

# FOREST HILLS NEWS

## Federal flood insurance now available

At long last, I am pleased to announce that the City of Forest Hills' application to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) has been approved by the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

This means that any resident of Forest Hills in the identified flood plain now qualifies to purchase federally backed flood insurance. This has been a long process that began in 1991, with numerous filings and re-filings through three presidential administrations.

In June 2004, some 140 residents of Forest Hills were notified by letter that their property was in the 100-year flood plain. As of September 19, 2007, these properties in the Otter Creek Watershed will be able to purchase flood insurance for the very first time.

The insurance may be purchased up to the limits under the Regular Phase of the program from any insurance agent or broker licensed to do business in the state where the insurable property is located.

However, there is a 30-day waiting period before flood insurance coverage goes into effect. For single-family dwellings, the building coverage limit is \$250,000, and the contents coverage limit is \$100,000. Renters can also

protect their belongings by purchasing contents coverage.

Lenders must require borrowers whose properties are located in a designated flood hazard area to purchase flood insurance as a condition of receiving a federally backed mortgage loan in accordance with the Federal Disaster Protection Act of 1973.

The NFIP is implemented through the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

### Mayor Karl Dean with the mayors of satellite cities

Mayor Karl Dean has kept his campaign commitment to meet with the mayors of the satellite cities within the first 30 days of his administration.

On inauguration day September 21, he met briefly in private with the mayors, vice

mayors, and city managers in attendance and repeated his commitment to open communication that he made at the mayoral forum sponsored by the satellite cities July 16.

At a luncheon meeting October 8 with the mayors of Berry Hill, Forest Hills, Goodlettsville, Lakewood, and Oak Hill, Mayor Dean suggested that the mayors meet on a regular basis and again stressed the need for open communication.

There was much discussion on the response time for the police to answer a call. When I asked why it took 27 minutes to get to Percy Priest School recently, he replied that he would look into it.

Overall, it was the general feeling that it was a productive meeting with the new mayor of Nashville. 

## The Mayor's Corner



BY CHARLES EVERS

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### Otter Creek Watershed

The watershed covers the lowlands of Otter Creek, which runs from Granny White near Radnor Lake to Old Hickory Boulevard. The 140 residences in that area now qualify for federal flood insurance.

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 Phone: 383-8447

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

**BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS**

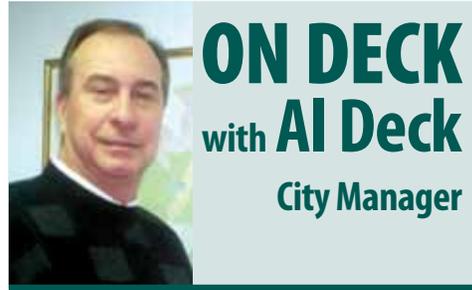
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Commissioners meeting  
 agenda hotline  
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# Why do I need a building permit? What is a temporary structure?



The purpose of the building permit process is not to impose red tape on residents and contractors, but rather to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the community's residents and property.

If your property is located within the City of Forest Hills and you're engaging in any kind of construction, alteration, or improvement of your residence, chances are you'll need a permit and maybe even site plan approval.

Depending on the extent and type of the anticipated construction, the City may require a specific permit for the demolition, grading of the site, construction, or use of public facilities, such as cutting in the roadway. Additionally, keep in mind that "construction" also includes building swimming pools, fences, or patios, and paving driveways or walkways.

## City must review plans

When applying for a permit, the City must review your plans to ensure they are compliant with all applicable ordinances, codes, and standards. For example, the City's site plan review will determine whether your project complies with zoning and grading requirements, use restrictions, and property line setbacks. Depending on the project, the City may also be required to review your plans to ensure compliance with building standards, sanitation, fire and life safety requirements, availability of utilities, and structural integrity. These reviews will take place both before and during construction.

Be aware, though, that the City of Forest Hills does **not** review plans or issue permits for plumbing, electrical, heating and cooling, or water and sewer. These permits are issued by Metro Nashville's Codes Department, which may be reached by calling 862-6500.

## Temporary buildings regulations revised

The City recently revised its regulations for temporary buildings and temporary storage units to clarify the rules and make compliance easier. "Temporary Buildings" are

*Continued on next page*

## Carroll Kimball joins Planning Commission; 3 others reappointed

Carroll Kimball has been appointed to the Planning Commission to complete the unexpired term of Clay Jackson.

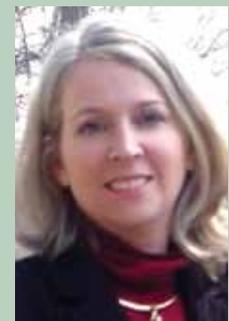
A member of the Cultural and Natural Resources Committee, she was co-chair of the first annual Beautification Day in April 2007.

Reappointed to four-year terms on the Planning Commission are Warner Bass and Winston Evans.

Jamie Rowland was reappointed to a three-year term on the Board of Zoning Appeals.

A resident of Forest Hills for ten years and retired from the banking industry, Kimball hopes her expertise and skills will be of value to the Commission.

"It is so important that we keep the quality of life that defines Forest Hills," she said.



Carroll Kimball

# Foster named city attorney

Matthew Foster has been appointed city attorney of Forest Hills, replacing Jonathan Harwell who resigned after serving 20 years in the position.

Both former assistant city attorney Foster and Harwell are members of Harwell Howard Hyne Gabbert & Manier, the law firm that has represented the City of Forest Hills for many years.

Harwell said it has been an "honor and privilege to serve as city attorney" of this great city and Foster said he "appreciates the opportunity to serve the city and the trust you have placed in me."

Foster, who was named assistant city attorney January 1, represents clients of H3GM in the areas of general business, real estate, and municipal law.

A graduate of Vanderbilt University School of Law, he was selected one of Nashville's "Top 30 under 30 Future Leaders" by *Business Nashville* in 2002.

Mayor Charles Evers said Harwell will be honored for his years of service at a later date.

## On Deck *continued from page 2*

most commonly found on construction sites and are facilities such as construction trailers or portable restrooms. While these structures are allowed, the City requires the payment of a fee and that the structures be removed upon expiration of the building permit.

"Temporary Storage Units," on the other hand, are portable containers or storage units commonly used today for the temporary storage of personal property or equipment, usually when a resident is moving. While there is no fee for use of a portable storage unit, the unit must be removed from the lot within 30 days. Only one unit may be present at a time on a lot. In addition, the City requires that storage units be placed in the rear yard, unless it is otherwise appropriately screened, and in compliance with all other requirements of the zoning ordinance.

As always, if you have questions about the City's ordinances or what permits are required, call the City offices at 383-8447 to request assistance.

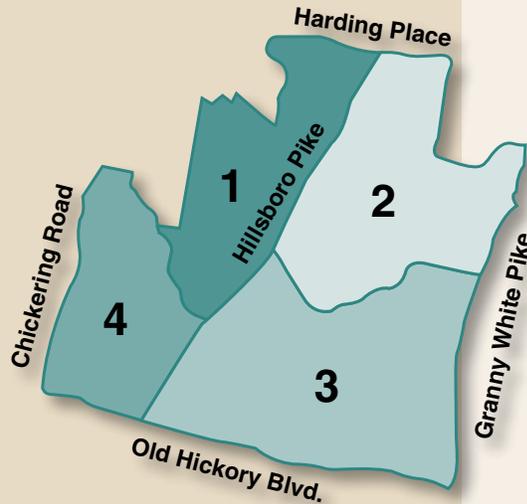
# It's fall and the leaves are falling

Bagged leaves must be placed close to the street in plastic bags. Make sure the bags are securely fastened.

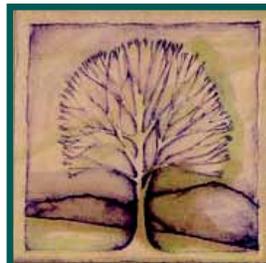
Sticks must be four inches or less in diameter.

Root balls, stumps, and no debris left by professional lawn or tree companies will be picked up.

**Chipper service and leaf pickup is provided in these four areas on a set schedule:**



- Area 1** First week of each month
- Area 2** Second week of each month
- Area 3** Second and third week of each month
- Area 4** Third and fourth week of each month



## From the minutes of **FOREST HILLS**

### Building inspections contracted to Burdette

The City of Forest Hills has contracted with Bill Burdette, a certified building inspector, for all building inspection services including house plans and construction.

Formerly senior inspector for the City of Franklin, he currently handles all building and codes activities for the cities of Oak Hill and Lakewood.

These services were formerly provided by Turner Engineering/Neel-Schaffer Engineering, who will continue to provide engineering services.

The change will result in a reduction in cost, increased visibility, adding struc-

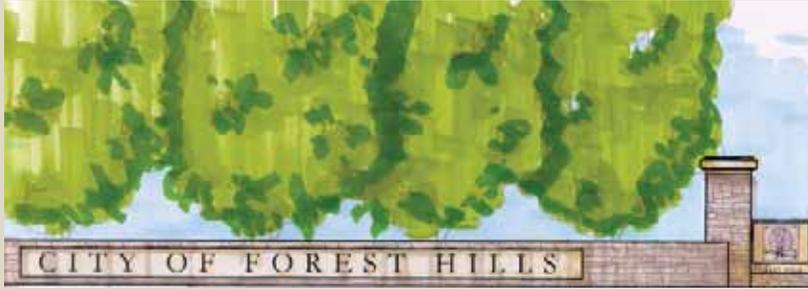
tural plan review, and eliminate deficiencies in the recent Insurance Services Organization report.

### Chipper contract let

The Parke Company was awarded the chipper contract for two years. The company first received the chipper contract in June 2005.

### Lakewood lawsuit appealed

The cities of Forest Hills and Goodlettsville have filed separate briefs with the Court of Appeals of the lower court decision of Chancellor Claudia Bonnyman in the lawsuit brought by all six satellite cities to seek more equitable services from Metro government.



Gateway entrance at Old Hickory Boulevard and Hillsboro Pike

## Gateway entrances, signs receive final approval

Design and specifications of gateway entrances and street signs and posts received final approval of the Board of Commissioners August 2.

Solicitation of bids was authorized for the street signs and posts and the entrance at Old Hickory Boulevard and Hillsboro Pike. 

## Art show, sale to benefit Radnor is November 2-4

Radnor Reflections 2007, an exhibit and sale of paintings featuring beautiful scenes of Radnor Lake and other Middle Tennessee treasures, will be November 2-4 from 6-8 p.m. at the Radnor Lake Visitor Center, 1160 Otter Creek Road.

The "en plein air" artists are members of The Chestnut Group, a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving wonderful areas such as Radnor. Painting "en plein air" (fresh air) is the art of capturing the experience, the light, and the feeling of a scene quickly on canvas and preserving it for the future.

Chestnut Group artists are donating 50% of the proceeds to Friends of Radnor Lake, a co-sponsor of the event. 

  
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