



# Top of the Hill News

Information for the Citizens of Fort Wright  
November 2007 Eileen Hastings Editor

## VETERAN'S DAY OBSERVANCE INCLUDES FLYOVER

Mark your calendar now for a Veteran's Day Observance at the Highland Cemetery in Fort Mitchell on Veteran's Day, Sunday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00 P.M. It is being sponsored by the Cities of Fort Wright and Fort Mitchell, and our James A. Ramage Civil War Museum, in cooperation with the Sons of the American Revolution, the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, and the staff of Highland Cemetery, all of whom will be paying tribute to both living and deceased military veterans from every war or conflict represented in the cemetery. The Sons of the American Revolution will be present to do the Invocation, play taps, and provide a 21-gun salute. A military-related flyover will take place between 2:10 PM and 2:20 PM to honor all Veterans. Retired Navy Commander Ed Schneider will be the keynote speaker. During his distinguished career, Commander Schneider flew eighty seven different test aircraft for both the Navy and NASA. He is also an active Volunteer at the Museum.

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Thank You

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR – FORT WRIGHT PARKS AND RECREATION!

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
November 8, 2007	<b>Fort Wright Senior Luncheon</b>	South Hills Civic Club
December 8/9, 2007	<b>Holiday Tree Lighting</b> "Civil War Christmas" & Horse Carriage Rides	Battery Hooper Park
January 5, 2008 6:00 pm – Close	<b>Fort Wright Night at Town &amp; Country</b> Indoor pool, rock wall climbing, basketball, free weights, & more!	Town & Country, Wilder

## ANNUAL SENIOR LUNCHEON AT SOUTH HILLS COMMUNITY CENTER

To RSVP for the Annual Senior Luncheon on Thursday, November 8th, starting at 11:00 A.M., please contact the City at 331-1700 with your name and address and number in attendance!

Come and enjoy a great meal, visit with friends and make some new ones!

### **CITY COUNCIL ADOPTS YEAR 6 OF LONG RANGE PLAN**

At their regular meeting on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, City Council unanimously approved Resolution 8-07 that adopts the recommendations of the City's Vision Committee for Year 6 of our Long Range Plan. The full Year 6 Plan can be found at the City's website home page at [www.fortwright.com](http://www.fortwright.com). It includes many exciting and important projects and goals. If you would like to receive a copy in the mail, please call the City at 331-1700. A huge note of appreciation goes to the Vision Committee chaired by Tom Jacober of Fort Henry Drive, with Members Ann Flood of Reeves Drive; Eileen Hastings of Mount Vernon Drive; Tom Litzler of Beaumont Court; Chuck McHale of Tartan Drive; Joe Michels of General Drive; Roger Schroder, owner of Foreign Auto Salvage on Highland Pike; Margie Witt of Bunker Court; and Council Member Adam Feinauer of Pickett Court. The Committee met approximately 10 times from December through September, collecting and evaluating input from City Council at their annual budget retreat; citizen comments from the draft Long Range Plan published in the Top of the Hill newsletter; and City staff. Thank you to all these residents for helping to chart the City's future!

### **REMINDER ON SETTING TRASH CANS OUT**

Several residents have asked the City to remind everyone about the City ordinance regulating the time that trash cans may be set out to the curb for pickup. Fort Wright Code of Ordinances, Chapter 51, subsection 51.04 (B), states that "Refuse containers shall not be placed on the street right-of-way prior to 6:00 P.M., local time, on the day before scheduled collections." Refuse containers are expected to be returned to their original storage location after collection, off the public right-of-way, so as not to create a nuisance. Please contact Assistant City Clerk Jennifer Lipson at 331-1700 if you have any additional questions. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter.

### **CITY RECEIVES \$13,354 GRANT FOR RADIOS!**

The Kentucky Office of Homeland Security notified Mayor Gene Weaver on September 18<sup>th</sup> that the City's Fire/EMS Department was awarded a \$13,354 grant to replace several radios in that department!

### **THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR TROOPS!**

Thanks to the following people who donated in the past month to our City's adopted military unit, C Troop of the 3/73 Cavalry Unit, stationed near Baghdad, Iraq: Jeff Wolnitzek of Highland Pike; Larry & Mary Schrand of Highland Place; Judi & Greg Fillhardt of Rosa Avenue; Ruth Molloy of Mount Vernon Drive; Albert & Carol Truitt of Cumberland Avenue; Sandy Curry of Knob Hill Court; Debbie Rawe of Vidot Court; Harry Eagan of Pickett Court; Camille & Oscar Haverkamp of Kentucky Drive; Steve & Barbara Renaker of Oak Hill Court; and our regular monthly contribution from Saint Agnes Parish organized by Mr. Tom Jacober and Mr. Allan White. Please keep the following items coming for our troops: **DVD's; beef jerky; calling cards; Little Debbie Snacks; poker chips; powdered Gatorade; and Time and US Weekly magazines.** In addition to this list, Lieutenant O. stated that during their regular patrols they have had requests from the local nationals **for school supplies and medical supplies such as: pens, pencils, notebooks, paper; also, band-aids and bandages, Tylenol/Advil/aspirin, anti-infection creams such as Neosporin.**

**IN ADDITION we need several good, sturdy cardboard boxes in which to send items to our troops.** Thank you Fort Wright for supporting our troops!

*Veterans' Day Continued* The walking tour will consist of both living history and military representatives giving brief presentations at the gravesites of Veterans who served in our nation's conflicts, including Iraq and Afghanistan, Desert Storm, Vietnam, Korean Conflict, WWII, WWI, Spanish American War, Civil War, and the War of 1812. The guided tour will start after the opening ceremony is complete and will last approximately one hour. Weather permitting all activities will be held outdoors. If the weather is inclement the program will be held in the Highland Cemetery chapel. The James A. Ramage Civil War Museum, in keeping with its mission to both educate the public and keep alive the memory of military veterans, is proud to be sponsoring this event. For more details please contact the City at 331-1700.

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### **UPCOMING MUSEUM TOURS**

Some very special Museum tours were/are scheduled during October & November:

Friday, October 12th	Redwood School
Tuesday, October 16 <sup>th</sup>	INFUSE Vision 2015
Wednesday, November 7 <sup>th</sup>	Northern Kentucky Chapter of Freedom Foundation at Valley Forge, includes 70 high school seniors and juniors and adults.

Thanks to all our Museum Volunteers who come out in force to make sure all these visitors have a great time! If your organization or group of friends or neighbors would like a tour, please call Kathleen Romero at 331-2499.

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### **\$75,000 IN ADDITIONAL ROAD AID FUNDS SECURED!**

Mayor Weaver informed City Council at their regular meeting on October 3<sup>rd</sup> that the City received notice that an additional \$75,000 in Municipal Road Aid funds from the state will be made available. The funds come from the state's Discretionary Municipal Road Aid Bond Fund and can only be used for resurfacing of City streets. The funds will be applied to the resurfacing cost of Saint Anthony Drive and Marcella Drive.

### **REMINDERS ON PARKING**

It is illegal to park in or within 30 feet of an intersection and violators will be cited and could be towed. This is a violation of State Law and City Ordinance. There are problems with larger vehicles such as school buses, garbage trucks, fire trucks and life squads making turns without going into yards or colliding with poles etc. particularly in the older neighborhoods, please be mindful of how close you are to an intersection.

Another City Ordinance that we have occasional violations of, is people parking in the grass or on gravel. All vehicles must be parked on hard paved surfaces such as asphalt or concrete. There are a few gravel areas that were grandfathered in before the ordinance was passed if you are in doubt please call the Police Department before parking in a gravel area.

Most all City streets prohibit parking on one side of the street that is designated a fire lane and it should be signed.

If you have any questions on parking or other City Ordinances please contact the Police Department at 859 331-2191.

## CITY PROPERTY TAX RATES IN KENTON COUNTY

Please see the "Comparative 2007 Real Property Tax Rates for Cities in Kenton County" information below. As you can see, Fort Wright has the second lowest property tax rate of all cities in Kenton County! For the owner of a home assessed at \$100,000, the TOTAL City property tax for 2007 is \$206.00. For \$206.00 you receive a full year's worth of 24/7 Police and Fire protection; life squad service; street repair; snow removal; trash picked up from City streets weekly; up to two (2) annual uses of the South Hills Civic Club per household; and other park and recreation facilities and programs. That's about 56 cents a day!

INCORPORATED AREAS	CITY				TAX	
	PROPERTY	STREET	RECREATION	FIRE/EMS	TOTAL	ON
	TAX RATE	TAX RATE	TAX RATE	TAX RATE	RATE	\$100,000 HOME
Park Hills	0.2060	0.2350			0.4410	441
Elsmere	0.2130			0.1750	0.3880	388
Independence	0.1860			0.1950	0.3810	381
Ludlow	0.1710			0.1750	0.3460	346
Fairview	0.3000				0.3000	300
Covington	0.2920				0.2920	292
Ryland Heights	0.0840			0.2000	0.2840	284
Kenton Vale	0.2800				0.2800	280
Erlanger	0.2710				0.2710	271
Lakeside Park	0.2660				0.2660	266
Crescent Springs	0.2580				0.2580	258
Edgewood	0.2560				0.2560	256
Bromley	0.2490				0.2490	249
Taylor Mill	0.2380				0.2380	238
Fort Mitchell	0.1430	0.0600	0.0200		0.2230	223
Villa Hills	0.2190				0.2190	219
<b>Fort Wright</b>	<b>0.2060</b>				<b>0.2060</b>	<b>206</b>
Crestview Hills	0.1525				0.1525	153
<b>AVERAGE:</b>	0.2217	0.0164	0.0011	0.0414	0.2806	<b><u>280.58</u></b>

**Happy Birthday**

November 2nd  
Police Chief Daniel Kreinest

November 30th  
Sr. Maintenance Worker Nick Zumdict

**CITY OFFICES  
CLOSED**

Thursday November 22  
Friday November 23

For the Thanksgiving  
Holiday

## **2007 PROPERTY TAX PAYMENTS**

Please note the following with regard to the holidays and City office hours. Regular City office hours are from 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday. City Officers will be closed on Tuesday, January 1, 2008. City Administration Office will be open on Monday, December 31st from 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM for acceptance of tax payments. Walk-in payments for 2007 property tax bills must be made by Monday, December 31st at the close of business at 5:00 PM. 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. Keep in mind that property tax payments **MUST** be postmarked or dropped off at the City Building by no later than December 31st. If they are later than that date, penalty and interest fees will be added to the property tax bill.

By now all property owners should have received their 2007 property tax bills. If you are responsible for payment rather than your mortgage company, and have not received your 2007 property tax bill, please call the City office and a new one can be sent to you. If you have received the property tax bill, but have an escrow account from which the property tax bill is paid, please be reminded that it is the property owner's responsibility to forward the bill to the mortgage company.

City Office hours are 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM Monday through Friday. For any additional questions, please call (859) 331-1700.