



Deerfield Village Voice

Keeping the Homeowner Informed

Volume II, Issue 1

Success for the Scouts A lot food collected!

To all Deerfield Village residents who put food on their front step for the scouts, THANKS!. The Scouts collected over a ton of food (2,044 pounds) that they donated to the Jefferson County Ministries. If you did not notice, a Thank You card was posted on our bulletin board.

Fox Facts

They've been around, in droves!



Since several foxes have been seen in the orchard over the last few days, it may be beneficial to the homeowner to be informed fox facts.

Red Foxes (*Vulpes vulpes*) were probably introduced in South Eastern United States around 1750, where they bred with the local guys. Three subspecies are found in India: the Tibetan Fox, the Kashmir Fox, and the Desert Fox. The Japanese Fox migrated from India to China and then to Japan. The Japanese name for fox is kitsune.

The fox's eyes are yellow to gold and have vertically slit pupils, like a cat. They have outstanding vision. Their bushy tails give them balance when they jump and do other complex moves. Their keen sense of hearing allows them to find smaller prey located in tall grasses. They can run over 45 miles per hour, so they are good at catching their prey. Adult foxes weigh six to 15 pounds. They have a trotting stride from 13 to 15 inches. Foxes grow more fur in the winter, ergo its called "winter fur" and they lose it in the early spring and have the shorter fur throughout the summer.

Red foxes are found in suburban and urban areas and share their turf with the racoon. Although Carnivores by nature,

foxes also eat insects, molluscs, earthworms and crayfish. Plant food include blackberries, apples (they won't have a problem in Deerfield), plums and other fruits. Foxes also eat mice, voles, rabbits, birds, eggs, reptiles and fish. They have also been known to kill lambs and deer fawns. They are very possessive of their food, however, they will share it with their young and their mate during courtship. They have proportionately small stomachs and can only eat half as much food relative to wolves and dogs (10% compared to 20%).

Foxes pair up for mating in the winter time, which explains the recent activity in Deerfield. They usually have a litter averaging five and up to 13 kits, who are born blind, and weighing 0.33 pound. Their eyes open in about two weeks, the kits mature and leave home in about eight to ten months. If you hear shrieking like a human scream or a three yip "lost call," that's a fox communicating. They mark their territory with bodily wastes. Foxes dig into the earth and live in dens with their young. Some of these dens range from simple holes to interconnected tunnels.

Fox hunting with dogs and horses were outlawed in Scotland in August of 2002 and in England and Wales in February of 2005. Foxes have been characterized in literature as being very sly. Some historians argue that the fox came to symbolize the survival strategies of Eastern European peasantry from the Mediaeval period to the French Revolution. Peasants admired the guile and wit needed to circumvent the powers or aristocracy, state and church, just as they saw the foxes use the same qualities to raid their livestock under the cover of darkness.

If you take anything from this article, remember that foxes are vectors of disease. Although they are cute and typically will run from humans, they can carry rabies. Rabies can make them fearless and instead of running away, can turn and attack you.

Article source: Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Red_fox

Our First Snow Fall

Did not cost the Deerfield homeowners a cent.

Jefferson County experienced about three to four inches of snow a few weeks ago. Our subdivision usually has a contract for snow removal, however, **Paul Wilmoth** beat them to the punch. He hooked up a plow blade to the front of his truck and took care of business. Paul has done this several times in the past. If you happen to see him, give him a word of appreciation.

POA Fees are Due!

You need to pay in order to vote in the annual meeting.

Most of the board officers and members met at President **Bill Krumenacker**'s house and hammered out a conservative 2008 budget for Deerfield Property Owners Association (POA). The proposed budget of \$11, 874.00 exceeds our projected income of \$9,760.00; if projections are correct, the balance will be attained from the 2007 surplus. POA dues are due February 1, 2008. The dues increased \$30.00 to \$305.00 per year. This fee covers the following:

- Mower maintenance
- Lawn Service (steep hills and ditches)
- Insurance
- Postal Facility Lights/ Light on 480
- Street Lights
- Snow Removal
- Taxes (property)
- Gas for mower
- Business License
- Social Activity
- Miscellaneous

In order to vote at the next annual meeting, the dues need to be paid.



Next Annual Deerfield Village POA Meeting!

The annual meeting will be held on March 4, 2008 between 7:00 and 9:00 PM at Saint Agnes Church Meeting Room. If you want to run for a board position, please contact Deerfield POA Secretary, **Patty Wilmoth**.

Proposed amendment to the bylaws were approved during the last Board meeting included the following::

- "The business of the corporation shall be managed by a board of directors consisting of nine (9) members."

Replaces statement: "The business of this corporation shall be managed by a Board of Directors consisting of five(5) members, together with the officers of this corporation."

- "The directors will, at the first meeting following their election, select the officers whom will serve until their successors are elected."

Replaces the statement: "The Board of Directors shall elect the officers of the corporation."

Its time to get Social. Who is my neighbor?

How do these sound?

Progressive Dinners,
Block Parties,
Halloween Parade,
Family Movies on the Green,
Deerfield Apple Festival,
Ice Cream Socials,
Christmas Parties,
Mini-Bonfires

What better way to get to know your neighbor than to create or resurrect these oldie but goodie events? Do you have any other ideas? Are you interested in sponsoring one? Better yet, do you want to Chair or belong to a Deerfield Village Social Committee (yet to be formed). Please contact a Board of Director if you are interested.



Adopt-a-spot Cleaning a highway can be fun!

Debbie was successful obtaining the sign and organizing one effort, now lets continue cleaning. Contact

Debbie Crouse if you are interested in picking up trash along a quarter-mile stretch of 480. Some training may be required, like watching a video. Give her a call. The next cleanup is January 19, 2008.

Yard Sale! Get rid of that old stuff

Contact a board officer or member if you are interested in having a Deerfield Village Community Yard Sale. What better way to get rid of the extras and get cash!?



Neighborhood Watch:

Vandalism and Trespassers

Keep your eyes open.

We've had several issues regarding our mail shelter over the past year. They range from paint balls being shot at the mailboxes to broken mailbox keys. If you can remember, please make an additional effort to drive around the neighborhood to see if everything is okay. Report all suspicious activities and trespassers. Some homeowners have chased several trespassers away. These incidences included individual riding motorized vehicles, strangers sitting idly in cars, and shirtless hunters with guns.

Soliciting is not permitted in Deerfield Village. The POA purchased several "No Soliciting" signs that were installed along Deerfield Village Drive. **Tom Miller** was kind enough to purchase additional signs without being reimbursed by the POA. Please, kindly remind solicitors that this practice is prohibited in our neighborhood.

Managing the orchard Prune to work more or make mowing easier?

Several POA homeowners watched a video about pruning fruit trees provided by UWV Dr. Henry Hogmeyer and quickly realized that pruning to encourage fruit production would bring about more work for the homeowners. More apples would mean more pickers needed, which Deerfield Village does not have. Consequently, more apples would fall on the ground, causing disease to the trees, smell and unwanted insects. Several local orchards were contacted and asked whether they were interested in leasing our orchard and providing workers to maintain it. The orchards were not interested for a variety of reasons.

During the last meeting, the Board of Directors decided to maintain the orchard only for mowing and allow the apple trees to become ornamental vice fruit producing. Pruning for mowing means cutting the lower branches and not trimming the tree to allow the sun to enter the center of the tree and allow energy for the fruit to grow.

Also, during the meeting, the Board voted to start removing the dying peach trees in the Orchard. Replacement trees will be considered at a future time.

Its time to meet . . . The family of lot 25

John, Debbie, Jackson and Devon moved to Deerfield Village in August 2006 from Germantown, MD. Debbie, a former marine biologist, is still trying to figure out how she ended up in a landlocked state. Both John and Debbie still work in Montgomery County though Debbie primarily works from home. According to John, "Deb's got the best of both worlds. She's a stay at home mom and still works so her brain stays sharp and there are no holes in her resumé." Deb's not sure if that is the best of both worlds.

Former hobbies included scuba diving, mountain biking, kayaking, hiking and camping. Since 2000 when Jackson was born hobbies have included....well let's not go there. As the kids have grown, hiking and camping have returned to the list of hobbies but until they find a regular babysitter they don't get out on the trails or water as much as they'd like.

Currently John and Debbie are building their deck and working on various projects inside the house, painting being at the top of the list.

Quotables. . .

Man is so made that whenever anything fires the soul, impossibilities vanish.

- Jean De La Fontaine