



Top of the Hill News

Information for the Citizens of Fort Wright

Fall/Winter 2014



Senior Luncheon

The Annual Luncheon for Senior residents of Fort Wright, will be held on Thursday, November 13, 2014, beginning at 12:00 noon.

We ask that you call the Fort Wright City Office at 331-1700 to **RSVP**, prior to November 7th.

This is limited to current Senior Residents only, as we usually meet the maximum capacity for the Civic Club.

City Offices Closed

City Offices will be closed on the following dates for the Holidays:

- Thursday, November 27
- Friday, November 28
- Wednesday, December 24
- Thursday, December 25
- Thursday, January 1

Garden Club Decorates for the Holidays

The Ft Wright "Dirty Hands" Garden Club will soon be hanging fresh evergreen swags decorated with big red bows on stop signs all over Ft. Wright. Each year the club gathers in a member's garage to transform several Christmas trees into fragrant holiday decorations. This is their way of enjoying plants even into the frosty time of year. Anyone is welcome to help with this project. Contact president Betty Core at daveacore@yahoo.com.



5 Cares Coat Drive

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Northern Kentucky has started collecting new and gently used coats, hats, gloves/mittens and scarves to be distributed to local families in need. The drive runs through the second week of December.

Fort Wright Fire Department has agreed to be a collection point for these items. Please stop by the City Office and drop off any donations you may have. There is a large blue barrel located in the front lobby.

Thank you for making a difference and helping keep others warm this winter!

Christmas Trees

Christmas trees will be mulched on January 15th, please drop the trees off by no later than January 14, 2015. Trees can be dropped off at the City Building anytime after December 27th. An area will be marked as in years past. Again, we ask that you remove all ornaments, lights, twine, garland and wire from the trees.

2014 PROPERTY TAX PAYMENTS

Tax bills have been sent out. If you did not receive your tax bill and are responsible to pay it, please contact the City Office. If you did receive the property tax bill, but have an escrow account from which the property tax is paid, please make sure you forward the bill to your mortgage company. The City Offices will be open on Wednesday, December 31st, from 7:30 AM - 5:00 PM to accept walk-in payments. The property tax payments MUST be postmarked by no later than December 31st. If they are postmarked or brought in later than that date, penalty and interest fees will be added to the property tax bill. If you drop your bill in the mail on December 31st, it may not be postmarked until January 2nd, making it delinquent, so if you will be mailing your payment, we recommend that you put it in the mail by no later than December 30, to ensure proper postmark.

Please note the following with regard to the holidays and City office hours. Regular City office hours are from 7:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., Monday through Friday. City Offices will be closed on Wednesday, December 24, and Thursday, December 25, 2014. Tax payments should be paid by the close of business at 5:00 PM on December 31, 2014. There is also a mail slot in the front door of the City Building for you to place your property tax bill payments before or after City office hours, prior to December 31st. For any additional questions, please call (859) 331-1700.

SNOW EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

By City ordinance, in the event of a “Snow Emergency”, residents have three hours to remove their vehicles from the streets. Police officers are authorized to tow or affix a citation to any vehicle parked on a City street during this time. Please cooperate when a Snow Emergency is declared, in the interest of public safety, so that police, fire, and ambulance vehicles can safely and quickly access each residence and place of business in the City.



Snow emergencies are declared through local media, and an email is sent to everyone on the City’s email listing. You may sign up for the email list on the City’s website at www.fortwright.com, scroll down on the left side of the screen under the menu, where you will find the link to sign up for emails.

Fort Wright Fire Department - Charles F. Vonderahe Scholarship Winner

Each year the Fort Wright Fire Department awards a scholarship to a student who is going from St. Agnes School to either Covington Catholic or Notre Dame High School.

Congratulations to this year’s winner,
Allison Robertson.



Pictured are Fort Wright Fire Department Corporation President Dean Russell, Scholarship Recipient Allison Robertson, and Fort Wright Fire Chief Steve Schewe.

Museum News

Northern Kentucky Veterans Day Event

“A Salute to Disabled Veterans on the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War”

When: 2:00 P.M. Sunday, November 9th

Where: Highland Cemetery located at 2167 Dixie Highway, Fort Mitchell, Ky.

Sponsored by the Ramage Civil War Museum and the cities of Fort Wright and Fort Mitchell and hosted by Highland Cemetery.

For additional information: Contact Kathleen Romero at 859-331-2499 or e-mail kromero@twc.com



9th Annual Civil War Christmas at the Museum

Sunday, December 14, 2014 - 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Watch for details on the website at www.fortwright.com - Click on Civil War Museum in menu on left of page.

The Museum is open Friday and Saturday from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM and Sunday from Noon to 5:00 PM. The Museum is closed on holidays.

The Museum will close on December 14, 2014 and re-open in March 2015, please watch the next newsletter or website for the date for the Museum to re-open.

Phone number: 859-344-1145

Holiday Trash Collection:

(This has been copied straight from Rumpke's website.)



Thanksgiving Day: Thursday, November 27, 2014 - There will be NO Delay

Christmas Day: Thursday, December 25, 2014

Customers with service on Monday and Tuesday will NOT be affected by Christmas holiday delay. Waste and Recycling service will not occur on Thursday, December 25, and collection will be delayed one day for the rest of the week.

All Thursday and Friday pickups in Fort Wright will be delayed 1 day for pickup this week.

New Year's Day 2014: Thursday, January 1, 2015

Customers with service on Monday and Tuesday will NOT be affected by New Year's Day holiday delay. Waste and Recycling service will not occur on Thursday, January 1, 2015, and collection will be delayed one day for the rest of the week.

Rumpke will return to its regular collection schedule the week after New Year's.

All Thursday and Friday pickups in Fort Wright will be delayed 1 day for pickup this week.

Happy Birthday

November

November 2 - Police Chief Daniel Kreinest
November 30 - Public Works Nick Zumdick

December

December 15 - Police Officer George Kreutzjans
December 20 - Police Officer Jonathan Colwell

Holiday & Winter Home Safety, submitted by S. Schewe

The holidays and winter months present their own specific safety considerations in the home. Learn how to protect yourself and your family by minimizing the risk of fires and other hazards.

Heating the Home

Fireplaces

At the beginning of each winter season, get your chimney inspected and cleaned by a professional before using it. Buildup in the chimney can cause a fire if it is not properly cleaned.

Also, never use the following in your fireplace: Flammable liquids, Evergreen trimmings or boughs, Wrapping paper, cardboard, trash, or debris.

These materials can cause intense flames that can start chimney fires or send sparks into the room. Some of these materials may even cause toxic smoke. Use a fireplace screen to keep sparks and embers from coming into the room.

Portable Heaters & Space Heaters

Make sure all heaters are in safe working condition. Place space heaters at least three feet away from anything that could catch fire, including paper, clothing, and furniture. (Do not use heaters to dry clothing.)

Small children and pets should not be left alone with heaters. Make sure to turn off heaters when you leave the room or go to sleep.

Cooking & Kitchen Safety

Cooking fires are the most common type of fires in U.S. households. By paying attention while cooking, you can prevent a kitchen fire. If you are frying, grilling, or broiling food, stay in the kitchen. Turn off the stove if you have to leave the kitchen, even if only for a short time.

If you are simmering, baking, roasting, or boiling food, you don't have to stay in the kitchen, but you do need to stay in the home. Check the food regularly and use a timer to remind you that you are cooking.

Keep flammable objects—pot holders, oven mitts, wooden utensils, and paper or plastic bags—away from the stovetop. Wear close-fitting clothing that won't drape over or touch burners while you are cooking.

Although turkey fryers may produce delicious holiday dinners, they pose significant fire hazards. For safe turkey fryer use tips visit the [U.S. Fire Administration's page](#) on cooking safety.

Decorations

When choosing decorations for your home avoid materials with the following characteristics:

Sharp or breakable, Leaded, Flammable or combustible, Anything that a child could swallow or inhale or might be tempted to eat.

Candles

If you decorate with candles, keep them away from decorations, evergreens, or other combustible materials. Never place candles on trees. Keep candles in stable holders where they cannot be knocked over. Do not leave children unattended with lighted candles.

Electric Lights

Only purchase lights that have been safety tested by an independent lab. This will be stated on the label.

Check that extension cords and strings of holiday lights are in good repair, with no fraying, cracking, or bare wires.

Do not connect more than three strands of lights, unless the directions specifically say that is safe. Use an extension cord for lights instead of plugging them straight into the outlet. Make sure to turn off the lights when you go to bed or leave home.

Keep lights out of reach of children who might be tempted to play with them. The bulbs can break, which can cause cuts and electrification or choking hazards.

Holiday Trees

If you use trees for decorations, make sure they do not block doorways or get in the way of people moving through the room. Do not place trees next to heat sources, such as a fireplace or heat vent.

Never use candles on or near trees.

Artificial Trees

If you buy an artificial tree, make sure its label says "fire resistant."

Holiday & Winter Home Safety (continued)

Holiday Trees (continued)

Fresh Trees

If you purchase a real tree, keeping it fresh will make it less of a fire hazard. If the tree is a conifer (e.g., pines, firs, cedars), "fresh" means the following:

The tree is green and does not shed needles when tapped on the ground.

Needles are hard to pull off the branches and do not break when bent.

Sticky resin is around the trunk.

To keep the tree fresh, cut a few inches off the trunk to expose live wood. Put the tree in a tree stand filled with water. Heated rooms can dry out a tree, so be sure to check the water levels in the stand and fill it as needed.

General Precautions

Following these tips can help make life safer year-round, not just during the holidays.

Keep candles, matches, and lighters out of the reach of children.

Install at least one smoke alarm on each level of your home, including near sleeping areas.

Keep fire extinguishers in the kitchen, laundry room, and garage. An extinguisher with an ABC rating can fight fires caused by paper, wood, cloth, flammable liquids, and electrical short circuits.

Make a family plan for fire emergencies. Practice your escape plan.

Use your common sense. Identify potential danger spots in your home and take the proper precautions.

Have a great season and as always feel free to contact your fire department at 331-2600 if you have questions or need assistance.



Pet Owners - Please review the following!

Every year we get numerous complaints from all areas of Fort Wright. A neighbor calls because another neighbor is walking their dog or letting their dog or cat run free and thus allowing the pets to do their business on someone else's lawn. There is no reason that you cannot have and love your pets, however you have chosen to have the pet while your neighbors may choose not to have one for their own reason, therefore they find it irritating and "repulsive" when they go out to enjoy their yard and are greeted with a package left by a neighbor's pet. A lot of dog walkers do clean up after their pets, and that is greatly appreciated, not only by the City officials, but more so by your neighbors, please keep up the good work. For those that do not follow the laws, here is a brief overview of Fort Wright Ordinances:

First, Fort Wright does have a leash law - if your pet is caught roaming the neighborhood and picked up by Animal Control, you will have to pay a fine to get your animal back. To prevent this, make sure you have the pets on your property, on a leash or in an enclosed area on your property. When walking pets, they are required to be in your control and on a leash.

Other Ordinances include not permitting your animal to defecate on another person's property. If your animal should do so, it is your responsibility to carry appropriate materials to clean up and dispose of the feces upon your return home. This is also a courtesy to your fellow neighbors.

No owner or person having control or possession of any dog or cat shall permit such dog or cat to disturb the peace and quiet of the neighborhood by reason of their howling, barking, whining, or their disturbing of people in the reasonable use and enjoyment of property.

You can view the ordinances on the City's website at www.fortwright.com.

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