

Brookland News

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January 2020

From the Mayor's Desk:
Happy New Year! 2020 is here and I have several things to share with the residents of Brookland. As your Mayor I cannot begin to tell you how important this year is to our city. Our state turnback revenue and county sales tax revenue is based on our population. April 1, 2020 is the date the 2020 decennial census will begin. The revenue for the general and street funds will increase, based on the population. If you have any problems let us know and we will get you the help you need to be counted. As you read in Jonesboro Sun and saw on KAIT8 news we have a pet feces problem. The Brookland City Council has passed Ordinance 2019-12 that deals with animal feces. As our town grows in population, our pet population increases as well. Ordinance 2019-12 takes effect January 1, 2020. Citizens walking their dogs shall carry a plastic bag and if their animal defecates, it must be picked up and disposed of. As with any law, to help our citizens with issues, our police department needs your help. You can simply take a picture or video and come to city hall and fill out an affidavit. This will be given to police chief and a citation may be written at that time. If you have any questions you may contact Chief Moore at Brookland Police Department.

Another issue regarding animal control that recently came up, was that city employees were falsely accused of how they handle dogs after picking them up and taking them to the pound. It was reported that we had a "maniac worker" catching dogs and this person was euthanizing them after just several hours and that they were given water from the sewer lagoon ponds to drink. In the 13 years as your Mayor, we have worked hard to find every animal a home. The very last thing we want is for an animal to be euthanized. However, there are city and state laws that SHALL be followed before release. Bobby Williams with animal control works with all local animal organizations to help find abandoned or surrendered animals a home. School traffic continues to be an issue twice a day. It is about a 30 to 45-minute time frame during the morning and afternoon that is affected. We continue to look at all areas affected and are working with engineers to come up with ideas to help. As our school area continues to grow, increased traffic flow will also be a concern. We have School Street on the next TAP Grant cycle. We will continue to work with engineers and ARDOT on ideas that will help with school traffic issues.

Several drainage projects that are currently in the engineering phase for 2020. Several of our streets will have maintenance work done on them this year in preparation of revenue from our 2020 Census allowing us to overlay many of our streets in 2021. Two projects that have been started, that we plan on finishing this year are Stevens and West Matthews widening work. Watch for work signs as projects begin this spring.

I don't mean to sound like a broken record, but I can't begin to tell you how important the 2020 CENSUS is to our city. Let's make sure we are counted for the future of Brookland. I also believe this count will help us draw a grocery store to our area.

As we start the New Year, I want to say Thank You to our workers, City Council, and Planning Commission for their hard work in the past year. We will work to improve our city for future generations. I want to say a special Thank You to our citizens who have believed in our city. I hope you have a Blessed 2020 and remember our City and Country in your prayers.

Mayor Jones



Winter Tips

Once again, winter is upon us. Just a few tips to help you through the cold: 1) Keep your cabinet doors open on cold

nights to help keep your pipes from freezing. 2) Have someone check the antifreeze in your car. 3) Care for your animals outside.



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, all colors of glass and all grades of plastics with the recycle triangle. 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.

Also, remember to recycle your newspapers and old magazines. Put them in a separate sack and put them out with your bluebag.

Bluebag Winners:

10/4/19 - Sarah L. Williams
10/11/19 - Chris Pfeifer
10/18/19 - Diane Powell
10/25/19 - Barbara Harris
11/1/19 - Patricia Williams
11/8/19 - Anna Brown
11/15/19 - Era Jackson
11/22/19 - Karen Robles

11/29/19 - Penny Elder
12/6/19 - James Grimes
12/13/19 - Christie Cole
12/20/19 - David Brown
12/27/19 - Elizabeth Lam



Christmas Parade

Update:

The theme was "Christmas Through A Child's Eyes" for the 19th annual Brookland Christmas Parade on December 1, 2019.

We had another year of good weather and despite it falling on the weekend following Thanksgiving, the participant and spectator turnout was great! All the float entrants did a great job of building good floats this year and were so creative in how they portrayed the theme. They are all to be commended for their hard work.

Also, a huge thank you goes out to city employees and fire department personnel who helped block intersections for the parade. Prohibiting vehicles from entering the parade route allows us to provide a safe environment for parade participants and spectators.

Winners are as follows:
Float: 1st Place – Restore Church; 2nd Place –

Danny's Diner; 3rd Place – Brookland United Methodist Church.

Antique Tractors: 1st Place – Dennis Pankey, 1949 WF Allis Chalmers; 2nd Place – Christopher Williams, 1945 John Deere H; 3rd Place – Norma and Norman Butts, 1965 Oliver.

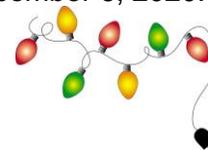
Horse & Rider: 1st Place – Carrie DeWitt riding "Xavier"; 2nd Place – Kyla Roberts & Cameron Collins with "Tinker Bell" pulling their cart; 3rd Place - Gracie Elkin riding "Jelly Bean".

Motor Cycle/ATV: 1st Place - Tommy Brown; 2nd Place - Keith Cooper; 3rd Place - Michael Carruth.

Antique/Classic Vehicle: 1st Place – Duane Harvey, 1972 Pontiac Grand Prix; 2nd Place – Ray and Betty Erwin, 1936 Ford Truck ; 3rd Place – Linda and Freddy Ford, 1985 Chevrolet Monte Carlo.

Miscellaneous Division: 1st Place – Brookland Band; 2nd Place – Brookland JROTC; 3rd Place – Craighead County Public Library.

The date for the 20th annual Brookland Christmas parade is December 6, 2020.



Christmas Light

Contest Winners:

The judging of the annual residential Christmas light contest for city residents was held December 9-12. Robbie Polsgrove at 104 Pecan was the first place winner and received the \$100 prize. Joe McKeel at 112 Teresa Drive was the second place winner and was awarded the \$75 prize. Katherine Carmon at 311 North Oak Street won the \$50 third place prize, with her display. Thanks to everyone in the community who decorated their homes for the holidays.



City Calendar:

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January



- 01/01 - City Offices Closed - New Year Holiday
- 01/07 - Planning Commission meeting @ 6:00 pm
- 01/13 - City Council meeting @ 7:00 pm
- 01/20 - City Offices Closed - MLK Holiday
- 01/21- Sr. Citizens Pot Luck @ 11:30 at City Hall

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February



- 02/04- Planning Commission meeting @ 7:00 pm
- 02/10 - City Council meeting @ 7:00 pm
- 02/17 - City Offices Closed - President's Day Holiday
- 02/18 - Sr. Citizens Pot Luck @ 11:30 at City Hall
- 02/21 - Make A Wish Roadblocks (Hwy 49-B and Christy Street beside Kum & Go and at both Jordan's Kwik Stop locations)

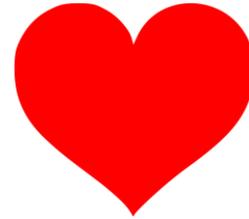
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March



- 03/03 - Planning Commission meeting @ 7:00 pm
- 03/09 - City Council meeting @ 7:00 pm
- 03/17 - Sr. Citizens Pot Luck @ 11:30 at City Hall

REMINDER TO BUSINESS OWNERS: 2020 Privilege License are due February 28.



22nd Annual Have A Heart Wish*A*Thon for Make A Wish February 21, 2020

Make plans to stop at one of our Brookland roadblock locations in front of Danny's Diner and at both Jordan's Kwik Stop locations and make a donation to help make kids wishes come true! If you are interested in volunteering at one of the Brookland roadblocks, contact Brookland City Hall to complete the paperwork and let us know what time you would be available to volunteer so we can add you to the schedule.

