

Hellooooo Brookfield!!!!!!

April, 2019

By Bill Thudium

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After a brutal winter we are so grateful that winter is officially over and spring has sprung. Thankfully Brookfield didn't suffer the flooding issues our neighbors to the west and south of us experienced. We now hope for beautiful spring weather with plenty of sunshine and gentle rains. I pulled my lawn mower out from under cover the other day and gave the yard a quick mow, mainly to get rid of leaves from last fall. After warm rains last week the sunshine and warmer days is really turning the grass green and growing quickly. Lots of mowing going on now all over town. I just hope summer will hold off for a while and let us enjoy a longer than usual spring. Time to go fishing!!

Brookfield Alumni Association – go to www.bhsmoalumni.com for all the information you need for this summer's BHS 10th Annual Alumni Weekend. This is a great website with all kinds of great information. You can see a full lineup of scheduled events for the weekend and other information regarding the community and the school during the year.

Brookfield High School Wrestling – Spent three days in Columbia watching our High School State Wrestling team. What an exciting weekend it was for our family and the Parn family. Our grandson Donovan who is a sophomore this year went into the State tournament undefeated for the year and as expected he had tough competition as everyone does at the State level. Turned out his weekend was a complete success and Donovan is now the 2019 State Champion in the

126 lb division. Of course Shane and I and the entire family were on pins and needles the entire time. Wrestling is such an individual sport and there is so much pressure on the kids to perform well. We thought last year was tough on us when he finished in 4th place as a freshman, but attempting to win it all as an undefeated wrestler was incredibly more difficult to handle. In his case he seemed calm and confident all the way. Donovan is a humble young man and just shakes hands with his opponent and goes straight over to shake the hands of their coaches. He isn't one to pound his chest or point fingers at the crowd and we are very proud of him for his humble attitude and his terrific achievement!

Brookfield's other shining moment came in the heavyweight division. Senior Brooks Baker pinned his way thru his State competition and won his third State Championship. He finished in second place as a sophomore and then came back to defeat that same kid his Junior year. Brooks is also a fine young man and Brookfield has every reason to be proud of he and Donovan. By the way Brooks signed with Wyoming during the season and will wrestle for them next year! Can't wait to watch him! Brookfield took 6 qualifiers to the State tournament this year. Our team is very young and we are sure to up that number next year. We only qualified 6 kids to State but finished 9th as a team out of a total of 49 teams in Class 1. Quite an accomplishment and everyone is looking forward to even better results next year as we return most of the team.

Marceline had a very good squad this year and ended up with a State Champion of their own at the 113 lb level, Cooper Fisher who is a senior. Congratulations to Cooper and the entire Marceline squad for a good year.

Blue Pride Wrestling Club – the second weekend in March our family headed to Hy-Vee Arena in Kansas City to watch three of our grandchildren wrestle in the State Championships. Grandsons Devan Parn and Gambal Staddie qualified by taking first places in Regional action and our granddaughter Dylan Parn qualified by winning third place at Regionals. This is her first year wrestling and she has done very well, almost always wrestling boys. BPWC qualified 19 kids for State this year, an exceptional number as this Club continues to get better and better each year. The team didn't finish as strong as expected at State but they certainly represented themselves very well. Only onward and upward for these kids and this terrific program.

By the way, Blue Pride Head Coach and our son in law Matt Parn received the Brookfield Area Growth Partnership Leadership Award during the recent annual Brookfield Chamber of Commerce Banquet for his work with the young kids and development of the Blue Pride Wrestling Club & Little League Football program.

Brookfield High School Band – Our High School Band is to be congratulated. At State Contest this past week our Concert Band received an overall Exemplary 1 Rating, earning that exemplary rating from every Judge. Mr. Welker has done an “exemplary” job preparing his kids and the results show for his efforts. Unfortunately we have just learned that Mr. Welker has been hired at Moberly so an active search is now on for his replacement. Whoever takes over the reins will find a much stronger band program than when Mr. Welker first came here.

Congratulations to the LCACTC SkillsUSA Chapter - The Linn County Area Career & Technical Center at BHS has been recognized as a Gold Level SkillsUSA Chapter of Distinction. SkillsUSA Missouri recognized LCACTC representatives on-stage during the Opening Ceremony of a recent State Leadership & Skills Conference.

The Chapter Excellence Program honors chapter achievement relative to SkillsUSA's framework of developing personal, workplace and technical skills. The framework actualizes SkillsUSA's mission "to empower members to become world-class workers, leaders and responsible American citizens." It also serves as the blueprint for career readiness — the ultimate goal as an organization. By centering on industry demands, the framework builds the foundation for relevant and intentional student learning and employability skill development.

Mendon Tiger Caravan - Attention MU Tiger Fans And Friends

Mendon Tiger Caravan

Will be April 30, 2019

Northwestern High School

Mendon, Mo

Social Hour 6:00 pm

Meal 6:45

Tiger Coaches and Student Athletes will be attendance!

To make reservation please call 1660-856-3648 or Cell 1660-412-1995.

You may also e-mail me at bill@smithmotor.com or text me at 660-525-0836. You can pay at the door, we are trying to get an attendance count for the food preparers.

Grand River Welding Institute – this school's Owner /President is Eric L Adams. He and a few small investors bought the old Howard's Market less than two years ago to open a professional welding school. His hope at the time was to draw 10 students. No one could have ever expected that that small dream now has 100% of its graduates employed, has had to expand the school's training capabilities and is looking to find ways to train over 200 new applicants. Recently Eric has purchased the Brookfield Inn motel on West Helm Street and is remodeling it into small apartments for his students from out of town. Eric and his welding school is working closely with the Linn County Area Career & Technical Center on the BHS Campus. The Career Center welding instructor is working closely with GRWI and has numerous former

students enrolled to further their welding education here in Brookfield. GRWI is a perfect example of the type of local entrepreneurship our Community is always looking for. We will wholeheartedly promote and support this terrific Brookfield venture!

By the way, Eric Adams was awarded Brookfield Area Growth Partnership Entrepreneur of the Year during the recent Annual Chamber of Commerce Banquet, and was also given the “Reconnecting Brookfield” award for purchasing the old Howards Market Building and turning it into his Welding School. Also for repurposing the old motel for his students to live in.

Memories - Saw a Facebook post recently showing an apartment house with two adjoining doors that used the same staircase to get to the sidewalk. It had snowed and half of the steps had been cleaned and the other half hadn't been touched. The post said don't be the one who only cleaned your half! I sure agree with that. Goodness, we need to be better neighbors and more civil with each other these days.

I was reminded of my Grandma Ella Newman, my dad's mother. She lived in a house that had been divided to create two apartments. The only issue was that they had to share a bathroom. In this case the other apartment resident was also an older widow lady. She and my grandmother did not get along all that well anyway and in particular not very well at all with the bathroom arrangement. There was always an issue over cleanup and use of the toilet paper. Each had their own way of pinching/folding the TP so they would know if it had been used by the other party. I never actually heard any of their arguments first hand but I often heard my Grandmother complaining under her breath and know the grumbling was frequent and often required my Mom and Dad to come over and smooth things over. To be fair the problem wasn't a matter of selfishness on the part of either lady, but rather a matter of money. These were the days of government commodities and both ladies were signed up for them because of their meager incomes.

Toilet paper was cheap but for them it wasn't cheap at all, really more of a luxury. I never really how much but did know my folks helped Grandma Newman out on regular basis. Mrs. Ruby Bevier next door also had family who visited often and I figure they helped her out as well. Funny thing is that we ate dinner with Grandma Newman nearly every Saturday. She was a marvel with the commodities and a whiz at making delicious food using dandelions, rhubarb and anything else growing in her yard. She raised her own tub of fishing worms in the basement and my folks took her (and me quite often) fishing two and three times a week. She also had a friend, Lula Dent, who liked to fish and had a vehicle to take her fishing as well. We ate delicious bullheads and bluegills nearly every Saturday for lunch. Grandma had terrible arthritis issues which crippled her hands but she still was able to cook those terrific meals and do some amazing quilting. She learned how to quilt plastic bread sacks and made some incredible entryway rugs using them. All from a lady who grew up poor and learned how to live off of the land with what she had available. Not many folks like that left these days it seems. I was fortunate to have known and loved my Grandma Newman!

Another memory – When my folks built our A-frame out of the Brookfield Country Club they, or rather my Mom, chose shag carpet for our floor covering. It was a tall shag and we actually had a plastic rake we used after vacuuming to keep it from packing down. Makes me smile to think about it! 😊

More to My Liking – Recently I decided to watch a movie rather than listen to the political dribble that has become national award shows the past several years, in this case the Oscar Awards. To my delight I came across “It’s a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World” as I was scrolling thru the myriad of channels we have available. The movie is absolutely full of

movies stars and comedians from the 60's era, without a doubt one of the funniest movies ever made! I believe the promo said this movie came out in 1963!! As I watched and laughed my fool head off I began to wonder if our grandchildren would enjoy a movie like this. Of course they wouldn't know any of the stars because nearly all, if not all of them are dead. I did however record it and plan to experiment with our grandchildren the next chance I get. This movie is very long compared to most but I watched every enjoyable second of it. Not sure my grandchildren will be willing to sit that long without pulling out their phones!

Best of all I didn't have to listen to the dreadful Oscar Awards again this year. When I was a kid the awards shows were big events for gathering and enjoying as a family. Now Shane and I don't even turn them on, and we know plenty of others who share our views about it. A lot of America is really worn out with our entertainers deciding they are political pundits rather than just the exceptional actors, comedians and musicians we all so enjoy for their talents. I don't have any interest in what their political or social views are.

Birthdays – April 15, Ashley Burkholder, Rick German, Lisa Hofstetter, Garrett Mauze, Walter Anthony, April 16th, Jim Burris, Irene Jerome, Linda Templeman, Stanley Spidle, Mike Teter, Rebecca Burr, Rittany Allen, Terry Haley, Kenneth Nelson, April 17th, Elliott Draven Collier, Lissa Morgan, Grace Ratliff, Deva Jones, Doris Payne, Lyndon Lentz, Ryan Leis, April 18th, Kelly Techau, Verna Austin, Chris O'Dell, Dixie Bayte, Karen Eubanks, Earl Steen, Ryan Reeter, April 19th, Joyce Clapham, Julie Ransom, Kevin Bivens, Marjorie McNown, Candice Reed, April 20th, E.J. Cook, Ed Greenway, Melinda Hunt Renshaw, Archer Reigelsberger, Veda Johson, Hilary Kramer, April 21st, Nelda Nickerson, Jenifer Speichinger, Harland Sprouse, Suzanne Enyeart,

Braden Johnson, Nevada Woody, Olivia Guilford, Austin Harrison, Josh Holtz, April 22nd, Wanda Buckallev, Ashley Cowan, Connie King, Chris Sparks, Andy St. Clair, Barbara Buckallev, Patrick Buckallev, Sharon Garton, Jeanne Lentz, Collyn Hayes, April 23rd, Brooke Harrington, Charlie Routledge, Ann Zumbrennen, Lila Long, Hunter Epperson, Ron Reeter, Susan Huffman, April 24th, Joel Dixon, Steve Puckett, Rhonda Roberts, Kevin Knowles, Floyd Cleveland, Ryan Butterfield, April 25th, Cole Daugherty, Thera Freeman, Ellen Lee Coram, Mark Saccaro, Jane Milford, April 26th, Ella Daugherty, Daniel Littrell, Teresa Miller, Emily Watson, Tammy Wilson, Denise Smith Quinn, Angie Templeman, Timothy Teeter, Layton Sisson, Grayson Spidle, Rachel Swanson, Kristina Scott, April 27th, Kameron Gall, Callie McKenzie, Ross Enyeart, Tom Graves, Adyson Mauzey, April 28th, Don Moser, Phillip Harrington, Linda King, Madeline Devoy, David Hoehne, Jered Wallace, April 29th, Tonja Coram, Henry Doss Jr., Tamela Browning, Alexandra Swift, Devin Colyer, Mona Walters, Linda Gladbach, April 30th, Holly Lindsay, Kellie Burns, Robert Buckallev, Jerry Huffman, Josh Huffman, May 1st, James Burns, Alexander Smith, Ryan Burns, May 2nd, David Murphy, David Sprouse, Taylor Almond, Whitley Almond, Laurie Gannon, Josh Maxwell, Cassie McKenzie, Gary Ball, May 3rd, Debbie Bailey, Luke Burns, Joan Byrd, Michelle Pyle, Luke Baum, Troy Hunt, Drake Walgren, Charles Fristoe, May 4th, Bob Miller, May 6th, Roberta Shoengood, Josh Molloy, Christi Davolt, Rhonda Cople, May 7th, Michael Hedrick, Wanda Rasmussen, Bernie Roberts, May 8th, Carolyn Bloss Logue, Dana Ball Holt, Randy Fay, May 10th, Joyce Hunt Jenkins, Kirsten Bratrude, Amanda Cleveland, Carla Watts, May 11th, Kenny Stark, May 12th, Bev Liebhart, Mace Lambert, May 14th, Gene Thudium, Rose Anthony, Derrek Hardy, May 16th, Rita Wolfe, May 17th, Heidi Beeler, Matthew Botts, May 18th, Carol Smith, May 19th, Scotty Stevens, Claribel Yagel, May 20th, Carl

Spath Jr., Jason Beeler, Sarah Dixon, May 21st, Rita Brumbaugh, May 22nd, Joyce Stobaugh, Roger Quigley, May 23rd, Mike Scott, Zach Scott, May 24th, Anna Jobson, May 25th, Kacee George, Betty Tharp, May 26th, Brett Carmical, Jordon Park, Jennifer Hicks, Lexi Littrell, May 27th, Chuck York, Kyle Clawson, Ed Heckman, May 28th, David Libby, Janice Hunt, Sam Enyeart, May 29th, Tracey Crafton, Bruce Helms, May 30th, Glenn Bragg, Gary Horton.

Anniversaries – April 19th, Larry and Bonnie Witte, April 20th, Merle and Jan Gray, April 23rd, Jerry and Kathy Gall, April 27th, Don and Jennifer Almond, April 29th, Brian and Billie Harrington, May 1st, Paul and Jennifer Kulseth, May 4th, Jerry and Teresa Wine, May 8th, James and Bonnie Alexander, May 10th, Will and Nicci St. Clair, May 12th, Butch and Tiffany Dyer, John and Frances North, Russ and Laurie Knowles, May 13th, Kenny and Marty Stark, May 14th, Chuck and Sherri York, May 15th, Ron and Waverly Dixon, May 18th, Dick and Joann King, Kenneth and Mary Almond, May 20th, Mike and Carolyn Logue, Jerry and Stacie Wild, May 21st, Jeff and Lori Elliott, May 22nd, Kyle and Abby Wilkerson, May 23rd, Dan and Melinda McCormick, May 24th, Terry and Barb Tschannen, May 25th, Chuck and Kelli Gonzalez, May 26th, Brian and Deanna Grant, May 28th, Ross and Whitley McKenzie, May 29th, Charlie and Nicole Reid, May 30th, Dave and Amy Gentry Hoehne..

Thanks as always for reading **Hellooooo Brookfield !!!!!** Please remember to shop Brookfield and don't forget to let me know when you have interesting stories or **Good News** you would like to share. See you next time!