

# Resident sets Radnor benefit

Rock legend and Forest Hills resident Steve Winwood hosts a concert May 18 to benefit Radnor Lake.

The 7 p.m. show at Fontanel on Whites Creek Pike includes special guests Michael Franti and Spearhead. Part of Winwood's UK and USA Tour, the concert features hits from Winwood's days with Traffic, Blind Faith, and The Spencer Davis Group.

Radnor Lake State Natural Area was designated as Tennessee's first natural area and protected ecosystem in 1973 and is visited each year by more than one million people.

Help preserve this pristine area and enjoy a once-in-a-lifetime concert. Tickets are available at Ticketmaster or 800/745-3000.

Patron's Party Tickets are available now in a limited quantity. They cost \$250 per ticket and include premium seats and a pre-concert cocktail party with Steve Winwood. The password is SWFORL2012. If you do purchase Patron's Party tickets, choose the option to print them at home.



## Mooggrass Jam is May 26

The ninth annual Purple Cow Mooggrass Jam benefiting Radnor Lake is May 26 at Granny White Market, 5301 Granny White Pike.

The event always provides great food and family fun, this year including a waterslide and free Icees. Over a dozen bluegrass performers take the stage from 3:30-8:30 p.m.

Tickets for adults are \$20, which includes a T-shirt. Children are admitted free.

## Metro Council hears request for Arnold property zoning variance

By Matt Foster, City Attorney

The Metropolitan Council is considering a bill requested by Granny White Cabin Realty LLC to rezone property located at 5570 Granny White Pike from RS40 to SP-R.

This property, formerly owned by Eddy Arnold, is located east of Richland Country Club, approximately 300 feet north of Oman Drive, and consists of approximately 61 acres.

Because the property is located in Metro Nashville-Davidson County, not in Forest Hills, the Metro Planning Commission and the Metro Council must approve the rezoning request. The Metro Planning Commission voted unanimously on April 12 to recommend

the rezoning proposal. The Metro Council voted unanimously on May 1 to approve the request on first reading.

The bill must still be approved on two additional readings before the Metro Council. The proposal will also be subject to a public hearing. The Metro Council and the developer may amend the bill and the proposal at any time prior to third and final reading.

The current zoning classification for the property, RS40, requires a minimum 40,000-square-foot lot and is intended for single-family dwellings at a density of 0.93 units per acre. This zoning classification will permit 56 homes to be constructed on the

*Continued on page 3*



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## Road paving plan approved

The Board of Commissioners has approved the budget to pave City streets this summer.

Scheduled for paving are:

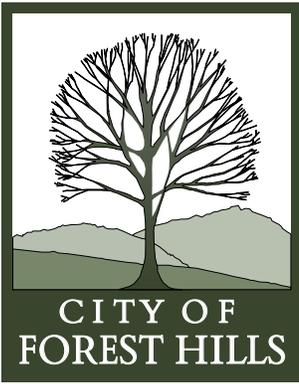
- Beekman Drive
- Blackberry Road
- Chickering Park Drive
- Crater Hill Drive
- Foxwood Road
- Lynnwood Drive
- Ridgewood Drive.

Other streets scheduled to be paved will be posted soon at [www.cityofforesthills.com](http://www.cityofforesthills.com).

The City will advertise and accept bids for the project. Once a vendor is selected, paving will begin as soon as possible.



**MORE INFO**  
[cityofforesthills.com/  
community.html](http://cityofforesthills.com/community.html)



6300 Hillsboro Pike  
Nashville TN 37215  
615/383-8677

CityofForestHills.com

**City Manager**

Al Deck w 383-8447

**Board of Commissioners**

William G. Coke, Mayor H 665-1992

John Lovell, Vice Mayor H 371-1716  
w 292-9925

Lanson Hyde III H 714-9699

**City Attorney**

Matthew Foster w 256-0500

**City Judge**

David McMackin H 394-9365

**City Engineer**

Brad Bivens w 383-8420

**Planning Commission**

E. Warner Bass, Chair w 742-6210

Winston Evans, Vice Chair w 259-4685

James C. Gardner III H 665-0936

Em Ghianni H 373-1359

Carroll Kimball 665-8998

Sandy Moore H 373-0239  
w 850-2723

George David Waller III H 373-2360

The Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Commissioner also sit on this commission.

**Board of Zoning Appeals**

Janie Rowland, Chair H 665-0642

Jim Littlejohn H 371-0008  
w 385-4144

Mark Richard Banks H 447-4262

**Safe location**

In case of storm or natural disaster, Hillsboro Church of Christ at the corner of Hillsboro Pike and Tyne Boulevard will be open to the public as a safe place to come for shelter.

Emergency and Information Line  
**298-5389**

# Census figures lower than expected

The City of Forest Hills looked forward to the 2010 Census with great anticipation. We felt the City had experienced a healthy increase in population; however, the total population issued by the Census Bureau (at just 2.2% increase) fell short of the City's expectations.

Since the State of Tennessee distributes a portion of its income to cities based on population, we also expected an increase in our State Shared Taxes. For the year 2011–2012, the state declared the following distributions, on a per-capita basis:

- Sales taxes, beer taxes, etc. = \$78.28
- Gasoline taxes = \$26.65
- That's a total of \$104.93 per year for every man, woman, and child within the Forest Hills boundary.

If we are correct and the City did have more than 2.2% growth, the City could recover a substantial amount of revenue between now and the 2020 census.

The Board of Commissioners is preparing to challenge the 2010 census. We will begin that process in the next few weeks by reviewing the maps the Census Bureau used to estimate our population. The maps will allow us to determine if the Census used the correct area. Once the boundary is established, the next step is to verify the number of houses, then complete the process by reviewing the Bureau's number of residents per house.

Several problems have contributed to this dilemma. The first is the City's ragged

## Littlejohn honored by engineering society

Jim Littlejohn, vice chair of the Board of Zoning Appeals and president of Littlejohn Engineering Associates, has been selected as the 2012 Engineer of the Year by the Tennessee Society of Professional Engineers.



The award is given annually to the engineer who has made outstanding contributions to his profession, public welfare, and the community. The recipient must have a professional reputation that is more than local in character and whose professional integrity is beyond question.

A resident of Forest Hills since 1985, he has served on the BZA since 1997.



**ON DECK**  
with **Al Deck**  
City Manager



CITY MAP  
cityofforesthills.com/  
about.html

boundary. On occasions the City has received phone calls from homeowners who believed they lived in Forest Hills only to discover they did not.

Likewise several people called after receiving some type of notice and were adamant that they lived in Brentwood or Nashville rather than Forest Hills.

That leads to the second contributing factor: Forest Hills does not have its own ZIP code. It has three: two in Nashville (37215 and 37220) and the other in Brentwood (37027). Therefore, we are unable to distinguish our residents from the neighbors solely by address.

The final factor is communication. Other than this newsletter, Forest Hills does not regularly communicate with property owners. We do not have a property tax, so residents do not receive that dreaded tax bill in the mail. Nor do they write an annual check to "The City of Forest Hills." In fact, unless we send a notice about a zoning issue or some neighborhood matter, you may never receive anything from the City, except a newsletter. Therefore we are using the newsletter to address the issue.

The City would like to solve its identity problem and also resolve another State Shared Tax problem . . . the Hall Income Tax. The City of Forest Hills is identified on the State of Tennessee tax form by the number 1904. If residents are confused about their address, it would follow that they are also confused about the proper number to designate the Hall Income Tax to their hometown (1904).

In the course of this review we may need your help in verifying our population. Not only must we identify flaws in the Bureau's determination; we must also provide the correct information. The project will be labor-intensive, but recovering our share of the taxes you pay each year will help maintain the City's financial well being.

## Commissioners approve meeting once per month

The Board of Commissioners on April 19 approved changing the schedule of board meetings from twice a month to once per month.

Previously, the Commissioners had met every first and third Thursday of the month. Now they will meet only on third Thursdays. The meeting time of 5 p.m. remains unchanged.

In June 2006, the Commissioners changed from one meeting to two per month, due to

an increased workload. The City has completed many of the long-term items that were in progress or in the planning stage at that time, including completion of the new City Hall, a 10-year projection for City needs, and a hazard mitigation plan.

Having the Board of Commissioners meet on the third Thursday coincides with regular Planning Commission meetings, every third Thursday at 6 p.m. The Board of Zoning Appeals meets every third Friday at 8 a.m.

## Arnold property (continued from page 1)

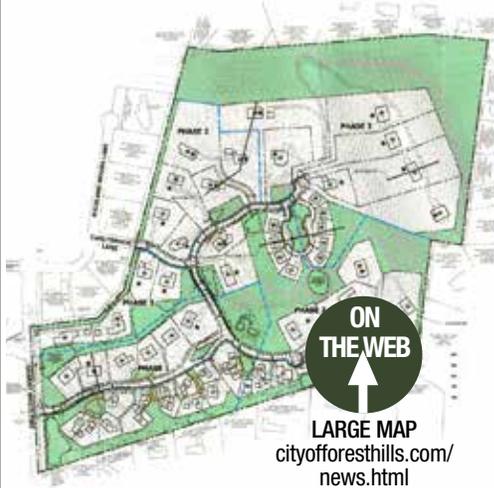
property. The proposed rezoning provides flexible design standards, including lot sizes and setbacks, which permit the developer to cluster homes on smaller lots and to leave trees, hills, and other natural features undisturbed. The proposed rezoning will permit 57 single-family homes. Many of the homes are clustered on small sections of the property in order to protect open space throughout other portions of the property.

The Metro Planning Commission voted to approve the plan based, in part, upon the support of Councilmember Carter Todd, who represents the district where the property is located. He praised the plan's preservation of natural features, and its open space and walkability. Approximately 37% of the property will be protected open space and will allow many mature trees on the site to be saved.

The Metro Planning Commission did, however, condition its recommendation upon a number of items. Those conditions include, but are not limited to, further study of the

necessity for a southbound turn lane on Granny White, reconfiguring certain driveways, and submittal of geotechnical reports.

If approved by the Metro Council, the final site plan must still be approved by the Metro Planning Commission, but without the need for an additional public hearing.



## City moves to allow chickens

Following in the wake of Metro Nashville's recent ordinance permitting residents to keep chickens in the backyard, the Board of Commissioners passed a similar bill on first reading on April 19.

Metro Council made it legal in January for residents to keep no more than six chickens. Forest Hills' ordinance would require residents to get an annually renewable permit. It is patterned after the Metro ordinance, allowing no more than six chickens confined to the backyard.

Backyard chickens have become popular in many parts of the country. Supporters say that chickens are an extension of their garden, and a healthy, renewable food source.

The City's provision prohibits roosters or any other animal that creates a nuisance for neighbors and allows a permit to be revoked and fines levied in the case of non-compliance.

## Hillsboro signs to be replaced

Forest Hills has received approval from Tennessee Department of Transportation to replace sign posts along Hillsboro Pike with a style similar to posts on other City streets.

City Engineer Brad Bivens reports that TDOT will allow the use of decorative breakaway posts. LoJac roadway construction company and Murco Signs are the vendors.

FROM  
FOREST HILLS'  
WINDOWS. . . .

## The Tip of the Iceberg

*Lynne Bachleda created a series of seven panels gracing the walls of the new City Hall. The panels focus on the history of the land around City Hall.*

Edward and Bill Kelly grew up on Forest Hills' City Hall site. "Our uncle, in the mid-1980s, was in his garden and actually tilled up a skull. . . . It's the tip of the iceberg of what's throughout that entire area," they said, finishing each other's sentence. The land south and east of the City Hall intersection has the working name of "Kellytown" among area archaeologists.



Aerial view of Kellytown at Old Hickory Boulevard and Hillsboro Pike



FULL STORY  
cityofforesthills.com/  
history\_panels.html



Golf event coordinator Scott Hayduk, singer-songwriter Rivers Rutherford, and radio personality Billy Block compare notes at the tournament. Scott and Rivers both have children at Percy Priest Elementary, and Billy's children attended there.

### Sponsors

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 Phalanx Risk Solutions  
 Premier Golf Services  
 Mafiaoza's Restaurant  
 Ali Rutherford Interior Designs  
 Up Town Smoke Shop  
 Percy Priest Elementary School PTO  
 State Farm Insurance:  
 Bethany Harbin  
 Dan McGuinness Pub

## Twenty teams tee up to support Percy Priest

Eighty golfers came out swinging at Vanderbilt Legends Golf Course on April 23 to show their support of Percy Priest Elementary PTO's first annual golf tournament.

"The PPE Parent Teacher Organization, the PTO Executive Board, and the student body could not be more pleased with the community involvement and local business sponsorship of our inaugural golf event," said tournament coordinator Scott Hayduk. "We look forward to 2013 to build upon this year's tournament success."

Premier Golf Services, which ran the event, sponsored a \$20,000 prize for a hitting a hole in one, had anyone done so. Other prizes went for longest drive, closest to the pin, and guess-your-distance competition.

The team of Jeff Bates, Lee Swinehart, Steven Proctor and Robert Howell came out on top, shooting 12 under par 71 with a score of 59.



Nashville Tree Foundation board member Eleanor Willis congratulates Consul-General Hiroshi Sato and his wife Yoko. Sato's plaque, a cherry tree carved into cherry wood, commemorates his Victor Johnson Award.

## Japanese consul gets Tree Foundation award

Forest Hills resident Hiroshi Sato, Consul-General of Japan at Nashville, received the Victor Johnson Award from Nashville Tree Foundation for his efforts in planting cherry trees and establishing a Cherry Blossom Festival in Nashville.

Sato received the award on April 27 at Sevier Park as the Tree Foundation recognized winners of the Big Old Tree Contest.

Soon after arriving in Nashville in October 2008, he announced his commitment to plant a thousand cherry trees over 10 years, creating a symbolic bond with Japan.

"When I came here as the first consul-general of Japan, I had a dream of starting a Cherry Blossom Festival and planting 100 trees a year for 10 years, so we would have 1,000 blooming cherry trees in Nashville," Sato said.

"I thought this was a good idea because the cherry blossom is a symbol of friendship between Japan and the United States."

Because of his leadership, 400 cherry trees have been planted so far, including 100 trees in the City of Forest Hills along Hillsboro Pike.

The Victor Johnson Award has been presented annually since 1995 to individuals and companies for contributions to Nashville's urban forest. It was named for the late Victor Johnson for the impact he had on the city's landscape by setting the standard for tree-friendly developers.



FULL STORY  
 nashvilletree  
 foundation.org



## Friends of Radnor Lake Environmental Award

Friends of Radnor Lake presented the 12th annual Environmental Award to Dr. Oliver Yates, seated. He's congratulated by MTSU professor Doug Heffington, TDEC Commissioner Bob Martineau, FORL president Greer Tidwell, and Park Manager Steve Ward.

## The Mayor's Corner

# Proper fences work for the good of all residents

To paraphrase a famous quote about good fences making good neighbors, in Forest Hills we would say, good fences built according to the Forest Hills ordinances will make good neighbors for everyone in Forest Hills.

The whole purpose of *The Amended and Restated Zoning Ordinance of the City of Forest Hills* adopted on January 5, 2012 is to make it possible

for residents to live in harmony within a framework of rules and regulations that “establish a rational pattern of land use; and encourages the most appropriate use of land and enhances property values within the city.”

Nowhere is this more important than with the building of fences by private property owners on their own land. The building of fences is regulated under Article IV, Section 4.08, with the following specific language:

- A permit is required prior to construction of any fence. Each applicant for a fence permit shall pay the fee required.
- Within all residential zoning districts, a fence no more than four feet in height may

be located at any location on a lot.

- No fence shall be constructed on or within any street or public right-of-way; within any section of a recorded public utility, drainage, or detention pond easement; or on private property near an intersection and/or driveway entrance in a manner that creates a visual obstruction or safety hazard for vehicular traffic and pedestrians.

There is a provision in the new ordinance for a five-foot fence in the rear yard. However, it cannot pass the rear corner of the residence.

Other regulations deal with farm fences, chain link fences, barbed wire fences, and solid fences.

The important thing to remember is that **a permit is needed for the construction of any fence.** If there is any doubt in your mind about where and how to construct a fence, get in touch with City Manager Al Deck. He will help you determine how a fence can be built that satisfies your needs and meets the requirements of the City.

By doing this you will ensure that your fence will make good neighbors.



Bill Coke  
Mayor



ZONING ORDINANCE  
[cityofforesthills.com/  
resources.html](http://cityofforesthills.com/resources.html)

## City adopts formal plan to deal with disasters

Following the May 2010 flood, the City's Board of Commissioners recognized the need for a formal plan to address other such emergencies.

To that end, the City hired the firm of AMEC Earth and Environmental to assist in developing a plan and appointed a Hazard Mitigation Committee composed of the Commissioners, representatives of the Planning Commission and the BZA, members of the Cultural and Natural Resources Committee, a representative from Metro Emergency Management, and the City Attorney, Engineer, Planner, and Manager.

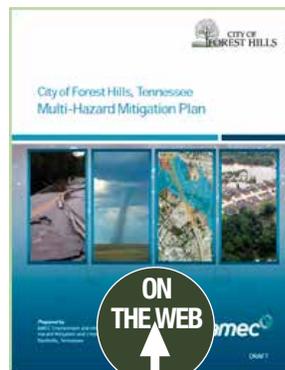
Together, they created a plan and submitted it to TEMA and FEMA for approval. The plan has been approved and was adopted by the Board of Commissioners on April 19.

The plan's intention is to reduce the risk of natural hazards to people, property, and the environment, and improve the capabilities

of the City to mitigate natural hazards and reduce exposure.

The study found Forest Hills to be at greatest risk for damage from tornadoes, winter storms, and thunderstorms that could generate hail, high winds, and lightning.

It found a moderate risk for floods, landslides, and extreme temperatures. The City faces the lowest risk from earthquake, drought, wildfire, dam failure, land subsidence, and expansive soils.



MITIGATION PLAN  
[cityofforesthills.com/  
hazard\\_mitigation.html](http://cityofforesthills.com/hazard_mitigation.html)

## Stormwater system ranked

City Engineer Brad Bivens reported to the Board of Commissioners on the City's drainage system and the condition of culverts and pipes.

Following a recent inventory of the City's stormwater pipes, Bivens created a report using software that shows locations of culverts by category: new, aged, failed, and clogged. The software will allow the City to track conditions of the stormwater system and schedule pipe replacement, much like it does for paving schedules.



### Residential Landscaping

**Permeable Pavement:** Traditional concrete and asphalt don't allow water to soak into the ground. Instead these surfaces rely on storm drains to divert unwanted water. Permeable pavement systems allow rain and snowmelt to soak through, decreasing stormwater runoff.

**Rain Barrels:** You can collect rainwater from rooftops in mosquito-proof containers. The water can be used later on lawn or garden areas.

**Rain Gardens and Grassy Swales:** Specially designed areas planted with native plants can provide natural places for rainwater to collect and soak into the ground. Rain from rooftop areas or paved areas can be diverted into these areas rather than into storm drains.

**Vegetated Filter Strips:** Filter strips are areas of native grass or plants created along roadways or streams. They trap the pollutants stormwater picks up as it flows across driveways and streets.

This stormwater management tip is provided as part of the City's education requirement under its state permit. For more tips visit [www.bit.ly/stormwatersolutions](http://www.bit.ly/stormwatersolutions).



## Make sure man's best friend is a good neighbor

If you are a dog owner, please be considerate of your fellow Forest Hills residents and make sure your animal stays under control at all times.

The City of Forest Hills is governed by Metro Nashville's leash law, which states that dogs must be restrained by leash, fence, or voice command at all times. Dogs that run loose can be caught and held by Metro Animal Control officers until owners pay fines and reclaim them.

The leash law is more than just an ordinance; it's good sense in protecting both the animals and people. Dogs that run loose are in danger of being hit by cars, attacked by bigger dogs, bitten by rabid wildlife, stolen, and more.

Loose dogs also threaten the safety of people as well. Recently,

two youngsters walking to school in Nashville panicked when a pair of dogs started chasing them, and they ran in front of a motorist and were struck by the car.

Another aspect of responsible dog ownership is making sure your pet doesn't disturb the neighborhood with uncontrolled barking. (*See story at right.*) Dogs naturally bark to protect their territory, but barking at other times (such as all day or all night) usually indicates the dog is bored and seeking attention. Be considerate to your neighbors, and ask them to tell you if your pet disturbs their peace.

One final note on being a good neighbor: Carry along plastic bags when you walk your dog, and clean up droppings from public rights-of-way and neighbors' yards.

### Tips to minimize dog barking

- Don't leave your dog alone outdoors all day. Along with potential behavior problems, you also run the risk of unexpected severe weather.
- Create a safe indoor environment while you are gone for the day. Use a crate if you or a pet sitter can walk the dog every four hours. If the dog will be alone longer than that, create a confined area inside using a baby gate or barricade, perhaps in the kitchen or laundry room. Make a toilet area in the corner with newspaper, pads, or doggie litter tray.
- Leave a couple of toys (a new one every week or two) along with any favorite objects. Make a bedding area with dog blankets or pads.
- Be sure the dog has plenty of water. Don't leave out extra food, as the dog may overeat from boredom.
- Turn on soothing music while you are away. Some dog owners tape their own voices to play while they are out.



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