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What's That Tune:

We have done it for several years it's hilarious. Especially with the different ages gathering together. Grandma can never guess our songs and we have no clue what she's talking about. ;-)
Your guests won't mind singing during their supper with this musical game. Have them take turns singing familiar songs, replacing all the lyrics with the word gobble, turkey or any word related to the holiday of choice. Choose a category for each round (Christmas carols, or TV theme songs, for example) and see who among the guests can be the first to make out each melody.

ABOUT THE REVIEW:

The KC Review is the official newsletter of the Kensington Courts Community Association. It is a tool used by the members of the association to keep the residents informed of important matters, events and activities that involve the Kensington Courts Community. If you would like to contribute an article to the KC Review, please email us your article at: Newsletter@kccaelkton.com

Holiday Decoration Contest 2009

This December we will sponsor another "HOLIDAY DECORATION CONTEST". So be sure to decorate and prepare to be 1st, 2nd or 3rd place winners. Last year's winners were "10 Wales Ct", "526 Highland Dr.", and "6 Cowes Ct.". We wonder whose gonna be winners this year. First place will be



awarded \$100, Second place \$75, and Third place will win \$50. So DECORATE, DECORATE, DECORATE, because you may be the next winner for the KCCA 2009 Holiday Decoration Contest. WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED ON OUR WEBSITE JANUARY 2010.

What is the Covenants Committee Doing?

As many of you know, during 2008 & 2009 the Board received a significant number of member contacts, expressing concern about an increasingly "cluttered" appearance in our neighborhood, & requesting that the Covenants Committee work to increase awareness about the legal requirement for all of us to remember to respect and comply with the covenants in general, and especially those covenants, which focus on general community appearance. Accordingly, the Covenants Committee has stepped up its community outreach activities

and has been actively engaged in contacting members where material lapses have occurred. Among other things, you may have noticed boats returning to back yards, and trailers and other vehicles being returned to appropriate storage. On behalf of the entire community we'd like to express our deep appreciation for the understanding & good nature of our residents, who were so willing to cooperate in this effort, so that we can all work together to continue to preserve the general attractiveness of our neighborhood.

What Happened to the KCCA Sign?

Many of you may have noticed that our Mentryway sign is down. Recently, someone vandalized it by breaking off a corner of it. It was taken down so that it may be repaired and will be back up once that process is complete. In the mean time, the Association is offering a \$500 reward to information leading to the conviction of the person(s) responsible for this vandalism.

WANT YOUR ADVERTISEMENT HERE FOR JUST \$25? HAVE AN IDEA FOR AN ARTICLE TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER? IF SO, EMAIL US AT: newsletter@kccaelkton.com

PROTECT AGAINST "H1N1"



**DO YOU NEED SOMETHING NOTARIZED?
CALL: (443) 854-4950
LOCATED HERE IN KENSINGTON COURTS**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) advises that the best way to prevent seasonal flu is by getting a seasonal flu vaccination each year.

This year, scientists are preparing for a possible outbreak of a new and very different flu virus, called H1N1 or Swine flu. As you have probably heard in the news, the CDC and scientists has developed a flu vaccination to protect people against H1N1.

Most people recover from the seasonal flu without needing medical care. If you are at high risk for complications, or develop symptoms such as breathing difficulty, chest or abdominal pain, dizziness, confusion, or persistent vomiting, please contact your health care provider for treatment and to determine if you might be a candidate for antiviral medication. Good personal hygiene practices are your best protection against this illness. These include frequent and thorough hand washing, coughing and sneezing into your sleeve, keeping your hands away from the eyes, nose, and mouth, and avoiding close contact with people who are sick. If you do get sick, it's important to remember that the CDC recommends that you stay at home until at least 24 hours after you are free of fever (100° F or greater) without the use of fever-reducing medications. You can get additional information regarding both the seasonal and H1N1 flu at the CDC website <http://www.cdc.gov/flu>.

KID'S CORNER

CAN YOU GUESS THE ANSWER TO THESE RIDDLES?

(ANSWERS AT THE BOTTOM OF PAGE)

- Q 1: Why are teddy bears never hungry?
- Q 2: How Do rabbits travel?
- Q 3: What Do you call a fairy that hasn't taken a bath?



WARM WINTERY HOT CHOCOLATE



Prep Time: 5 minutes Cook Time: 10 minutes
 Ingredients:
 1 14 oz. can sweetened condensed milk
 1/2 cup cocoa powder
 1 tsp pure vanilla extract
 1/8 tsp kosher salt
 6-1/2 cups water
 Preparation: Whisk together sweetened condensed milk, cocoa powder, vanilla and salt in a medium saucepan over medium-low heat. Whisk in water, about a cup at a time. Heat until warmed through, about 10 minutes.
Note: Do not allow the hot chocolate to boil. It should just simmer until warmed through.

7 Tips to Saving Money and Energy This Winter

Article by: "Energy Saving"

Summer is long gone and winter is rapidly descending upon us. It looks like we better brace ourselves for a long and cold winter ahead. Saving energy during the cold winter months is also saving money. Here are some simple and inexpensive things you can do to maximize your savings on both:

Take advantage of the sun's natural heat: If you have south-facing windows, open your curtains during the day to allow the sunlight to naturally heat your home. This lessens the need for artificial heat. You can take a lesson from your cat as it basks in the sun's warmth for it's afternoon nap. Make certain to close your curtains at night, however, to reduce the chill from cold windows.

Cover drafty windows: Use a heavy-duty, clear plastic sheet on a frame or tape clear plastic film to the inside of your window frames during the cold winter months. Make sure the plastic is sealed tightly to the frame to reduce infiltration. Plastic sheeting is sold by the yard in fabric stores or most hardware departments sell it in pre-measured rolls. Install tight-fitting, insulating drapes or shades on windows that feel drafty after weatherizing. You can reduce heat loss from your room by 10 percent. For maximum effectiveness, draperies should be hung as close to windows as possible.

Adjust the Temperature: When you're at home and awake, set your thermostat as low as is comfortable. Invest in a portable space heater to warm just the room you're in. This reduces the need to raise the thermostat to heat your entire house. Space heaters are affordably priced. They virtually pay for themselves with the money you'll save before winter is through. When you're asleep, set your thermostat back 10 - 15 degrees. If your chilly, you can always throw another blanket on. Since you asleep, you probably won't notice the difference. When you are gone from the house, especially when you leave for work, turn the thermostat back. A thermostat set back 10 - 15 degrees for the eight hours you're at work, can reduce your heating and cooling bills by ten percent.

Find and Seal Leaks: Seal the air leaks around utility cut-throughs for pipes, gaps around chimneys, and unfinished spaces behind cupboards and closets. Also look for cracks and gaps around mail chutes, electrical and gas service entrances, cable TV and phone lines, dryer vents, air conditioners and vents and fans. Add caulk or weather-stripping to seal air leaks around leaky doors and windows.

Maintain Your Heating System: Schedule a service check and learn what maintenance is required to keep your heating system operating at peak efficiency. Replace your furnace filter once a month or as needed. If you have a wood or pellet burning heater, clean the flue vent regularly. Clean the inside of the appliance with a wire brush periodically to ensure maximum performance.

Reduce Heat Loss from the Fireplace: Unless you have a fire going, keep the damper closed. An open damper is like keeping a window open all winter. It allows the air in your home to go right up the chimney. When you do use the fireplace, open the dampers in the bottom of the firebox to reduce heat loss. If your fireplace does not have a firebox, open the nearest window just slightly, no more than an inch, and close doors leading into the room. Lower the thermostat setting to approximately 55 degrees. If you never use your fireplace, plug and seal the chimney flue. If you do use the fireplace, install tempered glass doors and a heat-air exchange system that blows warmed air back into the room. Check the seal on the fireplace flue damper and make it as snug as possible. Purchase grates made of C-shaped metal tubes to draw cool air in the room into the fireplace and circulate warm air back into the room. Add caulking around the fireplace hearth.

Lower Your Water Heating Costs: Water heating is a year round expense that can account for anywhere from 14 - 25 percent of the energy your household consumes. Turn the temperature down on your water heater to the warm setting (120 degrees) which also reduces burns. As the temperature drops and energy costs rise, these simple tips will maximize the energy you'll save this winter. And when it comes to your winter energy bill, the energy you save is equal to the money you'll save.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Hanukkah

Sunset, December 11th
 Sunset, December 19th

Christmas Day

December 25th

Kwanzaa

December 26th - January 1st

New Years Day

January 1st

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Some Common Sense Reminders From your Neighborhood Watch Committee

- a) Keep a watchful eye out for suspicious activity or unfamiliar cars, especially cars that seem to be "cruising".
- b) Drive around an extra block or two when coming or going to spot anything suspicious, and call 911 if your suspicions are aroused.
- c) Always be sure there is a responsible adult around when your children are dropped off from school.
- d) If you leave your car in the driveway overnight, be sure to remove your garage door opener, GPS, and all valuables, and lock the doors.
- e) If you keep your car in your attached garage, or close to the house, keep your keys and remote next to your bed so you can sound the horn if you think you hear someone breaking in (or install a security system).
- f) Always advise a trusted neighbor or nearby friend or relative if you plan to be away for any length of time; and, of course, don't allow newspapers to accumulate, and arrange to have your lawn mowed if it is apt to grow long while you're gone.

Surprisingly, there has been little criminal activity in Kensington Courts, considering these tough economic times and the number of break-ins in other parts of Cecil County; but should it increase, we are prepared to set up voluntary patrols or take other measures you may suggest.

IF YOU SEE SOMETHING....SAY SOMETHING.....OR CALL 911

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THE KENSINGTON COURTS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

WOULD LIKE TO WISH YOU AND YOUR FAMILY A HAPPY AND SAFE HOLIDAY SEASON

Q1: Because they are always stuffed Q2: By hareplane Q3: Stinkerbell