

The Kent Island Bay Times

News

Pet oxygen mask donated to KIVFD

By DOUG BISHOP Staff Writer

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STEVENSVILLE Friends of Kent Island Dog Park recently purchased and donated an "O2 Pet Fur Life Oxygen Mask" to the Kent Island Volunteer Fire Department. The equipment comes with a ventilator and three different size masks to fit over the face of different size animals.

The masks were purchased from Wag'N Enterprises, a company out of Herndon, Va., by Sarah Bartlett, president of Friends of KI Dog Park. Bartlett met the owner of the company, Ines DePablo, at a recent Pet Expo. DePablo has put on first aid classes at the dog park. She also sells first aid kits and other pet safety items through her company.

The O2 masks are advertised for use not only with dogs and cats, but also, "ferrets, rabbits, guinea pigs, birds, and more." The masks can be used to help animals that have been rescued from buildings that have been on fire survive problems caused by smoke inhalation.

KIVFD Fire Chief Buddy Thomas said, "We're grateful to have the donation of this equipment. It's no secret that people who live in the Kent Island community love their pets. People feel their pets are as much a part of their family as their children. Here at the fire department, we're just as interested in saving pets lives as people. We don't want to see anyone lose their pet from a fire."

The next community activity hosted by Friends of Kent Island Dog Park will be the Howl-o-ween Bash Saturday, Oct. 22, at the park at the end of Church Street.

The bash, which begins at 10 a.m., will include pet costume contests and prizes, as well as treats for dogs and their people. Dogs must be on a leash. All are welcome. The event is free.

For more information about the nonprofit group, e-mail friendsofkentislanddogpark@hotmail.com.

The group welcomes donations, which can be mailed to the Queen Anne's County Parks Department, P.O. Box 37, Centreville, MD 21617. Checks should be made out to Friends of Kent Island Dog Park.



PHOTO BY DOUG BISHOP Kent Island Volunteer Fire Department Vice President Don Lewis, left, holds one of three different size pet oxygen masks donated to the department by Friends of Kent Island Dog Park. With Lewis are Friends President Sarah Bartlett and Assistant Chief/EMS Operations Jeff Reiss.

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