

WHISTLESTOP

The City of Erlanger Newsletter

Winter 2010



MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



Mayor

Thomas L. Rouse

The New Year is a time to reflect on the many successes of the past year. The year 2009 was a busy year for me. I administered the constitutional oath of office to three police officers; Jill Stulz, Kyle Rader, and Patrick Counts, to Terry Allen as Fire/EMS Chief and Troy Vines as Police Lieutenant. I celebrated my 20th year anniversary as part of the City of Erlanger's government, along with four other gentlemen I am honored to know: Police Captain Bob Arens, Police Officer Darryl Jouett, FF/Medic Steve Lumppp Jr., and FF/EMT Ron Crone.

Erlanger hosted numerous events this year, including Silver Star Day, a tribute to those who were injured or became ill while serving the United States, and the City's annual 9-11 Memorial Service. As Mayor, I read thirteen proclamations honoring an individual, group, or organization. Council passed eighteen Ordinances, six Resolutions, and twelve Municipal Orders. They also accepted nine bids and presented an Erlanger resident with a scholarship. We were fortunate to have several important Kentucky leaders appear at Council meetings, including former Senator Dick Roeding, Senator Jack Westwood, State Representative Adam Koenig, and Kenton County Commonwealth Attorney, Rob Sanders.

The year 2009 saw many successes. Telecommunicator David Polly received the Life Saving Award, Chief Fields was named Chief of the Year by the Northern Kentucky Area Development District, and several members of the Fire/EMS and Police Departments were commended on their part in the conviction of an arsonist in Erlanger. Captain Bob Arens and PSCC Director Steve Castor went to Paris, France to do a demonstration at a conference being held there on the crime tracking system they are working on with the Northern Kentucky Area Planning.

Thank you to everyone for making Erlanger the wonderful city that it is. Please remember to be careful on those cold, icy, and snow covered days. I truly wish everyone a "Happy New Year"!

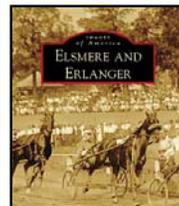
NEW WEBSITE COMING



In early 2010, the City of Erlanger will be rolling out their new website. The site will offer many opportunities for residents, visitors, and businesses to interact with the City. Additionally, the site allows individuals to subscribe to newsfeeds and newsletters in order to stay up-to-date with what's going on in the community. It also offers a comprehensive tool that gives residents and others the opportunity to create Citizen Service Requests for reporting or requesting service on a wide variety of topics, such as potholes, illegally parked vehicles, and anything else that you would normally call the City to handle. This enhancement will allow for a more timely resolution to requests for service as well as give us the ability to focus and track high reporting areas. Look for the new site to be up and running by mid January.



ERLANGER HISTORY



The release of the new book, Images of America: Erlanger & Elsmere is due to be out at the end of January. The Historical Society is selling handsome gift certificates for \$21.99. You can purchase a gift certificate at the City Building during regular business hours. Be sure to reserve your copy today.

Gathering materials for the book represents a collaborative effort between the Cities of Erlanger and Elsmere. The hard work gathering photos, scanning them to the publisher's specifications, and captioning them accurately by members of both Historical Societies was a painstaking process, but the book is sure to please!

There are also two book signings slated for early 2010:

Thursday, February 4th at 7:00pm at the Erlanger City Building and Thursday, February 11th at 7:00pm at the Erlanger Branch Public Library. Be sure to get your books signed by the authors themselves at this event!

SUMMER IN JANUARY



The City of Erlanger will hold a Summer in Winter January Event on Saturday, January 9, 2010 from 6:30 – 8:45 at Silverlake Recreation Center. All residents, employees and volunteers are invited to attend with their guests. You must bring your own towel, children must have socks to play in play port, and no children under 16 without a parent or guardian. Pool will close at 8:15 to allow everyone to get dressed and be out of the facility by 8:45. No food or drinks may be brought in, but can be purchased at Silverlake. Those who attend must register (1 per family to sign-in with the # they have in attendance) at the front desk so that we can keep track of those who are using the facility. Come join the fun at this awesome facility!

HOME FIRE SPRINKLERS SAVE LIVES

Fire kills more people in the United States annually than all natural disasters combined. In fact, more than 4,000 people perish in fires each year, and ironically, most fire deaths occur in the very place where we feel safest, our own homes. Home fires often happen at night when people are sleeping. In only three minutes, a room can become engulfed in flames before anyone awakens. Those at highest risk are the very young and older adults, who may have difficulty making a quick escape. Smoke alarms are essential in every household. They're designed to detect, not control a fire. Home fire sprinklers complement the alarm's work, providing a way to fight flames immediately. In less time than it would take most fire departments to arrive on the scene, home fire sprinklers can contain and even extinguish a fire. There's less damage, and less chance of deadly smoke and gases reaching your family.

If you are considering building a new home, Erlanger Fire/EMS strongly recommends that you consider installing these life saving devices. A sprinkler head discharges up to 25 gallons per minute of water versus the fire department using a fire hose discharges 130 – 250 gallons per minute. Homebuilders today are spending extra money on cable TV, audio systems, and internet throughout their new home. Why not spend extra money on the system that will protect your family and your belongings by installing a home fire sprinkler system. Nationally, on average the cost to install sprinklers is 1 – 1-1/2 percent of the total cost of new construction. In addition most insurance companies will give you a discount of up to 12% on your home insurance. Recent surveys have shown that fire sprinklers increases the value of your home.

HOW FIRE SPRINKLERS WORK

Fire sprinklers protect your home around the clock, automatically. Each sprinkler system is unique to the home where it's installed. Most fire sprinkler systems are connected to the household water main. If the water supply is from a well or if the water pressure is too low, a storage tank may be needed. Fire sprinklers are linked throughout the home by a network of piping. Most home systems today use a strong, non-combustible plastic pipe known as CPVC. Just like plumbing, sprinkler piping is typically hidden behind walls and ceilings. In unfinished basements, you may be able to see the piping in the ceiling; and it may be copper rather than plastic. There are several types of fire sprinklers made just for homes. They can be installed on walls or in ceilings. Some sprinklers are concealed by a plate. Home fire sprinklers are much smaller than the types of sprinklers used in commercial properties.

Heat Activates a Sprinkler, Not Smoke

Each sprinkler has a temperature-sensitive element and is individually activated by heat. Water flows from the sprinkler when the temperature reaches between 135°-165°F. In the vast majority of fires in sprinklered homes, only a single sprinkler will operate. Smoke, cooking vapors or steam cannot cause home fire sprinklers to activate. Only the high temperature of a fire will operate the sprinkler.

Maintenance is a Snap

Home fire sprinklers require very little maintenance. It's essential to keep the water valve turned on, so a simple visual inspection should be done routinely to ensure the valve is open. (Keeping the valve padlocked in the "on" position is a good idea.) Inspect the pipes and sprinklers occasionally to make sure nothing is obstructing them. Every home sprinkler system should have a water flow test on a regular basis. It's a simple test that can be done by the homeowner or a fire sprinkler contractor.

For more information on the advantages of home fire sprinkler systems visit www.homefiresprinkler.org.

2010 CENSUS

The U.S. Census counts every resident in the United States and is required by the Constitution to take place every 10 years.

Article I, Section 2 of the Constitution of the United States says:

“The actual enumeration shall be made within three years after the first meeting of the Congress of the United States, and within every subsequent term of 10 years, in such manner as they shall by Law Direct”

In March of 2010, census forms will be delivered to every residence in the United States and Puerto Rico. When you receive yours, just answer the 10 short questions and then mail the form back in the postage-paid envelope provided. If you don't mail the form back, you may receive a visit from a census taker, who will ask you the questions from the form. Any personal data you provide is protected under federal law.

The 2010 Census will help communities receive more than \$400 billion in federal funds each year for things like Hospitals, Job Training Centers, Schools, Senior Centers, Public Works Projects, and Emergency Services. The data collected by the census also help determine the number of seats Kentucky has in the U.S. House of Representatives as are the boundaries of legislative districts within the state.

For more information, please go to: www.census.gov.

CITY GOVERNMENT MONTH

Erlanger will be celebrating City Government Month during March 2010. The theme for this year is:

ErlangerOur Town, Our Home

Kindergarten through 3rd grade will be participating in a coloring contest. They will be coloring caricatures of some of our own city employees!

The 4th grade will be participating in a Kentucky Essay event.

The 5th and 6th grade will discuss their choice of one of three selected ordinances and write a 200 word essay about their support for or against the ordinance.

The 7th and 8th grades will be participating in chalk drawings of our city with the theme in mind.

The high school students as individuals or as a class are to design a brochure with a unique Erlanger logo with photographs, maps and information about our town which would be appealing to our citizens and visitors.

Prizes will be awarded. Entries must be received by March 8, 2010. Winners will be notified by March 26, 2010 and the award night is April 6, 2010 at the regularly scheduled council meeting. Please plan now to attend.

DESIGNATED SNOW EMERGENCY ROUTES

Zone 1 Snow Emergency

Apple Tree Ln., Bartlett Ave., Cherry Tree Ln. (From Boone-Kenton Line to Apple Tree Ln.), Cowie Ave., Forest Ave. (from Dixie Hwy. to Rankin), Graves Ave. (from Dixie Hwy. to Lori Dr.), Hulbert Ave. (from Graves Ave. to Riggs Ave.), Lloyd Ave., Lori Dr. (from Graves Ave. to McAlpin Ave.), Lori Dr. (from Rankin Dr. to Sunset Ave.), McAlpin Ave., Rankin Dr., Sunset Ave. (from Dixie Hwy. to Lori Dr.), Sycamore Tree Ln., Watson Rd., all Cul-De-Sacs

Zone 2 Snow Emergency

Crescent Ave. (from Erlanger Rd. to Division St.), Division St., Erlanger Rd., Riggs Ave., all Cul-De-Sacs

Zone 3 Snow Emergency

Concord Dr. (from Stevenson Rd. to Lambda St.), Fieldcrest Ave., Hallam Ave., Hayden Pl., Haywood Cir. (from Turkeyfoot Rd. to Westwood Dr.), Jacqueline Dr. (from Concord Dr. to Stevenson Rd.)

Lambda St. (from Concord Dr. to Woodlyn Hills Dr.), Lindenwood Dr. (from Turkeyfoot Rd. to Sagebrush Ln.), Mary St., Misty Creek Dr. (from Turkeyfoot Rd. to Sagebrush Ln.), Perimeter Dr., Rainbow Terrace, Sagebrush Ln. (from Misty Creek Dr. to Lindenwood Dr.), Terrace Ave., Terrace Ave., Westwood Dr., Woodlyn Hills Dr. (from Lambda St. to Turkeyfoot Rd.), all Cul-De-Sacs

Zone 4 Snow Emergency

Bottomwood Dr., Carriage Hill Dr. (from Delphi Dr. to Surrey Pl.), Circlewood Dr., Deerchase Dr., Delphi Dr. (from Narrows Rd. to Carriage Hill Dr.), Northway Dr., Ridgewood Dr. (from Narrows Rd. to Circlewood Dr.), Sherbourne Dr., Spring Valley Dr., Surrey Pl., Thorntree Dr., all Cul-De-Sacs

SNOW PLOW PROCEDURES

Never underestimate the winters in Northern Kentucky. The conditions are ever changing and present challenges to residents and city personnel alike. When inclement weather does hit; the 10 person operations staff of the Erlanger Public Works Department is prepared to tackle conditions to the best of our abilities with the resources that we have available.

Similar to our protocol for fall leaf collection, we utilize our four "work zones" during snow removal operations to maximize the benefit of our available resources. With the 120 plus lane miles that we are tasked with taking care of, our target goal is to assign 5 trucks to the designated routes in the four work zones. Zones 1-3 have one truck assigned to the respective route in that zone, and Zone 4 is divided into two routes (because of size) with one truck assigned to each respective route. We **do not** take care of **private drives or streets** within any portion of the city.

Within each zone are designated snow emergency routes that parking is prohibited on when a snow emergency is in place. By City of Erlanger Ordinance a Snow Emergency can either be declared or is automatically in place whenever there is an accumulation of snow or ice upon any portion of designated snow emergency streets in excess of two inches in depth.

As always, please feel free to contact the Director of Public Works with any questions at rmbo-gard@ci.erlanger.ky.us or (859) 727-3893.



ERLANGER'S PART-TIME POLICE PROGRAM

After months of planning and preparation, the Part-time Erlanger Police Officer Program was implemented in December 2009 to help better serve the community in a more cost effective measure. These part-time certified police officers are available to work the schedule during full-time officers vacations, training, and so on. When events such as festivals, carnivals, parades, etc. call for the need of additional officers, they can be utilized. We are even looking at filling the School Resource Officer Program with part-time officers.

The first two part-time officers hired by Erlanger are familiar faces. Scott Abney will be returning after retiring as a Lieutenant earlier in 2009. Edward Bailey worked for the City of Erlanger as a Police Officer in the late 1980's. He recently retired from the Independence Police Department.

SUGGESTED DO'S AND DON'T'S

Don't Park on the Street. Move your cars off the street on designated snow emergency routes and especially cul-de-sacs into the driveways when an accumulating snow is predicted. It is difficult to maneuver trucks around on dry pavement let alone in icy conditions.

Do give plows & salt trucks room to maneuver. When applying salt and plowing snow they have to change lanes, back up, and make more frequent stops.

Don't pass trucks when salt is being applied/snow is being plowed. Keeping control of your vehicle can be extremely difficult.

Don't pull out into the intersection when snowplows are approaching. Drivers cannot control the snow coming off the plow blade. The snow often contains rocks and other debris from the roadway.

Don't shovel snow into the street when clearing sidewalks, driveways and parking lots. This makes clearing the roadway more difficult and creates more hazardous patches that require unnecessary retreatment.

Don't cover fire hydrants. If there is a fire hydrant at your curb – do not cover it with snow from your driveway or sidewalk. In the event of a fire emergency - this could help save a life by helping the fire department locate the hydrant more quickly.

Do be patient. When snow plow drivers clear residential streets; their plows **will** throw snow to the side and sometimes unintentionally into the entrances to driveways. This is an inconvenience that is unavoidable and always unintentional.

**CITY OF ERLANGER'S
PROGRAMS OR SERVICES
AVAILABLE**

POLICE—727-2525 #2

- ⇒ EXPLORER PROGRAM (14-20 years of age)
- ⇒ NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH GROUPS
- ⇒ CAR SEAT INSPECTIONS
- ⇒ PROPERTY SECURITY CHECKS
- ⇒ CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY
- ⇒ VIPS (Volunteers in Police Service)
- ⇒ DISPATCH ON TWITTER

FIRE/EMS—727-2525 #4

- ⇒ CPR, FIRST AID, AND FIRE EXTINGUISHER CLASSES
- ⇒ EXPLORER PROGRAM (14-18 years of age)
- ⇒ HOME AND BUSINESS INSPECTIONS
- ⇒ SENIOR CITIZEN SMOKE DETECTOR PROGRAM

ADMINISTRATION—727-2525 #1

- ⇒ PASSPORTS
- ⇒ ERLANGER HARD BACK HISTORY BOOK \$25.00
- ⇒ NOTARY PUBLICS
- ⇒ TANK BUS PASSES
- ⇒ ERLANGER & SURROUNDING AREA MAPS (free)
- ⇒ NO KNOCK POLICY-SIGN UP TODAY
- ⇒ DEPOT PARK RESERVATIONS (727-2525 #5)

PUBLIC WORKS—727-2525 #6

- ⇒ POTHOLE REPORTS (need location of pole)
- ⇒ STREET LIGHT OUTAGE REPORTS (need location of light)
- ⇒ LEAF COLLECTION
- ⇒ CHRISTMAS TREE DROP OFF/MULCHING

CITY CALENDAR

Council Meetings

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

Erlanger Historical Society Meetings

Second Wednesday of every month at 7:00 p.m.
Railroad Depot Museum

Christmas Tree Drop Off

Jack Scheben Drive
Public Works Building
December 28-January 11, 2009

General Government Offices Closed

January 1, 2010

Summer in January Event

Silverlake Recreation Center
January 9, 2010
6:30-8:45 p.m.

Valentine Event

Erlanger Branch of the Kenton County Library
February 14, 2010
2:00-4:00 p.m.

General Government Offices Closed

February 15, 2010

March 2010

City Government Month

Easter Event

Erlanger Branch of the Kenton County Library
March 28, 2010
1:30-3:00 p.m.



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