistinguishable now from his relatives in Europe. Both are now classified as *Vulpes vulpes*.

We have Marianne's husband Bob Wendling (and *Wikipedia*) to thank for providing the majority of the text for this article.

The KONA President's Message.

It is with great pleasure that I can inform you that our KONA membership has reached a new all-time high of 74 for 2009 (or 82.22% of the 90 homes in our neighborhood), which exceeds the 73 members that we had in 2008. This is our fifth straight year of growing KONA membership. The success of the KONA membership drive was due to the efforts of many people working together for the betterment of our neighborhood. A solid civic association is essential to maintaining the quality of life and reputation of a good neighborhood. Real estate agents will reaffirm this to you if you ask them.

You should be receiving your colored hard copy of the 2009 KONA Membership Directory from your KONA Block Captain in early March. Let me know if you do not receive your copy and I will see that you get one. Gene Bartlow compiled the data for the publication, Muhammad Ahmad accomplished the production, and our KONA Block Captains will provide delivery of the directories to our members.

Regarding the Rolling Road widening project this is the latest time table. The Design Phase should begin in late 2010 or early 2011. Land acquisition should commence after completion of the design and it could take a few months to a few years. Bids for the work will depend on the availability of state construction funds which could be in the 2012-2018 time frame. On construction, your guess is as good as anyone's.

Regarding long range KONA planning, your KONA Board is attempting to identify neighborhood projects that could require funding since we are maintaining a surplus in our treasury. If you have a suggestion we would be happy to consider it.

KONA Board of Directors:

*President: Bill Wojanis
Treasurer: Gene S. Bartlow
Secretary: Zoe Anagnos*

Block Captains:
*Muhammad Ahmad
Kenwood Ave. to Essex Ct.*

*Catherine Vogel
Kenwood Ave. from Essex
Court to Lamese Court*

*Mark Susa
Kenwood Ave. from Lamese
Court to Park View Court*

*Kim Bieron
Gregory Court*

*Ulla Jackson
Essex Court*

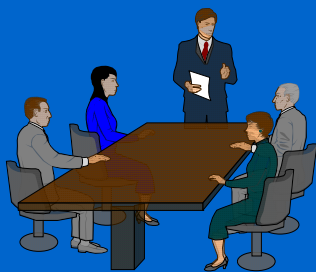
*Leonard Kojm
Top half of Phillip Court*

*Dave Salamone
Lower half of Phillip Court*

*Kathy Marchetti
Tiburon Court*

*Dick Smith
Lamese Court*

*Nicki Johnson &
Yvonne Hoyle
Park View Court*



Finally, we are looking for members who are willing to participate in KONA activities. By next September we anticipate a number of vacancies on the KONA Board. You may not have looked at it this way, but if you live in a neighborhood, and you want to protect your investment in your home, it is your duty to take a turn participating in neighborhood activities. If you take a drive around the various neighborhoods in West Springfield you can observe how fast some neighborhoods have deteriorated. Let's not let this happen to Kenwood Oaks.

Bill Wojanis, KONA President

Disaster Preparedness, Emergency Planning, and Homeland Security in Kenwood Oaks.

Are you prepared for a disaster or some type of national emergency? Do you know what items you would take with you if you were told you had to get out of your home in 15 minutes because of a pending emergency, e.g., terrorist attack, a chemical spill, a biological agent was in the air, a radiological or nuclear disaster, a tornado or a hurricane was coming, a flood, etc.? Do you have an emergency grab-bag kit, a first aid kit, a family emergency and communications plan, a hand-crank radio, some ready cash, easy access to critical documents (passports, extra keys, credit cards & phone numbers, address/phone book), flashlights and extra batteries, prescription medicines, etc.? Are you and your family really ready for the unexpected and the unknown?

We've covered the issue of home security and emergency planning earlier in the KONA Newsletter. The following are some earlier articles you might want to consider reading again: KONA Newsletter #1-4, pg. 1; #2-3, pg. 2; #2-4, pg.1; and #3-1, pg. 1, all of which are available on our KONA website at: www.KenwoodOaks.org.

Attached to this issue of the KONA Newsletter (in the transmittal email) are three documents that will assist you in preparing for a potential emergency; included are the following: a Red Cross & FEMA 14-page brochure titled: "Emergency Planning"; a Homeland Security 2-page brochure titled: "Emergency Supply Kit"; and a Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) 6-page brochure titled: "What you need to know when the electricity goes out unexpectedly". Later, these documents will be added to the KONA website for reference purposes.

Fairfax County has an office of Emergency Management, (703) 324-2362, which manages the Community Emergency Alert Network (CEAN) tasked to deliver important emergency alerts, notifications, and updates during a major crisis or emergency. Register to receive alerts at: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/cean.

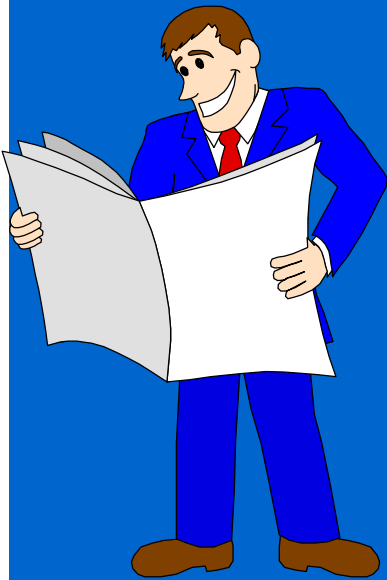
Replacement of Smoke Detectors.

Considering the age of homes in KONA, it may be prudent to consider replacing your smoke detectors. Your home smoke detector may be outmoded and unable to detect deadly carbon monoxide in your home. Your smoke detector is a device that detects smoke and issues a signal to a fire alarm system, or issues a local audible alarm from the detector itself.

A household smoke detector will typically be mounted in a disk-shaped plastic enclosure about six inches in diameter and one inch thick, but the shape can vary by manufacturer. Most smoke detectors work either by optical detection (photoelectric) or by physical process (ionization), but some of them use both detection methods to increase sensitivity to smoke. Smoke detectors are usually powered by battery; some are connected directly to power mains—often have a battery as a power supply backup in case the mains power fails.



Most building codes now require a smoke detector in all rooms *versus* only one per floor. Moreover, the new models also are linked so that if one goes off then they all go off enhancing the effectiveness of the response by all residents. We recommend installing the new combination ionization and photoelectric sensors (smoke and carbon monoxide alarms) throughout all levels (about \$25 each).



Business Services Offered.

Dog Walking/Pet Sitting: Professional, local Springfield Moms will walk your dog or provide pet sitting services. We are a small personalized pet-care company. We pride ourselves in offering specialized care for each pet at an affordable price. We are bonded, licensed, insured, and client recommended. We specialize in daily mid-day exercise and potty breaks for your dog. We also provide pet sitting services for all types of animals. We want to help your pets stay healthy, happy, and comfortable. Please call Felicia at (703) 473-9768 or visit our website at www.walkingdogsva.com.



Editor's Notebook.

1. **The West Springfield Post Office** (22152) has a new phone number (703) 569-0378. Given all the mail problems we have experienced, you may want to make a change to your directory.

2. **Sponsored by Historic Fairfax City, Inc. (HFCI):**

On May 2nd, 2009, tours are offered of five beautiful privately owned homes and one historic landmark in the city of Fairfax, Virginia. All proceeds to benefit HFCI in the preservation of historic properties.

For information: (703) 385-8414, website: www.historicfairfax.org.

3. **Free to a good home:**

- Steel shelving, 36 inches by 36 inches, good condition, disassembled and ready to move out of 6508 Park View Court. Call Ted Shealy at (703) 451-0591.
- Free firewood. Stacked under the deck at 6508 Park View Court. Yours for the taking. Ted Shealy at (703) 451-0591.

Tidbits: More trivial yet somewhat pleasing morsels of totally useless fun information.

- The kitchen-sink sponge is probably the most germ infested object in the typical American home. The best way to clean and disinfect the sponge is to wash it, squeeze out the water, rinse, and repeat. Then wet the sponge and place it in the microwave on high for about a minute. This should kill any germs remaining in the sponge after the rinse out. The sponge should be cleaned in this manner frequently.
- Bats are the only mammal that can fly.
- Bats have only one baby a year.
- Hawaii is the only US state that grows coffee.
- Approximately 20% of Americans have a passport.
- About 10% of the world's population is left-handed.
- The top 5% of US taxpayers make at least \$153,542 in adjusted gross income, in 2007, pay 60% of all federal income taxes, while receiving 37% of all the income in the country (source: Tax Foundation).
- The USA is the world's largest consumer of ice.

St. Patrick's Day:

March 17th.

April Fool's Day:

April 1st.

Passover:

April 9th.

Easter:

April 12th.

Federal Tax Day:

April 15th.

Cinco de Mayo:

May 1st.

Mother's Day:

May 10th.

Memorial Day:

May 25th.