

Metropolitan Historical Commission

Newsletter ▪ December 2012



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and more!***

MHC/MHZC UPDATE

New! Fehr School Designated as Local Historic Landmark

On November 21, 2012, Mayor Karl Dean approved the designation of Fehr School and the nearby Warner House as a local Historic Landmark Overlay district. The properties are owned by the Metropolitan Government and currently operated by the Metro Action Commission.

Fehr Elementary School, located at 1622 5th Avenue North, is important for its association with the Civil Rights Movement in Nashville. The adjoining Warner House, located at 1612 4th Avenue North, is significant as an example of late 19th-century architecture. It is among the oldest remaining homes in the Salemtown neighborhood that has not been greatly altered.

With this designation, the MHZC will review new construction, including additions, as well as demolition, relocation, or renovation of Fehr School and the Warner House. Similar to Historic Preservation Zoning Overlay Districts, the local historic landmark designation provides the highest level of review and therefore provides the greatest level of protection for a site or neighborhood. For more information about other locally-designated Historic Landmark Overlay Districts in Nashville, visit our website:

www.nashville.gov/mhc/mhzc/local_landmarks.asp. To read Ordinance No. BL2012-263, visit: www.nashville.gov/mc/ordinances/term_2011_2015/bl2012_263.htm.

Look for a new Fehr School historical marker in early 2013!

New! Historical Markers on the Rise!

A new double-sided historical marker now commemorates the historic Cohn School and the contributions of W.R. Rochelle:

Cohn School

Designed by architects Asmus and Clark and opened in 1928 as a junior high school, Cohn School was named in memory of Corinne Lieberman Cohn, one of the first female members of the school board. Jonas H. Sikes served as first principal. The

school added high school grades in 1937, and graduated its first high school class in 1940. Following school desegregation, Cohn High merged with Pearl High in 1983. The building now serves as the Cohn Adult Learning Center.

**W.R. Rochelle
(1904-1989)**

A graduate of Peabody College, William Rayburn Rochelle served as principal of Cohn High School from 1939 until his retirement in 1965. An innovative educator, he led Cohn in developing student government and was responsible for a state of the art music education program. Rochelle devoted his life to education and community service, especially to adults with intellectual disabilities. In 1968, he founded the Rochelle Center for disabled adults and their families.

Location: Cohn School, 4805 Park Avenue, Sylvan Park
NO. 148 ERECTED 2012

Additionally, the Peach Orchard Hill marker is back in place:

**BATTLE OF NASHVILLE
Peach Orchard Hill**

On Dec., 16, 1864, Gen. S.D. Lee's Corps, Army of Tennessee, held this right flank of Hood's defense line which ran south along the crest of this ridge. Violent artillery fire and infantry attacks by the corps of Wood & Steedman failed to dislodge the defenders who withdrew only after the collapse of the Confederate left and center in late afternoon.

Location: N side of Harding Pl. E of Franklin Rd.
37 (replaced 2012)

IN THE NEWS

New! Be part of planning Nashville's - and our region's - future!

Work is just beginning on a new Nashville General Plan which will provide a vision for our city's future over the next 30 years, along with guidance for growth and development in Davidson County and much of Middle Tennessee.

Metro Government and many local agencies and organizations are leading the General Plan's development – and a Community Engagement Committee is now forming which will include a wide variety of individuals from all walks of life who are familiar with community/neighborhood/civic engagement processes.

If you'd like to be considered for membership in that Committee or other volunteer initiatives, please visit the Nashville 2040 website: www.nashville2040.com. The website also includes links to Nashville's current General Plan as well as plans currently in place in other major cities, including Raleigh, Cincinnati, and El Paso.

Ongoing! Metro at 50!

The Nashville community is coming together to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the creation of Metro Nashville. The nine-month celebration, from June 28, 2012 to April 1, 2013, will involve many events and educational opportunities. Please join us in celebrating our great city! Find "Metro at 50" on Facebook or visit www.MetroAt50.org to learn more!

CONFERENCES, EXHIBITS AND EVENTS

New! First Tuesday at the Archives

Tuesday, December 4—2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Metropolitan Government Archives

3801 Green Hills Village Drive

The "First Tuesday at the Metro Archives" for December will feature Dr. Kevin Smith presenting "1877 Archaeological Expeditions of the Smithsonian Institution & Peabody Museum in Middle Tennessee." Sponsored by Friends of the Archives. This event is free and open to the public.

"First Tuesday at the Metro Archives" is always the first Tuesday of the month, 2:30-3:30 p.m. Please contact the Archives at 862-5880 or Ken.fieth@nashville.gov for more information.

***Be sure to "like" Metro Nashville Archives on Facebook!

New! Winter at the Buchanan Log House

The Buchanan Log House, 2910 Elm Hill Pike, will open each Saturday in December from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Each Saturday will feature a musical presentation as well as one of our special guests, including Lucinda and James Buchanan, Rachel and General Andrew Jackson, and President and Mrs. Lincoln. Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus will stop by one day, too. Mark your calendar and remember, parking is always free at the Buchanan Log House. Holiday dates are December 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th.

New! Stones River Woman's Club To Usher in Holidays at Two Rivers Mansion

Friday through Sunday, December 7 through 9

Two Rivers Mansion

3130 McGavock Pike

The Stones River Woman's Club will kick off the holiday season by showcasing both traditional and historic Christmas décor. The last of Nashville's antebellum country homes will be open to the public for the annual Christmas at Two Rivers Mansion and Holiday Gala events on December 7 through December 9.

Friday evening December 7 the Woman's Club will host the Holiday Gala fundraiser for invited guests. The event is also open to the public. A buffet dinner and wine bar will be provided. A silent and live auction will also be held. Tickets are \$30 per person.

Saturday morning the doors will open for the annual Christmas at Two Rivers Craft and Bake Sale. The hours on December 8 are 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. and on Sunday, December 9, 12:30 – 3:00 p.m.

For two days shoppers can enjoy the holiday trimmings while exploring the house much like the guests did in the 1800's when the house was inhabited by its first

owners David and Willie McGavock. Three generations of the family have lived there since then. After the death of Louise McGavock the City purchased the home in 1966. This year members of the club will also offer guided tours complete with presentations about the four mistresses of the mansion.

The proceeds from the admission will support the care and keeping of the interior restoration of the mansion. Proceeds from the silent auction and the baked goods sale will support the Club's many projects in the areas of art, conservation, education, home life, international outreach, and public issues.

Reservations and tickets for the Gala may be made by sending the required \$30 check payable to SRWC to Hilda Imes at 4809 Kensington Drive, Old Hickory, TN 37138.

Tickets for the Open House and Craft Fair can be purchased at the door for \$4 person (children 10 and under are free).

More Tour Options! Two Rivers Mansion to hold Holiday Tours

Friday-Sunday, December 14-16

Two Rivers Mansion

3130 McGavock Pike

The Friends of Two Rivers Mansion plans to hold its second annual holiday tours of the historic Donelson home. Tours take place on December 14, 5-8 pm, December 15, 10 am-4 pm, and December 16, 1-4 pm. Tickets are \$5 for visitors and free for members of the Friends of Two Rivers.

New! Lockeland Springs Tour of Homes

Saturday and Sunday, December 8 and 9

Lockeland Springs Neighborhood

On December 8th from 5:00 PM until 9:00 PM and December 9th from 1:00 PM until 5:00 PM, Lockeland Springs celebrates what it means to be at home in East Nashville.

Presented by The Lockeland Springs Neighborhood Association (LSNA) and several local sponsors, the 34th Annual Celebration of Home Tour features nine private homes, Top O'Woodland Bed and Breakfast, the Corinthian Lodge on Eastland Avenue, and Holly Street Fire Station, which celebrates its 100th birthday this year.

Advance tickets are available for \$10.00 at local businesses and online through the LSNA website (address below). Or, purchase tickets on the days of the tour at the Corinthian Lodge at 1400 Eastland Avenue for \$15.00. Peek inside the homes on the tour by taking a look at the upcoming issue of [The East Nashvillian](#), the official tour publication.

The home tour is the only fundraiser for LSNA, supporting the development of Lockeland and Bass Parks. For more information and to purchase advance tickets online, visit www.lockelandsprings.org.

New! Nashville Zoo Celebrates Holidays with Historic Home Christmas Tours

Weekends in December

Nashville Zoo

3777 Nolensville Pike

Join Nashville Zoo this holiday season for a traditional Victorian Christmas tour at the

Zoo's Historic Croft Home. Yuletide tours will be held December 1-2, 8-9 and 15-16. The home is decked for the holiday season with greenery, ribbon and vintage decorations collected over the years by Margaret and Elise Croft, the former tenants of the Grassmere property whose family owned the land and home for five generations. The tour not only highlights these items but also explains how some Christmas traditions that started during that time period are still honored today. Special activities also include festive performances from The Nashville Caroling Company on December 1 and holiday recorder music by residents from the Del Webb Lake Providence Community on December 8.

Tours start daily at 10 a.m. and run on the half hour, with the last tour beginning at 3 p.m. The tour is included with Zoo admission. Private tours are also available on weekdays. To book a private tour, please complete an [online reservation request](#), or contact Tori Mason, historic Croft House manager, at tmason@nashvillezoo.org or 615-833-1534 ext. 316.

Nashville Zoo is accredited by the prestigious Association of Zoos and Aquariums, assuring the highest standards of animal care and husbandry. Attracting more than 640,000 visitors annually, the Zoo is considered one of the top things to do in Nashville. The Zoo is a non-profit organization located at 3777 Nolensville Pike and is open every day except Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day. The mission of Nashville Zoo is to inspire a culture of understanding and discovery of our natural world through conservation, innovation and leadership. For more information about Nashville Zoo, call 615-833-1534 or visit www.nashvillezoo.org.

New! A Day of Commemoration and Celebration

Saturday, December 15—9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Fort Negley

1100 Fort Negley Blvd.

Commemorate the 148th anniversary of the Battle of Nashville with a trip to Fort Negley on December 15. At 2:00 p.m., join in the celebration of the 5th birthday of the Fort Negley Visitors Center! For more information, call the Visitors Center at 862-8470.

Ongoing! Civil War Book Series

This fall the Tennessee Historical Society will release two new titles in the series, *Tennessee in the Civil War*, a twelve-volume series drawn from the best of almost 400 articles on the war from the *Tennessee Historical Quarterly*, which were published between 1942 and 2010. Look for Volume 4, *The Battle of Stones River: The Fight for Middle Tennessee* in mid-October, and Volume 5, *Nathan Bedford Forrest and His Military Campaigns* in mid-November. January 2013 will see the release of Volume 6, *The Fight for Freedom: African Americans in the Civil War and Reconstruction*.

To learn more about the series and to purchase your copy of one or more volumes, please visit www.tennesseehistory.org/TennesseeintheCivilWar.htm or email info@tennesseehistory.org

Save the Date! Nashville Conference on African-American History and Culture:

February 8, 2013—Topics will include the Emancipation Proclamation, 50th Anniversary of the Metropolitan Government, and more. Look for registration information in January!

Coming Soon! Know Nashville

Dr. Carole Bucy, Davidson County Historian, returns with her wildly popular “Know Nashville” lecture series in February 2013. Mark your calendars now for Thursdays in February (7, 14, 21, & 28). The group will meet from 10:30 to 11:45 at the Fort Negley Visitors Center. Look for registration information on our Facebook page and in the January 2013 E-News.

The Metropolitan Historical Commission publishes this monthly newsletter to keep you informed on events and happenings at the MHC. If you have questions, comments, or news to pass along, please email scarlett.miles@nashville.gov, with E-NEWS in the subject line.

Metropolitan Historical Commission

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Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County • Karl F. Dean, Mayor