

Germantown Past

Year by Year



Table of Contents

1950-1955.....	3
1956 - 1960.....	5
1961-1965.....	7
1966-1969.....	9
1970-1975.....	12
1976.....	16
1977.....	20
1978.....	22
1979.....	25
1980.....	27
1982.....	32
1983.....	35
1984.....	37
1985.....	40
1986.....	42
1987.....	44
1988.....	46
1989.....	48
1990.....	51
1991.....	53
1992.....	55
1993.....	57
1994.....	59
1995.....	62
1996.....	64
1997.....	66
1998.....	68
1999.....	70
2000.....	72

GERMANTOWN PAST

1950-1955

In 1950 the “Town” of Germantown contained 408 citizens and little more than one square mile. Jack Barry was Mayor and the compliment of Aldermen included Stanley Law, Boyd Arthur, A.W. Hawkinson, Oliver Anderson, and Guy Cantrell. Between 1950 and 1955, George P. Friedel would be elected to fill the unexpired term of Mayor Barry, Hugh Ford would begin his long career as City Clerk/Manager succeeding C.C. Burford, and Alderman Dr. John T. Carter’s resolution would set the direction for the development of Germantown.

The geographical center of Germantown was the Depot (rebuilt in 1948), where each day the Southern Railway carried passengers to and from Memphis to work. Freight trains carrying lime, gravel, and coal would stop in front of the Arthur and O’Neal properties, several hundred yards west, for the purpose of storage, loading and unloading. Opposition grew as the noise and dust associated with these trains filled the air. In 1954, the Board filed a petition for a permanent injunction restraining the Southern Railway Co. from using the passing tracks within the corporation limits for the handling of materials. Citizens said it was a nuisance. It would reduce their property values!

Citizens have always been Germantown’s most valuable resource. Two citizen organizations that provided leadership were the Germantown Civic Club and the Poplar Pike Improvement Association. The Germantown Civic Club, founded in 1936, worked to provide a quality life for citizens, funding various amenities for their benefit. The Poplar Pike Improvement Association, founded in 1939, incorporated property owners along Poplar Pike from White Station to Collierville, who fought additional non-residential development and billboards. Did you see any billboards as you drove east on Poplar Pike from Memphis to Collierville last week? Often men were members of both organizations, and quite often they served as elected leaders. This overlap of leadership and citizen involvement provided greater consensus in the development of the town.

In 1951, the Germantown Civic Club, led by Sam Taylor, C.O. Franklin, Claude McCormick, Gordon Meeks, and C.H. Sanders, purchased 16 acres of parkland which they gave to the City. Formerly the L.E. Dickey property, located on the south side of Poplar Pike, the City agreed to lease approximately eight acres to the Germantown Charity Horse Show Association (the southern half of said property) for a period of 50 years at \$1.00 per year. The City appointed a Park Commission that had general supervision over the front or northern eight acres. The Park today is known as C.O.

Franklin Park. C.O. Franklin was an attorney who managed the MLGW office on the southeast corner of Germantown and Dogwood Roads.

The Germantown Civic Club came to the Board meeting in 1954 to discuss the extension of the City limits. Those representing the Civic Club were David McGehee, Bruce Law, Frank Posey, Bob Fleming, and C.O. Franklin. Joe Pickering and Jammie Maddox joined with this group later in the year to propose the construction of tennis courts in this park.

In 1954 the City's budget was \$15,000. Hugh Ford was hired as City Clerk/Manager, serving in this position until 1973. Hugh had worked with Southern Airlines and had chosen not to move to Atlanta when they became Delta. For a number of years, Hugh, his wife Billie, and daughter lived in the residence at City Hall. I asked Hugh how he separated business from his hours at home. He told me that there were two doors separating business from work. After he opened and closed the door to the residence, the next door he opened would put him at work. The City Clerk/Manager was a jack-of-all-trades, collecting utility bills, serving as clerk at Board meetings, getting bids on City, driving the fire truck, and most importantly, seeing that citizens got all their services. In 1954, the tax rate was 80 cents per \$100 assessed valuation, and all the town's garbage took only a half day to collect.

In lieu of department heads, the different aldermen were assigned a job in a study and advisory capacity, much like being a Commission liaison today (ex. Dr. Carter—Health and Sanitation, Oliver Anderson—Water and Roads). Bruce Law was chosen to serve the Board as City Attorney (receiving a credit on his water bill of \$1.50 per month) and Bobby Lanier, at 22 years of age, began his 18 year tenure as Volunteer Fire Chief.

In 1954, a motion was approved to accept the following resolution from Alderman Dr. Carter:

“Whereas: a majority of the residents of Germantown and its immediate environs have expressed the desire that Germantown remain a choice residential section and further develop as same; and
Whereas: many of the residents have a considerable investment in valuable homes and land, which they feel should be protected from depreciation in value through the construction of numerous small lot developments; and
Whereas: the growing body of the City of Germantown is desirous of carrying out the wishes of the majority of the citizens; and
Whereas: the governing body must plan for the continuing and proper development of Germantown as a choice residential section”.

A vision supported by citizen involvement set the course for a predominately residential town, with a desire to see that additional, non-residential ventures and billboards did not occur along Poplar Pike. Today the vision continues. Ninety-five percent of the current

City's land use is Residential, and off-premise signage is prohibited. Between 1950 and 1955, citizen groups such as the Germantown Civic Club and the Poplar Pike Improvement Association made recommendations and provided hands-on support to the Board and the City. Today citizens play a recommending role via their participation in one of the many Commissions and Committees.

Some things just don't change!

Germantown Past 1956 - 1960

In 1956, the Poplar Pike Improvement Association, and the residents of Forest Hill, encouraged Germantown to go on record, opposing development foreign to the town's adopted residential character.

A plan had been proposed creating an industrial area at Forest Hill, east of Irene Road, south of the Southern Railroad, extending eastward to the intersection of Old Poplar Pike and Hwy.72 (Poplar Avenue); and rezoning the property along Poplar Avenue and Old Poplar Pike from "R-1" Residential to Agricultural.

The same plan proposed that locating the North-South leg of the I-240 expressway near Kirby Road would be too far east to give maximum benefit to Germantown Road as a major artery. Today, the North-South leg of I-240 is located further west between Memorial Park Cemetery and Ridgeway Center.

Germantown Road has certainly met earlier expectations as a major road accommodating approximately 50,000 cars per day at Wolf River Boulevard.

In 1960, Germantown would work to oppose and defeat another industrial zoning for property bound by C.D. Smith Road, Hacks Cross Road, Winchester Road and Bo-Bo Road. Just ask former Alderman Boyd Maize, whose property would have remained as the only residential piece in this tract.

The town would continue to stand along the lines of Dr. Carter's Resolution, directing the development of Germantown towards a "choice residential section". You would think the word about Germantown would begin to catch on.

While Germantown was faced with issues outside its borders (impacting areas it would later annex), Stuart Dean with the Highway Patrol was recommending that not enough homes had been built to warrant a stop light at the intersection of Poplar Avenue and Germantown Road. The suggestion was made to place a warning light at the beginning of a 30 mph zone on Poplar Avenue at Pete Mitchell Road, and at a "new subdivision to the west" at Willey Road (Germantown Heights).

Until that time, the Volunteer Fire Department would continue to solicit the help of Edgar McHenry at Germantown Hardware Store (next to Dr. Posey's Drug Store and Maddox Brothers' Cleaners) at Poplar and Germantown Road. Braving life and limb, McHenry (as he was known), would march out into Poplar with red flag in hand and stop all traffic east and west so that the fire truck could proceed northward. Not until 1960 would the town install an automatic trip light.

Back at the firehouse, plans were being developed to organize and train volunteer firemen. There would be a maximum of 26 men and a Chief. The budget called for each man to receive \$1.00 per call. Volunteer Fire Chief Bobby Lanier would receive \$2.00 per call.

The first man to take the call would write the location of the fire on the chalkboard for those who would follow. Having grown up in a small town, I am sure that the volunteers most likely followed the

sound of the engine, or the view and/or smell of the smoke/flames. The volunteers often included students at Germantown High School who found that the quickest route to their car was through an open classroom window.

The Germantown and Forest Hill Fire Departments often trained together and developed a cooperative agreement to back each other.

Through the balance of the 50's, many government processes were put in place that assisted in the operations of the town. A Board of Zoning Appeals was established, as well as a City Court. Ordinances were approved regarding sanitary disposal, traffic regulations, the tax rate, the telephone/telegraph pole tax, zoning, and a general plan for the physical development of the municipality. Germantown even hired a full-time Police Officer, Mr. Nuismer.

A resolution was approved in 1958 that stated "the Board of Mayor and Aldermen looks with favor upon the installation of a bank within the corporate limits, and invites all parties interested in such a project to approach the board for assistance". I can't find where they amended that to say "banks", as in plural? This resolution continues to receive a lot of support from the business community.

In 1959, a resolution was approved amending Chapter 550 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1903 substituting "City" for "Town" of Germantown. The future would prove this to be a very appropriate term.

GERMANTOWN PAST

1961-1965

Between 1950 and 1960, the City's population more than doubled, exceeding 1100 citizens. Led by Mayor Bruce Law, the 60's would see this number more than triple. By 1965, new subdivisions would develop north, south and west of the downtown area, including: Germantown Heights 1st Addition, English Meadows, Knoll Lane and Riverdale Park.

Much of the early 60's focused on infrastructure, from the Major Road Plan to water to sewer. A contract between the City and C.T.W. Construction Company in the amount of \$373,099.35 was entered into to build the City's sewer system.

C.O. Franklin, attorney, was employed to obtain the sewer easements. Names of property owners who refused to sign the sewer easements were turned over to Mr. Franklin to proceed with condemnation. A motion was approved that everyone "shall" be required to hook onto the sewer system within two years after completion and acceptance. The City began to expand so quickly, that in my research; I lost count after Change Order No. 10. of the contract.

In 1961, the Board of Mayor and Aldermen (BMA) approved the use of a Capital Improvement Budget, separate from the Operational Budget. The Capital Improvement Budget, at that time, used a portion of the surplus funds as needed. Today, the City maintains a Capital Improvement Program (CIP), serving as a budget tool in long-term planning, for one-time expenditures that become fixed assets. The proposed CIP for FY'01 is \$16,818,000.

In 1962, the City lost long-term Mayor Jack Barry. The Board in recognizing his many years of service, noted that "he promoted the progress and good will of his community, initiating such projects as the building of a City Hall and a Volunteer Fire Department. After his tenure of Office as Mayor, Jack continued to show his intense interest in the Fire Department, serving as an Assistant Chief. He also served as a Director of the Germantown Charity Horse Show, carrying much of the load in maintaining the show's physical properties." In a future article we will focus on personalities, or the sung and unsung heroes (leaders) who helped to shape Germantown.

The Major Road Plan (with amendments) was adopted in 1974. In 1962, the Board approved a Major Road Plan for the City, drawn by the City of Memphis and Shelby County dated July 18, 1962 and revised August 9, 1962. Today, the Major Road Plan is jointly reviewed and coordinated by all entities in Shelby County under the auspices of the Metropolitan Planning Organization.

Further efforts at planning saw Germantown join in cooperation with Memphis and Shelby County on a federally-funded comprehensive planning program. The program ran from 1963 to 1966.

The Board authorized the Mayor to contact the Memphis and Shelby County Planning Commission to work out a master plan for the development of the City of Germantown. Alderman W. T. Bowld agreed to serve on a committee with the Memphis and Shelby County Planning Commission to make a study of transportation needs of Shelby County and Germantown. In 1964, a motion was approved to ask the Memphis and Shelby County Planning Commission to make a study of the City's zoning ordinances

and make recommendations.

In 1959, the Board had gone on record favoring widening of Hwy. 72 (Poplar Avenue) to four (4) lanes from Memphis to Collierville. Now in 1963 they were getting serious, approving a motion for Mayor Law to write the Tennessee Highway Department, recommending that additional lanes be constructed (in its present location) to make a four lane highway. No more Chickasaw Indian trail on top of this ridge.

Still in the 60's the City did not have a "City Engineer" on staff. In 1963, the Board approved an extension of Allen and Hoshall Engineers' engineering service contract from May of 1959. Their work would include sanitary sewers, storm sewers, streets and other facilities of the City.

Giles Robinson, Jim Bonner, Lonin Allen and Jim Thompson were a few of their employees represented at the Board meetings. The City looked to Allen and Hoshall as a consultant up to and after the time Allen G. Cox was hired as the City's first full-time Engineer in December of 1974.

Allen and Hoshall would be responsible in 1965 for putting together plans to obtain water from the City of Memphis. Currently, two subdivisions still obtain water from MLGW, and water is bought when needed. With the new water treatment plant coming on-line, our dependence on others will considerably diminish.

Finally, in 1964 the City became more "citizen friendly". The Board approved the fact that City Hall should be open during lunch hours; and a two-line, push button hold control telephone would be installed.

GERMANTOWN PAST

1966-1969

The late 60's saw new leaders, a new source of water, a new Land Use Plan, a new library, and a new look for City Hall. The late 60's were also characterized by war and social change that found its way into motions made by the Board.

The Who's Who of City Hall in 1966, found Mayor Bruce Law assisted by Board members Boyd Arthur, Jr., James Crislip, Robert L. Hall, Edward Boldt, and Richard Watson. In '69, Hall Oakley would replace Richard Watson, and W.A. Nance and J. Boyd Maize would replace Crislip and Boldt, respectively.

Approved subdivisions included Germantown Gardens, Poplar Estates, Sec. "J" & "K", and Apple Valley, Sec. "A & B". Our population would increase from 1,845 to 3,737.

By 1966, the City had executed a contract to obtain water from MLG&W and water lines would be laid along the south right-of-way of Hwy. 72. Allen & Hoshall Engineers would be called upon to draw plans for the project. Jim Thompson would become a familiar figure at meetings, being responsible for the design of the City's water system even into the '90's.

That same year, Mr. Jimmy McIntyre presented a resolution from Shelby County Court, stating that they would construct a library within the City of Germantown, in the amount of \$125,000, if the City would obtain and deed over to them a suitable site with sufficient area for a building.

Mayor Law was authorized to "accept an offer, if made, whereby the Germantown Civic Club offers a site for the building of a library on the Joe Pickering Memorial building grounds, said site to have a frontage of some 165 ft. by a depth of some 300 ft., provided the offering price does not exceed \$9,000 and includes the remainder of the frontage (165 ft. x 300 ft.) of the Pickering tract at no expense to the City of Germantown, if and when the City of Germantown and the Germantown community contract to build a Community Center". The offer was made as stated and the rest is history. Morgan Woods Theatre was that library.

In other building news, Mr. David McGehee suggested that improvements be made to City Hall (the building just west of The Depot). It was his opinion that to accomplish the desired use, it would be better to convert the present City Hall building into a Fire and Police Station, and to build a new separate City Hall with proper office space. He stated that the City Hall and Library could be constructed close to each other, to utilize the same meeting hall and parking facilities, and the location could be in the immediate vicinity of the present City Hall. Plans were complete for City Hall improvements and additions by the beginning of '67. It is ironic that, for the most part, these same spatial relationships exist at the present City Hall complex on Farmington Boulevard.

In December of '67, the Board instructed Mayor Law to write to Mr. Jerod Moore, the Director of the Memphis and Shelby County Planning Commission, requesting that he start work on a detailed Comprehensive Plan for the City of Germantown, including a Land Use Plan, a new Zoning Ordinance, a Major Road and Street Plan, a Community Facilities Plan and a long range Financial Plan.

This motion followed a joint meeting of the Board, the Planning Commission (O.H. Miller, Jr., Chairman), Planning Director David McGehee, and Jerold Moore. Mr. Moore told the group that he was authorized to help other towns within Shelby County in research and staff positions without reservations, but first the City of Germantown needed policy guidance.

He stated that before a plan could be made, the City had to reach decisions on what type of community was desired, residential or urban. I am continually dumbfounded by those who had not grasped the community's vision at this point; but I also learned that Mr. Moore was new to the area.

In '68, the City employed Harland Bartholomew and Associates (HBA) to prepare a Land Use Program for the City (not to exceed \$5,000). The Planning Commission was requested to give top priority to the Comprehensive Plan, the Zoning Plan and the Annexation Study.

HBA's representative, William S. Pollard was asked to pursue the question of moving Germantown Parkway to the old eastern City limits to Hacks Cross Road. The existing location of Germantown Parkway was satisfactory to both the Memphis Urban Area Transportation Study (MUATS) and the Shelby County Planning Commission so no changes were made.

The Land Use Plan was adopted on December 8, 1969, as a guide for future development in Germantown.

The years 1968 and 1969 were tough years for this country. In April 1968, Martin Luther King was assassinated in downtown Memphis. The Board commended the Police Department for their services rendered during the "recent crisis and curfew".

The following resolution was approved on April 8, 1968: "Feeling that our country is in dire danger from insurrection and civil disorder, we call upon the Senators and Congressmen representing the State of Tennessee to investigate and consider appropriate legislation designed to prohibit, limit or regulate mass marches which interfere with business and interstate commerce. The rights of the public in general are infringed upon by such disruptive marches. Further, we request that you consider appropriate legislation to prevent individuals from crossing state lines for the purpose of instigating or furthering such interference with the rights of citizens in another state. Such gatherings by their nature are very similar to a mob and quite often generate mob violence and insurrection. They are not the usual exercise of the rights of freedom of speech or assembly, and are foreign to America".

On the national front, the Board approved a resolution that was sent by telegram to President Nixon stating: "The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Germantown, Tennessee wish to express their support to you and unanimously endorse your policy on Vietnam."

On a lighter side, the Board received official notice on May 13, 1968, that the Southern Railway would be filing a petition before the Tennessee Public Service Commission requesting permission to discontinue the agency's station at Germantown. The Board agreed to file no objections to closing the station, and a motion was approved to authorize the Mayor to negotiate with Southern Railway to purchase or rent the depot building if its is closed.

A motion was approved to lease the depot from the Southern Railway Company for \$100 per year. Today, the City pays Norfolk Southern Corporation \$250.

And while comprehensive plans were being made for zoning and annexation, and for this and that building, everyone should know that plans for our fire-equipment to pull the City's float in the 1967 Strawberry Festival in Humboldt, proceeded without a hitch (or should I say with a hitch).

GERMANTOWN PAST

1970-1975

The early 70's found the City establishing policies and practices that carried forth the ideas of the founders, strengthening the way it did business. Government grew, the color of one's business mattered, the direction of Wolf River Boulevard was agreed upon, and City Hall made preparations to move.

In November of 1970, the Board held its swearing-in ceremony at Germantown Elementary School with Memphis Mayor Henry Loeb as the guest speaker.

Mayor Bruce Law, first elected in 1958, and reelected for his fourth, four year term, would take an indefinite leave of absence by January of 1973 due to illness and hospitalization. He would appoint Aldermen Nance as Mayor Pro Tem in January of '73. Nance would be elected Mayor to complete Law's term upon his resignation in November 12th of that same year.

Administratively, the Board noted that with the increased growth of the community, excessive demands were being placed on the time of Hugh Ford. In 1972, a motion was approved that a person be employed to assume the duties of a business administrator.

By 1973, a resolution was approved creating the Municipal Offices of City Clerk, Administrator, Public Works Director and City Office Manager. Jack Goode was appointed City Clerk and Administrator effective June 16, 1973.

Hugh Ford was appointed Public Works Director in direct charge of the water, sewer, streets, public grounds, and health and sanitation departments. Hugh was commended for his services rendered under the burdens of a rapidly increasing workload brought about by the growth in both the population and area of the City.

Tracy Smitherman (currently the Risk Manager) was appointed City Office Manager, in direct charge of personnel and functions of the City office, including the coordination and supervision for all departments, providing maintenance of personnel records for all departments.

Bobby Lanier, Chief of the Germantown Volunteer Fire Department over the past 18 years, resigned in 1971. He stated that "the time has come when you should have a Chief on duty all the time, and I highly recommend that you appoint Phil McCall, Fire Chief".

Philip McCall would continue as Fire Chief and Sterlin Maddox as Police Chief under the new management system. Joe Gagliano would replace Maddox as Police Chief by September 15th. In December 1974, the City would appoint its first City Engineer, Allen G. Cox.

The Aldermen continued to act as liaisons to the various departments. In 1974, Bobby Lanier was liaison to the Public Works, Boyd Maize to Office and Administration, Walker Taylor to Parks, Jay Kahn to Police, and Boyd Arthur, Jr. to Fire. Glenn Millar was the City Judge and Lee Winchester, Jr., the City Attorney.

In Environmental Services, Allen and Hoshall's 1970 study reported that the City had reached a point where it would be cheaper to have its own water plant. The City's present water wells were located at a strata about 350 feet deep, but reports indicated that by going to the 700 ft. strata a better quality of water would be obtained, thereby eliminating some current treatment procedures.

It was determined that it cost the City \$.12-.13/1000 gallon as opposed to purchasing water from MLGW at \$.22/1000 gallon.

By 1974, the City approved plans to proceed with the water plant expansion with underground storage rather than elevated storage and that the water system data be computerized. Allen and Hoshall made a more detailed analysis of two proposed sites for expansion of the water treatment facilities, and the City chose to build on a 6.44 acre tract on the north side of the Southern Railroad across from the present water facility.

On May 26, 1975, Sam Beach was employed to fill the position of City Inspector to inspect construction of the proposed Water Treatment Plant and subdivision construction for the City. Sam completed that task and left the City to take on other jobs. He returned to Germantown as Director of Environmental Services in 1991.

Speaking of engineering marvels, the City contacted MLG&W to install a traffic light with a left turn signal that will hold traffic while left-hand turns are being made.

In Development, the City and the Memphis and Shelby County Planning Commission began consideration of the zoning of the four (4) quadrants of the property on Poplar Avenue and Kirby Parkway Extended. There was universal agreement among the professional planners of both jurisdictions that only one quadrant should be zoned for

commercial use and that the appropriate quadrant was the southwest quadrant between Poplar Avenue and the Southern Railway.

That quadrant was zoned for commercial use and was developed as Kirby Woods Mall, now Carrefour Mall. The Board opposed any further commercial zoning for any of the other three quadrants. Two of the other four followed this direction.

When people ask me what is Germantown and what it is not, I always show the slide of Poplar Avenue looking west with Carrefour's landscaping, trees and tasteful architecture on the south side, and the northwest quadrant (that became Memphis and commercial), on the right. It is a picture that speaks to town values and philosophy.

In 1971, discussion was held in regard to an overall architectural design for commercial and townhouse development within the City. Aldermen Oakley and Arthur agreed to contact Mr. David McGehee to form a committee to make a study of architectural design, in keeping with the design, as for example, the Germantown Liquor Store. They also requested a rendering to be used as a guide to present to the developers of commercial and townhouse properties to express the desire and wishes of the town.

The Board established an Appearance Commission consisting of five members as follows: one

Aldermen and four citizens of Germantown actually engaged in the profession of architecture, engineering, planning and/or related arts associated with the design of the buildings.

The Appearance Commission was directed to establish minimum appearance and functional standards based upon good design practice and review all plans and specifications submitted with the building permit application for said construction. The following were appointed to serve on the Appearance Commission: David McGehee, Robert Hall, Ronald Schmied, and Hall Oakley. Ordinance No. 1971-14 was approved to establish a Community Design Review Commission for the City.

The Planning Commission, Mayor ProTem and the Board of Mayor and Aldermen met with Mr. George Silver, Regional Director of the Tennessee State Planning Office, to provide assistance for local planning and a management system program for the City. A motion was approved to utilize the planning services available to the City of Germantown through the local Planning and Management Assistance Program of the State Planning Office at a cost of \$1,618.50/year.

One of their first assignments in 1974 was to update the Germantown Land Use Plan, including the area east of Germantown.

Development between 1966 and 1970 gave us eleven more subdivisions, while between 1971 and 1975, forty subdivisions were approved. Today, the Local Planning Office still

serves communities throughout the state which need assistance with planning. Germantown continues to work with them on Special Census projects.

Hall Oakley, David McGehee, Jack Goode and Boyd Maise attended the Planning Commission's hearing on the MUATS East Memphis update and presented the City's request that Wolf River Boulevard be extended easterly rather than being turned southward on Kimbrough Road.

In 1975, a motion was approved to go on record as not being opposed to the proposal for development of the Shelby Farms area (per the Eckbo Planning Group), but to again urge upon all parties that this is an appropriate time to include in this the need for Wolf River Parkway extended to the east to provide east-west arteries.

In 1971, the Germantown Civic Club (Bobby Lanier, Jamie Maddox, and Richard Ehlers) outlined procedures for financing and maintaining a Germantown Community Center (The Pickering Center). The City approved acceptance of an offer of the Civic Club to contribute \$130,000 to the City for the building of a Community Center building in accordance with the plans prepared by McGehee/Nicholson/Associates.

In 1974, a motion was approved to commission McGehee/Nicholson/Associates, Architects, Inc., to prepare preliminary layouts of the proposed Germantown Municipal Center on the Sternberger property along the east side of Germantown Road just north of Hwy. 72.

A motion also was approved to contract for the purchase of approximately 17.76 acres of property on the east side of Germantown Road, north of the proposed Farmington Boulevard, with the City assuming full responsibility for making the Farmington Boulevard improvements.

In 1975, McGehee/Nicholson/Burke Architects were selected over Doggett & Ertz Architects, Inc., Hall & Walker and Associates Architects, Inc., and Walk Jones & Frances Mah, Inc.

And finally, in the category of giving, the proceeds in 1975 from the beer sales of the River City Renaissance Faire, a part of the Germantown Festival, were given to the Germantown Civic Club Charity Fund. The Germantown Ministerial Association had earlier declined the offer.

GERMANTOWN PAST

1976

INTRODUCTION

By the 70's, the City grew amazingly fast and so did the City's records. Hence, future articles in this series may only present issues for a single year, indicating how each issue plays a valuable part in shaping what we see today.

In preparing for future articles, succeeding years have been covered with increasing documentation. Each issue appears to play a valuable part in shaping what we see today. I find it also important to know what direction the City could have taken, to help one appreciate what we see today. With that introduction, we begin the year 1976.

ADMINISTRATION

Mayor Nance along with Aldermen Jay Kahn, Robert Lanier, J. Boyd Maize, Walker M. Taylor, and Boyd Arthur, Jr., provided leadership during this "Bicentennial Year". To acquaint newcomers with Germantown's government, plans and programs, the Board, the Germantown Civic Club and Germantown Bank sponsored the "Newcomers' Town Hall Meeting".

It was the Board's consensus that the items included in City Manager Jack Goode's memo, titled "Proposed 1976-77 Priorities-Goals-Emphasis", be considered the city's priorities, goals and emphasis for the 1976-77 Year. Today, the Board develops the goals and policy for the City. The budget for FY '76 was \$3,025,363, while the recently approved FY'01 Budget is \$56,036,481.

The Optomist Club of Germantown held the July 4th Country Picnic on the Germantown Civic Club Park property. The Board accepted a challenge from the Germantown Optomist club for the "City Fathers of Germantown" to compete against each other in a slow pitch softball game. Alderman Lanier was appointed manager.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Howard/McVay Park became part of the city's system of parks with the purchase of a 12.467 acre tract of land on the southeast corner of Howard and McVay Roads from John Thompson and Charles Russell.

The Board approved the purchase of a 14.4 acre portion of the Cloyes property at 7831 Poplar Pike, and gratefully accepted the donation of the remaining interest in the six acre family residence, including artifacts from Germantown's past on its grounds and a nursery stock of flowers, trees and shrubs from Harry F. Cloyes, Rebecca J. Cloyes and Mrs. Mary T. Cloyes.

Later in the year, the Park Land Acquisition and Development Committee was expanded to include Municipal Center Planning responsibilities. Their July 6th meeting focused on finalizing the Master Plan for the Municipal Center Complex on Farmington Boulevard, developed by McGehee Nicholson

and Burke Architects. This firm also provided the architectural work in conjunction with the Municipal Center Complex, Phase 1, including City Hall and the Police Department.

In '76, the Board approved a motion to accept the McVay Road Cemetery property after it has been cleaned and restored. Mr. Winchester researched the title with the Memphis Title Company and the Mid-South Title Company. It appeared that the title to the property was not uninsurable. It was the consensus of the Board that this matter be studied further, and that the possibility of establishing some means of perpetual care for the cemetery, other than through the city, be reviewed. Jack Johnson, President of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, later addressed the Board regarding the establishment of a non-profit corporation (McVay Cemetery Corporation) for perpetual maintenance and upkeep. It was proposed that while the Cemetery does not become the responsibility of the city, the Mayor and an Alderman will be members of the Board of Trustees of the proposed corporation.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Dr. Lyle Muller, President of the Germantown Chamber of Commerce, addressed the Board concerning: (1) elimination of neon signs, (2) directories to help citizens locate businesses in Germantown, and (3) a recommendation that at least three persons on the Design Review Commission own and operate a business in Germantown. The first two issues were written into our Sign Ordinance. While the latter was not adopted, you often find the composition of the present Design Review Commission does adhere to Muller's proposal. The commission is directed by law to include designated design professionals to facilitate the review of projects.

Speaking of signs, the Historic Preservation Committee identified 13 Antebellum houses and 13 Pre-1900 houses that they felt should be recognized and preserved. The Board approved the purchase of 40 plaques with the shield of Germantown and a ribbon to indicate pertinent information upon the recommendation of the committee.

Oftentimes, proposed development projects that didn't gain approval would have provided a different face to this city. For example, Mr. Albert D. Gallini appeared before

the Board to discuss the development of a service station at the southwest corner of Farmington and Kimbrough Roads, currently zoned "C-1" (Neighborhood Commercial).

The Farmington Association President, Mr. David Evens, was present to oppose the request. Later, the Board chose to rezone this property from "C-1" to "R" (Residential), instead of acting on an application for a Special Permit for a drive-in grocery.

The Memphis Garden Club appeared before the Board to discuss the planned development of their property located on Kimbrough Road. Alderman Maize responded to their statements to the effect that Wolf River Parkway, which is proposed to go through this property, is essential to Germantown and to Collierville; and it is the desire of the Board not to have the proposed Wolf River Parkway blocked. The Memphis Garden Club returned to the Board within the year, but approval for a structure was not granted at that time.

The Board submitted a letter to George Dando, Shelby County Engineer, requesting that the name of the new road that has been built south from Winchester, running west of and parallel to Germantown Road, be changed from Germantown Road Extended to Riverdale or Riverdale Extended. The

opposition comes from the fact that this road is not an extension of Germantown Road and in no way lines up with any part of it. The main north/south artery through Germantown is Germantown Road, and any other road similarly named would cause confusion. There were no houses built on this “new” road south of Winchester at that time. There are still many residents and businesses in this area that are convinced that they are in Germantown.

FIRE

Plans for a new Fire Station (now Fire Station No. 3) on Farmington Road were reviewed. The contract for construction of Central Fire Station was awarded to Atwill Construction Company, Inc. in the amount of \$348,234, and the estimated completion date was eight months.

POLICE

As a result of a departmental review, the Police Auxiliary was reorganized to become “a still more important service to the community”, through which interested volunteer citizens “contribute to making Germantown the unique city it is”. Per Policy Letter No. 24, “all applicants who are accepted must complete 240 hours minimum standard training (within one year of employment) for auxiliary Police officers to be certified by the State of Tennessee”.

COURT

Money was included in the Budget to provide a prosecuting attorney in the Germantown City Court for misdemeanor cases, and the prosecuting attorney and the defending attorney were allowed to make a recommendation to the judge for the handling of meritorious cases, whereby the defendant would be assigned to the Diversion Program in-lieu-of being convicted of the charges. John M. Moore was hired as the prosecuting attorney and Jim Pate and Raymond Clift were hired as assistant prosecuting attorneys. Today, Raymond Clift serves as City Judge.

MISCELLANEOUS

And did you know that “right turn on red at traffic signals” became Tennessee law in 1976? Maybe you are so young that you don’t remember when we didn’t have “right turn on red”.

The city gave the Germantown Civic Club a permit to hold the 1976 Christmas Parade that began at Kirby Woods Mall, proceeding along Old Poplar Pike to Germantown Road, going north around Germantown Road, and terminating at Germantown Village Square Mall. I suppose they ignored that new “right turn on red” at Poplar Avenue.

The Board prepared a resolution in opposition to the appointment of a commission to draft a charter for the consolidation of the City of Memphis and Shelby County governments.

And if there were not enough issues to struggle with, the Board went on record in favor of the completion of Interstate 40 through Overton Park in the City of Memphis (as soon as possible), and requested that an alderman attend a Public Hearing to speak on behalf

of the City of Germantown.

Lastly, the River City Renaissance Faire was again held during the Germantown Festival. Proceeds from their beer sales went to the Germantown Arts Association. Unlike before, I could not find any record that their proceeds were first offered to support the Germantown Ministerial Association.

GERMANTOWN PAST

1977

Annexations, subdivisions, sidewalks, and municipal construction were the top issues in 1977. The Board also wanted to make it clear that if you didn't live within the City's boundaries, you "didn't live in Germantown".

As evidence of support for the Design Review Commission, the Board of Mayor and Aldermen denied the appeal of Mid-South Panel Ads to place trash containers with business advertisement in the Germantown Business Districts. Today, we call that off-premise advertising (billboards), and it is still forbidden under the Sign Ordinance.

The Sign Ordinance Committee included Hall Oakley, Ronald Schmied, Knox Everson, Rick Harrison, Joe Woodward, Gary Barta, Jerry Klein, Ned Turner and David McGehee.

A Public Hearing was held on the development of a Sign Ordinance. Hall Oakley, Chairman of the Sign Ordinance Committee, coordinated the presentation of the committee and fielded questions posed by the audience. The Ordinance was approved on the 3rd Reading with a provision to allow non-conforming signs to remain for only one year.

Annexations and subdivision approvals were plentiful, including Farmington East and Duntreath S/D, Sec. "A", and the population grew to 10,054. But the most interesting issue associated with the subdivision approvals was the issue of the sidewalk. The question arose, "to what extent do we need sidewalks"?

It was the Board's opinion that sidewalks should be installed "only on a minimum basis". It was stated that "the intent of the proposed sidewalk ordinance was to establish the regulations under which sidewalks could be built". At a meeting of over 100 citizens, only two indicated that they favored sidewalks throughout the City. The majority of citizens favored minimum sidewalk installation.

In 1977, the Board heard from the Germantown Arts Association. Mr. John Fockler, representing the group, submitted a proposed resolution and charter for the Germantown Arts Foundation. Also present were George Walters and Becky Flugfelder. The proposals were referred to the City Attorney for study.

In other news the Board granted a charter for the McVay Cemetery Corporation by the Junior Chamber of Commerce (Jack Johnson, President), with the understanding that the McVay Cemetery Corporation does not become the responsibility of the city, but permits an Alderman and the Mayor to serve on the Board of Trustees.

Remember Germantown Road Extended's story? In response to letters that Mayor Nance had written, George Dando, County Engineer, wrote to indicate that the County Administration had reached a similar conclusion and recommended that the name of Germantown Road Extended be changed to Riverdale Road. The Memphis and Shelby County Planning Commission never saw the light and refused to make the change.

Parades are always a great community gathering, and Germantown had two in 1977. The Germantown Opti-Mrs. Club was granted a parade permit for their annual Easter Parade beginning at the Germantown Presbyterian Church and proceeding east on Old Poplar Pike to the Community Center.

The Germantown Volunteer Fire Department was approved for a Christmas Parade permit, forming in Whispering Pines Cove and proceeding to the Central Fire Station. Afterwards, perhaps the folks at Central ate from that crock pot donated by the Horizon's Women's Club.

It is always fascinating how some people believe that, like a rubber band, a municipal boundary can be reshaped to support their version of the story. The Board discussed real estate advertising in the local media for properties in the Germantown area represented as being in Germantown.

The approved resolution, in part, follows: "Whereas, in some instances, sales personnel for homes and properties in the eastern and southeast Shelby County area have, by word of mouth and public advertisement, misled prospective purchasers into believing that a particular residence or property is "in prestigious Germantown", when, in fact, said residence or property is not and never will be within the City of Germantown; and

Whereas, many purchasers have completed the transaction and at a later date found that the information supplied was inaccurate and untrue; and,

Whereas, the City of Germantown is interested in protecting the rights of individuals who might not be familiar with the Germantown area, as well as the rights of individuals with the City".

The resolution was adopted as "an expression of concern" and forwarded to the Memphis Board of Realtors, the Home Builders Association and others.

At City Hall, Alderman Boyd Maize, Chairman of the Budget and Financial Advisory Committee presented the details of the budget. At 11:30 p.m., the Board meeting was called and resumed two days later at the Conference Room of the Bank of Germantown. It was again called at 10:45 p.m., and reconvened once more on the next day.

Today, thorough preparation by staff and careful review by the Financial Advisory Committee and the Board makes that final review much less time consuming.

Municipal construction began again. McGehee, Nicholson and Burke, Architects completed final plans and documents for the Municipal Center on Farmington. The Board contracted with Barnett Construction Company in the amount of \$1,775,382.

And at the Newcomers' Dinner for adults held on Thursday, March 24th, they served (what else?) – barbeque.

GERMANTOWN PAST

1978

The Art League, Cameron-Brown Park, the Sign Ordinance, and 24 new subdivisions filled the plate for Mayor Nance and the 1978 Board of Aldermen. Major road improvements were being planned for Germantown Road, north and south of Poplar, as well.

Ordinances were approved in 1978 that helped to shape the City's character that we see today, including the Tree Protection and Grading Ordinance and the ordinance that established a Park and Recreation Commission. Surrounding communities still attempt to discern where to draw the line between community appearance and development when it comes to saving trees.

Backed by years of commitment by the City and its citizens to developing parks, the City won the National Gold Medal Award (cities less than 50,000) from the Sports Foundation in 1997. The Parks and Recreation program today is also accredited by the Commission for Accreditation of Parks and Recreation Agencies.

In the category of parks, the Board approved the purchase of approximately five acres of property containing Civil War earthworks (Lot 152 within the proposed Second Addition Germantown East Subdivision) from Jim and Bob Peel for a total cost not to exceed \$75,000.

Federal earthworks were constructed at uniform distances along the railroad from Memphis to Corinth, Mississippi, and were designed to defend the railroad, providing a clear view up and down the track. Fort Germantown, one of the few remaining earthworks, is located at 3085 Honey Tree Drive, south of Poplar Pike.

The Board granted approval to execute a Real Estate Purchase Agreement by and between the City of Germantown and Cameron-Brown Investment Group for an approximate 53 acre tract (excluding the right-of-way for the Wolf River Parkway as proposed), with the stipulation that the agreement specifies that Cameron-Brown will dedicate the right-of-way for this proposed road.

It was confirmed later that the entire right-of-way for Wolf River Boulevard lies just north of the proposed tract of land, and the stipulation was no longer necessary. Cameron-Brown Park is a jewel in our park system today.

Another generous donation of property near the north end of Poplar Estates Parkway gave us Poplar Estates Park with the gift of approximately 38 acres of property from George E. Cates, Trustee.

The Board committed to provide a building site for a new library in the Municipal Center Complex and to pay Shelby County the approximate book value for the old library building and property, to be used by the City in connection with the Pickering Community Center. That "old" library today serves as Morgan Woods Theatre, while today that "new" library is now the "old" library building, now serving as the "new" home for the Department of Community Development.

Mrs. Patricia N. Thompson, representing the Germantown Art League, requested that the Board consider purchasing art work on a continuing basis for display in the new Municipal Center. The matter was taken under advisement by the Municipal Building Committee for further consideration. Today, the halls are full of art, some of which captures the character and history of Germantown.

Whenever a City develops a Sign Ordinance, enforcement can be tough. In 1978, the Board approved an extension on implementation of the Sign Ordinance up to 90 days, provided sign owners have shown good faith in pursuing compliance.

The City Engineer was also instructed at the appropriate time to send a certified letter to all other sign owners that time has expired and a penalty is to be invoked as required by the Sign Ordinance. Areas which have been annexed into the City of Germantown after February 15, 1977, were given one year from the effective date of annexation to comply with the Sign Ordinance requirements.

August 8th would be the last meeting for Bobby Lanier as an Alderman. Having served the City from 1951, he would now take a position as executive assistant to County Mayor Elect Bill Morris.

Effective October 23rd, Fire protection for the City improved to merit a Class 5 insurance rating resulting in a savings to the residents and property owners of the City in excess of \$250,000 per year. Today the City enjoys a Class 3 insurance rating.

The Board awarded a major road construction project to Atlas Contractors, Inc. for major road improvement projects including expansion of Germantown Road, north and south of Poplar, Poplar Pike from Moore Road to the Southern Railroad and the intersection of Poplar Pike and Hacks Cross Road. Improvement to Germantown Road continues, south of Stout Road, in the near future.

Traffic was becoming so busy at Germantown Road and Farmington Boulevard that a three-way stop sign was installed in advance of proper traffic signalization. Farmington Boulevard West from Germantown Road to Poplar Avenue had not been built by this time.

The Board also approved a resolution recognizing the potential problems that involve overall use and transportation plans along Germantown Road north of Wolf River. They also authorized the Mayor to contact County Mayor Bill Morris and Director of Planning Mike Ritz in an effort to begin a study of the subject area by the Memphis/Shelby County Office of Planning and Development. The Germantown leaders envisioned the problems, and a study was completed, but how well was it followed? Have you driven Germantown Road North lately?

The Board also voted to purchase street signs in order to change the official name of Highway 72 to Poplar Avenue inside the Germantown City limits.

Attention in '78 turned back to the town's original one square mile, as the Planning Commission's "Old Germantown" Committee was asked to continue to study possibilities for the development of Old Germantown.

Alderman Walker Taylor was requested to pursue alternatives with Southern Railway officials for the

old train station in the District. Alderman Taylor had discussed the permanency of its present location, and the possibility of renting the off-track for the location of a real steam engine with cars, housing railroad memorabilia.

In conclusion, 1978 was the year that McDonald's received its project approval, but without a flagpole flying a McDonald's logo flag. For those who wanted fresh vegetables for lunch, they could always wait until Thursday for the food fair held during the growing season in the parking lot of the Germantown United Methodist Church.

GERMANTOWN PAST

1979

In 1979, Police Chief Joe Gagliano died, the concept for the extension of West Street north to Poplar Avenue was approved, and movement towards a new library began to occur behind the soon-to-open Municipal Center.

Mayor W. A. Nance led the city, assisted by Aldermen Ray Clift, Jr., Ray Davis, Jay Kahn, J. Boyd Maize, and Boyd Arthur, Jr.

Chief Inspector Robert A. Cochran of the Memphis Police Department was chosen to succeed Chief Gagliano as Chief of the Germantown Police Department. Gagliano, at one time, served as Cochran's immediate supervisor in Memphis.

Police Chief Joe Gagliano, served the City of Germantown for six and one-half years. A race in his honor (Joe Gagliano Memorial Distance Classic) was run on Sunday, April 8th.

The city had grown from 10,098 in 1975 to just over 20,000 in 1979, and was now over 11 square miles in size. Most of the City's energies were focused on the daily issues of running the affairs of a rapidly expanding population - annexation, roads, utilities, regulations, and "quality of life" amenities.

There were several road issues – Cordova Road, McVay Road Extended, West Street, First Street, and Old Riverdale Road.

Rezoning at the north end of Cordova Road (north of Harvest Meadows North S/D) resulted in the Board's decision to close Cordova Road. The road would be closed at such time when Neshoba Road is completed to Germantown Road or when the Wolf River Parkway is completed, and when Riverdale Road or Poplar Estates Parkway or Miller Farms Road is completed into the Wolf River Parkway, completion being when the roads are open for use.

Ellers, Fanning, Oakley, Chester and Rike were approved to prepare final construction plans and documents for McVay Extended between West Street and Poplar Pike. They were also hired to prepare plans for West Street between McVay Extended northwardly to tie into the railroad crossing of West Street. The alignment was set forth in a study by W. S. Pollard & Associates.

The Board approved the Transportation Committee's recommendation to close the present railroad crossing at North Street (west of the current crossing), so that an additional crossing could be obtained to coincide with the proposed extension of West Street.

Rezoning associated with the extension of West Street north of the railroad crossing to Poplar Avenue increased neighborhood attendance at public hearings. Neighbors expressed concerns over potential drainage problems to the north, traffic congestion from increased commercial development, and encroachment into residentially zoned areas.

A motion was approved to accept the Transportation Committee's recommendation to proceed with the necessary steps to close First Street. If you extend Poplar Pike eastward from West Street to Germantown Road, parallel to the railroad tracks, and between the Depot and Three Oaks, you have found First Street.

Construction of the Timbers caused Old Riverdale Road to be closed and impassable from September 1978 into 1979. The Board gave Albertine & McCrory Company, Inc., notice that the road must be opened on or before June 11th so that traffic may flow, or a stop work order would be placed on new construction in that subdivision.

In other construction activity, the Board urged the County to proceed as soon as possible to construct a library adequate to serve the Germantown area, that area being more than the corporate limits of the City of Germantown. The Board also requested to be involved in the selection of the architect and the plans for the library.

The Board did approve a Memorandum of Understanding between Shelby County and the City of Germantown, whereby the County agrees to pay for all expenses related to the construction and engineering of the library and the City of Germantown agrees to provide an adequate amount of land (1.3 acres) for the building.

September 8th was set as the grand opening for the new Municipal Center. A Municipal Center Art Selection and Placement Committee, with Mary Rhodes as Chairman, was authorized to review any art work or similar items that may be made available to the City for display in the new Municipal Center.

The new Municipal Center also brought the city into the computer age. A National Science Foundation Grant was obtained to study the data processing needs for the city. The Board approved the negotiations of a contract with Cogebec Information, Inc. for the purchase of software and Wang hardware for a mini-computer program.

Rapid growth requires parallel growth of amenities associated with "quality of life" issues. The Recreation Commission recommended to the Board to lease the use of Penal Farm property (approximately 12 acres) for Germantown Recreation Department soccer fields.

The Board approved a resolution, submitted to the Shelby County Conservation Board, requesting that they lease approximately 24 acres to the City of Germantown at the cost of one (\$1.00) dollar for soccer and other recreational programs.

1979 also saw the advent of the Cable TV Committee, the Old Germantown Committee (Chairman Michelle Babcock), a Fence Ordinance, and the Animal Control Commission. It was also a year for blackbirds, especially in the Bryn Mawr Circle/Churchill Downs area.

GERMANTOWN PAST

1980

As history becomes more current, it feels less like someone else's past and more a memory of my own. The participants may have different roles and hairstyles, but at this point many of them are still contributing to the life of this city.

Mayor "Dub" Nance led the Board comprised of Vice-Mayor Jay Kahn, Boyd Arthur, Jr., Ray Clift (currently City Judge), Ray Davis, and Boyd Maize. Lee Winchester served as City Attorney and his assistants included Olen Batchelor (later City Judge), Larry Scroggs (current State Representative), Asa Hoke, and Marvin C. Goff. The Prosecuting Attorneys were Tom McPherson (present Planning Commission attorney) and Gary Smith. Glenn Millar served as City Judge.

Thomas C. Cates, our current City Attorney, was appointed as Assistant City Attorney and Advisor to the Recreation Commission.

As we move into December 2000, commission applications are being submitted and the Board will soon spend time making their appointments. In 1980, appointments were made after the New Year had begun. Other than those commissions and committees that we presently have, there was a Sidewalk Commission, an Emergency Medical Services Committee, and an Energy Conservation Committee.

Committees that had served their purpose and were being disbanded within the first six months included the Condominium Sanitation Study Committee, the Data Processing Evaluation and Selection Committee, the School Site Selection Committee, and the Tree Conservation Committee.

Once again, the Board spoke out on current events. They declared February 11, 1980 as "Hostage Recognition Day", expressing concern for Americans being held hostage contrary to international law by the Iranian Government. All city employees were encouraged to express their concern for the hostages by the use of yellow ribbons. All citizens and businesses of Germantown were encouraged to join with the Board in prayer, recognizing the plight of the hostages, and standing solidly behind the United States Government in its efforts for their safe return. It would be Inauguration Day of the next year before they were released.

In 1980, the Board took another look at the City's Charter. The Charter of the City of Germantown, under which the government functions, was granted by the Tennessee Legislature in 1903. Today's Charter is the evolutionary product of amendatory acts to this 1903 Act. The 1980 Charter had been amended in 1974. In 1974, City Attorney Lee Winchester worked on those amendments with State Senator Leonard C. Dunavant and State Representative Harold Sterling.

On April 28, 1980, the Board of Mayor and Aldermen created a Charter Committee to receive suggestions as to the need for revisions, changes and amendments to the existing charter.

The Board found themselves without a City Administrator on March 3rd, with the resignation of Jack J. Goode. Jack had served the city for seven years and had accepted a position in the private sector, effective April 15th. During his tenure the city had grown in population from 6,000 to 23,000 citizens.

Upon his departure, the Mayor and Board (with the recommendations of Goode) took measures to better define the role of the City Administrator, efficiently administer the government of the city and work with the Mayor and Board. They also reviewed the position of City Clerk/Recorder.

John Minton, of Carolina Beach North Carolina, was hired to replace Jack on June 16, 1980. Ron Schmied began his decade of employment as City engineer on April 28, 1980, replacing Allen Cox.

Vice-Mayor Jay Kahn headed a committee to develop a cable ordinance. Ordinance No. 1980-2 was approved authorizing the granting of a franchise to own, operate and maintain a cable communication system in Germantown.

Gregory/Grace & Associates was awarded the contract to work with the City to secure an HCRS Grant for construction of Howard-McVay/Cameron-Brown Park Projects. Dean Thomas of Gregory/Grace & Associates, working with Jerre Turner, Park & Recreation Coordinator, and the Park & Recreation Commission, received approval of their proposal to implement the program.

The Board also approved a re-draft of the contract between the city and the Germantown Horse Show Association, originally drafted on the 4th day of March 1954 and extending for 50 years. The re-draft was written for the purposes of detailing the cooperation between the two groups and the maintenance assistance provided by the city.

Approved project development contracts included a new sanctuary for the Germantown Baptist Church, a "Round the Corner" Restaurant (now Dryve Cleaners), J.P. Seafield's (formerly Moonraker) at 7730 Poplar Avenue, and the Rib Rack at 9102 Poplar Pike. David Jones' Union 76 Station was granted a special permit to expand his operation to include a U-Haul Rental business.

And speaking of business, the city approved the purchase of one, three-way clappered siamese, one brass-ball valve-wye, and one #20 8L dry chemical ansul. On another occasion 100 manhole ring risers were purchased. I can picture the 100 ring risers and their function, but that first purchase must be some Environmental Services' gizmos that simply escape me.

Mr. R. W. Lutey, President of the Optimist Club was present at the June 9th meeting to request special permits for the 8th Annual July 4th Picnic to be held on the Civic Club property. A temporary beer permit was granted as well as a fireworks permit, and all security and traffic control was provided at the expense of the Optimist Club.

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen, along with members of the Budget and Financial Advisory Committee, reviewed the proposed 1980-1981 Budget. A meeting was scheduled for June 18th at 7:30 p.m., at the Bank of Germantown for further review of the budget.

On June 23rd, Mr. John Minton, the new City Administrator was welcomed.

A contract was awarded to Wilson and Gross Enterprises, Inc. in the amount of \$182,752 for improvements to Cameron-Brown Park and Howard-McVay Park.

A July 17th special meeting was held to review the proposed bikeway with residents in designated

subdivisions, presidents of those homeowners associations, and the Park and Recreation Commission. Denise Watts, intern in the Engineering Department, presented the bikeway study to the audience, which included maps indicating the bike route, design standards, widths and markings for the bike lanes.

The Board approved Ordinance No. 1980-7, establishing control of the water supplies to the City during emergencies.

The City received a copy of a petition that had been filed before the Election Commission for the incorporation of the City of Cordova. The Board notified the Election Commission that the City of Germantown had no objection to this corporation election being held.

Mrs. Ann Knox, Mr. Joe Pierpoali, and Mr. Jim Rhodes was appointed as citizen members of the Charter Study Committee. Alderman Jay Kahn received the unanimous vote as the alderman member.

The salary for the Aldermen was approved to \$200 per month effective December 15, 1982, the first pay period after the November 1982 election.

A public hearing was held for comments regarding Ordinance No. 1980-8 that would levy an inspection fee on the purchaser of alcoholic beverages at retail. Assistant City Attorney Henry Beaty researched the question and stated that in his opinion, "the City of Germantown should limit its inspection fee only to package liquor stores and not to those offering liquor by the drink". The ordinance was approved levying an inspection fee on the purchaser of alcoholic beverages at retail in the City of Germantown, deleting any reference to liquor by the drink sales.

The preliminary report from the Census Bureau set the population of Germantown at 19,596, but it had been discovered that three subdivisions were not included and maps for these subdivisions had been furnished the Bureau. Wes Townson, City Planner, had estimated the population will be in the neighborhood of 22,000.

Mayor Nance canceled the water emergency notice. The low water pressure had been due to high usage during the extremely hot weather and the electrical failure of the water pumps.

George Walters was President and Billy C. Flynn, Vice-President, of the Germantown Festival Association to be held on September 12 & 14.

A motion was approved to revise Policy Letter No. 17 to incorporate the responsibilities of the newly created position of "City Clerk" and to outline further the responsibilities of the City Administrator and Department Heads. A reference to the City Court Clerk was eliminated at this time. It was noted that these assignments reflect the requirements of the City Charter where appropriate.

At the Board's direction, the Administration reviewed the revised the salary proposals as recommended by the Department Heads and Administration. The Mayor and Board of Aldermen accepted the salaries as recommended by the Administration, with the changes that were made at the meeting.

A motion was approved to revise Policy Letter No. 10 to include a 10 ½% increase across-the-board, plus a comprehensive recommendation of reclassification or initial classification of job positions. The

policy letter was recommended with the understanding that a comprehensive organizational analysis has been initiated and would result in additional changes to the classification system.

“It was the intent of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Germantown to maintain an on-going Employee Classification and Compensation Plan which will ensure fair and equitable salary administration for all City employees.”

The Charter Study Committee, established by resolution by the Board of Mayor and Aldermen (April 28, 1980) included J.E. Pierpoali, James Rhodes, and Lee Winchester. The Resolution establishing the Committee was revised to specify the number of members: seven citizens, an alderman, the City Attorney, and a chairman appointed by the Mayor from the membership.

In the Resolution establishing this committee it was stated that the items for revision to the Charter would be referred to this committee by the Board of Mayor and Aldermen, adding that it was not the role of this committee to revise the entire charter or to make any changes in the form of government. There had been two proposals made as to changes in the Charter: (1) for the Mayor to be able to vote on all issues, and (2) that the duties and responsibilities of the City Administrator should be listed in the Charter.

In a written response to an editorial cartoon suggesting the use of “blindlers” and ear plugs for members of the Charter Committee, Mayor Nance quoted from a report he made to the Board on April 14th. “It has been vividly pointed out that our present Charter possesses certain items and sections that need further clarification and/or changed in its entirety”. To quote further, “it would be the function of this Committee to make recommendations of whatever changes should be made to our present charter as this committee sees those needs and then report to a regular meeting of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen with due notice given to the public of these proposed changes.” “I most assuredly will not, in any way whatsoever, attempt to restrict the discussions of the Charter Committee and I would hope that the entire Board of Mayor and Aldermen would likewise grant them the same freedoms as granted every other committee and/or board in the City of Germantown.”

“This study should address, of course, both the form and content of the charter, but it should address the question of “What form of Government should the City of Germantown have according to the present and future needs and desires of its citizens? Tennessee State law establishes a variety of forms of municipal government, each which has its own particular strengths and weaknesses, and if we are to contemplate any change in our charter, then any possible changes in our form of government should be addressed at this time.”

The Board approved authorization to begin condemnation proceedings to acquire 1.25 acres of the Charles Watkins property for a new library.

Project Development Contract No. 44 was approved for Captain D’s Restaurant, just north of McDonald’s Restaurant on Germantown Road.

The Board approved the cost of sound absorption panels for the Council Chambers to find a solution to the reverberation problem. The panels would blend with the brick and cover most of the back wall in the room.

The Board approved an update of the Position Classification and Compensation Plan prepared by the Office of State Personnel of the State of Tennessee in 1977.

Aldermen-elect for 1981 Wanda Goodman, Bob Oelke, and Richard S. McNeese replaced Aldermen J. Boyd Maize, Raymond S. Clift and Ray Davis.

The Board adopted a resolution regarding solar energy.

A permit was granted for the annual Christmas parade held on December 9th at 7:00 p.m., with the rain date of December 11th, at Riverdale and Poplar Pike, proceeding east on Poplar Pike, right on West Street behind the old City Hall, left on McVay to Poplar Pike and ending at the Community Center.

The following commissions and committees were dissolved and abolished: Sidewalk Commission, Emergency Medical Services Committee, Electrical Services Committee, Energy Conservation Commission, Street Construction and Improvement Committee, Zoning Ordinance Committee, Special Committee for Recreation Study Plan, Personal Advisory Committee, and Safety Advisory Committee.

GERMANTOWN PAST

1982

The year 1982 was relatively quiet, with much attention focused on personalities. W. A. Nance was serving his last year as Mayor, staff was changing, and new appointments were being made.

The Aldermen included Aldermen Boyd Arthur, Jr., Wanda Goodman, Jay Kahn, Richard McNeese and Bob Oelke.

Deputy Chief C.J. (Charlie) Vaught was recognized for 13 years of service as a volunteer member of the Germantown Fire Department (since 1968).

Mr. Lynn Thomas, of Corning, New York, accepted the position of the Parks & Recreation Director.

Mayor Nance introduced Jerry Cook, the new City Planner, to the Board. Jerry now serves as the Director of Community Development.

City Administrator Holgersson made a presentation to the Board regarding a reorganization plan, which would affect the Public Works, Utilities, Parks & Recreation and Administration Departments. It was proposed that Public Works and Utilities be combined, with Jay Hollingsworth assuming the position of Acting Public Works Director. The position of Assistant to the City Administrator would be approved by the Board, as well as the appointment of Hugh S. Ford to that position.

On September 27th, a special “surprise” ceremony was held to honor Hugh, who had worked for the City for twenty-nine years. Hugh and Mrs. Ford were recognized as “Outstanding Citizens”, and a resolution of appreciation was read.

The resolution ended by naming the new public services complex the “Hugh S. Ford Public Services Complex”. The sign to be erected at the complex was unveiled.

Appointments included Larry Scroggs (now State Representative Scroggs) to Senior City Judge, and Raymond S. Clift to fill the position of the second judge for the City.

The Board recognized Donald A. Pallin’s years of volunteer service to the City on the Planning Commission from June 1973 to present, helping guide the City through its days of expansion.

The Board even approved a motion congratulating the Memphis State University Tigers and Lady Tigers in the 1981-82 basketball season; and two of Germantown’s citizens, Mary Lou Johns, Coach of the Lady Tigers and Dana Kirk, Coach of the Tigers, on their outstanding accomplishment in directing their respective team to Metro Conference Championships and berths in the NCAA tournament.

Mayor Nance was elected to a two-year term as the State Representative of District 94. In accordance with Section 10 of the Charter, “a vacancy shall exist if a Mayor or Alderman accepts any state, county

or other municipal office or position of employment which is filled by public election”.

Mayor Nance turned the November 8th meeting over to Vice-Mayor Jay Kahn and left the rostrum. The Board accepted the resignation of Mayor Nance to become effective November 11th.

It was recommended that the members of the Board follow the Charter and appoint Mr. Kahn as Mayor until Mayor-elect Arthur takes office on December 13th. It was approved that Alderman Jay Kahn be appointed Mayor of the City of Germantown to complete the unexpired term of former Mayor W.A. Nance, to be effective from November 11, 1982 to December 13, 1982.

In 1982, the Board approved amendments to the Zoning Ordinance to include P.U.D. regulations, the Sign Ordinance, and the Design Review Commission Ordinance.

Significant amendments to the latter were clarification of those projects which must be reviewed by the Design Review Commission, a procedure for appeal to the DRC of a decision of the City Engineer regarding temporary signs, and a change permitting the DRC to elect a chairman, vice-chairman and secretary.

An Economic Development Committee was established by resolution to encourage groups such as Xerox and IBM to locate an office complex within the City of Germantown, preferably on the eastern perimeter of the City. Discussion revolved around the need to have the tax base study completed that should indicate whether or not there is a need for this type of committee or this type of development.

Alderman Oelke advised the Board that he had met with County Mayor Bill Morris to discuss the tax base study. Mayor Morris stated that Shelby County would get the tax base study completed as quickly as possible.

Residents discussed with the Board the drainage problems caused by a rainstorm on April 16, 1982. The problems were associated with the “Farmington” and “Miller Farms” ditch. \$135,000 had been already appropriated in the current budget toward the improvements of the Farmington Ditch. Major rainstorms have a way of causing our concerns for drainage improvements to resurface.

On March 11, 1982, the Charter Study Committee reported on its work with the City’s Charter. Revisions dealt primarily with: (1) removing the Mayor as a member of the Board, and the governing body of the City being a Mayor and Board of Aldermen, (2) the veto power of the Mayor, and (3) the duties and responsibilities of the City Administrator.

The Board at that time had the authority to convene as the Board of Adjustment and Appeals in order to consider requests for waivers of the Building Code requirements. Later, Shelby County would take responsibility for building code requirements, while variances to the City’s Zoning Ordinance fell to the Germantown Board of Zoning Appeals.

A “Mutual Aid Interlocal Cooperation Agreement” was signed in 1982 allowing Germantown to work with Collierville.

And everyone was in agreement that the “Great Outdoors Living Show”, on the parking lot of Kirby Wood Mall (Carrefour at Kirby Woods), was a fun time, with a display of boats, recreational vehicles,

campers and an above-ground swimming pool.

And throughout 1982, Thane Smith, Jr., serving as President of the 1982 Germantown Festival Association, called on people to attend the 1982 Germantown Festival.

GERMANTOWN PAST

1983

In 1983, Mayor Boyd Arthur, Jr. led the Board comprised of Vice-Mayor Jay Kahn, Wayne Addison, Wanda Goodman, Richard McNeese and Bob Oelke. R. Lee Winchester served as City Attorney and his assistants included Boyd Rhodes Jr., C. Thomas Cates, Louis Miller and Alan Strain. The Prosecuting Attorneys were Glenn Millar Jr., Joe M. Kirsch and Jerome Rosengarten. Larry Scroggs and Raymond Clift served as City Judges.

The City was developing at an astonishing rate. Contracts were approved for the Sternberger-Ford Shopping Center on the corner of Farmington and Germantown Road (where the Seessel's is today), the Village and Office Centre on the corner of Farmington and Exeter and the Allenby Green Condominiums.

The Bodine School was allowed to add a one story addition and Southern Avenue became one way. The City chose Barton –Aschman, Associates, Inc. as consultant to provide the City with an update on the Major Road Study for \$25,000.

Phil McCall, Fire Chief for over 20 years, passed on. The 1942 pumper truck was preserved and a plaque was placed on it in honor of Mr. McCall and all who had served as volunteers before the Fire Department became a “paid” department. The truck can still be seen at the residence of Harry and Becky Cloyes. The Kiwanis Club started an annual biathlon in honor of Mr. McCall.

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen approved a contract with Municipal Code Corporation to revise and recodify the City's ordinances to reflect state and local laws, plus court decisions. Total cost was \$10,000.

The City and the State Department of Transportation have been working on two programs, the Safer Off System to improve traffic signs and the Federal Aid Urban program to improve four intersections within the City. The Board ratified a contract executed in 1982 to fund the City's share of the cost.

The Board approved Ordinances 1983-15 and 1983-16. No. 1983-15 established the Real and Personal Property Tax Rate for 1983 at \$2.16 per \$100 assessed valuation and 1983-16 established the 1983 Pole Tax Rate at 25 cents per pole. Our Property Tax Rate today is \$1.47 per \$100 assessed valuation.

The City endorsed a $\frac{3}{4}$ cent sales tax referendum from Shelby County. Fifty percent of the proceeds of the tax would go toward improvements in the County school system. The City of Germantown would also see income from this tax.

Tischler and Associates presented a Fiscal Impact Study. The objectives of the study were:

- (1) to allow the City to better understand its near and longer term fiscal position as it is impacted by new growth; and
- (2) to implement a fiscal impact system which is easy to use and understand.

Three land scenarios were proposed for study. All three scenarios indicated a deficit in year two. An addition to the municipal center, with no bond financing anticipated, was the reason for the deficit. Each scenario, however, projected a surplus, the highest being the High Density Scenario with a surplus of \$30,725,583.

The Kiwanis Club donated a pavilion for the Municipal Center Park. The City agreed to finance the project and accept yearly donations from the club. The project was awarded to Mid-South Construction for \$41,250.00.

The Board approved a contract to improve C.O. Franklin Park. The improvements would include two new lighted tennis courts, upgrading and rewiring of the four existing courts, lighting of two soccer fields and the addition of a new restroom facility.

Water was an important issue for the City. A Comprehensive Well Hydrologic Survey and Analysis was ordered to be carried out by Allen and Hoshall Engineers, the same company which was in the process of building a new 1.8 million gallon underground reservoir and a 6 million addition to the water treatment facilities.

The results of the \$12,000 survey were to build three new wells, replace two existing wells, and to consider a new treatment plant and well field in the east where growth was occurring. The Plant and well field were completed in Johnson Road Park last year.

The Supreme Court made its famous Anti-Trust decisions concerning telephone companies. This allowed the City to switch companies and save over one thousand dollars a year on long distance.

The Design Review Commission and the Board of Zoning Appeals discussed satellite dish receiving antennas. The consensus was that the dishes could become eyesores to the community. Esthetics was the main issue. Dishes had to be properly screened in the backyard and could not exceed six feet in height. Some dishes would have to be depressed into the ground to meet the height requirement. This seems hard to believe in days where dishes can be as small as eighteen inches.

Finally, a proclamation was announced that the City had joined President Reagan in recognizing April 9 as a permanent day to honor America's POWs, MIAs and their families.

Written by Justin Nicholas

GERMANTOWN PAST

1984

In 1984, Mayor Boyd Arthur, Jr. led the Board comprised of Vice-Mayor Jay Kahn, Wayne Addison, Wanda Goodman, Richard McNeese and Bob Oelke.

R. Lee Winchester served as City Attorney, and his assistants included Boyd Rhodes, Jr., C. Thomas Cates, Louis Miller and Alan Strain. The Prosecuting Attorneys were Glenn Millar, Jr., Lee Saunders and Joe Lee Wyatt. Larry K. Scroggs and Raymond Clift served as City Judges.

The census completed by the City was certified by the State Planning Office and indicated that the present population of the City was 27,213. This growth would increase the per capita income from the state by \$186,500 annually. Today the shared revenues amount to \$102.11 per person.

Mayor Arthur presented a plaque to Hugh S. Ford, who recently retired as Assistant to the City Administrator, in appreciation for his thirty years of service to the citizens of Germantown.

The City entered into an intergovernmental agreement with the City of Bartlett. The agreement provided for an exchange of equipment and personnel, which would be of mutual advantage to both municipalities. The agreement was automatically renewed each year.

The Board approved a motion to lease land between Germantown Road and West Street, including the Depot, from Southern Railway Company. The lease was for \$100 per year and all maintenance was to be the responsibility of the City. The property would revert back to the railroad upon notification of the City, and all improvements would have to be removed, if the railroad determined it needed the property back.

The Germantown High School Cable TV group had presented a proposal to the CATV Commission, which would provide for the development of twelve 30 to 60 minute community access programs in exchange for funding of various pieces of camera equipment. The Board approved the "Access Together Project" to be paid through the City with the limit of \$21,000. Future budgets would be evaluated on the basis of a year to year budget request reviewed through the normal budget process.

A 2004 Committee and Civic Center Committee were formed. This committee would review the needs of the City for the next twenty years, formulate a comprehensive plan, and present the plan to the Board. The Mayor stated that this is probably the most important thing that has been done within the City, in a long time, and is going to greatly benefit the community.

Mayor Arthur presented Aldermen Richard McNeese and Bob Oelke with plaques expressing appreciation for their four years of service to the citizens of Germantown.

In the '84 November elections, Wanda Goodman was reelected for a second four-year term and D. W. "Bill" McGaughey was elected to fill Position 3. Sam Massey was elected to fill Position 5.

Development in Germantown was moving at full steam. The Board approved projects, which included

the Germantown Community Hospital located on the corner of Poplar Avenue and Germantown Road and the Washington Square Commercial Center on the northeast corner of Farmington and Exeter.

The Old Germantown District regulations were approved. These regulations set the lot coverage at a 55% pervious/45% impervious ratio, with the 55% being the amount of “green” required. Today the same number ratio exists; however, 45% is the amount of “green” required.

With esthetics being so important to Germantown, aboveground transformers belonging to MLG&W came into conflict with the City’s standards. Many citizens complained that the transformers were eyesores when placed in front yards. The City amended the Underground Utilities Ordinance when MLG&W stated that underground transformers were not economical. Ordinance 1883-26 was approved after compromises were made, including allowance for transformers to be placed in backyards and proper landscaping, suiting everyone involved.

Barton-Aschman Associates, Inc. presented the Major Road Plan update. The assignment had been to find a workable and acceptable road plan that would meet the projected traffic demands for the next twenty years. The Board was advised that the plan should reflect the traffic demands, right of way should be tied to the highest foreseeable use of the roadway, and streets should not be constructed on the assumption that nothing else is going to be built. The plan was sent to the Planning Commission and the 2004 Committee for review.

A contract was approved with McGehee/Nicholson/Burke for the development of plans and specifications and construction of the Municipal Center expansion. The architectural firm had built the current center and was considered to be in the best position to complete the job appropriately.

James Dees, Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission, presented the Commission’s annual report to the Board. The goals for 1983 had been to:
Change the direction of the Park and Recreation Commission from a “Sports Commission to an actual “Park and Recreation Commission; develop a community center complex to house multi-purpose activities and programs; provide long range planning of parks and facilities; revise various policy letters to blend with the philosophy of the City in developing a partnership with the various organizations utilizing public facilities; establish a Fourth of July celebration in the Parks, which would bring together the entire community in 1984; and improve the livability of parks.

Mr. Dees felt that the commission had either met these goals or were making great strides toward their accomplishment. The BMA approved a motion to reorganize the Parks and Recreation Department.

The Tennessee Department of Conservation approved a grant for development of Dogwood Park. A “Notice of Limitation of Use” was added to the deed for the parkland. This notice stated that the property would be used only for outdoor public recreation. The Board approved the contract.

Finally, the City made plans to honor Melanie Smith, a resident of Germantown, for winning a gold medal in the equestrian meet at the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles.

Written by Justin Nicholas

GERMANTOWN PAST

1985

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen saw several new faces in 1985. Sam Massey and Bill McGaughey were elected to their first terms while Wanda Goodman was reelected. The remainder of the Board was filled out by Vice-Mayor Jay Kahn, Alderman Wayne Addison, and Mayor Boyd Arthur, Jr.

The Charter Committee completed the revisions to the City's Charter. The Board sent the amended Charter to the State Legislature for approval. The Legislature approved the Charter and the Board ratified it as Private Chapter No. 87, House Bill No. 1125, Private Acts of 1985.

Reorganization of the Public Safety Departments, Fire and Police, was proposed to provide for improved managerial effectiveness in the delivery of public safety services. To place this reorganization into effect required the establishment of two assistant chiefs in both fire and police; one being the Operations Chief and the other being the Assistant Chief for Administration. The position of Lieutenant in the Police Department was eliminated.

The changes were as follows: Fire Department: Jim Smith, Fire Chief; John O'Bryan, Assistant Chief for Operations; and Dennis Wolf, Assistant Chief for Administration; Police Department: Bob Cochran, Police Chief; Paul Hamblen, Assistant Chief for Administration; and Eddie Boatwright, Assistant Chief for Operations.

A Homecoming '86 Committee was formed to coincide with Lamar Alexander's Homecoming '86 program. Germantown's homecoming event took place in conjunction with the 1986 Fourth of July Celebration. Bess Barry was appointed Chairman of the Committee.

A "Jail-A-Thon" was held on August 30th to benefit the American Cancer Society. The event was held on the Kmart Plaza parking lot.

The Germantown Community Foundation was established. This foundation was instituted to help fund the Civic Center project. It was realized that many private corporations would not donate funds to any agent other than a foundation. The foundation was set up to be broad enough to expand beyond the Civic Center.

The City entered into a contract with the Shelby County Clerk for the services of his department in the registration of automobiles by Germantown citizens. This contract, Ordinance No. 1985-30, would require individuals with Germantown addresses to register vehicles with the Shelby County Clerk.

Development in Germantown included approval for the Baptist Memorial Specialty Hospital, Exeter Village Shopping Center, the Minor Medical Clinic, and a new sanctuary for Germantown Presbyterian Church.

A study was begun to determine the impact of the development of undeveloped property, lying along and within 1500 feet of the proposed Wolf River Boulevard, upon the street system and traffic of the City of Germantown.

The city worked with the Tennessee Department of Transportation on several road improvements, including Poplar Avenue between Massey and Kirby Roads, and Germantown Road from Farmington to U.S. 64.

The Board voted for a contract with MLG&W for the provision of water during emergency situations. The City would be able to purchase up to 1.5 million gallons of water per day for supplemental fire protection or other emergency situations, such as the malfunction of the City's water system.

Ordinance No. 1985-17 was established to amend the existing Miscellaneous Offense Ordinance. This amendment states that the height of weeds, grass and noxious growths shall be lowered from 12" to 9", on a portion of land, located within 130 feet of any lot containing a habitable dwelling of commercial/office building.

Germantown's first three civil defense sirens were installed for alerting citizens of an impending emergency situation.

Mayor Arthur introduced Fire Chief James Smith and welcomed him to the city staff. Chief Smith was also appointed as Civil Defense Director for the city.

The City's Parks and Recreation Department had previously received a "Concern for Kids" award from the Tennessee Federation of Women's Club. The Department then entered into a State contest for which it won "Number One". The Department was hopeful that they would also win on the national level.

The Mayor presented a plaque to Don Hazelwood, former chairman of the City Beautification Commission, expressing appreciation for his service to the community, both as a member and as chairman of the Commission. Mr. Hazelwood resigned his position on the Commission since he would be moving out of the city.

In just one year, Germantown had grown by one full square mile, putting to thirteen square miles. The population also increased, with an estimated 28,060 people; 847 more people than the previous year.

Written by Justin Nicholas

GERMANTOWN PAST

1986

Mayor Boyd Arthur Jr. lead the Board with Vice-Mayor Jay Kahn, Aldermen Wayne Addison, Wanda Goodman, Sam Massey, and Bill McGaughey. 1986 was an election year and Warner Hodges, III was elected Mayor, Wayne Addison was reelected and Charles Salvaggio was elected as Aldermen for the first time.

Boyd Rhodes Jr. was nominated to replace Lee Winchester as City Attorney, and Daniel Moore was introduced as the new Chief City Planner.

Virginia Jetton, Executive Secretary to the Mayor and City Administrator, retired. The Mayor presented her with a Key to the City, which read "Virginia Jetton, 1973-1986". She had worked for two mayors, three city administrators, and fifteen aldermen during her tenure.

Bess Barry, Chairman of the Germantown Homecoming '86 Committee, presented the Mayor with a flag for the city. The flag was red on white and depicted the City's official logo. The Mayor accepted the flag as the official flag for the city on behalf of the Board and the citizens of Germantown.

After months of meetings and work by over 150 citizens, the 2004 Executive Report was finalized. This report, started in 1984, was a 20-year, comprehensive plan for the city. Appreciation was expressed to everyone who was involved with the report.

6792 Poplar Pike was recognized as a Germantown Historical Site and a marker was presented to the owner, Walter D. Wills III. Mr. Wills is the great, great grandson of the original owner, Wilkes Brooks, who purchased the property in 1838.

The house, built prior to the Civil War, was remodeled in 1898 and given the Victorian appearance it has today. It is one of the few instances in the South of a complete plantation headquarters where all the buildings are original. The place had been recognized as a State Historical Site and the application was pending for the National Registry of Historic Places.

The West Tennessee Iris Association received permission to plant an iris garden at the intersection of West Street, North Street and Poplar Pike. The city worked with Southern Railway to gain a "Right of Entry Letter". The Association agreed to assume a \$100 annual fee for the space. The city promised to negotiate with the railroad to have the fee eliminated. The garden has become a famous landmark in Germantown.

The City of Germantown and the Town of Collierville reached an Agreement of Intent for Future Annexation. The Agreement provided the basis for which all future annexation plans for both municipalities would be governed for those areas or territory east of Germantown and west of Collierville, which each municipality will rely on concerning its future corporate limits. The boundary generally follows the TVA power line easement between Johnson Road and Houston Levee Road from Poplar Avenue on the south to the Wolf River on the north. In instances where a property on Johnson Road crossed the easement, all of the property was allowed to remain in Germantown.

Development in Germantown included the Saddle Creek Shopping Center, Brookside Centre Office Park, Germantown Collection Shopping Center, and Pizza Hut (Backyard Burger). Pizza Hut had to be designed differently than typical models, in order to comply with Germantown's aesthetics.

One of the biggest development issues in 1986 was the proposed Germantown Hilton. The Hotel was to be part of the Sternberger/Ford Shopping Center. It was to be located between Seessel's and Kmart (Hobby Lobby) and across from the Fire Station. Many issues were discussed during the November 24 public hearing. The opponents of the hotel brought up traffic issues such as conflicts with the Fire Department. A proposed lounge in the hotel was a concern as well. Alcohol related accidents as a result of the lounge concerned residents. Proponents of the hotel stated that Germantown needed a place for visitors who come to Germantown for banquets, weddings, horse shows, etc. The original plan for the shopping center forbade "a motel or service station". The Board approved Project Development Contract No. 98, the Germantown Hilton. There is more to come on this development, because as most citizens of Germantown know, there is no Germantown Hilton.

The City received two awards for finance. The first award was from the Government Finance Office Association and read as "AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE for financial management presented to the CITY OF GERMANTOWN for CITIZEN BOND ISSUE, an OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION to the PRACTICE OF GOVERNMENT FINANCE". Hal Canary, Finance Director received the second award. This award related to the City's debt program and how the debt management was handled. Germantown was the smallest city that had ever received that award.

Germantown received a certificate for "Excellence in Parks and Recreation Programming" from the State of Tennessee Department of Conservation.

Congress passed the Fair Labor Standards Act, Public Law 99-150, on November 13, 1985. The law went into effect April 15, 1986. The law would affect the Germantown Fire Department. A workweek was determined to be 53 hours instead of 56 hours. Firefighters would be eligible for three hours of overtime a week unless paid leave time reduced the worked hours. The policy had allowed paid leave to count toward the overtime floor. It was recommended tightening the definition of "time" which can count toward overtime by excluding paid leave. The Board revised the Personnel Procedures Manual to comply with the new Act.

The Board approved raising the number of people in the Germantown Police Department Reserve Program from twenty-one to thirty. This was a result of the Fair Labor Standards Act. It no longer allowed non-supervisory regular officers to volunteer their services for special events, which required reserve officers and supervisory personnel.

Germantown was still moving forward. The population was estimated at 28,161 and the city was considered in better shape both economically, and in a civic sense, than cities much larger.

Written by Justin Nicholas

GERMANTOWN PAST

1987

Warner Hodges, III was the city's new mayor and Board members included Vice-Mayor Wanda Goodman, Wayne Addison, Sam Massey, Bill McGaughey, and Charles Salvaggio.

A historic plaque was presented to the owners of 7464 Poplar Pike, Gerald Drumwright and David Simmons. Historians put the house's construction between 1830-1840. The house was occupied by Riverboat Captain Hanks during the Civil War. Today you know it as "The Wedding Chapel".

Germantown was visited by then Vice-President George Bush. Mr. Bush addressed the High School; (Germantown had only one high school at the time).

A tribute was given to the late Walker M. Taylor, a former Alderman. He served as Alderman from 1974-1978 and was very instrumental in establishing the Council for Retired Persons in Germantown.

Upon his resignation as Assistant to the City Administrator, Rick Sonnenburg was presented with an "Outstanding Citizen" award. Mr. Sonnenburg took the job of City Administrator in Carroll, Iowa.

By 1986, the city's fleet of vehicles reached 114 cars, trucks and tractors. The Board approved a motion to establish a citizen task force to study fleet management and acquisition for more efficient use of the city's vehicles. Although the Board felt that the fleet had been managed well, they believed there was always room for improvement. Mr. Ty Porter was named chairman of the task force.

The BMA passed Ordinance No. 1987-45 to amend the Zoning Ordinance. This amendment required that all off-street parking on residential property be on the driveway and not on the grass in front of the home.

The City Beautification Commission was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation by Shelby County Government in recognition of the Commission's outstanding contribution to Shelby County.

The city saved approximately \$100,000 when it entered into an agreement with the Tennessee Department of Transportation for installing a traffic signal and an improved railroad crossing system at the intersection of West Street and Poplar Pike.

Development in '87 included the Exeter Center Office Building, Great Oaks bridge, and Stansell Square Shopping Center.

After considering several locations, the Board chose a location for the Civic Center, north of the Municipal Center on the East Side of Germantown Road. The City purchased 4.5 acres of land for the project. The total budget for the project was \$9.5 million.

For the first time in its history, Germantown received a Triple A bond rating on its bonds. It was the only city in the state of Tennessee to have this rating, the highest possible. Awards of merit were given to Hal Canary, Finance Director, and Jim Holgersson, City Administrator, for their role in the bond

project.

A resolution was passed adopting a Capital Improvements Program for the city for the fiscal years 1988-1993. Projects included the Civic Center, drainage improvements, the fire training center, water and sewer extension, improvements to parks, intersection improvements and road construction.

In 1985, a moratorium on construction was placed in the area of the proposed Wolf River Boulevard to prevent development before the road plan for the Boulevard was finished. The Board decided to lift the moratorium for development along the Wolf River, both to the east and west side of Germantown Road. This would allow developers to submit their plans to the Planning Commission and Design Review Commission.

Action was taken after determining that a dump and surface mining operation located in the County at the intersection of The Wolf River and Germantown Road could have an adverse affect on the city's underground water supply. The mining and dumping operation ceased when the County discovered that the dump had been operating in violations of its regulations.

Harvey Faust, Parks & Recreation Director, was elected president of the Tennessee Parks and Recreation Association.

The Parks and Recreation's annual report was presented to the Board. Highlights of 1986 were the purchase of 70 acres of land on Dogwood Road for parkland, opening of Depot Square and recognition by the state for having the best recreational program in 1986.

The Board passed Ordinance No. 1987-5, mandatory parkland dedication. The ordinance would require mandatory parkland dedication or a payment in lieu of dedication of land for developments within residential districts. The ordinance also set forth a minimum amount of one acre that could be dedicated. The ordinance would aid Germantown in retaining its 3.3 acres per 1000 population ratio.

The city purchased 37.5 acres of parkland on Johnson Road adjoining the twenty acres already owned by the city. The land was bought for \$18,000 per acre. Fifty to sixty additional acres in the same area were later acquired.

1987 marked the 200th anniversary of the U.S. Constitution. Germantown was one of fifty cities designated as a "Bi-centennial Community". The Board dressed in 18th century costumes at one meeting and passed a resolution that declared September 17 through 23 as "Constitution Week". In 1987, Germantown had only five more years until its 150th birthday.

Written by Justin Nicholas

GERMANTOWN PAST

1988

Mayor Warner Hodges lead the Board, comprised of Vice-Mayor Wayne Addison, Sam Massey, Bill McGaughey, and Charles Salvaggio. David Halle and Dr. Robert Parrish were elected aldermen in the November elections.

Mr. Patrick Lawton, Germantown's current City Administrator, was hired as Assistant to the City Administrator, Jim Holgersson.

Once again, Memphis and Shelby County were considering consolidation of school systems and had attempted to form a Metropolitan County Charter Study Committee. The Board passed a resolution in firm opposition to the formation of the committee and to consolidation itself. Opponents cited negatives such as the difficulty bigger government has meeting the needs of its citizens and that services would not improve. County residents had voted down consolidation twice before and many studies had been completed which failed to show any significant benefit to consolidation.

A tribute was given to the late Edgar McHenry. He had been in business at Germantown Hardware since 1946, served in World War II, had served as Scoutmaster, chairman of the Germantown Kiwanis Club, and past president of the Germantown Business Association. The Sons of Confederate Veterans placed four cannon balls from the Civil War and a plaque in the Municipal Center as a memorial to Mr. McHenry.

A big issue for 1988 was that of impact fees. Impact fees for instance, are the developer's costs for road improvements, utility connections, etc. The state was working on an impact fee bill (known as the Bushing Bill) that Germantown felt was pro-developer and anti-municipality. A resolution was passed to enact a private bill for an impact fee, giving the Board the flexibility to decide if an impact fee was desired, and if so, to be structured and passed by the Board at a later date, and to exclude the City of Germantown from Senate Bill No. 2176 and House Bill No. 1956.

The Board was informed that if a general act were enacted before a private act, then the municipality would be locked in. This issue was not resolved in '88, however. It was decided that more information was needed before moving forward. It was stated that Germantown had impact fees, but under a different name, and that the cities exceptional financial health can be attributed to these fees.

The Germantown Charity Horse Show celebrated its fortieth year. Queen of the show was Miss Bonnie Hollabaugh.

The Board accepted Mr. Rhodes' recommendation of employing John Costonis, the Dean of Vanderbilt Law School, to make a study of the city's review process by the various boards and commissions in an effort to alleviate duplication. He recommended that guidelines be established for the concept of design for Germantown. He also stated that a design manual would allow both developers and administrators to have an up front view of what is to be expected. Mr. Costonis added that Germantown already had the capability of imposing impact fees.

The construction contract for the Civic Center was awarded to Flintco, Inc. for \$9,499,435. The possibility for a Civic Center had been discussed for many years. The discussion for the current center began in 1984; however, discussions had been taking place since the Civic Club was formed and the original civic center was constructed at C.O. Franklin Park. The groundbreaking ceremony for the Center was held on July 23, 1988.

A land swap agreement between the city and the County was finalized. The city received four acres of land containing a fire station (currently fire station #4) and community theater on Forest Hill-Irene, south of Poplar Avenue. The County received land on which Houston High School was built. The agreement was based on many years of work. Alderman Salvaggio stated that this was the one of the best things that has happened since he had been in office.

The city experienced a drought during the month of June. The Mayor made the following statement: "Due to the continuing drought, residents of the city who have an odd number street address are asked to use water only on the odd days of the month, even numbers will use it on even number days of the month. Please try to spread your water usage during the week to assure adequate pressure for possible fire fighting needs. We ask your cooperation in complying with this watering schedule. Please use our water resources wisely to ensure you continued supply for both domestic and fire fighting purposes".

The Fire Department was complimented for its handling of an explosion in the Storm Sewer on Brachton, the result of a citizen mixing two chemicals that caused an explosive reaction. The Fire Department, immediately upon arrival, determined what chemicals were used and got the situation under control.

The City entered into an agreement with Chief, Inc. and IBM Corporation for purchasing a new Police computer system. The proposed system would provide information on alarms in business, arrest charges, calls for services, investigative information and analysis, improvements to the record information system, and traffic and warrants information. The system should also eliminate the possible chance of human error in the dispatch area in terms of assignment in emergencies, addresses and directions thereto.

Germantown had grown to over fourteen square miles now, and had an estimated population of 32,867. Even with important events such as the Civic Center Groundbreaking and the risk of school consolidation, the most significant events had to be the City of Germantown's golf team (after a four year attempt) finally winning the Germantown/Collierville floating trophy. The participants included aldermen, staff and commission members.

Written by Justin Nicholas

GERMANTOWN PAST

1989

(Population 33,500)

In 1989, Germantown experienced many changes of leadership. Mayor Warner Hodges resigned his position and Vice-Mayor Charles Salvaggio was sworn in. Mr. Hodges cited that the time requirement of the position was his reason for leaving. William L. Finney was nominated to fill Charles Salvaggio's vacated alderman seat. Bill McGauhey was elected Vice-Mayor.

The other Aldermen were Wayne Addison, David Halle, and Dr. Bob Parrish. Both Mr. Salvaggio and Mr. Finney would serve in their positions until the next biennial election.

Mayor Salvaggio appointed a new Planning Commission and charged them with the responsibility of putting together a comprehensive plan that would provide the framework for decisions in all areas of city services. This plan incorporated the basic information from the various studies and updated the Major Road Plan. The plan would recommend a future course for the city.

A resolution was passed honoring retiring City Clerk Frances Sparkman. Mrs. Sparkman had served the city for twenty-two years. She had been City Clerk for six mayors and twenty-three aldermen. Alderman Addison gave her a tribute. Judy B. Simerson was chosen to be the new City Clerk.

The Education Commission, established in 1987, presented an education survey with two main goals. The first goal was to assess what educational opportunities were available in the city through the Shelby County School System and all other educational opportunities that are available for all ages of people. The second goal was to find out what people thought about the educational opportunities. This report would aid both the Commission and the BMA in making certain decisions for the future.

Harry and Becky Cloyes received the Mayor's Award of Merit for all the good things they had done for the city. They had recently acquired the 1944 caboos that can be seen in Oaklawn Gardens.

1989 marked the year when the Supreme Court made the controversial decision to legalize the burning of the American flag. A proclamation was sent to Washington to convey Germantown's concerns and regrets over the Supreme Court's decision. Attached to the proclamation was a petition signed by 854 citizens who expressed similar concerns to the decision.

After months of fine-tuning and an intense public debate, the Board passed Ordinance No. 1989-13, Amendment to Chapter 14, Nuisances, Article II, Smoking. The city's original smoking ordinance had been vague. The amendment established certain areas in the city in which smoking is unlawful and prohibited, and established fines associated with noncompliance.

Mr. Jim Holgersson, Germantown's City Administrator for eight years, resigned his post. He took the job of City Manager of Kalamazoo, Michigan. Mr. Patrick Lawton, Germantown's current City Administrator, was chosen to take Mr. Holgersson's place.

The Carr House, believed to be the oldest house in Shelby County, was moved from Highway 64 to Germantown's Municipal Park.

A year after the same ordinance failed, the Board passed Ordinance No. 1989-14, OG-1 Preservation District. The ordinance created a new zoning classification that would establish a district creating incentives for redevelopment of historic properties and preserve those properties that have significance in their original state. Some felt it was an error to allow commercialism in a residential district (if a historic piece of property was originally a bed and breakfast, then it could be redeveloped as such).

The Board passed several amendments to the Design Review Commission Ordinance and approved a DRC as recommended by a study done by Mr. John Costonis, Dean of the Vanderbilt Law School. These amendments only made the DRC'S ordinances more clear. Mr. Costonis stated that he had not seen a more effective or more thoughtful approach to design in the United States.

Developments in 1989 included the Lamplighter Montessori School, the Germantown Baptist Church's family recreation complex, and Gulf Oil Station.

Many things were happening with the Civic Center. A fee structure was created along with policies regarding membership. A spectacular grand opening and fundraiser were planned.

Charles Funk was hired as the Center's coordinator. Germantown Community Hospital-Methodist East was hired to manage the fitness area of the Center. A logo was designed for the Center and the facility was officially named the "Germantown Centre for the Art of Living".

The Tennessee Department of Health and Environment conducted a surprise sanitary survey of the water works system serving the City of Germantown. The Germantown Treatment Facility received a rating of 99. A letter was received from the Manager of the State's Division of Water Supply stating that "the Germantown Water Treatment system is an excellent system. It is well managed and run in a very professional manner by system personnel. They are to be commended for their good work in the operation of this facility." Also, the city received an award for the fluoridation of its water.

Police Chief Cochran resigned. Asst. Chief Boatwright was chosen as his replacement. Mr. Boatwright began his employment with the city as a reserve officer in 1974.

An article ran in the Commercial Appeal about the Germantown Police Department. It cited that the Department was responsible for making Germantown one of the one hundred safest cities in the country. The '88 report showed that overall crime was reduced. Even with the growth of the city, the average response time was still approximately two minutes. Drug arrests were up 34% indicating continued enforcement efforts in areas of concern.

After the earthquake disaster in San Francisco, the Mayor inquired what the city would do if one struck locally. Fire Chief James Smith informed the Mayor that a committee had been formed in 1986 to develop an emergency disaster plan for the city. The Emergency Management Plan that was developed was described as a living document that would be required to be updated on a quarterly basis as resource needs, personnel, and procedures change.

Alderman Addison stated that during the news reports of San Francisco, Memphis was referred to as the city that would receive the most damage from an earthquake due to the lack of construction codes for buildings. He stated it was time for Germantown to look into this situation for itself. The Mayor reassured the Board that one of the items to be included in next years budget was for the city to have its own Building Inspection Department that would control the codes for buildings.

Written by Justin Nicholas

GERMANTOWN PAST

1990

The city welcomed the new decade with enthusiasm. The Board of Mayor and Aldermen included Mayor Charles Salvaggio, Vice-Mayor David Halle, Aldermen Wayne Addison, Bill Finney, Bill McGaughey and Robert Parrish.

Appreciation was expressed for the services of Aldermen Wayne Addison and Bill Finney. Mr. Finney had been chosen to fill Charles Salvaggio's vacated seat. Mr. Addison had served since December 1982. Lisa Parker and Jerry Tubb were elected as Aldermen in the 1990 November elections.

Mr. George Brannon was hired as the new City Attorney and John Dluhos was hired as the city's new Finance Director. Mr. Andrew Pouncey was hired as the Chief Planner after the promotion of James Lewellen to the position of Assistant to the Director of Development.

The issue of the consolidation of the Memphis and Shelby County School Systems was still causing an intense controversy. As the Mayor put it, the issue put the city in "jeopardy". He stated that it would have a catastrophic affect on Germantown's kids, property values and quality of life. According to the speech, the surrounding municipalities, including Germantown, Bartlett, Collierville, Arlington and a host of others had not been contacted for feedback on the issue. The Mayor stated several times that he would fight it. The Board passed a resolution of support for the Mayor in the efforts to prevent consolidation and support for researching alternatives.

The grand opening of the Germantown Centre was held in February. The Mayor described this event as one of the greatest things that had ever happened in Germantown's history pertaining to the quality of life.

At a town meeting, a citizen asked whether thought had been given to having a full-time Mayor for Germantown. Alderman Parrish stated that the reason Germantown is light-years ahead of other cities in the State is because it has a professional government that is not at the whims of a political system. He felt that a professional city government works more efficiently.

A Youth Excellence Award was created to honor a youth of the community for both community involvement and academic achievement. The award would be given out monthly and the Education Commission would choose the recipients.

Mrs. Frances Hudson, who served as postmaster of Germantown for 35 years, passed away. In recognition of her dedication, August 10 was proclaimed "FRANCES HUDSON DAY".

The Board approved Ordinance No. 1990-15 to rezone property from Residential to Old Germantown ("OG") on Poplar Pike, between Germantown Road and the railroad. Many people were concerned that this would allow commercialism in close proximity to the High School. However, it was felt that the restrictions in the "OG" district would not lead to commercialism.

The Mayor established a Task Force on Ecology. The task force dealt with recycling, air pollution,

water control and other ecological issues.

The city began a pilot recycling program for approximately 1200 homes for a period of 90 days. The city and Waste Management would assess the results of the program and consider the feasibility of expanding the service citywide.

Memphis and Germantown connected their water systems. This allowed for the postponement of construction of an underground reservoir, for which the city was now receiving proposals. The plan for the connections was for emergency use only after the reservoir was completed.

The Board passed a resolution authorizing the issuance of General Obligation Bonds, not to exceed \$3.1 million, for the purpose of financing the cost of construction of public works in the city. These projects included improvements to Duntreath Ditch, Poplar Pike East, the Johnson Road widening, Cordova Road and several other projects.

The Master Park Plan for C.O. Franklin, Morgan Woods and Cloyes Parks was presented to the Board. The plan set the boundary limits and gave a topographic survey and tree location survey. The plan also included the reorganization of the equestrian center, ideas for a historic village, and routes for trails and roadways. The plan was approved.

Germantown received two awards at the Tennessee Recreation and Parks Association Conference. The Germantown Centre was selected as the top recreation facility and was determined to be worthy of a Four Star Award based upon its scope of services, the uniqueness of funding this operation and the management system provided by staff. The Department was given the Governor's Award for excellence as the outstanding Parks and Recreation department in the state from those cities with a population of more than 25,000.

A feasibility study and preliminary master plan for a greenbelt loop around the city was presented to the Board. The proposed loop would connect some of the utility easements on the east and west sides with the Wolf River on the north. Several routes along the south included C.D. Smith Road, Poplar Pike, and the park area near Germantown High School.

Sgt. Jay Johnson and his dog, Beaux, and Patrolman Mike Griffus and his dog Tucker completed their training. The training included 400 hours in drug detection, tracking and general patrol work. Mr. Tony McAnally donated Beaux, and Mr. and Mrs. Jim Baxter donated Tucker.

A special census was conducted in '90 that put Germantown's population at 33,554. The population in 1970 was 3,737, indicating a ten-fold increase in only twenty years.

Written by Justin Nicholas

GERMANTOWN PAST

1991

The leadership of Germantown fell, in 1991, on Mayor Charles Salvaggio, Vice-Mayor Robert Parrish, Aldermen David Halle, Lisa Parker and Jerry Tubb.

1991 was the 150th anniversary of the incorporation of Germantown. The Mayor declared '91 as "The Germantown Sesquicentennial Celebration Year, 1841-1991". As part of the celebration, a person who had contributed to the community was honored at each board meeting. The celebration took place in September and included Civil War reenactments, concerts, fireworks, and a Parade of History recapping Germantown's history. The events were held at C.O. Franklin, Morgan Woods, Cloyes and Ft. Germantown Park.

In his State of the City Address, the Mayor reflected on Germantown's recent accomplishments. Germantown was the only city in the state to have a Triple A bond rating. It also had the lowest crime rate in the state. The Mayor emphasized the need for the city to reflect on the accomplishments of former citizens who made Germantown great in conjunction with the sesquicentennial celebration.

A Germantown Youth Commission was established. The purpose of the Commission was to make recommendations to the Board on issues involving youth, development of an annual Youth Policy Agenda and the preparation of an annual report of accomplishments during the fiscal year. The Commission had twelve members, nine between the ages of 14 and 18 and three adult supervisors.

After a survey of librarians revealed that the book collection at the Germantown Branch Library was inadequate, the Board approved a \$10,000 grant for the acquisition of new books. During the previous three years, the branch experienced a 41% increase in citizen turnout and a 40% increase in the number of checked-out items.

The "Citizens to be Heard" program was started on a trial basis at Board meetings with the following restrictions: citizens could not speak on anything on the agenda; no disrespectful comments could be made; and there was a three minute time limit. This program is still available for citizens.

The city leased approximately 1,500 square feet of public land to Cellular One in the water tower compound on Poplar Pike. In exchange for the ground, Cellular One erected a radio tower that the city used for city emergency services.

Development in 1991 was limited to an apartment complex, Immanuel Baptist Church, and an addition to Germantown Baptist Church.

The Board had approved the rules and regulations for the Germantown Centre in 1990. The Germantown Parks and Recreation Commission reviewed the policies and made recommendations, based on the Centre's operation for one year. The recommendations included resident rates for Germantown business owners, the nursery age to be between two and eleven years, and hours of operation to be established as Monday through Saturday, 6 a.m. to 10 p.m., and Sunday, 1 to 6 p.m. The city received the Municipal Achievement Award for Environmental Excellence from the Tennessee Municipal League. The award was attributed to the city's Task Force on Ecology who had worked over a year on a 100 page report on the subject.

After the successful Pilot Recycling Program, the city conducted a sanitation survey. 81% of those surveyed thought mandatory recycling was a good idea. Four vendors were willing to bid on the project.

More and more, environmental issues and their solutions were being passed on to local governments. The Board established a permanent Environmental Advisory Commission. The Commission would serve in an advisory capacity to the BMA and city administration concerning environmental issues; respond to requests from the Board on matters pertaining to the environment and assist in improving the level of knowledge of citizens on environmental issues.

For the ninth consecutive year, Germantown received the Award of Excellence for their Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. This certificate is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting.

The Board passed a resolution adopting a Capital Improvements Program for the fiscal years 1992 through 1997. The CIP included 76 projects. The proposed budget for the 1992 CIP projects was \$9,219,000 and included the Municipal Center expansion and Germantown Centre Theatre project.

After having a property tax of \$2.16 in place since 1980, the rate was reassessed at \$1.34. It was calculated that the \$1.34 rate would generate approximately \$6.5 million or 45% of the FY92 operating general fund budget.

Fort Germantown, located on 3085 Honey Tree, was placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The City recognized Police Dispatcher Nancy L. Stewart. She was called to active duty with the 268th Military Police Company of the Tennessee Army National Guard to serve in the Gulf War. Her duties included searching Iraqi bunkers and guarding Iraqi prisoners of war. June 10, 1991 was declared as "Nancy L. Stewart Day".

Germantown grew to sixteen square miles with around 34,000 people. Many of those people spent much of Germantown's birthday year watching the Gulf War on TV.

Written by Justin Nicholas

GERMANTOWN PAST

1992

In 1992, Mayor Charles Salvaggio, Vice-Mayor Bill McGaughey, Aldermen David Halle, Lisa Parker, Robert Parrish and Jerry Tubb lead the city as the Board of Mayor and Aldermen.

Tributes were given to Aldermen David Halle and Bill McGaughey. Mr. McGaughey had served as Alderman for eight years and Mr. Halle had served for four. Sharon Goldsworthy (our current Mayor) and Gary Pruitt would be elected Aldermen in the November '92 election.

Governor McWherter's education plan was discussed. In the previous year, a \$2 million shortfall was predicted in Shelby County. The plan stated that the county would receive \$25 million that had never been received before. This money would be used to improve student/teacher ratios, smaller classrooms, additional teachers, and technology in the classroom.

Germantown's population was certified at 36,055 in a special census. The 1990 U.S. Census established the city's population at 32,893. The cost of the special census was \$.10 a person totaling \$3,605.50.

Mayor Salvaggio declared 1992 as "The Year to Shop Germantown First". Local retailers generated 18% of the General Fund reserves.

The Youth Commission held the first Youth Leadership Conference with representation from fourteen area high schools. Congressman Don Sundquist was the keynote speaker. The Commission had also been working on the Sister City Program, and was planning on choosing a city in Germany.

Germantown adopted the Americans with Disabilities Act Implementation Plan. The city was required to develop an implementation and accessibility plan to make sure that all the facilities and programs are accessible to citizens with disabilities. The ADA Accessibility Committee recommended this plan. The plan was a result of the ADA Act that President Bush signed into law in 1990. The city purchased \$2,703 worth of hearing impaired equipment as part of this plan.

The newly incorporated Germantown Arts Alliance was awarded a \$48,700 grant by the Board. For the past two years, City Administration had been working with local members of the art community to develop a long-range plan that would establish an independent art group, separate from the government.

A resolution was passed approving the transfer and assignment by Heritage Cablevision to Time Warner of the franchise to operate a cable television system in Germantown.

A check for \$6,164.81 was presented to Ms. Marian Francis, librarian for the Germantown Branch Library. The check was the proceeds from a Home and Garden Tour. The Board approved a grant for \$75,000 for books for the library. The Germantown branch was the second busiest library in the Memphis/Shelby County system.

GHS-TV won six first place awards at the National Federation of Local Programmer's Hometown U.S.A. Video Festival. Along with winning more first place awards than any other access center in the country, GHS-TV also won The Overall Excellence in Education Award, which is given to only one access station in the United States that demonstrates outstanding programming in an educational setting.

For the tenth consecutive time, Germantown received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in financial reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association.

The Board approved the concept of the Germantown Greenbelt Master Plan as presented by the Pickering Firm and as recommended by the Parks and Recreation Commission. The plan called for a sixteen mile greenbelt surrounding the city and connecting all the major parks. The idea of the greenbelt began in the 1960's and Pickering was contracted in 1991. This was a long term project and done one section at a time.

The Germantown Centre was recognized nationally by tying with the City of San Francisco in receiving the 1991 American City and County Award in the category of Parks and Recreation. For the third consecutive year, the Parks and Recreation Department received the Governor's Award for Parks and Recreation Excellence. Germantown was the first city to win the award three times in a row, and as a result, the Department received the Governor's Gold Seal.

When a savings of over half a million dollars was discovered, the City decided to lease the police fleet instead of rehabilitating the vehicles. The lease was for 30 cars with full maintenance from the Ford Motor Credit Company. The lease was for three years at a cost of \$45,142 per quarter. The City had previously replaced vehicles five at a time after the one time rehabilitation. Discussion was held on using this system in other departments. The Chief was congratulated for the cost savings to the City.

Police Chief Boatwright gave a yearly update. He stated that the City of Germantown had the lowest crime rate within the state for any city over 10,000 in population. There were only 35 burglaries which averages less than three a month. The response time was less than 3 minutes.

Finally, local girl Rochelle Stevens was rated No. 1 in the U.S. in the 400 meter race and received a silver medal in the 1992 Summer Olympics in Barcelona. She did her winter training at the Germantown Centre under a membership sponsored by the Germantown Festival.

Written by Justin Nicholas

GERMANTOWN PAST

1993

In 1993, Mayor Charles Salvaggio, Vice Mayor Robert Parrish, Aldermen Sharon Goldsworthy, Lisa Parker, Gary Pruitt and Jerry Tubb were Germantown's elected officials.

City Attorney Tom Cates was listed as one of the nation's top lawyers in The Best Lawyers America 1993-94. Only one percent of lawyers in the nation were listed in the publication. Mr. Cates was recognized for his work in real estate law.

Germantown received the designation of Tree City, USA. In order to receive this designation, a city must meet the four standards of having a tree board, a community tree ordinance, a comprehensive forestry program and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation.

Traditionally, municipal public works departments have shared resources during times of emergency. The agreements had been letters between municipalities, and Germantown had such letters with Collierville and Bartlett. The State Attorney General stated that a municipality going outside its corporate limits without proper authority could lose the protection of tort liability limits as per the State Tort Liability Act. The Board, in turn, approved a Mutual Aid Agreement with other government entities.

The Kiwanis Club made its final payment on the pavilion in Municipal Park. The club had agreed to make payments on the pavilion over a ten year period. Since 1983, the club had paid over \$41,000, with the final payment being \$3,625.

Private Charter No. 75, House Bill No. 1642, Private Acts of 1993, amendment to the Charter of the City of Germantown was approved. The amendments eliminated run-off elections and lowered the age requirements to run for Mayor or Alderman from 30 to 25. There had been debate on lowering the age to 21 and increasing the number of Board members from five to seven. It was determined that seven aldermen were not necessary and that 21 was too young for public office.

The Board passed a resolution calling on Congress to exempt cities from a proposed energy tax. The tax was a federal excise tax on fuel, and the city would have had to pay an estimated \$11,780 per year.

In order to be in sync with the state legislature, the Board passed an ordinance pertaining to an increase in fees for alcohol applications. The ordinance also put into place stronger and more specific language regarding suspension and revocation of the beer license.

The Board passed a resolution stating its problems with federally unfunded mandates, which are proposals passed by the federal government without funding, but are usually worthy and noble programs. These mandates cause financial burdens on municipalities. Some cities almost went bankrupt trying to comply with the mandates.

The city established a "Sister City" relationship with Konigs Wusterhausen, Germany. The Germantown Youth Commission had been working on the project. The purpose of the project was to promote exchanges between the two cities relating to culture, civics, and ideals.

In 1992, the State ruled that municipal courts which hear State cases must be elected to do so, which made null and void the provision in the City's Charter to appoint judges. In response, the Tennessee Municipal league introduced legislation to allow for the election and appointment of City Judges. Olen Batchelor and Ray Clift were appointed to serve as Municipal judges until the next election.

The Board approved funding for the city's share of construction cost for extending Farmington Boulevard to Johnson Road. The project also included extending Forest Hill-Irene Road to Farmington. The project was jointly funded by Shelby County and Germantown, with the county's share being an estimated \$4,447,355 and the city's \$192,489.

The property tax rate was increased from \$1.31 to \$1.72 per \$100 of assessed valuation. The increase was to be used for specific capital improvement projects that were identified in the five year CIP as top priority items for the Board.

For the eleventh consecutive year, Germantown received a Certificate of Achievement of Excellence in financial reporting. This was the longest stretch of time that any city in the state had been given this award. Only 1,500 out of 82,000 governmental entities had received this award.

The Board passed a Capital Improvements Program for 1994 to 1999. Two major bond issues were associated with the CIP. In 1994, there was a \$4.9 million General Obligation Bond issue, of which \$60,000 was for capital improvement items, and \$4.3 million for the completion of the Performing Arts Center. In 1995, there was a planned issuance of \$3.5 million in General Obligation bonds for the construction and land acquisition of the new library facility.

Finally, Ms. Pat McConnell, the city's Personnel Officer, was given the Mayor's Award of Merit for her work on the Employee Wellness Program. The program was a tremendous success in contributing to a healthier life style throughout the work force, and also helped keep the overall health care costs down for employees. This program helped Germantown become one of the top five employers in the State.

Written by Justin Nicholas

GERMANTOWN PAST

1994

In 1994, the city's elected officials were Mayor Charles Salvaggio, Vice-Mayor Lisa Parker, Aldermen Sharon Goldsworthy, Robert Parrish, Gary Pruitt, and Jerry Tubb.

In November 1994, John Drinnon was elected and Lisa Parker was reelected as alderman. Sharon Goldsworthy was elected Mayor. Her aldermanic position was declared vacant and it was decided to wait until 95' to appoint someone to fill the two-year term.

A proclamation was given in honor of Charles Salvaggio. He was elected Alderman in 1986, appointed Mayor on January 9, 1989, and elected Mayor on November 6, 1990.

February 1994, was the date of the famous Mid-South ice storm. The city's Emergency Management Plan was put into effect. The storm was handled well by city personnel.

Mother Nature again unleashed her fury in November. A tornado struck Germantown on November 27 near Houston Middle School. Three lives were lost as well as property damage. The Mayor stated that the community really pulled together. All surrounding municipalities offered assistance.

An Economic Development Commission was created to advise the Board of Mayor and Aldermen on matters relating to the economy of Germantown and matters of the local businesses, as well as residential development in the community.

1994 marked the 20th anniversary of the Germantown News. It was started by the Germantown Civic Club as a community newsletter, which was printed at the Germantown Baptist Church to inform the citizens of community events. The Board expressed appreciation for the paper's support in all city affairs and for the years of outstanding coverage of city events.

Tischler and Associates were contracted to develop an Economic and Fiscal Analysis. A Fiscal Impact Analysis projects the net cash flow to the city resulting from development. The study focused on a build-out scenario of 10-15 years. The study used alternative build out and development scenarios that compare and contrast the revenues generated against the current and projected levels of service under the build-out scenario. The study would review and evaluate levels of service, including all departmental expenditures and all capital improvements.

In the spring of 1993, the Board passed an ordinance providing for the election of city judges. An amendment to that ordinance divided the Judicial Department into two divisions designated Division I and Division II for individuals running in the general election.

1994 was a boom year for development. Projects included the Nashoba Bank, Saddle Creek Shopping Center, the Neurosurgical Clinic, Wilsford P.U.D, Laurel Grove P.U.D., Gables Apartments and the Taylor Office Building.

One of the biggest developments in 94' was Project Development Contract No. 970, Wal-Mart. The

plan was for a 130,000 square foot building on the corner of Germantown Road and Wolf River Boulevard.

The most controversial development was Best Inns Hotel, located on 1.6 acres on the corner of Brierbrook Road and Wolf River Boulevard. The plan was for a three story, 80 room hotel. Many people felt that it was too close to residential property, while the possible influx of “unwanted” people and the inability of the hotel staff to keep commotion to a minimum concerned others. The Board felt, however, that Germantown needed this type of establishment to house those people coming to events such as the horse shows. The hotel had to amend the design of the building and site before the Board approved it.

A construction contract was awarded to MCDR, Inc to complete the interior of the Performing Arts Centre for \$4,349,505. A portion of the funds resulted from the \$100,000 arts grant from the Tennessee Arts Commission and \$73,302 from the Community Foundation.

Plans were approved for the extensions of Wolf River Boulevard and Kimbrough Road. The extensions would allow the two roadways to connect. The city and county would jointly fund the project.

Community First Bank of Germantown sold approximately three acres of land next to their building for the new library for \$750,000. Originally, the bank had offered the land for \$1.2 million. Williamson, Haizlip & Pounders were contracted as the architectural firm to design the library. The city and county jointly funded the project. Estimated cost of the project was \$4.9 million total.

The sanitation fee was reduced from \$10.50 to \$9.50. The reduction was a result of an 80-90% participation rate in the recycling program.

Once again, Germantown showed its financial prowess by winning two financial awards. For the tenth year in a row the city received the Distinguished Budget Award. Germantown was the first city in the state and one of the first in the nation to receive this award. Only two other cities in the state had received this award. For the twelfth consecutive year, Germantown received a Certificate of Excellence in financial reporting.

Once again, the city was awarded a AAA bond rating by Standard & Poors. The rating put the city as one of the top 14 cities in the United States.

Two homeowners associations, the Oaks Neighborhood Association and the English Meadows Association came up with the idea for the Adopt-A-Park Program. The program allows for citizens to assist with cleaning a park, helping with the landscaping, keeping the park safe, and helping to prevent vandalism. The first park to be adopted was Howard McVay Park. Soon after, Cameron-Brown Park was adopted by Cub Scout Pack #368.

Mr. Philip Dean sold the city 44 acres of parkland and gifted more land for a total of 120 acres of parkland adjacent to Cameron-Brown Park. The park was originally 55 acres. Some of the new property was used for the athletic complex, while the rest would remain passive as greenbelt.

Finally, Miss Tracy Yarbrough, a Germantown resident, was the winner of the Miss Idaho contest and would go on to compete in the Miss America Pageant.

Written by Justin Nicholas

GERMANTOWN PAST

1995

Our current Mayor Sharon Goldsworthy began her first term and lead the Board comprised of Vice-Mayor Robert Parrish, Aldermen John Drinnon, Lisa Parker, and Gary Pruitt.

Frank Uhlhorn was appointed as Alderman for the city to fill the vacancy in Position 4 of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen for the unexpired term of Sharon Goldsworthy.

In 1984, the Board passed an ordinance pertaining to satellite dishes. The original ordinance dealt with dishes that could be erected to ten feet in height. However, new technology allowed for the smaller size of dishes, so that they could be placed on the roof. The new ordinance limited the size of dishes on roofs to 30” in diameter.

The Germantown Red Devils Baseball Team was recognized by the Board. The Team claimed the Tennessee Class AAA title and ended their season with a 38-0 record. They were ranked the No. 1 high school baseball team in the nation.

The Germantown High School Freshman squad was also ranked No. 1 in the nation when they placed first in the National Cheerleading Competition.

Miss Romy Milius, a student from Germantown’s Sister City Konigs Wusterhausen, Germany, presented the Board with a resolution from her home city. The two cities had exchanged resolutions and Miss Milius was delivering the German city’s resolution in person. The Board also established a Sister City Foundation to help support the international relationship. The Foundation consists of a seventeen member Board of Directors. The group met on a monthly basis and established the foundation’s by-laws.

The Germantown High School Fine Arts Department began an exchange and collaboration with the Moscow International Film School. The Board issued a proclamation extending thanks for the hospitality to the citizens of Moscow for their generous hospitality toward Germantown’s students. Students from Russia later visited Germantown and the Board issued a proclamation welcoming them. The exchange was very productive and fun for all involved.

Three hotels were being developed in Germantown. The State Statute identifies and allows municipalities to collect an occupancy tax up to 5% on hotels/motels within its corporate limits. Approval of the tax required a change of the city’s Private Act Charter. The amendment was ratified as Private Chapter No. 120, Senate Bill No. 1912, Private Acts of 1995. The rate was set at 3%.

Developments included two hotels: Courtyard by Marriott proposed for three stories and 93 rooms on the north side of Wolf River Boulevard, west of Germantown Road; and Homewood Suites proposed for three stories and 80 rooms on the south side of Wolf River Boulevard, east of Germantown Road.

Other developments included Southtrust Bank, Chick-Fil-A, an addition to Germantown Presbyterian Church, the Vineyards Phase II, Kinkos, and Trustone Bank. Methodist Hospital was allowed to expand

by 96,000 square feet.

Webb Building Corporation was awarded the contract to construct the new 31,000 square foot Germantown Community Library on the corner of Farmington and Exeter. The cost of the contract was \$4,525,372. The groundbreaking ceremony was held on August 15, 1995. The engineering contract for Phase II of the library was awarded for \$26,180.

Mayer Construction was awarded the contract to construct the Athletic Complex for \$801,000. The contract included the construction of a second baseball field in the complex. This project was the third in what was called the “Big Three”, which were very important projects to the community. The three were the Performing Arts Centre, the new Library, and the expansion of playing fields for the community’s young people.

The Board passed a resolution in opposition to a proposed landfill in Fayette County, Tennessee. If it were allowed, it would have been the largest landfill in the State. The landfill would have served over a dozen states other than Tennessee and the traffic from the trash trucks would have gone through Germantown on their way to the fill. Another problem was that the proposed fill sat directly on top of the Memphis Sand Aquifer and could have contaminated the sole drinking water source for all of Shelby County.

Fire Chief Jim Smith retired after 45 years of fire service and eleven years as Fire Chief for Germantown. A proclamation was issued in his honor. Assistant Chief Dennis Wolf was promoted to Chief.

The Police Department had been using common stock badges. It was decided to purchase badges with a design unique to Germantown and copyright it. The badge has the Tennessee seal in the middle.

Written by Justin Nicholas

GERMANTOWN PAST

1996

1996 marked Tennessee's 200th year of Statehood. In honor of Tennessee's long legacy of volunteerism, the city honored 40 individuals and groups during the year for "good deeds and thoughtful acts of kindness".

Mayor Sharon Goldsworthy, Vice-Mayor Gary Pruitt, Aldermen John Drinnon, Lisa Parker, Robert Parrish, and Frank Uhlhorn comprised the BMA.

Germantown High School was selected as a Blue Ribbon School. Only 266 schools across the nation were selected and Germantown was the only Tennessee school. It was the first school in Shelby County to be selected for the award.

The Germantown Chamber of Commerce was recognized for receiving accreditation. Out of 5,000 chambers in the United States, only 600 had accreditation. Out of 120 chambers in Tennessee, only eight had accreditation.

The Tennessee City Managers Association honored City Administrator Patrick Lawton as "Tennessee City Administrator of the Year".

The State of the City Address was moved from January to July, so that the address could be given at the beginning of the financial year. The Mayor gave the speech in terms of the policy agenda that the Board adopts each January. The Mayor gave the following statement:

"If there is a single message I would offer, it is that the city is on track, a track that has been well defined in its almost 25 years or so. Development that reflects the community need and interest. Keeping a firm hand on expenses and measuring value for every tax dollar invested. Creating and building a sense of place that not only helps us understand who and what we are today but spurs us to pursue even greater ways to act in the community so that we can live more fully as individuals."

The Board issued a proclamation recognizing the exchange between the Germantown High School Fine Arts Department and the Georgian Youth Television Centre. The Germantown students were the first high school students to visit the country of Georgia, which had recently broken from the Soviet Union.

Also on the international scene, the Sister City Foundation expressed interest in holding events in conjunction with "Memphis in May". Funding was approved to bring a delegation from Konigs Wusterhausen, Germantown's Sister City. The delegation would include the mayor, his wife, a 20-piece community orchestra, an interpreter and a public relations officer. Funding was taken from the General Fund Contingency Account in the amount of \$10,000. The exchange was a success.

One of the biggest issues of 1996 was cable television. Time Warner Communications wanted to extend their cable franchise agreement. There was much debate, especially with funding concerning GHS-TV. Time Warner did not want to fund the station at the asking price of \$200,000 per year. Eventually, the contract was awarded. A Germantown Community Television Foundation was established to help disperse the funds received from the city, cable franchise holder and private donations.

Developments in 1996 included Germantown Church of Christ, Farmington Townhouse, Forest Hill Professional Plaza, Allenby Lakes P.U.D., Boatman's Bank, and the Methodist Germantown Ambulatory Surgery Center.

Six stone markers, nineteen street signposts and twenty-one street sign mounts were purchased for the Old Germantown District to develop a uniform sign package and character for the district.

G.D. Moore Construction Company was contracted for the Howard Road Drainage Improvements. A study determined that the drainage would be improved if the water lines within five different box culverts were removed and rerouted outside the culverts. The estimated cost for the Howard Road Drainage Basin and part of English Meadows was approximately \$4.2 million. Other drainage problems being worked on were Miller Farms, Fountain Square, and Wolf River Park.

The Mayor signed a Memorandum of Agreement with the Memphis/Shelby County Emergency Management Agency. The agreement delineates responsibilities and procedures for the city's participation in The Tennessee Task Force, a federal Urban Search and Rescue Task Force. There were only 25 of these task forces in the nation. The agreement spelled out details such as who is responsible for payment of salaries and benefits, and how the city would be reimbursed for the time and money spent allowing city employees to be deployed to disasters, such as floods, tornadoes and earthquakes.

The Mayor also signed a local hazard mitigation plan. The plan was developed to assist in the elimination of losses of life and property in the community as a result of natural and technological hazards. Areas of risk had been identified, and had the city experienced loss due to one of the identified hazards, FEMA funds would have been available to help

The Parks and Recreation Department received the Governor's Award for Excellence. The city had won this award previously for three years in a row and had to sit out for three years before being eligible to win again. This was the fourth year and the department won again.

Director of Parks and Recreation, Harvey Faust, was awarded the Harold D. Meyer Award by the Southern Region of the National Recreation and Park Association. The award was the first ever for Tennessee.

In the wide world of sports, the Shelby County area was well represented in the Olympics. Cindy Parlow, an alumna from Germantown High School, received the Gold Medal in Women's Soccer at the 1996 Summer Olympic Games in Atlanta, Georgia. Shelby County had four Gold Medallists in the games: Anfernee Hardaway for Men's Basketball, Nicki McCray for Women's Basketball, Rochelle Stephens for Women's Track and Field, and Cindy Parlow. The last person from Germantown to win a Gold Medal was Melanie Smith Taylor for equestrian events in 1984.

Written by Justin Nicholas

GERMANTOWN PAST

1997

Germantown's leaders in 1997 included Mayor Sharon Goldsworthy, Vice-Mayor John Drinnon, Aldermen Lisa Parker, Robert Parrish, Gary Pruitt and Frank Uhlhorn.

Jim Anderson retired as Superintendent of the Shelby County School System after twelve years of service. The system had thirty-three schools and 28,000 students when he began in 1985 and forty-four schools and 47,000 students when he retired. Shelby County had recently been named one of the top 100 school systems in the nation.

The city updated the Emergency Management Plan, which had last been updated in 1989. The change was to conform to the format currently used by the State and Federal Emergency Agencies.

The responsibility of directing the emergency management efforts was placed in the office of the City Administrator by giving the Assistant City Administrator the corollary duties of Director of Emergency Management. This format for direction enhanced the coordination and communication efforts by following the established lines of supervision and control.

A proclamation was given in honor of the success of the opening of the new library. The gala preview event raised between \$25,000-\$30,000 to buy books. The proclamation especially recognized those on the Library Commission and the Gala Committee. Many donations were given to the library. Those donations included \$20,000 from the Germantown Civic Club, \$5,000 from the Knights of Columbus, \$2,900 from the Germantown Woman's Club, and \$1,000 from the Germantown Rotary Club.

Developments for 1997 included the Mid-South Radiation Oncology Center, Waffle House, Volunteer Bank, Farmington Corporate Center, the Residence Inn and Fairfield Inn.

Hull Mechanical Contractors, Inc. were contracted to renovate the Southern Avenue Water Plant. The plant had been running continuously for twenty years. The renovation included the addition of a new computer system that would allow for staff to control both this plant and the proposed Johnson Road Water Plant from one location. The cost of the renovation was \$357,144.

The Hotel/Motel Occupancy tax for the city was raised from 3% to 5%. The tax was initiated in 1996. Sixty percent of the increased tax was earmarked for the Germantown Performing Arts Centre.

One of the most intense and lengthy debates in 1997 was an amendment to the Fire Prevention and Protection Chapter of the Code of Ordinances. The code required a sprinkler system be installed in all residential buildings that were less than twenty feet apart.

One side argued that buildings less than twenty feet apart presented a fire hazard to each other if one caught on fire (fire traveling from one house to the house next door). They also argued that less than twenty feet was not adequate space for firefighters to operate in or safely evacuate if a collapse occurred.

The other side argued that sprinklers were not reliable and could cause monumental damage if they malfunctioned. Eventually a compromise was reached, whereby a monitored fire and smoke alarm system may be installed as an alternative to an automatic sprinkler system.

Following a recommendation by the Parks and Recreation Commission, the Board approved naming the Athletic Complex, the “Bob Hailey Athletic Complex”. Alderman Parker stated that she served as the Parks and Recreation Commission liaison last year and was happy to see this come forward because Bob was a special person to the city, not only as an employee, but because he put his heart and soul into whatever he did.

The Parks Department was selected as one of four finalists for The Sports Foundation Gold Medal Award. For many years, the department had received a Certificate of Merit for being nominated for this award, but this was the first time they had been selected as one of the four finalists for the award nationwide in its population category.

Police Chief Eddie Boatwright retired and Deputy Chief James A. Fortune was appointed to Chief of Police on October 13.

After Shelby County repealed its countywide curfew, Germantown was left without a curfew. The Board approved an 11pm-6am curfew for minors under the age of eighteen.

Written by Justin Nicholas

GERMANTOWN PAST

1998

Mayor Sharon Goldsworthy, Vice-Mayor Lisa Parker, Aldermen John Drinnon, Gary Pruitt, Robert Parrish, and Frank Uhlhorn were leading the city in 1998.

In the 1998 November elections, Mr. John Niven was elected to Alderman Position #1. Recognition was given to Lisa Parker at the conclusion of her eight years of service as an Alderman.

City employee Richard Tuggle retired after 38 years of service. He retired with the greatest seniority of all time for city employees. Mr. Tuggle had lived and worked in Germantown all his life.

The Tennessee House of Representatives passed two measures that would permit senior citizens on limited incomes across the state to defer their property taxes until death or until the sale of their properties. It was estimated that the bills would eventually make the difference to thousands of senior home owners who presently live on the edge of poverty. The reason the legislation was so special was because the original idea for the bill came from the Germantown Senior Citizens Advisory Commission.

An amendment was made to the Zoning Ordinance creating a new Office District designated "O-51". The new district had limited office uses with a maximum building height of 51 feet. In an effort to reduce any possibility for negative impact to adjacent properties, and to maintain the city's concept of residential character, steps were taken to relate additional building height to additional horizontal setbacks.

A grant was awarded to the Germantown Charity Horse Show in the amount of \$125,000 to make improvements to the horse show grounds. The improvements were to include the concession stand, spectator's shelter and fencing. This marked the 50th Anniversary of the Germantown Charity Horse Show.

The city hired Tischler & Associates to assist in the development of the proposed urban growth boundaries to be in compliance with Public Chapter 1101, a new law that dealt with annexation and incorporation. Tischler would also develop a fiscal impact analysis of the city's existing corporate limits and compare it to the proposed urban growth boundaries to see if one could support the other. The cost of the reports was \$58,600.

In November 1997, City Judge Olen Batchelor passed away. Mr. Robert Brannon was nominated to serve as judge until the November 1998 general election. Mr. Brannon and Raymond Clift were elected to their respective judgeships for the Municipal Court to serve eight year terms. The Board increased the salary of city judges from \$500 to \$1000 per month.

Developments included the River Center Office Building, Germantown Imaging Center, Walgreen's and Wolf River Center.

Two contracts were approved for assisted care living facilities, the Arden Courts Assisted Care Living

Facility and the Brighton Gardens Assisted Care Living Facility.

The city contracted M.D. Limbaugh Construction Company for the construction of Phase II of the Johnson Road Water Treatment Plant. Phase I was the underground reservoir built in 1995. The second phase included aerators, pumps, a backwash basin and a laboratory building. Three more phases were planned for 1999. The cost for Phase II was \$3,445,000, which was paid for by a bond resolution.

The Board issued two resolutions concerning bonds. The first resolution authorized the sale of \$7,000,000 Revenue Bonds, while the second authorized the sale of \$8,000,000 General Obligation Bonds. The bonds were sold to SunTrust Equitable Securities. The bonds were to fund the construction of the new water treatment plant.

After a reappraisal and review by the state, the city's Real and Personal Property Tax rate was reduced from \$1.72 to \$1.47 per \$100 of assessed value.

The Police Department had 75 officers or 2.02 officers per 1,000 citizens. It was recommended that five more officers be hired to offset city growth by 2001. The color of the police cars changed from gray to white, with black and red to match the two high schools colors. The lights were changed to strobe lights for easier repair.

Recognition was given to Jay Kahn for his record of service to Germantown. He served as an alderman from 1970 to 1986 and played an important role on many city projects including the 2004 Plan, numerous parks and construction of the municipal center. Mr. Kahn had served the city in one capacity or another for over 28 years.

The city purchased the old library facility from Shelby County for \$900,000. The city paid \$58,500 for renovation plans for the old library and the Municipal Center.

The Board gave the Houston High School Concert Choir a formal sendoff for their concert tour of Europe. The tour would include concerts in Germantown's Sister City of Konigs Wusterhausen, Germany, as well as stops in Prague and Vienna. Exchange students from the Sister City came to Germantown and a resolution was read in their honor.

The city received revenues amounting to \$5,500 from the Germantownopoly game. The contributions were made by individuals, community groups and businesses that advertised space on the board game. The Germantown Library Commission initiated the fund raising and the funds were transferred to the Library Donations Expense Account.

Written by Justin Nicholas

GERMANTOWN PAST

1999

Mayor Sharon Goldsworthy, Vice-Mayor Frank Uhlhorn, Aldermen John Drinnon, John Niven, Robert Parrish, and Gary Pruitt were leading the city into the next millennium.

The city's 1999 population was certified at 39,279 persons. Updating the city's population figure avoids huge losses in state funds the city receives from state-shared taxes that are distributed according to population. The state was paid \$3,927.90 for certification based on the state's requirement of \$.10 per person for the total population requested for certification.

City Administrator Patrick Lawton was chosen to be president of the Tennessee City Managers Association, which gave him a voting position on the Tennessee Municipal League.

A 500-unit apartment complex to be located on the south side of Winchester, east of the TVA easement, was in the process of approval. Although not in Germantown, the complex would put a strain on Germantown schools, which were already over capacity. The Board opposed the project and made the position known to the Shelby County Board of Commissioners.

An amendment to the Sign Ordinance was adopted. The amendment allowed for temporary yard signs that advertise an event, which takes place entirely, or partially in Germantown and which is held for a charitable or non-profit organization.

The Board passed the following resolution:

“...that the City of Germantown, Tennessee, resolves to commit the city's resources to preparing for Y2K and five years beyond, in order to protect the health, safety and welfare of its citizens through the adoption of a Y2K Preparedness Plan”.

The purpose of the Preparedness Plan was to provide a smooth transition into the millennium and insure a minimum of obstructions in order to provide critical services and to facilitate business continuity.

Tischler & Associates finished their Fiscal Impact Study, which was done to provide necessary support and justification for defining the city's urban growth boundaries to be in compliance with Public Chapter 1101, the Growth Policy, Annexation and Incorporation Law.

The study looked at reserve areas around the surrounding municipalities. As a result of this study, the city entered into new reserve agreements with Memphis and Collierville.

The Board also adopted the Urban Growth Plan for the city. This plan would be sent to all local governments in Shelby County for ratification.

Developments for 1999 included the Forest Hill Retail Center, UT Medical Group, New Bethel Baptist Church, Bouldien Office Building, Trezevant Office Building, Evangelical Christian School, and Faith Presbyterian Church.

The Germantown Fire Department's HAZMAT Team was recognized for a mutual aid response in Oakland, Tennessee, after an explosion in a munitions reloading facility.

Lisa Piefer was awarded the “Bob Crawford Young Professional of the Year” award for exceptional leadership in Parks and Recreation by the National Recreation and Park Association.

Boyle Investment Company donated 39.91 acres of land adjacent to the Wolf River Nature Area. The city now had 70 acres of land in that area for the greenway.

The Parks and Recreation Commission recommended renaming Poplar Estates Park to the Wolf River Nature Area.

A “mock hostage” situation was held at Houston High School. It was a combined exercise of the City of Germantown, Town of Collierville, Town of Rossville, City of Memphis, FBI, Secret Service, ATF and Shelby County Sheriff’s Department. It was coordinated through the City of Germantown’s command post. The Department was thanked for its professionalism and dedication.

Police Chief Jim Fortune was dismissed due to health reasons. Richard Hall was appointed Acting Chief of Police during the interim.

A joint narcotics investigative unit between Germantown and Collierville was created. Information revealed that residents of Germantown sometimes travel to Collierville to purchase or sell drugs and vice versa. The investigative unit would allow for the sharing of resources and intelligence to effectively fight the activity.

Lastly, Germantown resident David Gossett was crowned U.S. Amateur Golf Champion. He was named to the Walker Cup Team, which represents the United States.

Written by Justin Nicholas

GERMANTOWN PAST

2000

New Years came and went and the end of the world was no where in sight. Y2K went out with a fizzle while the rest of the world celebrated with a bang. Mayor Sharon Goldsworthy, Vice-Mayor Robert Parrish, Aldermen John Drinnon, John Niven, Gary Pruitt, and Frank Uhlhorn continued to lead the city.

In the November 2000 elections, Aldermen Gary Pruitt, Frank Uhlhorn, and Dr. Robert Parrish were reelected to the Board.

The city came into compliance with the legal requirements of Public Chapter 1101, which became the annexation law for Tennessee. The compliance included a fiscal impact analysis for the proposed urban growth boundary area, the development of the city's own growth plan and the amendment of the city's reserve area agreements.

As a result of all this work, Germantown was able to annex its new Reserve Area, which included approximately 1,431 acres. The area, located adjacent to the old southeast corner of Germantown was bounded by the railroad tracks on the north, the northern bank of Nonconnah Creek on the south, the TVA easements on the east, and Forest Hill-Irene Road, south of Winchester and Southwind north of Winchester on the west.

The Board passed a resolution pertaining to this area. Temporarily termed the "Technology Corridor", this area was thought best to be developed as a market for high technology firms. The Federal Express Corporate Headquarters and Thomas & Betts helped shape the concept of the corridor. The purpose of defining a Corridor was to take advantage of such location attributes to attract similar uses. The resolution was a result of cooperation of Memphis, Germantown, Collierville, and Shelby County. The area has recently been named "FOREST HILLS: A Business Technology Community".

The Board passed the following resolution:

"BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Germantown firmly oppose the use of local governments' State Shared Revenue distributions to solve the State budget problem; and that the Board appreciates the efforts of our State Representatives and State Senators as they work to ensure that existing city services can be continued without a near doubling of municipal property tax rates."

As part of the International City Managers Association exchange program, Mr. Petter Wiberg, City Manager of Floro, Norway visited Germantown. Floro is a costal community of 11,000 citizens located north of Birgen. The first part of the exchange took place earlier in the summer when Germantown's Assistant City Administrator Andy Pouncey visited Floro.

The Woman's Heritage Club donated \$9,000 toward the installation of "photo-markers" in the Old Germantown District. The markers help tie the District's past to its present by illustrating the continuum of history and physical change within the area. Twenty markers are planned to support the goal of "preserving and promoting the historical character of the district". They mark the location in which a photographer snapped an original historic photo while providing a view of what the

photographer saw through his camera.

The Germantown Historic Committee hosted a reception in the hallway near the administration department at City Hall. Photographs of the ten individuals who have served as Mayor of Germantown from 1936 until the present were placed on the wall.

In 1998, a grant was provided to the Germantown Performing Arts Centre Board of Directors for the initial start-up costs associated with the development of a chamber orchestra. In 2000, the Board appropriated \$200,000 to assist in funding the new orchestra. The IRIS orchestra, with Mr. Michael Stern as conductor, played six sold out performances in 2000.

Developments for 2000 included the Cobb Office Building, Walgreens, Wolf River Dental Centre, Brasher Office Building, Corporate Gardens Commercial Park, and the Dugard Office Building.

Woolpert, LLC, was contracted for the Water System Digital Mapping and Modeling of the Water Distribution System for \$180,300. Germantown's utility system has over 14,000 customers and several hundred miles of water lines. There are seventeen wells, a number of high service pumps and two water plants. It is a very complex system with varying pipe sizes and pressures. It must be carefully balanced to make sure the water is carried to the points needed. The mapping would allow the city to accurately analyze the data system and make adjustments to efficiently manage the water production and distribution system.

Parks and Recreation Director Harvey Faust received the National Distinguished Professional Award of the National Recreation and Parks Association. Mr. Faust began employment with Germantown in 1983.

In the annual report, Chief Alexander reported that in a five-state region, Germantown enjoyed the lowest crime index in populations of over 25,000. A new reporting system had been implemented where previously the highest offense would count as one if more than one was committed and now all offenses were counted. Five new police officers were recently hired.

Germantown received national attention again when cheerleading teams from both Germantown and Houston placed first place in different categories at the Universal Cheerleading Association's 1999-2000 National Dance Team Competition and National High School Cheerleading Championship.
Written by Justin Nicholas