

Gazette

JULY/AUGUST 2018



4th of July Parade and Picnic

Please join your community for some family fun at the traditional Kings Park 4th of July Parade and Picnic. The King Park Civic Association has organized this event for many years, and we are hoping for the best turnout ever this year.

The parade line up begins in front of Kings Park Elementary School at 10:30 AM on Wednesday, July 4th. All bike riders, scooter riders, skate boarders, wagon pullers, stroller pushers, wheel chair riders or anyone else is encouraged to join the fun event!

If you have a classic or cool car, please join the parade. All vehicles should stage in the parking area of the school near the cafeteria entrance.

The parade will begin promptly at 11:00 AM. Volunteer safety personnel will be available along the route to help ensure everyone's safety. All parade participants are asked to stay behind the fire truck.

Once you arrive at Kings Park Park, you will be treated to patriotic music from our very own Kings Park Band. Don't forget to bring a chair so you can listen in comfort. Cold drinks, hot dogs, and chips will be sold.

We still need volunteers to assist with set-up, selling food and clean-up. If you'd like to help out with the parade or picnic, please contact Susan Metcalf at Susan.Metcalf@verizon.net
See the schedule of events on page 3

Happy Birthday, USA!!



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KPCA Calendar of Events

July 4 **4th of July Parade and Concert in the Park** - Parade Starts at Kings Park Elementary School at 11:00am

For a complete calendar of KPCA events go to www.Kings-Park.org

From the President

As I begin my eighth year as the Civic Association President, I again want to sincerely thank the board, committees, and community members and the outstanding support and encouragement they have given me. My special thanks to the other Board members who have again stepped forward for another year to help continue the work of the KPCA.

This is going to be a very interesting year in the history of Kings Park. The KPCA is being supported by fewer and fewer members (your neighbors) each year. We have now reached the lowest point in many years – fewer than 350 residents/ households are dues paying members for 2018. That is really disappointing for a community of over 1100 homes to have so little support from the residents (your neighbors) that are relishing all the benefits of common area grounds maintenance, Neighborhood Watch, Clean-Up day and the July 4th Parade and Picnic, for example. As a reminder, KPCA is not an HOA or Community Association with covenants and fees for services, etc. The Kings Park Civic Association only 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.

The budget of the KPCA keeps shrinking each year as we see membership decline. In the past three years the KPCA has found it necessary to cut back on many community activities, and sponsor only a few “members only” events. Many of our community events are a great attraction for “non-members” and even folks from adjoining communities. The July 4th Parade and Picnic being the most popular activity. We don’t want to put a damper on community festivities celebrating our country’s Independence Day, but we must at least offset some of the cost of sponsoring the activities. Member dues are at work here, so we would like to see that YOU get the most of the benefits of KPCA membership.

The 2018 Kings Park July 4th Parade may be last one hosted by the KPCA!

The KPCA is now faced with unforeseen additional costs associated with the parade road use permit process. By the time you read this you a decision was made to increase the budget to cover the cost of hiring police officers to provide traffic control and protect the parade participants for this years parade. The alternative is not receiving a VDOT permit for the use of the roadway for parade vehicles or pedestrians. Personal safety is our priority. No VDOT road use permit = no street parade. The added cost is \$450 for two officers. This could be offset in the future by adding 24 new members to the KPCA.

Future July 4th Parade participants would have to use the sidewalk and not the street. What’s a patriotic parade without marchers, kids on tricycles, flags, noise, music, and fire trucks?

Committee Chairs

Community Potluck
Susan Metcalf 703-503-0176
Susan.Metcalf@verizon.net

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/
Open Position

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

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About the Gazette

The Gazette is published every other month, and suggestions and submissions should be sent to 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 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

The KPCA already purchased the 4th of July parade medals for 2018 that are given to the children that participate in the parade. This year they will be handed out at the picnic after the walkers arrive at the Park. The KPCA may no longer be able to support a parade after this year – ending 54 years of tradition.

Better news – the July 4th Picnic in the Park will be held as originally planned. The Kings Park Band will entertain with Patriotic music and the traditional foods – same charge as last year. We will continue to welcome EVERYONE to the picnic, however there comes a point at which income from food sales can't make the KPCA even come close to breaking even when we are seeing fewer residents paying the membership dues. Note that the FCPA gets a percentage of sales, and we can't charge admission – and we don't want to increase prices.

What will be different from now on is an earnest effort by your KPCA volunteers to encourage more attendees to join the KPCA. The dues are only \$25 (\$20 for seniors) per family/household. Each year we have to rely on the same residents to volunteer their time and energy supporting these events for EVERYONE in the community. We hope you will meet and greet the KPCA Board and Committee members that make the picnic happen. They will be wearing KPCA lanyards. We will have extra lanyards if you would like to volunteer some of your time!

Here is the bottom line. If more members of the community join the KPCA we won't have to make more drastic cuts in the "services" KPCA provides to ALL THE RESIDENTS. The KPCA Board's efforts are aimed at giving more back to the community – we want your dues to show lasting impact.

Do you want to see the grass and plantings at the entrances go unattended? Many residents don't realize that the KPCA is responsible for the upkeep of the common areas of Kings Park – entrances at Kings Park Drive and Southampton, median strip on Kings Park Drive, the two traffic circles, and the traffic calming nubs (bump outs) along Southampton. These are costs that are borne by membership dues.

The upkeep of the plantings at the entrances and the nubs are done by the volunteers of the Beautification committee. They need more help! Our few longtime volunteers are finding it more difficult to do it alone so we may have to contract out some of the harder work. We need more individuals and families to step forward and help. We want everyone to take pride in the beauty of our community

The number of volunteers that perform Neighborhood Watch is now at the lowest level. We have lost many of our active volunteers, especially schedulers. Do you realize what positive impact a Neighborhood Watch program has on the community's safety and security?

The coming changes to the traffic improvements associated with the Braddock Road Widening Study have a direct impact on this community. Your KPCA Board has been active in representing the interests of the Kings Park residents. If you are a KPCA member you will know firsthand what is planned and when things might change in the coming years. The KPCA Community Meetings are an opportunity for face-to-face discussions and information about what's happening and why you should be concerned.

KPCA community meetings are now scheduled for September, November, January, March, and May. We realize that you have a busy schedule but we encourage you to attend whenever you can. Your time should be rewarded so if there is some topic of community interest or a guest speaker you would like to hear let us know. We are looking for opportunities to keep our residents informed and provide opportunities to know their neighbors and what is available to make your lives more enjoyable.

This is your community and we want you to be an active participant in any way you can. Often many of our longtime residents forget to rejoin each year and have to be reminded. Talk to your neighbors about joining (or rejoining) the KPCA.

The Next Door social media initiative was started here in Kings Park by a KPCA Board member. Do you know that the majority of those that post on Next Door are NOT KPCA members? I point this out because many of the discussions that I read there are erroneous but could be of greater benefit to the community if the poster(s) were 'in the know' and had access to valid sources. I myself hesitate to post corrections, because often it is too late or might be taken in the wrong way.

And in closing – the Kings Park Civic Association Membership Drive is now full speed ahead. Survival of the Kings Park community is in the hands of the residents. Being a KPCA member means that you are concerned about your community, neighbors, the continued great appearance of our community (and property values), and you are willing and able to be a 'neighbor helping neighbors'.

Respectfully,

Jim Sobecke

Whimsy Corner

by Terry Boschert

The History of the Hot Dog. Here is the one undisputed fact I uncovered during research on the hot dog. Sausage is one of the oldest forms of processed foods; it is mentioned in manuscripts that date back to the 9th century B.C. From that date forward, however, serious hot dog historians disagree on almost everything about hot dog history.

The city of Frankfurt-am-Main in Germany claims that the hot dog was developed in their city in 1487. Others assert that the popular sausage - known as a "dachshund" or "little-dog" sausage - was created in the late 1600's by one Johann Georghehner, a butcher living in Coburg, Germany. According to this report, Georghehner later traveled to Frankfurt to promote his new product.

The people of Vienna, Austria, point to the term "wiener" to prove their claim as the birthplace of the hot dog. Still others push the theory that the North American hot dog comes from a widespread common European sausage brought here by butchers of several nationalities. Serious hot dog historians dismiss this view as "outlandish", "ill-researched", or "balderdash".

And, of course, serious hot dog historians (not-serious hot dog historians aka the rest of us) also have multiple theories about who first put the hot dog in a roll. One report states a German immigrant sold them, along with milk rolls and sauerkraut, from a push cart in New York City's Bowery during the 1860's. Others say that in 1871, Charles Feltman, a German baker, opened the first Coney Island hot dog stand selling 3,684 dachshund sausages in a milk roll during his first year in business. Still other serious hot dog historians suggest that today's hot dog on a bun was introduced during the St. Louis "Louisiana Purchase Exposition" (informally known as the St. Louis World's Fair) in 1904 by Bavarian concessionaire, Anton Feuchtwanger.

And let us not forget the label "hot dog" itself. Some say the word was coined in 1901 at the New York Polo Grounds on a cold April day. Others push the view that the term "hot dog" first appeared in college magazines in the 1890s and sold via carts to Yale students in 1894.

The year 1893 was an important date in hot dog history. In Chicago of that year, the Colombian Exposition brought hordes of visitors who consumed large quantities of sausages sold by vendors. People liked this food that was easy to eat, convenient and inexpensive. Also, in 1893, sausages became the standard fare at baseball parks. This tradition is believed to have been started by a St. Louis bar owner, Chris Von de Ahe, a German immigrant who also owned the St. Louis Browns major league baseball team. When the hot dog joined with baseball, it was still easy to eat and convenient, but, in my experience, no longer inexpensive. <http://www.hot-dog.org/culture/hot-dog-history>

Condiments. In 2005, the US-based National Hot Dog &

Sausage Council (part of the American Meat Institute) found mustard to be the most popular condiment, preferred by 32% of respondents; 23% favored ketchup; 17% chili con carne; 9% pickle relish, and 7% onions. Other toppings include sauerkraut, mayonnaise (mayonnaise?), lettuce, tomato (hot dog salad?), cheese, and chili peppers. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hot_dog

Hot Dog Records. Of course, people would try to set Guinness records for hot dogs. They did for the fruitcake, so why not for the hot dog?

The Shizuoka Meat Producers cooked a hot dog that measured 197 feet long; it rested on a bun of 198 feet.

A hot dog prepared by head chef Joe Calderone in Manhattan sold for \$69 during National Hot Dog Day in 2010, making it the most expensive hot dog sold at the time. The hot dog was topped with truffle oil, duck foie gras and truffle butter.

Refusing to let an East Coast island hold the expense record, Capitol Dawg in Sacramento served three-pound hot dog sandwiches for \$145.49. Each sandwich featured a grilled 18 inch all-beef in natural casing frank from Chicago, served on a fresh baked herb and oil focaccia roll, spread with white truffle butter, then grilled. Capital Dawg then topped the sandwich with a whole grain mustard from France, garlic & herb mayonnaise, chopped & sautéed shallots, organic mixed baby greens, maple syrup marinated/fruitwood smoked uncured bacon from New Hampshire, chopped tomato, moose cheese from Sweden, sweetened dried cranberries, basil olive oil/pear-cranberry-coconut balsamic vinaigrette, and ground peppercorn; CPRs and packages of Tums were on site. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hot_dog

Ingredients. OK, I saved the Wurst for last. If you really enjoy eating hot dogs, then warning, "spoiler alert" ahead.

Commercial, mass-produced (not homemade), hot dog ingredients may include:

Meat trimmings and fat; sounds innocent enough, but unspin the phrase and you get: mechanically separated meat (paste-like meat product), pink slime, and meat slurry; **Flavorings,** such as salt, garlic, and paprika; **Preservatives (cure)** typically sodium erythorbate and sodium nitrite (the latter also an ingredient in fireworks);

Pork and beef are the traditional meats used in hot dogs. Less expensive hot dogs are often made from chicken or turkey, using low-cost mechanically separated (see Meat trimmings and fat) poultry.

Hot dogs may be encased in small intestines from sheep (aka, natural casing), may be caseless (aka, skinless), or may be encased in reconstituted collagen casings (unspin: casing made from beef hide). https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hot_dog

Conclusion. Eat beef and chicken this Fourth of July. That will leave more hot dogs for me!

Real Estate Corner

Active Listings

Style	Address	List Price
KING	8510 DURHAM CT	\$520,000
PRINCESS	8606 VICTORIA RD	\$509,900

Under Contract Listings

Style	Address	List Price
KING	5506 AVON CT	\$560,000
KING	5528 KINGS PARK DR	\$575,000
PRINCE	8645 VICTORIA RD	\$539,900
PRINCE	5533 CALLANDER DR	\$569,900
PRINCESS	8911 VICTORIA RD	\$505,000
QUEEN	8605 CROMWELL DR	\$579,000



Sold

Style	Address	List Price	Sold Price	Subsidy (Seller's Credit to Buyer)	Final Sold Price	Final Price Reduction/Increase	Date Closed
DUCHESS	5307 WEYMOUTH DR	\$519,000	\$519,000	\$11,000	\$508,000	-\$11,000	06/20/18
DUKE	8508 THAMES ST	\$495,000	\$495,000	\$8,000	\$487,000	-\$8,000	06/08/18
KING	5415 WEYMOUTH DR	\$615,000	\$615,000	\$0	\$615,000	\$0	05/11/18
KING	8623 CROMWELL DR	\$514,900	\$507,000	\$4,700	\$502,300	-\$12,600	05/30/18
KING	8808 TRAFALGAR CT	\$599,000	\$615,000	\$1,000	\$614,000	\$15,000	05/31/18
PRINCE	5525 EASTBOURNE DR	\$549,000	\$549,000	\$3,500	\$545,500	-\$3,500	06/01/18
PRINCE	8803 TRAFALGAR CT	\$420,000	\$420,000	\$0	\$420,000	\$0	06/14/18
QUEEN	8725 CLYDESDALE RD	\$549,000	\$549,000	\$5,000	\$544,000	-\$5,000	06/20/18

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!

Eastbourne Kitchen Hacks

by Joe Camacho

At our past National Night Out gatherings, neighbors were heard sharing kitchen hacks (tips, shortcuts, etc.) and maybe a collection of them would do for a King Park Gazette article. So here goes.

Reviving rock-hard brown sugar (Joe & Linda Camacho)

While you're in the middle of your recipe and discover your brown sugar is rock hard, take and put a clump of it in a sandwich-size baggie and pound it with a rubber mallet or meat mallet taking care to protect the counter top. (NOTE: Linda says I do things the hard way. She suggests per her friend's recommendation that you put a clump of brown sugar covered with a wet paper towel in a glass bowl and microwave in 20-second increments until it's soft.)

Keep Strawberries Fresh Longer (Anonymous)

Whether you buy strawberries from roadside stands, farmer's markets, or grocery stores, you'll probably want to keep them fresh and mold-free as long as possible. A good trick is to rinse and/or store strawberries in water-vinegar mixture (10:1 ratio) for a few minutes. Drain the berries in a colander and then thoroughly rinse to remove any vinegar flavor. Place clean & dry strawberries in a paper towel lined bowl (to help soak up any extra moisture) and leave uncovered in the refrigerator.

There are a Gazillion (Sandy Kester)

I do a lot of cooking and baking. It's my "thing," but I always figure everything I do everyone knows about like the one above about brown sugar. Growing up and doing a lot of baking, I figure everyone knows all of these tips and short cuts. Mine might not be a hack but a tip of which I have a gazillion. Which to pick?? For example:

- a. When you measure out multiples of anything for baking, place them in different parts of the bowl so you won't forget how many you've already done (e.g., 3 tablespoons of an item: place each tablespoon in a different part of the mixing bowl). Easy counts. Or,
- b. Rock-hard bread/bagels/cookies. Wrap a slightly damp paper towel around them and microwave them for about 15 seconds. Voila, soft again. Or,
- c. Cutting onions. Don't cut the stem part out of an onion--hold it there and cut the other side to help with no tears.

Problem-free Trees for Virginia Landscapes

by Beverly Boschert

This is a short list of trees which could be used in your Kings Park lawn if you need to replace a tree or add a tree to your landscape. Plants marked with an asterisk (*) are native to Virginia and recommended by the Virginia Native Plant Society.

- American Beech* (*fagus grandifolia*) grows to a large size with smooth gray bark.
- American Yellowwood (*cladrastis kentukea*) is a medium-size tree with smooth bark.
- Baldcypress* (*taxodium distichum*) is a deciduous conifer that grows to a large, pyramidal tree.
- Black Gum* (*nyssa sylvatica*) is a large, native tree with beautiful, red fall foliage color.
- Dawn Redwood (*metasequoia glyptostroboides*) is a deciduous conifer, mature trunks develop a fluted appearance. Dawn Redwood may be difficult to find in nurseries.
- Fringetree* (*chionanthus virginicus*) is a large shrub or a small tree. This native species is beautiful in flower in May.
- Goldenraintree (*koelreutaria paniculata*) is a medium-size tree with beautiful, showy yellow flowers in July.
- Paperbark Maple (*acer griseum*) is a slow-growing, small tree with exfoliating bark.
- Sweetbay Magnolia* (*m. virginiana*) tolerates shade and does well in wet locations, blossoms appear from May to June.
- Sourwood* (*oxydendrum arboreum*) is usually a small tree in home landscapes, with showy, white flowers and nice, red, fall foliage color.
- Japanese Snowbell (*styrax japonicus*) is a small tree with fragrant white flowers in May.

Trees cont'd from previous page:

A complete list including photos is at:

https://pubs.ext.vt.edu/content/dam/pubs_ext_vt_edu/450/450-237/PPWS-47-pdf.pdf

Choose the Right Tree and the Right Location

A tree is a long term investment, so plant the right tree in the right location. A correctly planted tree will not grow well or meet your expectations if it is selected for or planted in the wrong location. Carefully plan your landscape before you plant your trees.

- Plant understory trees, like dogwoods, in shade, not in full sun.
- Do not plant water-loving trees, like willows, near septic fields or water sources. Relocate or change species.
- Align trees for wind screens where they will block winter wind, not where wind will funnel around or between them.
- Avoid planting trees with leaf or fruit "litter" near pools, decks and paving. Place them where they shade and self mulch.
- Avoid planting evergreens where they block winter sun. Instead, plant deciduous trees for summer shade and winter solar radiation.
- Avoid planting trees too close to the house. Plant farther away, or plant smaller trees and shrubs.
- Cars can scrape and bruise tree trunks. Locate trees away from parking spaces or areas where they can be vandalized.
- Branches can create hazards or block views. Locate trees away from street corners, or vehicle and pedestrian traffic.
- Avoid planting trees directly under utility lines. Locate trees away from lines or plant smaller, low-growing trees or large shrubs.
- Plant trees away from sidewalks to allow root expansion without pavement buckling.

Source: <http://dof.virginia.gov/tree/care/select-a-location.htm>

Trouble in the Ash Tree

by Susan Malmberg

If you have an ash tree on your property, you have a potential problem. In 2002 an insect from Asia, the Emerald Ash Borer, was found in the US. Since that time it has killed millions of ash trees, the only tree it attacks. The insect is about ½ inch long, metallic green and is difficult to spot. To see if this insect is a problem on your property, first determine if you have an ash tree and then look for signs of infestation.

The ash tree has compound leaves consisting of seven 2-inch leaflets on a stem and the mature tree has a diamond shaped bark pattern. The ash leaves turn bright yellow around September. You can see our ash tree in the front yard of 5503 Ventnor Lane.

The signs of emerald ash borer infestation are:

- canopy dieback
- new sprouts on the tree trunk
- larva exit holes on the trunk shaped like a D
- woodpecker activity, which leads to bark blanding when the bird exposes the lighter under bark

The tree is a danger to people and property when infested because the dead branches in it become very brittle and can fall unexpectedly.

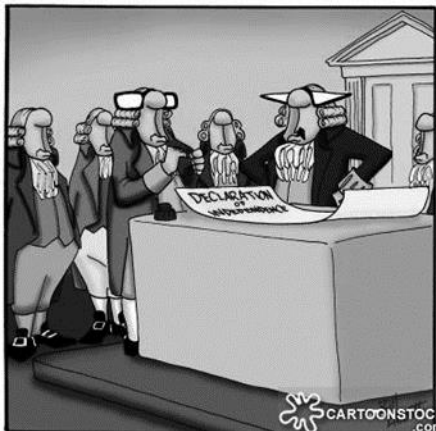
If you have an ash tree, you should contact a certified arborist to evaluate it. If the tree is not badly infested, it might be saved. A certified arborist with a license to apply pesticides can treat your tree. If it isn't a candidate for treatment it should be taken down to remove the danger of it falling.

To find a certified arborist, go to www.goodtreecare.com. To find out more about the Emerald Ash Borer, call Fairfax County Urban Forest Management Division at 703-324-1770.

The Neighbors

by Terry Boschert

off the mark.com by Mark Parisi



"Oh, come on! Nobody brought a pen?"



"Top floor, please."



Fun Facts: 4th of July by the Numbers

by Beverly Boschert

On this day in 1776, the Declaration of Independence was approved by the Continental Congress, setting the 13 colonies on the road to freedom as a sovereign nation.

2.5 million - In July 1776, the estimated number of people living in the newly independent nation. *Source: Historical Statistics of the United States: Colonial Times to 1970*

311.7 million - The nation's estimated population on this July Fourth. *Source: US Census Population clock*

Fireworks

\$190.7 million - The value of fireworks imported from China in 2010, representing the bulk of all U.S. fireworks imported (\$197.3 million). U.S. exports of fireworks, by comparison, came to just \$37.0 million in 2010, with Japan purchasing more than any other country (\$6.3 million). *Source: Foreign Trade Statistics*

\$231.8 million - The value of U.S. manufacturers' shipments of fireworks and pyrotechnics (including flares, igniters, etc.) in 2007. *Source: 2007 Economic Census*

Towns with Patriotic Names

31 - Places have "liberty" in their names. The most populous one as of April 1, 2010, is Liberty, Mo. (29,149) Iowa, with four, has more of these places than any other state: Libertyville, New Liberty, North Liberty and West Liberty.

35 - Places have "eagle" in their names. The most populous one is Eagle Pass, Texas (26,248).

11 - Places have "independence" in their names. The most populous one is Independence, Mo. (116,830).

9 - Places have "freedom" in their names. The most populous one is New Freedom, Pa. (4,464).

1 - One place with "patriot" in the name. Patriot, Ind. (209).

Retro Kings Park

From the May 1987 edition of the Kings Park Gazette

Association Officers:

President: Mike New

1st Vice President: Marc Bichoff

2nd Vice President: Vacant

Treasurer: Kathy Clark

Recording Secretary: Terry Matlaga

Corresponding Secretary: Betty Osborne

Past President: Nancy Irber

BOUQUETS TO: All those considerate people that know how to manage and take care of their animals. There are a great many of us who have animals and KNOW how to respect ourselves and our neighbors – THANK YOU! And keep up the good work.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: Our proposed playground in KP Park has been approved and a contractor has been selected. The successful bidder was Applicators Inc. Includes 2 new play structures, extend basketball court fence around each corner, reposition trail in the woods to accommodate the new fencing, add picnic tables, add tot swing seats to existing swings, and general cleanup of the area.

An insurance ad selling mortgage disability income policies appeared in this Gazette with the following misleading statistic: Out of 100 people now age 25, 20 will be dead, 34 will be disabled for 6 months or more, 27 will be disabled for 1 year or more, and 22 will be disabled for 2 years or more before reaching age 65. Do the arithmetic; In 1987, 103 out of 100 of us will be dead or disabled before age 65!

DID YOU KNOW: Audrey Moore is running for Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors – KPCA Board of Directors wish to express their best wishes to Ms. Moore; without her backing/support KP would not have all that we now enjoy.

2nd Annual KPCA Community Yard Sale: When: Saturday, June 20, 1987; Time: 9:00 am till whenever you wish;
Where: Your House, Sponsored By: KPCA

Join Royal Pool: Limited Number of Memberships now Available.