

FOX CHAPEL BOROUGH NEWSLETTER

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Fox Chapel Borough &
Fox Chapel District Association



Summer 2014

MAYOR'S MEMO



We would like to welcome Tom Duffy as our latest full-time hire on the police force. Tom has been with us as a part-time officer and now joins Chief David Laux and the rest of our police force team. I often receive compliments from residents on the excellent way in which our officers have handled situations which have arisen in the Borough. Most of the officers have many years of service and all are dedicated to keeping Fox Chapel a safe and healthy community.

We have recently received a list of native trees and shrubs which is available at the Borough office and on the Borough website. Please consider this list for future planting on your property in any season. We thank Sally Foster and Marilyn Bruschi for the time and effort spent to put this together. The native species are essential to local wildlife, capture maximum storm runoff, help provide clean air and water and best mitigate temperature extremes. We all need to add trees and shrubs as the Ash trees continue to die. Our Park Commission chaired by Jim Pashek, who is assisted by many talented Borough residents (and one honorary member – my Aunt Jenny Scott!), is working on long range plans to add native plants to our parks and remove invasive species.

Many thanks to Stephanie Flom who recently stepped down from her post as Executive Director of the Community Center and Library Association. During her tenure, we opened the beautiful new Cooper-Siegel Library next to the Borough Building where more of us are spending time. The generosity of many of our residents, and lots of work by Borough staff members and former Borough leaders Nate Parker and the late Harry McLaughlin, have guaranteed its success.



PHONE NUMBERS



The Borough receives many phone calls on a daily basis requesting phone numbers. Some of the most requested phone numbers are listed below for your use. We ask that residents refrain from calling the Borough for phone numbers thus keeping the phone lines open for other Borough matters. We also encourage the use of the Borough's website for information regarding office closings, garbage collection delays, meeting schedules, etc., at www.fox-chapel.pa.us. Thank you for your cooperation.

Comcast	412/771-8100
Community Center	412/828-8566
Cooper-Siegel Library	412/828-9520
Duquesne Light Company	888/393-7000
Fox Chapel Police (Non-Emergency)	412/963-7220
Fox Chapel (Water) Authority	412/963-0212
Fox Chapel School District	412/963-9600
Foxwall EMS	412/963-6611
Jordan Tax Service (Real Estate Tax)	412/345-7963
Keystone Collections Group (Wage Tax)	724/978-0300
O'Hara Township (Squaw Valley Park)	412/782-1400
Verizon	800/837-4966
Vogel Disposal (Garbage Collection)	855/494-3345 Press 1

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KENO

It is with sadness that we report that the Borough's first police canine, Keno, passed away May 10th at the age of 16. Keno served on the police force for 8 years before retiring in 2006. Throughout his career, Keno assisted in hundreds of narcotic searches and located numerous criminal suspects. He also participated in the Fox Chapel Area School District DARE program and attended numerous community events. His handler, Officer Rob Katich, offered to share the Guardians of the Night, which emulates the bond between a canine handler and his partner.

GUARDIANS OF THE NIGHT

*Trust in me my friend for I am your comrade.
I will protect you with my last breath.
When all others have left you
And the loneliness of the night closes in,
I will be at your side.
Together we will conquer all obstacles
And search out those who might wish harm to others.
All I ask of you is compassion,
The caring touch of your hands.
It is for you that I will selflessly give my life
And spend my nights unrested.
Although our days together
May be marked by the passing of the seasons.
Know that each day at your side is my reward.
My days are measured by
The coming and going of your footsteps.
I anticipate them at the opening of the door.
You are the voice of caring when I am ill.
The voice of authority over me when I've done wrong.
Do not chastise me unduly
For I am your right arm,
The sword at your side.
I attempt to do only what you bid of me.
I seek only to please you and remain in your favor.
Together you and I shall experience
A bond only others like you will understand.*

*When outsiders see us together
Their envy will be measured by their disdain.
I will quietly listen to you
And pass no judgement.
Nor will your spoken words be repeated.
I will remain ever silent,
Ever vigilant, ever loyal.
And when our time together is done
And you move on in the world,
Remember me with kind thoughts and tales.
For a time we were unbeatable,
Nothing passed among us undetected.
If we should ever meet again on another field
I will gladly take up your fight.
I am a Police Working Dog and together
We are GUARDIANS of the NIGHT.*

Author Unknown



FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

We are often asked about the types of training we do as a department and the answer is that we do different types of training for different situations. The first training is called Essentials of Firefighting which consists of four different courses:

- Course 1 - Intro to Fire Service (16 hrs) – includes, but is not limited to, command and control, personal protective equipment, history and tradition
- Course 2 - Fire Ground Support (48 hrs) – includes, but is not limited to, fire behavior, ropes and knots, water supply/ hoses and appliances

- Course 3 - Exterior Fire Fighter (42 hrs) - includes but is not limited to, communications, building construction, ladders, prevention
- Course 4 - Interior Fire Fighter (60 hrs) – includes, but is not limited to, SCBA (Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus), ventilation, salvage and overhaul

To pass the course, one is required to do a live burn which means going into a burning building and experiencing the extreme heat, darkness and smoke and utilizing the skills just learned.

We will write about other training in future newsletters.

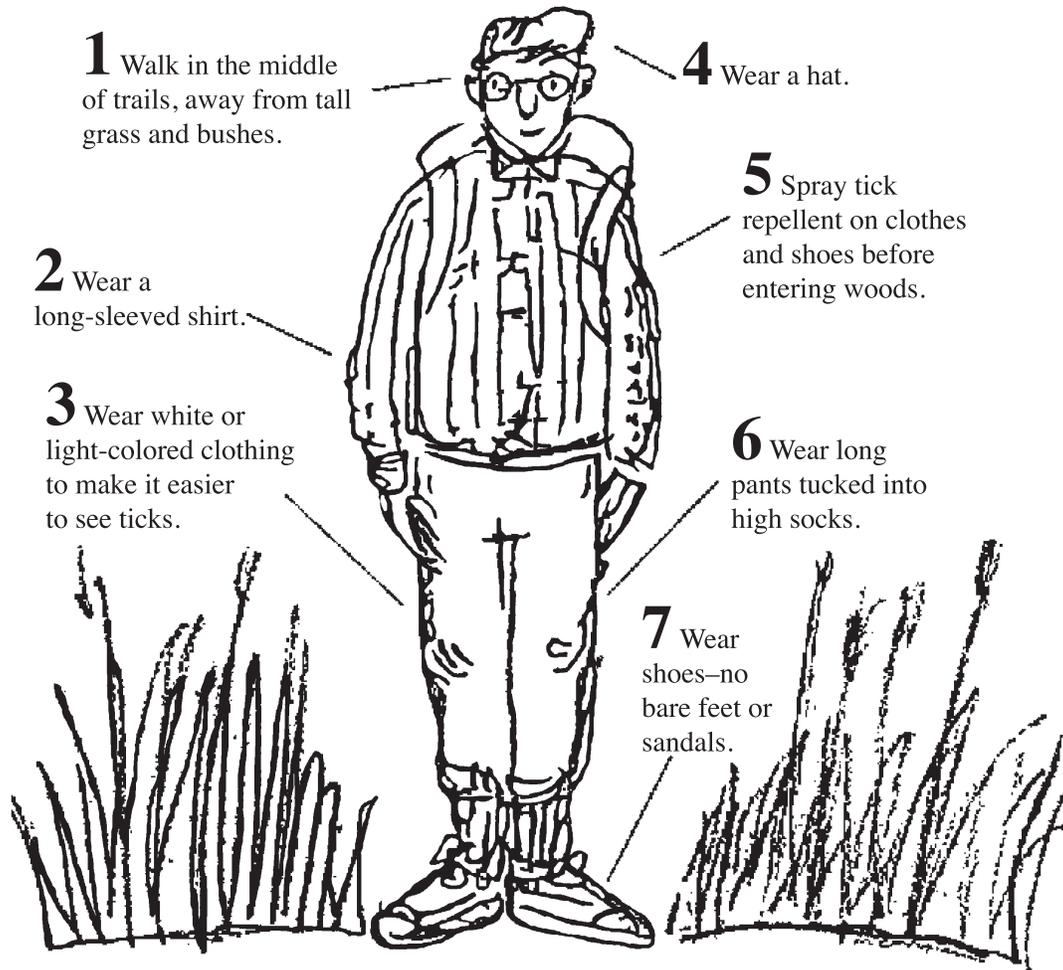
In the summer we always get several calls for grill fires. Here are some tips for grill safety:

- Keep the grill away from the home, deck railings and overhangs
- Always remove grease and fat buildup on the grill
- At the start of the grilling season, check propane tanks for leaks
- Never leave the grill unattended

Lastly, the FCVFD wishes everyone a safe and happy summer!

PROTECT YOURSELF AGAINST LYME DISEASE

Any time the Temps rise above 35F



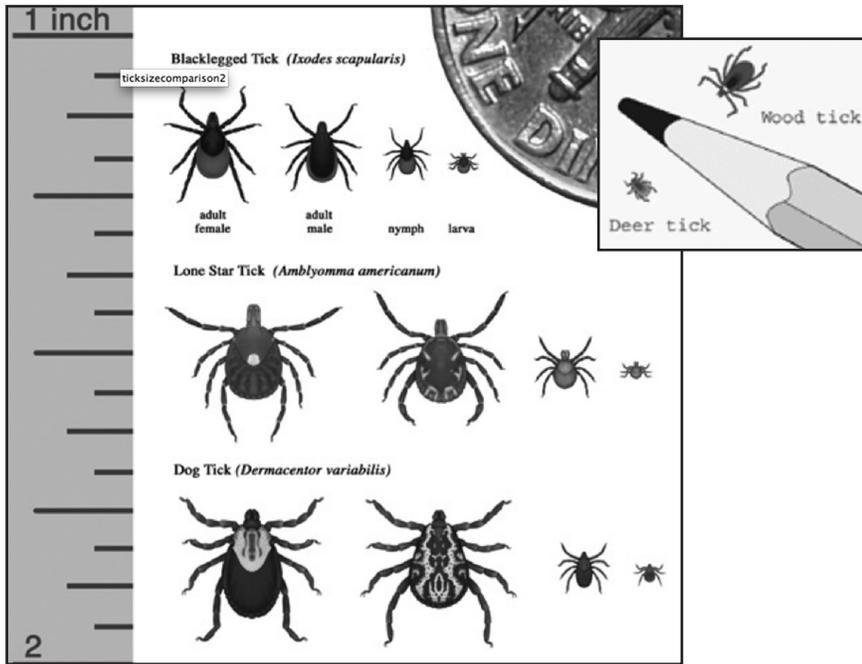
Avoid areas with a lot of ticks

- Ticks prefer wooded and bushy areas with high grass and a lot of leaf litter. These are areas to avoid.
- Take extra precautions in May, June, and July. This is when ticks that transmit Lyme disease are most active.
- If you do enter a tick area, walk in the center of the trail to avoid contact with overgrown grass, brush, and leaf litter.
- Ask your local health department and park or extension service about tick infested areas to avoid.

Keep ticks off your skin

- Use insect repellent with 20% - 30% DEET on exposed skin and clothing to prevent tick bites. Effective repellents are found in drug, grocery and discount stores
- Permethrin is another type of repellent. It can be purchased at outdoor equipment stores that carry camping or hunting gear. Permethrin kills ticks on contact! One application to pants, socks, and shoes typically stays effective through several washings. Permethrin should not be applied directly to skin. Soaking your clothes in a permethrin solution offers the greatest protection.
- Wear long pants, long sleeves, and long socks to keep ticks off your skin. Light-colored clothing will help you spot ticks more easily. Tucking pant legs into socks or boots and tucking shirts into pants help keep ticks on the outside of clothing. If you'll be outside for an extended period of time, tape the area where your pants and socks meet to prevent ticks from crawling under your clothes. Knee high rubber boots also offer protection.
- Remove ticks from your clothes before going indoors. To kill ticks that you may have missed, simply throw your clothes in the dryer on high heat for 30 minutes.
- Perform daily tick checks after being outdoors, even in your own yard. Inspect all parts of your body carefully including your armpits, scalp, and groin. Remove ticks immediately using fine-tipped tweezers.
- Your risk for contracting any TBI (Tick borne illness) increases the longer the tick is attached to your body.

TICK SIZE COMPARISONS



Disclaimer: The information on this site is presented for informational purposes only. The information provided is not a substitute for professional medical advice. If you have a medical problem, please contact your doctor. The above information was provided by lymeticks.org

REAL ESTATE TAX

DROP-OFF

Jordan Tax Service is the Borough's real estate tax collector. A representative from Jordan Tax will be available at the Borough office to accept Real Estate Tax payments on Thursday, July 31st, from 9 AM to noon. Jordan Tax can be reached at 412/345-7962, www.jordantax.com or at 102 Rahway Road, McMurray, PA 15317.



FOX CHAPEL (WATER)

AUTHORITY

The Fox Chapel (Water) Authority is a separate entity from the Borough and is located in RIDC Park, 255 Alpha Drive. Lately, calls at the Borough office for the Authority have increased resulting in this reminder to residents to please call the Authority for any questions regarding billing, water pressure, water breaks, etc. (412/963-1100) Also, water/sewer bill payments cannot be accepted at the Borough office. Thank you.



EARNED INCOME TAX AND NET PROFITS TAX MUST BE PAID QUARTERLY

PA Act 32 of 2008 requires all employers in the state of Pennsylvania to withhold earned income tax for all employees and remit such collections quarterly to the designated collector. If you are self-employed or make net profits, you must file and pay quarterly if you have annual taxable income or estimated net profits that exceed \$12,000. Any resident with self-employment income, earnings reported on Form 1099, or anticipated net profits for the current year must report actual or estimated income and pay actual or estimated tax quarterly to Keystone Collections Group. Failure to do so will result in penalty and interest of 1.25% per month which will be strictly enforced. Every resident making net profits shall on or before April 30 of the current year, file a declaration of estimated net profits for the period beginning January 1 and ending December 31 of the current year and pay to Keystone Collections Group four quarterly installments of the tax due thereon as follows: the first installment on or before April 30 of the current year, and the other installments on or before July 31, and October 31 of the current year and January 31 of the succeeding year.

To file online, go to www.keystonecollects.com, select "Taxpayer Resources" and choose e-File. If you prefer to file by mail, use the quarterly vouchers mailed by Keystone annually with the Final Return mailing or download the vouchers directly from the website. Payments can be mailed to: Keystone Collections Group, 546 Wendell Road, Irwin, PA 15642. Questions can be directed to Keystone at 724/978-0300.



FOX CHAPEL DISTRICT ASSOCIATION THE GOOD NEWS KEEPS COMING

By: Ashby Daniels

Following a record setting contribution to the Aspinwall Marina, we've been asked to contribute to two more significant projects. This month, the Fox Chapel District Association (FCDA) was approached by the Little Library that Could – The Sharpsburg Library. They have been making the most of the 1400 square feet that they currently have for long enough. When looking to expand, they approached us for a contribution to which we delightfully agreed to contribute \$25,000. Their expansion will be truly impressive and long overdue.

One of the core tenants of the FCDA is the beautification of our community. So, not surprisingly, when the Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania approached us to make a contribution to an upcoming project, we happily agreed. They and their committed volunteers are putting together an exhibit at the Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve that will focus on Native Plants to Western Pennsylvania. It promises to be beautiful and will help to educate local students and residents on how to identify and care for the plants that you'll find around our community. The FCDA has committed to fund the project in full at \$12,000. If you've never been to the Nature Reserve located on Dorseyville Road, we encourage you to check it out.

It's no doubt that the 'Good News Keeps Coming' for the Fox Chapel community, and we are excited to be part of it. A lot of the funds that we've been able to provide recently have been a continued result of the overly successful Fox Chapel Follies. We'd love to continue funding some very important projects at the same high levels, so please consider becoming a member or making a donation by sending \$35, \$75, or \$125 to FCDA, P.O. Box 111595, Pittsburgh, PA 15238. Visit our website for more information: FoxChapelDistrictAssociation.org. We live in a wonderful community and invite you to become part of the excitement. Thank you in advance.



EVENT LISTING – AUDUBON SOCIETY OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA JUNE-SEPT

All events take place at Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve, 614 Dorseyville Road, Fox Chapel. For more information or to register for events, please call (412) 963-6100 or visit www.aswp.org.

Summer Camps
Birding & Nature Hikes
Birds & More Naturalist Led Morning Walks
Children's and Preschool Programs
Fledglings
Babes in the Woods
Citizen Science
Citizen Science Data Days
Citizen Science Data Nights
Geocaching
Pollination Celebration & Seedling Take Home
Papermaking
Flowers and Feathers & Seedling Take Home
Nature Journaling
Hawk Watching for Beginners
Seed Ball Mania



ROADSIDE VEGETATION MAINTENANCE

Residents are reminded of the responsibility to keep the vegetation along property lines trimmed back three (3) feet from the road pavement. Vegetation not properly maintained can create vision problems and other hazardous conditions. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.



 **Audubon Society**
OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA



What goes into our rivers impacts what goes into your glass.

Ever wonder where the water in your glass comes from? For most of us, it comes from our rivers. But when rain falls and snow melts, the resulting storm water can run down hills, flow through creeks and streets, and overwhelm our aging sewer systems.

Everything this water touches—from the chemicals in our yards, to the motor oils in our streets, and even raw sewage—is washed into our major source of drinking water. Our rivers.

But there is a solution.



A lot of dedicated people and municipalities are working on it. And you can help too.

Use environmentally friendly lawn and garden products. Never pour oil or paint in a storm drain.

Check with your local community about disposing of or recycling paint, oil and other chemicals. Because when it comes to clean water, we all drink from the same faucet.



Clean water starts in our own backyard. Go to 3riverswetweather.org for a free guide on how you can help.



GARBAGE COLLECTION – BLOCKED DRIVEWAYS

The Borough would like to remind homeowners to instruct landscapers and other contractors not to impede the garbage collector's access to the garbage containers. If the driveway is blocked and Vogel Disposal's collectors do not have clear access to the garbage, the collectors are authorized to pass by until the following week. If the landscaper normally comes on the day that garbage is collected, it is recommended that the garbage be brought to the curb to avoid being skipped for the week.

Residents are also reminded that garbage must be bagged and tied inside garbage containers and placed outside the garage door by 7 AM. Check the Borough's website at www.fox-chapel.pa.us for changes in the collection schedule.



HOLIDAY GARBAGE COLLECTION DELAYS & OFFICE CLOSINGS



4th of July (Friday, July 4th)
Labor Day (Monday, September 1st)
Garbage collection will be delayed one day following the holiday.
The Borough office will be closed both of these holidays





Cooper-Siegel



COMMUNITY LIBRARY

403 Fox Chapel Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15238

Phone: 412/828-9520 • Fax: 412/828-4960 Email: coopersiegelref@einetnetwork.net

ADULT PROGRAMS

Please register by calling the reference department at 412-828-9520 x 215 or by sending an email to coopersiegelref@einetnetwork.net
Some programs & classes will have fees & some will be free.

- Wise Walk Walking Program
- E-readers are now available for loan
- Free How-To Day at the Library in September Victorian Tea
- Sunday Music at the Library
- Tech Help:
 - Free Continuing Education Courses Online
 - Free Streaming Video and Music
 - Summer Reading Program

TEEN PROGRAMS

Registration is required. Please register by calling the teen department at 412-828-9520 x 210

- Art Club
- Mother/Daughter Book Club
- Teen Newsletter
- Summer Reading Program
- Art Party

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Registration is required. Please register by calling the children's department at 412-828-9520 x 21

- Story times for toddlers (ages 24 to 36 months)
- Story times for preschoolers (ages 3 to 5 years)
- Baby lap-sit story times (ages infants to 24 months)

Check out our summer events:

- Summer Reading Program
- Lunch on the Lawn
- Book Club
- Let's Build It
- Marble Maze
- Pizza and Art Party
- Number Games
- Float or Sink
- Science of Star Wars
- Teddy Bear Picnic
- Summer Reading Party
- Family Nights
- Birthday Book Club



The library is accepting cell phones, laptops, MP3 players, and digital cameras to be recycled by the Pittsburgh Zoo for endangered animal programs. Consider donating your used books, DVD, and more to the library. Your donation is tax-deductible.



ATTENTION ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS



The Borough is looking to update the photographs on its website and is looking for scenic pictures photographed in the Borough. There are many beautiful and historical areas in the Borough, and the Borough welcomes any pictures you may have to include on our website and maybe even in a future newsletter. Photographs can be sent to dabate@fox-chapel.pa.us. We look forward to seeing your photos!



BOROUGH OF FOX CHAPEL

401 FOX CHAPEL ROAD

PITTSBURGH, PA 15238

(412) 963-1100

www.fox-chapel.pa.us



**BOROUGH OF FOX CHAPEL
ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS**

**BOROUGH
COUNCIL**

Andrew C. Bennett, *President*
Jay S. Troutman, *Vice President*
Harrison S. Lauer
Ann R. Meyer
James M. Royston
Thomas A. Karet

Walter A. Scott, III, *Mayor*
Joy A. Hardt, *Treasurer*
Gary J. Koehler, *Manager*

Meets each month on the 3rd Monday of the month at 6:00 P.M.

**ENVIRONMENTAL
ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Walter A. Scott, III, *Chairman*
Bruce H. Laswell
Peggy G. Jayme
Daniel H. Sliger
Jay S. Troutman
Nanette Bennett
Austin Henry

Meets as needed on the 2nd Monday of the month at 7:00 P.M.

**PLANNING
COMMISSION**

Harrison S. Lauer, *Chairman*
Nanette Bennett
Lane D. Dively
James M. Royston
Jeffrey B. Todd

Meets as needed on the 3rd Monday of the month at 5:30 P.M.

PARK COMMISSION

James W. Pashek, *Chairman*
Nancy Fales
Dotty Beckwith
Jay Troutman
Brian Shema
Maria Harrington
Dotty Nielsen
Liz Nelson

Meets the 2nd Monday in March, June, September and December at 9:00 A.M.

**ZONING
HEARING BOARD**

Richard E. Jaynes, *Chairman*
John B. Montgomery
Kim Chrisman

Meets as needed on the Wednesday following the 3rd Monday of the month at 7:00 P.M.

**TELEPHONE NUMBERS
Office 412-963-1100**

Extensions:

Administration 0
Building Permits/Zoning..... 113
Public Works 119
Sewer Department..... 126

Police Dept. 412-963-7220

**MEETINGS ARE HELD IN THE BOROUGH BUILDING AND ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.
ALL RESIDENTS ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND.**