

Election Day – May 14

Early voting underway for Mayor and Three Council Places



James Gosey
Mayor



Gerald Joubert
Mayor



Lyndia Thomas
Mayor



Jesse Major
Mayor



Dulani Masimini
Place 4



Ozell Birks
Place 4



Charlie Smith
Place 5



Bob Shanklin
Place 5



Andrew Sanders
Place 5



Steve Marshall
Place 6



Malinda Miller
Place 6



Beckie Hayes
Place 6



Mustafa Sami
Place 6

On Saturday, May 14, voters will go to the polls to elect a mayor and three council members. An election is not necessary for the Library Board since those three places are unopposed. Information the candidates gave when they registered to run for office includes:

Mayor:

Incumbent James Gosey, age 48, is seeking a fifth term in office. Gosey lives at 3839 Lon Stephenson Road and has lived in the city for 22 years. He is an electrical engineer, communications officer and property manager.

Gerald Joubert, age 51, who is serving in City Council Place 3, is also seeking the mayor's slot. He lives at 7329 Falmouth and has been a resident for 23 years. He lists his occupation as security.

Lyndia Thomas, age 59, is presently serving in City Council Place 2 but is also running for mayor. She lives at 6941 Windy Hill and has been a resident for 31 years. She is retired.

Jesse Major, age 58, is seeking the mayor's post. He lives at 4200 Forest Hill Circle and has been a resident for 55 years. He is a security guard.

Place 4:

Dulani Masimini, age 38, is seeking a third term in Place 4. He resides at 6904 Stonewall Road and has lived in Forest Hill for 38 years. He is in education.

Ozell Birks, age 60, lives at 3300 Railfence Road and has been a resident for 36 years. He is in appliance repair.

Place 5:

Charlie Smith, age 56, lives at 3901 Panama Street and has been a resident for 50 years. He works for Tarrant County.

Bob Shanklin, age 84, lives at 3716 Orchard and has been a resident for 46 years. He is retired.

Incumbent Drew Sanders, age 63, who is completing four years on the Council, lives at 4635 California Parkway and has been a resident for 34 years. He is retired.

Place 6:

Steve Marshall, age 55, lives at 3309 Bunker Hill, and has been a resident for 20 years. He is in home health.

Malinda Miller, age 65, lives at 4205 Burly Street and has been a resident for 20 years. She is a nurse.

Beckie Hayes, age 52, lives at 7317 Woodbridge Drive, and has been a resident for 20 years. She is retired.

Mustafa Sami, age 57, lives at 6401 Friar Court, and has been a resident for 31 years. He is completing four years on the Council and is a contractor.

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.

Forest Hill earns Distinguished Budget Presentation Award

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) recently announced that the City of Forest Hill, Texas, has received the GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its budget.

The award represents a significant achievement by the entity. It reflects the commitment of the governing body and staff to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting. In order to receive the budget award, the entity had to satisfy nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation. These guidelines are designed to assess how well an entity's budget serves as:

- a policy document
- a financial plan
- an operations guide
- a communications device

Budget documents must be rated "proficient" in all four categories, and the fourteen mandatory criteria within those categories, to receive the award.

A formal presentation of the Award will be planned in the near future. City Manager Sheyi Ipaye extended thanks to all staff members for their efforts in earning this award.

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View past editions of this paper at <http://www.foresthilltx.org/residents/news.htm>

City Council holds two busy meetings

City Council Meeting – April 5, 2011

The Forest Hill City held a pre-council workshop at 6:00 p.m. with the regular meeting beginning at 7 p.m. with Mayor Pro Tem Dulani Masimini conducting. Council Member Damian Dalcour was not in attendance and Mayor James Gosey was on suspension. All other council members were in attendance.

- Invocation was offered by Fire Chief Ed Henderson followed by the pledges to the flags.
- A proclamation was presented to County Commissioner Roy Brooks by the Mayor Pro Tem and Law Enforcement Explorers displayed awards earned at a recent event.
- Pearl Jones, Chair of the Parks and Clean City Commission, reported on activities and plans for that group.
- Mayor Pro Tem Masimini gave an update on “Boerne is One Tech-Smart City.”
- The City Manager’s report included:
 - Police and Fire Departments Strategic Plans presented by those department heads
 - Police Department Profiling Report
 - Update on Budget and Amendments.
- Citizens Presentations included Rev. Tatum from the Southern Christian Leadership Conference speaking on an upcoming conference, plus Jimmie Sanders, Bessie Johnson, Brenda Scruggs and Loretta Muldrew.
- Minutes of the March 8, 2011 City Council were unanimously approved.
- No action was taken on the process for open records requests.
- The Council unanimously approved a combination of two items – Mid-Year Budget Review and Budget Amendments.
- An item changing City Council Meetings back to one per month was pulled by Council Member Lyndia Thomas.
- The Council unanimously approved appointing Mario Perez as an additional Associate Municipal Court Judge.
- The Council unanimously approved the purchase of a street sweeper for \$135,000 after discussion.
- Michael Harris was appointed to the Planning and Zoning Board and other appointments to Boards, Committees and Commissions were unanimously tabled until the next meeting.
- An item dealing with the upcoming Community Development Corporation’s trip to the ICSC in Las Vegas was pulled from the agenda.
- A rate increase of 12 cents to \$10.51 for IESI (garbage contractor) was unanimously approved.



Mayor Pro Tem Dulani Masimini presents proclamation to County Commissioner Roy Brooks.



Forest Hill Law Enforcement Explorers show off awards earned at recent event.

- The Council held an executive session to consider several posted items.

Regular City Council Meeting – April 19, 2011

Prior to the start of the meeting, Mario Perez was sworn in as an Associate Forest Hill Municipal Court Judge. The oath was delivered by Judge Glenn Lewis.

- The Forest Hill City Council met on Tuesday, April 19, at 7 p.m. at City Hall with Mayor Pro Tem Dulani Masimini presiding. There was no workshop. Attending were Council Members Damian Dalcour, Lyndia Thomas, Gerald Joubert, Andrew Sanders and Mustafa Sami. Mayor James

Gosey was out of town. Invocation was offered by Rev. Earl Griggs followed by the pledges to the flags.

- City Manager Sheyi Ipaye reported on the following:
 - Update on the City of Forest Hill Home Rehabilitation Program
 - Update on 2010 Census data and youth information
 - Update on 2011 State-Wide Warrant Round-Up results
 - Update on the New National League of Cities Service Line Warranty Program
- Jimmie Sanders, Loretta Muldrew and Sal Espino, Fort Worth City Council Member District 2, spoke during citizens presentations.
- A representative of ADR Designs spoke during a public hearing on a request for a Specific Use Permit for a hotel facility to be located at 3200 Forest Hill Circle.
 - Minutes of March 15, 2011 regular council meeting were approved during the consent agenda with Joubert abstaining from the vote. All others voted aye.
 - A Joint Election Agreement and Contract for Election Services with Tarrant County for the May 14, 2011 election was unanimously approved following discussion with Library Board Members.
 - No action was taken regarding City of Forest Hill City Charter application 10.03 form requirement for candidates.
 - Armando Villarreal was unanimously appointed to the Parks and Clean City Commission.
 - Following discussion, a Resolution agreeing to all match contribution requirements for the expenditures under the Tarrant County Home Investment Partnership Program for Fiscal

Year 2010-2011 was approved with the understanding that funds have to be available.

- A Specific Use Permit for a hotel facility to be located at 3200 Forest Hill Circle was unanimously approved.
- No executive session was held.

Minutes have not yet been approved by the City Council and are subject to corrections. Any changes made will be noted in the next month’s news. Minutes and other information are available at www.foresthilltx.org.

Dontasha Roberson honored as 9-1-1 Kid Hero



Dontasha Roberson meets call-taker Windy Morehead for the first time, face-to-face.



Students listen as 9-1-1 educators tell Dontasha's story.

An eight-year old Forest Hill resident was honored for her heroic call to 9-1-1 at a news conference and ceremony hosted by the Tarrant County 9-1-1 District on Wednesday, April 20. The District and partner 9-1-1 administrative bodies have collaborated to honor David K. Sellars second grade student Dontasha Roberson as a 9-1-1 Kid Hero as a part of National 9-1-1 Education Month observances. Eight-year old Dontasha Roberson was at home with her mother who suffered a diabetic seizure while preparing dinner at their Forest Hill home.

While her mother was seizing, Dontasha checked her

mother's blood sugar levels. At the same time, Dontasha remembered there was food cooking on the stove. What happened next was a good example of teamwork between Dontasha and Forest Hill 9-1-1 calltaker Windy Morehead who guided her, by phone, to turn off the stove and to let the first responders in the door to rescue her mother.

Dontasha's heroic actions are being highlighted by the media and local officials in Tarrant County to help bring awareness of the importance of educating youngsters and adults on proper 9-1-1 procedure.



Don't miss the Lion's Club fundraiser

-A Triple Treat on May 21!

It's a triple treat! Here's your chance to walk, feast your eyes on some of the coolest cars in the Metroplex and sample some of the best barbecue around at the Lions Club annual fundraiser on Saturday, May 21.

Sign-up is easy for the seventh annual five-mile walk, barbecue cook-off and car show. The walk starts at 8 a.m., the car show at 11 a.m. and judging for the cook-off starts at noon. It will all be held directly across from the Community Center and Police/Fire Substation Complex in the 6800 block of Forest Hill Drive.

For more info about the Walk-A-Thon, call 817-228-0993; for the car show, call 817-266-0118; for the barbecue cook-off, call 817-714-0598.



The "Freedom Rings Tour" made a stop in Forest Hill on Thursday, April 21, at the Metro PCS Store on Mansfield Highway. Old cell phones are collected and recycled for use by military personnel as part of the program.

Forest Hill sweeps awards at Chamber Banquet

It was almost a clean sweep as Forest Hill residents and businesses took off with the Lions' share of the awards at the South Tarrant Chamber of Commerce Awards Ceremony on April 7. Honored as Business of the Year was Horton Tree Service with Johnny Horton and Homer Horton accepting the award.

Chamber Member of the Year was Gwen Barbee and Citizen of the Year was Frank Walker.

Donnie Chestnut was honored as Police Officer of the Year and Darwin Lockett was Firefighter of the Year.

Educators of the Year included Troy Nell Edmon from David K. Sellars Elementary, Nancy Love from Harlean Beal Elementary and Kayt Grieshaber from O.D. Wyatt High School.

A \$500 scholarship check was presented to O.D. Wyatt High School and another to Everman ISD. Everman Educators of the Year from each school were also recognized.



Firefighter of the Year Darwin Lockett



Business of the Year Horton Tree Service



Citizen of the Year Frank Walker



Chamber Member of the Year
Gwen Barbee



Police Officer of the Year Donnie Chestnut

Volunteer Opportunities ABOUND

Boards and Committees:

The best way to let your voice be heard and make valuable contributions to your city is to volunteer!

The City has opportunities to participate as a member of various boards, committees, and commissions. To apply, download an application on the city's website at www.foresthilltx.org; go to the City Secretary's page and click on the "Application form for Boards/Commissions/Committees" under the "Quick Links" column; or, stop by City Hall and pick up an application.

For more information, call the City Secre-

tary's office at 817-568-3040.

Meals on Wheels:

Meals On Wheels delivers over 3,853 meals each weekday in Tarrant County? Volunteers staff 200 delivery routes each day plus help at the meal sites. A volunteer delivers one noontime per week, Monday through Friday. **Regular and substitute drivers are needed for the Forest Hill community that serves a total of 11 residents as well as to help in surrounding areas**



(Mansfield Highway, Loop 820).

If you are ready to help meet this challenge please contact Nedra Cutler, C.V.A., Director of Volunteers at 817-258-6426.

Community Garden:

Volunteers are needed to spread dirt, fertilize, plant small seedlings and much more at the Community Garden being sponsored by the Forest Hill Library in conjunction with several area agencies. Give them a call and go green in the garden!

Information is available at 817-551-5354.



Volunteers from across the community and beyond came to the Forest Hill Public Library Gardening Kick-off last month. For information on the community garden, call 817-551-5354.



Public Works personnel recently assisted at Harlean Beal Elementary by installing playground equipment. Pictured are Supervisor Roberto Duenes, Albert Harris and Ed Perez.

Sign up now for the Citizens Police Academy

The Forest Hill Police Department will be hosting a Citizens Police Academy beginning on Monday, May 16, 2011. The class will begin at 6:30 p.m. and will run until 9 p.m. It is a 13-week course and will be held every Monday night at the new Police Substation at 6800 Forest Hill Drive (old City Hall building). Registration forms can be obtained at the Forest Hill Police Department, 3336 Horton Rd, or you may contact Community Relations Officer Chris Stokes at 817-531-5250.

A Citizen Police Academy is a police department interactive program, designed to educate the public about its department policies, regulations, the criminal justice system, and ways to reduce crime.

The program allows members of the Forest Hill Police Department and citizens of the community to meet, share ideas and information, and interact in a very positive and proactive setting. It is further hoped that the instruction will increase police awareness whereas to dispel suspicions and misconceptions and to increase community rapport through this educative process.

In addition, this is a fun, en-

joyable partnering experience. Due to the course curriculum and content, all participants must pass a criminal history check.

The Citizen Police Academy curriculum includes:

- Introduction to the Forest Hill Police Department
- Department Hiring, Education and Training Requirements
- Communications
- Mechanics of Arrest
- Traffic Stops
- Felony Traffic Stops
- Criminal Investigations
- Gangs
- Jail Procedures
- Family Violence
- Accident Investigations
- Crime Scene Investigations
- Narcotics Recognitio
- Narcotics Interdiction
- Crime Prevention

Upon successful completion of the Citizen Police Academy, graduates will be eligible to participate in programs such as the Forest Hill Ride-Along program and the Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association.

Bus service continues for 65+ and people with disabilities

Door-to-door bus service continues throughout Tarrant County and is offered to Forest Hill residents age 65 and older and those with disabilities. Those who qualify can ride on Fridays, 8:30 a.m. through 4:30 p.m. for \$2.50 each way.

To use the service, first register by calling 817-336-8714 to verify residency, age and/or disability.

Trips can then be scheduled by calling between two and ten days before your appointment or trip. Drivers are not allowed to enter residences, and will only go to the main floor lobby area in businesses.

If the passenger needs to bring someone to assist them, the assistant rides for free. Guests pay the same \$2.50 one-way fare as the passenger.

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Stephanie Menes, M.D.
Forest Hill Medical Clinic

I think I might be pregnant. What services do you offer?

Jennifer P.

First, call our office and we'll schedule an appointment for a free pregnancy test. If the test is positive, our prenatal obstetrician can care for the health of you and your developing baby right here. As your due date gets closer, your appointments will be with the HMA obstetrician who will deliver the baby, or we will refer you to the obstetrician of your choice.

Dr. Menes is your community physician for illnesses, physicals and management of chronic diseases including diabetes and high blood pressure. Same day appointments are usually available.

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