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#### New Look for Children's Section at John P. Holt Brentwood Library Page 8

Photo: Entrance to the newly re-arranged children's section of the library.

Your Official City of Brentwood, Tennessee News Source

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# **CITY CONTACTS**

City Hall	. 615-371-0060	
Community Relations	615-371-2259	
Fire	.615-371-0170	
Library	.615-371-0090	
Parks	.615-371-2208	
Planning & Codes	. 615-371-2204	
Police	.615-371-0160	
Public Works	615-371-0080	
Service Center	615-371-0080	
Water Billing	. 615-661-7061	
Water Maintenance	. 615-371-0080	
Williamson County Ambulance	615-794-2800	
Emergency	911	

The City Update is published semi-annually by the City of Brentwood. Comments and suggestions should be directed to info@brentwoodtn.gov.

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

As I write this column in the last week of September, the federal government is once again looking at the very real possibility of a shutdown due to budget disagreements. Regardless of your political views, I think all of us agree that this situation grows more and more frustrating each time it occurs. The two sides will eventually come to an agreement after a few days or weeks of a shutdown, but in reality they won't solve the problem. They will simply resolve the current stalemate and leave the underlying conditions that will result in another stalemate somewhere down the road.

For a local government like Brentwood, the situation is completely different. First, we are legally required to adopt a balanced budget every year. Second, Brentwood's property values and commercial activity generate sufficient tax revenues to fully fund the ongoing service needs of the community without a lot of angst and debate. In my twentythree years with the City, I can easily count on one hand the number of citizens who have come before the City Commission to make comments during the annual budget hearings. A low property tax rate, safe community, high quality of life, and sufficient revenues generally make for easy budget decision-making.

Ever wonder how the property taxes you pay to the City are allocated to various services? The owner of a home with an appraised value of \$1 million would pay \$725 in city property taxes this year. That \$725 equates to \$60.42 per month for all general city services. This includes \$13.13 per month for police protection, \$13.10 per month for fire protection, \$5.07 per month for Public Works including our brush collection service, and \$3.77 per month for city parks. Given what all of us pay monthly for just our cell phone or cable/streaming TV services, I think city services are a pretty good deal.

While we can't really do much about the drama happening in Washington D.C., you can rest assured that your City Commission and city staff work hard every day to make our budget process as uneventful and logical as possible.

# **MAY 2023 GENERAL ELECTION**



The Brentwood City Commission elected Commissioner Mark Gorman as the city's new mayor during its May 8 meeting. Gorman took over the position from Commissioner Rhea Little, who served two terms as Brentwood Mayor.

Gorman was first elected to the City Commission in 2013, and he has served as Vice Mayor and as a representative on the Brentwood City Planning Commission.

"Thank you to the commissioners for electing me to serve as mayor of the great City of Brentwood," Gorman said. "Special thanks to (Commissioners) Anne Dunn and Regina Smithson, God rest her soul, who appointed me to the Planning Commission 19 years ago. That's what got this all started and got the ball rolling."

Every two years following the regular City Commission election, the City Commission votes to appoint a commissioner as Mayor and a commissioner as Vice Mayor. During the May 8 meeting, the Commission also named Commissioner Ken Travis as Brentwood's

new Vice Mayor. Commissioner Nelson Andrews previously served as Vice Mayor.

Travis joined the City Commission in 2015, and he was reelected as a commissioner during the city's general election in May.

"I look forward to the next two years," Travis said. "I was made for this job, and I think it'll be fun to do the tasks that are associated with it, and I look forward to serving along with Mayor Gorman."

Brentwood voters also reelected Andrews, Anne Dunn, and Susannah Macmillan during the May 2 general election. Those commissioners took the formal oath of office during the May 8th meeting. They join Little and Allison Spears as the other members of Brentwood's Board of Commissioners.

The City Commission meets at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Monday of every month for regularly scheduled meetings at City Hall, located at 5211 Maryland Way.

Information about the Brentwood Board of Commissioners is available on our website.

Photo: Vice Mayor Ken Travis (left) and Mayor Mark Gorman (right) shake hands during the May 8 City Commission meeting.

#### **MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAIL UPDATE**

Brentwood continues to roll forward toward bringing mountain biking to Smith Park. The City awarded a contract to Old Hillsboro Building Company in September to construct 4.5 miles of mountain bike trails on the western side of Smith Park. The trails will consist of multiple segments varying from beginner to advanced level of difficulty. The contractor will begin construction in October, however work is already underway by Southern Off-Road Bicycle Association, Middle Tennessee Chapter (SORBAMidTN) on the eastern section that will connect users via the trailhead behind Ravenswood Mansion.

This 2.5-mile section will be led by SORBAMidTN and they are actively looking for volunteers to help clear and construct the trail on October 28, 2023. The group is also accepting donations to reach its fundraising goal of \$60,000. To volunteer or donate, please visit www.brentwoodmtb.com.

Trail construction is expected to take approximately 6 months. Once complete, the trails will give residents 7 miles of mountain biking trails and provide a local practice and training location for the Brentwood High and Middle schools mountain bike teams. Until the trail is complete, you can venture nearby to Franklin Mountain Bike Trail or Wilkins Branch Mountain Bike Park to get your mountain biking fix.



The Old Hillsboro Building Company will soon start building 4.5 miles of mountain bike trails (in blue) at Smith Park

#### BRENTWOOD FIRE & RESCUE TEAM HELPS COMBAT LOUISIANA WILDFIRES

The firefighters, worn out from 12-hour shifts in the brutal Louisiana sun, slept on cots in a church gymnasium. Outside, more than 440 wildfires burned across 60,000 acres, causing evacuations in several small towns.

Flames claimed at least 21 buildings in different parishes, and the men in that church needed rest so they could head out again to support the local Louisiana fire departments. If they slept, they might have dreamed of their families and friends, or their homes hours away in Middle Tennessee.

On Aug. 27, five days after the Louisiana fires started, a local strike team headed southwest to offer its support. That team included crew members from Brentwood Fire & Rescue, the Franklin Fire Department, Murfreesboro Fire Rescue Department, and Fayette County. The Brentwood contingent included Deputy Chief Brian Collins, Lieutenant Paul Stine, Engineer Kyle Shank, Engineer Chris Wright, and Firefighter Paul Greve.

"While in Louisiana, their primary mission was supporting the local fire departments in Vernon and Beauregard parishes, which have been overwhelmed by the recent wildland fire activity," Brentwood Fire Chief Brian Goss said. "They were also provided with resources from Central, Jennings, and Evangeline Fire Departments (all from Louisiana) and worked alongside crews from Texas and Oklahoma.



Above: Brentwood Fire & Rescue Personnel work to put out hot spots at one of the more than 400 wildland fires that burned in Louisiana in August. Brentwood was deployed as one of several fire departments from Middle Tennessee.



From left to right: Lt. Paul Stine, Engineer Chris Wright, Engineer Kyle Shank, Firefighter Paul Greve, Deputy Chief Brian Collins

"The team from Tennessee was met with an unbelievable level of gratitude and hospitality from the local communities in which they served, and made it clear why we are known as the Volunteer State."

"The team slept in two different gyms and two different churches, with the primary base of operations being at the Brushy Creek Baptist Church, located in southwest Louisiana," Goss continued. "Personnel worked several 12-plus hour shifts, remaining available for 24-hour operational periods."

As the fires were brought under control, the State of Louisiana began releasing resources, and the local strike team returned home Monday, Sept. 4.

"The team from Tennessee was met with an unbelievable level of gratitude and hospitality from the local communities in which they served, and made it clear why we are known as the Volunteer State," Goss said.

# **BRENTWOOD BRIEFS**

#### STATEWIDE TESTING FOR PFAS IN WATER

The Brentwood Water Department is working with the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) to protect residents from the potential dangers of per- and polyfluoroalkyl chemicals (PFAS), also known as "forever chemicals." Brentwood, along with other municipalities across the state, is participating in the EPA/ TDEC's statewide sampling effort to monitor PFAs in local water supplies. More information is available at www.tn.gov/ environment/policy/pfas.

# **IRRIGATION WINTERIZATION**

If you're newer to Brentwood and come from a warmer climate, irrigation winterization may not be on your radar, but it's critical to preventing damage in the colder months. If water remains in your irrigation system during periods of freezing temperatures the water can freeze and expand, causing pipes and the backflow preventer device to burst.

To prevent this from happening, "winterize" your irrigation systems. This is a process of using compressed air to remove the water from the system's pipes and components. It's also recommend that the backflow preventer device either be removed or insulated. This winterization process can be completed by homeowners, but is typically completed by landscape and irrigation companies.

#### TECH TIP: BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU POST

When people post information that they are excited to share they don't always realize how it can be used nefariously.

Parents post a lot of details about their children – especially when school starts back up. This information can be used to build false profiles, guess passwords, or track down children. Be proud of your children, but also be careful.

# WINDY HILL PARK UPDATES

The City of Brentwood hired ESP Associates, a multidisciplinary engineering design and consulting firm, to develop a master plan for Windy Hill, a 52-acre community park.

That plan is complete, and includes paved walking trails and a playground. ESP is nearing completion of the full design, and construction is expected to begin in early 2024.

### **NEW DIRECTORS**

Three new department directors have started with the City of Brentwood in the last year:

Bob Leeman, Planning and Codes bob.leeman@brentwoodtn.gov

Charles Booth, Community Relations charles.booth@brentwoodtn.gov

Darek Baskin, Engineering darek.baskin@brentwoodtn.gov



# The Brentwood Historic Commission presents THE BUGLE

Volume 23, Issue 2

#### SEARCH FOR HISTORIC FURNITURE AND ARTWORK

The Historic Commission is looking for a few good pieces of furniture and artwork for the city-owned historic homes.

Keesha Gooding, events manager at Ravenswood Mansion at Smith Park, has asked the Brentwood Historic Commission to assist her in adding some needed furniture.

Keesha is pictured on the upstairs landing which is used as part of the groom's quarters during the many weddings that are performed at Ravenswood. This is the area where she would like to add a 19th century style settee and a pair of 19th century style armchairs. Downstairs in the front parlor she needs one traditionally styled étagère, or similar piece, and one antique style occasional table.

The Historic Commission is open to accepting other materials, colors, or similar styles. They are not specifically interested in antiques which are at least 100 years old, but would certainly love to have them. The furniture must be sturdy, clean, and in very good condition. They are requesting that you gift the furniture, rather than offer a loan.

Cool Springs House at Crockett Park, the city's other historic home event center, needs a framed piece of artwork at least 28 inches by 21 inches. The Historic Commission would appreciate a framed equestrian print or painting. Brentwood was once the home of fox hunting and the Hillsboro Hounds. The artwork will be hung in the front parlor above the sideboard. They are also open to other styles of prints or paintings, such as Audubon birds or 19th century American landscape paintings.

The other arty project at Cool Springs House is to create a Wall of Mirrors, Brentwood's version of the Hall of Mirrors at Versailles! Keesha envisions this as a fun selfie wall for the many parties and weddings that take place at Cool Springs House. The house already has frames and the wall, and just needs someone to fund the project which will cost about \$400.

If you have furniture, artwork, or a monetary gift that meets the needs stated and you would like to donate, please email a photo and a brief description to Charles.Booth@brentwoodtn.gov

Pursuant to Internal Revenue Code Section 170(c), contributions to a local government for a public purpose may be deductible for federal income taxation purposes. The Historic Commission recommends you consult your tax advisor to verify the proper treatment of this contribution on your tax return.

Should you or your tax advisor desire further information from the City of Brentwood, contact Charles Booth at charles.booth@brentwoodtn.gov.







Top photo: Kesha Gooding standing on the upstairs landing at Ravenswood Mansion.

Middle photo: Frames ready for mirrors at Cool Springs House.

Bottom photo: An example of an antique table in Ravenswood Mansion.

# THE BRENTVALE CABIN VISION

Last year, the City dismantled the Brentvale cabin at Crockett Park because the structure, along with its historic timbers, was deteriorating, but its stone fireplace chimneys remain intact. Over the past year, the Historic Commission has worked with Jay Evans, Assistant City Manager, and Charles Booth, Community Relations Director, to develop alternatives for replacing the cabin.

The Commission wanted a solution that was affordable, provided utility for Brentwood citizens, accommodated a variety of uses, and retained a historic style reminiscent of the original cabin. The Commission considered a historically correct replacement cabin, a replica cabin, a pavilion, and a partially enclosed pavilion with features that allow evolution over time. There was also the option of removing the two stone chimneys and clearing the entire site.

On Aug. 10, the Brentwood City Commission was presented with the proposed design and project plan for a partially enclosed pavilion. That plan calls for building a pavilion-type structure on the footprint of the original Crockett Park Brentvale Cabin, incorporating the existing stone fireplace chimneys. Siding, comprised of boards produced from the original log timbers, will be installed at the sides and front of the pavilion to provide the "look" of the log cabin.

The proposed pavilion will be open to the rear with a large patio to provide seating or a venue for programs. Electricity and water will be installed. The design of the Pavilion allows for total enclosure, as a future option. The plan for using this facility is to primarily focus on the history and significance of the City of Brentwood, with historically-themed events. It will enable the Historic Commission to implement seasonal programming for Brentwood residents such as:

- Educational programming
- Community craft and art demonstrations
- · Community theater, music, and other oral traditions
- Joint programs with other entities such as the Williamson County Historical Society, the Brentwood Library, and various educational organizations

The Commission and the City are working together this fall to develop plans and a budget for this project.



Rendering of the vision for the Brentvale replacment cabin.

# **EVENT VENUE AVAILABILITY**

#### Brentwood's Historic Homes

Both of the city-owned historic homes are available to rent year-round for events, including weddings, business gatherings, graduation and holiday parties, and more. It's not too late to book one of the homes for your holiday parties! Fill out the contact form on the websites to inquire.



Ravenswood Mansion ravenswoodmansion.com

Cool Springs House coolspringshouse.com



Book the historic homes for all your entertaining needs:

- Weddings
- Holiday Parties
- Graduation Parties
- Anniversary Parties
- Corporate Retreats
- Bridal or Baby Showers
- Reunions

## **BRENTWOOD'S HORSEY PAST**

From the Spring 2020 edition of The Bugle



Read More about Brentwood's Horsey Past: "Born and Bred in Brentwood, Our Rich Agricultural Past" by Ashley McAnulty

### **HISTORY BOWL**

Dan Thomas, WSMV meteorologist and Williamson countian, will host the 12th annual Sarah Bayrd American History Bowl sponsored by the Brentwood Historic Commission. Dan will bring his wit and energy to this fast paced, lively game show testing the knowledge of students from the Williamson County public high schools. Chuck Sherrill, former State Librarian, will be the questioner.

Winning schools take home cash prizes for their schools' history and social studies departments. The event is free and open to the public. Make plans to join the Historic Commission on Thursday, February 29 at 7:00pm at Brentwood City Hall on Maryland Way. The evening is made possible through the generosity of sponsors. If you love history and want to show these students how much their hard work is appreciated, consider being a sponsor with a donation of \$250. Contact anne.dunn@brentwoodtn.gov for details.



#### NEW LOOK FOR CHILDREN'S SECTION AT JOHN P. HOLT BRENTWOOD LIBRARY

Visiting the children's section of the John P. Holt Brentwood Public Library is almost like stepping into a real-life fairy tale. At the entrance stands a whimsical tree, a curious owl, and a book-themed gateway decorated with the words, "Once Upon a Time."

When Amanda Kirby, the library's Children's Services Manager, first visited the space about a year ago, she had two thoughts: "impressive" and "we can do better."

Kirby quickly noticed that the fun, magical area wasn't easy to navigate, and tall bookshelves blocked the windows, giving the space a cavernous feel. She met with Robin Walden, Technical Services Manager, and the two set to work measuring furniture and bookshelves to make sure everything would fit. On August 27th the library closed off this popular section, and on September 4th after a long week of work, Kirby, Walden and their colleagues reopened a more inviting children's library for young readers.

"We wanted to give a better flow from early childhood through the elementary collections," Kirby said. "Now, when you enter the children's space, kids can go through the tree tunnel and directly into the early childhood area. The collections there include picture books, early readers, and board books. The toys are now within this space to encourage browsing while children play. There is additional seating for parents, and it will hopefully encourage people to spend more time."

In addition to creating more intentional play and learning spaces, the library staff also focused on brightening the entire room.

"It lets in more natural light and allows for more visibility," Kirby said. "With lower shelving in the first part of the room, people can see more of the space. It also shows off the amazing view we have of the park!"



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Fiction





To create more conversational areas, the staff moved the tables from the back windows and spread them through the children's section. Kirby said they also added more comfortable furniture for children to relax and enjoy a good book.

"We also added an information station to better promote library events and services," she said. "This area is now directly next to the children's desk so our staff can interact more with visitors."

Kirby hopes the new layout will allow the library's children's collection to grow and change to fit the community's needs.

"The hope is that it feels more welcoming and intentional."







On the night of Sept. 9, 1950, Little Mike – a B-29 Super Fortress – took off from the Yokata Air Base in Japan. Samuel Logan, a handsome, young pilot with dark curly hair, pointed the enormous plane west. It was the early months of the Korean War, and Little Mike, along with eight other bombers, flew over the Sea of Japan toward a railroad bridge near Pyongyang.

As the planes thundered over the bombed-out terrain, anti-aircraft fire exploded around them. Little Mike shook from the flak. Logan kept the bomber on target, even as the rattling metal and glass likely shook his crew's nerves. Suddenly, a shell exploded against one of the engines. The blast damaged the tail, and the plane began leaking fuel. Little Mike plunged out of the formation.

According to a U.S. Department of the Air Force report, witnesses saw "an explosion and a trail of black smoke as the B-29 went down" near the village of Wolbong-ni. Parachutes were seen floating toward the village, some of them on fire. Logan was never seen again.

Four years later, in March 1954, the Air Force declared him deceased. His family held out hope for his return, and as the years turned into decades, they never held a formal memorial service for him. That changed on August 26, when the State of Tennessee officially dedicated a bridge on Brentwood's Hillsboro Road, over the Little Harpeth River, as the Maj. Samuel P. Logan Bridge.

"Some people in our nation's history have paid a very high price for us to have our freedom," Brentwood City Commissioner Rhea Little said in January. "And one was Air Force Maj. Samuel Logan, who gave his life during the Korean War.

Last year, Williamson County State Rep. Sam Whitson contacted the City of Brentwood, asking that they support naming a bridge within the city limits after Logan. On Jan. 10, the City Commission unanimously approved supporting the naming.

In the early 1940s, Logan was an engineering student at Vanderbilt University, but shortly after the attack on Pearl Harbor he left school to join the Army Air Corp. He went on to serve as a bomber pilot during World War II. On September 9, 1950, during the Korean War, his plane was shot down, but the U.S. Department of Defense no longer believes that Logan died in the crash.

More than sixty years after the Tennessee native disappeared, the Defense Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel Office issued a new memorandum on the pilot. The July 2010 memo states that he survived and was captured by North Korean soldiers.

"This information was provided to our office by a British documentary filmmaker," the memo reported. "We believe he discovered the film in a Russian archive. We are in the process of acquiring a copy of the original film from the Russian state film archive and will forward further information as it becomes available."

Pictures of the plane's wreckage, along with photos of a curly-haired American pilot, were published in Pravda, the official newspaper of the Soviet Union's Communist Party, in late 1950. "One of the photographs clearly shows Major Logan in the custody of a North Korean officer at the crash site," the memo reported.

The U.S. Government continues to search for information regarding the pilot, but the report stated "we know of several cases in which North Korean troops, fleeing north in October 1950 and unable to care for POWs, resorted to expedient murder. Major Logan may well have been among those slain, but we do not have any specific confirmation to affirm this."

Brentwood and other Williamson County residents – including his son, David Logan – will now be reminded of the war hero's sacrifice whenever they cross the Little Harpeth on Hillsboro Road. "Because of individuals like Maj. Logan, we have the right to go out and vote, and we have the right to free speech, to voice our likes and dislikes," Little said. "When you cross that bridge, you'll know that story."

# **2023 HOLIDAY EVENTS**

#### Morning with Santa and Magic Show

#### Saturday, December 2

- See Santa Claus: 9 am 11 am
- Magic Shows: 9:30 am, 10:30 am and 11:30 am

Come see Santa Claus at the John. P Holt Brentwood Library and enjoy a festive start to your holiday season! Magician Scott Humston will amaze and delight the crowd with his fascinating magic and hilarious showmanship. The magic shows will be offered at 9:30 am, 10:30 am, and 11:30 am. Free tickets for the magic shows will be available at the Children's Service Desk beginning Monday, November 13th.

In addition to the magic shows and visiting Santa, enjoy delicious treats, prize drawings, and other fun-filled activities. Children can also write letters to Santa and make fun crafts.

Admission is free, but free tickets are required for the magic show. For more information, please call the library at 615-371-0090 ext. 8380.

#### Tree Lighting

#### Monday, December 4 at 5:30 pm

As the start of the holiday season approaches, the Brentwood City Commission looks forward to inviting you to the 25th 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 9 from 6 to 9 p.m.

From dusk to 9 pm, 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 10. Each neighborhood, usually through its Homeowners Association, makes the final decision on luminary postponement.

### **2023 COMMISSIONERS**

#### MAYOR

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# Free Concerts Food Trucks Family Friendly Events



Scan to view sponsor information on our website

# **2024 Sponsorship Opportunities** Get your company in front of thousands!

#### Silver

- Small company logo displayed in the Eddy Arnold Amphitheater
- Company name featured on all concert series social media promotion
- Included in the City Update newsletter mailed to all households and businesses in the 37027 zip code
- Highlighted on Brentwood's cable channel, social media, and website
- Included in press releases and advertisements

## Gold

- Medium company logo displayed in the Eddy Arnold Amphitheater
- Booth at two regular series concerts to promote in front of average attendance of 2,500 each
- Company name featured on all concert series
- social media promotion
- Included in the City Update newsletter mailed to all households and businesses in the 37027 zip code
- Highlighted on Brentwood's cable channel, social media, and website
- Included in press releases and advertisement

### Platinum

- Large company logo displayed in the Eddy Arnold Amphitheater
- Speaking time at BrentFest to advertise your
- business in front of more than 8,500 people
- Included as a BrentFest sponsor
- Five VIP parking spots at July 4th event
- Booth at all four concerts to promote in front of average attendance of 2,500 each
- Company name featured on all concert series social media promotion
- Included in the City Update newsletter mailed to
- all households and businesses in the 37027 zip code
- Highlighted on Brentwood's cable channel, social media, and website
- Included in press releases and advertisement