

Tax Bills are
out and are
DUE by
December 31,
2009.

Top of the Hill News

Information for the Citizens of Fort Wright

Fort Wright Website
www.fortwright.com

Winter 2009



City Offices Closed

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

Thursday, November 26

Friday, November 27

Thursday, December 24

Friday December 25

Friday, January 1

See Inside:

- Holiday Safety
- Rumpke Recycling News
- Rumpke Holiday Schedules
- Museum News
- New Alert System

CIVIL WAR CHRISTMAS

At the James A. Ramage Civil War Museum - Sunday, Dec.13th, 2009 from 12-6,

Celebrate Christmas, 19th century style. The museum will be full of Christmas spirit and decorated with items like those used during the Civil War era while offering information on the history of Christmas in the United States and how many of our current-day traditions started. Children will be able to help decorate the tree by making an ornament. We'll have a special visitor too! Santa Claus will be able to take time out of his busy schedule to visit with us.

Hills of Kentucky Dulcimers perform 1:00 – 3:00

Santa Claus visits from 3:00 – 5:00

SENIORS ~ CHRISTMAS PARTY ~ DECEMBER 16, 2009

The City of Fort Wright in conjunction with The HillToppers, will be throwing a Christmas Party for all Fort Wright Seniors. This is free for Seniors of Fort Wright.

The Party will be on Wednesday, December 16, 2009, at the Fort Wright Civic Club, located at 115 Kennedy Road, Fort Wright.

Hors d'oeuvres' and cocktails will begin at 11:00 A.M., immediately followed by lunch.

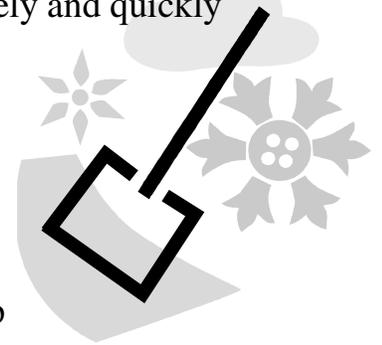
There will be door prizes, card playing and fun for all. You will also have the opportunity to join the HillToppers.

If you would like to attend the party please make reservations by contacting Barb Hellmann at 344-1101 before December 10, 2009.



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.



Christmas Trees

Christmas trees will be mulched on January 15th, please drop off trees by January 14th. Trees can be dropped off at the City Building anytime after December 28th. An area will be marked as in years past. Again, we ask that you remove all ornaments, twine, garland and wire from the trees.

Happy Birthday!

December

December 21 - Police Officer Mark Spanyer

January

January 8 - Firefighter/EMT Greg Aylor

January 11 - Firefighter/EMT Mike Gorman

February

February 16 - Police Officer Andrew Vonderhaar

February 16 - Firefighter/EMT Tim Deye

February 24 - Police Sergeant Marc Schworer

March

March 7 - Assistant City Clerk Jennifer Lipson

March 29 - Assistant City Clerk Julie Bosley



Kenton County’s hillsides...

The Northern Kentucky Area Planning Commission invites you and your neighbors to attend a Public Forum on the future of our hillsides.

Date: Wednesday, December 2

Time: 6:30 - 8:30 PM

Location: Notre Dame Academy, Park Hills

Kenton County’s hillsides hold a variety of values and meanings for its’ residents. Public consensus on how to address this issue is important.

Join the discussion. Express your opinions. A panel of professionals will be on hand to answer your questions. For more information, contact NKAPC at 859.331.8980 or thehills@nkapc.org

MUSEUM NEWS

Museum Winter Break

The Museum will close after the Civil War Christmas event on December 13, 2009 for its winter break. The Museum will reopen to the public on Friday, February 12, 2010 just in time to celebrate President Abraham Lincoln's birthday.



Computer sites of Interest

Council Member Dave Hatter has created connections through Facebook and LinkedIn networks, as another way to connect with residents, please check them out and sign up for updates at the following web addresses.

Facebook Page: <http://www.facebook.com/home.php#/pages/Fort-Wright-KY/The-City-of-Fort-Wright-KY/101593382671?ref=ts>

LinkedIn Group: <http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=1029587>



Expanded Recyclables List Announcement from Rumpke:

Rumpke can now accept all plastic bottles and jugs with numbers 1 - 7, the rule of thumb is that if the opening on top is bigger than the base of the - it is not acceptable, however if the opening is smaller than the base, then it is acceptable.

They are also accepting clean pizza boxes.

This advanced recycling option is only available to select areas throughout the United States and is the result of the successful improvements Rumpke has made within the past few years to allow for expanded commingled recycling options throughout the greater Cincinnati region.

Since Rumpke Recycling's inception in 1989, we have significantly grown our residential program and steadily increased the amount and type of materials we accept. In fact, Rumpke's owners have been inducted into the Environmental Industry Association's "Hall of Fame" for their work in the field of waste management.

Holiday Trash Collection: (This has been copied straight from Rumpke's website.)

Christmas Day: Friday, December 25, 2009 (Week of December 20-26)

Waste and recycling service will not occur on Friday, December 25. It will be delayed to Saturday, December 26. Rumpke will return to its regular collection schedule on January 4, 2010.

New Year's Day 2010: Friday, January 1, 2010 (Week of December 27 - January 2)

Waste and recycling service will not occur on Friday, January 1. It will be delayed to Saturday, January 2. Rumpke will return to its regular collection schedule on January 4, 2010.

Dear Residents,

New Community Information Service

The City of Fort Wright is launching a new Community Information Service designed to deliver important and timely information to residents in our area using the latest technology.

Nixle is a community information service provider built exclusively to provide secure and reliable communications. It is the first authenticated and secure service that connects municipal agencies and community organizations to residents in real time, delivering information to geographically targeted customers over their cell phones (via text messages), through emails and via web access. Nixle has secured a partnership with NLETS (the International Justice and Public Safety Network) allowing local police departments nationwide to send immediate alerts and advisories. Privately funded Nixle, is available at no cost to governments, their agencies and organizations, non-governmental organizations and consumers. For more information visit www.nixle.com.

“Nixle is a first-of-its-kind tool for communities that need to provide critical information to their residents,” said Craig Mitnick, founder and CEO. When it comes to public safety information, you have to trust the source. Residents of Fort Wright can rest easy that the local messages they receive are authentic.

Residents of Fort Wright can now take advantage of Nixle! Register now, learn more, and then share the information with family, friends and neighbors. Please go to the Fort Wright City Web Site, www.fortwright.com and sign up. On the left side of the Fort Wright homepage is a link to register for Nixle. The Nixle service is in addition to the Fort Wright Email List distribution though much of the information disseminated will be the same with both services. One advantage with Nixle is that you can sign up for alerts on your cell phone for emergencies broadcast of information from the City, such as a missing child or elderly person in your neighborhood. Anyone can sign up for alerts in other communities nationwide, for example if you have an elderly relative in another city, such as Louisville, Kentucky, you can sign to keep advised of problems that may have an impact on your family member.

I encourage all residents to sign up with Nixle even if you are already on the Fort Wright Email list.

Calling for Emergency Services, such as Police, Fire and E.M.S.

This is just a reminder that when you are on a cellular telephone dialing **911**, the emergency dispatch that is contacted is where the cellular tower that your cellular telephone connects to is located. For example, you could be on River Road in Ludlow dialing 911 and your telephone could connect to a tower in Hamilton County or Cincinnati. Please pay attention when you call **911** they should answer with Erlanger **911** or Covington **911**. If you know you are in Fort Wright for example and the dispatcher advises they are Campbell County Dispatch ask to be transferred to Erlanger Dispatch. There are currently three dispatch centers in Kenton County:

Covington – dispatches only for Covington

Kenton County – dispatches for unincorporated Kenton County, Taylor Mill and Independence

Erlanger – dispatches for all of the cities in Northern Kenton County, Fort Wright, Park Hills, Ludlow, Fort Mitchell, Lakeside Park/Crestview Hills, Villa Hills, Edgewood, Elsmere and Erlanger.

The new technology that cellular telephones and the dispatch centers use has greatly reduced the problem of misdirected calls though it certainly has not eliminated the problem.

Another issue is Voice Over IP telephone service, this type of service can cause problems if they are moved. For example, you purchase your telephone service from Insight, go to Sarasota, Florida for three months, take your computer, and use the Voice Over IP service. You must contact Insight or whoever your telephone service provider is and register your Florida address with them. If you do not do so and you call **911** the dispatch center contacted will be in Northern Kentucky even though your emergency will be occurring in Sarasota, Florida.

Chief Kreinest

2009 PROPERTY TAX PAYMENTS

If you have not received your tax bill, and are responsible to pay it, please contact the City Office as soon as possible. If you have received the property tax bill, but have an escrow account from which the property tax is paid, please be reminded that it is the property owner's responsibility to forward the bill to the mortgage company. Also remember 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. If you drop your bill in the mail on December 31st, there is a chance that it may not be postmarked until January 2nd, making it delinquent, so if mailing, 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 Friday, January 1, 2009. City Administration Office will be open on Thursday, December 31st from 7:30 A.M. to 5:00 PM, for acceptance of tax payments. Walk-in payments for 2009 property tax bills must be made by Thursday, 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, prior to December 31st.

For any additional questions, please call (859) 331-1700.

News from Fort Wright Volunteer Fire Department Corporation

There are still a few Entertainment Books available for Sale for just \$20. There are bonus savings cards with these books, These cards are \$5 off any purchase at each of the following locations: Papa Murphy's Pizza; T.G.I. Friday's; GFS Marketplace; and Lazer Kraze. Stop by the City Office to pick up your book today! Checks should be made payable to Fort Wright Volunteer Fire Department Inc.

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