

# The Brookeville Times

June 2010

## ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

The Annual Town Meeting was held May 24<sup>th</sup> at the Brookeville Academy. A handful of Town Residents came out to hear President of the Commissioners Michael Acierno State of the Town address.

Highlights of the Annual Meeting included:

- A moment of silence to remember 2 Town Residents who passed away since last year's Annual Meeting: Sid Rotter and Andrea Barr.
- Remarks from State Delegate Karen Montgomery, who recently announced her candidacy for the State Senate against incumbent Rona Kramer.
- Clean Up Day was a success and the Town will make a \$500 donation to Our House.
- Winter 2009-2010 - this past winter was one of the worst on record and demonstrated how special a town Brookeville is. The Town hopes to recoup some of its February snow storms expenses from Maryland Emergency Management Agency.
- Update on the Brookeville Academy
- Fiscal Year 2010-2011 budget
- Cost cutting measures the Town undertook this past fiscal year.
- The Comprehensive Plan was granted an extension to allow the Town to address comments from MDP and Town Residents. The Comprehensive Plan (also know as the Master Plan) should be completed sometime this Fall.
- The Town is eligible to receive \$5000 from an EmPOWERing Clean Energy Communities grant. The Town had hoped to use this grant money for the tankless water heater installed at the Academy but will have to explore new opportunities.

Commissioner President Michael Acierno solicited suggestions from Town Resident on how the Town can reduce expenses. Commissioner President Acierno stated that there is a lot more communication happening and keeping the lines of communication open are helpful in tough financial times.

The Town Commissioners extended an invitation to the Annual Town Picnic to be held Sunday, August 29<sup>th</sup> from 4:00p.m – 7:00p.m. at the Brookeville Academy.

## Election Results

Commissioner President Michael Acierno was reelected May 11, 2010. He will be sworn in for another 2 year term at the June 14th Commissioners Meeting. The Commissioners will elect a new President of the Commissioners at the June Commissioners Meeting.

***Congratulations Michael!***

# GREEN TIPS

## Renewable Energy Contract Renewed

For the past year, the Brookeville Academy has been operating using 100% wind power. The contract has been renewed with Clean Currents for another year, June 2010 to June 2011, at \$.09396/kWh rate for 100% wind power for the Brookeville Academy. The cost is lower than last year's \$ .10127/kWh rate for 100% wind power and lower than Pepco's current rates.

## Green Neighborhood Challenge

### 20 Brookeville Families Now Using Wind Energy

Your neighbors, Fred Teal and Deborah Wagner, are involved with Clean Currents Green Neighborhood Challenge. Fred and Deborah have been visiting homes in Town to encourage residents to make the switch from electricity made from burning coal to clean wind energy. The electricity is purchased from Clean Currents in Rockville, MD through Washington Gas Energy Services and is now cheaper than PEPCO. For example it is now possible to get 100% wind energy for one year from Clean Currents for 10.9 cents per kilowatt hour. PEPCO's average price is 12.3 cents per kilowatt hour. Using Clean Currents represents an 11% savings and cuts green house gas emissions significantly. Fred and Deborah have signed up 20 homes and will continue to recruit homes until October 10th. Clean Currents will donate to the Town \$10 for each household that signs up to be used towards a "green project".

These reductions apply to the generation and transmission charges in your PEPCO bill which are about 65% of the total. PEPCO will continue to do all of its standard maintenance and support functions and you will get the same bill from PEPCO each month. Call Fred (301.774.8151) or Debbie to get signed-up and switch to clean wind energy today.

### **Please take note:**

**The following items may not be burned in Montgomery County at any time:**

- Household trash
- Tires
- Construction debris
- Asphalt shingles and tar paper
- Leaves, lawn thatch, and garden trimmings
- Brush and other plant life (except certain agricultural materials)

Disposal Alternatives for Material That Can't Be Burned

- Compost your leaves and yard trimmings
- Practice grasscycling for lawn clippings
- Haul your materials to the Montgomery County's Solid Waste Transfer Station or "Beauty Spots."

The Town of Brookeville has a contractor for curbside recycle (cans, bottles, plastics and paper) and trash collection. Recycling pickup is on Tuesday and trash is collected on Wednesday, unless otherwise noted.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

### TOWN COMMISSIONERS SEEKING INDIVIDUALS TO SERVE ON THE BROOKEVILLE PLANNING COMMISSION

As members of the planning commission, you will have accepted the civic responsibility of helping residents and business and property owners articulate and achieve a vision for how they want their community to look and function in the future. The planning commission is the primary entity responsible for long term, comprehensive planning, having the ability to put some foresight into planning and development decisions.

The State of Maryland entrusts local jurisdictions with land use planning authority. Article 66B of the Maryland Annotated Code enables local government like Brookeville to guide growth and development; outlines the responsibilities, roles, and functions of the planning commission; and sets the “ground rules” for operations.

Residents on the west side of town are especially encouraged to apply. If you are interested in serving on the Brookeville Planning Commissioner, please contact a Town Commissioners or email [townofbrookeville@comcast.net](mailto:townofbrookeville@comcast.net)

### Schoolhouse Update

The one-room Schoolhouse along North Street has been fitted with gutters. During the initial renovation process, gutters were not installed on the Schoolhouse. Having no gutters caused drainage issues and allowed moisture to mount up warping the wooden building. A humidifier will be used again this summer in the Schoolhouse to help “dry” the wooden building. The Town will hold off any more work on the Schoolhouse this fiscal year.

### Heritage Days

The Brookeville Schoolhouse will be open Saturday, June 26th from 12noon – 4:00pm as part of Montgomery County’s 13th Annual Heritage Days. A period schoolteacher will be on site with her lessons to offer a little bit of living history.

The Brookeville Schoolhouse will be one of 40 historic sites open to the public the weekend of June 26 & 27.

For more information on Heritage Days, please visit [www.heritagemontgomery.org](http://www.heritagemontgomery.org)

### TROPICAL STORM SEASON STARTS ON JUNE 1

We urge residents to plan for a more active hurricane season this year since weather forecasters are predicting as many as eight major storms in 2010. Be alert to weather advisories and be prepared for high winds and flooding. Because power outages sometimes happen, planning ahead is essential. Here are some things you can do right now to prepare:

- **Assemble an emergency “storm kit.”** Include a battery-powered radio or television, flashlight, a first-aid kit, battery-powered or windup clock, extra batteries, special needs items, an insulated cooler and a list of important and emergency phone numbers.
- **Keep at least a three-day supply of nonperishable foods and bottled water** and have a hand-operated can opener available.
- Make sure you have a **telephone with a cord or cell phone** to use as a backup. Cordless telephones require electricity to operate, and won’t work if there is an outage. If your phone service is part of a “bundle”, during power outages, you’ll have no Internet connection, and therefore, no phone service.
- **Protect your electronic equipment.** Plug computers and other sensitive equipment into surge suppressors, and consider a UPS (uninterruptible power supply) for temporary battery backup power.

To learn more about Montgomery County's emergency preparedness, visit <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgtmpl.asp?url=/content/PIO/news/preparedness.asp>

## DO YOU KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE BROOKEVILLE ACADEMY?

The Academy is much more than just a place for an occasional pot luck dinner. In addition to housing the Town government functions, the Brookeville Academy serves the surrounding community. Music lessons, yoga classes and a business networking group meet at the Academy on a regular basis. It has been the proud host of nearly every type of event: birthday and graduation parties, baby and bridal showers, rehearsals and recitals, family and business gatherings. Residents, businesses, non-profit organizations and community groups all utilize the facility. Recently, the Academy was a training center for the 2010 Census.

For nearly two hundred years the Academy has maintained its role as a gathering place. It is an important historical resource and a source of pride for the Town of Brookeville.

Are you planning an event? Remember, town residents are entitled to a discount rental rate. Visit our website at [www.townofbrookevillemd.org](http://www.townofbrookevillemd.org) to check the availability calendar online. Is there something you would like to see held at the Brookeville Academy? Contact the Academy Manager, Andrea Scanlon with your suggestions.

### Town of Brookeville

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### Calendar Dates

#### **Planning Commission**

1Jun 7:30pm

#### **Commissioners Meeting**

14Jun 8:00pm

#### **Planning Commission**

6Jul 7:30pm

#### **Commissioners Meeting**

12Jul 8:00pm

#### **Annual Town Picnic**

29Aug 4:00pm

*All Meetings and events are held at the Brookeville Academy and are open to the public.*

#### **Have an Item for The Brookeville Times?**

Let us know!! We want to hear about happenings in the Town of Brookeville. You can submit articles/photos about places you've been, work you've done, new neighbors, weddings, birth announcements, anything of interest to you and your neighbors.

Contact the Town Clerk at 301-570-4465 or [townofbrookeville@comcast.net](mailto:townofbrookeville@comcast.net)

*Letters to the Editor Welcomed*