

D E C E M B E R 2 0 1 3

Brookeville Times



How did it get so late so soon?
Its night before its afternoon.
December is here before its June.
My goodness how the time has flown.
How did it get so late so soon?
Dr. Seuss

Mark Your Calendars

Commissioners Meeting

January 13, 8:00 pm

Planning Commission

January 7, 7:30 pm

All meetings are held in the Brookeville Academy
5 High St.

Town Holiday Party

The annual town Holiday Party was held Saturday December 7. There was good food, good company and no shortage of desserts!



Announcements

Call for photos of Historic Brookeville

If you have photos showing the houses, shops, mills or streets of early Brookeville that you'd be willing to share, they would be most appreciated. The scholars (Catherine Lavoie of the National Park Service and Sandy Heiler) studying the buildings and streets of Brookeville in preparation for presentations have exhausted the documents at the Sandy Spring Museum. Please notify Sandy Heiler at sheiler07@gmail.com. We'll copy them and give your originals back. The photos will be useful for the talks planned for the Montgomery County History Conference and the Brookeville symposium later in the spring. Thank you!

Volunteer Wanted For Hospitality

The town would like to do a better job of welcoming new neighbors when they move in. If you enjoy meeting people and making them feel welcome, we have an easy job for you. We would like to deliver a welcome basket with information about the area and some small gifts. If you are interested in making the baskets up (all items provided by town) and delivering them, please call or e-mail Diane Teague (contact info on last page).

LARGE ITEM DROP OFF DUMPSTER

A 20 yd. (pink!) dumpster is now in place at the end of North St. by the School House. It will be there until December 14th. All are welcome to save themselves a trip to the dump and get rid of those items that are too big for the Wednesday trash pick-up. The only prohibited items are mattresses, box-springs and tires.

The auction item below is still available.

James and Dolley Madison Silent Auction Item
Des Affiches Bed and Breakfast
A Two Night Stay is yours for \$125!
For details about this B&B go to:
www.bedandbreakfastdc.com/DesAffiches-id-55.html

Gardening Tips for December

From December to March, there are for many of us three gardens - the garden outdoors, the garden of pots and bowls in the house, and the garden of the mind's eye.

Katherine S. White

Contributed by Suzanne Friis

From The Garden Calendar for the Greater Washington Area
Produced by Brookside Gardens



Indoor Gardening

When Christmas Cactus begin to bloom, reduce watering to prolong flowering. Keep in a warm, sunny window.

Place poinsettias near a sunny window, but away from drafts or heat vents. Do not overwater or expose to cold temperatures.

If houseplants get dusty over winter, clean with a damp cloth or shower them in the sink.

Plant newly-purchased amaryllis bulbs in "houseplant" potting soil with the top inch of the bulb above the soil line. Water thoroughly, place in a sunny spot and do not water again until the green leaves emerge. Amaryllis flower 6-7 weeks after planting.

Tips on caring for seasonal "gift" plants:

- Purchase plants in bud and not full flower as they will last longer.
- Do not fertilize as this speeds up flowering.
- Avoid placing next to drafty windows, doors or heat vents.
- Provide as much winter sunlight as possible.
- Remove spent flowers or fruit to prolong flowering/fruitletting.
- Inspect for insects and if detected, remove with soap and water.
- Do not overwater.
- Do not eat the berries of Jerusalem Cherry as they are poisonous.
- Water Cyclamen by placing the pot in a pan of water for 30 minutes or until the soil is moist. This technique prevents the tuber from rotting. They prefer cool temperatures.

Houseplants and Gift Plants considered toxic to pets are:

- Amaryllis
 - Daffodil
 - Jerusalem (berries poisonous)
 - Mistletoe
 - English Ivy
 - Philodendron
 - Peace Lily (Spathiphyllum)
 - Schefflera
 - Dumb Cane (Dieffenbachia)
 - Azalea
- **Poinsettias are not poisonous but their sap may be irritating



Herbaceous Plants

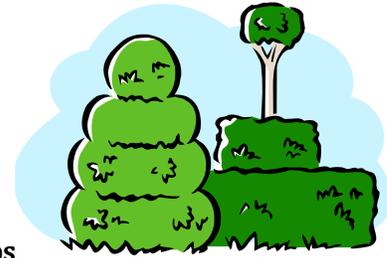
Complete garden clean-up when all leaves and stems have died to the ground. Ornamental grasses provide seeds for the birds so can be left until spring.

Remove maple and tulip poplar leaves from planting beds as they form a mat that air, light and water cannot penetrate. Oak leaves can be left as winter mulch because they do not mat.

Mulch perennial plantings after the ground is frozen to keep the freezing and thawing we experience here from heaving them out of the ground. Use oak leaves, tree boughs, hardwood mulch, pine needles or wood chips.

Mulch pansies with pine needles or straw.

Now is a good time to have your soil tested in preparation for spring planting. For a soil testing kit, contact the Montgomery County Extension Service at (301) 590-9638.



Trees and Shrubs

Deciduous trees and shrubs can be pruned now. Evergreens can be pruned lightly – make a few cuts for holiday decorating.

Check plants around the foundation of your house and if dry, water.

Remove and dispose of tent caterpillar “bags” from trees and shrubs. They are often found on arborvitae and other evergreens.



Miscellaneous

Do not use fertilizers containing nitrate of soda or sulfate of ammonia on concrete to melt ice as these fertilizers can cause the concrete to crumble and are not good for the groundwater. Rock salt can harm plantings.

If purchasing a live Christmas tree for outdoor planting, do not leave the tree in the house longer than 5 days. Prepare your planting site ahead of time so the tree can be planted without delay. Inside, place the tree away from heat or fireplaces and keep cool and moist. Water thoroughly once planted outdoors. The best trees for this purpose are White Pine, Norway Spruce and Douglas Fir.

For cut Christmas trees, once home, cut 1-2 inches off the trunk and submerge the trunk in a bucket of warm water. Some folks add Sprite, ginger-ale or sugar to the water to prolong freshness. Once inside, place the tree away from heat vents and the fireplace and check the water level daily. Trees cut yourself last longer than those purchased from a vendor.

*Salem UMC Community
Events*

Free and Open to All

**CHRISTMAS WORSHIP AND
CELEBRATION**

Children's Pageant: "Grandpa's Christmas"
December 22 at 10:00



Blue Christmas Service
December 22 at 5:00 pm

Christmas isn't always merry. Sometimes we need to bring our grief and our burdens to God before we can attempt to join the party. This is a quiet, contemplative service that allows us to bring our most honest feelings before God, knowing that God's Word comes to shine light in our darkness.

Christmas Eve Services
Family Christmas Eve at 5:00 pm
Traditional Candlelight Service at 7:30 pm

Pre-school Story Time
Fourth Wednesdays at 10:00

Community Hall
(enter from the back)

All preschoolers and adults welcome
join for a story, craft and snack.
Free. No pre-registration required.
For more info contact Janet Craswell
at 301-774-7772
or youth@salemunitedmethodist.org

No Story Time in December

Story time will continue in January if a new storyteller can be found

- Jan. 22: Stories about construction and builders**
- Feb., 26, Stories from Asia**
- March 26: Farm Friends**
- April 23, Easter and Spring**
- May 28: Summer!**



Please note that the Olney Central Mom's Group meets at Salem as does Cub Scout Den 2 from pack 434 and the Wolf Den. Interested people can contact the church if they would like to reach these groups. Salem: 301-774-7772

Town of Brookeville Mailing Address
5 High Street, Brookeville, MD 20833
Phone: 301-570-4465 Fax: 301-570-0355

Commissioners commissioners@townofbrookevillemd.org

Michael Acierno	301.260.2897
Suzanne Daley	301.260.1699
Katherine Farquhar	240.753.2121

Town Clerk clerk@townofbrookevillemd.org
Diane Teague

Treasurer treasurer@townofbrookevillemd.org
Susan Johnson

Planning Commission planning.commission@townofbrookevillemd.org

Academy Rentals academy@townofbrookevillemd.org
Andrea Scanlon

www.townofbrookevillemd.org

