

Forest Hill to Celebrate 65th Birthday with Open Houses

On March 16, the City of Forest Hill will celebrate its 65th birthday. To mark this event, a citywide open house is planned to give citizens an opportunity to see inside city operations. Starting at noon on Wednesday, March 16, open houses will be held at the following:

- New City Hall, 3219 California Parkway
- New Fire/Police Substation, 6800 Forest Hill Dr.
- New Public Works Facility, 3101 Horton Rd.
- New Public Library, 6962 Forest Hill Drive

There will be treats and tours at each location. Public Works employees will be cooking hotdogs, the Library will be popping popcorn, City Hall will have birthday cake and punch and the Police/Fire Substation will surprise everyone with their treat.

Local citizens are encouraged to come by and tour the facilities during the open house. In addition, a commemorative program will be held at 7 p.m. at City Hall.

Garden at Beal Elementary includes Lizard Lounge

TV cameras rolled, volunteers dressed in matching t-shirts and students pitched in to help with what looked like an episode from a Home and Garden special. Harlean Beal Elementary was the scene of all this activity on February 15 where the installation of a REAL school garden took place. This garden is designed to help boost academic success, nurture healthy lifestyles and connect students to nature in Forest Hill! It even includes a place for critters – a lizard lounge.

Volunteers from the Forest Hill Lions Club, Mercedes Financial and parents and volunteers



Volunteers move dirt during REAL garden project.

from the school worked together to build, plant, move dirt and beautify the garden which is located on the north side of the building which can be viewed from the parking lot.

Time to celebrate!
Forest Hill's 65th Birthday
Wednesday, March 16, Noon to 5 p.m.
Citywide Open House - come by for a tour and a treat:

New City Hall 3219 California Parkway	New Public Works Facility 3101 Horton Road
New Fire/Police Substation 6800 Forest Hill Drive	New Public Library 6962 Forest Hill Drive

Commemorative Program at City Hall at 7 p.m.

Signups for Library Board, Mayor and Council Places Underway

A joint election with the Forest Hill Library District will be conducted by Tarrant County on Saturday, May 14. The election includes Mayor, three City Council slots and three Library Board seats with signups already underway.

Terms which expire this year are: Mayor James Gosey, who is presently completing his fourth term as Mayor; City Council Place 4, presently held by Mayor Pro Tem Dulani Masimini who has been acting mayor while Gosey is on suspension; City Council Place 5 presently held by Council Member Andrew Sanders who is completing four years on the Council; and Place 6 held by Mustafa Sami who is completing four years on the Council.

On the Forest Hill Library Board of Trustees, three places are up for grabs this year - Place 1 held by Charlotte Hogan-Price, Place 2 held by Alice Singleton and Place 3 held by Johnnie Turner.

Those wishing to run for office should pick up an appli-

cation at the City Secretary's office at City Hall during regular office hours. When the application is filed, the candidate will receive a packet explaining various procedures. Candidates must reside in Forest Hill and must be qualified voters. The deadline for filing for a place on the ballot for City Council or Library Board is Monday, March 14 at 5 p.m. The drawing for places on the ballot will occur at 10 a.m. Wednesday, March 16 in the City Secretary's Office. The deadline for a candidate to withdraw is 5 p.m. Tuesday, March 22.

Early voting by personal appearance will be held Monday, May 2, through Thursday, May 10, weekdays from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. at the Community Center.

The election will be held at the Community Center, 6800 Forest Hill Drive, on Saturday, May 14, with polls open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

For more information, contact the City Secretary at 817-568-3000.

Public Works Supervisor Roberto Duenes, City Manager Sheyi Ipaye, Council Member Damian Dalcour and workers examine a collapsed sewer line on Carriage Hill Drive between Robindale and Wagonet. The emergency replacement is being handled by a local contractor, SHUC, including installation of 400 feet of 12 inch sewer line at a cost of almost \$24,000 plus another \$10,000 for street repairs to be done by Forest Hill crews in order to save money on the project.



A message from Fire Chief Ed Henderson Children Under 5 are Most Vulnerable to Fire

Children age four and younger are generally not able to safely make their way out of a house fire without help. This group accounts for roughly half of all children deaths and injuries suffered in fires. Children younger than five accounted for 52% of the deaths of children younger than 16 in fires in 2007, and were 46% of the injuries that year. The absence of a working smoke detector has been linked to nearly 25% of fatal residential fires.

Therefore, children need to be rescued. If adults don't know what's going on until it's too late, children are going to perish.

On a national level our numbers are getting worse, however, to combat this problem, several agencies have launched a national campaign to promote fire safety. FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Administration), will post safety tips and other information at www.ready.gov/

[kidsfiresafety.com](http://www.kidsfiresafety.com). FEMA also is promoting a dialogue on Twitter, using the hashtag #kidsfiresafety.

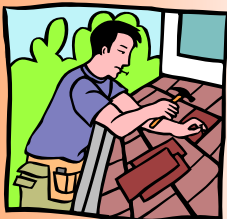
If you need assistance with developing a fire exit plan for your home, or to address your smoke detector needs, please contact your local fire department officials (Fire Chief Ed Henderson or Fire Marshal Randy Chapman) at 817-531-5715.

Safety Comes First!

Important Numbers

Atmos Energy (gas)	1-800-460-3030
AT&T	1-800-464-7928
City Offices and Departments	
Animal Control (Police Department)	817-531-5420
Building Official	817-531-5718
City Hall	817-568-3000
Code Enforcement/Planning & Zoning	817-806-4701
Fire Station – Main Number	817-531-5716
Municipal Court	817-568-3046
Permits Department	817-531-5715
Police Department	817-531-5250
Public Works	817-531-5700
Senior Citizen Center	817-293-8319
Water Department	817-568-3030
Water (Leaks in street)	817-531-5700
or after hours - Police Department	817-531-5250
Charter Communications (Cable TV)	1-888-438-2427
County Commissioner Roy Brooks	817-370-4500
Forest Hill Action Group	817-483-8857
Forest Hill Ballpark/FHYA	817-478-9941
Forest Hill Library Office	817-551-5354
Forest Hill Lions Club	817-572-2334
Forest Hill Senior Citizen Center	817-293-8319
Garbage (IESI) including large item pickup	817-222-2221
Head Start Program	817-483-0545
Health Department	817-871-7200
Meals on Wheels	817-336-0912
Social Security	1-800-772-1213
Southwestern Bell Telephone	817-464-7928
State Rep. Marc Veasey District 95	817-339-1430
State Senator Wendy Davis District 10	817-332-3338
Tarrant Appraisal Office	817-284-0024
Tarrant County Transportation Service (seniors & disabled)	817-336-8714
TXU Energy (electric)	Metro 972-791-2888
Oncor (electric emergencies)	1-800-233-2133
Oncor Street Light Outage Toll Free	1-888-313-4747
U.S. Representative Dr. Michael Burgess	817-531-4570
Medical, Police Emergencies	9-1-1

House need repairs? Rehab Program May Fix Your Problems



The City of Forest Hill and The Tarrant County Community Development and Housing Division have partnered to create the "Home Owner Rehabilitation Program."

Eligible participants must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Have an annual income below the HUD established income limits
- Own your own home (place of

residence for at least one (1) year)

- Have no more than two (2) liens placed against the property
- Meet at least one of the following criteria-
 - 62 years of age or older
 - disabled
 - handicapped
 - family with dependent children

The types of repairs covered include roof, foundation, plumbing, electrical and weatherization. To find out more about this program or other related programs, call 817-850-7940 during normal business hours.

Great Texas Warrant Roundup begins March 5

Representatives of law enforcement agencies and courts from more than 240 jurisdictions across Texas

**COMING SOON a STATE-WIDE
WARRANT ROUND-UP**
Forest Hill
Municipal Court  **817-568-3046**

announced recently combined efforts to host the fifth annual Great Texas Warrant Roundup beginning Saturday, March 5.

The roundup is designed to target thousands of defendants with traffic, parking, city ordinance, penal code and higher charge warrants from participating jurisdictions. It is believed to be the largest joint operation of its kind with arrests expected to continue for several days.

Hundreds of thousands of notices were recently mailed statewide by participating entities.

Numerous counties, justices of the peace, constables and municipalities of all sizes will

participate in the roundup.

Specific information as to the number of outstanding warrants, how to

take care of warrants prior to arrest, and any other special roundup activities or events may be obtained by contacting the representative for each agency.

Affected persons are urged to contact the appropriate jurisdiction or jurisdictions during the next two weeks to dispose of their cases voluntarily to avoid the inconvenience and embarrassment of arrest at home or work in front of family, friends or co-workers. If you have outstanding warrants in the City of Forest Hill, please contact the Municipal Court Office at 817-568-3046. You may also visit our website @ www.foresthilltx.org to make a payment.

Free income tax help available at two sites

Free tax preparation for families with an annual income of \$50,900 or less is now available in Forest Hill. The VITA sites offer high quality tax preparation services and all sites are IRS certified as well as the staff and volunteers. Free Individual Taxpayer Identification Numbers (ITINs), amending tax returns, and extensions on returns are available.

Tax preparation will be available though April 14 in Forest Hill on Mondays and Thursdays, 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Tuesdays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Community Center, 6800 Forest Hill Drive.

More information is available by calling 211.

In addition, free income tax preparation is available to all senior citizens and low income families each **Tuesday** continuing through mid-April from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Forest Hill Senior Citizen Center, 7004 Forest Hill Drive. Participants are reminded to bring all paperwork, especially their Social Security cards to ensure accuracy. **Appointments are necessary** and are available by calling Center Director Bettie Sheffield at 817-293-8319.



The Forest Hill Senior Center crowned a king and queen at their annual Valentine's Day Party on February 14. Honored were Rev. Gene Taylor and his wife, Wanda. They have been married for 10 years. She is the mother of four boys and he has three girls. Rev. Taylor is pastor of White Rock Fellowship Church. The senior citizens enjoyed a full day of food and fun! They invite all senior citizens to come and "hang out." For information call, the center at 817-293-8319.

Forest Hill News is published each month and provided to Forest Hill residents. The Forest Hill News publishes community news but reserves the right to refuse or edit advertising and editorial copy. Articles appearing in the Forest Hill News are the sole responsibility of the City of Forest Hill and do not necessarily reflect the opinions or policy of the publishers. The publishers are not held liable for any incident which may result from use or misuse of the information.



Ask the Doctor

Stephanie Menes, M.D.
Forest Hill Medical Clinic

What's the best thing I can do for my health?
Crystal B.

Easy answer – stop smoking! You'll start to see benefits within days, as the harmful chemicals and poisons in tobacco leave the body. Within weeks, your circulation and lung function will improve, and you'll notice significantly less coughing and wheezing. And in the months that follow, your risk of heart disease and cancer will diminish, and continue to decline gradually thereafter.

Your community physician, Dr. Menes can treat illnesses, manage chronic diseases including diabetes and high blood pressure, and help you stop smoking. Same day appointments are usually available.

Forest Hill Medical Clinic
6619 Forest Hill Drive, Suite 30
817-563-6985



Community Calendar March 2011

March 1

City Council Workshop and Meeting - 6 p.m. – New City Hall.

March 2

Senior Center Council Meeting, 9 a.m. at the Center.
The Forest Hill News arrives at your door.

March 3

Senior Birthday Party for those with March birthdays.

March 4

Senior Center Food Day for regular attendees.

March 7

Blood pressure checks & BINGO – Senior Center - 9:30 a.m.
Historical Commission Meeting, 10 a.m. – Library. Interested persons invited.
Planning & Zoning Commission, 6 p.m., at the City Hall.

March 9

Senior Center Craft Class – Embellished Photo Frame - 10 a.m.

March 11

Senior Citizen St. Patrick's Day Dance. Details – 817-293-8319.

March 13

Daylight Saving Time begins at 2 a.m. Set your clock forward one hour and change your smoke detector battery.

March 14

Blood pressure checks & BINGO – Senior Center - 9:30 a.m.
Parks & Clean City Commission Meeting - 6 p.m. – New City Hall.
Police Alumni Association Meeting - 6:30 p.m. - Police Station.
Friends of the Library Meeting - 7 p.m., - Library. Info: 817-551-5354.

March 15

City Council Workshop and Meeting - 6 p.m. – New City Hall.

March 16

City 65th Birthday Open House, Noon to 5 p.m. Commemorative program at 7 p.m. – City Hall. (See related article.)

March 17

Happy St. Patrick's Day

March 21

Blood pressure checks & BINGO – Senior Center - 9:30 a.m.
Community Development Corporation Meeting - 7 p.m. – New City Hall.

March 28

Blood pressure checks & BINGO – Senior Center - 9:30 a.m.
Library Board Meeting - Info: 817-551-5354.

April 4

Blood pressure checks & BINGO – Senior Center - 9:30 a.m.
Historical Commission Meeting, 10 a.m. – Library. Interested persons invited.
Planning & Zoning Commission, 6 p.m., at the City Hall.

All meetings are subject to change. Look for agenda postings in front of City Hall prior to scheduled public meetings. City info available: www.foresthilltx.org.

April 5

City Council Workshop and Meeting - 6 p.m. – New City Hall.

April 6

Senior Center Council Meeting, 9 a.m. at the Center.
The Forest Hill News arrives at your door.

Neighborhood Watch:

Neighborhood Watch Meeting is held on the first Thursday of the month, 7 p.m., Church of Christ in Forest Hill, 3916 Forest Hill Circle. Info: 817-988-3360.

Library Happenings, Information:

817-551-5354
ESL Classes, Tuesday & Thursdays, 6-7 p.m., at the Library.
Chess Club, Thursdays, 4-6 p.m. at the Library.
'Tween & Teen Nite at the Library, Thursdays, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.
Driving Safety Classes – Info: 817-293-0823.
Check out the new website: www.foresthillpubliclibrary.org.