

# The Eagle's View

Crestview Hills - Summer 2016

An informative newsletter for the residents and businesses of Crestview Hills

## Lookout Farm Drive Entrance

The City's Safety Committee recently voted to install lane striping on the entrance to Lookout Farm Drive from Dixie Highway to Shinkle Road. The street was originally designed for two lanes on either side, but the striping was never installed after initial construction. The Safety Committee determined that the wide road creates confusion for drivers, especially for cars turning into Mansion Place towards BB&T Bank.

Beginning in late July or early August, the City will have a striping company install the lane markings, as well as turn arrows at Mansion Place and Shinkle Road. A right turn lane arrow will also be installed on the outbound lane of Lookout Farm Drive at Dixie Highway.

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## Summer Concert Series

The City hosted its first concert of the Summer Series on Friday, June 17<sup>th</sup>. The Sly Band performed a great show.

The next concert will be Friday, July 15<sup>th</sup> with the band Midnight Special. Midnight Special performs a collection of legendary classic 70s rock anthems featuring music of Queen, Pink Floyd, Led Zeppelin, Journey, Styx and more!

The final concert of the summer will be Friday, August 12<sup>th</sup>. Soul Pocket is Cincinnati's most requested party and dance band. The 12-piece band plays a mix of Soul, Motown, R&B, Rock and Funk.



The City would like to thank the following sponsors: BB&T, Children's Outpatient of Northern Kentucky, Hummel Hatfield Insurance Agency, Five Seasons, Central Bank, Grandview Summit Apartments, Thomas More College, and the Crestview Hills Town Center.

# Mayor's Message



Dear Crestview Hills Residents:

Summer is in full swing and the City has several activities planned. Our summer concert series is continuing with the classic arena rock band, "Midnight Special" scheduled for July 15<sup>th</sup> and the popular dance band "Soul Pocket" on August 12<sup>th</sup>. The concerts have proven to be very popular with the community.

Summer is always a busy time for street construction (see article on page 4), so please be cautious when around a construction work zone. The City's Public Works Committee is continuing our efforts to replace older streets in our subdivisions. This summer the City will replace Varsity Court, Sorority Court and Fraternity in the College Park subdivision. Also, the Thomas More Parkway lane-widening project will begin mid-July.

Remember that City Council meets on the second Thursday of each month at 7:30PM at the City Building. I encourage anyone interested to attend these meetings and learn more about the City.

Have a great summer!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paul W. Meier". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Paul W. Meier, Mayor

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## City Adopts 2016-2017 Budget

The City Council adopted the budget for fiscal year 2016-2017. The City's revenues have flattened out in the last couple of years with the loss of a few businesses in the office park. So far this year, we are running slightly ahead of our estimates for payroll and will exceed our Net Profits estimates. However, in order to keep up with the ongoing increased costs in services (such as Police, Fire, EMS, Engineering, Landscaping, Legal, Street Maintenance and Snow Removal) staff recommended a small increase in property taxes (2.5%) next year plus the initiation of a franchise fee for gas and electric utilities. Our current franchise fee with Duke Energy expired and this provides the City with an opportunity to identify a new revenue source to keep up with the above costs as well as continued investment in our streets and roads.

The franchise fee is estimated to bring in \$93,477 in revenue next year. In order to assure the new revenue associated with the franchise fee is used for infrastructure costs, City Council approved the revenue to be dedicated to the Capital Projects fund each year (primarily for street reconstruction).

Since revenues have leveled out and the City has reduced the fund balance by over \$2,000,000 in the last couple of years (due to paying off the City Building debt early), the City Council and Staff are cautious on new spending until new revenues come on line and the ongoing shuffling of the medical offices is completed in the office park.

A detailed budget can be found on the City's website at [www.crestviewhills.com](http://www.crestviewhills.com).

## Homestead and Disability Exemptions

Did you know that you may qualify for a reduction in the taxable value of your home thereby reducing your property taxes? The Kentucky Homestead Act is a tax exemption established for the benefit of the senior or disabled homeowner. The Homestead Exemption (HEX)/Disability Exemption (DEX) is determined every two years by the General Assembly to reflect increases in the cost of living. For 2016, the amount of the exemption (assessment reduction) is \$36,900.

**\*Homestead Exemption:** To qualify for the homestead exemption, a person must be at least 65 years old and the property must be owned and occupied as their primary residence as of January 1. NO NEED TO WAIT UNTIL YOUR BIRTHDAY - if you will turn 65 this year, come in now.

**\*Disability Exemption:** A person must be classified as 100% totally disabled under any government and/or most private retirement system(s).

Applying for your exemption is easy. Visit the PVA Office in Covington at 303 Court Street, Room 210 or the Independence office at 5272 Madison Pike (open late until 6:00 p.m. on Wednesdays for your convenience.) For additional information, please visit [www.kentonpva.com](http://www.kentonpva.com) or call the PVA office 859-392-1750. **\*Proof of eligibility is required.**

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## Leash Law & Pooper Scooper Reminder

The City has a leash law and a pooper-scooper law, stating that it is illegal for animals to run at large on city streets. It is also illegal to leave excrement on city streets, sidewalks or your neighbors yard. It is also constitutes a nuisance to allow animals to annoy your neighbors whether by excess barking or vicious behavior. Take a few minutes to review the ordinance on the website. The Crestview Hills Animal Ordinance is available online at [www.crestviewhills.com](http://www.crestviewhills.com).



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## Rental Registration Ordinance

The Crestview Hills City Council passed a rental registration ordinance at the regular May 12<sup>th</sup> Council meeting. The ordinance is intended to better track the absentee owners and maintain good, up-to-date contact information in case of code violations or other public safety issues that might arise with the properties.

Owners will be required to register once per year by January 31<sup>st</sup>. A nominal fee of \$15 per year will be charged to offset the City's cost of notification and data management. Notices will be sent out in October with the City's property tax bills to all property owners. The City will also attempt to send notification to individual property owners from rental lists maintained by the HOAs in Lookout Farm and Summit Lakes.



**The property owners will be required to register starting on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017.**

## Public Works Updates

Residents should see a good bit of construction around the City this summer.

After several delays, the Thomas More Parkway lane widening project will begin in mid-July. Len Riegler Blacktop was selected as the low bidder for the project. The work will take approximately four months and consists of an additional eastbound lane on Thomas More Parkway from Renaissance Drive to past Powleitt Court/Centre View Boulevard. While this will cause some traffic delays during construction, the contractor plans to keep two lanes of traffic open at all times during the project. During the construction, at least two of the three entrances into Five Seasons Sports Club will be open.

City contractors recently completed concrete repairs to several streets including Woodspoint Drive, Claiborne Court and Lookout Farm Drive. The repairs are intended to stabilize the streets until future full reconstruction takes place over the next several years.

The City's street reconstruction program will continue this summer with replacement of streets on Varsity Court, Sorority Court, and Fraternity in the College Park subdivision. The work on Varsity and Sorority will begin after the Fourth of July weekend and continue through August 26<sup>th</sup>. Fraternity Court reconstruction will begin in mid-August and should be finished in early October. The contractors (JPS and M&W) for the reconstruction have completed prior work in this subdivision.

The City will also continue sidewalk repairs this fall, including numerous repairs along Shinkle Road. We also plan to complete the final ADA curb installations in Lookout Farm.

Finally, the City has included in this coming year's budget funds for resurfacing the following streets next spring – Centre View Boulevard, Rhine Valley Lane, Dixie Lane, and a small portion of Winding Way.

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### Shinkle Road Sidewalk Update

The difficulties surrounding the relocation of a portion of Shinkle Road sidewalk new Springside Drive continues. First there were long delays in relocating an electric box that was within the new sidewalk area, and later the City had to re-bid the project due to receiving bids much higher than the engineering estimate. The project to move the sidewalk to the south side has now hit another delay as Duke Energy has determined that an electric line underneath the proposed sidewalk does not have proper depth. The project will be delayed again as Duke must work with the Lookout Farm HOA to acquire an easement to move the line. The project is now likely to move to next spring.

As part of this project, the City Council had voted to install a four way stop at the intersection of Shinkle Road and Springside Drive. Due to the delay in moving the sidewalk, the City will now proceed with the stop sign installation independent of the sidewalk relocation project. Contractors will be in the area in late August to install the stop signs, crosswalks, stop bars, and other traffic control signs. A separate notice will be sent out to residents in the back portion of Lookout Farm alerting them to the new traffic stops. The Council decided to install the four way stop at this intersection after a recommendation from the Lookout Farm HOA Board and a comprehensive traffic study of the intersection in 2013.

## Horsebranch Creek Update

City officials continue to meet with the Sanitation District #1 and City of Edgewood to craft a solution to the erosion issues along Horsebranch Creek. There has been an ongoing effort over several years to find the best solution(s) to prevent further erosion that could impact Horsebranch Road.

Crestview Hills has taken the approach that detaining storm water flows upstream from the creek in several large detention basins would provide the best preventative measures for stream bank protection. The Sanitation District has met with both Crestview Hills and Edgewood over the past year to explore assistance in funding the project through stormwater matching grant funds. However, SD#1 hired a consultant earlier this year to explore alternative methods for stream protection. Their consultant has recommended both cities consider smaller and more numerous detention control measures further upstream rather than the two large detention basins first proposed by the Crestview Hills City Engineer. This included lowering the levels of existing ponds upstream (such as those behind the condos on Legends Way), and installing plates partially over existing stormwater pipes and backing up the overflow temporarily into low, undeveloped areas.



Due to the length of the planning and engineering for the project, the Crestview Hills Public Works Committee currently favors the approach of moving forward with the large detention pond at the intersection of Horsebranch Road and Rhine Valley lane. This is primarily due to the fact that a permit from the Army Corps of Engineers has already been granted and the limited number of property owners that would be needed to obtain the easements for the detention area. The City's next steps are to negotiate with the three landowners in the area for an easement to periodically flood this lower area during rain events. However, due to the approach favored by Crestview Hills, it is unclear whether SD#1 will provide funding support.

In the meantime, the cities of Crestview Hills and Edgewood (which has joint funding responsibility for Horsebranch Road) are planning to advertise for proposals from geotechnical engineering firms to assess the creek and determine if there are critical areas along the stream bank that are subject to severe slippage and could undermine Horsebranch Road. Once the report has been finalized in late summer, both cities can determine how to address any critical areas and how to identify funding for the repairs. Depending on the extent and nature of stream bank erosion, the repairs could run in the hundreds of thousands of dollars.

We will continue to keep residents and businesses updated on the progress of this project.

# Crestview Hills Residents Recycling A 'Ton'

Over the past six years the City of Crestview Hills has done a fantastic job at increasing its amount of recycling while simultaneously decreasing its waste. In fact in 2015, the City recycled over 240 tons of various materials, and approximately 25% of all discarded items consisted of recycling (compared to waste).

## Recycling (in tons)

Provider	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Totals
2010 - Bavarian/Rumpke			55.08	58.93	114.01
2011 - Rumpke	46.15	50.61	49.39	57.68	203.83
2012 - Rumpke/Best Way	48.84	49.7	39.46	65.16	203.16
2013 - Best Way	133.14	88.41	65.66	69.95	357.16
2014 - Best Way	57.61	97.08	76.66	66.01	297.36
2015 - Best Way/Rumpke	55.88	64.54	54	67.55	241.97
2016 - Rumpke	53.57	-	-	-	TBD

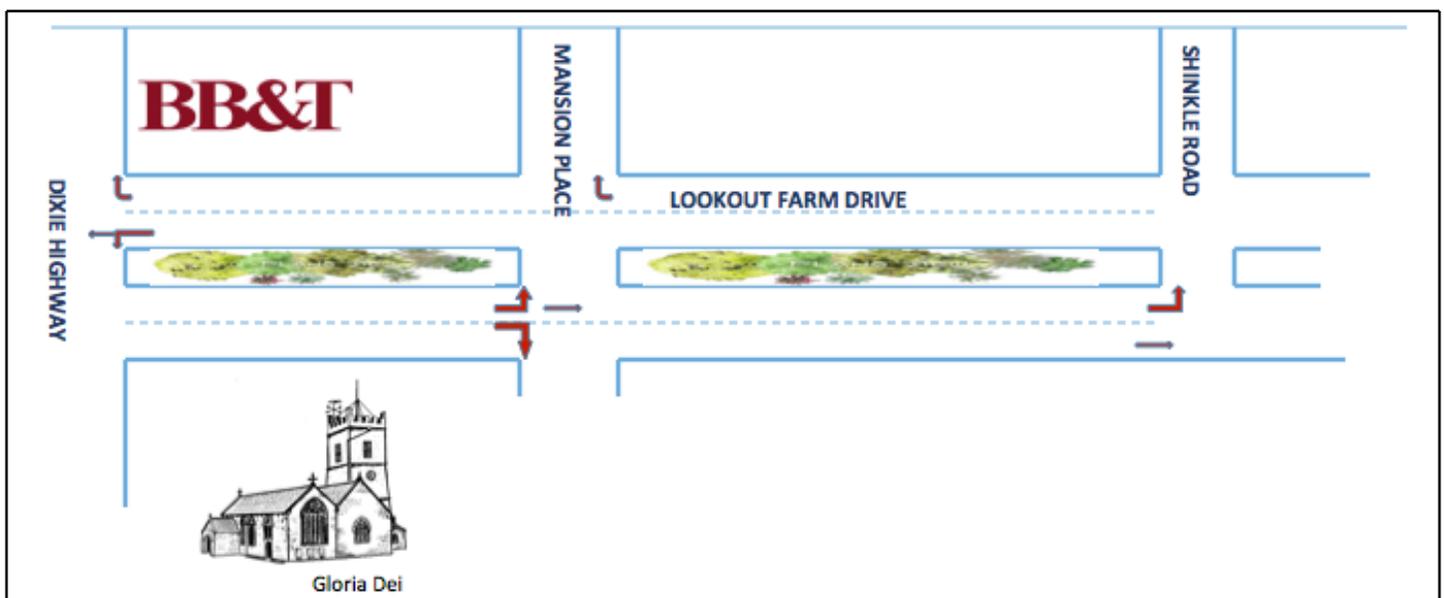
Rumpke, the City's current Solid Waste provider, offers "single stream" recycling, which allows all recyclables to be conveniently combined in one cart at your home and then after pickup it is divided at a Rumpke recycling facility. Residents can recycle the following items:

- Plastic bottles and jugs (#1-7)
- Glass bottles and jars
- Aluminum cans
- Steel cans and lids
- Paperboard (like cereal boxes)
- Cartons
- Cardboard
- Office paper
- Envelopes and junk mail
- Newspapers, magazines and inserts
- Telephone books and catalogs

**REMINDER** that recycling is picked up on Tuesdays every week, the same day as your trash. If you ever have a missed pickup please contact Rumpke at 1-877-786-7537.

## Continued from Page 1 - Lookout Farm Drive Entrance

The diagram below shows how the lanes will be marked. Please take note of the changes and use caution when driving through this area during the initial period.



## City Council Candidate Qualifications & Filing Deadline

The election for City Council is held every two years with the election-taking place in an even numbered year. Candidates must be at least 18 years of age, a resident of the City for not less than 1 year prior to his or her election, a qualified voter in the City, and shall reside in the City throughout his/her term of office.

The deadline to file for City Council is Tuesday, August 9<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm. Those that wish to run for office must file at Kenton County Clerk's office. The filing fee is \$50.

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## What's Happening Around Crestview Hills?

**Children's Outpatient Northern Kentucky** located in Crestview Hills is managed by Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. Cincinnati Children's was recently ranked third in the nation for the sixth consecutive year among all Honor Roll hospitals in U.S. News & World Report's 2016-2017 Best Children's Hospital ranking. Way to go!

**Shop & Dine Event at the Town Center:** Join the St. Elizabeth Foundation and select stores/restaurants in the Crestview Hills Town Center to shop and dine on Friday, July 29<sup>th</sup> 10:00am to 7:00pm. A portion of the participating merchants sales will help raise money to purchase Automated External Defibrillators (AED's) that the community can apply for in order to have the devices in their place of business.



St. Elizabeth  
FOUNDATION

imagine what we can do together



**Carter's & OshKosh B'gosh:** The City would like to welcome Carter's and OshKosh B'gosh to the Crestview Hills Town Center. They are located next to New York & Company and Victoria's Secret.

**ISOCNET Anniversary:** Congratulations to ISOCNET for celebrating 20 years of bringing Quality IT Solutions to the region. ISOCNET specializes in website development/hosting and full on-site network support.

### **Certificate of Achievement for Crestview Hills:**

For the 15th consecutive year, the Government Finance Officers Association has awarded the City of Crestview Hills the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of government accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by government and its management. Congratulations to Tim Williams, City Administrator, Kara Kramer, Finance Officer/Treasurer, Mayor Meier and City Council for preparing the award winning CAFR!



**DBL Law:** Congratulations to DBL Law for being nominated as a Top Workplace in the Cincinnati region. Who determines Top Workplaces? Those who know them best: the employees!

Joanne Flanagan, Communications Coordinator, stated "My favorite part of working for DBL Law is the community involvement. The firm leads by example. Attorneys and staff are encouraged to give back to our Greater Cincinnati communities."



**President & CEO of St. Elizabeth Physicians:** The City would like to congratulate Robert Prichard, M.D. Prichard has been named President and CEO of St. Elizabeth Physicians. He has been serving in the interim role since July 2015. The City considers St. Elizabeth Physicians an important partner in the community.

# The Eagle's View Newsletter

City of Crestview Hills  
50 Town Center Blvd  
Crestview Hills, KY 41017



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Summer 2016 Edition

**Current Resident or:**

**In case of emergency, as always:**

**CALL 9-1-1**

**NON EMERGENCY NUMBERS**

<b>Police Dispatch</b>	859-356-3191
<b>Police Administration</b>	859-331-5368
<b>Ft. Mitchell Fire/EMT</b>	859-331-1267 / 859-331-5553
<b>Edgewood Fire Dept</b>	859-341-2626
<b>Sanitation District (sewer odors/issues)</b>	859-578-7450

**OTHER NUMBERS**

<b>City Building</b>	859-341-7373
<b>Kenton Co. Animal Control</b>	859-356-3191
<b>Duke Energy</b>	1-800-554-6900
<b>Rumpke (Trash &amp; Recycling)</b>	877-786-7537
<b>Planning Development Services Of Kenton Co.</b>	859-331-8980
<b>Crestview Hills City Building Hours:</b>	8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. M-F
<b>LPCH Police Department Hours:</b>	8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. M-F

**CITY OFFICIALS**

<b>Mayor</b>	Paul Meier
<b>City Council Members</b>	Tim Adair Bill Dorsey David Kramer Joe Roesel Frank Sommerkamp, Jr. Sharon Gronotte
<b>City Administrator</b>	Tim Williams
<b>City Financial Officer / Treasurer</b>	Kara Kramer
<b>City Clerk</b>	Jaime Mahoney
<b>Public Works</b>	Jeff Smith
<b>City Engineer</b>	Jim Berling
<b>City Attorney</b>	Mary Ann Stewart

**Please remember to clean up after your pets.**