

Oak Hill news

SEPT 2006

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NEWS FLASH

Rabies count reaches nine

At presstime, nine rabid skunks have been identified within the community. The last positive rabies case within the Oak Hill/Forest Hills area took place in mid-July. We are still keeping up with the rabies alert until this cycle of rabies concludes.

City Manager Bill Kraus says, "Be alert . . . and we will keep you advised."



City needs your help with garbage collection

One of the public services residents generally take for granted is twice-per-week, backyard trash pickup. Overall, the City is very satisfied with the quality and responsiveness of its contractor, Clean Earth Sanitation, which has been the exclusive provider since March 2004.

However, the City wants to share with you all the standards of service that are part of its contract with Clean Earth. Please handle your garbage within these limits, in order to ensure and comply with local, state, and federal health and safety (Please contact the City of Oak Hill at 371-8291 if you do not know your schedule.)

- A maximum of up to four 30-gallon cans shall be collected per pickup day. (If you think you will need a greater number of cans, please call the Oak Hill City office to make arrangements.)

- The City has contracted for "typical, daily, household trash" only.

- Trash placed in plastic garbage bags is recommended. Other methods could delay pickup or cause

other debris problems within the City.

- All cans should have good lids and be secured in such a way to keep animals from overturning them.

- No trash cans shall be placed on the street right-of-way.

- No hazardous material such as paint cans, chemicals, or other toxic materials can be picked up by the City.

- No bulky items such as furniture, carpet, wood, and other construction materials can be included.

- No dead animals can be included with the garbage.

- No brush or yard materials shall be included with the garbage. (Example: An emptied flower vase is acceptable, but the bio-material from a reception or large party can not be accepted—it must be placed in front for the monthly brush pickup service.)

- Missed pickups should be reported to the City office at 371-8291. 🌿

See pickup map on page 3.



City of Oak Hill officials are sworn in on August 17. Tommy Alsup took the oath as Mayor and Commissioner, Tommy Jacobs was sworn in as Vice Mayor, and Ray Throckmorton III was sworn in as Commissioner.

City of Oak Hill

Mayor

Tommy Alsup
Oak Hill Office: 371-8291
780-0037

Vice Mayor

Tommy Jacobs 837-9863

Commissioner

Ray Throckmorton 255-3559

Municipal Planning Commission

Mike Allison, Chair 370-8754
James Brownlee 297-6776
Judy Hoover 383-6527
Trevor Howell 373-8206
Art McWilliams 727-7402
Annelle Rucker 832-5229
Julia Wesley 269-6704

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

Board of Zoning Appeals

Risley Lawrence, Chair 292-2807
Greer Tidwell 463-8779
Steve Wasserman 833-9284

City Attorney

Robert J. Notestine 297-1568

City Manager

Dr. William (Bill) Kraus 371-8291
HOME 373-1608

Assistant City Manager

M.C. Sparks 371-8291

Administrative Assistant

Patrick Steiner 371-8291

Building Official

Bill Burdette 371-8291

Office: 5548 Franklin Pike
Suite 102

www.oakhilltn.us

Office Hours

Monday through Friday

8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.



Third Thursday

Planning Commission, Board of Commissioners Meeting

Oak Hill City Hall,
5548 Franklin Pike, 5 p.m.

Tuesday before Commissioners' Meeting

Board of Zoning Appeals

Oak Hill City Hall,
5548 Franklin Pike, 5 p.m.

From the desk of the city manager “I pay Oak Hill \$7,000 every year in property taxes!”

This comment was made recently by one of our residents in a telephone conversation following a “miss” of his garbage pickup one morning!

It immediately reminded me of how many of our fellow Oak Hill citizens are of the belief that all or some of their yearly property taxes go to the City of Oak Hill to help fund municipal services.

Are you aware that **none** of your property taxes goes to your local government, with **100%** going directly to the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County? Furthermore, the estimated **1,800** homes of Oak Hill generate over **\$8 million** in property taxes that are sent “downtown,” yet the City receives each year less than **\$1 million** in municipal services from Metro . . . primarily in emergency responses from Metro police and fire departments.

Your local government primarily receives its income to operate from:

- Oak Hill’s share of the

“Hall State Income Tax,” based on interest and dividends earned by individual tax payers

- A small percentage of state-collected taxes, such as sales and gasoline taxes, returned to each Tennessee city or county, based upon a population basis. (This is why it was so important for all of you to take part recently in our special census conducted to ensure that we were being credited with the accurate population for state subvention purposes.)

- Interest earned on the City’s prudently managed reserves.

You may thus ask why is there a need to remain an independent local government, rather than take part in a possible “economy of scale” receiving all services from the much larger Metro government.

First . . . **Local control** of planning, land use, and development of this eight-square-mile “island of beauty” named Oak Hill! Frankly, I would not want to think what this city would look like today if there

CITY

CORNER



BY BILL KRAUS

weren’t an Oak Hill Board of Commissioners, Planning Commission, and Board of Zoning Appeals, which collectively and individually are totally devoted to protecting the quality of life and natural environment that, sometimes, some of us take for granted, and is very fragile!

I personally could not trust the “political dynamics” of the Metro planning process to preserve Oak Hill . . . you only have to look at nearby Green Hills to see this very obvious absence of quality community preservation. To slice up beautiful residential properties to accommodate high-density single-family developments, condominiums, and duplexes is not an acceptable alternative for Oak Hill . . . and should never even be faintly considered.

I also did the following comparative levels of services

	Oak Hill	Metro
Trash Collection:	Twice per week, back-yard pickup	Once per week, curbside
Chipper Service:	Once per month	Four times per year
Building Permits:	24-48 hour turnaround plans review and approval	One to two week turnaround plans review and approval
Building Inspection:	24 hour maximum response for inspection requests	One to two week response for inspection requests
Street Paving:	Every five to seven years	Ten years to undetermined length
Newsletter:	Monthly	None
Snow and Ice Removal:	Scheduled within two hours of storm every street treated	Scheduled within 24-72 hours of storm only main thoroughfares treated

that are currently being provided to our Oak Hill “family” compared to our neighbors in the greater Nashville area, and it clearly illustrates this city government’s long-time dedication and commitment to **quality** . . . provided through standards of efficiency and responsive operations. (See chart on page 2.)

Personal contact with your Oak Hill Mayor,

Chestnut Group paints to benefit Radnor Lake

Artists are capturing many of Radnor Lake’s most beautiful scenes on canvas for a show, silent auction, and sale November 9–12.

Proceeds will benefit the state natural area. A Preview Party will be November 9 at Radnor Lake Visitor Center, 1150 Otter Creek Road.

The Chestnut Group is a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving wonderful experiences like Radnor. They create art “en plein air,” or painting in fresh air, to capture the light and feeling of the scene on canvas to preserve for the future. 🌿



Artist Kim Barrick created “Fall Color at Radnor.”

Vice Mayor, City Commissioner, and City Manager, all of whom are your neighbors, is generally very easy . . . day or night . . . weekdays or weekends. Certainly not the same with the Metro counterparts!!!

As you may know, the City of Oak Hill, in close cooperation with the five other “independent cities” of Davidson County—Forest Hills, Belle Meade, Berry Hill, Lakewood, and Goodlettsville—is currently engaged in legal action against the Metro government, seeking financial “equity and fairness.” Not only are we paying into the “tax pot” over eight times the amount of money each year than we receive in Metro Charter-related services, but those provided services appear to be significantly less than many of our fellow Davidson County citizens are receiving. Examples include state-shared gasoline taxes, where Metro earmarks an estimated **\$4,000** per mile street maintenance per year, yet gives Oak Hill **\$3,000** per mile for similar purposes. There is an estimated one police officer for every **400** residents in Metro, yet Oak Hill experiences **one** police officer for **4,500** people. (Though, out of fairness, we would receive a lower overall ratio due to lower calls for emergency service . . . but over ten times higher ratio of officer to population?)

Yes, property taxes are high—and should be resulting in a “good return on investment.” But once you look beyond what appears to be the obvious, the actual facts become very interesting and provocative! Is there a solution? Only time will tell. 🌿

Food and fun for all at this year’s Greek Festival

Be sure to bring your family and friends to the 19th annual Greek Festival at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church September 8–10.

The festival highlights the cuisine, music, and culture of Greece on the church grounds at 4905 Franklin Pike.

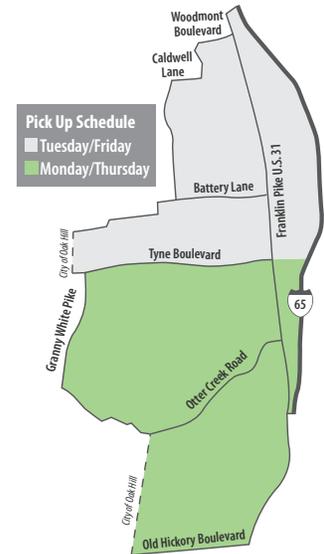
Everyone is invited to tour the church as well as participate in the dance, food, pastries, and gifts of the Greek culture. There will be a Greek Grocery Store, “Yiayia’s Pantry,” and a wide variety of Greek specialty items in the Cultural Hall.

A variety of fun activities is scheduled for children.

Admission is \$2 per person, with children under 12 free. Hours are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday.

For more information, call 333-1047. 🌿

Oak Hill residents don’t have to pay for trash pickup



2006 CALENDAR

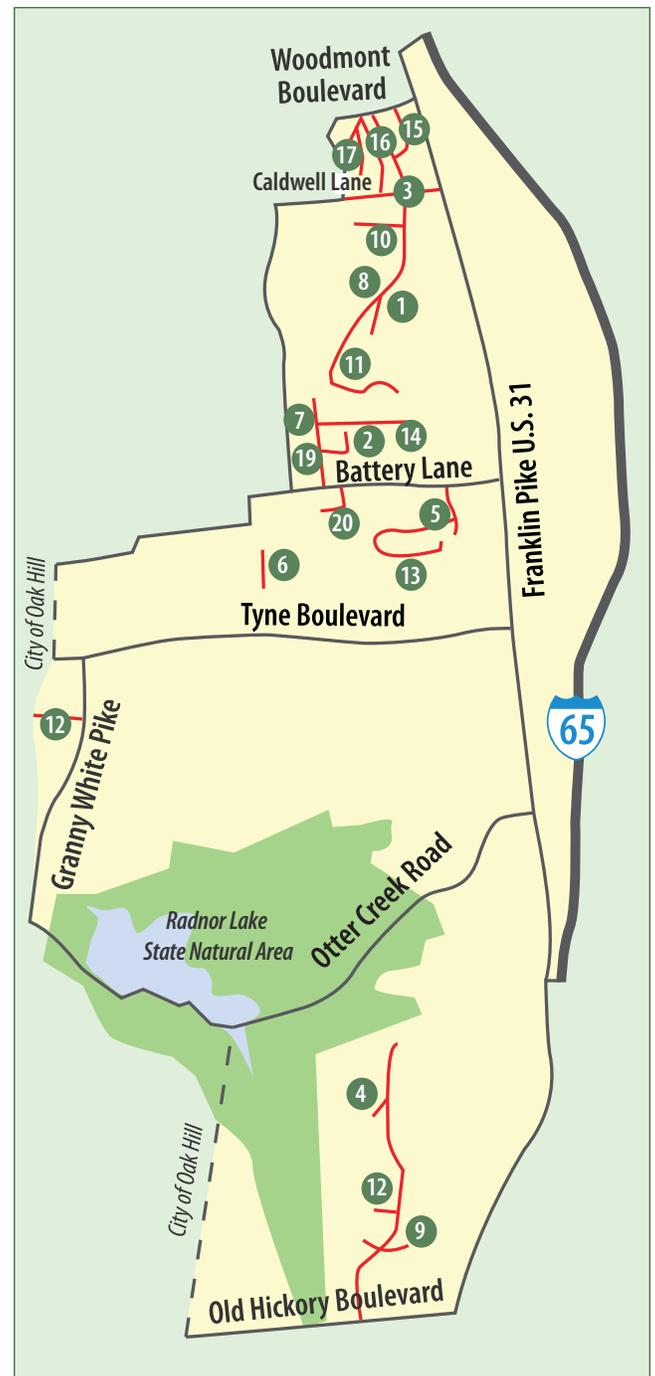
- **September 14**
Christening Gown Conservation Workshop
 Travellers Rest curatorial staff show you how to clean and preserve one of the most popular heirloom textiles- the christening gown.
 636 Farrell Parkway
 6:30-8 p.m.
 \$5 per person
 866/832-8197
- **September 8-10**
Nashville Greek Festival
 Highlighting the culture and music of Greece.
 Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church
 4905 Franklin Pike
 615/333-1047
- **October 2-October 15**
"Preparing for my Demise" in Nineteenth Century Nashville
 Metropolitan Davidson County Archives and Travellers Rest will highlight original wills, obituaries, and funeral cards that emphasize strange and downright bizarre rituals of "at rest" Nashvillians. Many of the items on display may be viewed for free at Metro Archives. At Travellers Rest, take the "death and demise" tour with a costumed guide. Regular admission. Lantern tours available the evenings of October 6 and 13 for \$5.
 Metro Archives
 3801 Green Hills Village Dr.
 615/862-5880
 Travellers Rest
 636 Farrell Parkway
 866/832-8197
- **October 19-20**
19th-Century Trades Day
 For two days Travellers Rest will be filled with period artisans demonstrating 19th-century skilled crafts, including brick making, pottery making, candle dipping, flint knapping, and more. Admission \$10 adults, \$5 kids under 16
 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
 636 Farrell Parkway
 866/832-8197

Twenty streets slated for improvements this fall

Additional street improvements are planned for the upcoming month, primarily influenced by the daily temperatures.

The following Oak Hill streets will be included:

- 1 Brookhaven Drive, between Overbrook Drive and Crestridge Drive
- 2 Cadillac Avenue, between Pasadena Drive and Soper Avenue
- 3 Caldwell Lane, between Franklin Pike and the City limits
- 4 Cherrywood Drive, between Hillview Drive and the cul-de-sac
- 5 Churchwood Drive, between Robertson Academy Road and Battery Lane
- 6 Clendenin Road, between Gateway Lane and Stonewall Drive
- 7 Coral Way, between Glendale Lane and the dead end
- 8 Crestridge Drive, between Woodmont Boulevard and General Bate Drive
- 9 East Hillview Drive, between Hillview Drive and the cul-de-sac
- 10 Evans Road, between General Bate Drive and Crestridge Drive
- 11 Melville Drive, between Glendale Drive and General Bate Drive
- 12 North Hillview Court, between Hillview Drive and the cul-de-sac
- 13 Oak Valley Lane, between Robertson Academy Road and Churchwood Drive
- 14 Pasadena Drive, between Glendale Lane and the dead end
- 15 Pleasant Valley Road, between Crestridge Drive and Woodmont Boulevard
- 16 Rainbow Place, between Woodmont Boulevard and Caldwell Lane
- 17 Robin Road, between Caldwell Lane and General Hood Drive
- 18 Saxon Drive, between Granny White Pike and 1216 Saxon Drive
- 19 Soper Avenue, between Battery Lane and Glendale Lane
- 20 Waterswood Lane, between Battery Lane and the cul-de-sac



- 20 Waterswood Lane, between Battery Lane and the cul-de-sac

All residents living on those streets scheduled for the seal-coating and asphalt rejuvenating will receive notice of specific days for planned work by the contractor. 🌿

Stop a tragedy:

Radnor deer poaching can cost lives

BY STEVE WARD, Park Manager

Not everyone comes to Radnor Lake for the reasons it was set aside in 1973.

Deer poaching in and around the Radnor Lake State Natural Area boundary has become one of our biggest problems over the past five to 10 years. We have seen archery hunters getting dropped off at cul-de-sacs, people firing rifles from vehicles, and cases where poachers gain access from residents' backyards contiguous to the natural area boundary.

Yes, this occurs in the same places that many of you drive, ride your bikes, walk, and your children play. It is disturbing, to say the least, and poses an enormous safety concern both for the visitors to Radnor Lake and the residents of Oak Hill.

The latter is the most difficult for the park ranger staff to prosecute. Often, hunting is done under the disguise that they want to hunt on an adjoining landowner's one- to two-acre backyard. Repeatedly, the ranger staff sees four disturbing behavior patterns that we need your assistance with.

- First, an individual obtains

permission to hunt on a neighbor's property (which is legal) with the real purpose of wandering wherever he might have the most luck. A poacher uses this access into remote areas of the Natural Area of another landowner's property where they do not have permission. Fortunately, state law mandates that it is the hunter's responsibility to obtain permission prior to tracking or hunting on a landowner's property. This law has been a great tool in our efforts to prosecute these individuals regardless of the variety of excuses offered when they are caught.

- Poachers may trespass on landowners or the Natural Area by gaining access through cul-de-sacs, vacant lots, or empty houses for sale. In the past, poachers have used cell phones or radios to communicate pickups and drop-offs to evade detection. Often adjoining landowners have no idea that someone was hunting in their own backyard.

- Poachers may use bait such as corn or apples to lure deer off the Natural Area onto private

property. Often, these individuals capitalize on neighbors who feed deer for wildlife viewing by luring deer to target areas that make them easy prey. Last year, a neighbor was drawing deer off the Natural Area with corn to shoot them from his deck. This is a pathetic example of poaching, and quite honestly it paints a horrible, inaccurate stereotype of real hunters who do so ethically and legally.

- Poachers may use a spotlight or vehicle headlights to shoot deer from a vehicle. This is often done late at night along the streets adjacent to and in the Natural Area. Last year alone, there were seven confirmed cases of deer shot at night in and around the Natural Area.

I owe a "thank you" to several Oak Hill residents who have called, e-mailed, or written letters offering assistance and helping prosecute poachers that attempt to shoot the very same deer our park visitors come to see. In addition, the Oak Hill Board of Commissioners, the City Manager, and staff could not be more supportive in our efforts to curtail this problem.

For clarification, this article is not about hunting. Radnor Lake is an area set aside for wildlife viewing. Our residents should not have to worry about arrows or bullets coming across their property or into their house. Awareness and a proactive approach can make all the difference.

Feel free to contact me or any of our park ranger staff with any information about this issue at 373-3467 or at steve.ward@state.tn.us



This deer was illegally killed last Thanksgiving.



Save the date!

Yard Sale for the Cure October 28

Homes throughout Oak Hill will be marked with pink balloons as garage sales raise money for breast cancer research.

Watch for more information in the next issue.

Contact Cindy B. Smith at 414-0011 (mobile), 376-0577 (home), or cindybaxtersmith@comcast.net for more information. 🌿

**QUICK
CALL
LIST**



CITY OF OAK HILL

5548 Franklin Pike #102
371-8291 fax 373-6886
After hours: 373-1608
www.oakhilltn.us

SOLID WASTE SERVICES

Chipper Service

Jackaroo
371-8291

Garbage Pickup

Clean Earth Sanitation
371-8291

**Snow and Ice
Management Service**

C&C Lawncare
371-8291

**Public Street Repairs,
Street Signage, and
Drainage Maintenance**

IED, Inc.
371-8291

Dead Animal Removal

City Office
371-8291
After Hours
862-8971

Emergency

911

Non-Emergency Fire

327-1300

Non-Emergency Police

862-8600

West Sector Patrol

862-7747

The Latest around Town

Soundwall update

Soundwalls along the western side of I-65 generally between I-440 and Old Hickory Boulevard are still “in the mix” of implementation of the major federal transportation bill, signed by the president a year ago. It included \$680,000 for the Oak Hill project. We have been requested by Tennessee Department of Transportation to have our two representatives, Marsha Blackburn and Jim Cooper, introduce “clean-up” legislation this fall that clarifies the soundwall project for Federal Highway Administration standards.

**Official Publication
City of Oak Hill**

5548 Franklin Pike
Suite 102
Nashville TN 37220

Fences for pools

When you build a swimming pool . . . what kind of fencing do you need? Whether your entire property or the backyard is fenced, the pool itself requires fencing, a minimum of four feet high, to prevent small children from entering the pool area unattended, especially from the adjacent house. The number of small children who are lost in unattended or improperly fenced pool areas in the county each year is alarming! There is no variance for safety!

Pavement collapses

Recently, the pavement on a part of Overton Lea Road just east of Granny White Pike

collapsed over a drainage pipe. Since this is over a “blue-line” stream, before any work can commence, it must receive state approval. We anticipate that the repair will be completed by mid-September.

Hogan Road spotlight

The City of Oak Hill is attempting to have Metro’s Traffic Signal Engineering (which is responsible for the maintenance of all signals along Franklin Pike), adjust and modify the lights on Franklin Pike and Hogan Road/Otter Creek Road, to allow for:

1. A minimum of 75% flow of traffic for northbound/southbound Franklin Pike traffic, and only 25% for eastbound/westbound Hogan Road and Otter Creek Road.

2. At night, rather than all lights for all directions of traffic automatically remaining red and turning green only when tripped, keeping the lights green for Franklin Pike for northbound/southbound traffic and turning green for Hogan/Otter Creek only if tripped. 

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