



COMMISSIONERS: James V. Hunt, Sr., Mayor • Louise Bryan, Vice-Mayor • Bob Weigel, Cathy Altenbern • Rusty Moore • Beth Reardon, City Manager • Tim Eads, Chief of Police

City Hall (615) 297-6041 / Police Dept. (615) 297-0241 / www.citybellemeade.org

NEWSLETTER TO RESIDENTS OF BELLE MEADE FEBRUARY 2019

SOCIETY OF CERES

By resident Laura Katherine Wood, Chair

The Society of Ceres is pleased to announce that we have relaunched our Committee! This Committee was put together in late 2018 at the request of City Commissioners Cathy Altenbern, Gray Thornburg and Jim Hunt with the help of City Manager Beth Reardon. The Committee will make recommendations to the Belle Meade Board of Commissioners for decisions such as tree ordinance support, flowering annual plantings and maintenance for all city pocket parks and greenways. We will also be responsible for fundraising, grant reviews and applications, Weed Wrangle®, and the American flag sponsorship for Belle Meade Boulevard. In the future, we hope to add annual events to provide an opportunity for our residents to come together to celebrate our beautiful City.

At the first meeting, the Society of Ceres Committee set forth our vision to build community by means of preservation, education and beautification of the flora of the City of Belle Meade. Our focus will be on sustainability, education, community and, of course beautification. To paraphrase one of our members, Michael Dixon, "The beauty we enjoy can only remain perpetual with thoughtful volunteerism." We are grateful to our members for the donation of their time and expertise.

The Society of Ceres Committee Members are: Cathy Altenbern, City Commissioner; Caroline Stevens, a horticultural enthusiast who is an expert in invasive and native plant species; Carolyn Sorenson, a 30-year resident of Belle Meade and Executive Director of the Nashville Tree Foun-

ation; Carter Dawson, Volunteer Coordinator for Weed Wrangle® Nashville through the Garden Club of Nashville; Gavin Duke, Principal Landscape Architect at Page|Duke Landscape Architects; Jill Debona, a 16-year resident of Belle Meade with a passion for organic and pesticide-free vegetable gardening and community and neighborhood gardens; Laura Katherine Wood, Chair, a Six Sigma Blackbelt and Project Manager; Lisa Ellis, a 12-year resident of Belle Meade who enjoys the challenges and rewards of perennial gardening; Martha Phipps, a passionate gardener with an interest in the gardens that surround our beautiful City; Michael Dixon, an enthusiastic, lifelong gardener and fortunate owner of a historically significant and recently refreshed Belle Meade home; Peter Grimaldi, Advisor, Vice-President of Gardens and Facilities at Cheekwood; and Seth Stewart, a 15-year resident of Belle Meade who enjoys gardening.

Throughout the upcoming year, our members will be writing articles for the Belle Meade Living magazine and the City newsletter around each of their specialties, as well as articles about the history of the Society of Ceres. If you have any past Ceres publications, old copies of Belle Meade Seasons, or historical information around the organization, please email SocietyofCeres@gmail.com. We would love to hear from you!

We are thrilled to have a Committee with such knowledge and passion for our City! Keep your eye out for our article on the 2019 Weed Wrangle® Nashville in the February edition of *Belle Meade Living*.

weed wrangle®

Weed Wrangle® 2019 is coming to Nashville on Saturday March 2nd.

Want to participate in the 2019 Weed Wrangle®? There will be 3 sites located in or near Belle Meade: Belle Meade Plantation, Cheekwood, and Warner Parks; along with sites scattered all over

the city. Mark your Calendar for Saturday March 2nd and go to *HANDS ON NASHVILLE* (<https://www.hon.org/>) and search for Weed Wrangle® and register for a site close to your home or close to your heart. It is a wonderful way to do your part to take care of the environment and give back to the Nashville community.



FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT – CHIEF TIM EADS:



A recent press release from Metro Police Dept. below is alarming for two reasons: the number of vehicles stolen in ONE week, and of those, most could have been prevented with PARK SMART:

A review of stolen vehicle reports in Nashville from Sunday, January 20th, through Saturday, January 26th shows that 72% of the automobiles taken (61 of 85) were easy targets because the keys were left inside or made available to thieves. Thirty-one of the 85 vehicles stolen were left running without the driver present.

The police department’s continuing PARK SMART campaign strongly urges citizens to lock their automobile doors, secure any valuables—including guns—and REMOVE THE KEYS. Officers also urge citizens to SHOP SMART by not leaving purses or other

valuables unattended in shopping carts or in plain view in vehicles, even for a very short time. An unattended purse or wallet is an easy target for a thief.

New Scam Alert—If you receive an e-mail from FedEx claiming they cannot deliver a package and requesting your personal information, do NOT reply - it is a scam. FedEx does not solicit personal information via email. You can learn more about types of fraud and reporting fraud at www.fedex.com/en-us/trust-center/report-fraud.html

Our city-wide video security system is working very well. Over the last few months we have recovered several stolen vehicles and stolen tags. We have also been able to assist other neighboring agencies with information that led to serious crimes being resolved.

COMMERCIAL VEHICLE ENFORCEMENT REPORT

January 28, 2019 - 10:00 AM-2:00 PM



Recently the Belle Meade Police Department partnered with the Tennessee Highway Patrol (THP) to conduct a Commercial Vehicle Enforcement on Lower Jackson Blvd. (between Harding Rd. and Belle Meade Blvd.). The saturation focused on commercial vehicles that utilize Jackson Blvd as a cut-through and were in violation of the 8-ton restriction that this street has in place.

There was only one commercial vehicle that day that was in question of being over the weight limit. The vehicle was stopped for not having company markings on the side of the dump truck. Upon investigation, the driver was found to be in violation of the driver's license law. He possessed a class DM license, and a class B was required. He was issued a Belle Meade Citation for financial responsibility (insurance) and wrong license for type of vehicle. THP completed an inspection and put the truck out of commission since the driver did not have a valid license. The company was completing work at the corner of Jackson Blvd. and Gerald Place. The driver was required to park the vehicle until the company could send a valid CDL driver to take possession of the vehicle. The company that owned the vehicle was "Country Boy's Concrete" located in Nashville, TN.

One other commercial vehicle was stopped on Belle Meade

Blvd at Jackson Blvd. The vehicle was not traveling on Jackson Blvd. An inspection of the tires on this dump truck revealed that eight tires did not have sufficient tread. THP elected to put the truck out of service and mandated that the vehicle be parked until eight tires could be delivered to the vehicle by a service company of the driver's choice. The company that owned the truck is "VT Topsoil" out of Joelton, TN. The company was performing work on Chickering Lane outside of the city limits. The truck was en route to Highway 12 and was using Belle Meade Blvd as a cut through to get to its destination. No Belle Meade citations were issued to the driver.

One speeding violation was observed on a passenger car and a citation was issued at Jackson Blvd at Deer Park Drive. The speed of the violator was 38 mph in a 25 mph zone.

Belle Meade Sgt. Williams drove the THP officers around to show them the boundaries of the City, and the officers were surprised at the number of large commercial vehicles spotted. They conducted an “after actions” briefing with us and felt that most commercial trucks were using Belle Meade Blvd as a cut-through rather than Lower Jackson Blvd. THP suggested that we consider a city wide enforcement campaign in order to be the most effective with our commercial vehicle enforcement. We plan to request their services again to set up enforcement sites at other locations in the City.

RECAP OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETINGS



Approved re-appointment of Pete Zabaski to the Board of Zoning Appeals through June 2021.

- Approved appointment of Rusty Moore to the Board of Building Code Appeals through June 2021.
- Deferred Ordinance 2019-1 for 30 days. An Ordinance to Close, Vacate and Abandon the Right of Way of Pendleton Avenue between its intersection with the Right of

Way of Lynwood Blvd. and its terminus in the Turner Subdivision.

- Approved Four (4) invoices from:

• Wascon Inc.	\$ 5,718.60
• Wascon Inc.	\$ 5,398.47
• Dixon Plumbing	\$ 8,392.50
• Commonwealth Chemical	\$ 19,600.00



NEW RULES FOR DUMPSTER ACCESS

The new access system recently installed at the dumpster gates seems to be having a positive effect. The amount of trash collected has been significantly reduced since allowing only Belle Meade residents to use this service. Now that this new system has been in effect for several weeks, we can better gauge the amounts of trash being brought to the dumpsters. Since they are rarely over capacity, we have decided to make access to

them available from sunrise to sunset, seven days a week. If there are occasional times when all three dumpsters are full, we will close them off until the contractor can empty them.

Please be aware of the signage posted at the dumpster area indicating what items are not accepted at this site. Some items will have to be taken to one of Nashville's convenience centers. Information on this is below:

RECYCLING UPDATES:

MATTRESS AND BOX SPRING RECYCLING

Did you know Nashville's convenience centers accept mattresses and box springs for recycling? For just \$5 per mattress/box spring, Davidson County residents can take up to 4 total per month. Help keep mattresses out of the landfills by recycling your old mattresses and box springs. The convenience centers will also accept large pieces of furniture. Locations are listed below, as well as a link to the webpage for additional information on what the centers will accept.

Residential Waste and Recycling Facilities (Convenience Centers)

Metro Public Works has 4 recycling convenience centers that accept all recyclables, bulky items and household trash. To learn more, visit [Residential Waste & Recycling Facilities](https://www.nashville.gov/Public-Works/Neighborhood-Services/Recycling/Residential-Waste-and-Recycling-Facilities.aspx) <https://www.nashville.gov/Public-Works/Neighborhood-Services/Recycling/Residential-Waste-and-Recycling-Facilities.aspx>

East Center

943A Doctor Richard G. Adams Drive
Nashville, TN 37207
615-862-8631
Hours: Mon.–Sat. 7:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m. and Sun. Noon–4:00 p.m.

Ezell Pike Center

3254 Ezell Pike
(Located on Ezell Pike behind the South Police Precinct at 5113 Harding Place - **GPS users, please use 5113 Harding Place**)
Nashville, TN 37211
615-880-2530
Hours: Mon.–Sat. 7:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m. and Sun. Noon–4:00 p.m.

Omohundro

1019 Omohundro Place
(entrance on Freightliner Drive)
Nashville, TN 37210
615-880-1955
Hours: Tue.–Sat.: 8:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Anderson Lane Center

939A Anderson Lane
Madison, TN 37115
615-860-2588
Hours: Tues.–Sat.: 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m.

METRO WATER & SEWER BILL QUESTIONS



The city staff has received several calls from residents stating their recent water and sewer bill from Metro

Water Services (MWS) was much higher than previous months. After speaking with MWS staff, we believe one of the reasons for the increase in billed amounts is MWS's policy (see below) for residential customers that provides a "sprinkler discount" during 8 months of the year, from April through November. (The discount does not apply if you have a separate meter for irrigation in addition to your regular water meter.) During the months where the sprinkler discount is not in effect, residents may see higher water bills. If you feel that there may be other issues with your MWS bill, you may call their automated services line (615-862-4600).

Metro Water Service's Policy for Seasonal Sewer Billing / Sprinkler Adjustments:

Sewer charges are calculated based on the amount of water used under most circumstances. An exception is made for residential customers during the months of April through November, when water is used to sprinkle lawns or wash cars. Since water used for these purposes does not go into the sewer, sewer service charges for residential bills are automatically adjusted during these months to reflect a "sprinkler credit." The winter quarter average (January, February, and March) plus 30 percent will be the maximum sewer charges billed.

**REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS
FOR MARCH & APRIL 2019**

Board of Building Code Appeals

Tuesday, March 12th at 4:00 pm

Tuesday, April 9th at 4:00 pm

Municipal Planning Commission

Tuesday, March 19th at 4:00 pm

Tuesday, April 16th at 4:00 pm

Board of Zoning Appeals

Tuesday, March 19th at 5:00 pm

Tuesday, April 16th at 5:00 pm

Board of Commissioners

Wednesday, March 20th at 4:00 pm

Wednesday, April 17th at 4:00 pm

Agendas are available online at www.citybellemeade.org

REMINDERS:

Deadline to pay property taxes is Thursday, Feb. 28, 2019. Taxes postmarked or delivered after this date will be considered delinquent and subject to the 2% monthly penalty.

CITY HALL OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH, FOR PRESIDENT'S DAY. IN CASE OF SEWER, STREET, OR OTHER EMERGENCIES, CALL THE POLICE DEPARTMENT AT 615-297-0241.

TRASH/RECYCLE & BRUSH/CHIPPER SERVICES WILL RUN AS NORMAL ON MONDAY, FEB. 18TH.



FREE SHRED DAY – SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2019 from 9am to 12 noon at city hall. Start gathering your paperwork! This community

event is limited to private individuals with no more than 8 boxes or bags and is not intended for commercial purposes. Some items people may want to consider shredding include: credit card statements, old checks, tax returns and anything a thief can use to steal your identity. You do not need to remove paperclips or staples. (Service provided by Shred On The Run.)

CITY OF BELLE MEADE
4705 Harding Road
Nashville, Tennessee 37205

return service requested