# BRENTWOOD CITY UPDATE TO BRENTWOOD

Miles Together Grand Opening

Photo: Miles Peck officially opens the Miles Together Inclusive Playground on September 24, 2022. Photo by @ Sami Zinni | AbleVoices

Page 8

Your Official City of Brentwood, Tennessee News Source

## CONTENTS

- 3 Tech Talk
- 4 Brentvale Cabin Update
- 5 Brentwood's Prehistoric Native American Sites
- 6 The Bugle
- 8 Miles Together Inclusive Playground
- 9 A Pet Friendly City
- IO Inter-Agency Swiftwater Rescue Team
- II Special Election Update

## **CITY CONTACTS**

City Hall	615-371-0060
Planning/Codes	615-371-2204
Water Billing	615-661-7061
Water Maintenance	615-371-0080
Public Works	615-371-0080
Service Center	615-371-0080
Police	615-371-0160
Fire	615-371-0170
Wm. Co. Ambulance	615-794-2800
Library	615-371-0090
Parks	615-371-2208
Emergency	911

The City Update is published semi-annually by the City of Brentwood. Comments and suggestions should be directed to Deanna Lambert, Community Relations Director by e-mail at deanna.lambert@brentwoodtn.gov.

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#### KIRK'S CORNER By City Manager Kirk Bednar

By the time this newsletter hits your mailbox, we will have had the ribbon cutting on the wonderful new Miles Together playground in Granny White Park. This new inclusive playground provides play opportunities for children of all ages and abilities and is sure to be a popular spot for families from all across Brentwood.

This new playground is the latest example of the incredible community support that helps provide many of the excellent amenities we enjoy here in Brentwood. The playground was a partnership between the City and the Rotary Clubs of Brentwood and the Brentwood Rotary Club Foundation. Rotary lead a community fundraising effort that generated over \$700,000 in contributions, including a \$350,000 naming rights contribution from the Miles for Miles Foundation.

There are numerous examples of similar projects across the city. We just finished a \$1 million project to install artificial turf on two baseball fields at Crockett Park. The nonprofit Brentwood Ball Club partnered with the City to provide significant funding toward this project. Right next to these baseball fields is perhaps the most recognized project funded in part with community donations. The Eddie Arnold Amphitheater was named for Mr. Arnold after he donated 50% of the cost to install the iconic roof structure over the amphitheater.

Perhaps the most significant and long-standing example of community support is the Friends of the Brentwood Library, a nonprofit organization that exists solely to support the John P. Holt Brentwood Library. Through their books sales and other fundraising efforts, they have donated more than \$1.5 million to enhance the library and support its many programs and services. In coordination with this support, the Holt family's bequest of over \$4 million dollars for the library will be felt for generations to come.

These are just a few of the more significant examples of community support. There are hundreds, if not thousands, of other examples over the 53 years of Brentwood's existence including annual sponsors of our summer concerts and other community events, the sponsors of our recent 50th anniversary celebration events, and even individual donors to our Public Safety Trust Fund in support of our public safety employees.

Brentwood is a wonderful place to live, work, and play, and we are thankful for the personal generosity of so many of our residents, nonprofit organizations, and businesses that makes such a lasting impact on this great community.

## SCAMS IN THE CITY

#### By Lori Russ, Police Detective

There are numerous types of scams out there to be aware of, but two that are on the rise here in Brentwood are the "jury duty" and "grandchild" scams.

The jury duty scam has been around for a long time. A scammer calls from a "spoofed" number (an application on a cell phone that can mimic a chosen phone number), usually the local police or sheriff's office. A legitimate law enforcement officer's name is given, such as Chief Richard Hickey, and the caller advises the victim they missed jury duty. A fine is usually requested in lieu of going to jail. Usually, the money is requested through the purchase of gift cards, and the caller will request the card's serial number.

The grandchild scam has been around a while as well, but has a new twist. The scammer poses as the victim's grandchild. The caller usually has the victim's name, the grandchild's name, and knows the address where the victim lives. Acting as the grandchild, the caller tells the victim they've been involved in a car crash, is at fault, and has been arrested. Usually this occurs for a grandchild that lives out of state. The "grandchild's" call is cut off, and the victim will receive a call from an "attorney" stating there is a bond. The amount usually varies but is always several thousand dollars. The "attorney" tells the victim there is a gag order in place and they cannot tell anyone, or the "grandchild" will be punished further. The latest twist is the "attorney" will send a courier to the victim's home to pick up the money. The suspects park around the corner from the home and walk up on foot. These calls seem very legitimate due to the amount of information the suspects have, including a case number, email, and phone number.

No legitimate law enforcement agency will ever ask for money over the phone in lieu of arrest. Attorney's will never send a courier to your home for bail money. When in doubt, always call your local law enforcement agency and your family to clarify if your grandchild is in jail. Time is on your side in these situations, so take the time to check things out before you go get money.

## **EMERGENCY AND TRAFFIC ALERTS**

#### By Jay Evans, Assistant City Manager

Will you get alerted about an emergency in Brentwood? To get emergency alerts that are specific to your neighborhood, such as a suspect on the run or a tornado alert affecting only your part of Brentwood, you must have an up-to-date account in the Williamson County Citizen Alert System, also known as Everbridge. Through this system, you can customize the way you want to be notified (mobile, text, or email), the types of alerts you want to receive, and do-notdisturb times. Most landlines are already in the system. You can sign up for the system <u>here</u>.

To receive city-wide traffic alerts on your cell phone, just text 37027 to 888-777 to opt-in to another Everbridge platform called Nixle. Those messages are sent to everyone who has opted in, and they are not tailored to specific neighborhoods.

### **TECH TALK**

By Sarah VanWormer, Technology Director

October is Cybersecurity Awareness Month! Bad guys are relentless, always looking for the easiest way to find vulnerabilities. They want you to give them the information they need. "Phishing" is a very effective way for them to manipulate you into giving them that information.

Phishing is the act of an unscrupulous person posing as someone you might know that is trying to get you to do something bad. "Something bad" could be clicking on a malicious link, providing private information such as a social security number, sending money, or other nefarious actions. Phishing is done most of the time through the following:

**Calls:** If you receive a call from your bank or any other institution, hang up and call the known, published number of that institution. A published number is a phone number you would find on their website.

**Suspicious email:** If you aren't expecting an email with an invoice or banking information, err on the safe side and delete the email. Remember, you can always call the company that is listed on the email to verify. Look up their phone number on their website.

**Texts:** Many people order from Amazon or other online stores. Scams have been developed to send a text with a link for you to verify or check the status of your order. Instead of clicking on the link, go directly to the online store and check the status of your order through them.

Protecting your data will always be worth the extra few minutes. Many people spend years trying to recover from stolen identities and data. Take a few minutes every day this October (and every month) to make sure you are protecting yourself and your family!

## **BRENTVALE CABIN UPDATE**

#### By Jay Evans, Assistant City Manager

In July, the City of Brentwood undertook a project in Crockett Park to disassemble the historic Brentvale log cabin. The effects of time and weather had rendered this nearly 200-year-old structure unsafe for occupancy and beyond the point of any simple repairs. A structural engineer and log cabin expert found the only workable solution would be complete deconstruction, with the goal of salvaging the viable timbers and the chimneys.

Though not an easy decision to make, both the Historic Commission and the City Commission agreed that this was the best course of action due to safety concerns. They also determined that a replacement building resembling Brentvale should be constructed in the footprint of the old building. The intent of the new building will be to preserve the historical, educational, and community purposes of this site.

Brentwood contracted with Leatherwood, Inc., a prominent historic log cabin contractor in Tennessee, to create a map of the timber arrangement in the old structure. The roof was carefully pulled off, and the logs removed one at a time. The timbers are now stored in a safe and dry location until they can be reused. When the new cabin is built, reclaimed historic timbers will replace those that were not salvageable. City staff and the Historic Commission are now engaging a local architect to provide plans for the new building.

Brentvale originally sat on Old Smyrna Road and was the original home site of William Temple Sneed, the seventh child of James Sneed. The home was constructed in 1830 and was expanded and modified to fit the needs of its owners throughout the ensuing decades. For many years the home was occupied by Larry and Janis Gatlin. When they sold the property to Roger Mick in 1993, Mick gifted the original the log house to the city and it was moved to Crockett Park.



## **IF PROPERTY TAXES WERE MONTHLY BILLS**

Curious about how your city property taxes are allocated to various services? Property taxes make up 26.7% of the City's total General Fund budget. With a tax rate of \$0.29 per \$100 of assessed value, a home appraised by the county at \$1,000,000 would pay \$725 a year or \$60.42 per month in City property taxes. Of the \$60.42 monthly amount, \$13.22 would go to fund the Police Department and \$12.29 the Fire Department. Seems like a pretty good deal compared to what most households pay monthly for things like cable TV, Internet, or cell phone service.

The charts below further breakdown how your property taxes are allocated, check them out in full size <u>in this Facebook post</u> on our City of Brentwood Facebook page. More info about the budget can be found on our website <u>here</u>. **City of Brentwood Revenues by Source** *For Fiscal Year 2023* 



## **BRENTWOOD'S PREHISTORIC NATIVE AMERICAN SITES**

By Heidi Williams, Digital Media Specialist



November is Native American Heritage Month, presenting an opportunity to remember Brentwood's extensive prehistoric Native American history. If you are new

to Brentwood, you may not know that the John P. Holt Brentwood Library was the site of a Mississippian Period Indian Village, dated between AD 1298 and AD 1465.

The 1997 construction of the library revealed several buried stone-box graves. The Tennessee Division of Archeology (TDOA) excavated and recovered 67 stone box graves with 75 individuals along with thousands of artifacts. TDOA consulted with the Chickasaw Nation and removed the graves and artifacts from areas within the library footprint.

In 2004, representatives from the Chickasaw Nation reburied the removed individuals and mortuary artifacts to undisclosed locations on the library grounds. The library does not contain any graves or artifacts underneath, but the nearby undisturbed land continues to preserve these prehistoric graves and artifacts.

The library excavation was certainly not the first prehistoric discovery in Middle Tennessee. It is estimated that the Native Americans of Mississippian culture remained in Brentwood until sometime in the 16th century. Of course, these prehistoric discoveries do not include the history of all Native Americans living in the Brentwood area in the hundreds of years since.

Another prehistoric site in the city is Primm Historic Park, which includes two National Register properties: Boiling Springs Academy, established as a one room school in 1830, and a prehistoric Native American Mound Site dated AD 900-1500. The site was excavated in the 1920's by the Smithsonian and is known as the Fewkes Site.

Since 2005, the restored Boiling Spring Academy has been used as an interactive education program for third grade students in elementary schools in Brentwood. Operated by the Brentwood Historic Commission, the Academy offers day field trips that give students a chance to fully immerse themselves in what would be a typical school day in 1845. Community open houses also run from May through October on the 3rd Sunday of each month, from 2-4 pm.

Links to more information:



History of Brentwood

History of Boiling Springs Academy

A day at Boiling Springs Academy in 1845.

The Bugle, Vol 15 Issue, 4, on the library excavation



Initial assessment of the library site area by the Division of Archaeology, late July 1997, looking northeast. Photo from TDOA 2005 report.



Stone-box grave (center of photograph) exposed by initial grading activity for proposed library, late July 1997. Photo from TDOA 2005 report.



Division exploration, August 1997, looking south (library building pad in background). Photo from TDOA 2005 report.



Aerial view of Primm Historic Park.

## The Brentwood Historic Commission presents THE BUGLE



#### Volume 22, Issue 2

## **SECOND ANNUAL HISTORY BUFF BOWL**

Matt Masters, The Brentwood HomePage, 8/16/22

The Brentwood Morning Rotary Club won the second annual Brentwood History Buff Bowl, bringing home the title for the second year in a row, and earning money for the service club.

The event took place at Brentwood City Hall and saw three teams face off in a Jeopardy-style quiz game on American history. The Brentwood Morning Rotary Club earned 26,700 points and was represented by Kirk Bednar, Francene Kavin, Derek Martin and Bob Jahr. The Friends of the Brentwood Library came in second place with 24,200 points, and the Brentwood Noon Rotary Club came in third with 17,825 points.

This year's sponsors include the Andrews Transportation Group, The Kaplan Family, Rhea Little's Tire & Auto Service, Little Brothers Shell, Inc., Marla Richardson, Parks Realty, Mary Lee Bunch Associates, LLC, Richland Real Estate Services, Soy Bistro and Williamson Medical Center Foundation. Watch the entire event <u>here on Facebook</u>.



The winning team: Derek Martin, Bob Jahr, Francene Kavin, and City Manager Kirk Bednar. Photo by Loyce Hooker.

## QUIZ: TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF BRENTWOOD HISTORY

#### Answers are on the following page

1. In addition to Ravenswood and Inglehame, what other home did James Hazard Wilson build with its spiral staircase where blindfolded horses were led upstairs to the ball room during the Civil War?

- 2. What famous early Methodist bishop is buried in Liberty Downs?
- 3. Who stopped at Forge Seat on Wilson Pike to buy guns on the way to New Orleans?
- 4. Who was the Raven after whom Ravenswood was named?
- 5. Who was the first mayor of Brentwood after whom a street is named?
- 6. What descriptive name was given to the area along Church Street where a thriving community of freed men and women developed after the Civil War?
- 7. What is the oldest church in Brentwood?
- 8. When was Brentwood incorporated?

9. What 10-year-old boy was kidnapped by Native Americans from his Old Smyrna Road home and held captive for 11 years prior to escaping and becoming a scout for Andrew Jackson?

10. What Brentwood Street bears the name of a widowed innkeeper?



Top photo: Mt. Lebanon Baptist Church built in 1885. Photo made in Hardscuffle in 1949 from BHC Archives Bottom photo: Mt. Lebanon Baptist Church in 2019.

## **IN MEMORIAM: REGINA SMITHSON**

Thanks to Kathie Greaves and Nelson Andrews Jr. for contributions.

The BHC honors Commissioner Regina Smithson's contributions to historic preservation in Brentwood. These are some of her stories, in her own words:



"I helped Vance Little initiate the Brentwood Historical Commission after Monsanto burned a historic home (in 1990) by just walking in and asking for a burn permit. Our history is so important, what we have and will try to save."



BHC members at Pleasant Hill Mansion. Photo by Deanna Lambert.

"When I served as mayor the first time, we found out the owner of the property right next door to us (City Hall) was The Ward House (which later became Mere Bulles). It was going to be demolished and a small shopping center was going to be developed. I called a special meeting to put a stop work order on all demolition, and we worked with the developer, and now have a piece of our history still standing."

-Commissioner Regina Smithson

#### **Quiz Answers:**

- 1. Oak Hall, aka Century Oak
- 2. Green Hill
- 3. Andrew Jackson
- 4. Sam Houston, best man at James Hazard Wilson's wedding
- 5. Emery Pewitt (Pewitt Drive where Local Taco is located)
- 6. Hardscuffle

7. Liberty Methodist was established as a congregation two years before Johnson's Chapel but the current building wasn't constructed until 1825.

8.1969

9. George Mayfield

10. Granny White Pike is named after Lucinda "Granny" White who, driven by poverty, at age 60 with her two children and an enslaved man named Uncle Zachary loaded an oxen cart and made the 800-mile journey across the Appalachians to settle here in 1803.

### The Brentwood Historic Commission

#### www.brentwoodtn.gov/about-us/history

Sherry Hammond, Chairwoman Ashley McAnulty, Vice-Chair Anne Dunn, City Commissioner Linda Lynch, ex officio member Loyce Hooker, Secretary Carole Crigger, Planning Rep Deanna Lambert, Community Relations Tara Volpintesta

Inetta Gaines loseph F. Grosson Kathie Greaves Nicole Smith Allison Spears Gini Dawson Moonshower

The goal of the Historic Commission is to preserve Brentwood history and educate others about the past. We invite you to help us accomplish our goal with a donation to the Brentwood Historic Commission.

Detach this form and send with your check payable to:

Brentwood Historic Commission City of Brentwood Attention: Deanna Lambert PO Box 788 Brentwood, TN 37024-0788

Individual	\$15
Family	\$25
Contributing	\$50
Corporate/Benefactor	\$100+

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State:\_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number:

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_





## MILES TOGETHER INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUND

#### By Deanna Lambert, Community Relations Director

As soon as the playground gate opened, kids of all ages, sizes, and abilities ran inside to play at the new Miles Together Inclusive Playground at Granny White Park in Brentwood. Led by the playground's namesake, Miles Peck, the City of Brentwood's first inclusive playground became a reality on Saturday, September 24, 2022. After more than two years of dreaming, planning, fundraising, and constructing, the playground proved to be a big success for all involved.

The City of Brentwood partnered with the Rotary Clubs of Brentwood and The Brentwood Rotary Club Charitable Foundation to fundraise for the nearly \$1.7 million dollar project that also included the expansion of the adjacent parking lot. In total, Rotarians raised more than \$700,000. Following the City of Brentwood's 50th Birthday celebration activities in 2019, the 50th Steering Committee voted to give the remaining \$75 thousand in donated funds to the inclusive playground project.

At the grand opening event, Mayor Rhea Little said, 'this is a huge day for Brentwood and the entire community of children and parents that will use this park for years to come. This is the best example of true teamwork between the city and the community when they work together toward a common goal." Sarah Johnson, the Chairperson for the Miles Together Playground Fundraising Committee, and a member of the Brentwood Noon Rotary Club said, "The Rotary felt led to get involved because we wanted to do something to give back into the community in a meaningful way. We wanted a large project that aligns with the mission of Rotary, and we knew this was it!"

Kara Peck, mother of Miles Peck who lives in Brentwood and has Down syndrome knew it was a project they wanted to get behind. The family's foundation donated \$350,000 for the park name in honor of Miles. "The Miles for Miles Foundation is thrilled to be included in the inclusive playground at Granny White Park. We are so proud our community recognized the need for upgraded play space for all children and families regardless of ability." She continued to speak about the importance to have the opportunity of inclusivity when you have a child with special needs. "We felt the name, Miles Together reflected this and we are so excited for the fun and joy this playground will offer our entire community."



## **TURF FIELDS**

Those who use the baseball fields this fall at Crockett Park will continue to see green year-round. The \$934,000 construction project of two synthetic turf fields was completed in September. The project was a partnership with Brentwood Baseball, Inc., or more commonly known as the Brentwood Ball Club, who paid half of the total cost of the field installation project and committed to annual funding to cover half of the replacement cost when needed in the future.

During construction, a 20 foot by 20-foot sink hole was discovered. The city hired a geotechnical company to evaluate the sinkhole, remove stone, test the compaction on the sinkhole backfill, reroute irrigation lines and remobilize the site back to normal. This repair added an



## **EXAM WEEK**

The Public School Committee at the John P. Holt Brentwood Library will host "Exam Week" again this year. The week is typically in December, and provides quiet study spaces for students. The week includes study breaks with puppies, yoga, pizza, and treats which helps to make the library a fun and comfortable environment in which to focus on studying.

Library staff set up extra tables and chairs to ensure adequate space and hang inspirational quotes around the library for encouragement. All students are welcome to visit the library during exam week. Please watch our website and social channels for the exact date this year.

additional \$141,101 to the project and was paid from the city's Capital Projects Fund.

Artificial turf decreases the number of 'rained out' games thanks to the lower maintenance and field preparation time. This results in more games played and fewer inconveniences for Ball Club players and families. "We have received so many compliments on the fields from our coaches and families. Everyone is so excited to have use of the fields," said Greg Stover, Brentwood Ball Club Program Director.

"The kids are excited playing on the new turf. The synthetic fields allow for a safer and improved playing surface for all players and are flexible for both girls' softball and boys baseball," said Rick Taylor, President of the Brentwood Ball Club. Taylor also thanked the city of Brentwood and staff for its partnership.



## A PET FRIENDLY CITY

The City of Brentwood is pleased to announce that it has earned City Certification through the Better Cities For Pets<sup>™</sup> program from Mars Petcare, showcasing its commitment to creating a pet-friendly community. The Better Cities For Pets<sup>™</sup> city certification launched in 2019 as an extension of the Better Cities For Pets<sup>™</sup> program, which works with government, businesses and non-profits to help communities be pet-friendly. It was created in partnership with Civic Design Center, a leader in designing public spaces, and incorporates input from government and animal welfare experts.

"We established the Better Cities For Pets<sup>™</sup> certification to celebrate cities that are creating positive and welcoming environments for people and their pets," said Jam Stewart, Vice President of Corporate Affairs at Mars Petcare. "We look forward to continuing to support cities as we work toward our purpose: A Better World For Pets."

## **INTER-AGENCY SWIFTWATER RESCUE TEAM**

By Heidi Williams, Digital Media Specialist



In late summer the Brentwood City Commission formally approved the Williamson County Inter-Agency Swiftwater Rescue Team. Since 2010, Brentwood Fire and Rescue has been working with Franklin Fire and the Williamson County Sheriff's Department to provide swiftwater rescue and floodwater reconnaissance both locally and on deployments to other states. They are recognized as among the best in the state when it comes to responding to this type of incident.

The twelve-person team is on call to assist anywhere in Tennessee and to other states with inter-agency agreements. However, if there is localized flooding, the team stays to take care of local jurisdictions first before assisting other locations.

Besides individual training within each of their departments, the whole team trains together four times a year. Nick Adams, Brentwood Fire and Rescue Division Chief of Training, says this helps create a "tighter knit community," and each team member knows the strengths and weakness of their fellow members before an event even occurs.

Swiftwater rescue is a growing field, and the Williamson County team is one of three state "test teams" that can help other communities while simultaneously teaching them how to form their own team. The team is also setting future sights on training new members within their own departments.

When the team deploys, they go to areas affected by flooding to assist with evacuations from homes. Evacuations don't just include people but also pets, and in the past even goats and horses.

Adams said that the biggest hazard while operating is not knowing what's in the water. Different landscapes have different challenges, from shopping areas to residential neighborhoods to farmlands. The team doesn't use motorized boats if there is a risk of fuel or propane tanks in the water, instead team members will walk or swim and pull float boats behind them. After each event, the team spends a couple of hours thoroughly cleaning themselves and their gear in case they were exposed to harmful substances.

Adams also said that one thing the public can do to help is to trust their community leaders and follow instructions. If asked to evacuate, don't stay behind and put yourself and rescue workers in jeopardy.

These photos are from a previous team deployment in South Carolina. You can read the formal approval of the agreement by the Brentwood City Commission <u>here</u> and learn more about FEMA's requirements for establishing a swiftwater team <u>here</u>.



## **TENSI TURTLE**

#### By Darek Baskin, Capital Projects Engineer

The Tennessee Stormwater Association has published a children's activity book about stormwater runoff and how pollution affects our environment. Read along as Tensi Turtle teaches kids about the importance of keeping our streams clean by preventing litter and other pollutants from being washed into our drainage systems. Also included are coloring activities, mazes, and word puzzles.

The booklet is available for pickup at the main lobby in City Hall. Grab a sticker, too!



## **EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT**

Matin Yates, Traffic Operations Coordinator for the Brentwood Public Works Department



Martin is an International Municipal Signal Association, Level III Traffic Signal Professional.

The "Level III" in his job title represents the highest level of training and experience covering a range of applications from maintenance to design and inspection of traffic signals. Public Works Director and his supervisor, Todd Hoppenstedt said, "more impressive is the fact that Martin is mostly selftaught in the profession and manages to stay current on the rapidly changing technology within his field. Martin is often invited to help administer IMSA Certification training to the next generation of signal professionals, he has developed a reputation for being a very knowledgeable resource to the traffic signal community."

Martin is one of only two traffic professionals for the City of Brentwood. The team of two are responsible for maintaining 53 signalized intersections, school flashing lights, traffic cameras, license plate readers used by Brentwood

## **REMEMBERING THOSE WE LOST**

This past summer our community lost two friends and colleagues: Regina Smithson and Missy Dillingham.



Commissioner Regina Smithson served on the Board of Commissioners for over 30 years, including terms as Vice-Mayor and Mayor. She had a great love for Brentwood and touched many lives across the community. Her influence on the character and quality of life of Brentwood will be felt for generations to come.



Missy Dillingham was the Children's Services Manager at the John P. Holt Brentwood Library, and had worked at the children's library since 1984. She was a significant presence in the evolution of not only the library, but the entire Brentwood community. Police, and the City's vast fiber communication network. Many citizens may not realize the amount of programming work required, and the inherent liability of adjusting traffic signals to respond to the rapid increase and decreases in traffic volume. For instance, a vehicle crash on Interstate 65 can quickly force thousands of additional cars and trucks off the interstate and on to local and state routes. If not properly managed, the influx of traffic on roads like Franklin Road through Brentwood would cripple the community's local travels.

"I really enjoy what I do in day to day operations," Martin says. "I enjoy making changes to help traveling motorists when they call with an issue, and call back and say thank you! I regularly check our video detection and make sure it's working properly. I keep our traffic signal system up to date with today's technology and keep everything up to the latest and greatest firmware, the technology changes on a daily basis."

Martin helps with projects for a number of other departments, including assiting the Police with deploying and troubleshooting the License Plate Recognition cameras. "It's nice to work somewhere where you are appreciated for the things you do! It's amazing how many kudos I get from them, especially the Police Chief who thanks me a lot! The Public Works Director also thanks me for all I do here at the City of Brentwood."

Hoppenstedt describes Martin as selfless in his work. "Martin will often return to work overnight to repair an issue or perform maintenance without causing unnecessary delays for the motoring public," Hoppenstedt added. Furthermore, Martin will often take calls at all hours, from other communities and signal contractors who seek his guidance, as they troubleshoot emergency technology issues within their traffic controls. Assistant City Manager, Jay Evans agrees with the selfless trait for Martin. "He's an avid vegetable gardener who grows enough produce to feed a small army and regularly gives it away," Evans said.

## **SPECIAL ELECTION UPDATE**

The City of Brentwood's special election to fill one open city commission seat is tentatively set for January 12, 2023. The candidate receiving the highest number of votes will serve the remainder of the late Commissioner Regina Smithson's term.

The special election timeline can be viewed at: bit.ly/3cka6Lv

For anyone interested in becoming a Brentwood City Commissioner or learning about the qualifications for elected office in Tennessee, you can learn more at: <u>https://bit.ly/3fpKJce</u>

## **2022 HOLIDAY EVENTS**

Morning with Santa and Magic Show Saturday, December 3 Santa: 9 am - 11 am Magic Show: 9:30 am and 10:15 am

See Santa Claus at the John. P Holt Brentwood Library and deliver your wish list! Passes will be available at the Children's Service Desk beginning Monday, November 22. For more information, please call the library at 615-371-0090 ext. 8380.

Magician Bruce Amato will amaze and delight the crowd with his fascinating magic and hilarious showmanship. Scott's magic show will be offered at two different times: 9:30 am and 10:15 am.

Before or after the magic show, enjoy music and a visit with Santa. Children can write and mail their letter to Santa if they don't want to meet him personally.

The event is free, but tickets are required. Tickets may be picked up at the Children's Desk beginning Monday, November 21 during regular library hours.

**Tree Lighting** Monday, December 5 *5:30 pm* 

As the start of the holiday season approaches, the Brentwood City Commission looks forward to inviting you to the 24th annual tree lighting ceremony. The event is held on the lawn of the John P. Holt Brentwood Library on Concord Road. Please stay tuned to the city's website and social media channels for program updates.

#### Neighborhood Luminaries Saturday, December 10 Dusk until 9 pm

During the evening of Saturday, December 10, from dusk untill 9 p.m., neighborhoods are encouraged to display luminaries. The city sets the date, but each homeowner association plans the details. For safety, please consider using glow sticks or flameless candles. In the event of rain or inclement weather, the luminary date will be Sunday, December 11. Each neighborhood, usually through its homeowners association, makes the final decision on luminary postponement.

#### **Ravenswood Mansion Lights**

The Ravenswood Mansion, located on 1825 Wilson Pike, will be lit up for the holidays. Consider using this cityowned venue for a small holiday gathering or the perfect spot for outdoor photos.

## **2022 COMMISSIONERS**

#### MAYOR

Rhea Little. III



rhea.little@brentwoodtn.gov 615-571-2628 (home) / 615-371-2200, ext. 2780

#### VICE MAYOR

Nelson Andrews



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Anne Dunn



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#### COMMISSIONER

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