



# City of BROOKVILLE

"A Proud and Progressive Community."

The **Mayor's Ninth Annual Prayer Breakfast** will be held on January 5, 2012 at K's Restaurant. The program is led by the Brookville Ministerial Association and is open to the public. If you have not attended in the past, Mayor Seagraves encourages you to come. It promises to be a great morning of food and fellowship. The breakfast starts at 7:30 AM and costs \$6.00 per person. Please RSVP to the Brookville City Office at 833-2135 before December 22, 2011 if you plan to attend.

### **City Earns Award for Excellent Financial Recordkeeping**

A recent financial audit of the City of Brookville by Auditor of State Dave Yost's office has returned a clean audit report. The City of Brookville's excellent record keeping has earned it the Auditor of State Award. "The recognition is a result of the meticulous work of the Finance Department and represents the team's commitment to excellence," said Mayor Seagraves. The audit is available for review in the city office during regular business hours.

Winter Issue 2011

Phone: 937-833-2135 Fax: 937-833-3347

### **Revitalizing Our Downtown Business District**

In 2009, the City of Brookville partnered with the Montgomery County Economic Development Department on a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for revitalization of our Downtown Business District. The intent of the program is to bring about the economic redevelopment of Downtown Brookville through interior and exterior physical building and business improvements through a 95% grant to local merchants/property owners. The City of Brookville feels that a number of our buildings in the Downtown Business District are underutilized. Some of the buildings are either built with inferior building materials or had improper application of building materials many years ago. Poor workmanship and similar factors have also contributed to the current state of some of the downtown buildings.

Through meetings with the downtown business owners, City leaders set the following goals as the City of Brookville's Downtown Building Reinvestment Project:

1. Upgrade the appearance of building facade to improve and maintain the look of the Downtown Business District.
2. Provide incentives for business retention and recruitment by providing grant funds or correcting code issues (building, health, safety) on exteriors of buildings located within the Downtown.
3. Encourage the restoration of buildings to their original design. This should encourage new businesses to either relocate or locate to this area of Brookville.
4. Create job opportunities for residents as building improvements create an economic impact.
5. To invigorate building and business owners to believe in and take part in the transformation of Downtown Brookville.
6. To increase awareness of Brookville business owners and to continue the momentum that the CDBG Program has created.
7. To serve as a building block or foundation for future business improvements that will result from the revitalization as well.
8. This program has seen three phases to date with 17 property and business owners taking advantage of this grant money. Out of the 17 recipients, 7 have applied more than once.

Following are examples of how this Community Development Block Grant money has aided some of our Downtown Business District:

Jean Johnson, of [Jean Johnson/Tina Bollinger Massage Therapy](#) located at 225 Market Street, noticed the awning on the front of her building was starting to separate from the main building. Other problems with the building were a leaky roof that was causing a considerable amount of damage on the inside of her business. Jean applied for the CDBG money in Phase I and Phase II to help fix the problems that arose with an aging building.



### **Jean Johnson/Tina Bollinger Massage Therapy**

"I am so grateful to have a dry building again. If not for the grant money I could not afford to fix the building until several years from now. "

Gratefully,  
Jean Johnson

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Today Johnson/Bollinger's Massage Therapy has replaced the damaged awning with a custom designed new awning. The roof was replaced, a new coat of paint was applied, and a once very small restroom was converted to an ADA compliant restroom.

[Mar-Chele, Inc.](#), located at 18 Market Street, experienced the same problems with an aging building. Several years ago the old Hay & Powell Furniture Store collapsed next to their building leaving a vacant lot and exposing an unsightly exterior wall that did not match the rest of the building. Brad and Michele Good, owners of Mar-Chele, Inc. decided to apply for CDBG money in Phase I. Grant money helped fix the exterior wall with a more durable material that matched the rest of their building. Phase II of the CDBG money helped the Good's repair their roof that was starting to leak and create problems. With their Phase III application, the Good's used their funding to fix up the vacant lot and added an area in the building to promote the goods that they produce. Today Mar-Chele, Inc. has a very eye appealing exterior look with a comforting landscape area next to them. The sales area has helped promote their product and the building is leak free.

[Minkner Services](#), owner of 220-222-224 Market Street had a similar scenario, an older building in dire need of improvements. With the aid of the CDBG money, Minkner Services was able to replace the aging and dangerous glass front of their building. New doors were added, deteriorated glass tiles were replaced with safer dryvit material, and a more energy saving glass front was added. A once vacant store front is now the home of two new businesses. Minkner Services took part in Phase's I, II & III.

Other businesses that applied for Community Development Block Grant funding are:

[Candy Break](#), of 208 Market Street, replaced a deteriorated awning with a new one, along with fresh paint and a new decorative fence.

[Doggone Salon](#), of 14 S. Wolf Creek Street, replaced aging windows with more energy efficient windows.

[Hatmaker's Service Center](#), of 7 S. Wolf Creek Street, installed a new roof and repaved their parking area.

[O'Riley's Tavern](#), of 10 Market Street, painted and caulked building exterior.

John Bowling, owner of [28 Market Street](#), replaced old and dangerous store front glass windows and painted the building exterior.

[Gardner's Automotive](#), of 237 Hay Avenue, replaced dilapidated fence with a decorative fence and replaced windows on the store front.

[Booher Insurance](#), of 104-106 Market Street, replaced an aging roof.

[Brookville Aluminum](#), of 227 Market Street, installed new windows, roof, paint and a guard rail to protect the side of the building.

[Garrison-Rhoads Investments](#), of 29 Hay Avenue, repaired a deteriorated front porch to the office and installed a new retaining wall.

Eric Leiber, owner of the building located at 201-209 Market Street that houses [Bobbie's Florals](#), [Brookville Barber Shop](#), and the [Market Street Café](#) has a new roof and repairs to the awning over the side walk on Market Street.

[Village Auto Parts](#), of 123 Market Street, replaced a cracked, deteriorated glass store front and added a new entrance door.



**Mar-Chele, Inc.**

“This project helps the community twofold; it preserves the integrity of the older buildings in the downtown area and provides additional work for other area businesses. Along the way in this endeavor we have utilized the services of R&B Contracting, Ideal Construction, Bennett Roofing, and Helping Hands to name a few. We have been very satisfied with the work performed. Most importantly, kudos to the City of Brookville for the foresight of pursuing grants to benefit downtown improvement and providing funds for our business as well as many others.”

Respectfully,  
Brad & Michele Good



**220-222-224 Market Street**

“The program has allowed us to make improvements that we were not able to do by ourselves due to the current economic conditions. The improvements we have made to the façade of our building have been very well received and we have heard numerous comments from everyone. The program has improved the appearance of downtown Brookville and is a benefit to the entire city.”

Sincerely,  
Bruce W. Minkner

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**Spitler House**

“The Brookville Historical Society would like to thank the City of Brookville for the grant to help pay for part of the painting on the Spitler House in downtown Brookville. When you see a building on a day-to-day basis, you do not notice the slow deterioration that is occurring. We hired Jeff Wysong to do some restoration on the house by replacing old and rotting wood. Waggoner Painting was hired to do the exterior painting. The attention to detail and the pride that they took in painting the Spitler House is evident as you look at the freshly painted house and envision what it looked like when it was newly built. As it stands now, it is a wonderful example of the craftsmanship and pride that was put into the building by the original builders. For the Historical Society, it is a jumpstart on helping us get started on the restoration of the Spitler House, Genealogy Library, Exhibition Building, Train Depot and Caboose in the City of Brookville.”

Sincerely,  
 Brookville Historical Society

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Village Auto Repair, of 9 N. Wolf Creek Street, had the gravel parking lot blacktopped.

The Brookville Historical Society applied for Community Development Grant funding to paint and restore the exterior of the Spitler House located at 14 Market Street.

In all, approximately \$289,500 was spent on various exterior building improvements for the Brookville Downtown Building Reinvestment Project since 2009. New jobs have been created and the appearance of Downtown Brookville has improved. Phase IV of the Downtown Business Improvement Program will begin accepting applications in early Spring 2012. Downtown merchants are encouraged to apply. If you have questions on this program, please contact Sonja Keaton or Jim Snedeker at the Brookville City Building, 937-833-2135.



A new sidewalk was recently constructed from Golden Gate Estates to the roadway along Upper Lewisburg Salem Road, allowing residents of Golden Gate Estates to walk to Golden Gate Park safely.

**New Equipment Purchased Through State Program**

Our service department recently took delivery of two new pieces of equipment: a leaf vacuum and a one-ton dump truck. Both were purchased at a considerable savings through the State of Ohio Co-operative Purchasing Program and will replace existing pieces of equipment.

The new truck replaces a twelve year old unit and is one of the most versatile pieces we have. It is used to plow snow, pick up leaves, pick up and chip tree limbs, pull trailers and to haul dirt and gravel.

The leaf vacuum replaces a 25 year old unit that we purchased used in 1995. It will haul 25 cubic yards of leaves and is powered by a diesel engine. The vacuum’s advantages over the old unit should increase our productivity.



## **NEW COURSE TO FOCUS ON DISASTER READINESS**

Now is the time for Brookville-area residents to step up and help their community in a big, big way.

Coordinators of the Brookville Fire Department's Community Emergency Response Team (C.E.R.T.) will offer a course to give area residents the knowledge and training to assist the Fire Department in the event of a community-wide disaster. C.E.R.T. members are volunteers and operate under the direction of the local fire department.



The new course will begin in late January and meets once a week through March. Training will be offered in a variety of topics including light search and rescue operations, radio operations, pet first aid and fire safety.

The training will conclude with a simulated disaster situation where those being trained will use the information they receive during the training sessions.

There is no charge to take the course. To register or obtain more information about the training call C.E.R.T. Coordinator Beverly Howdieshell at 833-5690. Her e-mail address is [bhowdieshell@woh.rr.com](mailto:bhowdieshell@woh.rr.com). You may also contact C.E.R.T. by contacting C.E.R.T. Assistant Coordinator Jim Caporini at 837-7398. His e-mail address is [jcap422@yahoo.com](mailto:jcap422@yahoo.com).

**The City offices will close at noon on Friday, December 23rd in observance of the Christmas holiday and remain closed until Tuesday, December 27th.**

**We will also close at noon on Friday, December 30th for the New Year's holiday and will reopen on Tuesday, January 3rd.**

**Friday refuse routes will be picked up on Friday before noon.**



### ***2012 City of Brookville Holiday Closings***

New Year's Day, Monday, January 2nd- Refuse & Recycling on Tuesday, January 3rd

Martin Luther King Day, Monday, January 16th- Refuse & Recycling on Tuesday, Jan 17th

President's Day, Monday, February 20th- Refuse & Recycling on Tuesday, February 21st

Good Friday, Friday, April 6th- Refuse on Thursday, April 5th

Memorial Day, Monday, May 28th- Refuse & Recycling on Tuesday, May 29th

Independence Day, Wednesday, July 4th- Refuse on Tuesday, July 3rd

Labor Day, Monday, September 3rd- Refuse & Recycling on Tuesday, September 4th

Thanksgiving, Thursday, November 22nd- Refuse on Friday, November 23rd

Christmas Eve, Monday, December 24th- ½ day, regular refuse/recycling route

Christmas Day, Tuesday, December 25th- Refuse on Wednesday, December 26

New Year's Eve, Monday, December 31st- ½ day, regular refuse/recycling route

## Celebrate the Holidays Safely

As we approach the holidays some of us will attend parties with family and friends where alcoholic beverages will be served in celebration. We ask that if you do consume, please have a designated driver take you safely home. Here are some facts about... **DRUNK DRIVING.**

1. Drunk driving causes approximately one-third of all traffic fatalities in the United States.
2. On average, someone in the U.S. is killed by a drunk driver every 40 minutes.
3. According to the law in all 50 U.S. states, a driver is considered to be legally drunk when his or her blood alcohol content (BAC) level is at or above .08 grams per deciliter (g/dL).
4. To reach a BAC level of .08 g/dL, a man weighing approximately 170 pounds would need to consume four standard drinks in one hour on an empty stomach. A woman weighing about 140 pounds would need to consume three drinks in one hour.
5. It takes approximately six hours after drinking for the body to completely eliminate alcohol from its system with a BAC level of .08 g/dL.
6. Because alcohol dilutes itself in the water volume of the body in order to travel through it, vital organs that contain a lot of water (such as the brain) are particularly vulnerable to the effects of alcohol.
7. Even at BAC levels as low as .02 g/dL, alcohol can affect a person's response time and driving ability. The probability of a crash increases significantly after .05 BAC, and even more rapidly after .08 BAC.
8. A driver with a BAC of .08 g/dL is 11 times more likely to be in a fatal accident than a driver who has consumed no alcohol.
9. Approximately 75% of fatal crashes occurring between midnight and 3 a.m. involve alcohol.
10. The highest rates of drunk driving occurs in drivers aged 21-24. This age group makes up 35% of alcohol-impaired drivers involved in fatal collisions.
11. An alcohol-related collision is more than twice as likely to occur on the weekend than during the week. Roughly 31% of drivers involved in fatal crashes on the weekend are legally drunk, as opposed to just 15% during the week.
12. Beer is the most common type of alcoholic beverage involved in both DUI arrests and fatal crashes, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). It is also the drink of choice in most cases of binge drinking and underage drinking.
13. All 50 states and the District of Columbia currently have "zero tolerance" laws, which make it illegal for anyone under the age of 21 to drive with a BAC of .02 g/dL or higher.
14. To determine if a driver is legally impaired, a police officer will typically administer a breathalyzer test. A breathalyzer is a machine that estimates a driver's blood alcohol content level by determining the amount of alcohol in his or her lungs.
15. Somewhere between 50% to 75% of drunk drivers who have their licenses suspended for DUI convictions continue to drive without a license.



### Crime Prevention

We have seen an increase in thefts this year, both from vehicles as well as from sheds, garages and buildings. We want to remind everyone to lock all doors and keep valuables out of sight. Remove purses, wallets, GPS units, computers and anything else of value from your vehicles. Lock the doors and park in well lit locations. At home keep doors and windows locked and use outside lights to keep area visible to all.



### When do you call 911?

The Regional Dispatch Center has been experiencing a large volume of 911 calls that really are not considered emergency type calls. An emergency call is a life threatening situation, injury, fire or crime in progress, in which case it would be proper to call 911. To meet with or talk with an Officer or to file a report you should call the seven digit number of 225-4357. If you need information on an active case, to get public records information or request vacation house checks you can call our Police Office Mon-Fri between 8a-4p at 833-2001.

## Council Members

*Dave Seagraves, Mayor*  
*Bob Apgar*  
*Margo Cantrell*  
*Michael Duncan*  
*Bruce Garber*  
*Chuck Letner*  
*Ron Ullery*

**We're on the web!**  
[www.brookvilleohio.com](http://www.brookvilleohio.com)

## City Staff

*John R. Wright, City Manager*  
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*Sonja Keaton, Asst. City Mgr./*  
*Dir. of Finance/Clerk*  
[keaton@brookvilleohio.com](mailto:keaton@brookvilleohio.com)  
*Ed Preston, Dir. of Police*  
[preston@brookvilleohio.com](mailto:preston@brookvilleohio.com)  
*James Nickel, Dir. of Fire*  
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## Snow Reminders

Property owners are responsible for maintaining the area in front of their property and keeping it free of safety hazards. Please take the time to shovel your walks so they are usable.

Residents are reminded not to blow or throw snow into the roadway after the streets have been plowed as this creates a hazardous condition. Also, please use off street parking during snowfalls of 2" or more so that city crews can clear the streets.

Our refuse crews would also appreciate it if you would consider them when you place your trash cans and recycle bins out during heavy snowfalls. Place cans either at the curb, in your apron where you have already cleared the snow, or clear the snow in front of the cans so they are easily accessible.

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## BFD WELCOMES TWO NEW OFFICERS

The written tests are over, the evaluations are history and the Brookville Fire Department has two new lieutenants. Nine firefighters went for those promotions and Dan Wolfe and Tyler Ullery received them. "Our first step was to challenge the candidates with a series of tests and evaluations," Fire Chief James Nickel said. "Once those were completed we narrowed the list of candidates to five. Based on the overall test results the top two candidates were selected to fill the positions." Nickel and the department's other officers were pleased with the performances of all of the lieutenant hopefuls.

"The test results were close – like splitting frog hairs," the Fire Chief added, noting that it has been awhile since new officers were added to the department. The new lieutenants will be sworn in on December 6.

Wolfe became a member of the Brookville Fire Department on June 6, 2005 and Ullery has been a firefighter here since November 1, 2005.

"The testing procedure was quite intense and all five of the finalists were very competitive," Fire Chief Nickel said. "Both of the new lieutenants were in the department's Cadet Program and we are pretty proud of that," he added.

The Brookville Fire Department currently has about 35 members.



## Officer Receives Evidence Certification

Patrol Officer Adam Lyons (pictured left) recently completed a two week training program earning his certification through the Miami Valley Regional Crime Lab as an Evidence Technician. Patrol Officer Lyons is the ninth member of the department to earn this certification.

*City of Brookville*  
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**POSTAL PATRON**

Christmas tree disposal will be offered again this year free of charge. Place trees – minus stands, bags and ornaments out with your regular refuse. Trees will be picked up and disposed of on a weekly basis.