



FOREST HILLS NEWS

Mayoral candidates to speak at forum July 16

Forest Hills residents will have an opportunity to see and hear the candidates for the office of Mayor July 16 at 7 p.m. at the Brentwood Hills Church of Christ, 5120 Franklin Pike.

The City of Forest Hills, in partnership with the five other independent cities of Davidson County—Belle Meade, Berry Hill, Goodlettsville, Lakewood, and Oak Hill—is sponsoring this forum to hear the candidates' views on "the future of Metro," its current charter, and ways to improve communications and working relationships between all seven local governments.

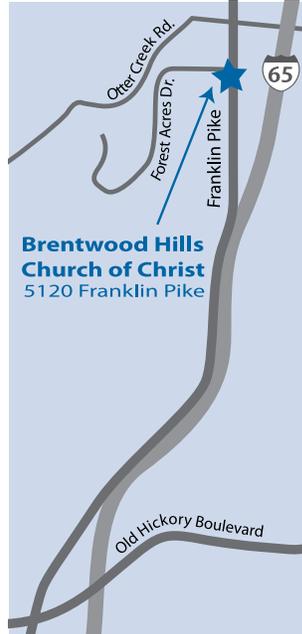
All seven candidates are

expected to attend including David Briley, Bob Clement, Karl Dean, Buck Dozier, Ken Eaton, Howard Gentry, and Cheryl Lynn Tisdale.

Questions to the candidates will be asked initially by Forest Hills Mayor Charles Evers, Oak Hill Mayor Tommy C. Alsup II, Belle Meade Mayor George Crook, Berry Hill Mayor Harold Spray, Lakewood Mayor Jeff Thompson, and Vice-Mayor John Finch of Goodlettsville. Members of the audience will be able to ask questions after the mayors.

The overall theme of the candidate's forum is "A Vision

Continued on page 2



Brentwood Hills Church of Christ will be hosting the forum.

The Mayor's Corner



BY CHARLES EVERS

Vote August 2

On August 2, voters in Metropolitan Nashville and Davidson County will elect a new mayor as well as several members of the Metro Council.

Residents of Forest Hills will have an opportunity to hear the seven candidates for mayor at a forum hosted by the six satellite cities July 16 at Brentwood Hills Church of Christ, 5120 Franklin Pike. I will join the mayors of the other cities in questioning the candidates about their vision for the small cities in the years ahead. Members of the audience can also ask questions.

I urge you to attend this forum so that you can make an informed decision about who will best represent Forest Hills and the city of Nashville for the next four years.

Early voting is July 13-28. (See page 2 for voting sites and hours.) 



David Briley



Bob Clement



Karl Dean



Buck Dozier



Ken Eaton



Howard Gentry



Cheryl Lynn Tisdale

**Mayoral Forum
July 16
7 p.m.
Brentwood Hills Church of Christ**



CITY MANAGER

Al Deck
City of Forest Hills
4012 Hillsboro Road
Nashville TN 37215
Phone: 383-8447

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Charles K. Evers, Mayor
2160 Old Hickory Blvd.
Nashville TN 37215
(H) 373-8239

John Lovell, Vice Mayor
6005 Andover Drive
Nashville TN 37215
(H) 371-1716 (W) 292-9925

William G. Coke
5612 Stanford Court
Nashville TN 37215
(H) 665-1992

CITY ATTORNEY

Jonathan Harwell
1800 First American Center
315 Deaderick Street
Nashville TN 37238-1800
(W) 256-0500

Matt Foster, Assistant City Attorney
1800 First American Center
315 Deaderick Street
Nashville TN 37238-1800
(W) 256-0500

CITY ENGINEER

Brad Bivens
Neel-Schafer, Inc.
Suite 207
4205 Hillsboro Road
Nashville, TN 37215
(W) 383-8420

PLANNING COMMISSION

E. Warner Bass, Chair
Bass Berry & Sims
First American Center
Nashville TN 37238
(W) 742-6210

Winston S. Evans, Vice Chair
1339 Otter Creek Road
Nashville TN 37215
(W) 259-4685

James C. Gardner III
1811 Otter Creek Road
Nashville TN 37215
(H) 665-0936

Em Ghianni
6013 Andover Drive
Nashville TN 37215
(H) 373-1359

Carroll Kimball
1213 Vintage Place
Nashville TN 37215
665-8998

Sandy Moore
2025 Kingsbury Drive
Nashville TN 37215
(H) 373-0239 (W) 252-6867 ext. 146

George David Waller III
P.O. Box 40792
Nashville TN 37204
(W) 256-1316

The mayor, vice mayor, and commissioner also sit on this commission.

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

Janie Rowland, Chair
5912 Hillsboro Road
Nashville TN 37215
(H) 665-0642

Tim Douglas
1621 Otter Creek Road
Nashville TN 37215
(H) 221-4323 (W) 255-1775

Jim Littlejohn
2121 Chickering Lane
Nashville TN 37215
(H) 371-0008 (W) 385-4144

Commissioners meeting
agenda hotline
298-5389

www.cityofforesthills.com

Candidates . . .

Continued from page 1

for Our Area” with specific reference to such questions as:

- How can Metro Government take tangible steps to improve communications and working relationships with the six “independent” cities of Davidson County, including Forest Hills?

- What is the possibility of the 1963 charter that created the consolidation of the city of Nashville and Davidson County being reviewed and possibly revised after being in existence nearly 45 years?

- Are there specific areas that Metro and the “independent cities” can explore that will provide added services to local residents, such as Forest Hills being able to “contract” with Metro Police for added services—including neighborhood patrol and increased traffic enforcement—at a more “reasonable government rate of payment” than the existing \$67.00 per hour rate for one officer/one car?

Dr. Ann-Marie Rizzo, director of the Institute of Government at Tennessee State University, will serve as the forum’s moderator. 

Plan now to vote early

Going on vacation is no longer an excuse. Early voting is offered from July 13 through July 28. Please make note of the times, locations, and dates.

Friday, July 13, through Tuesday, July 17
Early voting only at the Davidson County Election Commission

8 a.m.-6 p.m. except on Saturday, 8 a.m.-noon.
Closed on Sunday

Wednesday, July 18, through Saturday, July 28

Early voting at all locations

Monday-Friday: 8 a.m.-6 p.m.

Saturday, July 21: 8 a.m.-noon

Saturday, July 28: 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Belle Meade City Hall, 4705 Harding Road

Bellevue Mall, 7620 Highway 70 South, Suite 194

Bordeaux Library, 4000 Clarksville Pike

Election Commission, 800 2nd Ave. South

Edmondson Pike Library, 5501 Edmondson Pike

Green Hills Library, 3801 Benham Ave

Hermitage Library, 3700 James Kay Lane

Hickory Hollow Mall, 5252 Hickory Hollow

Parkway, Suite 2071

Madison Library, 610 Gallatin Pike South

Rivergate Mall Area, A-7, 2066 Gallatin Pike 

Thank you Beautification Day volunteers

Mary Burd

Bo Campbell

Sally Campbell

Will Campbell

Dixie Carrigan

Shaun Carrigan and children

Connie Cigarran

Bill Coke

Fletcher Coke

Bob Corney

Shannon Corney

Allison Douglas

Dick Douglas

Tim Douglas

Bettye Carole Douglas

Will Emerson

Shane Franklin

Anna Garber

Betsy Garber

Ed Gore

Conner Gray

Hugh Gray

Jonathan Harwell

Neil Herndon

Joe Huston

Sally Huston

Cathy Jackson

Clay Jackson

Franklin Jarman

Carroll Kimball

John Lovell

Jane McCracken

Mary Margaret McDonough

Freida Mullowney

George Mullowney

Wyatt Mullowney

Nancy Keen Palmer
and granddaughter

Lisa Pote

Rick Sanderson

Mary Singleton

Cindy Spengler

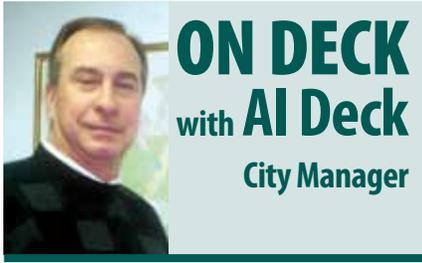
Frank Wade

Silver items found

Several silver items believed to be stolen property were found in a pillow case on Otter Creek Road by a volunteer picking up litter on Beautification Day April 28.

Anyone who has missing items may file a written claim describing the items with the City of Forest Hills, 4012 Hillsboro Road, Nashville TN 37215.

NO PHONE CALLS, PLEASE. 



How much tax do you pay to the City of Forest Hills?

In the 18 months I have been with the City, I have enjoyed fielding questions about “the amount of taxes I pay.” While serving in other cities, that question has occasionally caused heartburn, but not so in Forest Hills.

While you as residents of Davidson County pay a substantial amount in taxes to the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, the amount you pay to Forest Hills is ZERO!

I am always surprised by the number of people who respond with, “but you receive that money back from Metro.” Not true. The only money Forest Hills

has received from Metro has been \$83,000 annually for maintenance of streets. However, Metro has refused to pay those funds for the past two years.

Unless you, as a citizen, develop property; build a house, pool, or accessory building; or improve/change your property in some manner, you may never write a check to the City of Forest Hills. The City assesses fees associated with these projects in order to recap its expenses. Otherwise, the City of Forest Hills does not assess other taxes or fees.

So what is the source of the City’s funds?

We receive a share of the taxes assessed by the State of Tennessee. Two examples of “state shared revenue” are the Hall income tax and the sales tax. One might respond that the City of Forest Hills is still taking money from Forest Hills residents. Actually, no. The State establishes the taxes, takes your money, and shares part of it with the city in which you reside. For example, the Hall income tax is a tax established by the State and assessed on certain types of income. The amount an individual pays in Hall tax is based on income, not residence. An individual pays the same

amount in Hall income tax whether he lives in Memphis, Forest Hills, or Knoxville. If you move from Forest Hills to Brentwood, the State will send the “local share” of your taxes from Forest Hills to Brentwood. If an individual moved to an unincorporated portion of a county, then the distribution would go to that county government.

The sales tax is a similar case. The sales tax has two parts: state and local option. The State of Tennessee’s portion is currently 7%. The local option sales tax is adopted in cities and counties by referendum. In Davidson County the amount is 2.25%. The two portions currently combine for a total sales tax rate of 9.25% in Davidson County. The State shares a portion of its 7% with every city and county and it is allocated on a per capita basis.

The local option sales tax differs in that it is returned to the county and city in which the tax was originally collected. By state law, 50% of the local option sales tax proceeds must be spent on education, while the remaining 50% is returned to the local government. Forest Hills has very few retail businesses within its corporate boundary; however, there is a reasonable amount of potential income in this tax.

I use the word “potential” with this revenue source because Forest Hills has not received its share of the local option sales tax money in 39 years. The Board of Commissioners entered into an agreement with Metro approximately 39 years ago in which the City allowed Metro to keep the City’s portion of the local option sales tax to supplement the County school system. Within the past several months the Board has reversed that decision and cancelled the agreement. Forest Hills will begin receiving its portion of the local option sale tax in July.

I choose this time to address tax issues because we are approaching the Mayoral Candidates Forum, sponsored by Forest Hills and the other smaller cities in Davidson County. Now might be a good time to ask mayoral candidates about how Metro allocates your tax dollars, its resources, and about the percentage of your tax dollars returned to the City in services. The next Mayor of Nashville and Davidson County will have a great influence on these matters.

A huge success on First Beautification Day



Volunteers filled more than 60 bags with litter weighing almost a ton at the first City of Forest Hills Beautification Day April 28.

Co-chairs Sally Huston and Carroll Kimball said at least 42 volunteers collected litter in six target areas covering about three miles.

“This successful event brought to every one’s attention the huge litter

problem in Forest Hills,” said Huston. “It far exceeded what we expected both in volume and content.”

However, we were all very frustrated at the reappearance of litter the day after dedicating our time and backs to cleaning up the rights of way, Huston said.

The second annual Beautification Day will be held next spring.

Right-of-way projects violate zoning

The Board of Commissioners at its June 7 meeting expressed its intent that no fence, wall, gate, entranceway, column, or brick/stone mailbox can be built within the right-of-way.

Any project built within the right-of-way after June 7 will be in violation of the Zoning Ordinance and must be removed.

What is the right-of-way and can I build within it?

A right-of-way is a strip of land reserved for or occupied by a public facility, such as a street, sidewalk, storm sewer line, or another public purpose. The most common right-of-way within Forest Hills is the street right-of-way, including the paved surface, any shoulder, and a strip of land between the paved surface and a resident's lot.

The City also uses rights-of-way for support shoulders, ditches, traffic signs, and drainage facilities. Other public uses of the right-of-way may include water

supply lines, wastewater lines, gas, telecommunications, and cable television. These uses are permitted due to public benefit. However, each utility is required to maintain its facilities, as well as restore any road and drainage facilities that are damaged due to utility work within the right-of-way.

Rights-of-way are often wider than the paved surface

The right-of-way is not just the paved surface. In most cases the right-of-way is much larger than the street. Right-of-way widths vary by street; however, the right-of-way width may be found in one of several documents. For instance, subdivision plats display the right-of-way as dedicated by the developer. Property line surveys may also show the right-of-way in relation to the property line and street.

You may determine the width of a road right-of-way by:

A. Locating corner pins on the prop-

erty. This method is accurate, but it may be difficult to find the pins and markers.

B. Measuring one half the width of the right-of-way from the centerline of the street. This is only a good rule of thumb and is not exact.

C. Surveying by a professional, the most accurate method.

Construction in the Right-of-Way

The City of Forest Hills does not allow construction within its right-of-way. In fact, the Zoning Ordinance requires a variance to build a fence, wall, entranceway, gate, brick/stone mailbox, or column closer than 10 feet to the property line. Remember, the edge of the street is not the property line. Construction of any of the above items also requires a building permit.

Please contact the City of Forest Hills prior to any construction project for assistance in determining where your project can be located. 



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Nashville TN 37215

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