



CITY OF FOREST HILLS

Board wants city to be safest

The Board of Commissioners wants Forest Hills to be the safest and most secure city in America. The City works closely with Lt. Bob Nash and the Metro Police Department of Rape and Sexual Abuse on this matter. Here is a list of what the City is doing to increase safety:

- Doubling the number of security cars on patrol by Brentwood Security in Forest Hills.

- Assisting Cynthia Despot and her organization of the Block Captains, who monitor the area and keep Forest Hills residents aware of any potential or actual problems.

- Maintaining several unmarked cars to patrol the streets of Forest Hills. The number of cars and undercover police in our area must remain unpublished for security reasons.

- Holding two large public meetings of Forest Hills residents at Percy Priest School. Over 160 residents attended each of the meetings. Lt. Nash and his staff at Metro Police described the methods used by the rapist in all of the attempted or actual attacks. Metro Police are working closely with the City of Brentwood Police and have several leads.

Positive confirmation through DNA evidence will aid in identifying and convicting the rapist when arrested.

Paving of city streets

We will begin paving several streets in the City this spring. Street paving is an on-going project to make our city streets the best maintained and paved in Davidson County.

Paving streets requires that we raise all of the water, sewer and gas manhole covers before paving begins. Please don't speed on these streets when the utility manhole covers are raised, as tires can be damaged.

Speed HUMPS

In the upcoming months, Kingsbury Drive — from Hillsboro Road to Old Hickory Boulevard — will be paved and five new speed humps will be installed. Signs and street painting will mark the speed humps so they can be seen day or night.

Intersection work

The work at the Old Hickory Boulevard and Hillsboro Road intersection came to a

Continued on next page

Ed Null, Forest Hills co-founder, dies

Edward D. Null, 79, the last surviving founder of the City of Forest Hills, died March 3.

With Charles E. Byron, Lewis Frazer, and Phillip Kerrigan, Mr. Null founded the City of Forest Hills in 1956. He was one of the first commissioners and also was chair of the first Planning Commission. In 1994, he was awarded the title of chairman emeritus in honor of 36 years of dedicated service to the City of Forest Hills and its residents.

A retired piano dealer, Mr. Null joined his father-in-law at the L.C. Tiller Piano Company

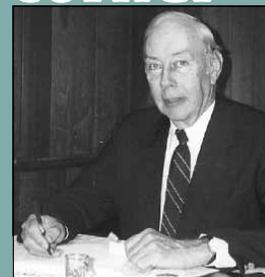
in 1946. When he retired in 1992, the 75-year-old firm closed.

Active in equestrian circles after he moved to Nashville, Mr. Null won many awards showing hunters and jumpers and was one of the first instructors for the Middle Tennessee Pony Club.

A member of the 107th Calvary division, which was mechanized for World War II service, he served in Europe during the war.

He is survived by his wife, Grace, and a daughter and son-in-law Victoria and Joel Fleischer of Missouli, Montana.

The Mayor's Corner



BY CHARLES EVERS

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Remember city on income tax

Remember when filing your income taxes to mark a box for the City of Forest Hills to receive its portion.

Marking this box allows the City to maintain its budget to meet your residential needs.

The number for the City of Forest Hills is 1904.





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Commissioners meeting
agenda hotline
298-5389

Jones wants to preserve residential atmosphere

Mark Jones became the new city engineer in April, 1999. The Board of Commissioners unanimously elected him to the position based on the Forest Hill's long association with Neel-Schaffer and his familiarity with the city. Jones worked under the tutelage of Art Piepmeier at Neel-Schaffer for 15 years.



Jones

Jones wants to maintain the residential atmosphere of Forest Hills. Obstacles to that goal relate to communication towers and the widening of perimeter roads.

“Communication companies want to move in due to the hilly nature of the City,” says Jones. “It’s a constant battle to supervise them in our city. Also, a number of multi-residential developments in the last 10 to 15 years have changed the layout of the city,” he said.

As the City Engineer, Jones wants to “continue the quality and ethics of Mr. Piepmeier and to serve the citizens of Forest Hills.”

Jones has a degree in civil engineering with an emphasis on structural engineering from Tennessee Technological University. He has worked for Neel-Schaffer, Inc. (formerly Turner Engineering) since 1984.

Meet Jim Pitman, new city manager

As the city of Forest Hills says goodbye to City Manager Tom Balthrop, whose 14 years of service was greatly appreciated, it says hello to Jim Pitman.



Pitman

Pitman became the new city manager on January 1, after training with Balthrop since December 6. His first major challenge as city manager came in the form of snow, which fell on the first week-end of January. “Fortunately, Balthrop gave me a crash course in snow procedures in the weeks proceeding his retirement,” he said.

As the city manager, Pitman is meeting the

residents of Forest Hills and learning about the political process. “I like the challenges of the day-to-day operations of the City,” he says. “I hope the skills I’ve developed over the years will meet the needs of Forest Hills.”

After graduating from Vanderbilt University with a degree in business administration, he worked for a financial institution in sales and marketing. For 12 years, he was an airline pilot, flying with Delta and American Eagle. Most recently, he worked for the State of Tennessee, Department of Human Services.

In his spare time, he enjoys playing golf, running and spending time with his children. He attends First Presbyterian Church and volunteers for a variety of non-profit organizations.

Mayor’s Corner *(continued from page 1)*

complete stop in mid-October when several Native American graves were discovered. Two graves are in Davidson County and four are in Williamson County.

Bikeway project

After numerous bureaucratic delays, the City received federal government approval from the State of Tennessee, Department of Transportation for the Bikeway Project in Forest Hills. Vice Mayor John Lovell spear-headed this project and we congratulate him

on reaching a successful conclusion.

Meetings and City hotline

Please remember the City hotline has current information on City meetings as well as chipper service and is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week at 298-5389.

The City of Forest Hills Board of Commissioners meets at 5 p.m. on the second Thursday of every month in the City office. It opens with a public hearing that all city residents are invited to attend.

Minutes from board meetings

July — December, 1999

NES and power outages

Ed Ghianni of 6013 Andover Drive complained of frequent power outages and described his efforts to bring the outages to the attention of the appropriate person at NES. He spoke to Metro Councilman Ron Turner and Bill Baird of NES. Baird agreed to evaluate the problems in that area. Mayor Charles Evers stated that City Manager Tom Balthrop asked NES to aggressively address these concerns and agreed to contact the Chairman of NES.

Intermedia

City attorney Jonathan Harwell met with John Kennedy of Metro Legal Department regarding the potential collection of prorata portion of cable revenues by the City. Kennedy presented tentative figures, representing a 5% franchise fee of receipts from City residents covering a one-month period. Additional information would be obtained and presented to the cable chairman, after which final negotiations concerning any intergovernmental agreement between Metro and the City could begin.

Standard Building Code

City attorney Harwell reported that language reflecting the City's requirement for compliance with the Standard Building Code was added to the City's building permit.

Hounds Run

City engineer Mark Jones reported that the final fill on the retaining wall on the Mirsaidi project in Hounds Run would soon be complete. Ron Jones, the consulting engineer, would determine if a change of plans would be needed regarding the construction of a second wall. City attorney Harwell added that any change in the plans required approval by the Hounds Run

Homeowners Association as well as the city.

Telecommunications towers

Ed Ghianni of 6013 Andover Drive reported that he experienced poor television reception. He believed the "shadows" he observed are related to telecommunications towers. The Mayor noted for the record that the Tritel antenna recently approved by the Commission is on the GTE tower, which is on the WKRN property and therefore is not a new tower.

Cliftee repairs

City engineer Jones reported that repairs on Cliftee Drive were completed under budget. Susan Russell of Cliftee Drive requested that certain vegetation, which had been destroyed during the recent Cliftee Drive repairs, be replaced. The Board unanimously authorized the plan.

History project

Commissioner Bill Coke was appointed the City representative contact with Phil Thomason of the State Historical Commission.

City attorney Harwell reported that native grave sites exist in Williamson County near the Hillsboro Road/Old Hickory Boulevard intersection under construction by the Tennessee Department of Transportation. This discovery delayed construction at the intersection. Harwell expressed his concern about disturbing valuable archeological and cultural resources in the City. He recommended an amendment to the City Zoning Ordinance which would require a study to insure that no such sites would be disturbed prior to construction within city limits. Mayor Evers mentioned the various Civil War sites within the city and Commissioner Coke added that other historic site issues would be addressed.

Additional street lights

City manager Balthrop reported that a resident on Otter Creek Road inquired about the possibility of installing additional lights in the area between Granny White Pike and Robert E. Lee Drive. Balthrop agreed to visit the area and make a recommendation for additional lighting, if necessary. Commissioner Coke observed that residents should be consulted before a final decision is made about the installation of the street lights.

Notices were sent to residents along Otter Creek Road and Robert E. Lee Drive for input on the proposal to add additional street lighting in those areas. Balthrop received a total of 10 responses, 6 in favor and 4 opposed. Mayor Evers received two calls in favor of the proposal.

Building plans

City engineer Jones reported on building plans he reviewed for Lot 5 in the Castlewood subdivision. Jones reviewed three sets of house plans. The Board also discussed property located at 1500 Chickering Lane consisting of 1.96 acres. Mayor Evers inquired if construction could proceed on a lot that was less than two acres. City manager Balthrop responded that this was a previously existing

lot (platted prior to the city's Zoning Ordinance) and as long as the setback requirements were met, construction would be allowed under the zoning ordinance.

City contracts

In July, a one-year contract with Coke Tree Surgery for chipper service was unanimously approved.

The City approved a contract with Hughes Construction Company for another year.

Around town

J.B. Paul of 6113 Gardendale reported that he is experiencing problems with dogs not properly contained by his neighbors. Paul asked if the letter which was distributed by the City regarding Metro's leash law could be revised to specifically address pet owner's liability resulting from accident or injury caused by unsupervised pets. Metro is responsible for enforcement of its leash law.

The City presented Mrs. Mildred Piepmeier, wife of former City engineer Arthur Piepmeier, with a plaque memorializing his 40 years of service to the City of Forest Hills. Both Mayor Evers and Balthrop remarked about their close personal friendships with Mr. Piepmeier. 🌳

Percy Priest news



Editors note: We welcome a new feature to the Forest Hills newsletter – Percy Priest News. The column will update the community on current happenings at Percy Priest Elementary, the only school in Forest Hills.

In August, Percy Priest welcomed a new principal, Mrs. Teresa Barnes. The school was in the process of applying for accredita-

tion with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools at the time of her arrival.

Percy Priest is in the midst of building an addition to the west side of the building. This addition will include seven new classrooms, an art room, a large storage area and a playroom/community gathering place. The main office will also be renovated.

Forest Hills' residents are encouraged to visit Percy Priest and share in its progress and improvement. 🌳

Survey finds 7 family cemeteries in Forest Hills

BY FLETCH COKE

Survey Coordinator

Seven family graveyards were found in the city of Forest Hills during a comprehensive survey of family cemeteries in Davidson County.

Of these seven:

- One cemetery is in safe and good condition.
- Two cemeteries indicate restored tombstones.
- Four cemeteries were referred to the state archaeologist.

Three of these are threatened by future development and one is an African-American cemetery with tombstones inscribed U.S.C.T. (United States Colored Troops).

Launched in November, the first section surveyed was the Oak Hill Quadrangle (USGS map), which includes Forest Hills, Belle Meade, Oak Hill and part of Brentwood. This project is in cooperation with the Nashville Town

Committee of the Colonial Dames, the state archaeologist, the Metro Archives, the Metro Planning Commission, and the Nashville Room of the Ben West Public Library of Nashville and Davidson County.

Volunteers transcribed names, dates and other information from the tombstones. The following cemeteries were referred to the state archaeologist: those in safe and good condition,

those threatened by possible future development, those in need of examination for additional graves, and those containing a significant number of African-American graves.

Historical information gathered from these cemeteries will be placed in the Nashville Room. This type of information is helpful to anyone searching for family or community history. 



Everybody counts

In mid-March you will receive a census survey in the mail. It is very important to the economic well-being of our area that you complete and return it as soon as possible. The information you provide is totally anonymous.

In the coming weeks you will see extensive coverage in the media explaining exactly what the census is and why it means so much to our community. Remember: **Everybody counts.**

New city resident *Jane Marcoe* shot a hole-in-one on the 11th hole (120 yards with an 8 iron) at Richland Country Club on February 14.



Neighborhood watch established

More than 150 families are currently involved in the Neighborhood Watch program recently established in the City of Forest Hills to improve neighborhood safety

and security.

For information on joining Neighborhood Watch or to find out who the Block Captain is in your area, call Cynthia Despot at 665-2374. 



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