

F E B R U A R Y 2 0 1 5

Brookeville Times



"Keep your faith in beautiful things;
in the sun when it is hidden,
in the Spring when it is gone."

Roy R. Gibson

Announcements

- ✚ **Survey of Residents:** Please complete the survey about town priorities before March 1st!
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/WDGH5NN>
- ✚ **Road Work on Market Street:** MDOT has posted No Parking signs on Market St. at the intersection of North and South Streets on both sides of the street. WSSC will be repairing the road where the water main was fixed. The work should commence in the next two weeks.

Mark Your Calendars

Planning Commission Meeting

March 3, 7:30 pm

Commissioners Meeting

March 9, 7:30 pm

Survey

Please submit your survey by March 1!

Community Play

Retired National Geographic editor and local historian, Tom Canby, and Sandy Spring Friends School Community Play Producing Artistic Director and Brookeville resident, Bruce Evans have teamed up again to bring another original historic play to our community called *Quakers, Free Thy Slaves!* The play promises to be both educational and entertaining, centering on the compelling story of how local Sandy Spring and Brookeville Quakers struggled to lead the charge in the late 1700s and early 1800s to abolish slavery in our local communities. The historic backdrop to the play is as follows:

Contrary to the tenets of their faith, many Quakers owned slaves, among them Sandy Spring's founders. Increasingly during the 1700s Quakers pressed members to free their bonded people—to manumit. Over time these testimonies hardened: Manumit, or face disownment from Meeting. The ultimatum brought varied and often wrenching consequences. For Quaker slave-owners, manumitting pitted faith against livelihood: Slaves made their tobacco crops! Were more valuable than the land! Some manumitted; others balked. Neighboring non-Quakers observed the manumissions and saw trouble: Turn hundreds of blacks loose on the land? A sure invitation to mischief! None endured the agony of those still enslaved: Would their masters someday comply—remove the shackles? For them the dream of freedom hung agonizingly in the balance...and beyond their control. And so it is in Quaker Sandy Spring, Maryland, in the year c. 1800.

Performances are this week (Thursday, Friday, Saturday at 7:15pm; and Sunday at 2:30pm) in the Sandy Spring Friends School Performing Arts Center Theatre, 16923 Norwood Road, Sandy Spring, MD. This play is recommended for 5th graders and older. No reservations are required. Seating is first come, first served. Admission is pay-what-you-can at the door.

Bypass

The partnering meeting for February was cancelled. Since the last meeting, SHA Office of Highway Development (OHD) has continued to work on adjusting the geometrics to reduce the impacts to environment. At the last meeting, M-NCPPC raised the question to lower the design speed to 30MPH in order to reduce the impact. M-NCPPC also sent SHA an official letter to request SHA consider design speed of 30 MPH. SHA OHD has concern that lowering the design speed may prevent the project from meeting the purpose and need. An internal meeting was scheduled among SHA OHD, Office of Planning and Preliminary Engineering (OPPE) and Office of Environmental Design (OED) on March 2 to discuss design speed issue and other issues of concern M-NCPPC in the letter.



Taxpayer Beware: Phishing and Phone Scams

IRS impersonation phone scams, as well as phishing continue to be a serious threat to taxpayers topping the list of the IRS "Dirty Dozen" tax schemes once again.

The IRS impersonation phone scam has claimed nearly 3,000 victims who have collectively paid over \$14 million, the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration recently warned.

Phishing email scams continue to be pervasive as well. Illegal scams such as these can lead to significant penalties and interest and possible criminal prosecution. IRS Criminal Investigation works closely with the Department of Justice (DOJ) to shutdown scams and prosecute the criminals behind them.

Both IRS impersonation phone scams and phishing are on the list of the annual IRS list of "Dirty Dozen" tax schemes. Compiled annually, the "Dirty Dozen" lists a variety of common scams that taxpayers may encounter anytime but many of these schemes peak during filing season as people prepare their returns or find people to help with their taxes.

IRS Impersonation Phone Scams

Phone scams, which have hit taxpayers in every State in the country top the "Dirty Dozen" list this year because it has been a persistent and pervasive problem for many taxpayers for many months. Here's how it works:

Callers claiming to be from the IRS tell intended victims they owe taxes and must pay using a pre-paid debit card or wire transfer. Anyone who refuses to pay is threatened with immediate arrest, deportation or loss of a business or driver's license. Scammers are able to alter caller ID numbers to make it look like the IRS is calling. They use fake names and bogus IRS badge numbers. They often leave "urgent" callback requests.

They prey on the most vulnerable people, such as the elderly, newly arrived immigrants and those whose first language is not English. Scammers have also been known to impersonate agents from IRS Criminal Investigation as well.

"It is critical that all taxpayers continue to be wary of unsolicited telephone calls from individuals claiming to be IRS employees," said TIGTA Inspector General J. Russell George. "This scam, which is international in nature, has proven to be the largest scam of its kind that we have ever seen. The callers are aggressive, they are relentless, and they are ruthless. Once they have your attention, they will say anything to con you out of your hard-earned cash."

Taxpayers should keep the following in mind:

- The IRS usually first contacts people by mail--not by phone--about unpaid taxes.
- The IRS won't ask for payment using a pre-paid debit card or wire transfer.
- The IRS also won't ask for a credit card number over the phone.
- The IRS will never threaten to bring in local police or other law-enforcement groups to have you arrested for not paying.

Phishing Email Scams

Phishing is a scam that is typically carried out with the help of unsolicited email or a fake website that poses as a legitimate site to lure in potential victims and prompt them to provide valuable personal and financial information. Armed with this information, a criminal can commit identity theft or financial theft.

It is important to keep in mind the IRS generally does not initiate contact with taxpayers by email to request personal or financial information. This

includes any type of electronic communication, such as text messages and social media channels.

"The IRS won't send you an email about a bill or refund out of the blue. Don't click on one claiming to be from the IRS that takes you by surprise," said IRS Commissioner John Koskinen. "I urge taxpayers to be wary of clicking on strange emails and websites. They may be scams to steal your personal information."

How to Protect Yourself

Don't be fooled. These con artists can sound convincing when they call and they may know a lot about you.

"These criminals try to scare and shock you into providing personal financial information on the spot while you are off guard," Koskinen said. "Don't be taken in and don't engage these people over the phone."

If you get a phone call from someone claiming to be from the IRS and asking for money, here's what you should do:

- If you know you owe taxes or think you might owe, call the IRS at 1-800-829-1040. The IRS workers can help you with a payment issue.
- If you know you don't owe taxes or have no reason to believe that you do, report the incident to the TIGTA at 1-800-366-4484 or at www.TIGTA.gov.
- If you've been targeted by this scam, also contact the Federal Trade Commission and use their "FTC Complaint Assistant" at FTC.gov. Please add "IRS Telephone Scam" to the comments of your complaint.

If you receive an unsolicited email that appears to be from either the IRS or an organization closely linked to the IRS, such as the Electronic Federal Tax Payment System (EFTPS), report it by sending it to phishing@irs.gov.

Salem UMC Community Events

Free and Open to All



ASP Pancake Breakfast
 Sunday, March 1
 11:15 am in the Community Hall
 Freewill donations support the ASP
 summer homebuilding trip

ASP Yard Sale
 Saturday, April 18
 8:00 am – 1:00 pm
 Salem Community Hall
 All proceeds support the ASP
 summer homebuilding trip



Sunday, April 5, 2015

Easter Sunrise Service
 7:00 am at Salem Cemetery
 (across Georgia Ave. from the Church building)

Community Breakfast
 7:30 am at Salem Community Hall
 (next to the Church building)

Worship Celebration
 8:15 am at Salem Sanctuary

Community Easter Egg Hunt
 9:30 am Salem Community Hall
 (next to the Church Building)

Worship Celebration
 10:00 am at Salem Sanctuary

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Sandy Spring Friends School 20th Anniversary Community Play 2015



By: Tom Canby and Bruce Evans

Performances:
 February 26, 27, 28 at 7:15pm
 March 1 at 2:30pm

SSFS Performing Arts Center Theatre
 19623 Norwood Rd.
 Sandy Spring, MD 20860

*Admission is pay-what-you-can at the door.
 No reservations required. Seating is first come, first served!*

Olney Farmers and Artists Winter Market

Location:
 Sandy Spring Museum
 17901 Bentley Rd.
 Sandy Spring, MD

Day & Hours:
 Sunday Jan 11 thru Mar 29, 2015
 from 10 am to 2 pm

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



Garden
Tour
Be inspired...

May 16, 2015 from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

The **Sandy Spring Museum Garden Club** invites you to immerse yourself in local flora, food and fine art by touring five fabulous gardens located on the North New Hampshire Avenue Corridor. Then, celebrate over wine and hors d'oeuvres at a special sixth garden from 4:00-6:00 p.m.

More information to come

Light Hauling: Debbie Wagner can do light hauling to transfer station. She will take metal items for no charge.

dwagner0602@gmail.com



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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Sara: 240.328.2958 ... sara.nuttle@gmail.com

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