

Special Census enters third phase

Three-quarters of Forest Hills households have responded to the first two mailings of the city's Special Census.

"When the U.S. Census Bureau calculated the population of Forest Hills in 2010, we believe the number of our residents was significantly under-counted," said Mayor Bill Coke. "And that is why we are conducting our own Special Census to document every man, woman, and child who lives in the City of Forest Hills."

Your response is important because these figures determine the City's share of state

CITY OF FOREST HILLS SPECIAL CENSUS

Every response earns hundreds of dollars for City services.

sales tax, gasoline tax, and more, which pays for City services such as repaving streets, snow removal, and improving quality of life.

Some 1362 of the 1820 households in Forest Hills responded to the mailings. Fourteen of the 123 streets in the City have 100% response rates: Altentann, Balleroy, Blackberry Road, Chartwell Manor, Glen Abbey Court, High Estes, Park Ridge Drive, Ridgewood Drive, Robert E. Lee Court, St. James Place, St. Melion, Still Hollow Road, Timothy Drive, and Woodford Place.

Efforts to reach the approximately 450 households remaining include contacts by telephone and in person.

Your privacy is important to the City of Forest Hills. All information collected will be carefully protected and used by the City only for the Special Census.



Over seven tons of materials were recycled at the City's first Fall Clean Out Day.

Fall Clean Out Day a big win for City

By **Lanson Hyde**

Forest Hills Commissioner

The citizens of Forest Hills participated enthusiastically in the Fall Clean Out Day with EarthSavers Recycling on October 13.

Over 275 vehicles came through in four hours' time to drop off goods for appropriate recycling. Together, we kept a large amount of bulky and hazardous material out of the landfill. And it's always a win to gain more space at home.

The numbers are impressive, and the Commissioners wanted to share them.

Residents recycled:

- 3,920 pounds of scrap metal
- 11,096 pounds of electronics
- 42 bags of donated items for re-use
- 100 gallons of automotive fluids
- 21 pallets
- 8 bicycles
- 10 bags of molded Styrofoam and packing pellets
- 10 tires
- Over 30 mattresses/boxsprings recycled by SpringBack Recycling

The City's Spring Clean Out is set for Saturday, April 20.



Lanson Hyde III takes the oath of office at the November Commissioners meeting.

Hyde elected commissioner

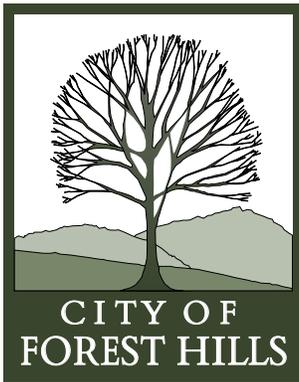
Lanson Hyde III, running unopposed, was elected Commissioner on November 6.

Hyde was appointed to finish the term of Tim Douglas in November 2011. His new term expires in 2016.

At the November meeting, Bill Coke was named Mayor and John Lovell as Vice Mayor. (See page 5.)

Commissioners meet December 13

The Board of Commissioners meeting has been moved to December 13 because of the holidays. The BZA and Planning Commission will not meet in December.



6300 Hillsboro Pike
Nashville TN 37215
615/372-8677
CityofForestHills.com

City Manager

Al Deck w 372-8677

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
309-1324



Traffic backs up while a truck waits to turn at the South Stanford intersection.

City requests Hillsboro turn lanes at Cromwell, North Stanford

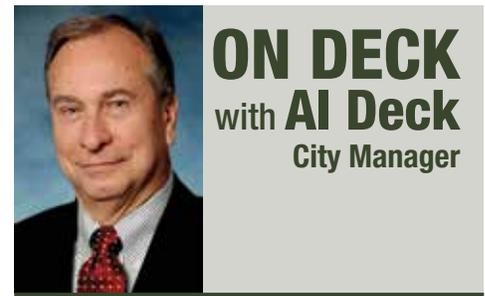
Attempting to make a left turn at an intersection, or even a driveway, can be a frustrating and dangerous effort without a turn lane. We typically imagine two-lane roads in a quiet, rural setting; however, Hillsboro Pike will change that perception during rush hour. Making a left turn from the traffic lane causes backups, delays, and creates a traffic hazard.

While the Board of Commissioners and residents have desired to maintain the rural look, everyone would like to improve the flow of traffic. Left turn lanes are a compromise that removes part of the hazard and delay, without creating a sea of asphalt.

Over the last three years the City has been successful in presenting traffic studies to the Tennessee Department of Transportation. Those studies resulted in construction of two turn lanes at the Hillsboro Pike intersections with Otter Creek Road and Kingsbury Drive. The engineering work for those two projects was conducted by City Engineer Brad Bivens and Neel-Schaffer Engineering.

This year the engineering team evaluated three additional Hillsboro intersections: Cromwell Drive; North Stanford Drive; and South Stanford Drive. The evaluation process considers the total traffic count, but more important is the emphasis placed on the number of left turns during the observation period. The Cromwell study revealed it exceeded the standards for a turn lane and the City will make application for TDOT funding. North Stanford met the minimum standard and will also be included in the application. However, South Stanford failed the minimum standard.

Of the three intersections, South Stanford represents the greatest traffic hazard. South-bound Hillsboro traffic passes the North Stanford entrance and the grade of the highway slowly rises to a peak just 300 feet from South Stanford. Any vehicle attempting a left



turn during rush hour causes traffic to back up very close to the crest of the hill. Unsuspecting South bound drivers top the hill and are surprised to find standing traffic within a hundred feet. In fact, during the observation period the traffic engineers witnessed three near-crashes. The City of Forest Hills certainly understands guidelines and requirements. However, the low number of turns at this intersection does not reduce the risk. To the contrary the infrequent turns make the event even less expected and increases the hazard.

Use the website to email us about your experience with these intersections; we welcome your input. We would like to include your letters with the application and document the history of this situation.

TDOT will consider the requests for turn lanes at Cromwell and North Stanford and inform the City of its decision probably in mid-December. The City will gather more information and ask TDOT again to consider South Stanford at its next quarterly meeting, in March 2013.

The City will re-submit South Stanford and attempt to document the risk and exposure residents face each day. Our hope is that the exposure will mitigate a strict application of the standard in this case.



TRAFFIC FEEDBACK
cityofforesthills.com/
contact.html

The Mayor's Corner

New signage planned for Hillsboro Pike

When the Cultural and Natural Resources Committee made recommendations to the Board of Commissioners that new stone entrance gateways be designed and constructed at Hillsboro Pike and Harding Place and at Hillsboro Pike and Old Hickory Blvd., it also recommended that new signage be installed for the entire length of Hillsboro Pike running through Forest Hills.

This would include speed limit signs, bicycle lane signs, and other highway posted signs. The Committee presented designs for green poles similar to the new street signs already installed in the City. These signs are intended to give a distinctive look that further "brands" Forest Hills as very special place to live.

Because Hillsboro Pike is a Tennessee State Highway, any changes such as new signs have to be approved by the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT). A formal request was made to TDOT shortly after Hillsboro Pike was resurfaced in the fall of 2010. The request included the new green poles, a three-foot-deep concrete foundation for each pole, specially designed breakaway assemblies at the base of the poles, and green paint on the backside of the signs.

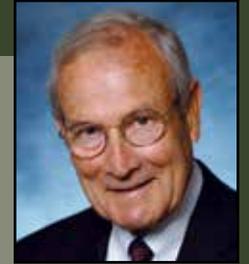
Of the 88 signs presently in place, the City requested that 23 signs not be replaced. TDOT approved the City's request for the new signs and the removal of 23 signs in September 2012.

All signs will meet the requirements of TDOT. Furthermore, the new signs

will include the use of sheeting material meeting the latest federal retroreflectivity requirements, giving heightened visibility at night and during poor weather conditions.

TDOT also approved the City's request that the speed limit be 45 miles per hour on all of Hillsboro Pike between Harding Place and Old Hickory Blvd.

The Murrco Company from Franklin is manufacturing the posts and signs. They are being installed by Jarret Builders. The installation of all new signs should be completed by the end of December.



Bill Coke
Mayor

Congress honors George Langstaff

Forest Hills resident George Langstaff has been honored in the U.S. *Congressional Record* by Representative Jim Cooper, who cited Langstaff's "tireless commitment" and his dedication to mentoring disadvantaged students in Middle Tennessee.

In 1995, recognizing the need to help at-risk young people get a college education, Langstaff co-founded The Sponsors Scholarship Program and raised more than \$2.2 million to assist financially disadvantaged youth. More than 340 area students have been able to get a post-high-school education, thanks to the program.

In addition, hundreds of volunteers provide college counseling and mentoring to help capable high school students succeed in college.

Ridgewood gets guardrails

The City will construct timber guardrails beside a steep bank along Ridgewood Drive.

Landslides caused by floods in May 2010 left the ground unstable, which required excavation and rebuilding the bank with stable soil. The previously wooded terrain now has a steep drop-off, presenting a hazard to drivers.



Paving should finish this month

The City expects to finish its 2012 paving schedule by the end of December. Streets paved this fall are marked in blue on the map above. A map showing the history of street paving in Forest Hills since 1996 is available on the City website.



PAVING HISTORY
[cityofforesthills.com/
services_paving.html](http://cityofforesthills.com/services_paving.html)

Police share information at residents meeting

More than 30 Forest Hills residents gathered on the evening of October 1 for a conversation with Metro Police officers about neighborhood safety and security concerns.

Commander Marlene Pardue and Community Affairs Coordinator Sergeant Twana Chick from the West Precinct each introduced themselves, gave an overview of how Metro Police Department and the West Precinct operate, and then opened the floor to residents' questions.

Neighborhoods in the Forest Hills and Green Hills area are not experiencing significant incidents of crime, they explained. Most frequent are car break-ins caused by motorists leaving valuables in plain sight.

Vandalism in Green Hills is probably a result of adolescent pranks, Chick said. Police see no indication of gang activity anywhere in the area.

They emphasized the importance of reporting suspicious activity as well as any crimes actually committed, because having the "eyes and ears" of people in the neighborhoods often provides information that leads to an arrest. That advice proved its worth shortly after the meeting.

"The policewomen you had recently at City Hall suggested I turn in a burglary report," a Forest Hills resident from Altentann said. "It helped catch a gang who had broken into one of my vehicles."

Sergeant Chick encouraged residents to provide feedback and suggestions any time. Commander Pardue expressed a commitment to respond in a timely manner to every call that comes to the West Precinct.



Sgt. Twana Chick discusses crime and safety issues in Forest Hills at a November public meeting.

Stay safe this holiday season

By Sgt. Twana Chick

West Precinct Community Affairs Coordinator

Several types of crimes show an upward trend during holiday periods.

One that we always see more of around holidays are the reports of thefts from motor vehicles where shopping packages were left in the vehicle.

It often occurs after shoppers make large purchases, returns to their vehicles to drop those packages and then continue shopping.

The easy way to prevent this crime is the same thing that works all year:

- Don't leave valuables in the passenger area of the vehicle.

- Lock such items in the trunk when a trunk is available.

- When no trunk is available, as in SUVs, make sure that valuables are locked in the glove box, and be mindful of where you park in order to lessen your chances for an auto burglary.

- Never leave apparent valuables (shopping bags) where they can easily be seen.

- If you have just made a purchase of several hundred dollars' worth of Christmas gifts, and your window costs \$400 for replacement, I suggest it is well worth it to simply take packages home if you cannot secure them, and then make another trip to the store.

This year, we continue to have more and more thefts that involve debit or credit cards in some fashion.

- Keep them secure. That includes be-

ing mindful of web purchases (make sure it is a legitimate site), never leaving your purse unattended—not even for ten seconds—and never giving your credit card number out over the phone to someone who calls and asks for it.

- If you use your card in a store, make sure it stays in your sight.

- Check your bank account regularly for unauthorized purchases or overages on purchases you made.

- If you use a card instead of checks for most purchases, strongly consider having a card that is attached to a separate account so that if your card does become compromised, it does not also affect your automatic payments of utilities, mortgages and other important items.

Other usual items to reiterate include:

- Don't allow mail/newspapers to accumulate if you are going out of town.

- Have neighbors watch your homes and have a way to contact you in the event of an emergency.

- Report suspicious activity immediately.

- Use timers to activate lights, televisions, etc., to give the appearance that someone is home.

- Park different vehicles in the driveway from time to time.

- Criminals do check neighborhoods ahead of time, so don't give them an easy, predictable pattern.

- Pay attention if you see someone watching you leave, and call the police immediately if you see this.

Resident reminisces about life in area

Historian Lynne Bachleda interviewed longtime Forest Hills resident Edith Bowen Bierman about life in the area before the City was formed.



Edith Bowen Bierman hitches up Old Jim.

Her family has lived on Otter Creek Road since 1938. She shared many memories, including her riding a horse to Burton School during World War II gas rationing, seeing coal smog rising from town on cold days, watching baptisms in Otter Creek, and riding the Interurban from Hillsboro Pike.

A transcript of the 1½-hour interview and more pictures are online.



ORAL HISTORY
cityofforesthills.com/
history_bierman.html

FROM
FOREST HILLS'
WINDOWS. . . .

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.



FULL STORY
cityofforesthills.com/
history_panels.html

Harpeth Presbyterian Church

As Forest Hills City Hall neared completion in 2011, its neighbor near the intersection of Old Hickory Boulevard and Hillsboro Pike celebrated its 200th anniversary. Gideon Blackburn established the church during 1811, and then went on to found First Presbyterian in Nashville. Harpeth Presbyterian's meeting house was the first institutional structure to serve the local community known then as Beechville.



The 1836 structure intersects the modern sanctuary and serves as the church office.

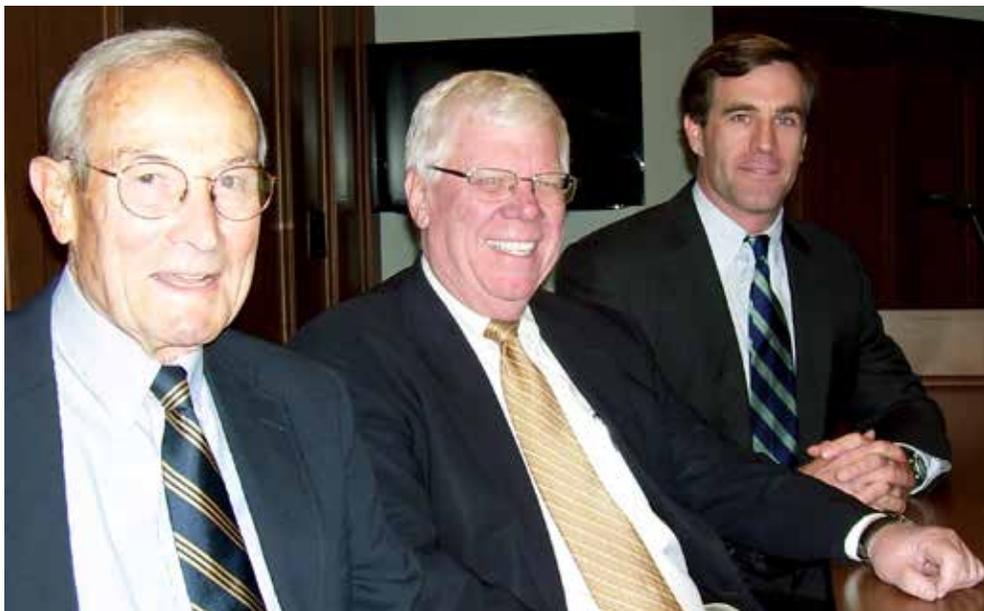


Construction

Erosion controls that aren't maintained can cause excessive amounts of sediment and debris to be carried into the stormwater system. Construction vehicles can leak fuel, oil, and other harmful fluids that can be picked up by stormwater and deposited into local waterbodies.

- Divert stormwater away from disturbed or exposed areas of construction sites.
- Install silt fences, vehicle mud removal areas, vegetative cover, and other sediment and erosion controls and maintain them, especially after rainstorms.
- Prevent soil erosion by minimizing disturbed areas during construction projects, and seed and mulch bare areas as soon as possible.

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.



Officials named

Bill Coke was chosen Mayor and John Lovell named Vice Mayor after Lanson Hyde III's election as Commissioner in November.

Kato named consul-general

Motohiko Kato was named the new Consul-General of Japan in Nashville October 15.

The Japanese consul makes his home in Forest Hills.

Kato has worked for Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs since 1982, including stations in Afghanistan, the United States, and the Philippines.



"I feel very honored to have an opportunity to serve and am determined to do my best at this new post," he said.

The Consulate-General of Japan in Nashville has jurisdiction over Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Tennessee.

Help lost dogs find their way home

Stray dogs in a residential area like Forest Hills almost always are someone's pet that has wandered off and got lost. If a lost dog shows up in your yard or at your door, use caution as you do what you can to find its owner.

Consider your own safety as well as the safety of the dog as you approach it. The dog almost certainly is frightened and may be sick or injured—conditions that can make even the most passive animal behave unpredictably. Don't make any sudden move or frightening gestures.

Trust your instincts and call animal control if the dog seems dangerous.

If the dog seems easy-going, approach it slowly and quietly. If possible, slip a collar or leash on the dog to make it easier to examine and to prevent it running away.

First check to see if the dog is wearing an identification tag with the owners' name, address, or phone number, or a rabies tag. The rabies tag will have information about where the rabies shot was administered (veterinarian, shelter, clinic) as well as an identification number; who-

ever gave the shot will have records tying the number to the owner.

If the dog is wearing an "invisible fence" collar, open the collar as though to replace a battery. You should find a serial number inside the collar; contact the company to find out who owns the collar and the dog.

Also check the animal for an identification tattoo, especially inside the ears.

If you've checked thoroughly without finding a clue to identify the dog, you can take the animal to a veterinarian or animal shelter and have it scanned for a microchip with contact information.

Finally, you can notify area veterinarians and animal shelters that you have found it. Experts suggest that you describe the dog without referring to any specific breed. Say "small white dog with curly hair" rather than poodle, or whatever breed you think the dog looks like.

Remember, the dog's owner is trying to find you. Spread the word throughout the neighborhood. In nice weather, take the dog walking around the neighborhood and talk to anyone you pass outdoors.



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