



# Top of the Hill News

Information for The Citizens of Fort Wright  
October 2007 Eileen Hastings Editor

**Mark Your  
Calendars for  
Fort Wright  
Recreation  
Page 5**

**Police  
Department News**

## BATTERY HOOPER DAYS 2007

Battery Hooper Days 2007 was a resounding success with a record crowd of 1,350, a 10% increase over last year's annual event! With Bluegrass music by the Katie Laur Band, Comet All Stars, Gallatin County Youth Band, Civil War Re-enactors, a petting zoo, Abraham Lincoln, and children's games, everyone who attended, young and old, had a great time on August 18/19! One resident who wrote in an email summed it up well: "I am so proud to call Fort Wright my home, and even more so after the wonderful time we had at the Civil War museum and reenactment. I was extremely impressed with the quality of the

event here, and while it was not the largest event I have ever attended, it was by far the nicest - it was highly organized, informative (I had no idea of the richness of civil war history in our own backyard), friendly, extremely clean, and fun. Perhaps the most impressive was the large number of informative, welcoming, and dedicated volunteers. It is very impressive to see such a large number of people involved in the history and enjoyment of our community and heritage.

*Pictures and story continued on page 3.*

## SEPTEMBER 11th "WE SUPPORT OUR TROOPS" PHOTO

More than 100 residents came to the front lawn of the City building on the evening of September 11th to participate in a group photo to be sent to the City's adopted military unit stationed in Iraq! Several boxes of donated items for the troops, including medical and school supplies for Iraqi citizens, were also donated by these thoughtful citizens to demonstrate their support for our troops! The photo will also be placed on the City's website at [www.fortwright.com](http://www.fortwright.com). Also, in September a total of nineteen (19) heavy boxes of food, medical; and school supplies were shipped to our adopted military unit, C Troop of the 3/73 Cavalry Unit. A very special note of appreciation is due to the following who donated items last month: Evelyn and Edward Carney of Redwood Drive; Gale Berkemeier of Highland Avenue; Gene and Margaret Weaver of Reeves Drive; Albert and Carol Truitt of Cumberland Avenue;

*continued on page 2*



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY to...

Police Officer	Firefighter/EMT	Police Officer
Travis Brown	Ron Becker	Daniel Martin
October 12th	October 14th	October 28th

### ANOTHER CALL FOR PAST SOUTH HILLS CIVIC CLUB MEMBERS

Do any of the following names bring back any memories of the South Hills Civic Club on Bluegrass Avenue: Ruth Comisar, Secretary; Harry Schwabe, Treasurer; and Board Members Mary Jane Tibbs, Barb Naber, Mary Schwabe, Jean Bitters, Wanda Scanlon, and Stan Wenger? The names of other past members of the South Hills Civic Club were called in to the City after last month's Top of the Hill newsletter: Elmer T. Herzog; George Schutte; Ann Nielander; Joe and Kathleen Boitman; Dean Hanson; F. V. Burdick (also City Clerk of South Hills); George Dacey; Ed Stuller; J. McCarty; E. Bittlinger; Beverly Herold; Dr. Paiseley; Tony Lahner; Duard Story; Stan Stephenson; George Brennen; John Herold; Bill Kuntz; Mrs. Wood; William J. Carroll; Helen and Bob Zembrodt; (original member when it began in residents' basements) Tom McMahan; Jim Woods; Paul Flood; Elmer Hanneken; Helen Rech (remembers square dancing there when first built in 1950's); Frank and Vera Horstkamp; George and Mary Laible; and Edward Beebe, Sr., South Hills first Police Officer and grandfather of resident Mike Beebe. If you know of any other former Members or Officers of the South Hills Civic Club, please call the City at 331-1700. As many residents are aware, the City is renovating the exterior of the former South Hills Civic Club building off East Henry Clay Avenue. Work is expected to be completed by November 1st. The South Hills Civic Club dissolved in the 1990's and its Members generously donated the building and grounds to the City for the use and enjoyment of all its residents.

**Sept 11 Photo continued** Jennifer and Doug Vonderhaar of Ashlawn; Jack and Virginia Schaaf of Mount Vernon; Joe Averdick of Morris Road; Bill Rawe of Vidot Court; Nancy and Jerry Spivey of Saint Anthony; Carolyn Landon of West Crittenden (who donated three times this month!); Steve and Carol Smith of Hermitage; Ruby Voll; Mary Renati; John Johannemann and Mitzie O'Neill of East Henry Clay; Clarence Lassetter of Pieck Drive; Bob and Helen Zembrodt of Lorup; Leah Martin of McCrae Lane; Mark Teipel of Taylor Mill; Paul Kaelin; Helen Rech of East Henry Clay; Mr. & Mrs. Asher of Mount Vernon; Jennifer Lipson (Assistant City Clerk who donated school supplies for Iraqi children); two anonymous \$10 donations; 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. Thank you Fort Wright for supporting our troops!**

Thank you to the following residents and families for volunteering to place flags at the curbs of homes on their own and other streets throughout the City: Quinton Settle of Lorup Avenue; Allan & Betty White of West Henry Clay; Frank and Beverly Henn of Olivia Lane; Lee Ludovicy of St. Agnes Circle; Mike Sweeney of Kluemper Court; Milly Woolwine of Goebel Court; Rita King of Morris Road; Ron & Tammy Becker and their children of Augusta Avenue; Council Member Adam Feinauer & Sherri Feinauer and their children of Pickett Court; Joni Pille of Parkside Place; Joan and Dave Bowman of Vidot Court; and the remainder of the flags were placed by Firefighters of Fort Wright Fire Department, Chief Steve Schewe, Ron Becker, Cindy Ford, and the volunteers from Kenton County Detention Center.

*Battery Hooper Days - Continued* The location was impressive as well, as the shaded lanes surrounding the museum were so pleasant, and the wonderful music we could enjoy in seats under the trees. I look forward to watching the growth of this fine event, and enjoying it in years to come. Those in charge of this event are to be commended..." Another resident of 55 years called "...to say how much she liked Battery Hooper Days and that ...it gets better each year..." and that she is "...so proud of what we have, the Museum and the Park..."! The following is just a BRIEF list of those to thank for the success of this third annual event: Mayor and City Council; Parks and Recreation Board; Museum Board and Volunteers; City Department Heads and Staff, especially Public Works and



Museum Volunteers San Juan Romero and Linda Hornsby (**Home Alone Pet Care Service at 261-4977 or [www.homealonepetcare.org](http://www.homealonepetcare.org)**) for their sponsorship of the free petting zoo for children, which was a HUGE hit with the kids AND parents; Police Specialist Dean Russell for photographing the event; Northern Kentucky Water District for providing free bottled water to keep everyone cooled down; Sister Esther O'Hara of St. Walburg Monastery for her balloon animals, of which she made over 300 over both days with a never-ending line of children waiting to have her make the balloon animal of their choice; the Gallatin County Youth Band and Director Kim Samuels who are not only extremely talented, disciplined, and generous, but a great example of fine young people, all of them high school students at Gallatin County High School; the Comet All Stars and the Katie Laur Band bluegrass bands for their outstanding performances; the Sons of Dixie Barbershop Chorus who kept their audiences serenaded with great harmony; and Fort Wright's own Hills of Kentucky Dulcimers with Gail and Dick Michalick of Beaumont Court; Floyd and Eileen Hastings and the Community of Faith Church for

facilitating the new trail connection on the church's property with a great overlook of downtown Cincinnati, and making available food, drinks, and homemade ice cream to visitors; face painting for children coordinated by Lori Clements and several Notre Dame and St. Henry High School students; COVAS (Central Ohio Valley Archaeological Society) Volunteers who staffed the archaeology booths; Museum Volunteer Dan Diorio for shuttling workers and Volunteers between the City building and park to conserve on parking spaces; our Master of Ceremonies and Museum Volunteer Randy Burnet for a great two days of coordinating the talent and performances; and Museum Volunteer Bernie O'Bryan for his portrayal of General Lew Wallace! **Many thanks to the Parks and Recreation Board and Museum Board and Volunteers for their support and hard work on this event, many of whom spent the better part of the weekend helping out!**



## **OTHER PARK AND MUSEUM NEWS**

### **USS FORRESTAL REUNION VISITS CIVIL WAR MUSEUM**

Several months ago when Walton resident Tim Frodge began planning for the reunion of his former shipmates on the USS Forrestal this summer in Fort Mitchell, he included a tour of Fort Wright's own James A. Ramage Civil War Museum as a destination stop for the Veterans! On Saturday, August 25th approximately 150 Veterans on three buses from all over the United States paid a very special visit to our Museum! The City's Museum Board and several Volunteers and re-enactors were on hand to make sure the Veterans had the best tour that could be given and that they deserved! Many thanks to all of them for showing how Fort Wright cares about our Veterans! As you may recall, it was the USS Forrestal in 1967, which suffered a devastating on-board fire that burned for 38 hours before taking the lives of 134 sailors. The Forrestal was also the world's first "super-carrier"! Reunion organizer Tim Frodge called the Museum visit the "highlight of their reunion"! Many thanks to all the Museum Volunteers who came that day to help guide the three bus loads of Veterans through the Museum and Battery Hooper, especially Bob Clements, Kathleen Romero and Mary DeSalvo who came on such a hot day dressed in their Civil War era garb. A huge thanks also to re-enactors James Rader, Tim Pieper, Scott Hiltibrand, and Larry Gollohan. Other naval re-enactors included Bernie O'Bryan, and Richard Durham and Michael Cannane from the Cincinnati Museum Center. Additional Museum Volunteers who served as guides were Richard McCormick, Dan Houston, Dan DiOrio, Dick Haughaboo, Carolyn Banfield, and Nancy Caudill!

### **ANTIQUe APPRAISAL FAIR COMING TO FORT WRIGHT!**

Mark your calendars now to attend an Antique Appraisal Fair at the City's James A. Ramage Civil War Museum on Saturday, October 13th from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM, at 1402 Highland Avenue. Mr. Randy Burnet, a Museum Volunteer and licensed appraiser, and Mr. Tim Dwight, a licensed appraiser with Motch Jewelers that is celebrating it's 140th year in business, have generously volunteered for this special event hosted by the Museum Board. The public is invited to bring up to two items, "neither larger than a child's wagon", for a verbal appraisal. A \$5.00 donation to the Museum is requested. Bring a couple of those items in the attic that you have always wondered about to Fort Wright's own version of the Antique Road Show!

### **VETERANS' DAY OBSERVANCE INCLUDES FLYOVER**

Mark your calendar now for a Veterans' Day Observance at the Highland Cemetery in Fort Mitchell that is being sponsored by the City and our James A. Ramage Civil War Museum in conjunction with the Sons of the American Revolution, and Highland Cemetery. The Observance will take place on Veterans' Day, Sunday, November 11th at 2:00 PM at the Highland Cemetery and last approximately one hour. A flyover of military aircraft and stories about Veterans of America's past conflicts who are buried at Highland Cemetery are included.

### **EAGLE SCOUT DAYS IN FORT WRIGHT**

There were five (5) Eagle Scout projects completed at Battery Hooper Park over the summer months. Mayor's Proclamations were presented at the opening ceremony of Battery Hooper Days on August 18th by Mayor Weaver to the following Eagle Scout candidates in the presence of their families, friends, and Scout Masters: **Matthew McCabe** for constructing 15 bird houses and feeders placed around the park; **Christopher Schneider** for constructing a pedestrian bridge over a ravine on the wooded trail between the Museum and Blue Grass Swim Club; **Jay Von Lehman** for constructing a large stone garden wall behind the Museum; **Matthew Rogers** and **Steven Zembrodt** for constructing a wooded trail between the Park and Community of Faith Church where, at the trail's end, there is a stunning view of downtown Cincinnati! The Mayor's Proclamations bestowed on each Scout his own "Fort Wright Day" as follows: **Matthew McCabe Day in Fort Wright was observed on August 20th!** He is a Member of Troop 836 whose Scout Master is John Nealon. Matt lives in Union and is the son of Francis and Margaret McCabe, and is a senior at Ryle High School. **Christopher Schneider Day in Fort Wright was observed on August 21st!** Christopher is a member of Troop 31 whose Scout Master is Mike Young. Christopher lives in Fort Wright and is the son of Charles and Pamela Schneider and is a senior at Covington Catholic High School. Christopher's father, Charles

*Eagle Scout Days - continued*     **Jay Von Lehman Day in Fort Wright was observed on August 22nd!** Jay is a Member of Troop 31 whose Scout Master is Mike Young. Jay lives in Villa Hills and is the son of Joseph and Jenny Von Lehman. He is a senior at Covington Catholic High School. **Matthew Rogers Day in Fort Wright was observed on August 23rd!** Matthew is a Member of Troop 717 whose Scout Master is John Crocco. Matthew lives in Burlington and is the son of Jeff and Kathy Matthews and is a junior at Connor High School. **Steven Zembordt Day in Fort Wright was observed on August 24th!** Steven is a Member of Troop 702 whose Scout Master is Doug Eifert. Steven lives in Union and is the son of Ronald and Joanna Zembrodts and is a junior at Ryle High School. All the Scout projects were coordinated by Museum Volunteer George Lude and Public Works Director Tim Maloney. Temporary signage has been posted at each project location until permanent signage is in place, recognizing the Scouts for their hard work and contribution to the City and the enjoyment of others! Congratulations to all these fine young men, their proud parents, and families, friends, and Scout Masters for a job well done! Please take time to visit Battery Hooper Park and enjoy their work!

---

### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS - FORT WRIGHT RECREATION**

The Fort Wright Parks and Recreation Board is working to plan and promote some enjoyable activities open to all residents of Fort Wright during the next calendar year. The City hopes this calendar can help you take advantage of the fun!

DATE/TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
October 27 3:30 - 5:00 PM	The Great Fort Wright Pumpkin Party <i>See Below for Details</i>	Firehouse/City Building
November 8 11 AM - 1 PM	Fort Wright Senior Luncheon Free to all Fort Wright Seniors	South Hills Civic Club
December 8 5:00 - 7:00 PM	Holiday Tree Lighting "Civil War Christmas"	Battery Hooper Park
January 5, 2008 6:00 PM - Close	Fort Wright Night at Town & Country Indoor Pool, Rock Wall Climbing, much more	Town & Country, Wilder

**The Great Fort Wright Pumpkin Party!** By the Parks and Recreation Board on Saturday, October 27 from 3:30 to 5:00 PM at the City building on Kyles Lane. There will be costume contests in Ages 0 - 3, 4 - 7, and 8 - 12, with nine prize winners named. A craft will be available for the children. Attendees will also receive free treats. Browse and enjoy the interesting and entertaining decorated pumpkins and desserts on display from your neighbors (see below).

**Pumpkin: A Work of Art?** People of all ages are invited to enter the decorated pumpkin contest. Bring your carved, painted, sculpted, or colored pumpkin **at 3:30 PM** to compete. Draw a spooky picture or scene on a pumpkin, or add ears and a tail to make it come to life. Enter as many times as you wish. Top prize is \$50.

**Calling All Bakers - Dessert Decorating Contest!** The Pumpkin Party will include a dessert decorating contest. Can you turn cupcakes and pretzel rods into a terrifying spider? Perhaps you can use candy, small cakes, and icing to build a haunted house. Or, do you have a spooky icing design for your sheet cake? Any type of dessert is eligible for entry into the Dessert Decorating Contest. Enter as many times as you wish. A Halloween or Fall theme is suggested. Drop your entry off at the Dessert Decorating Table at **3:30 PM** to enter. Top prize is \$50.

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS**

If you are going on vacation, please call the Police Department and let us know. We will have officers check your residence to provide additional protection against a burglary. When you call, it also provides us with valuable information on how to contact you or a family member if there is a problem. We have discovered many problems over the years such as broken water pipes that could have caused far more damage if it had not been discovered. It is always a good idea to let your neighbors and the Police know when you are out of town.

The Fort Wright Police Department is working two residential burglaries in the Lookout Heights area of the City. The first burglary occurred on General Drive sometime between August 1st and 20th, 2007. The reported items stolen in this investigation are an air conditioner and tools, and there may have been additional items. The probable point of entry was a window. The second burglary occurred on Tyler Court sometime between August 31st and September 3rd, 2007. The reported items stolen in this investigation were computer equipment and jewelry. The probable point of entry was a rear window.

A suspect was arrested on August 13th, 2007, for attempted burglaries in the area of Fort Henry Drive and Glengarry. The suspect is Kimmanie D. Ray. He has pled guilty to criminal trespassing second degree. He is also a suspect in a burglary in Park Hills, though the methods used in his case do not match the other two burglaries listed above.

It is extremely important that everyone **call the Police IMMEDIATELY** when they see someone or something that is suspicious. Do not hesitate to call the Police and please call 911 as this provides the dispatcher with the number you are calling from and address if it is a residence or business phone. The Fort Wright Police Department has officers on duty 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You are not bothering them when you call to report suspicious activity. The officers will respond and they will be professional and courteous. If the person you called about is not doing anything illegal we will simply verify who they are and what they are doing in the area. Most people do not mind the Police talking with them and some appreciate that the neighbors cared enough to call.

On another note, if you are ill please call 911 for the life Squad as soon as possible, as delays in calling for assistance could literally be the difference between life and death, particularly if you are having a heart attack or stroke. Again, you are not bothering the emergency medical personnel as they work 24 hours a day, 7 days a week just like the Police. Call sooner rather than later - it could save your life or the life of a loved one. Helping you is what we are here for.

## **ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS**

Fort Wright Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. once again has Entertainment Books available for sale at the City building - this year the price of book is just \$20 - so be sure to get yours before they are gone!