

WHISTLESTOP

The City of Erlanger Newsletter

Summer 2010



MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



Mayor
Thomas L. Rouse

July is now upon us. Hopefully everyone is enjoying the warmer weather but staying hydrated with the high humidity. The Parks and Recreation program had fun-filled events in June that included our Police, Fire/EMS, and Public Works Departments. We are looking forward to seeing you at the upcoming events that are scheduled. Don't forget to attend the September 11 Memorial Service that we have each year to remember those that lost their lives on September 11, 2001.

The Erlanger-Elsmere School District is offering a free lunch program to anyone who is under eighteen years of age. Those who are over eighteen are charged a low fee of \$2.00. This summer lunch special is Monday through Friday from 11:00-12:30 p.m. at Lloyd High School on Bartlett Avenue. The program ends at the end of July. For more details, please visit our website.

Our City departments have been busy this summer. The Clean-up Erlanger committee has been working with the Codes Enforcement/Police Department to address numerous property issues throughout the city. The Fire/EMS Department has finished their hydrant testing. They have been conducting inspections and hosting public education classes while still making emergency runs. The Building Department has had an increase in building and zoning permit applications since the weather has been nicer, as well as inspections. The Public Works Department is managing street repair work, maintaining landscape projects, mowing right-of-ways, and assisting the Codes Enforcement Department with tall grass and other codes remediations. The General Government Department has finalized the budget for the new fiscal year, has had an increase with passport applications, and is preparing for the 2010-2011 property and tangible taxes.

The troop that the City of Erlanger has adopted, along with Crescent Springs and Villa Hills, has been deployed to Afghanistan. For more information regarding this troop, please contact the General Government Department at 859-727-2525. Please remember them while they are away.

I hope everyone has a safe and happy summer!

***Visit the City's Citizen Service Request Center
at www.ci.erlanger.ky.us.
It is designed to address your needs
and issues in a timely manner.***

SUPPORT LOCAL FARMERS

Did you know that buying locally grown food can bring more money into the community, that it reduces the cost of food shipments, and it creates a better community atmosphere? Have you ever asked yourself where you can buy locally grown, farm fresh produce?

Well, we have the place for you. Every Thursday from 2-6 p.m., local farmers gather in the Erlanger Baptist Church's parking lot at 505 Commonwealth Avenue for the Dixie Farmers Market. Depending on the weather and the time of the year, some items found there include fruits, vegetables, pork, beef, jams and jellies, honey, and eggs.

The atmosphere is relaxing, the conversation is good, and the produce fresh. Meet the farmers, trade recipes, try something new. You can carpool with your neighbor or stop by on your way home from work.

Join the Cities of Erlanger and Elsmere as we celebrate National Farmers Market Week August first through the seventh. Please let our farmers know how important they are to our community!

ADVERTISEMENT

The City of Erlanger's Whistlestop Newsletter is published quarterly with the intention of reaching as many residents and business owners as possible. This of course must be done within a very limiting budget. The Winter, Spring, and Summer editions can be found on the City's website, www.ci.erlanger.ky.us, and at the Erlanger Branch of the Kenton County Public Library. Residents and business owners can also sign up on our website to receive the newsletters by e-mail. We encourage everyone to do this as all City updates are advertised this way. However, the Fall edition is mailed out to approximately 7200 parcel addresses every October with the Property and Tangible Tax bills.

Last year, the City began allowing advertisements to be placed in the Whistlestop. If you are interested in advertising in the Fall edition, please contact the City of Erlanger at 859-727-2525, prompt #1. Information and guidelines pertaining to advertising will be made available to you. The deadline for ad information and paperwork is September 1, 2010.

NEW CITY LAWS

What is an Ordinance? An ordinance is an official action of a city legislative body and has the force of law within the boundaries of a city.

Where can you find Ordinances that have gone into affect?

Ordinances are posted on our website (www.ci.erlanger.ky.us) under "City Laws". Those that were enacted prior to January 1, 2010 have been codified (indexed and recorded) and can be accessed by clicking on the "codified" button. Those that have been passed in 2010 are listed on the web page. They will be submitted for codification at the end of 2010.

Recently passed Ordinances:

Ordinance No. 2339 Increase of Occupational License fees from 1%-1.5% to take effect July 1, 2010. This .5% revenue increase will be applied to infrastructure and capital asset expenditures.

Ordinance No. 2342 Increase of parking penalty fees from \$20.00 to \$25.00 to take effect July 1, 2010.

Ordinance No. 2343 Flagship Park regulations prohibiting the use of the park by organized sports teams.

Ordinance No. 2344 Cemetery regulations pertaining to the maintenance of cemeteries.

Ordinance No. 2345 Prohibiting the collection of Non-residential waste between the hours of 2:00-7:00 a.m.

Ordinance No. 2348 Establishing the budget for the 2010-2011 Fiscal Year.

VIDEO STREAMING COMING TO ERLANGER

In order to bring our Council meetings to you, the City will begin video streaming their regular Council meetings on July 6, 2010. The day following the meeting, the video will be placed on the City's website for our residents and business owners to view. The videos will be indexed to enable you to watch only the segments that you are interested in or you can watch the video in its entirety.

Council meetings are open to the public. They are held on the first Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers located at 505 Commonwealth Avenue. If you would like to address Council, they ask that you please sign in once you enter Chambers. During the Public Comments section of the Council meeting, Mayor Rouse will call on those who have signed up to approach the podium. Time is limited to three minutes per person.

*New to the City of Erlanger?
Visit our New Resident page at
www.ci.erlanger.ky.us.*

HERITAGE DAY

The Erlanger Historical Society is proud to announce that on Sunday, September 19, 2010 we will be holding our 19th Annual Heritage Day Celebration at the Historical Depot Park on Crescent Avenue in Erlanger, KY. Our theme this year will be "THE CIVIL WAR" as this is the sesquicentennial for the Civil War. There will be a Civil War demonstration in the park.

Our Venue is changing this year. We will be having a stage with live music by the Chili Dogs and guitarist Ryan Henry, the Robert Ark Petting Zoo and the Frosted Ponies will be available to entertain the children. The tour of historic Erlanger will still be available by horse and wagon. The Kenton County Public Library will be in the Gazebo for story telling every hour, there will be karate demonstrations, and an old car and fire engine on display. There will be food, drinks, and booths of arts and crafts, antiques and collectibles, local organizations, volunteer groups, and political stumping. L.J., our Fire/EMS Search and Rescue dog, will do a demonstration.

The Depot Park is the site of the Historical Erlanger Railroad Depot. The 1877 Depot was slated for demolition in January of 1992. The Historical Society persevered to acquire the Depot in order to rescue a piece of Erlanger Elsmere's history from destruction. The Depot is the only remaining wooden Depot between Cincinnati and Chattanooga.

The Depot will be open for viewing from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. The Museum is full of Erlanger artifacts and memorabilia, including: kitchen items, war uniforms, WWII memorabilia, children's toys, Southern Railroad items, cameras, pictures, 1900 census, old newspapers and a new exhibit of Civil War memorabilia.

The purpose of the Historical Society is to continue to build a sense of pride in our community, to remember the past, and look to our future.

DIG OUT YOUR RUNNING SHOES

Join neighbors, friends, and family in participating at the 6th annual Friendship City 5K. This event is a 5K walk/run to benefit the Step Forward Erlanger program to make the City of Erlanger a more walk able community and to connect people through physical activity. The course takes you through part of historic Erlanger where you will use newly installed sidewalks to help jump start your family on a new program for physical fitness.

The 3.1 mile course begins and ends at the Erlanger Branch of the Kenton County Library. There will be run and walk divisions that start with ages 12 and under to 70 and over. Door prizes will be given out after the race, including one free family membership to the Silverlake Athletic Club. All family members must participate. To register, please go to www.ci.erlanger.ky.us or call Kathy at 859-727-7955.

The race will take place on August 29, 2010 at 8:00 a.m.

POLICE MEMORIAL FUNDRAISER

The Erlanger Police Department is again taking an active part in the Northern Kentucky Police Memorial Site located at the foot of the Suspension Bridge in Covington. This site is a beautiful tribute to fallen officers from the Northern Kentucky Region.

Just like maintaining your property, there is a cost to maintaining the Memorial Site, which is the reason for this fundraiser. We are currently looking for hole-sponsorships and prizes to give away as door prizes. A \$50 Hole Sponsorship gets your company/ personal name displayed on a 12x18 sign along the course. Prize donations will be recognized on "welcome" letters given to all participants. Both options will show your interest in recognizing law enforcement officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice protecting your freedoms.

For further information on how you can help this very worthwhile cause, please contact Captain Mike Jansing, Captain Bob Arens, or Officer Ed Bailey at 859-727-7599. Thank you!

STREET SIGNS AND STREET LIGHTS

Providing guidance for drivers and pedestrians alike, street signs and streetlights are a vital part of our everyday lives. With a multitude of street signs and streetlights throughout the City, we appreciate your help in identifying signs that have been damaged or need replacement and streetlights that are malfunctioning or in need of repair. The sooner we are aware of an issue with either of these two things, the sooner we can get it addressed.

To report street signs that have been damaged or need replacement, please contact the Public Works Department Sign Shop at (859) 727-7620 or visit the Public Works Department page at www.ci.erlanger.ky.us.

To report streetlights that need attention in the Duke Energy Service Area you may contact 1-(800)-544-6900 and for 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 visit the Public Works Department page at www.ci.erlanger.ky.us to report the problem. Please make sure that you provide the following information: pole number/nearest physical address of the light, type of issue (out/flickering/burning during the day/etc.), and your name with a contact number.

Thanks in advance for your help!

THOMAS L. ROUSE

Attorney at Law

32 years of service to the
people of Northern Kentucky

859-393-3234

www.ThomasRouseLaw.com

FIRE/EMS NEEDS YOU

The Erlanger Fire/EMS Explorer Program is seeking new members between the ages of 14 and 18 to learn basic skills required for firefighting. Exploring is a great opportunity to grow and prepare for your future.

The Explorers train throughout the year. They also assist with department functions at the station.

The Explorers meet at Erlanger Station 1 (515 Graves Avenue – next to Lloyd Memorial High School). If you would like to get more information or an Explorer application, please call 859-727-2488, stop by Erlanger Fire/EMS Station One or contact Program Director, Richard Bohl, at rjbohl@ci.erlanger.ky.us.

BURN BAN IN EFFECT

Burn permits are not being issued at this time 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 only burn clean, non-treated wood. This burn ban will be in effect until September 30, 2010. Free burn permits will be permitted again beginning October 1.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Fire Marshal, Captain Tim Deye, at 859-727-2488.

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE ISSUES INCREASE

With our new Citizen Service Request Center, we have found that poor property maintenance issues are on the rise, keeping our Codes Enforcement Department working hard. One hundred fifty six service requests have been submitted since March 30, 2010 regarding property that has not been attended to. One hundred thirty six of those requests have been closed, twenty are still in progress.

We are asking property owners to ensure that their property is kept rubbish free and that the grass is kept to four inches in height or lower. (Ordinance No. 2328) If you are a property owner that rents your property, it is your responsibility to ensure that the property is maintained according to code.

Citations will be issued. If the property continues to not be maintained and the citation is not paid, the violation is turned over to the City's attorney to address. Attorney fees will be added to the citation fees.

Please help to make your neighborhoods and the City beautiful. You can view a list of commonly seen violations by visiting our website and Codes Enforcement.

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

- ⇒ Police Explorer Program
- ⇒ Neighborhood Watch Programs
- ⇒ Car Seat Inspections
- ⇒ Property Security Checks
- ⇒ Citizens Police Academy
- ⇒ VIPS (Volunteers in Police Service)
- ⇒ Dispatch on Twitter
- ⇒ CPR, First Aid, and Fire Extinguisher Classes
- ⇒ Fire/EMS Explorer Program
- ⇒ Home and Business Inspections
- ⇒ Senior Citizen Smoke Detector Program
- ⇒ Passports
- ⇒ Erlanger History Book \$25.00
- ⇒ Notary Publics (No Charge)
- ⇒ TANK Bus Passes
- ⇒ Erlanger Maps (No Charge)
- ⇒ No Knock Policy
- ⇒ Depot Park Reservations (727-2525 #5)
- ⇒ Pothole Reports (need location of pole)
- ⇒ Street Light Outage Reports
- ⇒ Leaf Collection
- ⇒ Christmas Tree Drop Off/ Mulching

ARE YOU BETWEEN THE AGES OF 16-24?

Erlanger's City Platform committee and local organizations have been working diligently to provide your age group with a list of resources to help better serve you. By going to our website at www.ci.erlanger.ky.us, you can access a button that will provide you with a list of these resources.

One of the many resources is the Kenton County Public Library. They offer free classes to the residents of Kenton County. Some of these classes include GED classes with additional times for study sessions and testing, speaking and leadership skills, resume tune-ups, and computer classes. If you have children, they offer classes for them, as well as activities, games, movie and family nights.

The library also has computers for your use and rooms that can be reserved for study sessions. For those who are 16-19 years of age, they have teen groups that you can join or visit.

Cutting down on costs at home....check out a movie, CD, or book.

For more information on what the library has to offer you, please check out our website or go to www.kenton.lib.ky.us. They can also be reached at 859-962-4000.

***Wanting to stop solicitors from coming to your door?
Go to www.ci.erlanger.ky.us, Forms, and sign up today.***

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

The Dixie Farmers Market

Erlanger Baptist Church Parking Lot
Every Thursday, April 29th-October 14th
2:00-6:00 p.m.

Teen Movie Night

Erlanger Branch of the Kenton County Library
July 2, 2010 6:00-8:30 p.m.

General Government Offices Closed

July 5, 2010

Summer Park Program Events

Flagship Park with Erlanger General Government

Lakemont entrance
July 6, 2010 6:00-8:00 p.m.
Pizza provided with games, volleyball, and fishing

Outdoor Lazer Kraze at Silverlake Park

July 14, 2010 6:00-8:00 p.m.
14 people at a time, every 10 minutes

Silverlake Water Park

July 20, 2010 3:00-9:00 p.m.
Waiver cards must be picked up at the Erlanger City Building for admission. (Residents and employees only)

Friendship City 5K

Erlanger Branch of the Kenton County Library
August 29, 2010 8:00 a.m.

General Government Offices Closed

September 6, 2010

September 11 Memorial Service

Front parking lot of Erlanger City Building
September 11, 2010
Time TBA

Heritage Day

Erlanger Railroad Depot
September 19, 2010 12:00-6:00 p.m.