



Top of the Hill News

Information for the Citizens of Fort Wright
June 2008 Eileen Hastings Editor

Fort Wright Welcomes Mayor Nienaber

Congratulations to Joseph Nienaber, Jr. who was appointed as interim Mayor for the City of Fort Wright at the Council Meeting on May 7, 2008. He was sworn in by Honorable Kenton County District Court Judge Ann Ruttie as Fort Wright's 10th mayor in its 67 years as an incorporated City in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Mayor Nienaber will complete a half term through the end of 2008. There will be a special election in November 2008, for a two- year term for Mayor, to complete the position vacated by Mayor Gene Weaver, upon his resignation effective May 4, 2008. Fort Wright City Council chose Mr. Nienaber to fill the position of Mayor after the resignation of long time Mayor Gene Weaver was accepted at the May 7th council meeting.

Mayor Nienaber is a long time resident of Fort Wright and has held many capacities within the city over the years, including being elected to City Council in 2002. Mayor Nienaber has worked seasonally with the Public Works Department as a student and served many years with the City's Fire Department. Mayor Nienaber is a graduate of Covington Catholic High School and attended Northern Kentucky University, he is a member of Saint Agnes Church and owner of Granite World, custom solid surface counter tops of Burlington, Kentucky. Mayor Nienaber and his wife Holly reside on Kentucky Drive with their two daughters, Kiersten and Kylie. Welcome Mayor Nienaber, and Best of Luck in your new position.

Adopted Troop Coming Home!

Our current adopted unit is coming home this summer! Due to the length of time it takes for packages to be delivered, we will not be sending any additional shipments to them. Our final shipment was sent on May 19, 2008. We appreciate all of your support over the last several years in supporting our Adopted Units. The program was a great success and was greatly appreciated by all of the troops.

Thank you Fort Wright, you have made the support of our troops a great success!

At this time, we do not have a new troop and therefore, we will be suspending the donation program.

INSIDE

Nature Center Hill-Slide

Road Improvements

Click It or Ticket

Lookout House Fire

Police Crime Report

"A Look back-The Lookout House Fire"

The James A. Ramage Civil War Museum is excited to announce a special program on Sunday, June 22, 2008, from 1-5 PM. We will be remembering the great Lookout House fire - 35 years later! The beautiful supper club on Dixie Highway was a landmark for years and many residents remember the day it burst into flames.

Speaking at the event will be local author Robert Webster who wrote "Northern Kentucky Fires". Photos and other items from the Lookout House will be displayed. Do you have any mementos you would like to bring? For information or directions to the Museum, call Margaret Weaver at 859-331-7129. *See you there!*

Fort Wright Police Department
Kicks Off Click It or Ticket Enforcement Mobilization
Sgt. Marc Schworer

Fort Wright Police Department is joining with hundreds of other law enforcement agencies across the country in renewing a pledge to save lives by intensifying efforts to enforce seat belt laws during the 2008 *Click It or Ticket* mobilization, which runs from May 19 – June 1.

In 2006, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 15,046 passenger vehicle occupants were killed between the nighttime hours of 6 p.m. and 5:59 a.m. Nearly **two-thirds (64%)** of those killed at night were **NOT** wearing seat belts compared to less than **half (46%)** of the passenger vehicle occupants killed during daytime hours.

Along with nighttime motorists, men particularly young men are among those less likely to buckle up. In 2006, **73 percent** of male passenger vehicle occupants between the ages of 18 and 34 who were killed in crashes were **NOT** wearing seat belts.

In fact, all young people are at greatly increased risk. **Sixty-four** percent of teenage passenger vehicle occupants killed in fatal crashes during 2006 were **NOT** wearing seat belts at the time of the crashes. The 2006 seat belt usage rate of those 16 to 24 was lower than any other age group. Among some groups, especially young men, the unbuckled rate is especially high and the fatal crash rate increases significantly at night.

Worn correctly, seat belts have proven to reduce the risk of fatal injury in a crash by **45 percent** for front-seat passenger vehicle occupants and by **60 percent** in pickup trucks, SUVs, and minivans. In fact, data shows that more than **three-quarters (77%)** of passenger vehicle occupants who were in a serious crash in 2006 and were buckled up survived the crash.

Regular seat belt use is the single most effective way to protect people and reduce motor vehicle crash fatalities and high-visibility enforcement is effective at getting people to buckle up. Wearing your seat belt is easy and it costs you nothing, not wearing it might cost you a ticket, or worse your life. I urge everyone in **Fort Wright** to please be safe and buckle up day and night — *Click It or Ticket*.

So look for the Fort Wright Police Department to be out on the streets day and night from mid-May through June 1st making sure that everyone is buckled up. The time for giving warnings is over, you need to click it or we will give you a ticket.

To learn more about the *Click It or Ticket* campaign and the lifesaving benefits of wearing your seat belt, please visit www.nhtsa.gov.

Parks and Recreation Board Vacancy

The Parks and Recreation Board is looking to fill a vacancy due to member Donna Sheehy' resignation. Donna is moving out of the City and we wish her luck.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Parks and Recreation Board, please submit a letter of interest to the City of Fort Wright. Please address you letter to: City of Fort Wright, Park and Recreation Vacancy, 409 Kyles Lane, Fort Wright, KY 41011

PUBLIC WORKS PROJECT STATUS UPDATE

Amsterdam Road Closing Beginning on June 1st:

Amsterdam Road will be closed to through traffic just below General Drive for a more permanent repair of the sliding area. The Project has been awarded to Fred A. Nemann Company. The Contract has a completion date of no later than August 20th.

St. Agnes and Vidot Street Project:

The Project is currently still in the design stage. It will be an extensive repair project including the replacement and reconstruction of storm and sanitary lines, water and gas mains along with the complete reconstruction of the street. The schedule calls for bidding and contract award late summer and utility construction this fall and street construction next spring.

Hooper Park Improvements:

Plans for two shelters and a play ground are out to bid currently. Both projects are scheduled to be completed in August 2008.

Highland Pike Hill-slide at the Nature Center

The Nature Center is currently closed. The hill-slide has taken with it; a substantial length of the sidewalk and a portion of the Nature Center Parking lot. The Sanitation District is currently by-passing the line that has been affected by the slide area with a temporary pumping system. Both the Kentucky Department of Highways and The Sanitation District No. 1 are currently assessing the situation.

Summer Safety Tips

By Stephen G. Schewe

We are well into spring and with summer fast approaching The City of Fort Wright would like to give you a few summer safety tips to help make your summer enjoyable and accident free, please look over these tips from the American Academy of Pediatrics and have a wonderful summer.

Fun in the Sun

Babies under 6 months should be kept out of the direct sunlight. Move your baby to the shade of a tree, umbrella or stroller canopy.

Dress babies in lightweight clothing that cover the arms and legs and use brimmed hats.

Apply sunscreen at least 30 minutes before going outside, and use sunscreen even on cloudy days. The sun protection factor (SPF) should be at least 15.

Remember that the sun is it's strongest between 10am and 4pm.

Pool Safety

NEVER leave children alone in or near the pool, even for a moment.

Make sure adults are trained in life-saving techniques and CPR so they can rescue a child if necessary.

Surround your pool on all sides with a sturdy five-foot fence.

Make sure the gates self-close and self-latch at a height children can't reach.

Keep rescue equipment (a shepherd's hook-a long pole with a hook on the end- and life preserver) and a portable telephone near the pool area.

Avoid inflatable swimming aids such as "floaties". They are not a substitute for approved life vests and will give children a false sense of security.

Children are not developmentally ready for swim lessons until after the age of 4. Swim lessons for children under 4 should not be seen as a way to decrease the risk of drowning.

Whenever infants or toddlers are in or around water, an adult should be within arm's reach, providing touch supervision.

Playground Safety

Carefully maintain all equipment

Swings should be made of soft materials such as rubber, plastic or canvas.

Make sure children cannot reach any moving parts that may pinch or trap any body part.

Make sure metal slides are cool to prevent children's legs from getting burned.

Parents should never purchase a home trampoline or allow children to use home trampolines.

Diocesan Catholic Children's
Home Summer Festival

Friday, June 6, 6-11 pm

Saturday, June 7, 4-11 pm

Sunday, June 8, 4-10 pm



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Joyce Woods—City Clerk

June 26th

MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW FOR FUTURE FUN EVENTS!

| <u>DATE</u> | <u>EVENT</u> | <u>TIMES</u> | <u>LOCATION</u> |
|-------------|---|--------------|---|
| June 22 | "A Look Back - The Lookout House Fire" | 1:00 - 5:00 | James A. Ramage Civil War Museum |
| Aug 16-17 | 4th Annual Battery Hooper Days And Ice Cream Social | TBD | Battery Hooper Park & Community of Faith Church |
| Aug 31 | Riverfest Fireworks & Picnic | 6:00 - 10:00 | Community of Faith Church |
| Sept 27 | Fort Wright Taste of Chocolate | TBD | South Hills Community Center |
| Oct 11 | 2nd Annual Antiques Fair | TBD | Battery Hooper Park |
| Oct 26 | Victorian Mother & Daughter Tea | TBD | Battery Hooper Park |
| Nov 1 (Sat) | Great Fort Wright Pumpkin Party | 3:00 - 5:00 | City Building/Fire/EMS |
| Nov (Thurs) | Fort Wright Senior Luncheon | TBD | South Hills Community Center |
| Nov 9 (Sun) | Veteran's Day Commemoration | TBD | Highland Cemetery |
| Dec 6 | Civil War Christmas & Tree Lighting, Carriage Rides | 5:00 - 7:00 | Battery Hooper Park |
| Dec 7 | Civil War Christmas | TBD | Battery Hooper Park |

POLICE NEWS

2008 Calls for Service

| Police Departments Dispatched by Kenton County | January 2008 | February 2008 | March 2008 | April 2008 |
|---|-------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Fort Mitchell | 624 | 523 | 537 | 538 |
| <i>Fort Wright</i> | 1331 | 1252 | 1292 | 837 |
| Independence | 2196 | 1957 | 2328 | 2628 |
| Kenton Co. Animal Control | 294 | 337 | 411 | 504 |
| Kenton County P. D. | 1912 | 1694 | 1891 | 1984 |
| Kenton County S. O. | 711 | 762 | 688 | 651 |
| Lakeside Park/Crestview Hills | 547 | 493 | 546 | 540 |
| Ludlow | 591 | 481 | 598 | 596 |
| Park Hills | 615 | 531 | 686 | 554 |
| Taylor Mill | 726 | 689 | 784 | 743 |
| <u>Total All Departments</u> | <u>9547</u> | <u>8719</u> | <u>9761</u> | <u>9575</u> |

| Fort Wright Police Department Crimes Reported | <u>January Thru April 2008</u> | <u>April 2008</u> |
|---|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| <i>Total</i> | <i>147</i> | <i>52</i> |
| Burglaries | 14 | 3 |
| Larceny | 69 | 27 |
| Auto Thefts | 3 | 0 |