

From the Mayor's Desk:

The first quarter of 2016 is in the books, and with the arrival of spring and better weather conditions, the city has started working on various projects.

A new sidewalk from School Street south along Oak Street to W Matthews is just about complete.

Workers are laying the sod and finishing up this project. Our next sidewalk will be installed from Brookland Elementary to the new Brookland Middle School on North Oak. City of Brookland was awarded a Safe Routes To School 80/20 matching grant for the installation.

The water improvement project is proceeding as planned. Test well drilling was delayed thirty days due to a difference in geological information that Arkansas Department of Health has and information well drillers had. Test drill specifications were changed and newspaper ads have been run again, requesting bids. The test well should be done late April early May. Electronic-read water meters (ERWM) have been ordered and will start being installed over the next three months. ERWM will help us serve you, our customers more consistently, and will allow utility department personnel to notify you of high water usage the day it occurs. This will help reduce the cost to you the customer, while keeping the cost of overall operation down, by reducing cost of electricity, chemicals and man hours. The ability to read the ERWM on the same day of each month will mean consistent water bills. It takes three to four utility workers an average of three to four days, to read all the water meters on our water system. An additional 1 to 2 days can be added to this process if the weather is bad. Electronic-read

water meters will allow the water clerk to read 1,200 plus water meters from the office, in an average of 15 minutes.

As a First Class City, and as Mayor, by state law, I have to give a State of the City address. On my first attempt last month, I tried to cover the new businesses, expansions of current business and the revitalization of the downtown area on Holman. I was told once by a wise gentleman; if you thank someone and/or bring recognition to someone, try to not leave anyone out. You guessed it, I did miss some businesses that should have been mentioned. I apologize for that and would like to recognize them now. Black Iron Shooting Range located at 622 Holman has an indoor shooting range, archery range and sells guns and ammo. Co-owners Aaron Coleman and Steve Mobbs operate Black Iron and have done a lot of work in 2015 to promote their business in Brookland. Aaron told me they now have over 1,000 patrons that use Black Iron Indoor Shooting Range. Black Iron allows the Brookland Police Department to use the facility for firearm certification, at no charge. When traveling, I have had people as far away as Little Rock, Conway, and Hot Springs that have said they have been in northeast Arkansas on business, and visited Black Iron. We appreciate their support of the city. If you have not visited their facility, do so. You will be impressed with Black Iron Shooting Range. Other businesses in the city that have had growth include: Props Plus, Brooks Golf Cart, Pigtails & Blue Jeans, Brookland Market, Brookland Sales, Kum & Go, Micro Wire Form, Brookland Auto Sales, Gulley Plumbing and Construction, LaCascada Mexican Restaurant, Wayne's Auto and Tire, Red Roof Mini Storage, and McCarty Rental Storage. If you

own a business and would like to put an article in our quarterly newsletter, we invite you to do so. Let the citizens know about your business, where it is located and what it has to offer. Our next quarterly newsletter will be released July 1, 2016.

Grass cutting season has come early this year due to the mild winter. Officers will be monitoring yards for compliance with tall grass issues, unsightly conditions, vehicles parked in streets, and other non-compliance code enforcement complaints.

The addition of new sidewalks will make areas safer for citizens to walk. However, there are many areas where there are NO sidewalks and pedestrians will still be walking along side city streets. Please use caution while driving the streets this summer and let's keep all of our citizens safe. Watch out for children on bicycles as well.

Swimming pools will soon be put up and filled with water. Please see article in this newsletter regarding specifications on fencing.

Have a great spring and be safe!

Mayor Jones

City Wide



April 8 & 9

Contact City Hall to have your address put on the map.

SWIMMING POOL REGULATIONS

The weather is getting warmer and everyone is starting to think about filling their pools for the summer.

This is a reminder that Ordinance 2008-17 requires that all swimming pools, 15" or more in depth, have a fence of not less than four feet in height. Said enclosure shall be a minimum of four feet from any edge of the pool. A copy of this ordinance can be obtained at City Hall.



**Fireworks Ordinance
Reminder**

Fireworks may be discharged between the hours of 10am & 10pm on June 29, June 30, July 1, July 2, July 3, and July 5. Fireworks may be discharged between the hours of 10am and will be extended until 12:30am (of the following day) on July 4.

**SPRING CLEAN
SWEEP**



April 11-14, 2016
Any items placed on the curb after 04/14/16 will be the responsibility of the resident to dispose of.

**Great Arkansas
Cleanup**

The City of Brookland and the Brookland EAST students will participate in the Great Arkansas Cleanup on Tuesday, April 12 from 3:30pm until 4:30pm. Groups of students and adults will be in various areas of town cleaning up trash in ditches and along streets. This event is sponsored by the Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission who provides supplies necessary for the cleanup.

Please drive safely while students are picking up litter.



**RECYCLE &
WIN!**

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, all colors of glass and all grades of 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. Please remember to tie your bluebags before you place them in the trailer.

Newspapers, junk mail, old magazines and other paper products are to be placed in a separate bag and placed on the curb with your bluebag.

Corrugated cardboard boxes are to be flattened out and put in the green dumpster behind City Hall.

Bluebag Winners:

- 1/1/16 - Steve Mobbs
- 1/8/16 - Pamela Kay
- 1/15/16 - Jerry Blair
- 1/22/16 - Betty Smith
- 1/29/16 - JD McHalfey
- 2/5/16 - Barbara Wortham
- 2/12/16 - Ruby McCluskey
- 2/19/16 - Karen Robles
- 2/26/16 - Will St.Pierre
- 3/4/16 - Alvin Groves
- 3/11/16 - Sherry Mobbs

- 3/18/16 - Pansy Williams
- 3/25/16 - Shelia Evans

Thanks for making Brookland a "GREENER" place to live.

Community Calendar:



- 04/04 - Planning Commission Meeting at 7pm at City Hall
- 04/05 - Lions Club Informational meeting at 6:30pm at City Hall
- 04/8-9 - City Wide Yard Sale
- 04/11-14 - Spring Clean Sweep (for city residents only)
- 04/12 - City Council Meeting at 7pm at City Hall(**date change)
- 04/12 - Great Arkansas Cleanup
- 04/17 - Connection Point Baptist Church Open House at 9:30am; Worship at 10:00am
- 04/18 - Brookland United Methodist Church Food Pantry; 9:00am-11:00am
- 04/19 - Senior Citizen's Potluck at 11:30 at City Hall
- 04/29 - New Antioch Baptist Church to simulcast "Secret Church"; 6:30pm



- 05/02 - Planning Commission meeting at 7pm
- 05/08 - Happy Mother's Day!
- 05/09 - City Council meeting at 7pm
- 05/16 - Brookland United Methodist Church Food Pantry; 9:00am - 11:00am
- 05/17 - Senior Citizens potluck at 11:30am at City Hall

05/20 - New Antioch Baptist Church Children's Movie Night

05/28 - New Antioch Baptist Church Youth End of School Party

05/30 - City offices will be closed for Memorial Day holiday



06/06 - Planning Commission meeting at 7pm

06/08 - New Antioch Baptist Church Block Party at Whitten Creek Apartments

06/11 - New Antioch Baptist Church Block Party at Brookland City Park on Cherry Street

06/13 - City Council meeting at 7pm

06/19 - Happy Father's Day!

06/19-23 - New Antioch Baptist Church VBS; 6-8:30pm

06/20 - Brookland United Methodist Church Food Pantry; 9:00am - 11:00am

06/21 - Senior Citizens potluck at 11:30am at City Hall



**Brookland United
Methodist Church
401 W. Matthews**

BUMC will have their food pantry open on April 18, May 16 and June 20 from 9:00am until 11:00am. Brookland United Methodist Church is located at 401 W. Matthews and for more information on any of the above listed events, contact Joe Kaiser, pastor at 870-935-3501.

**New Antioch
Baptist Church
429 CR 950-Goobertown**

On April 29, New Antioch will simulcast "Secret Church" at 6:30 pm.

Children's Movie Night will be hosted on May 20. The movie will be for children ages 3-12.

The youth will be having a "End of School Party" on May 28.

On June 8, New Antioch will host a Block Party at Whitten Creek Apartments and on June 11 the Block Party will be held at the Brookland City Park on Cherry Street.

Vacation Bible School will be June 19-23 from 6:00pm until 8:30pm. The theme for VBS is "Submerged". Kid's will discover that a relationship with Jesus Christ changes everything! Come join in the fun! All you have to do is dive in!

Tony Stottlemire is the pastor and everyone in the community is invited to any or all of the above mentioned events. For more information and times of events, please call the church office at 870-972-0339, email at newantiochbc@gmail.com, or check them out on their Facebook page at New Antioch Baptist Church. The church website is newantiochbaptistchurch.com.

**Connection Point
Baptist Church
600 W. School St.**

Connection Point members want to invite the community to join them on April 17, 2016 to help them celebrate the completion of their new building. Open house begins at 9:30am with worship service to follow at 10:00am.

They believe that church should be a place where you and your family can connect with genuine friends and a caring God. If you don't have a church home, they would love for you to come and check it out! Friendly people, upbeat music, casual atmosphere and relevant messages.

The church is located at 600 W. School Street, across from Whitten Creek Apartments. Chad White is the pastor.

For more information concerning events at Connection Point, call 870-931-1076 or visit the church website MyConnectionPoint.org.



**Lions Club
Informational Meeting**

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Lions Clubs are formed by local service-minded men and women who volunteer to support their community. They also become members of a respected international organization, Lions Clubs International. They serve as leaders in their local community, and as friends to neighbors in need. The Lions Club's motto is "We Serve". Therefore, local Clubs develop projects based on local needs, plus, as Lions support international projects for sight, hearing, diabetes and youth, as well as disaster relief around the world.

Lions Clubs International is a non-political International service organization founded by Melvin Jones in 1917. As of April 2015, it consists of over 46,000 clubs and more than 1.4 million members in over 200 countries around the world. An informational meeting will be held on April 5th at 6:30pm at the Brookland City Hall. This meeting will help to determine the interest and local support for the establishment of a Brookland Lions Club. If you are interested in learning more about being a Lion or if you have been a Lion in the past, please come to this meeting to learn the many benefits of having a service club in your community.

**MEDICAL NEEDS
EMERGENCY CONTACT
INFO**



The City of Brookland is in the process of updating our disaster plan. Any resident who has medical needs that require electricity to operate life-saving medical equipment in the time of a disaster, please contact city hall at (870)935-0538 with your name, address and phone number to be added to the list. A list will be compiled that will allow city workers to check on those with medical needs whenever the electricity goes out for an extended period of time.



**SAYING GOODBYE TO THE
"OLD GYM"
1952-2016**

The old building holds in its structure all the memories of the hundreds of students, and it is a piece of history. The "Old Gym" has been a living part of the community for years and years. It has served the school and community well, but its time of life has expired. The "Old Gym" will be demolished this summer to make way for new memories made by new generations.

We want to extend an invitation to those of you who have been a part of the "Old Gym" in the past to help us commemorate 64 years of history. We are planning an evening of celebration with food, silent auction, videos, alumni games and sharing of memories on Friday, May 13, 2016, beginning at 5:00pm in the school cafeteria. Activities will begin in the gym at 7:00pm. Do you have a story to tell? Do you have photos/uniforms/other memorabilia? Do you or do you know someone who may like to be involved or volunteer? We are looking for people to help with food, silent auction items, donations, concessions stand, gate and decorations.

If you would like to help, please contact Teri Maynard at tmaynard@bpsbearcats.com or call Brookland School at 870-932-2080 ext 157. "Old Gym" T-shirts can be ordered by contacting Teri Maynard. Order form and payment must be received by April 15, 2016. Cost is \$10 for youth - adult XL; \$12 for adult 2XL; \$13 for adult 3XL. All alumni homecoming queens and cheerleaders need to contact Diane Montgomery at dmontgomery@bpsbearcats.com. All alumni athletes (volleyball, girls and boys basketball) need to contact Michael Slater at m Slater@bpsbearcats.com.



**Arkansas Prescription
Drug Take Back**

Turn in your unused or expired medication for safe disposal on Saturday, April 30, 2016. The event will take place from 10:00am until 2:00pm at the Brookland Police Department located at 409 Holman.