



# The Eagle's View

An informative newsletter for the residents of Crestview Hills

February, 2005

## Winter in Crestview Hills

### IN SUPPORT OF OUR TROOPS

**I**n December our City "adopted" the Alpha Company, 1<sup>st</sup> Platoon of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division, as a part of the America Supporting Americans (ASA) program. Each month the City sends care packages to this troop from donations received from our residents and businesses. Thus far, thirty five boxes, containing everything from books and junk food to personal hygiene products have been shipped. Thanks to the following that have donated items and/or helped pack up the materials to be sent:

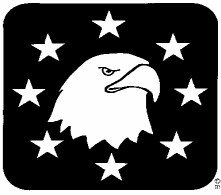
Ralph Laird, Cub Scout Pack 708, Peg Niehaus, Joan and Bob Trame, Colleen Bright, Jerri Collins, Charles Kiefer, Kathleen Corneil, Laura Townsend, Pat Siry, Gretchen Traylor, Donna Watson, Bob Edwards, Janice and Jack Wurtz, Charles Fedders, Mike Riedel, Debbie and Rick Grover, Julia Kinman, Walter Blair, Amber Melton, Arthur

Lazur, Glenna Rice, Paul Tabeling, Gayle and Eileen Settle, Ed Schlachter, Gene Weber, Ralph and Pat Bailey, Mike and Beth Scheper, Dave and Nancy Irons, Pat and Mary Lou Collins, Melanie Abeling, Edie Smitson, Frank Sommerkamp, Jr., Paul Meier, Al Stanley & Co., Patricia Bertke, Mae Finkbemier, Ann Krantz, Bill and Lee Stith, Oliver Mullins, Evelyn Stark, the Junior Varsity Cheerleaders at Simon Kenton High School, and the students of Notre Dame Academy, Tom Hemsath, and Terri, Travis, and Corbin Jameson.

Our apologies if we left your name off of this list. If we did, contact us and we will include your name in our next newsletter. We have received "thank you" notes from some of the troops that have already received most of the packages. We also have the names of the group that we have adopted. If you would like to send a personal letter to any, or all, of the troops, either call or stop by the City Building. Also, we are still in need of more items. If you make a cash donation, all of that money will be used to purchase items for the troops. The City pays for all mailing expenses.

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# Mayor's Message



**Residents of Crestview Hills:**

I hope that you read my letter sent to all residents and businesses in January. This letter addressed the 8% insurance premium tax proposed by the Kenton County Fiscal Court. The tax would be added to your automobile and home/personal property insurance premiums. It does not replace your real estate property tax; it is a new tax. Judge Executive Ralph Drees sees the need for unincorporated areas of the county to contribute more for county services. The only way for that to happen is for them to enact a tax that would cover the whole county. Should this indeed happen, your city officials will pass an ordinance that should keep the monies our residents pay in the City.

Please note that Crestview Hills residents have historically never paid this tax and there were no plans to enact such a tax.

At current, the enforcement of proper payment is difficult, however we remain optimistic that monitoring of such taxation will improve.

The Fiscal Court did vote to block the development of a biodiesel plant that would have been located on Floridian Drive, across the railroad tracks from our residents in Lookout Farm. Biodiesel is a fuel composed of fatty acids derived from vegetable oils or animal fats and can be used as pure fuel or blended with petroleum in any percentage. A dry by-product of the process can also be used in animal food.

Both issues are discussed on page 4 of our newsletter or in the Wednesday February 9 edition of the Cincinnati Enquirer.

It has been a relatively calm winter with the only "issue" being the street clearing problems associated with the storm on December 22. The City contracts with Kenton County Public Works for snow removal and street clearing. There were several factors which contributed to the poor condition of our streets even days after the initial storm. The County did not have enough drivers on staff and what drivers they had were spread very thin. It didn't help matters that the storm began with sleet and freezing rain, moved into several inches of snow, then topped off by more freezing rain. Council and staff are in the process of researching backup options should this condition reoccur.

If you are a new resident to our City, please call the City Building at 341-7373 and we will supply you with a packet containing all pertinent information about Crestview Hills, including tax information, trash collection and recycling days, public safety phone numbers, and meeting dates and times or use our website, [www.crestviewhills.com](http://www.crestviewhills.com).

Thank you.

Paul W. Meier, Mayor

## FROM THE RECREATION COMMITTEE

The Easter Egg Hunt will again be held this year by the parking lot at the Gloria Dei Lutheran Church on Saturday, March 19, 2005, from 11:30 A.M. until 12:30 P.M. The children will be divided into two groups – ages 2 to 6, and 7 & up. There is plenty of free parking adjacent to the site. There will be a free photo session with the Easter Bunny, who will be located just outside the Lookout Farm Community Center, or inside the Center if the weather is bad.

The City of Crestview Hills will again be sponsoring three Cincinnati Reds games this year on the Party Deck. Each ticket includes food, drink, the bus ride to and from the game, and admission to the Great American Ball Park. Listed are the games, dates, and cost for each event:

Cleveland Indians – Sunday, May 22 @ 1:15 P.M. – Cost: \$35.00

Baltimore Orioles – Saturday, June 11 @ 7:05 P.M. – Cost: \$30.00

Colorado Rockies – Saturday, July 16 @ 7:05 P.M. – Cost: \$30.00

Tickets will go on sale beginning at 9:00 A.M. on Friday, March 25, 2005, at the City Building. Due to the popularity of these events, each family or city business will be limited to six tickets per game unless special circumstances exist.

## SAVE THIS DATE

The Annual City Picnic & Golf Outing will be held at Summit Hills Country Club on Tuesday, August 9<sup>th</sup>. This event grows each year with your choice of activities which include golf, swimming, card tournaments, and a simple outdoor dinner buffet. Additional information will be available in upcoming newsletters but be sure to mark this date on your calendar now.

## WELCOME

The City would like to welcome David Meier II as the new Chairman of the Recreation Committee. David is one of our new Council Members who resides in the College Park subdivision with his wife, Jennifer and their three daughters Alexa, Brooke, and Camden.

Tom Moser is another of our new council members for 2005—2006. Tom lives in the Old Crestview subdivision with his wife Mickey and will serve on the Finance and Public Works Committees.

We also would like to thank our past Chairwoman, Terri Jameson, and resident Don Grant for their contributions over the last four years and Harold Ries for his total of 35 years serving the Northern Kentucky community.

### Kenton County delays insurance tax talks

Kenton County Fiscal Court has postponed discussion of an 8 percent tax on residential and business insurance premiums for at least two weeks to gather more information. Kenton County Judge-executive Ralph Drees removed the proposed tax from Tuesday's agenda because of questions of how it would affect cities that already have an insurance tax and there wasn't any particular hurry to do it because the county can't start collecting it until after July 1 anyway.

Under the county's proposal, a person who pays \$100 a year in insurance premiums would pay \$8 annually in taxes.

Based on what Campbell County has collected from its insurance tax, and assuming all cities match Kenton County's proposed rate, the county would raise another \$700,000 to \$800,000 a year from the unincorporated areas if it approves an insurance tax.

The proposed tax on auto and homeowners' insurance premiums will probably come before fiscal court on Feb. 22 or at its first meeting in March. The ordinance must have two readings. And to start collecting the tax on the fiscal year that starts July 1 county officials must approve the tax by March 23. Thirteen Kenton County cities already have insurance taxes ranging from 5 percent to 10 percent. Four cities - Crestview Hills, Edgewood, Independence and Kenton Vale - don't have a tax.

Crestview Hills city officials plan to attend the Fiscal Court meetings to continue opposition of the tax. If the Fiscal Court enacts the tax, the City will pass an ordinance enacting the tax on the city level so monies from the tax, if properly distributed by the insurance agencies, can be used toward needed street improvement projects and other such Crestview Hills programs.

### Biodiesel Refinery Blocked

The Kenton County Fiscal Court on Tuesday February 8 blocked a biodiesel refinery from coming to Kenton County. The court voted against an amendment that would have allowed the refining of biodiesel fuel – which uses plant-based oils instead of petroleum – in the county's industrial park zones.

The Fiscal Court also voted down a proposal to have the Kenton County Planning Commission draft a conditional –use amendment that would allow for such facilities in industrial park zones.

The proposed facility would have been located close to the most western streets in Lookout Farm, which are: Secretariat, Parrish Hill, Bryan Station, Springside, War Horse, Leatherwood, Copper Coin, and Palmeadow.

## **Mayor's Goals and Objectives 2004**

In my seventh year as Mayor, my goal is to work closely with City Council to continue to improve our city with more public works projects, recreational activities, and economic initiatives.

### **My Objectives for 2005 are:**

**Continue to oversee the successful implementation of the Crestview Hills Town Center.**

**Complete the new Crestview Hills City Building, which will house the Lakeside Park/Crestview Hills Police Department.**

**Work with the Public Works Committee to maintain our street improvements and repairs and beautification projects.**

**Continue quality recreational programs for our residents.**

**Work with the State of Kentucky, OKI, and Kenton County to relieve traffic congestion, and increase safety measures, on Dixie Highway and Turkeyfoot Road.**

**To continue to maintain a low tax base and deliver quality services to our residents and businesses.**

**Continue to add new professional businesses to our Research Park.**

Any questions or comments can be addressed to the Mayor in care of the City Building, 50 CVH Mall Rd, 41017, or email at: [mayor@crestviewhills.com](mailto:mayor@crestviewhills.com).

## **Crestview Hills Website**

While the City has had a website for several years, it just keeps getting easier to use and contains more information! The website has recently undergone a major "face-lift" and is much more user-friendly, even for first time users.

The site contains downloadable forms, such as a building permit, and an online garage sale permit and recreation sign-up form.

Users can look up 8 years of council meeting minutes and search the database for any topic to see if it has been covered in a council meeting. The code of ordinances is also in a searchable database.

Zoning ordinances are not searchable but in a topic-linked format.

Important phone numbers, city history, demographics, recreational events, current weather and traffic and senior links are all informational topics on the updated website. Try it and tell us how you like it!

## **TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE**

**With the development of the Crestview Town Center, drivers will be unable to cut through from Dixie Highway to Turkeyfoot Road, via Mall Road, from March 9<sup>th</sup> through July 1<sup>st</sup>. There will be access from Dixie Highway to the new Dillard's, Panera Bread, and Carrabba's Italian Grill. From Turkeyfoot Road, there will be access to the office building at #25 Mall Road, Coldwell Banker, Fridays, Sablieux Day Spa, Applebees, and the Crestview Hills City Building. Stop by the City Building to view the drawing which describes the areas to be temporarily closed.**



WINTER 2005 EDITION

**INFORMATION ON: Mall Road closure, biodiesel plant, insurance premium tax, REDS games! LOOK INSIDE!**

For Emergencies only:

**CALL 911**

**NON EMERGENCY NUMBERS**

Police Dispatch	356-3191
Police Administration	331-5368
Fire	331-1267
Ambulance	331-5553
Sanitation Dist	578-7450
(for sewer odors & problems)	

**OTHER NUMBERS**

City Building	341-7373
8:30 AM to 5:00 PM	
Dog Warden	356-3191
Bavarian Garbage	485-4416

City Website:

**www.crestviewhills.com**

Mayor email: [mayor@crestviewhills.com](mailto:mayor@crestviewhills.com)

Council: [council@crestviewhills.com](mailto:council@crestviewhills.com)

**CITY OFFICIALS**

Mayor

Paul W. Meier

City Council

David Kramer  
 Ralph Laird  
 Joe Maloney  
 David Meier, II  
 Thomas Moser  
 Frank Sommerkamp, Jr.

City Administrator  
 City Clerk/Treasurer  
 Administrative Asst.  
 City Engineer  
 Building Inspector

Dan Groth  
 C.R. Wirthlin  
 Judy Rae Cox  
 Jim Berling  
 Brian Simms - NKAPC

Zoning Consultant  
 Attorney  
 Auxiliary Staff

Walter Blair  
 Jeff Mando  
 Joan Connelly  
 Mary Louise Haglage  
 Jim Connelly

Public Works