



Brookland News



Published Quarterly - Vol. 3, Issue 4

October 2009

From the Mayor's Desk:

Let me begin by congratulating the citizens of Brookland that recycle. Due to your efforts, the City of Brookland won the 2009 Arkansas Shine Award for cities with a population of 2,500 or less. Your dedication to recycling has proven to be beneficial for the city. We want you to know also, that over the last several years your effort has allowed the city to receive grant funding for a 2004 Chev. Truck, 2008 F-150 Ford truck and a new recycle trailer. I applaud you for these efforts.

We recently had a special election of a proposed 2% sales tax and annexation. The rumor mill has been running rampant and continues to thrive. I feel that I must address these rumors.

Sales Tax Rumors: "The Mayor has spent the City of Brookland broke and that is why the city is asking for 2%." "Mayor wanted 2% to purchase the old Jones Mercantile and Brookland Bank buildings downtown, because they are trying to sell the building at 309 N. Bernis and kick the BFPD out." "We (the BFPD) are not benefiting from this sales tax."

Annexation Rumors: "The water rates are so high that I had my water bill printed in the newspaper so that the people in the proposed annexation area could see what their water rates would be." "Our property values will go down." "Our property tax will double or triple." Rumors are just that, Rumors. I could take up the complete newsletter discussing them. These rumors are simply not true. I would like to have a town hall meeting and debate the issues with the people who are spreading them.

But wait, we had a public meeting on August 25 to share the need for sales tax and annexation at the Brookland School Auditorium and there were 30 people from the community, in addition to city employees, who attended the meeting. Twenty eight, of approximately 1,500 Brookland citizens came to the meeting. In the proposed area to be annexed, eight of approximately 200 people came. Three to four people, who thought they were in the area of proposed annexation attended. Not a single person who has been spreading rumors came to the meeting to ask questions. I wonder why. When I took office in January of 2007, the only thing I asked of the city council was to make decisions based on what was right for the City of Brookland. If we do what is right for the City, we are doing what is right for all citizens of Brookland. When the vote came in and the measures were defeated, you will find that I am not like most. I do not blame anyone. I learned a long time ago, when you point a finger at someone, you have three pointing back at you! So, the first thing I do is look back at what we did and why we did it that way. Now, once you have done that and you see things that could have been done differently, you learn from those mistakes and then move on. My CEO at Continental Systems told us at our first staff meeting, "If you always do what you've always done, then you will always be what you've always been." What this means to me, as Mayor is, "if you always operate the City of Brookland the way you have always done, then the City of Brookland will always

be what it is now." We will continue to have narrow streets, drainage issues, damaged and lack of sidewalks, high water rates, and insufficient parks for our children. I will continue to apply for any grant available to help with these issues. However, with our density of 1,000 people per sq. mile and our per capita being so high, grants are difficult to receive. We will continue to work to keep our ditches clean and patch the streets, but our resources are limited. We are not broke, but we have to develop a long term plan to put into action when enough funds are accumulated for projects. That was the main purpose of the 2% sales tax and annexation.

This is the last newsletter for 2009 and I hope you find the newsletters informative. We are approaching the holiday months, and I pray that each of you have a Safe and Blessed Holiday Season.

Mayor Jones

City Wide Yard Sale

Oct. 2 & 3

Please contact City Hall at (870)935-0538 if you want your address included on the map. Maps will be available at City Hall and Brookland Post Office.

You're Invited To:

EAST Night Out

Oct. 6

6:00 - 7:30 pm

Brookland High School

Room 109

**All community members
are welcome!**



TONEMASTE

RS Quartet



27th Anniversary
Concert

October 9th & 10th

Brookland School

Auditorium

7:00 pm

\$7 each night

\$10 for both nights

12 & under free

Friday night: Heart's
Desire, The Highlanders
and The Tonemasters

Saturday Night: His Guys
from Keiser, AR, The
McCoys from
Campbellsville, KY and
The Tonemasters

Event is sponsored by
the Brookland Athletic
Booster Club.

For more info call (870)
932-3497 or (870)
935-9149.

**Fall Clean
Sweep**
Please place all
items on curb before
10/05/09

RECYCLE!

The following residents' names were drawn and they won \$25 in the Bluebag Recycle Program sponsored by the City of Brookland. The following items can be recycled: all metal cans, clear glass and #1 & #2 plastics. Everything goes in the same bag together. Bluebags are available at City Hall. Just fill out the attached tag and your name will be entered in the weekly drawing. Citizens who live in the county and bring their blue bags to put them in the recycle trailer need to remove the name tags and bring them into City Hall or leave them in the drop box.

Bluebag Winners:

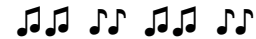
- 06/19 – Nathaniel Powell
- 06/26 – Lucille Millsap
- 07/03 – Norris Smith
- 07/11 – Mary Passmore
- 07/17 – Elton Smith
- 07/24 – Randy Mayfield
- 07/31 – Stephanie Jernigan
- 08/07 – Judy Brown
- 08/14 – Kenneth Williams
- 08/21 – Mary Hall
- 08/28 – Bob Wortham
- 09/04 – Naomi Box
- 09/11 – Sydney Fry
- 09/18 – Rachel Epps

CRAIGHEAD CTY. SKYWARN BROOKLAND UNIT

Craighead County Skywarn (CCS) is a non-profit organization of volunteers that go out when severe weather threatens and relays the conditions in the area where they are located back to the Office of Emergency Management (OEM). The OEM then advises the National Weather Service of the updates. Brookland now has

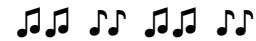
a group of trained spotters associated with CCS. The Brookland unit meets once a month locally, to discuss upcoming events and other activities. The next meeting is scheduled for October 3 at 6:30 pm at Ryan's in Jonesboro. Everyone is welcome to attend.

A fundraiser event is planned for November 21 at Brookland City Hall. The cost for boston butts is \$25 and ribs will be on sale for \$16 a rack. Order form will be available at City Hall after October 3. Payment is due at the time of the order. Anyone interested in joining the weather watchers group may contact Bobby Williams at (870) 897-8780 or Lisa Williams at (870) 273-3558.



Brookland Band Booster Fall Festival 2009

The Band Booster Association will be having a Fall Festival on October 24 beginning at 10am and ending at 3pm. The event will be held on the Brookland Middle School parking lot. Booth space is available for rent for anyone interested in selling crafts, home made or baked-items or other fund raising items. There are various booth sizes available. Contact Jo Hanke at (870) 926-9885 for more info or visit the website at www.bearcatband.org.



Brookland
Christmas Parade
Dec. 13 @ 2:00 pm



The City of Brookland will have its 9th annual Christmas parade on Sunday, Dec. 13 at 2:00 pm. Due to Brookland recently receiving the 2009 AR Shine Award, the theme will be "Green Christmas." Parade participants are encouraged to use recycled products and/or promote eco-friendly Christmas ideas. Judging begins at 1:00 pm. The parade will start at Brookland High School parking lot and go south on Holman to Stevens Street, west on Stevens to S. Oak Street. The parade will then turn north to W. School Street and it will end up back at the school. Refreshments will be served for parade participants at the Brookland Baptist Church immediately following the parade.

**New Community
Room Policy**

The Brookland City Council implemented a new policy for use of the Community Room at 309 N. Bernis. There will still be a \$50 deposit, but in addition to the deposit there is now a rental fee of \$12.50 for two hours use, \$25 for four hours use and \$50 per day for five hours or more. There is a form to complete and a list of rules and regulations will be provided when the building is rented.

MESSIAH MINISTRIES
A Program of the Path Foundation

Spiritual Training Center

Messiah Ministries is a long-term faith-based Christian alternative to secular rehabilitation. Our residential home is located just outside Brookland. **Our first and most important request is that you place our program on the Prayer List at your Church.** The ministry provides biblical spirituality and discipleship training for adult men who are desperate to seek God as their answer to life's problems. It is our mission to provide a secure environment for those seeking Christ as an answer to their life's problems and desire to grow stronger and believe in the truth of God's promises. We are asking for people to pray for our new ministry.

We conduct a monthly fundraiser - SMOKED BOSTON BUTTS. We have this fundraiser each month to help pay the mortgage payment at the Messiah Ministries house in Brookland. Please contact us at (870) 932-0051 or visit our website at mm@neapath.com



**Brookland United
Methodist Church**

On October 10, BUMC will have a fish fry from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. The Fall Festival will be held on Saturday, October 24 from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. There will be games and prizes for the best costumes. On November 7, from 10:00 am until 2 pm the church will have a Fall Bazaar. There will be a silent

auction, jams, jellies and baked goods for sale. Lunch will be served and the cost is \$3.50.

The Children's Christmas party will be Sunday, December 20 at 5:00 pm. They will be taking photos with Mr. & Mrs. Santa Claus.

On New Year's Eve, there will be a Watch Service starting at 9:00 pm. There will be games and snacks and a service will begin at 11:30 pm.

The monthly fellowship breakfast will be at 8:00 am on October 17, November 21 and December 19. The church is located at 401 W. Matthews Street and James Wainscott is the pastor.

*** **

**Brookland Baptist
Church**

On October 2nd, the Brookland Baptist Church will host Fireflight in concert. The event will begin at 7:00 pm and tickets at the door will cost \$15.00. Advance tickets may be purchased at Turtle Creek Mall for \$12.00. The church is located at 200 N. Oak and Kenny Moore is the pastor.

*** **

**New Harvest Family
Worship Center**

Pastor Marty Russell, New Harvest Family Worship Center, Audie Cox and Vertical Youth Ministries are soon approaching the dedication of the new youth facility in October. In January, the ice storm damaged our youth facility and insurance considered it a total loss. Though the loss was an inconvenience, it was also a blessing, considering our old facility was a double wide mobile home that was in need of repair. We now have a 30' x 40' metal building. We would like to take this opportunity to give special thanks in several areas. First of all, we want to thank God for the provisions he has made for us. Secondly, we want to thank Mayor Ken Jones, the Brookland City Council, City Inspector Tim Jones, Brookland Planning Commission and others as follows: J & M Construction, ground work done by Jim Rupard, Tim Russell, Dwayne Russell, Chris Taylor, Dwayne Hammett, David Hammett and Paul Edgar, JBC

Plumbing, Joe Lancaster, Larry Estes, Rick Herring, Brandon Pierce, Joey Holladay, Steve Saunders, Darrell and his team at Gazaway ACE Hardware, TEC Electric, Eric Russell, Don Wisdom, Hal Bridger, Rick Hathcoat and Trent at Winair. Also a big thanks goes out to the congregation for the support and dedication to the youth department. A very special thanks to everyone who has contributed financial support to this project. Without all of your help and everything you have done this would not have been possible. God Bless You!

On October 9, New Harvest will have Friday Night Lights beginning at 7:30 pm. There will be dramas and praise and worship featuring Vertical Youth Ministries and the C.R.O.S.S. Drama Team. Contact Audie Cox, Youth Pastor at (870) 926-7432 for more information. The church is located at 203 N. Lynch and Marty Russell is the pastor.

Potter's House

The Potter's House will have a Harvest Dinner and Singing on November 15. Lunch will be served at noon. At 1:30 pm special music will be provided by The Poe's, among others. The church is located at 403 N. Bernis and the public is invited to attend. Rex Howell is the pastor.

*** **

Brookland Church of Christ

Brookland Church of Christ will host a Fall Lectureship. On October 11th at 9:50 am Bill Willard from Greensboro Church of Christ will discuss "Defending the Truth", and at 5:00 pm Tim Bassing of Black Oak Church of Christ will speak about "Keeping Young People Faithful". October 12th "Being Truly Converted & Loving God" will be the topic delivered by Kevin Lawrence from Gideon Church of Christ. On October 13th Keith Cozort from Washington Ave. Church of Christ will speak on "Believing the Bible as a Whole" and the October 13th message by Rowdy Fortson from the Birdell Church of Christ will be on "Baptism". The services

will begin at 7:00 pm Monday through Wednesday.

On October 31st, a Trunk or Treat fellowship will feature a costume contest and hayride. The event will be from 5:30 until 8:30 pm and everyone is invited to attend. The church is located at 9664 Hwy. 49-B N and Lance Guest is the pastor.

*** **



From the Brookland Police Department:

In the last three months, the Brookland Police Department received 1,148 calls. As a result of the calls, 3 felony meth possession arrests were made, 1 arrest for manufacturing methamphetamine, 4 felony arrests for possession of marijuana with intent to deliver, 5 DWI arrests, 1 felony arrest for felon in possession of a firearm and 6 misdemeanor drug arrests. The Brookland Police Department is currently seeking monetary donations for the purchase of a narcotics detection/tracking dog. The canine will also be utilized in periodic searches of our local public school system as well. We feel that our school is one of the best in the state, and believe that a drug dog will act as a deterrent for students that might otherwise bring narcotics into the school system.

Mark Rusher,
Chief of Police

City Calendar:

October



10/02-03 – City Wide Yard Sale

10/02 – Fireflight concert at Brookland Baptist Church @ 7:00 pm

10/05 – Clean Sweep for city residents only

10/06 – Blast from the Past EAST Lab @ 4 – 5:30 pm

10/06 – EAST Night Out - 6 – 7:30 pm at High School Room 109

10/06 – Planning Commission meeting @ 7:00 pm

10/09 – New Harvest Family Worship Center Friday Night Lights @ 7:30 pm

10/10 – Brookland United Methodist Church Fish Fry @ 5-7 pm

10/11-14 – Fall Lectureship @ Church of Christ

10/13 – City Council meeting @ 7:00 pm

10/17 – BUMC monthly fellowship breakfast @ 8am

10/24 – Brookland Band Boosters Fall Festival @ Middle School parking lot – 10:00am to 3:00 pm

10/24 – BUMC Fall Festival – 5 to 7 pm

10/31 – Trunk or Treat at Church of Christ

November



11/03 – Planning Commission meeting @ 7:00 pm

11/07 – BUMC Fall Bazaar – 10am to 2 pm

11/10 – City Council meeting @ 7:00 pm

11/11 – Veteran's Day

11/15 – Harvest Service – Lunch @ noon; Singing @ 1:30 pm

11/21 – BUMC monthly fellowship breakfast @ 8am

11/26-27 – Offices closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

December



12/01 – Planning Commission meeting @ 7:00 pm

12/08 – City Council meeting @ 7:00 pm

**12/13 –Christmas Parade @
2:00 pm. Refreshments
immediately following the
parade at the Brookland
Baptist Church.**

**12/20 – BUMC Children’s
Christmas Party @ 5pm**

**12/24-25 City offices closed
for Christmas holiday**

**12/31 – BUMC New Year’s
Watch Service 9:00 pm**

Blast from the Past!

EAST Lab Project

October 6

4:00 – 5:30 pm

Anyone with history of Brookland School and/or the community is invited to attend the historical show and tell event. EAST Lab students would like to compile historical events and make the information more accessible to the public. Please bring information to Brookland High School, Room 109.

