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Both seeking re-election in May

Mayor Thomas, Mayor Pro Tem Hayes resign

Mayor Lyndia Thomas and Mayor Pro Tem Beckie Duncan Hayes unexpectedly resigned on Wednesday, January 16. They resigned after a citizen's request prompted an investigation into a expenses by both leaders.

The pair allegedly attended an event in Dallas where former First Lady Michelle Obama spoke at a book tour with tickets costing more than \$500 each. Both resigned on January 16 prior to a special investigative meeting which would have revealed the findings. Citing "insufficient time to prepare a defense" both resigned "under duress." That same day, they signed up to run again in the May 2019 election.

Both were elected in 2017 with Thomas defeating incumbent Mayor Gerald Joubert by only one vote. Hayes won with 492 votes against incumbent Ozell Birks who garnered 469 votes.

Signups for Mayor & Council Places 4, 5 and 6 underway

A general election will be held by the City of Forest Hill conducted by Tarrant County on Saturday, May 4 at the Civic & Convention Center, 6901 Wichita. The election will include Mayor and three City Council slots. Council Places to be filled are City Council Places 4, 5 and 6.

A joint election with the Forest Hill Library District for their Places 1, 2 and 3 will also be held. Early voting will be held April 23 to May 1, also at the Civic & Convention Center.

Signups began January 16 and will end February 15. For information on elections, call City Secretary Amy Anderson at 817-568-3040. A complete sample ballot will be

Keep up with what's going on. Join CTY to receive notifications about meetings and events. Fill out a form at City Hall or online at www.foresthilltx.org.

At a special City Council Meeting on January 22, the City Council quickly named Deputy Mayor Clara Faulkner as Mayor to complete the term until the May election. She is not seeking that office but will also run in Place 4. In addition to Thomas, Stephanie Boardingham and others are seeking the mayoral spot. (Since those slots are on the next ballot, a special election is not necessary since there is still a quorum left on the City Council.)

A Special Celebration

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Forest Hill Civic & Convention Center
6901 Wichita
Tuesday, February 26
6:30 p.m.

Join us for musical performances and giveaways.
Vendors welcome. Info at 817-568-3009.



Mayor's Corner

A New Year, New Mercies, New Blessings, and New Aspirations for our "Community Driven" City

I am humbled and honored to serve the great city of Forest Hill.

We will continue to elevate our commitment to our citizens and always strive to uphold the wonderful profession of Public Service. As we continue to exercise due diligence addressing problems within our city, the health, safety, and well-being of each citizen will always be our top priority.

The city is currently implementing a plan to identify and

assist Federal government workers who live in Forest Hill.

Our Police Department has hired new officers and is working tirelessly at reducing crime in our community. The city is also considering a number of new strategies, including automatic license plate recognition and additional surveillance cameras in public areas.

Animal Control issues have also been addressed. Stay tuned for updates.

Again, thank you to "Forest Hill's Finest", our Department of Public Safety, City Manager and Staff, City employees and our citizens. Each of us are a common thread woven into the very fabric of this great city. A "Community Driven City" where you can live, work and play.

Mayor Clara Faulkner

From the City Council...

Regular Meeting - January 15, 2019

The Forest Hill City Council held a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, January 15, with all members present.

• Two police officers were honored for their humanitarian efforts on Christmas Eve with out-of-town travelers. They are Officers Mozqueda and Chesnut.

• Mayor Lyndia Thomas' report included: (1) Message on Agenda; (2) Black History Month; (3) Martin Luther King Jr. Parade; (4) Training; (5) Upcoming Election (filing January 16 to February 15); and (6) Animal Control Problems.

• No action was taken on several items including: (1) Sale of property at 6232 Hartman; (2) An extension to Mayor Lyndia Thomas and Mayor Pro Tem Beckie Hayes to prepare a defense against charges - 18 people spoke in defense of the pair but the Council did not allow more time. (See front page article.)

• The Council voted to suspend Mayor Lyndia Thomas city-issued credit card for an indefinite period of time.

• A 45-day extension was granted to the Finance Director to complete the City Investment Policy.

• The City Manager was directed to have the city's engineering firm prepare a drainage report to determine costs of needed upgrades,

• Street improvement projects in the amount of \$185,000 were approved.

• No action was taken on a violation of the Open Meetings Act involving Council Members Joubert, Jones and Boardingham as alleged by Mayor Lyndia Thomas.

• City Manager's Report included information on SBA Loans for flood victims; Sales Tax Historical Data; and December Departmental Reports.

• The Council met in Executive Session to discuss action on Stephanie Boardingham vs City of Forest Hill.

Gerald Joubert honored



Forest Hill Council Member Gerald Joubert

Council Member Gerald Joubert was recently honored by the Fort Worth/Tarrant County Minority Leaders & Citizens Council. This is an achievement which speaks for his leadership and involvement in the community. Mayor Clara Faulkner and Council Member Stephanie Boardingham attended the ceremony.



CIVIC CENTER RENTAL INFO
Planning a birthday party, wedding, family reunion, baby shower or conference?

Check out the Forest Hill Civic & Convention Center for your event needs. Call 817-708-2051 for details!

Volunteers are needed to serve on Forest Hill Boards and Commissions. Get an application on the City website www.foresthilltx.org or call the City Secretary's office at 817-568-3040.

Uplift Ascend Academy now open; holds official ribbon cutting

The official ribbon cutting for Uplift Ascend Preparatory Academy located at 8100 Forest Hill Drive was held on Thursday, January 12.

The campus is actually in Fort Worth in an area between Everman and Forest Hill just north of Souder Elementary. The school will be adding new scholars to attend the new building. Parents may still enroll their students and are invited to call the school for more information at 817-768-4300 or email ascendapplications@uplifteducation.org.

Attending were Forest Hill Mayor Clara Faulkner, Council Member Stephanie Boardingham and Uplift Ascend Board Member Michelle Benson.

Free TAX AIDE service at Library

An AARP TAX AIDE will be providing free income tax preparation at the Forest Hill Public Library every Wednesday from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. Everyone is welcome. The free service starts February 1 and runs until April 12 - Wednesdays only. Appointments are required. Contact or visit the Library to set time slot.

Save water now - save money later

This is a friendly reminder that the City of Forest Hill Water Utilities Department is now in winter average time. This covers the months of December, January and February.

During this time the customer's water usage is calculated over the three (3) month period to set the customer sewer rate for the next year. This recalculation procedure happens in April of every year. **Save water now to save money later.**

Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, April 12 at 2 a.m. Spring forward!



Attending were Forest Hill Mayor Clara Faulkner, Council Member Stephanie Boardingham and Uplift Board Member Michelle Benson.



Exterior of the exciting new campus.

Forest Hill Easter Egg Hunt
Saturday, April 13, 12 noon
at Forest Hill Civic & Convention Center
 6901 Wichita
Ages 10 and Under
 Easter Bunny • Hunt for over 2,500 filled eggs and candy
 Free Basket to First 75 Hunters
 Prize Eggs • Free Snowcones
 Info: 817-568-3000

Change your smoke detector battery when you change your clock on April 12.

“Marc Means Business” in Forest Hill

Congressman Marc Veasey, in promoting his shop local business initiative, spent a morning working at Williams Sign with Mayor Clara Faulkner and Council Member Carlie Jones. Owner Mark Settlemire, in the photo to the right, showed the Congressman the ins-and-outs of professional sign making in his Forest Hill shop at 3933 E California Parkway, Suite C, Forest Hill 76119. For sign information and timelines or pricing call (817) 535-2090.



Early voting begins soon for elections

Elections for City Council and Library Board seats will be held Saturday, May 4. Early voting will be held at the Civic & Convention Center, 6901 Wichita Street as follows.

April (abril) 22 – 26 Monday – Friday (lunes- viernes) 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

April (abril) 27 Saturday (sábado) 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

April (abril) 28 Sunday (domingo) 11:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m.

April (abril) 30 Monday (lunes) 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

April (abril) 31 Tuesday (martes) 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

More info is available from City Secretary Amy Anderson at 817-568-3040.

Warrant Roundup Coming

Beginning the first of March, 2019, law enforcement agencies across Texas will be concentrating their efforts to address non-compliance with court orders. If you do not resolve your tickets now, you may be subject to arrest. If you are stopped while driving your vehicle and arrested, your vehicle may be impounded, which would result in additional towing and storage fees. Please take care of your tickets now to avoid arrest.

If you voluntarily appear at Forest Hill Municipal Court office to take care of your tickets, you will not be arrested. If you are unable to pay, contact the court to discuss options that may be available to resolve your matters with the Court. Court hours and location: 3219 California Pkwy: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. You may also contact the Court at 817-568-3046 Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Payments are also accepted by phone at 800-444-1187 or online at www.foresthilltx.org 24 hours a day, seven days a week.



Williams sign owner Mark Settlemire showed the Congressman the ins and outs of professional sign making in his Forest Hill shop.



Congressman Marc Veasey working at Williams Sign with Mayor Clara Faulkner and Council Member Carlie Jones.

 Low cost animal vaccination clinic
ANIMAL CLINIC OF FOREST HILL
 Every 2nd Saturday of the month
 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. at 3350 Lookout Drive
 817-551-3700 for info

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



The Forest Hill News is available on-line by the 15th of each month. You can now submit birthdays, anniversaries, birth or other special events to the email above. This begins the ninth year in this format coming in water bills and begins the ninth year of six pages.

Forest Hill Happy birthday to longtime Forest Hill resident Juana Woods Williams on February 24.

City employees with birthdays are Norman Lampkins - February 22 (Mechanic), Garret Considine - February 23 (Public Works) and Fire Chief Randy Chapman on February 25. Dalila Guerrero (Juvenile Case Manager) - March 2, Steve Chacon (Information Technology) - March 5, Darwin Lockett (Fire Lieutenant) - March 6, Cristina Dancer (Police Dispatch) - March 7, Daniela Pozos (Warrant Collection Clerk) - March 8, Ryan Davis (Firefighter) - March 9, and Lorenzo Clayton (Meter Reader) - March 21.

Forest Hill represented at parade



Mayor Clara Faulkner, Council Member Carlie Jones and Council Member Stephanie Boardingham represented Forest Hill in the Fort Worth parade honoring Dr. Martin L. King last month.

Current Job Openings - City of Forest Hill

There are several ways you can apply for a job with the city. The website allows you to view current job listings as well as download an application. You can also stop by City Hall, 3219 California Parkway, Forest Hill, TX 76119, and pick up an application.

If you are looking for information regarding Police or Fire Department recruitment, please call the HR Director's office at 817-568-3004.

The City of Forest Hill complies with all EOE/ADA requirements.

Position: Animal Control/Code Enforcement Officer
Status: Part Time

Position: Police Officer
Status: Full Time

Position: Deputy Court Clerk
Status: Part Time

Position: Public Works Technician
Status: Part Time

Position: Public Works Technician
Status: Full Time

Position: Police Telecommunicator
Status: Full Time

Position: Information Technology Specialist/Intern
Status: Part-Time

Loose dogs and other animals continue to be a problem. City Ordinance requires that dogs be confined and have tags and vaccinations. Failure to do these things could result in a hefty fine determined by the City Judge. Save yourself the anguish of a court appearance and confine your animals for the safety of all.



Community Calendar

All meetings are subject to change. City info: www.foresthilltx.org.

February 18 - Presidents Day - City Hall and other offices closed. Emergency personnel on duty. Call 9-1-1 for emergencies.

February 19 - City Council Meeting - 7 p.m. - City Hall
February 19 - Blood pressure checks & BINGO - Senior Activity Center - 9:30 a.m.; Library Board Meeting - 6 p.m. - Library

February 20 - Lions Club - 11 a.m. - Luby's; Historical Commission Meeting - 3 p.m. - City Hall

February 21 - Blood pressure checks & BINGO - Senior Activity Center - 9:30 a.m.; Library Board Meeting - 6 p.m. - Library

February 26 - Forest Hill Church of Christ Helping Hands Food Distribution Program - 8 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

February 28 - Blood pressure checks & BINGO - Senior Activity Center - 9:30 a.m.

March 1 - Food Day for regular attendees - Senior Center
March 4 - Blood pressure checks & BINGO - Senior Activity Center - 9:30 a.m.; Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting - 6 p.m.; - City Hall

March 5 - City Council Meeting - 7 p.m. - City Hall

March 6 - Lions Club - 11 a.m. - Luby's

March 11 - Blood pressure checks & BINGO - Senior Activity Center - 9:30 a.m.; Parks, Recreation & Clean City Commission Meeting - 5 p.m. - City Hall; Police Alumni Association Meeting - 6:30 p.m. - Civic & Convention Center

March 12 - Friends of the Library Meeting - 6 p.m. - Library Community Room. Call 817-554-5354 for info

March 18 - Blood pressure checks & BINGO - Senior Activity Center - 9:30 a.m.

March 19 - City Council Meeting - 7 p.m. - City Hall; This is Boss's Day.

March 20 - Lions Club - 11 a.m. - Luby's; Historical Commission Meeting - 3 p.m. - City Hall

March 25 - Blood pressure checks & BINGO - Senior Activity Center - 9:30 a.m.

Emergency warning sirens are tested at 1 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month.

Recycling Bins

are now available at the Animal Control Center, 6901 Anglin and at Fire Administration, 6800 Forest Hill Drive
The gate is unlocked at Animal Control 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.
Fire Administration is open 24/7.

Council Member Jones elected First VP for National Black Caucus of Elected Officials

Council Member Carlie Jones has been elected First Vice President of NBC-LEO (National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials), one of the largest constituency groups in NLC (National League of Cities). She has also been appointed as a Member of the Board of Directors for NLC. NLC is an organization dedicated to help-



Council Member Carlie Jones

ing city leaders build better communities.

It establishes working relationships with state municipal leagues and serves as a resource for members, and advocates for more than 19,000 cities, villages, and towns. This is the first time a Council Member in Forest Hill has ever held a position in such a capacity.

"It speaks volumes to the leadership we have in our community. Forest Hill is on the move in being revealed as the city of hidden treasures," said Jones. "I am honored and grateful to serve the people in any way I can." She added, "The roads can get long and uneven but it can be paved. I will continue to press in moving the city forward and taking charge in addressing issues that our city and communities are facing across the nation."



Saturday, April 13
8:00 a.m. to 2 p.m.

You bring it - We remove it!
At Public Works, 3101 Horton Road

Recycling available for:
Clothing/Shoes and Electronics

Proof of residency required.
Household waste not accepted.
No hazardous materials.

Volunteers are needed to help.
Call 817-531-5700 for info.

