

Hellooooo Brookfield !!!

Frozen Edition!!!

Winter 2022

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"Come December, people always say, "Isn't it cold"? Well, of course it's cold. It's the middle of winter. You don't wander around at midnight saying, "Isn't it dark?"

Arthur Smith, 1954

We had such a beautiful Fall and early winter but it was bound to catch up with us! As I begin the "frozen edition" of HB it is about 7 degrees out with a wind chill of around 0!! Covid raised its ugly head in rural Missouri once again but illnesses this past time have been fairly mild. Last count active cases were way down again in Linn County. We are seeing some folks wearing masks but there have been few if any mandates anywhere to wear them, except for the Hospital of course. Our school remained open throughout with no mask mandates and got along very well. Basketball and High School wrestling has been in full swing right now. Wrestling just finished up their State Tournament with great success and basketball is finishing up District play. Middle school wrestling concluded in December. They had a huge team and won all of their meets. High School boys and girls basketball is a little better this year but winning regularly continues to be a struggle for both teams. Our High School wrestling team only has two senior boys and one senior girl this year. Both teams are young and very talented. Our girl's team qualified three for State and came home with two medals. Our grandsons Gambal Staddie is a Junior and Devan Parn is a Freshman. They both had terrific years with Gambal taking a fourth at State and Devan winning a fifth place medal. Our team qualified 7 boys for State and came home with five medals, two of which were State Championships. State Champs were senior Jadon Obongo and freshman Peyton Parn. Brookfield boys finished in third place behind Centralia and Mid Buchanan and ahead of 48 other Class 1 teams!

I attended the grand opening of the new High School baseball and track complex. Wow, you will be so proud when you get to tour this new facility! At this point the baseball facility will support both girls' softball and boy's baseball. This works fine since softball is a fall sport and baseball is a spring sport for BHS. New LED lighting supports both the baseball field and track facility and a new concession/press box and bathroom building located between the two is a welcome improvement as well. Replacement of the old school parking lot is perhaps the most appreciated improvement. Gone is the gravel & broken up asphalt and now replaced with a wonderful concrete, lighted parking lot that comfortably serves the High School, Elementary and Middle School. We

have already attended events when ballgames were going on in the middle school gym and high school gym at the same time and there was plenty of parking available.

New Businesses – Fed Ex Ground is building a large distribution center just south of Walmart along Highway 11. At this point much of the dirt work has been completed and it will be spring before we see any construction underway. Specifics are sketchy at this time regarding a completion date and details about the new building and how many jobs may be created. I will let you know more when I know more. The City expanded the City limits so utilities can be extended to the new facility and of course to include it in our tax base.

Many folks will be pleased that our Sonic which has been closed for three years now will be opened again soon under new ownership. Crews are in the process now of remodeling the entire facility. No opening date set yet but new owners expect it will happen this spring.

Sunday Dinner – I grew up in a family that always had a family Sunday dinner. As a kid I never had a clue how much work went into preparing that meal for a dozen or more people every Sunday. As our families grew it turned into that many and more on a Sunday. We also usually included some friends. My Dad used to go to Church services with us but as the crowd grew he started staying home to prepare the beef or pork roast and it didn't take quite so long to finish up the mashed potatoes & gravy, vegetables, etc... after we got home. (At least that was Dad's excuse for skipping Church! ☺) Normally we were finished eating early afternoon in plenty of time to watch football and enjoy the outside experiences at my folk's Country Club home.

Shane and I have continued the Sunday Dinner tradition and because our kids and their families all live here the Dinner has become a BIG deal each Sunday. We have certainly learned how much work Mom and Dad went thru to provide the meal for so many, and also learned the importance and value of the weekly gathering. Sharing Sunday Dinner with our family is such an "event"! Full of good food, love, talk and laughter. Shane made it clear earlier on that she always felt an obligation of sorts as a young wife to attend Sunday dinner at my folk's house so she let our daughter in law and son in laws know that there is no such obligation. Regardless, most Sundays they are all there with our grandkids and the generally a couple of their friends who tag along with the grandchildren. We feed anywhere from 14-20 people every Sunday and despite being totally worn out later I don't think either of us would consider calling it quits. We just enjoy it so much!!

I hope many of you out there share our tradition of Sunday Dinner. I know we are so fortunate to have our children and their children living here locally. No such luxury for most folks.

Alumni Weekend – plans are underway for Alumni Weekend coming up on July 15 & 16. I will provide more specific info as soon as the Alumni Committee makes it available. Hope you can make plans to join us. We always have a great time getting back together!

Birthdays – Feb. 25th – Linda Stark, Lane Thudium (our nephew), Lake Harmon, Todd Park, Savannah Thompson, Freda Clark, Bridget Gillespie, Feb. 26 – Kingston Thudium (our grandson), Barb Routledge, Marilyn LInscott, Jacinta Whitson, Reid Foster, Feb. 27 – Kelly Collins, Adisyn Allen, Matthew Linscott, Feb. 28 – Shelby Lawless, Barb Jay, Joyce Epperly, Carole Bennett, Randy Hahn, (Danny Baker – 29th), March 1, Josh Davis, Rojean Falconer, Zach Neal, Jerry Stone, Brenda Foster, Brian Ehrich, Rosella Heller, Richard Carpenter, Aiden Robinson, Mar. 2 – Jerry Falconer, Bethany White Ogle, Marty Stark, Joe Haley, Jim Dillard, Merle Steward, Lon Ervie, Carol Hedrick, Mar. 3 – Tyler Bruck, Bill Cople, Gary Hughes, Gentry Muck, Geana Walker, Zach Lincoln, Khaylee Dixon, Doris Phillips, Mar. 4 – Russ Steen, Rick Shatto, Mar. 5 – Marc Amer, Renalda Billingsly, Kevin Judas, Pam Robinson, Kalie Dorman, Mary Miller, Mar. 6 – Lindi Dowell, Chuck Wilson, Walter Bowen, Mar. 7 – Rick Boley, Ethan Harmon, Zach Britton, John Morris, Kim Willoughby, Rob Sims, Mar. 8 – Jolene Dodd, Dakota McCormick, Kjersten Parn (our daughter), Colleen Potter, Dylan Watts, Stacy Jackson, Mar. 9 – Mary Brewer, Dick King, Mar. 10 – Julie Mosley, Tammy Standley, Randy Thudium, Mar. 11 – Ray Hamilton, Adam Jones, Betty Woodring, Tom Clark, Chryl Devoy, Thomas Devoy, Larry Head, Silas Dodd, Mar. 12 – Amanda Hedrick, Wade Watts, Mar. 13 – Barb Tschannen, Abraham Vickery, Barbara Morris, Mar. 15 – Misty Bowen, Monica Britton, Jenna Booth, Peggy Martin, Mar. 16 – Steve Haag, Julie Wright, Marshal Smith, Doris Dodd, James Taylor, Mar. 17 – Kristin Dowell, Mar. 18 – Carson Techau, Bob Johnson, Jonathan Black, Brittany Magnuson, Mar. 19 – Phillip Hamilton, Alyssa Malloy, Mar. 20 – Robert Allen, Burnie Hicks, Martha Wilkerson, Mar. 21 – Ally Tschannen, Zack Olinger, Terry Tarpending, Mar. 23 – Jacou Heckman, Mar. 24 – Amanda Alexander, Hans Roensch, Bill Shouse, Ian Thudium (our nephew), Becky Cleveland, Slade Collier, Tammy Rhoades, Mar. 25 – Trish Collins, Emily Littrell, Savannah Neal, Mar. 26 – David Harmon, Ellie Remol (my mother in law), Mar. 27 – Linda Collins, Chad Shiflett, Mar. 28 – Derrick Potter, Mar. 29 – Matthew Reid, Mar. 30 – Brooks Baker, Rick Darby, Jerry Enyeart, Mar. 31 – Joe Smith, Kenny Mayberry, Dee White.

Anniversaries – Mar. 3 – Dale and Beverly Lewis, Mar. 6 – Mike and Linda White – Mar. 10, Julie & Rodney Ransom, Mar. 12, Stan & Judy Gibson, Mar. 20, Willie and Ronda Brost, Mar. 25, Jim and Debbie Bennett, Mar. 28, Butch and Sarah Mosley.

Thanks as always for reading [Hellooooo Brookfield !!!](#) Please let me know when you have news to share and please remember to shop Linn County first! See you soon!