

Spring 2011 Edition

WHISTLESTOP

The City of Erlanger Newsletter

(859) 727-2525

505 Commonwealth Avenue, Erlanger, KY 41018

www.ci.erlanger.ky.us



MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



Mayor
Thomas L. Rouse

Mother Nature has been teasing us as Spring attempts to replace Winter here in Erlanger. Daffodils are blooming, but we still have snow flurries. As we look forward to tackling “spring cleaning”, please remember to include your yard and building exterior. Our Clean-up Erlanger Committee has been very busy the past year or two working to keep Erlanger a beautiful city for all to be proud of. Thank you to those who take pride in your home, businesses, and property.

Congratulations to the University of Kentucky Wildcats and their achievements in the NCAA tournament this year! Kentucky is a wonderful place to call home

and they brought the spirit of Kentucky alive this season. Congratulations also to the Dixie Heights Colonels—9th Regional Champs!

City Officials have been working hard to create a budget for the 2011-2012 fiscal year. Times are tough and the City of Erlanger feels the strains as well. We'll continue doing the best that we can to continue serving our residents and businesses with the services that they expect. If you have any questions about this process, please do not hesitate to contact the City of Erlanger.

Have a wonderful Spring! Enjoy your cook-outs with neighbors, friends, and family. Take your kids to one of our parks for a day of free fun and family unity. For upcoming event information, please check out our website or become our friend on Facebook. Thank you for making Erlanger the wonderful community that it is!

AND THE WINNER IS.....

The results are in and the 2011 recipient of the \$1500.00 Erlanger Community Achievement Scholarship is.....Dixie Heights senior and Erlanger resident Lauren Schultz!

Ms. Schultz wowed judges with her creativity and dedication. In 2010, she created the “Art for Afghanistan” project in an effort to help heal the horrors of war in the children of Afghanistan through art. Ms. Schultz stated in her essay that according to Cathy A. Malchiodi, Director of the Institute for the Arts & Health, art therapy helps children to process pain. Her efforts paid off. Students and other benefactors donated 2,000 packages of art supplies that the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division at Ft. Know delivered to Afghanistan when they were deployed there in January 2011.

In addition, Ms. Schultz is an active volunteer with Hannah's Heroes where she is a one-to-one reading coach, the Kenton County Public Library where she reads with children as part of the Reading Buddies program, the Kentucky Symphony Orchestra where she collects donations and distributes surveys, and much more.

Congratulations Lauren Schultz! We wish you much success at college and in your future endeavors!

IT IS AMAZING!

Get a team together and join others on May 21, 2011 as they race through Erlanger and parts of Crescent Springs to reach their destinations in the City of Erlanger's Amazing Race Scavenger Hunt! It's fun, it's exciting, and you can win money! Teams of 2-7 persons or a car load (motorcycles are welcome) must register by 5:00 p.m. on May 6, 2011. Registration applications can be found on-line or can be picked up at the City Building. The registration fee is \$20.00 per team. Teams must bring a charged digital camera with a screen and cleared memory card or a Polaroid Camera with film, a pen or pencil, and a full tank of gas.

Meet your team at the Erlanger City Building at 6:15 p.m. on Saturday, May 21st to strategize. At 6:30 p.m., packets will be distributed to each team and the rules will be explained. Drivers can start their engines at 6:45 p.m. and teams can begin their quest. Don't forget to look for the hidden gnomes to earn extra points.

Teams must meet back at the City Building at 8:45 p.m. Late comers will have points deducted. Pictures will be downloaded as proof and points will be added. Food, snacks, drinks, and friendly conversation will be provided while points are calculated. The team with the most points will receive \$100.00, second place will receive \$75.00, and third place will get \$50.00.

Many think they know everything about Erlanger until they begin this challenge. How well do you know Erlanger?

PAR!

For all those golf fans out there, there is another challenge coming your way on June 10, 2011, the Top Gun Golf Outing Fundraiser. Get your team of four together to golf side by side with some of our Nation's heroes, the Top Guns from the 101st Airborne Division. Just back from Afghanistan, they will be ready for new challenges and anxious to see how rusty their golfing skills are.

The fee to enter is \$75.00 per person. This includes greens fees, cart fees, food at the turn, and a steak or chicken dinner with drinks. Please visit our website for a registration application or contact Captain Mike Jansing at (859) 727-5662.

Proceeds will go towards completing the goal of the following cities; Crescent Springs, Erlanger, Lakeside Park, and Villa Hills, to ensure that each soldier is afforded the opportunity to attend their “Welcome Home Ball” with their spouse. This will be the final fundraiser for this event.

So, get your golf clubs ready, grab some sunscreen, and prepare for a fun day of doing what you love best, golfing!

BURN PERMITS END FOR THE SEASON

It's that time of the year again, beginning May 1st burn permits will not be issued due to the annual burn ban. Kenton County is designated as a moderate non-attainment for ozone. This means there will not be any open burning permitted in the City of Erlanger. Open burning is easily defined as land clearing fires or fires on the ground. Residents may burn year round in contained fire pits, outdoor fireplaces, barrels, etc. Residents may not burn garbage at any time, and may burn clean, non-treated wood only. This burn ban will be in effect until September 30, and free burn permits will be permitted again beginning October 1.

*From the office of the Fire Marshal,
Captain Tim Deye*



POLICE REPORT

Students Out:

More Students will be walking to and from school with the warmer weather coming so when driving near schools or school bus stops, please be more attentive of children. Every year we have a child struck by a vehicle either near school property or on their way to school. Pay attention to the School Zone Speed Limits. If you are cited for speeding when the lights are flashing or during the time when the limits are in effect, the fine will be doubled.

Thefts:

We have seen a significant rise in the number of thefts from parked vehicles and homes in both cities. Use common sense; do not leave valuables in your vehicle and make sure to lock your doors. No items should be left in your vehicle, especially GPS type devices which have become a favorite of thieves. Ladies, do not leave your purses in your vehicle or if grocery shopping, do not leave them in the cart.

Burglary:

We have also seen an increase in burglaries, thefts from homes. Keep all doors and windows locked. Leave lights on at night, thieves do not like to be seen. Most burglaries have been occurring in the day time. Be aware of this fact and if you see any suspicious activity, no matter what time of day, call 911. We would much rather come to find nothing than to find out later that a theft occurred.

Spring: The neighborhoods will be more active, families taking walks, playing in the parks, riding bikes, playing ball, so when traveling drive extra cautious on the side streets. Keep your eyes and ears open and report any suspicious activity to the Erlanger Police Department.

Visit the National Crime Prevention Councils web-site at www.ncpc.org for crime prevention tips.

*From the office of the Chief of Police
Colonel Marc Fields*



FIRE HYDRANT MAINTENANCE

Fire Hydrant History

Early water systems used hollowed out logs for water mains. The methods of obtaining water for fire fighting purposes was crude: pits dug at specific intervals to expose mains. A hole was then dug and a wooden plug was inserted. These plugs were known as fire plugs and this term is still commonly used to identify fire hydrants. When a fire occurred, the plug was removed allowing water to fill the pit. Fire apparatus took draft from the pit; however the flow of water from the pit was usually so meager that the system was seldom an effective aid to fire fighting.

Eventually, the use of cast iron pipe permitted system pressures to be increased, and this practice led to the development of the post type fire hydrant. An opening or hose connection at the upper end of the standpipe provided a place from which fire pumps received their supplies.

The first post type fire hydrant in the United States was designed around 1800. It had both a hose connection and a faucet. It also had a barrel that was always charged with water.

Fire Hydrant Maintenance

The intent of the hydrant maintenance program is to maintain public fire hydrants in a ready condition through flushing, inspection, lubricating, cleaning, and painting as recommended by the National Fire Protection Association and reporting needed repairs to the water department on a semi annual basis or as required.

The main reason the fire department performed hydrant maintenance is to insure that they will function correctly at times of fire. Fire engines hold a maximum of 5-6 minutes of water available for fire attack. An improperly or non-functioning hydrant could cause a fire engine to run out of water. If the fire engine runs out of water, it could endanger the lives of the firefighters fighting the fire inside a structure and increase the amount of fire damage to the structure.

Fire Hydrant Maintenance - Frequently Asked Questions:

What do different color caps on fire hydrants mean?

The cap colors indicate to the responding fire companies how much water is available to that hydrant. For example, a blue capped hydrant would mean that they have over 1500 gallons of water per minute (GPM) available for fire attack. Green caps = 1000-1499 GPM, orange caps = 500-999 GPM, and red caps = 0-499 GPM. These figures are important to firefighters as they can affect their method of fire attack.

Will hydrant maintenance discolor my water?

Very little water is flowing during hydrant maintenance so the possibility of water discoloration is slight but possible.

How can I help with fire hydrant maintenance?

You should always keep a 3 foot clearance around fire hydrants. If you do not have the proper clearance, you should cut back any plants overgrowing the hydrant or move any vehicle, fences, etc. that are within 3 feet of the hydrant.



Remember to.....



THE TOP GUNS OF ERLANGER

The players for the Police and Fire/EMS volleyball teams flexed their muscles in an attempt to scare their opponents. Players were growling and narrowing their eyes as they took the time to size up their adversaries. As they waited for the games to begin, intimidation tactics were made. Spectators wondered who would be the "Top Guns" of Erlanger at the end of the battle.

Mayor Rouse introduced the real "Top Guns" of the 101st Airborne Division; Captain Ward, 1st Sergeant Brown, and Specialist Aleksiewicz. Capt. Ward led our Bravo Battery through real battles while in Afghanistan. Brown and Aleksiewicz suffered injuries there and were sent home to the U.S. to recover.

The Miles Elementary Mustangs were on hand to meet the soldiers and to cheer on their favorite teams. Most were rooting for their favorite player, Officer Humphrey! The 4th and 5th graders began the games with the National Anthem, led by music teacher Mrs. Stephens.

In blue, the police were fierce opponents. With the larger team, their strategy was to rotate and stay strong. In red, the firefighters never gave up. Through three games, the two teams battled it out. In the end, the Fire/EMS was named the "Top Guns".

We were all winners that night. The "Local Heroes Supporting National Heroes" volleyball event was held as a fundraiser for the city's adopted troop currently deployed in Afghanistan. They are scheduled to return home in late spring/early summer. We raised \$1100.00 that night to help send our adopted troops to their "Welcome Home Ball" in Nashville, Tennessee.



IT'S BACK!

The Dixie Farmers Market has re-opened to the public and is held every Thursday from 2:00-6:00 p.m. in the Erlanger Baptist Church's parking lot located on Commonwealth Avenue in Erlanger. Visit our local farmers every Thursday through October!

The market in Spring has beautiful flowers for buyers to plant or purchase already potted. These make great gifts for Mothers Day! Many farmers bring to market in May asparagus, beet greens, lettuce, radishes, scallions, and spinach. June brings the farmers' gorgeous and mouth watering strawberries. I am sure our Erlanger dads would love a home made strawberry pie for Fathers Day! Also starting their appearance in June are tomatoes. Whether you want them in a salad, on a hamburger, or plan on canning them for spaghetti sauce, everyone loves a plump, ripe tomato!

For those who have a sweet tooth, stop by and try out the best honey in the tri-state area! Here you can meet the farmers and your neighbors. This is a great place to trade recipes, while supporting your local farmers!



TICHENOR'S FIELD TRIP OF ERLANGER

It was a very successful day! The city was taken over by sixty Social Studies students from Tichenor Middle School and two of their teachers, Mr. Cammack and Mr. Gay. Their visit was part of City Government Month, a program in which cities across Kentucky educate the public on their local government. The field trip was a new addition this year to our City Government program.

The field trip was separated into two different segments, a bus tour through Erlanger and a municipal government tour at our home base. The bus tour took the students through Flagship Park, Lakemont Subdivision, and through the historic and industrial sections of Erlanger. Stops were made at the Public Works Facility, the Depot Museum, and the Northern Kentucky Water District. While thirty students were on the bus tour, three smaller groups toured the Police Department, Fire/EMS Department, and the General Government Building. Lunch consisting of pizza, chips, cookies, and drinks were provided.

The students were excited with their visit to the Public Works Facility. Many of them expressed their interest with their Sign Shop, stating that it was their favorite part of the whole day. Several students loved history and enjoyed their time at the Depot Museum with Pat Hahn. The Police Department wowed them with their F.A.T.S. (Fire Arms Training Simulation) training, while students and teachers watched the J.P.R. (Job Performance Requirement) testing at the Fire/EMS Department.

As for the General Government building tour, we KNOW that we are the most exciting of all the departments and left the students speechless with talks on legislation, budgets, and the daily activities of local government!



Brooklyn, Isabel, Luke, Dylan, Cole, and Rachel

Thank you to everyone who helped make this field trip possible, including TANK, for donating a bus for the day and to the teachers and Tichenor for their participation. The students represented Tichenor and their community very well.

SUPPORTERS OF BRAVO BATTERY

The City of Erlanger has an amazing community! The City would like to recognize those who have stepped forward and supported our adopted troop, Bravo Battery. They are: Arnett Elementary, Lindeman Elementary, Miles Elementary, St. Henry School, Tichenor Middle School, Erlanger-Elsmere Board of Education, Erlanger United Methodist Church, Heritage Bank, Walgreens, Silverlake, Colonial Cottage, Johnny's Car Wash, Ameristop, Skyline, Erlanger Branch of the Kenton County Public Library, Puff-n-Stuff, Any Lab Test Now, The Bank of Kentucky, Bluegrass Meats, PakMail, Erlanger residents, City employees and volunteers. Several organizations outside of Erlanger have also supported Bravo Battery. They are DHL, LaRosas, and BAWAC. Bravo Battery and the City of Erlanger thanks everyone for their letters, pictures, item donations that were shipped to Afghanistan, monetary donations, shipment of packages, and for conducting their own fundraisers. Located the farthest out in Afghanistan, they were very badly in need of supplies and appreciate all that they received. They look forward to coming home and attending their "Welcome Home Ball", in which many of their supporters are making possible.

SERGEANT GRADUATES FROM FBI ACADEMY



Erlanger Police Sergeant Doug Eagler has graduated from the 244th session of the FBI National Academy Program in Quantico, Va. The Erlanger Police Department is proud to say Sgt. Eagler is now one of eight within the department that has graduated from the FBI National Academy.

Sgt. Eagler joined 257 officers from 49 states, the District of Columbia, 20 international countries, as well as two military organizations and three federal law enforcement agencies in the March graduation.

Internationally known for its academic excellence, the National Academy Program, held at the FBI Academy, offers 10 weeks of advanced investigative, management, and fitness training for selected officers having proven records as professionals within their agencies. FBI Director Robert Mueller was the keynote speaker at the graduation ceremony.

Sgt. Eagler is a 20-year veteran who began his career at the Elsmere Kentucky Police Department where he served as a patrol officer, D.A.R.E. Officer, and Detective Sergeant. Eagler was hired by the Erlanger Police Department in October 2006 and was promoted to Sergeant in August, 2008. Eagler currently is assigned as a first shift Patrol Sergeant.

TRAVEL NEWS

If you are traveling out of the country and need a passport book or card, the ladies in the General Government Department are trained to assist you. We accept passport applications Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Please keep in mind that it can take approximately 10-15 minutes per person to process passports, so please allow enough time before 5:00 p.m.

New passport applications were distributed by the U.S. Department of State to all processing agencies at the beginning of March, 2011. If you have completed an application but have not had it processed yet, you may have completed the older form. At this time the U.S. Department of State is accepting the older applications but are advising that there may be delays in the processing of it.

In a notice received this week from the U.S. Department of State, stricter requirements regarding birth certificates have gone into affect as of April 1, 2011. Please visit their website at www.travel.state.gov for these requirements.



*From the office of the City Clerk,
Director of Administration Melissa Andress*

STREET REPAIRS IN ERLANGER

The City of Erlanger will begin the removal and replacement of concrete pavement sections on Ridgewood Drive (200 feet north of Circlewood Drive to Narrows Road) this spring or summer. The City will also begin the resurfacing of Maple Tree Lane (Cherry Tree Lane to Boone County Line) and Narrows Road (Brightleaf Boulevard to Ridgewood Drive). The company or companies awarded these projects by the City of Erlanger will place the appropriate signage during the time these projects are taking place. If you have any concerns while the projects are taking place, please go to our website and submit your concern through our Citizen Service Request On-line Program.

With a multitude of streetlights throughout the City of Erlanger, we appreciate your help in identifying lights that are malfunctioning or in need of repair. The sooner we know they are out, the sooner we can contact the appropriate power company to get them fixed. For streetlights that need attention in the Duke Energy Service Area, you may contact 1 (800) 544-6900. For those lights in the Owen Rural Electric service area, you may contact 1 (800) 372-7612. If you are unsure of the service area that you live in, please contact the Erlanger Public Works Department at (859) 727-3893 or submit your concern through our website. Please make sure that you provide the pole number/nearest physical address of the light, type of issue (out/flickering/burning during the day/etc.), and your name with an e-mail address.



*From the office of Public Works,
Director Rick Bogard*

STOP-STICKS AWARD

Congratulations Sergeant Norm Lyle! Sergeant Lyle received the "Hit of the Year" award from Stop Sticks International for his use of the tire deflation device while other units were in pursuit of a subject wanted for kidnapping in Indiana. Because Sergeant Lyle used the stop sticks, the vehicle was stopped without incident and no officers were injured in the line of duty. The suspect was charged with two counts of murder in Indiana and two counts of murder on a police officer in Kentucky.



CITY GOVERNMENT MONTH CEREMONY

This year's City Government Month sixty-five entries were unique, creative, and well written. Each teacher and student who participated took great pride in their projects and represented their individual schools well. The purpose of City Government Month is to get students more familiar with it and to get them involved. Each student who participated proved this through their projects. They each did an outstanding job and we thank them for their participation.



Mr. Fairchild's 5th grade art class from Miles Elementary participated by creating clay "busts" of Mayor Thomas Rouse and City Council Members. (Collin Puckett, Ashleigh Centers, Brooke Ramsey, Maggie Westwood, Mr. Fairchild)



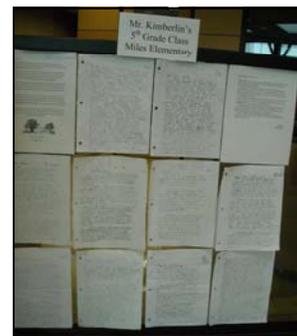
Mrs. Jansing's 5th grade class from St. Henry participated by submitting photo essays of Erlanger landmarks and interviews of a council member and police officer. (Mrs. Jansing Jacob Schlake, Olivia Staverman, Aidan Cahill)



Mrs. Fender's Kindergarten class from Miles Elementary School participated by doing a class project on fire safety after Fire Marshal, Captain Tim Deye made a visit to their classroom. (Alexis Vickers, Julia Faris, Logan Vickers, standing in for Mrs. Fender-Mr. Kimberlin)



Mr. Kimberlin's 5th grade class from Miles Elementary School participated by writing essays on why chickens should be allowed in Erlanger, the importance of D.A.R.E. and what type of parks Erlanger needs. (Brooke Ramsey, Olivia Dowling, Mr. Kimberlin, Nathan Fuller, Evan Molitor)



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

859-727-2525

POLICE DEPARTMENT

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

FIRE/EMS DEPARTMENT

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

GENERAL GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT

- ⇒ PASSPORTS
- ⇒ ERLANGER HARD BACK HISTORY BOOK \$25.00
- ⇒ ERLANGER/ELSMERE IMAGES OF AMERICA BOOK \$20.00
- ⇒ NOTARY PUBLICS (free service)
- ⇒ TANK BUS PASSES
- ⇒ ERLANGER & SURROUNDING AREA MAPS (free)
- ⇒ NO KNOCK POLICY-SIGN UP TODAY
- ⇒ DEPOT PARK RESERVATIONS (727-2525 #5)

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

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

WEBSITE COMMITTEE

- ⇒ FACEBOOK—CITY OF ERLANGER (NEW)
- ⇒ CITIZEN SERVICE REQUEST CENTER ONLINE
- ⇒ WEBSITE www.ci.erlanger.ky.us

**P
A
I
D

A
D**

THOMAS L. ROUSE

Attorney at Law

32 years of service to the
people of Northern Kentucky

859-393-3234

www.ThomasRouseLaw.com

CITY CALENDAR

Council Meetings

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

Erlanger Historical Society Meetings

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

Dixie Farmers Market

(Applications for farmers on-line)
Erlanger Baptist Church Parking Lot
Every Thursday, starting April 28, 2011
2:00-6:00 p.m.

**Kenton Co. Veterans Memorial 5K Walk/Run
With Military Cup Challenge**

Crescent Springs Community Park
May 21, 2011 8:30 a.m.

Breakfast with the Troops

Crescent Springs/Villa Hills Fire Department
May 21, 2011 9:00-11:00 a.m.

Amazing Race

City of Erlanger Municipal Building
May 21, 2011 from 6:30-9:30

Adopt-A-Unit Comedy Fundraiser

Crescent Springs Fire Department
May 21, 2011

General Government Offices Closed

May 30, 2011

Summer Park Program

(Schedule on-line)
June-July 2011

Adopt-A-Unit Golf Outing Fundraiser

Eagle Creek Country Club, Crittenden, Kentucky
June 10, 2011
Shot Gun start 8:30 a.m.

The City of Erlanger allows businesses and organizations to **advertise** in our Whistlestop Newsletter. This is a quarterly newsletter that provides city information and updates for Erlanger businesses and residents. For Erlanger businesses or organizations the cost is **\$30.00 per issue**, this includes businesses located on "The Dixie". Non-Erlanger businesses can also advertise for **\$40.00 an issue**. If you are interested in placing an advertisement, please contact Sherry at sdhoffman@ci.erlanger.ky.us or by calling (859) 727-2525, #1.