

Brookland News

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From the Mayor's Desk:

Just want to ask everyone to keep a check on your neighbors, elderly friends, and family during these hot days. Make sure your pets have plenty of fresh water, and shade or a house to get in out of the sun.

We want to announce that the Kubota Dealership, First Choice Farm & Lawn, located at 9586 HWY 49 N is scheduled to OPEN on August 1, 2022. We are excited to have this business located in the city limits of Brookland and welcome them to our community.

Phase I of ARDOT Sidewalk Project # 100935 along Holman from W Smith to W School Street is underway and nearing completion. We will file for a grant to complete Phase II in August 2022. Also, a grant has been applied for to start a sidewalk that will run north from W. School Street to the Whispering Hills Subdivision. These sidewalks will give our citizens a safe way to visit the downtown Brookland area.

Plans for the two city parks on East Matthews and Nelms and West Smith and Bernis Streets have been finalized. Drawings will be sent to Arkansas Parks for verification that they are designed to meet requirements of the matching grant we received. Bidding for the two parks should take place in July, with work anticipated to start in August.

The Sports Complex Park plans will be completed in July. This project should be let out to bid, and hopefully work will start by end of August 2022.

Patch work on city streets has been completed. We have several streets to be overlaid this summer. Asphalt bids have been accepted and work is scheduled to start anytime. School Street west of HWY 49, South Oak Street, Brady, Keith, Nelda, and Manley, West Stevens from HWY 49 to city limits are streets scheduled to be overlaid.

We applied for \$300,000.00 state aid street overlay grant. This grant when received in 2023 and is going toward N. Oak Street and East School Street asphalt overlay.

Our growth in homes is amazing. Subdivisions under development at this time are Brookland Hills, Whispering Hills, Gatlin Crossing at Whispering Hills and Hidden Creek. We have had developers purchase, in the last several months, approximately 149 acres that will be developed into R-1 single family homes.

Mr. Brett Bunch, the new Brookland School Superintendent attended our last city council meeting. Superintendent Bunch took over June 1, 2022 and Mr. George Kennedy moves back to his position of assistant superintendent. They have opened the door for us to work together so that we ensure the future is bright for the city and the school. We look forward to this opportunity.

Harp's Grocery Store, when are they going to start building? I get this question daily. During the last conversation we had with Harp's representatives, they talked like it would be 2023. This didn't shock me with cost and

delay of materials issues; but it was not what I wanted to hear.

City employees met with an architect on June 10, 2022, to discuss needs for the new municipal building, which will house the city hall and police department. He got a good idea on concept of what we need in our building to serve the residents of our community more efficiently. Hopefully we will have our draft plans by mid-July.

North Oak Sewer Extension project right of way easement letters have been mailed to residents. The city has worked with the owners of Gatlin Crossing, NEA Properties, which is located on the east side of N. Oak Street to eliminate a sanitary sewer lift station. Elimination of this lift station reduces operating cost to our city. We are still finalizing R-O-W easements for construction. FLOOD MAPS showing flood plains we have all been hearing about for so long was released June 16, 2022. Flood Maps show areas in and around Brookland that FEMA considers to be in 100-year flood plain. In town the areas are around Maple Slough Ditch, Whitten Creek Ditch and on the east side of city that is mainly farm ground. We were told in the beginning that these maps would be used to help lenders, developers, and buyers know if they were in an area where flood insurance would be required. With the release of the maps came a different announcement. Flood Maps are just part of the equation now. Cost of Flood insurance will be based on what

is called FEMA 2.0. If I am understanding this correctly, this is how it works. Maps show you to be in a flood pruned area. FEMA will look at the closest main river levee (St. Francis). Measure the distance your property is from main river levee. This will be put into the FEMA 2.0 equation, and that will determine your Flood Insurance Cost.

We understand developers can still build property up to where the land is considered to be out of flood plain. However, if we understand correctly, even by doing this with the FEMA 2.0 you still can have to obtain flood insurance. They say this will reduce the premium charge. We will keep you posted as we know more about how it works.

As July 4th, our country's Independence Day approaches, I pray everyone will have a safe and great day with family and friends. If you plan to travel, be safe.

Mayor Jones



*Have a Safe and
Happy 4th of July
Holiday!*



**Fireworks Ordinance
Reminder**

Fireworks may be discharged between the hours of 10 am & 10 pm 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.



**REMINDER FROM
DEDMAN'S SANITATION
REGARDING DISPOSAL
OF YARD WASTE:**

Dedman's Sanitation wants to remind residents about not putting yard waste and grass clippings in their trash carts. State law prohibits yard waste disposal at the solid waste management facility.

The City of Brookland's MS-4 Stormwater Permit, issued by ADEQ, also prohibits grass clippings from being placed in city ditches.

Residents can contact the Jonesboro City Incinerator at 870-932-7520 for their hours and fees, to haul the grass clippings to their site at 2650 Lacy Dr.



**MOSQUITO CONTROL
INFORMATION**

Any resident with comments and concerns regarding mosquito control are always welcomed and encouraged to contact Vector. At any time should you need our services you are encouraged to call our office at 870-933-6939 or call City hall here in Brookland and they will contact us on your behalf. Have a Blessed Day!

Jim Stark
VDCI

Regional Contract Supervisor
Vector Disease Control International

**SWIMMING POOL
REGULATIONS**



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 or can be viewed on the website.



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. 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:

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- 4/1/22 - Pansy Williams
- 4/8/22 - Bob Sartain
- 4/15/22 - Joe Ferraro
- 4/22/22 - Pat Nelms
- 4/30/22 - Connie Wooldridge
- 5/6/22 - Kathy Ferguson
- 5/13/22 - Mary C Taylor
- 5/20/22 - Robert Baker
- 5/27/22 - Julie Miller
- 6/3/22- Sarah Williams
- 6/10/22 - Donald Forehand
- 6/17/22 - Shelia Evans
- 6/24/22 - Joe Buttgen

Community Calendar:

July



07/04 - Happy Independence Day!

07/04 - City offices closed for Independence Day Holiday

07/05 - Planning Commission Meeting 7:00 pm @ City Hall

07/11 - City Council Meeting 7:00 pm @ City Hall

07/18 - Parks Committee Meeting @ 6:00 pm @ City Hall

August



08/02 - Planning Commission Meeting 7:00 pm @ City Hall

08/08 - City Council Meeting 7:00 pm @ City Hall

08/15 - Parks Committee Meeting 6:00pm @ City Hall

September



09/05 - City Offices closed for Labor Day Holiday

09/06- Planning Commission Meeting 6:00 pm @ City Hall

09/12 - City Council Meeting 7:00 pm @ City Hall

09/19 - Parks Committee Meeting 6:00pm @ City Hall

09/23-24 - Teachers Conference at New Antioch Baptist Church



Brookland Utilities Update:

This is a reminder that our radio-read water meters provide utility employees with a great deal of information, and allow us to notify customers in the event that there is high usage or continual low usage. During the process of trying to contact customers, we have found that a lot of the phone numbers are no longer working numbers. Several residents have switched from landlines to cell phones, but have not updated their phone numbers. Please call and let us know what your correct phone number is, if your number has changed.

We also have a system to send e-mail and/or texts to remind customers that their bills haven't been paid. Please contact city hall at (870)935-0538 and provide your e-mail if you would like to receive notifications.

Tim Harrington
Water/Wastewater Supt.



DANGEROUS HEAT ADVISORY TIPS FOR OUTSIDE DOGS

Hundreds of pets will die of heatstroke this year - don't let it be yours.

1. Be sure your pet has a shaded area all day long. Dogs cannot get cool in their dog houses.
2. Be sure your pet has cool water located in the shade all day long - consider changing it out 3 or 4 times a day.
3. Consider putting a kid's swimming pool with a couple of inches of water in the shaded area with the dog.
4. Take a 2 liter bottle, fill it 3/4 with water, add a few dog kibbles and freeze it. When frozen cut the plastic from around the ice and put the ice in a pan, in the water bowl or in the swimming pool.
5. Don't take your pet with you in your vehicle, especially in the back of a truck - the metal can burn their feet.
6. Be sure your pet has something other than concrete to lie on. Don't take them for walks. Concrete or asphalt can actually burn their feet.

BEST WAY TO PROTECT THEM FROM THE HEAT IS TO BRING YOUR PETS INSIDE. Put them in a crate or behind a baby gate until the weather cools.



Holiday Closing
City offices will be closed Monday-July 4th in observance of Independence Day Holiday



Sounds of the Season

21st Annual Brookland Christmas Parade

The 21st Annual Brookland Christmas Parade will be Sunday, December 4, 2022 at 2:00pm. The 2022 Theme will be "Sounds of Christmas". Mark the date on your calendars!



⚡ **UPCOMING EVENTS:** ⚡
New Antioch Baptist Church

429 CR 960-Goobertown

New Antioch Baptist Church, located at 429 County Road 960, Brookland, will hold a Teachers Conference on Sept. 23rd & 24th. Ted and Jo Mock will be teaching. All churches are invited to attend. Please call 870-972-0339 for more information. Elmer Ash is the pastor.



STORMWATER POLLUTION

*The difference is you-
The Drain Is Just For Rain*

Stormwater is rain that falls on roofs or paved areas like driveways and roads. This water is carried away by a system of stormwater pipes that is separate from the sewage system. It soon reaches our rivers and eventually the ocean. We can help prevent stormwater pollution from ruining our waterways by taking steps to stop detergents, paints, leaves, cigarette

butts and other litter from ending up in our drains and ditches.

CLEANING YOUR CAR

If you wash your car in the street or on your driveway, soaps, mud, oil and grease can wash directly into the stormwater system. Many soaps contain phosphates which over-fertilize waterways and can lead to a buildup of toxic algae which is harmful to fish and humans too.

What can we do to help?

- 1). Try to wash your vehicle on a grassy area or over gravel
- 2). Use as little soap as possible
- 3). Check for any fluid leaks and maintain your car.

CLEANING UP

PAINTING SUPPLIES

Cleaning paint brushes and rollers into gutters or drains puts chemicals in the water which can poison aquatic wildlife such as fish, frogs and even birds.

What can we do to help?

- 1). When using water-based paint, clean up over soil.
- 2). When using oil-based paint: - keep paint and solvents clear of gutters and drains - allows unused paint to dry out and then put it in the trash.