

# Town Of Briarcliffe Acres

January 2012



## **Message from Mayor Gary Pell:**

As your new Mayor and Council, we want you to know that we are committed to protecting and preserving the things that make the Town of Briarcliffe Acres such a special place to all of us. Thanks for your support in the November election. We commit to

keeping the lines of communication open with all our residents.

Mayor and Council will be spending our volunteer time working through the Town's issues and business over the coming years. We hope that some of our residents will consider becoming a volunteer on one of our many committees. It is the spirit of volunteerism that has defined this great town in the past and we will continue to rely on volunteerism in the future. Please let one of us know if you have an interest in getting involved. And thanks to all of our volunteers.

Finally, we want to thank Mayor Ken Corbett and Councilman Dennis Herron for their four years of distinctive service to the Town. We presented them with a plaque honoring their four years of service at the December 12th Town meeting.

Feel free to contact us anytime at Town Hall: 272-8863 or [tofba@aol.com](mailto:tofba@aol.com), or call or email me ([garypell@sc.rr.com](mailto:garypell@sc.rr.com)) or any of us on Council.

## **Welcome to New Council Members:**

In the November 2011 election, Abby Stewart and Huston Huffman were elected to a four year term and Nancy Edelman and Richard Dwyer were elected to a two year term. As you know, Gary Pell was elected Mayor for four years. This election was the first to set in place staggered terms. In the January 9<sup>th</sup> workshop, Mayor and Council reviewed and re-organized the roles of each Council Member. They are as below:

- Abby Stewart([abigailst@yahoo.com](mailto:abigailst@yahoo.com)) -Mayor Pro-Tem, Treasurer, Town Website, Town Newsletter, and Town Email Communications.

- Huston Huffman([hhuffman001@sc.rr.com](mailto:hhuffman001@sc.rr.com))- Landscaping, Trees, Roads and General Maintenance
- Nancy Edelman ([edelmantowncouncil@gmail.com](mailto:edelmantowncouncil@gmail.com))-Stormwater, Lakes and Ocean Front, Meher Spiritual Center Liaison
- Richard Dwyer([richard.dwyer@webllynx.net](mailto:richard.dwyer@webllynx.net)) - Stormwater and Special Projects

If you have an issue or question in one of the specific areas, please contact them directly or call Town Hall at 272-8863.

## **Workshops at 10am and Town Meetings at 6:30pm**

The Town workshops will be held on the second Monday of each month at 10am in the Town Office. Town meetings will be held on the third Monday of each month at 6:30pm in Parish Hall. The dates of the upcoming meetings are posted on the Town website and the Town's Bulletin Board.

## **Town's Audit of Financials:**

The Town completed the audit of the financials for fiscal year ending June 30, 2011. No problems were identified. The Town is required to have a yearly audit by state law.

This time the Town used a new auditor who was able to provide this service at a 55% reduction in expense over previous years.

## **Removal of Dead and Hazardous Trees:**

Given the blocked roads and emergency tree work that happened during the storm in August 2011, the Town decided to begin a preventative program to remove dead and hazardous trees on Town property. This took place in the Fall of 2011. Many trees were hollow and were ready to fall across town roads in the event of winds and storms. Extensive pruning of large shrubs for motorists' visibility at intersections and curved roads was also completed in addition to overhead trimming for better road access for trucks and SUVs.

## **Stormwater- Several Drains Repaired:**

A survey of all the town drains in the fall revealed that there are a number of storm drains that need repair or replacement. Five storm drains were repaired/replaced on Cedar and one on South Gate in late 2011 by Thomas Samaha of C& H Landscaping. There is one more on the median on South Gate that will be widened to receive the runoff from the gate area. The land around that drain will be contoured to assist the runoff. Several drains will also get minor repairs during the planned roadwork.

### **Town Ordinances Updated:**

The Town has updated its ordinances through 2010 as well as added some new ones during 2011. The complete set can be found on the Town website ordinance page: <http://www.townofbriarcliffe.us/ordinances.html>

### **Road Work Planned**

Following the recommendations of the Planning Commission in the Transportation Element of the Five Year Comprehensive Plan, the Town is advertising for bids for road resurfacing. The bid package also includes some minor repairs needed on other streets.

The Town plans to proceed with the following:

- repair & re-surface Cedar Lane and Hickory Lane,
- repair & resurface the turn arounds on Cypress Lane, Myrtle Lane, and Holly Lane,
- repair several areas on Bayberry Lane and one repair on Middle Gate Road.

The work should take place over the next several months.

### **Utility Easements:**

Santee Cooper would like to remind residents that the utility easements are to be kept clear of structures, obstructions and debris. This is a legal requirement as well as a practical one in case of a power outage so that Santee Cooper has access.

The Town would like to remind residents that some utility easements are the private property of the adjacent residents and can only be used by Santee Cooper. Walkers, bicyclists, etc. are considered trespassing on these utility easements. There are Association paths that run through Town which are available to all residents and these paths may include utility easements. Please check the Town map to be sure that you are walking on an Association path and not on your neighbor's property. The Town map is available at the link below or by calling the Town Office.

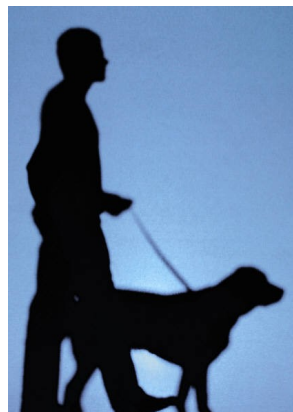
<http://www.townofbriarcliffe.us/townmap.html>

### **Thank You to Volunteers:**

The Town has many volunteers and “thank yous” go out to all of them for their efforts over the past year. The Town could not get by without their help.

You may have noticed the nice lit Holiday wreaths at the entrances recently. Thanks to the volunteer effort of wiring the entrances for electricity by Dave Parry and Huston Huffman and the installation of the lit wreaths for the Holidays by Rena and Huston Huffman.


### **Why Clean Up After Your Dog?**



1. Good neighbors do it. (Bad neighbors don't.)
2. Briarcliffe Acres Town Ordinance requires it as part of the town's Stormwater Permit.
3. When pet waste is left behind, it washes into storm drains and ditches. From there it heads to our lakes, swash and ocean.

Please pick up after your pet and dispose of it in the trash to help keep our town and water clean.

**Suggestions & Comments Welcomed:** If you have any suggestions or comments for the newsletter, please feel free to contact Councilperson Abby Stewart at [abigailst@yahoo.com](mailto:abigailst@yahoo.com)

|                                                                                   |                |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>FILE OF LIFE</b>                                                               |                |
|  | Name: _____    |
|                                                                                   | Address: _____ |
| Doctor: _____                                                                     | Phone#: _____  |
| <b>EMERGENCY CONTACTS</b>                                                         |                |
| Name: _____                                                                       | Phone#: _____  |
| Address: _____                                                                    |                |
| Name: _____                                                                       | Phone#: _____  |
| Address: _____                                                                    |                |

### **File of Life:**

As part of a safety effort for residents, the Town is offering a “File of Life” kit. File of Life is a program designed for individuals “at risk” in the

event of a medical emergency. The program consists of creating a packet containing important patient information. This packet is attached to the resident's refrigerator with a magnet. A small “File of Life” sticker is then placed on the front door to alert Emergency personnel that needed information is available in the “File of Life”

The Town is purchasing an initial number of these kits to be distributed to those residents who may need them. The kits are free of charge and the Town may order more depending on the demand. Marian Canady has graciously volunteered to chair this activity. If any resident would like a “File of Life” kit or know of a someone in town who would benefit from this, please contact Marian at: 361-0818 or [mcanady74@sc.rr.com](mailto:mcanady74@sc.rr.com)