

Brookeville Times



Announcements

Mark Your Calendars

Planning Commission Meeting
December 2, 7:30 pm

Commissioners Meeting
December 8, 7:30 pm

Leaf Pick-Up
November, 22

Holiday Party
December 6, 6:00 pm
Pot Luck! Bring the family!

- ✚ **Leaf Pick-Up:** The town will be providing leaf pick up on the weekend before Thanksgiving. Saturday November 22. Please have your leaves raked to the street. More details about pick-up times to come.
- ✚ **Holiday Party:** The town will be hosting its annual holiday party on Dec. 6th at 6 pm. Please bring a dish to share. Roast turkey, ham, soft drinks, beer, wine, baby sitters and pizza for kids will be provided.
- ✚ **Bicentennial Coins:** The town will be offering bicentennial coins at face value. Please contact the clerk if you are interested.



- ✚ **Light Hauling:** Debbie Wagner can do light hauling to transfer station. She will take metal items for no charge. dwagner0602@gmail.com

**Continuing Conversations: Beyond the ByPass
Town Meeting # 2
November 10 2014**

Commissioners, Katherine Farquhar, Sue Daley, Buck Bartley

Formal conversations about "Beyond the ByPass" are continuing. Hosted by the Commissioners at the Academy, Meeting #2 was on November 10th. 20 Residents gathered to talk about their hopes for the Town going forward – and then divided into two "Table Groups" for conversations: Does Brookeville want to remain a "quiet town that time forgot" after the By-Pass, or do we want a different identity such as becoming an "authentic historic village/destination"? What practical steps do we envision toward our future?

Hopes for the Town: Hopes for Brookeville after the ByPass centered around being a safe, walkable Town; a wonderful community to live in; and preserving our historic legacy without becoming a busy "destination."

Here are sample comments:

- Be able to walk through the Town (preferably on a sidewalk)
- Walkability without danger; safety on the roadway, cross the street without looking 6 ways
- Know neighbors better
- Brookeville as it is – just reduce the traffic (it was nice to have no cars on Ga Ave)
- Be careful not to become too precious (i.e. not criticizing each other's shutters)
- It's a special place – original houses – how do we exploit what we have?

Table Discussions:

Each table reported after 30-minutes of discussion on the "town that time forgot" or "authentic historic village-destination" conversation.

Group 1: Thanks to Don Moore for facilitating & taking notes:

We decided the two "poles" were really on ends of a continuum, and we need to be respectful of our neighbors (e.g. the Inn) that want to be a historical destination. This group invited each person to comment on the "pole" that they identified with. The conversation touched on these general concepts: "quiet", safety, environmentally friendly. A Bypass concept is that Brookeville does not obtain resources by

being a small town of one hundred people or so, rather it obtains resources by being a historically significant town.

Some "Practical" ideas from this group included: Be a safely bike-able town (gets at both "poles", since biking groups like quiet towns, and tend to stop to look around for historical flavor) Be more than a walkable town: Connectivity between different locations, for instance Valley House to Oakley Cabin, Center of town to pond, millrace to fire pit etc. Close off Market street west of High St so there is no traffic there. Plant more Trees! Wildlife! Do upgrades to Academy and its setting: garden areas, crosswalk to church playground, etc). Academy itself as a historic venue.

Positive outcomes: Higher property values in a livable, walkable town and be nice historic town as well. Building on the Inn, Academy, Schoolhouse and Madison House as PR. The group concluded that it will be important to start town residents thinking about these small, individually-desirable actions as we move toward a charrette that envisions the town of the future.

Group 2:

Conversation heavily explored the historic destination option, with concerns for preserving a livable community. Historic Destination: What do we want it to be like for outsiders and for us? Don't make it a destination. We used to have Brookeville Day, walking tours, we could revive that on a casual basis. New Market as a bad example. Something between New Market and a gated community. 20 thousand cars a day are going to stop coming through town. Garrett Park is a good example. Consider posterity: Welcome outsiders, share resource, (i.e. cubscouts, history badge, groups interested in history). Should improve relationship with Inn. Should be cautious about building projects before Bypass as the impact is unknown. Montgomery Parks Dept might be interested in purchasing Inn property within town limit (could be an outdoor event space, for example). Anything we do historically should be accurate. Seminars in the Academy. Use expertise available for free from the Historic Trust. Improve the entrances to town. Get a traffic engineer to find out what could be done.

This group focused heavily on Historic Destination – and at the same time, strongly feels

that the sense of Community in Brookeville needs to be preserved and nurtured.

As the meeting ended, three next steps are clearer:

1) Strategies to engage all households in Town in these conversations and eventual plans are important.

2) Residents are encouraged to go visit similar towns, venues such as the Academy, and talk with people outside Brookeville to learn more about possibilities that could help shape our future. Example: Take a carload of Brookevillians to a historic town like Waterford Virginia, use your cameras to capture scenes & ideas, have lunch there, talk with the locals. Or go see a small historic venue like the Academy – how are they marketing themselves? What’s their furniture and decorating? Come back to Brookeville for one of the future “conversations” with pictures, examples, etc.... Infuse our Brookeville conversation with energy and ideas – work from an open mind, with new information to share along with our traditional perspectives.

3) The Town Commission and the BPC will be talking about next steps in Beyond the ByPass. Keep an eye out for future Town Conversations and updates. Please join in! We anticipate a full-Town planning event in the late Spring, 2014. More on that later.....

Upgrade of Town Street Lights

The commissioners have approved a pilot program to replace the workings of three of the town streetlights on North St.

Salem UMC Community Events

Free and Open to All

Book Group



Salem Book Discussion

December 4, 7:30 pm

Community Hall (upstairs classroom)

Light Between Oceans

by M.L. Stedman

fiction - 345 pages

After four harrowing years on the Western Front, Tom Sherbourne returns to Australia and takes a job as the lighthouse keeper on Janus Rock, nearly half a day’s journey from the coast. To this isolated island, where the supply boat comes once a season, Tom brings a young, bold, and loving wife, Isabel. Years later, after two miscarriages and one stillbirth, the grieving Isabel hears a baby’s cries on the wind. A boat has washed up onshore carrying a dead man and a living baby.

Tom, who keeps meticulous records and whose moral principles have withstood a horrific war, wants to report the man and infant immediately. But Isabel insists the baby is a “gift from God,” and against Tom’s judgment, they claim her as their own and name her Lucy. When she is two, Tom and Isabel return to the mainland where Lucy’s identity is discovered and she is returned to her birth mother.

Christmas Bazaar



Saturday, Dec 6; 10 am - 2 pm

Food, pictures with Santa, basket auction, crafts, and baked goods.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Olney Farmers and Artists Market

Montgomery Medical Center Thrift Shop

Sundays 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. thru Nov. 2nd

Holiday Market: Sunday December 7

Sandy Spring Museum

OFM Winter Market Begins Jan. 11
More than 25 vendors!

<http://www.olneyfarmersmarket.org/>
MedStar Montgomery Medical Center Thrift Shop
at the corner of Prince Phillip and Rt. 108.

Resident Services



Tune-n-Forks

Great Cuisine and a Singer on the Scene!
Let us host your next dinner party!
Enjoy a catered, customized meal
&

Entertainment by a
singer-meet-ukulele player duo

Contact us:

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BELL & FRECH

make your future soar

Year-End Giving To Reduce Your Potential Estate Tax

The federal gift and estate tax exemption, which is currently set at \$5.340 million is projected to increase to \$5.43 million in 2015 (Bloomberg BNA). ATRA set the maximum estate tax rate set at 40 percent.

Gift Tax. For many, sound estate planning begins with lifetime gifts to family members. In other words, gifts that reduce the donor's assets subject to future estate tax. Such gifts are often made at year-end, during the holiday season, in ways that qualify for exemption from federal gift tax.

Gifts to a donee are exempt from the gift tax for amounts up to \$14,000 a year per donee. Caution: An unused annual exemption doesn't carry over to later years. To make use of the exemption for 2014, you must make your gift by December 31.

Husband-wife joint gifts to any third person are exempt from gift tax for amounts up to \$28,000 (\$14,000 each). Though what's given may come from either you or your spouse or both of you, both of you must consent to such "split gifts".

Gifts of "future interests", assets that the donee can only enjoy at some future time such as certain gifts in trust, generally don't qualify for exemption; however, gifts for the benefit of a minor child can be made to qualify.

Tip: If you're considering adopting a plan of lifetime giving to reduce future estate tax, then don't hesitate to call us. We can help you set it up.

Cash or publicly traded securities raise the fewest problems. You may choose to give property you expect to increase

substantially in value later. Shifting future appreciation to your heirs keeps that value out of your estate. But this can trigger IRS questions about the gift's true value when given.

You may choose to give property that has already appreciated. The idea here is that the donee, not you, will realize and pay income tax on future earnings and built-in gain on sale.

Gift tax returns for 2014 are due the same date as your income tax return. Returns are required for gifts over \$14,000 (including husband-wife split gifts totaling more than \$14,000) and gifts of future interests.

Though you are not required to file if your gifts do not exceed \$14,000, you might consider filing anyway as a tactical move to block a future IRS challenge about gifts not "adequately disclosed."

Tip: Call us if you're considering making a gift of property whose value isn't unquestionably less than \$14,000.

Income earned on investments you give to children or other family members are generally taxed to them, not to you. In the case of dividends paid on stock given to your children, they may qualify for the reduced child tax rate, generally 10 percent, where the first \$1,000 in investment income is exempt from tax and the next \$1,000 is subject to a child's tax rate of 10 percent (0 percent tax rate on long-term capital gains and qualified dividends).

Caution: In 2014, investment income for a child (under age 18 at the end of the tax year or a full-time student under age 24) that is in excess of \$2,000 is taxed at the parent's tax rate.

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