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MAYOR'S REPORT

BY MAYOR JOHN D. LINK

Each year our Fire/EMS Department holds an annual appreciation dinner to honor those who have performed outstanding tasks and duties. The 2008 top fire responder was Greg Russell. Jennifer Kleisinger was our top EMS responder. Mark Artmeier received the Firefighter of the Year Award and Cindy MacMillan received the EMT of the Year Award. Congratulations to our award winners. In 2008 the department experienced their highest number of runs with fire incidents at 369 and EMS runs at 807. We appreciate all that you do for our community; keep up the good work.

Again this year our Fire/EMS staff will be hosting their annual fish fry at the senior center, February 27 through April 10, from 5-8 p.m. Carryout will be available. This year's proceeds will go to Edgewood families that have fallen on hard times during the holiday season. We appreciate your support.

I mentioned in a previous newsletter that the City of Edgewood doesn't have an insurance tax and that each resident needs to review their policies to verify that they are not being charged a tax. Jeanette Kemper, our City Clerk, has an article in this newsletter with more details.

During the last ice and snow storms our Public Works Department used a salt and sand combination on the streets. We will be sending our street sweeper around the entire city to remove the sand that was left once the snow melted. The ground hog did see his shadow so we have a few more weeks of winter to go.

A few years ago we mailed out a survey card asking for your opinions; ranking our services and asking for any new ideas or programs that you would like to see us start. We had a good response and many good ideas were implemented. Northern Kentucky University is currently working on a new survey. We should have the surveys out to all residents by early June.

Our Recreation Department has been busy behind the scenes filling 6,000 Easter eggs for the annual egg hunt on April 4. All I can say is get there early since it's over in less than 5 minutes. I hope to see you at one or more of the upcoming events. Bring the family and we'll have a fun time.

City Of Edgewood • Mayor John D. Link
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RECREATION RAP

by Recreation Director Kim Wolking

COSI ON WHEELS-AN EDUCATIONAL FRONT IS COMING

Lightning strikes at the Edgewood Senior Center when COSI; a dynamic hands on science center from Columbus, Ohio, presents its traveling program, Current Conditions. This innovative, interactive program stimulates the imagination of the next generation of meteorologists. The day will begin with a 45-minute interactive assembly introducing the participants to air pressure, cloud formation, warm and cold fronts, and extreme weather. The event will be held on Saturday, March 21, from 2-4 p.m. at the senior center. There is no charge for the event, however, pre-registration is required. This event is for Edgewood children only and is limited to the first 100 children. Many helpers are needed and parents are encouraged to stay. Please email kw@edgewoodky.gov or call **331-5910** to reserve a spot or if you have any questions. Please see the enclosed flyer for a description of all the fun activities we have planned.

EDGEWOOD WEEK AT SUPPER THYME USA

Are you tired of fast food, eating processed food and paying high restaurant bills? Are you trying to lose weight? Supper Thyme can help. Each morning they prepare fresh, wholesome, homemade meals that fit your family's busy schedule. The week of March 24-28, Edgewood residents will receive 15% of any purchases. You can stop by their store at 2220 Grandview Drive, in Ft. Mitchell, or you call **859.344.6325** to see what meals are available. Supper Thyme offers many options for creating delicious meals. If we have a good response to the discount week, additional events at Supper Thyme will be scheduled. You can visit their website at www.supperthymeusa.com. Please see the enclosed flyer for further information.

EASTER EGG HUNT

The Annual Easter Egg Hunt at Presidents Park will be held on Saturday, April 4, at 2:00 p.m. The egg hunt is for children ages 3-8 and will include a visit from the Easter Bunny. The Easter Bunny will be available after the hunt for pictures at the Washington Pavilion. **YOU MUST BRING YOUR OWN CAMERA. NO PICTURES**



WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE THIS YEAR. There will be special prize eggs in each age group. You can redeem prize eggs at the Washington Pavilion. In case of inclement weather, children can still visit with the bunny and hunt eggs at the senior center. For rainout information you can visit our website at www.edgewoodky.gov. **PARKING IS LIMITED, ARRIVE EARLY. THE HUNT STARTS PROMPTLY AT 2:00 P.M. NO PARENTS ARE ALLOWED IN THE HUNT AREA.** Please keep the enclosed flyer.

EDGEWOOD'S "AMAZING RACE" ROAD RALLY

Edgewood's version of the "Amazing Race" will be held on Saturday, April 25, at 6:30 p.m., at the Senior Center. If you haven't tried this, you don't know what you are missing. Teams can be families, friends, neighbors, seniors or any group of 2-6 people. Teams will have two hours to gather photographs and other items and return to the senior center. Pizza, chips, and drinks will be provided while judges tally the scores. Prizes will be awarded for 1st-3rd place. Teams will need to bring a digital camera with a large LCD screen for viewing photos. You may use your cell phone if the photos can be easily viewed and are of a good quality. If a photo can not be seen clearly you will not receive points for the photo. You must pre-register for this event, space is limited to the first 25 teams to sign-up. The cost per group is \$20. Please see the enclosed registration form. If you have any questions call Kim Wolking at **331-5910**.



SOFTBALL LEAGUES

Summer Recreational Softball Leagues are being offered on the following nights: Men's-Wednesdays and Coed-Sundays. League play will begin May 3. The entry fee is \$375. Entry deadline is April 17 (or when league fills up). Registration forms are available at the city building. Leagues will be filled on a first-come, first-serve basis.



VOLLEYBALL LEAGUES

A Recreational Summer Coed Volleyball League is being offered on Wednesday evenings beginning May 6. The entry fee is \$175. Entry deadline is April 20. Registration forms are available at the city building. Leagues will be filled on a first-come, first-serve basis.

PERENNIAL SWAP

Attention all gardeners, the city is sponsoring a

perennial swap at the Noll Shelter in Freedom Park on Saturday, May 9, at 10:00 a.m. Start planning your gardens now. If you have any plants you need to divide, please do so and share them with your neighbors. The city will have daylilies on hand. Any unwanted perennials can be donated to the parks department. Please have labels or descriptions of your plants to give to the new owners. If you would like to participate please call Kim Wolking at **331-5910** for further information.

HYDRANT FLUSHING

The Northern Kentucky Water District will be flushing hydrants the week of May 11th.

REMINDER! PROPERTY TAX BILLS ARE DUE APRIL 30TH.



A NOTE FROM EDGEWOOD FIRE/EMS ...

In case of an emergency ... The Vial of Life is a small plastic container that comes with a form for you to fill out with important medical information that emergency medical personnel need in a time of crisis. It is stored in the refrigerator where it is readily available. Emergency responders can retrieve the list in the event of an emergency situation when the patient can not communicate. By completing the Vial of Life form now, you can provide emergency personnel with vital information which may save your life during the first minutes of critical illness or accident in your home. The Vial of Life program is available free as a public service for residents of Edgewood. All information provided will remain completely confidential and will only be used by emergency medical personnel in potentially life-threatening situations. Please call us at the firehouse at 341-2628 for more information.

FISH FRY

The Edgewood Fire/EMS is once again holding their annual "Fantastic Fish Fry" during the Lenten season. Come enjoy fried fish (beer-battered and country-style), shrimp and baked fish along with sides such as beer battered onion rings, fries, homemade coleslaw and macaroni and cheese. There will be chicken nuggets and hotdogs for the kids! Every Friday at the Edgewood Senior Center through April 10th, from 5 p.m.-8 p.m.



FIREMAN JOE SAYS:

I don't know about you but I am ready for spring which always arrives with signs of new life all around; from flowers to baby animals. This time reminds us that life is precious and very important. We must protect our families and homes from danger. Consider a good old fashion spring cleaning and while we are cleaning up and throwing old things away look around for any fire hazards. Do you have an ABC dry chemical fire extinguisher handy? Does everyone know how to use it? Is your stove, oven or broiler kept clean of grease? Are closets cleaned up so fire does not have a

place to start? Good time to check your chimney and furnace!

Time change is coming remember to change the battery in your smoke alarm when you change your clock!

Has your family practiced their home escape plan? Have you cleaned up fallen branches or limbs? Are lawn mowers and all gas powered machines stored empty? Also remember spring storms can come up quickly and without warning. Have a plan of action in case of severe weather which may include thunder, lightning and tornadoes. Enjoy your spring. If you need information or helpful pamphlets stop by or call Fireman Joe at **578-3099**.

INSURANCE PREMIUM TAX

Attention property, vehicle and business owners - insurance companies are mailing out notices to their policy holders in accordance with KRS 91A.0810 that read, in part, as follows:

"Your insurance premium may be subject to a license fee or tax imposed by your local government. The amount of the fee or tax is determined by the local government where the insured risk is located. The tax and any collection fee, if included in the charges to you, will be shown on all future renewal certificates or premium billings for your policy. If you believe that you have been erroneously charged or have been overcharged the tax, you may contact us for information on how to request a refund or credit for the tax paid."

(The notice should include contact information for reaching the insurance company.)

Edgewood does **NOT** have an Insurance Premium Tax. You should not be billed for this tax. The tax/fee may appear on your premium as "**Municipal insurance premium fee**" or "**surcharge**". The tax is being placed on insurance premiums such as homeowners insurance, vehicle insurance premiums, and insurance premiums for businesses. Also, there should not be a "Kenton Co. tax" on the bills of those who live in Edgewood. Only those residents of *unincorporated* Kenton Co. should be charged the County's insurance premium tax. If the insurance company has your mailing address as Covington or Erlanger (anything but Edgewood) you may have been charged this tax erroneously. *Please review your premium.* You should contact your agent or insurance company immediately if you are being charged the tax and have it removed. If the insurance company does not comply and remove the tax, you can report them to the Kentucky Department of Insurance at **1-800-595-6053**.

RECENT INCREASE IN BURGLARIES AND THEFTS

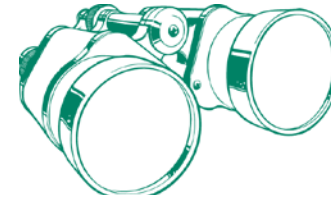
You may have seen recent news reports of an increase in burglaries and thefts in the Northern Kentucky/Greater Cincinnati area. Although Edgewood has been and continues to be a relatively safe community, we too have seen a recent surge in those types of crimes which have coincided with our economic downturn. Although the economy may not be the only factor driving the increase in crime, it is relatively safe to assume that the trend will continue until the economy recovers.



Too often when the police take a theft report, the victim will tell us that they did not lock their vehicle or house because "we live in Edgewood." Many people mistakenly believe that because we have a nice community that we are immune from the social ills of the world around us. Unfortunately, that is simply not true. The thieves know that Edgewood is an affluent community, and that people may not take the crime prevention steps that people in high crime areas take. This makes our city and our resident's prime targets for opportunistic thieves.

What can you do to prevent being victimized? The answer to that can be as simple or complex as you want it to be. Something as basic as locking your doors will help deter many criminals. Burglar alarms are a great deterrent, but you have to activate them for them to be effective. Don't leave valuables in your vehicle or in plain sight. The list of crime prevention tips goes on and on and is too lengthy to display here. If you are interested in crime prevention tips and strategies, visit <http://kycrimeprevention.org/>. There is a lot of good information there as well as links to numerous other crime prevention sites.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAMS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS



Concerned about crime in your neighborhood? Want to make a difference in your community? Then why don't you consider volunteering for Neighborhood Watch? Edgewood has had many Neighborhood Watch groups over the years. Unfortunately, most of them have become inactive. With the recent increase in

burglaries and thefts in the area, now is a prime time to reactivate those groups and to form new ones. If you are interested in forming a group, the Edgewood Police Department is ready to help. We can provide training and logistical support to get your group started and to keep it running. If you are interested, take the next step and call us. Contact Officer Terry Chinn or Detective Jim Ryan at **331-5911** for more information. If you prefer, you can email them at tmc@edgewoodky.gov or jmr@edgewoodky.gov.