

# The Brentwood Lamplighter



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## BRENTWOOD DAY IS COMING

Want a parade? How about food vendors? Vendors selling wares of all kinds? Entertainment, rides & games? There is a lot to do in the background of all events and volunteers are needed. Roll up your sleeves, dig in and help make it great! To volunteer, call or stop by the Town Hall, 301-927-3344.



## BRICK FOR VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK

Do you have your brick in the Brentwood Veterans Memorial Park yet? If not, a brick or bricks may be purchased by contacting the Town office and requesting information. The bricks are \$29 each and will be inscribed with the name, branch of service, and war with which the veteran is associated.

## BRENTWOOD/MT. RAINIER JOINT POLICING

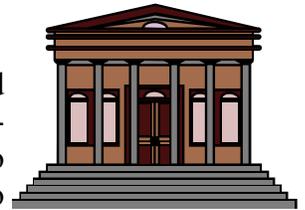
The Town of Brentwood and the City of Mt. Rainier have received a joint grant for \$70,000 from Prince George's County Executive Jack Johnson under the Livable Communities Initiative (LCI) to provide additional police protection and police presence within both municipalities. We received a similar grant for \$90,000 last year. Like last year, a Mt. Rainier police officer will operate out of the Brentwood Town Hall insuring a minimum of 40-hours of on-duty service between the two towns during the life of the grant. The officer will be charged with developing and implementing a Business Watch Program, as well as other programs/projects

## TOWN OFFICES CLOSED

The Town Offices will be closed on Monday, May 26, in observance of Memorial Day.

## SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE

The Prince George's Elected Municipal Women organization is pleased to be able to offer a \$500 scholarship to any graduating senior from a Prince George's County Public School. Applications are available in the Brentwood Town Hall. **Deadline for application submission is May 26, 2008.**



## WEST HYATTSVILLE

The City of Hyattsville will be holding its 122nd Anniversary Parade on Saturday, May 10, at 10:00 a.m. with a festival at Magruder Park immediately following the parade. All are welcome to attend. Information call the Recreation Department at 301/985-5020.

## DROP-IN BASKET- BALL



Attention teens and parents in Brentwood and Mount Rainier! There will be "Drop-In Basketball" at Thomas Stone Elementary School, 4500 34th Street, Mt. Rainier, every Friday and Saturday night at 6:00-10:00 p.m. starting Friday, June 6, 2008. The program will be for youths ages 13-18 and a school ID or M-NCPPC ID is required to participate.

The Town of Brentwood does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, or disability. If you are a person with a disability (vision, hearing, or speech impairment) and wish to participate in Town activities or programs, please contact the Town Hall at (301) 927-3344 or Maryland Relay System at 1-800-735-2258.

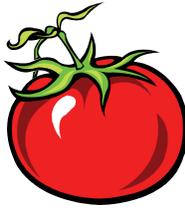


## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Wishing a Happy Belated Birthday to Billy Grigsby who turned 29 again. Also wishing a Happy Belated Birthday to Willy Grigsby who officially became an adult in April.

## FARMERS MARKET

The Riverdale Park Farmers Market opens on May 1 through to the end of October 2008, every Thursday from 3pm-7pm. A producer's only market which means everything is locally grown. The market includes fruits, vegetables, baked goods, herbs, flowers, soaps, prepared foods and a variety of craft vendors. Located at the Riverdale Town Center at the intersection of Queensbury Road and Rhode Island Avenue (next to the Riverdale Park Marc Train station). If you would like more information, call the Riverdale Park Town Hall, (301) 927-6381.



## GREEN \$TUFF

Ron Bretemps

This column is being written to help Green the Planet, our town and our wallets. Any suggestions or tips are welcomed.

Did you know grass clippings are great fertilizer and mulch? Stay away from grass with herbicides used on it though. The Town still has some leaf mulch and wool chips available free. Call the office for details, 301-927-3344. If you have unneeded cardboard, please recycle it on Fridays.

## NATIONAL "DO NOT CALL" REGISTRY

The National "Do Not Call Registry" gives you a choice about whether to receive telemarketing calls at home or on your cell phone. Most telemarketers should not call your number once it has been on the registry for 31 days. If they do, you can file a complaint at this Website [www.donotcall.gov](http://www.donotcall.gov). You can register your home or mobile phone for free. Your registration will be effective for five years. Call 1-888-382-1222 from the number to be blocked or you can visit their website.

## MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Here it is budget time! Always an emotional time. It hits us all in the pocket. It is something that must be done in order for our Town to run smoothly and to give our residents the service they deserve and desire.

Budgeting is the nerve center of our Town. It is the primary decision-making system with which we allocate resources to achieve governmental priorities and objectives. In order to accomplish this task it is necessary to have the funds and to have the funds means someone has to pay – that means us, the residents!

It's always easy to promise there will be no "tax increase" or "taxes will be decreased," but this is not always the case. It's important to remember that the budget presented to the Council by the Mayor is a "proposed" budget, not the final one. The Mayor, along with staff input, pulls together what she/he believes will move the Town forward and provide the necessary services needed. It is not the Mayor's personal budget. The Council reviews, revises, and adopts the budget after workshops and public hearings are held. This gives both the Council and residents a chance to discuss each line item in the budget.

The largest portion of our revenue is derived from property taxes. Property taxes provide almost a third of all revenues and without it the Town would not have the ability to pay for desired services. Other sources of revenue include, but are not limited to, income taxes, state shared revenues, state and federal grants, and, frequently, county aid. Accurate revenue and expenditure forecasting is a crucial step, but it is difficult to develop forecasts with absolute certainty. This is because they are largely dependent upon the accuracy of data estimates and projections from the county and state. There are also unexpected economic declines that can decrease anticipated revenue collections while increasing the demand for services and the cost of providing those services. As we proceed with the budget process please keep in mind that the process is not an easy one. It requires us all to work together to accomplish our goals.

**BRENTWOOD MONTHLY  
POLICE STATISTICS  
March 1 – April 15, 2008**

Abandoned Vehicle	-----	1
Area Checks	-----	438
Business Checks	-----	51
Disorderly Conduct	-----	16
Field Observation	-----	17
Misdemeanor Arrest/Adult	-----	4
Parking Tickets Issued	-----	23
Stop and Frisk	-----	11
Stop Sign Enforcement	-----	65
Traffic Enforcement	-----	71
Vehicle Criminal Citations	-----	71
Vehicle Warning Citations	-----	74

**MARYLAND CRIME VICTIMS'  
RESOURCE CENTER**

MCVRC is one of the most successful grassroots organizations in the history of Maryland. They provide criminal justice information and education; support services; therapeutic individual, family and group counseling; and legal information, referrals, and representation. They are a non-profit organization, services are free, but they rely on individual and community support. For more information, call (301) 952-0063-Washington, DC Metro area, in the Baltimore area, (410) 234-9885 or toll free at (877) 842-8461 or [www.mdcrimevictims.org](http://www.mdcrimevictims.org).

**FREE IS GOOD**

Reuse groups like the Freecycle Network use email to offer items and arrange for pickup. Membership is free, and groups are moderated by helpful volunteers. It's not a charity or a business: It's an idea that perfectly good used stuff deserves a home other than the landfill. Instead of throwing out things like furniture, dishes, bikes, and electronics, people in a reuse group give these items away for free to other people in their community who can use them. To go to: <http://green.yahoo.com/earth-day> to find a local group.

**MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT**

Have Waste?

Don't Know What To Do With It?

The Town does not pick up household hazardous material/waste, paint cans, propane tanks, and/or batteries. These should all be taken to the HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE LOT, 3500 Brown Station Road, Upper Marlboro (use entrance located on White House Road near intersection of MD 202)

**WHAT DO YOU DO ON NICE DAYS?**

Nice weather brings people out of their houses. If you are washing your car, gardening, working on your house, and want to listen to music, keep it to a respectful level. Not everyone likes the same music and blaring the radio or vehicle stereo so that it rattles your neighbors houses is not very neighborly. Please keep your music to a comfortable level and make sure your visitors are respectful of your neighborhood. It's only simple respect.

**Reading is FUNdamental!**

Reading is a productive and enjoyable activity with lifelong benefits. Reading skills and speed reading programs for children and adults, sponsored by the George Washington University, will be held at the University of Maryland, College Park campus. Classes will begin June 15 and 16, 2008. Program prices range from \$239-\$299, plus materials fee, per/person. To register or for more information, please call 1-800-978-9596.

**IT'S SUMMER**

Children are out of school and although not suppose to, playing in the streets. Please remember as you drive the streets, that children are playing in and near the streets. As a motorist, it is our responsibility to watch for them to help keep them safe. Even driving the 25mph speed limit, it is possible to seriously injure or kill a child. That is a tragedy that CAN be avoided!



**GRASS CUTTING TIME**

From the Code Enforcement desk:

Remember when cutting grass/weeds on your property, you need to cut all the way to the street, inside and outside the fence. If there are bushes, plants or other growth impeding the sidewalk, they need to be trimmed. If you have any questions, call Ms. Nichols at 301-927-3344.

**KEYS FOUND**

Auto keys were found on Jackson Avenue. To claim, call or come by the Town Hall, 201-927-3344.



## WITH DEEPEST SYMPATHY

On behalf of the Mayor, Council, staff and residents of the Town, we would like to extend our deepest sympathy to Councilmember Rudder on the recent death of his mother.

## COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

APPROVED: Motion to pay for room/related expenses not to exceed \$600 for MML Convention attendees

ADOPTED: Community Policing Agreement Resolution 2008-01

ADOPTED: Creating a Youth and Recreation Council in Partnership with the City of Mt. Rainier, Resolution 2008-02

APPROVED: LCI Budget-Mt. Rainier portion in the amount of \$50,770 - quarterly payments

APPROVED: Ladies Auxiliary of the BVFD to use the Town Hall and kitchen on June 6 & June 7, for Brentwood Day.

APPROVED: Neighborhood Design Center to use Bartlett Park, the Gazebo, and Town Hall on May 15 for reception.

## COUNCIL MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS, SPECIAL MEETINGS & PUBLIC HEARINGS

All meetings/work shops are open to the public and are televised.

All meetings are held at the Town Hall.

Tuesday, May 6, 2008, 7:00 p.m.:

Workshop on Proposed Budget  
Decision on Constant Yield Tax Rate

Tuesday, May 20, 2008, 7:00 p.m.:

Public Hearing, Budget & Constant  
Yield Tax Rate, & Council Meeting

Tuesday, June 3, 2008, 7:00 p.m.:

Special Meeting, First Reading of Budget  
[Move to accept FY-2009 Budget]

Tuesday, June 17, 2008, 7:30 p.m.:

Council Meeting, Second Reading of  
Budget [Move to adopt FY-2009 Budget]

Tuesday, July 1, 2008:

FY-2009 Budget becomes effective



## SUMMER PLAYGROUND SET FOR BARTLETT PARK

The Summer Playground in Bartlett Park is scheduled for June 22 – August 3, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. daily. The summer playground offers games, crafts, and other fun activities for Prince George's County residents only, ages 6-12. Children are free to come and go during the day and to attend some days and not others. Neither "Before Care" nor "After Care" is provided in conjunction with summer playgrounds. The fee is \$25 per child, whether a child attends six hours a day for all six weeks or select days and times only. Optional field trips and special events may be offered for additional fees. Children must meet the minimum age of 6 by August 31, 2008 in order to attend this program. For more information and/or registration call 301/864-1611.

## CHRISTMAS IN APRIL

April 25, 2009 will mark the 21st year of the Christmas in April program. On that day, thousands of volunteers will provide home repair services to elderly & physically challenged Prince George's County homeowners. All work is done on the last Saturday in April, and the scope of work ranges from yard work to interior painting to replacing old appliances and installing smoke detectors. The work is done free of charge to homeowners. Applicants must be elderly or disabled, of low to moderate income and own and live in the home to be repaired. Applicants MUST be received by November 1, 2008 in order to be considered for the 2009 program. Applications are available at the Town office or by calling 301/868-0937. NOTE: Only minor repairs to existing roofs will be made. If you are in need of a new roof, contact the Department of Housing (301/883-5570) to request information and assistance.

## NOTICE

The Mayor and Town Council will hold an Executive Session on Tuesday, May 6, 2008 immediately following the Workshop/meeting to discuss personnel, contract and legal issues. The meeting will be closed to the public.

## NEIGHBORHOOD DESIGN CENTER RECEPTION

Will be celebrating their 40th Anniversary of which 15 years serving Prince George's County residents. To celebrate their success, they will be holding an awards ceremony and reception on May 15th in the evening at the Bartlett Park Gazebo. They will be showcasing the three projects they have done most recently for the Town: Master Plan for Bartlett Park, Veteran's Park and plans for the new Town Center (the old Brentwood Firehouse). For more information call Jan Townshend at 301-779-6010.

## BRENTWOOD ARTS CENTER

(Pamela Strother, President, Gateway CDC)

In just a few short months the Brentwood Arts Center will open on Rhode Island Avenue. Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission will be offering art classes for children and adults. There will be rotating gallery shows with programming featuring artist's lectures and workshops. Additionally, Gateway CDC will be hosting 12-15 resident artists who will be renting studio space on the 2nd floor of the building. These artists will participate in Open Studio tours, will teach classes and workshops, and exhibit their work in the 29th Street Gallery. Special programs are being planned monthly, bringing energy and diversity to the offerings of the Brentwood Arts Center. There will be something for everyone at this Arts Center!

## ADULT CARE CENTER

Brentwood Adult Care Center, located at 3601 Taylor Street, offers a wide range of daily care programs, as well as activities such as fitness programs, educational discussions, games, and many other social activities. It's critical for older adults to remain active to maintain physical, emotional and mental well being. The Center also offers a variety of health screenings through consultants, rehabilitation services, and podiatry services.

To God Be the Glory Adult Care Center appreciate the wealth of knowledge, wisdom and skills participants bring to the program and work to develop activities that enhance those qualities. Through the program, participants have the opportunity to establish new friends, relax, learn and laugh. Most importantly, the ACC program allows individuals to function as independently as possible and permits them to be at home in the evenings.

For hours, admission procedure, cost and information on the services, (301) 699-0850.

## BRENTWOOD ANTI-CRIME ADVISORY COMMITTEE

"BACAC" meetings are held at the Brentwood Town Hall on Thursdays, at 7:30pm and open to the public.



## PEPCO ASKS CUSTOMERS TO CONSERVE ENERGY

Pepco has requested that the public conserve electricity because of very high demand for power due to the intense heat and humidity.

Pepco offers the following conservation tips:

- \*Close curtains and blinds to keep out the sun and retain cooler air inside your home, apartment or business.

- \*Postpone using major heat-producing appliances like electric stoves, dishwashers, and clothes dryers until the evening hours; if possible, delay using them until the extreme heat subsides.

- \*Set your air conditioner thermostat higher than usual if health permits.

- \*Turn off non-essential lights, appliances and equipment. This is especially important for business customers of all types.

## Trash Containers

Each household shall procure a watertight container with cover not greater than 30 gallons in capacity. On the day designated for garbage collections, each householder shall place the container with cover in place at the property line adjacent to the public street, but not back of a fence or hedge for collection. Do not leave containers out overnight or over weekends or holidays.



## Envases De la Basura



Cada casa procurará un envase hermético con la cubierta no mayor que 30 galones en capacidad. En el día señalado para las colecciones de la basura, cada cabeza de familia colocará el envase con la cubierta en lugar en la línea de la característica adyacente a la calle pública, pero no detrás de una cerca o cercará para la colección. No deje los envases fuera de durante la noche o encima los fines de semana o los días de

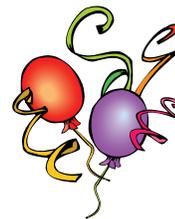
# May 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
** All Bingo at the Bunker Hill Fire Station has been suspended due to the temporary Use & Occupancy permit.		 * Brentwood Anti-Crime Advisory Committee, Brentwood Town Hall		1 *BACAC 7:30pm	2 	3
4	5 Public Wrks Committee 7pm	6 Bulk Trash Council Wrkshp 7pm 	7	8 *BACAC 7:30pm	9 	10
11	12	13 	14	15 *BACAC 7:30pm	16 	17
18	19	20 Bulk Trash Pub. Hrng 7pm Council Mtng 7:30pm 	21	22 *BACAC 7:30pm	23 	24
25	26 Memorial Day Town Offices Closed	27 	28	29 *BACAC 7:30pm	30 	31



**Mayor and Town Council**  
**Town of Brentwood**  
 4300 39th Place  
 Brentwood, MD 20722  
 (301) 927-3344 fax-(301) 927-0681  
[www.townofbrentwood-md.us](http://www.townofbrentwood-md.us)

Volunteer to Help with  
 Brentwood Day!  
 Make a Difference!  
 Have Fun!



PRSRT STD  
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
 Brentwood, MD  
 Permit No. 5444

## DIRECTORY

**Mayor** Bettyjean Bailey Schmiedigen  
 301-927-6820

**Councilmembers** Ron Bretemps  
 301-277-4943  
 Marlene Robinson  
 301-927-2887  
 Roger E. Rudder  
 301-927-0351  
 Margaret G. Terry  
 240-296-5243

CARRIER ROUTE  
 PRESORT



**Brentwood Town Hall** 301-927-3344  
**Police** 911 - Emergency  
 301-333-4000  
 301-699-2630  
**Brentwood VFD** 301-985-5400

To join the Brentwood Online Community Group List,  
 please go to:  
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BrentwoodMD>