

WHISTLESTOP

The City of Erlanger Newsletter

Summer 2009



MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



Mayor

Thomas L. Rouse

Summer is here and with it comes the many carnivals, block parties, and festivals in the area, such as the Lions Carnival in July. Support not only our own community, but our neighboring communities and organizations as well. They are a great source of entertainment for families and friends.

Summer brings another issue for the city, safety. The Erlanger City Council recently passed Ordinance 2325 preventing basketball goals from being placed in the right of ways. We all know that when playing basketball our mind is on the game, not on the passing cars. As drivers, we also know that no matter how diligent we are, we are not always prepared for that person darting out in front of the car to retrieve a basketball. We encourage our youth

and residents to embrace exercise and play basketball. However, we ask that they do not play in the right of ways.

The City of Erlanger offers many classes, programs, services, and events to meet the needs of all our residents. Please read this edition of the *Whistlestop* to learn more.

Have a happy and safe summer!

ERLANGER DISPATCH ON TWITTER

The Erlanger Public Safety Communication Center (PSCC) has found a new way to inform the public of incidents that have occurred in the eleven Northern Kentucky cities they serve. The PSCC has joined the on-line Twitter service, which is a free social networking provider. Anyone can follow the PSCC by signing up for a free account at www.twitter.com, then search for Erlanger911 and click follow. Those that already have Twitter accounts can go straight to www.twitter.com/erlanger911 and click follow. Updates will be sent directly from the PSCC's dispatch system and then sent to your account. This means that dispatchers will relay emergency messages to everyone who has signed up with Twitter close to the actual time the emergencies take place.



The eleven cities that the PSCC will be posting information on are Erlanger, Elsmere, Edgewood, Villa Hills, Crescent Springs, Ft. Mitchell, Ft. Wright, Park Hills, Ludlow, Bromley, and Crestview Hills/Lakeside Park.

SOLICITATION IN ERLANGER



The City of Erlanger has a "No Knock Policy". That means, when a business or organization completes a solicitation application that has been reviewed and accepted by our Police Department, they are provided with a list of addresses that they can not solicit. If you are interested in having your address added, please stop by the city building to complete the form. If your name is on the list and someone shows up on your doorstep to solicit, please contact the Erlanger Police Department at 859-727-2424. All solicitors must be able to show residents a copy of their application with the City of Erlanger.

Religious organizations do not have to complete an application to register as a solicitor unless they are seeking monetary compensation.

CITY CALENDAR

Council Meetings

First Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m.

Depot Museum

March—November
Saturdays
12:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m.

Farmers' Market

April 30, 2009—October 15, 2009
2:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m.
116 Commonwealth Avenue

Burn Ban

May 1, 2009—October 1, 2009

Summer Park Program

Ends Friday, July 17, 2009
Schedule can be found at www.ci.erlanger.ky.us.

General Government Offices Closed

Friday, July 3, 2009
Fourth of July

Lions Carnival

July 16, 17, 18, 2009

Friendship City 5K

Sunday, August 23, 2009
8:00 a.m.
Erlanger Branch
Kenton County Library

General Government Offices Closed

Monday, September 7, 2009
Labor Day

September 11th Memorial Service

Friday, September 11, 2009
Time TBA
Front parking lot of
Erlanger City Building

Heritage Day

Sunday, September 20, 2009
12:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m.
Railroad Depot Park
Crescent Avenue

Safe Communities Celebration

October 1-10, 2009
Times and location TBA

WASTE COLLECTION

Starting July 1, 2009, waste collection in the City of Erlanger will be provided by CSI Waste Services. The decision to change waste collection companies was made by the Erlanger City Council at a Special Council Meeting on Tuesday, May 19, 2009. The change came with the current contract with Bavarian expiring on June 30, 2009. The city had the option to sign on for another two years with Bavarian, but there would be an increase in costs to our residents. The City of Erlanger decided to accept bids for waste collection. City Council reviewed these bids. They also listened to the many people who attended a Public Hearing on Tuesday, May 12, 2009, as well as reviewing the responses to a survey posted on our website. In addition, many council members were contacted by residents expressing their concerns.

On May 19, 2009 City Council voted to accept CSI's bid for one day a week trash collection and one day a week voluntary recycling. The new monthly rate will be \$8.65 for the one day a week trash collection. If you choose to recycle, it will be an additional \$4.00 per month with a total of \$12.65 per month. CSI provided the city with the lowest and best bid. Their bid amount also included a 96 gallon tote for trash collection and a 65 gallon tote for recycling (if you choose to recycle). Excluded from the CSI bid and agreement is a fuel surcharge. CSI will not be able to increase the monthly fees to compensate for increased fuel prices.

Trash collection and recycling pickup will be on the same day. These will be picked up by two different trucks. Thus decreasing the number of times a truck comes down your street in one week.

In addition to the bid voted on by council, CSI offers a temporary "stop service" program for residents who will be out of town for 30 days or more. You will not be required to pay for the months that you are not in town. However, it is the responsibility of the home owner to make this arrangement with CSI.

CSI is currently delivering totes to all the addresses in Erlanger. A post card has been mailed by CSI with the day of the week your trash will be collected on printed on the card.

If you are interested in recycling please call CSI at 513-771-4200.

TAX BILLS

This is just a reminder that property and tangible tax bills will be mailed out the first week in October. The City of Erlanger receives the property owners' mailing addresses from the Kenton County PVA. All tax bills are mailed directly to the property or business owners. If you have an escrow account with a mortgage company, please forward your tax bill to them. We will only electronically send tax information to mortgage companies upon their request. They must provide the city with a contact name, phone number, and e-mail address. If you have an escrow account and to prevent duplicate payments, please confirm with your mortgage company that they have paid your bill prior to December 31st. As always, to receive a 2% discount tax payments must be received by October 31st. All tax bills are due by December 31st. Starting January 1st, a 20% penalty is applied as well as 6% interest per annum.

Tax bills can be paid through mail, by credit card (Mastercard, Visa) over the phone, at the Bank of Kentucky, and at the Erlanger City Building.



EXEMPTIONS

If you are a homeowner residing in the home and are 65 years of age or on disability income, you may be eligible to receive a Homestead or Disability Exemption on your Kenton County and City of Erlanger property tax bills. To apply, please contact the PVA (Property Valuation Administrator) office at 859-392-1750. The City of Erlanger must have a copy of your exemption from the PVA before we can reduce your tax bill. The Homestead Exemption amount for the 2009-2010 tax year is \$33,700.00. Your tax bill is calculated on the assessed value of your home minus the \$33,700.00. This will greatly reduce your tax bill amount.

FIRE/EMS EXPLORER PROGRAM

The Fire/EMS Department's Explorer program is a division of the Boy Scouts of America. If you are 14 to 18 years of age, are interested in a career in the fire service, and would like to participate in fire and EMS trainings, activities, and competitions that would help to prepare you for a career in this field, contact Firefighter/Paramedic Justin Brinkman at 727-7942 to sign up today.



POLICE EXPLORER PROGRAM

The Erlanger Police Department also has an Explorer program lead by Police Detective Jeff Miles. If you are 14 to 20 years of age, would like a career in the police service and would like to participate in trainings and activities that would prepare you, contact Detective Miles at 727-7597.

PARAMEDIC ASSISTANTS PROGRAM

The Erlanger Fire/EMS Department is looking for volunteers to help our paramedics by becoming drivers and paramedic assistants. Minimal training is required, which will be offered by the department. You must be 18 years of age and have a valid drivers license. Shift hours are very flexible and can be during the day or evening hours. If you would like more information or are interested in volunteering, please contact Captain Todd Schulkers at 727-7942.



BUILDING AND ZONING PERMITS

Building and Zoning applications can be picked up at 505 Commonwealth Avenue with instructions available. It is currently taking 10 working days for the building inspector to process the permits. You must have a permit before starting the work. The permit will be mailed to the address that is provided on the application. Payment for the permits must be received when the application is submitted. Most permits are good for 6 months. Once they expire, another application with fee must be submitted. For more information, please contact Building Inspector Mark Stewart at 727-2525.

STREET REPAIR UPDATES



The City of Erlanger will be receiving bids on July 6, 2009 for the following:

- ⇒ Removal and replacement of concrete pavement sections on Farmwood Court and Ridgewood Drive
- ⇒ Resurfacing of Apple Tree Lane (Cherry Tree to Boone County line), Cascade Court, Spring Valley Drive (#3416 to Fairlawn Court), Tallwood Court, Fairlawn Court, Lindenwood Drive (#3479 to end), and Court Street.

THE DIXIE FARMERS MARKET

The Dixie Farmers Market is sponsored by the Cities of Erlanger and Elsmere and located at the Erlanger Baptist Church at 116 Commonwealth Avenue, Erlanger, Kentucky. It will be open every Thursday until October 15, 2009 from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. The Market offers flowers, fruits, vegetables, preserves, home-made soaps, honey, and much more. Help Northern Kentucky by supporting our local farmers.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

- ⇒ Erlanger Ordinance No. 2321 was enacted on April 7, 2009; and it is an ordinance making the most current version of the 2009 edition of the NFPA 1 Uniform Fire Code, a part of the permanent records of the City, and adopting the provisions thereof by reference.
- ⇒ Erlanger Ordinance No. 2322 was enacted on June 2, 2009; and it is an ordinance that amends Erlanger Ordinance 2301 and the budget adopted thereby for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009.
- ⇒ Erlanger Ordinance No. 2323 was enacted on June 2, 2009; and it is an ordinance that adopts the budget of the city for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2009.
- ⇒ Erlanger Ordinance No. 2324 was enacted on June 2, 2009; and it is an ordinance that prohibits the storage or other location of any equipment in either any front yard or any portion of any side yard where it may be seen from a public street, while that equipment is in a position or condition in which the purpose of that equipment may not be accomplished.
- ⇒ Erlanger Ordinance No. 2325 was enacted on June 2, 2009; and it is an ordinance that prohibits: (1) the use of any paved area other than sidewalks within the right of way of any street for athletic or other recreational activity; and (2) the location of any apparatus for the athletic or other recreational use of any area within the right of way of any street, either within or outside of that right of way; and (3) the growth of any tree, shrub or bush into the area within the right of way of any street in any manner that is hazardous to the public use of that right of way; and (4) the location of any motor vehicle in any manner that potentially blocks the pedestrian use thereof; and (5) the location of any inoperable motor vehicle anywhere within the right of way of any street.
- ⇒ Erlanger Ordinance No. 2326 was enacted on June 2, 2009; and it is an ordinance that requires: (a) all accumulated household solid waste to be placed for collection after sunset on the day before the scheduled collection day; and (b) all solid waste containers to be removed from the collection location to the rear yard or a side yard where they can not be seen from a public street, before sunrise on the day after the scheduled collection day; and (c) the payment of the authorized fees of the franchisee for the collection and disposal of household solid waste; and prohibits: (a) the accumulation of any household solid waste in any manner other than within household solid waste containers or in bundles weighing no more than 50 pounds and no longer than 4 feet in length, except for large items like water heaters and clothes washers and dryers; and (b) the location of any accumulated household solid waste or any containers therefore in any front yard or any side yard where they can be seen from a public street; and (c) any transportation of any household solid waste to or from any collection unit in the city other than through the use of the franchisee of the city.
- ⇒ Erlanger Ordinance No. 2327 was enacted on June 2, 2009; and it is an ordinance that amends Ordinance 2283 regarding vicious dogs and exotic and wild animals to: (1) include in the prohibitions thereof the ownership, possession or control in the city of any vicious dog that has been on more than one previous occasion in violation of the provisions of the ordinance; and (2) provide for the impoundment of such a vicious dog, and any exotic animal and any wild animal in the city; and (3) the forfeiture of such vicious dogs and animals.
- ⇒ Erlanger Ordinance No. 2328 was enacted on June 2, 2009; and it is an ordinance that provides reasonable standards and procedures for the enforcement of KRS 381.770 by: (1) prohibiting a public nuisance, health hazard or source of filth to develop on any land in the city through the accumulation of: (a) junked or wrecked automobiles, vehicles, machines or similar scrap or salvage materials; or (b) mobile or manufactured homes that are junked, wrecked, or non-operative and which are not inhabited; or (c) rubbish; or (d) the growth of weeds or grass in excess of 4 inches on any developed lot or parcel of real estate in the city; and (2) prohibiting any structure to become unfit and unsafe for human habitation, occupancy, or use, or permit conditions to exist in the structure which are dangerous or injurious to the health or safety of the occupants of the structure, the occupants of neighboring structures or other residents of the City; and (3) providing for the enforcement of the ordinance through criminal procedures and civil procedures through the Codes Enforcement Board pursuant to KRS 65.8801 through 65.8839; and also remediation orders and the elimination of violations by the city, with the city having a lien on the property for the costs of remediation .

POTHOLE REPAIRS

Potholes can be a nuisance and could also cause a lot of damage. If you notice a pothole forming or one that is already there, contact Rick Bogard, Public Works Superintendent, at 727-3893. Please provide him with the location of the pothole.



HOME AND BUSINESS FIRE INSPECTIONS

The Fire/EMS Department will conduct inspections of your home or business for free. Please contact Captain Tim Deye at 727-7942 to schedule an inspection today.

If you are a senior citizen and need your smoke detector checked or batteries replaced, contact Captain Deye.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH GROUPS

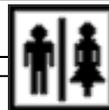
If you would like to become involved in your neighborhood and are interested in joining a neighborhood watch group, please call the Erlanger Police Department at 727-7599. Sergeants are assigned to different district areas in the city and therefore are a part of the individual neighborhood watch groups that are located in their district. The neighborhood watch groups are lead by an Erlanger resident that lives within that particular neighborhood. By calling the Police Department, you will be connected with the Sergeant over the district that you are located in. The Sergeant will provide you with the contact information of the group you will be assigned to.

DEPOT PARK RESERVATIONS

If you are looking for a location to have your child's birthday party, a family gathering, or a church social, the City of Erlanger accepts reservations for the Railroad Depot Park located on Crescent Avenue. The park has a shelter with electricity, a gazebo, playground equipment, restrooms, and a museum that is opened every Saturday from April through October. Applicants must be an Erlanger resident. A \$25.00 refundable deposit is requested at the time of applying. Those that apply are responsible for their own clean-up. If you are interested, please contact Parks and Recreation Coordinator Kathy Cahill at 727-2525, prompt number 5.

STREET LIGHT OUTAGES

The Erlanger Public Works Department would like your help. If you notice a street light that is out, call Public Works Superintendent Rick Bogard at 727-3893. Please provide him with the pole number or an exact address of the street light. Help us to help keep our neighborhoods safe by keeping our streets lit during the evening and early morning hours!



FLAGSHIP PARK

The Comfort Station at Flagship Park is almost completed! It will house two restrooms, a water fountain, and a garage for park equipment. Help everyone to enjoy the City's parks by keeping them clean. Please report any vandalism by contacting the Police Department at 727-2424.

PASSPORTS

Applications for a passport can be picked up at the Erlanger City Building or can be downloaded from www.travel.state.gov. The standard routine fee is \$75.00 payable to the U.S. Dept. of State and a \$25.00 processing fee payable to the City of Erlanger. Passport hours are Monday-Friday from 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM. To apply for a passport you will need a certified birth certificate, two passport photos, and a current identification. Currently it is taking 4-6 weeks to have a passport processed, 2-3 weeks to have it expedited (an additional \$60.00 fee payable to the U.S. Dept. of State). Passports are good for ten years, five years for children.

ERLANGER HISTORY BOOKS

For you history buffs out there, the City of Erlanger has a history book available titled [A Centennial History of Erlanger, Kentucky](#). The book can be purchased at the city building or at Borders for \$25.00.

NOTARY PUBLICS

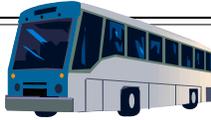
The City of Erlanger has ten Notary Publics in the Administration Department. There are no fees for this service. A current picture identification is required.

CAR SEAT INSPECTIONS

The Erlanger Police Department has several officers who are certified car seat inspectors through the State of Kentucky. Statistics have shown that most car seats are not correctly installed. To have your child's car seat inspected, please call the Erlanger Police Department at 727-7599 to make an appointment with one of their certified officers. There is no charge for this service.

TANK BUS PASSES

On the behalf of the Transient Authority of Northern Kentucky (TANK), the City of Erlanger sells TANK bus booklets and monthly passes. The booklet contains 10 tickets at a cost of \$13.50. The cost of a monthly pass is \$53.00. Pamphlets describing TANK's routes are also available at the city building. The City of Erlanger does not receive any compensation for the sales of the TANK bus passes or booklets.



ERLANGER MAPS

Stop in the city building today and pick up your free Erlanger (and surrounding cities) map.

FIRE/EMS CLASSES AVAILABLE

The Fire/EMS Department offers a variety of classes, such as; CPR, First Aid, and Fire Extinguisher classes. For more information or to sign up for a class, please contact Captain Tim Deye at 859-727-7942 or tmdeye@ci.erlanger.ky.us.

YARD SALES

The City of Erlanger does not require Yard Sale permits. However, an address can only have two yard sales a year, involving one item or more, and can last no more than two days. Violations can result in a citation being issued.



PROPERTY SURVEYS

Are you going on vacation or does your business need additional security in the evening? If you answered yes, then you may be interested in the property survey program that the Erlanger Police Department offers. Officers will check your property a couple of times a day while you are gone. All you need to do is contact the Police Department at 727-7599, provide the Police Clerk with your address, when you will be leaving, when you will be returning, lights that may be left on in the residence, vehicles that may be left in the driveway, and animals left in the yard. A contact name will be needed in the event of an emergency or for a set of keys.

VIPS

VIPS (Volunteers in Police Service) is a volunteer division of the Police Department. The VIPS members meet monthly and sign up for patrol duty. During patrol, the VIPS members will patrol the city, perform vacation checks, park checks, and provide crowd patrol for events. If you are interested in becoming a VIPS member, contact Captain Mike Jansing at mtjansing@ci.erlanger.ky.us or call 727-7599. To be eligible, you must be a graduate of the Citizens Police Academy. All training is provided by the Erlanger Police Department.

CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY

If you are interested in learning more about the Police Department and what officers go through on a daily basis then you may want to attend the Citizens Police Academy. It is a 16 week course which offers one day a week classes. Classes include a trip to the shooting range and much more. For more information contact Officer Jeremiah Dowell at jjdowell@ci.erlanger.ky.us or Detective Doug Eagler at djeagler@ci.erlanger.ky.us. You can also reach them by calling 727-7599. Applications can be picked up in the lobby of the Police Department at 505 Commonwealth Avenue.



Vacation Bible School
Erlanger Baptist Church
July 6-10, 2009
9:00 am - 12:00 noon

Your kids will have a great time learning the books of the Bible, the ten commandments, and how to be saved by grace through faith...and that's all just in the first few minutes of singing each day! Our goal with this Vacation Bible School this is to clearly present the gospel of Jesus Christ while having as much fun as humanly possible.

It's time to put the BIBLE back into.
Vacation Bible School

To pre-register stop by the church office 116 Commonwealth Ave.
between the hours 9:00 am and 4:00 pm

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