

# Hellooooo Brookfield !!!!!

By Bill Thudium

January & a little February, 2018

[bill@smithmotor.com](mailto:bill@smithmotor.com)

Happy 2018 to all of my Hellooooo Brookfield !!!!! friends! I took my annual vacation time away from work and my computer the last couple of weeks of December and started working on this column after returning to work in January. That day it was 13 degrees below zero!!!! We enjoyed a couple of inches of snow for Christmas and I think most folks were pleased to have a little white stuff on the ground. Our furnace struggles to keep the downstairs of our old house warm when it gets below zero and we even dealt with some frozen pipes this year despite going to great pains to make sure that wouldn't happen when we remodeled the kitchen and downstairs bathroom a few years ago! I hear there have been lots of people dealing with frozen pipes in their homes and businesses this winter. Hope you and your families are the exception. My brother and sister in law live in Tampa, FL and they have been enjoying temps in the 70's much of the winter!! Doesn't seem fair does it?

**New Restaurant in Town** – a new Brookfield family is preparing to open Ginnie's, a new family restaurant on North Main where the old Missouri Power and Light/Union Electric offices were located for many years. I understand they plan to try and open up this coming week and will let everyone know more about it when that happens. One of the busiest businesses in town during the holidays was our new Dollar Tree store. Their parking lot was filled with cars! Great to have the Dollar Tree and a new restaurant in town.

**New Year/Old Memories** – The other day during a family gathering I was talking to some of the grandchildren about “the old days” when I was a kid and how technology has changed so drastically. Television and telephones have sure come a long way since then. Funny remembering back to party phones, calling an operator to give “her” the number you want called, rotary phones, push button phones, phone cords you could stretch from room to room, and finally wireless phones!

My folks were always big TV fans and probably spent an inordinate amount of money on the very latest things. That had something to do with living next door to Mr. Neff and his shop, Neff’s Radio & TV. We had a monster Capehart blonde wooden black and white TV, you know one of those big consoles with doors that would close and cover up the screen. Of course we had to walk over to the TV to change channels and while you were there you also had to change the antenna. In the beginning we had “rabbit ears” that we had to move around by hand to get the best reception and later moved to a roof antenna & electronic rotor. You moved the rotor dial to a particular direction and then it would catch up by turning the outdoor antenna – the box made a funny noise as it clicked and moved (one of those noises you never forget). We only had three or four possible channel choices and some of them didn’t come in very clear. A station in St Joe (Channel 2) seemed to be the best reception for us followed by three channels out of Kansas City. My goodness now we must have 200 plus channel options and I can talk to Alexa and tell her to change the channel for me or look for something I might like!!! Good Grief! The kids bought Alexa for me last year for Christmas and our Grandson Donovan programmed it so we can direct the TV thru “her”. We can also get local weather, make a shopping list and get news from all over the world just by asking. I can only imagine what my folks would say if they were around to see this amazing technology!! I am astounded and they most assuredly would be completely blown away (but thrilled to death!).

**New Brookfield Truck Stop** – Casey's is currently constructing a small truck stop along Hwy. 36 where the previous West Lockling facility has been located before it was razed recently. The company purchased the old KFC building and quite a lot of extra land to the west of the old Casey's building to make room for the new facility. A new building is now in place and dirt work is well underway in preparation for the new parking lots and gas pumps.

**New Brookfield Welding School** – Owner/operator Eric Adams is preparing to open the Grand River Welding School in the old Howard's Grocery Store building on the SW corner of W. Brooks and N. Livingston. Workers have been preparing the inside for several weeks now and we expect to have more information soon. Not sure yet about particulars. No question our High School welding program in the Career Center has prepared a lot of kids to further their education and become certified welders the last several years. A lot of area kids have chosen to pursue this profession. The new School will obviously be a great enhancement to a program that is already flourishing in this community thru our Career Center and supportive efforts of Brookfield Fabricating Corp.

**KZBK 96.9 FM** – Recently, during the annual Macon Tournament, Jeff and Jim Elliott completed their 800<sup>th</sup> broadcast of Brookfield high school basketball games. No question this community and our school have been so fortunate over the years to have the super dedicated & talented Elliott brothers as our game announcers. We thank them for their years of entertainment, and of course our thanks goes out to KZBK 96.9 FM for being so very supportive of Brookfield sports.

***Birthdays*** –Feb 5<sup>th</sup>, Kingston Thudium, Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>, Jenny Thudium, Jonathan Beeler, Kyle Kaye, Gary Routledge, Trinity Allen, Angela Bailey, Ryan Huffman, Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>, Hazel Stone, Cindy Demarest Harrington, Karen Linebaugh Mason, John Sheerman, Betty Ponting, Matthew Much, Angela Smith, Debbie Kramer, Richard Gardner, Christine Newman, Ruth Daugherity, Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>, Kaley Woods, Haliey

Buckallew, Mark Cramer, Feb. 10<sup>th</sup>, Brooke Falconer, Maggie Pore, Kathy Faulkner, Gabbi Jo Johnson, Jack D. Chamberlin, Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>, Donna Jones Bohney, Sharon Gall, Luke Lambert, Kristy Moser, Haley Jeffers, Josh Lindsay, Bob (Toad) Morris, Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>, Scharlotte Liebhart, Kevin Muck, Andrew Muck, Jerry Kissick, Jr., Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>, Don Bohney, Andy Douglas, Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>, Galen Holloway, Sharon Phillips, Jacquelyn Beach, Brent Taylor, Kent Taylor, Sarah Walker, Connie Ponting, Timothy Lentz, Eugene Reigelsberger, Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>, Nicole Bohney, JD Wild, Duane Linscott, Laura Wilson, George Schere, Feb. 16<sup>th</sup>, Brian Harrington, Rob Leis, Jr., Coryn Stephenson, Feb. 17<sup>th</sup>, Michael Stahl, Manine Muck, Rachel Keller, Mike Douglas, Jordan Haley, Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>, Jerald Mundell, Paula Bailey, Jenna Stark, Ethel Huffman, Chamberlin Phillips, Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>, D.J. Robison, Jonathan Phillips, Wanda Daugherity, Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>, Martha Beach, Tanner Wallace, Bobbi Steen, Ronald Muck, Robyn Harris, Bob Guilford, Elizabeth Crawford, Feb. 21<sup>st</sup>, Doris Demarest, Jacob Morton, Donna Green, Mieah Chapman, Jenny Campbell, Max Admire, Janet Linebaugh, Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>, Bruce Connor, Debbie Scott, Karen Krenzel, Cory Huffman, Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>, Gracie Roberts, Chris Dowell, Donna Milligan, Tanner Sims, Jacob Haley, Leslie Lentz, Feb. 24<sup>th</sup>, Erica Salman, Rick Jenkins, Lane Hicks, Micah Mendenhall, Alex Moore, Frank Martin, Mike Muck, Jeremy Tripp, Rachel Potts, Donnie Robison, Kasie Lindsay, Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>, Todd Park, Lake Harmon, Linda Stark, Savannah Thompson, Freda Clark, Bridget Gillespie, Lane Thudium, Feb. 26<sup>th</sup>, Barbara Routledge, Marilyn Linscott, Jacinta Whitson, Douglas Griesbaum, Jessica Manning, Reid Foster, Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>, Adisyn Allen, Kelly Collins, Matthew Linscott, DW Norval, III., Tyler Griesbaum. Allen Hayes, Chelsey Manning, Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>, Shelby Lawless, Barb Jay, Joyce Epperly, Carole Bennett, Randy Hahn, Mar. 1<sup>st</sup>, Josh Davis, Rojean Falconer, Zachary Neal, Jerry Stone, Brenda Foster, Ruby Kime, Brian Ehrich, Jim VanSickle, Roxanne Lentz, Rosella Heller, Richard Carpenter, Aiden Jo Robinson, Mar. 2<sup>nd</sup>, Jerry Falconer, Bethany White Ogle, Marty Stark, Joe Haley, Jim Dillard, Merle Steward, Lori Ervie, Carol Hedrick, Mar. 3<sup>rd</sup>, Tyler Bruce, Bill Cople,

Gary Hughes, Gentry Muck, Geana Walker, Zach Lincoln, Khaylee Dixon, Mike McVicar, Doris Phillips, Mar. 4<sup>th</sup>, Russ Steen, Rich Shatto, Nathan Feummeier, Samantha Shannon, Libbie Adams, Mar. 5<sup>th</sup>, Marc Amer, Renelda Billingsly, Kevin Judas, Pam Robinson, Kalie Dorman, Mary Miller, Mar. 6<sup>th</sup>, Lindi Dowell, Chuck Wilson, Walter Bowen, Mar. 7<sup>th</sup>, Rick Boley, Ethan Harmon, Mason St. Clair, Megan Hill Woods, Zach Britton, John Morris, Kim Willoughby, Rob Sims, Kayte Peters, Mar. 8<sup>th</sup>, Jolene Dodd, Dakota McCormick, **Kjersten Parn (our daughter)**, Colleen Potter, Dylan Watts, Stacy Jackson, San Bontrager, Denzil Thomas, Mar. 9<sup>th</sup>, Mary Brewer, Lois Dean, Dick King, Bobby Ashmore, Chris Fountain, Justin Diehl, John Daughterity, Mar. 10<sup>th</sup>, David Melton, Erin Melton, Julie Moseley, Tammy Standley, Randy Thudium, Mildred Slutter, Mar. 11<sup>th</sup>, Melissa Wright Techau, Daniella Dake, Ray Hamilton, Adam Jones, Betty Woodring, Tom Clark, Chryl Devoy, Thomas Devoy, Larry Head, Mary Huffman, Mar. 12<sup>th</sup>, Jona Forte, Amanda Hedrick, Mercedes Lindsey, Wade Watts, Mar. 13<sup>th</sup>, Barb Tschannen, Abraham Vickery, Carolyn Roberts, Paul Holtman, Kathy Woody, Barb (Cassity) Morris, Mar. 14<sup>th</sup>, Elise Reid, Tony Bowen, Mar. 15<sup>th</sup>, Jenna Booth, RJ Duff, Monica Britton, Misty Bowen, Peggy Martin.

**Anniversaries** – Feb. 16<sup>th</sup>, Ellie & Sue Knowles Lambert, Rick & Joyce Jenkins, Roger & Cindy Walsh, Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>, Ron & D’Etta Scott, Mar. 3<sup>rd</sup>, Dale and Beverly Lewis, Mar. 6<sup>th</sup>, Mike and Linda White, Steve & Tricia Kauzlarich, Mar. 10<sup>th</sup>, Julie and Rodney Ransom, Mar. 12<sup>th</sup>, Stan and Judy Gibson.

Thanks as always for reading **Hellooooo Brookfield !!!!!** Please remember to shop Linn County first and don’t forget to let me know when you have Good News or Interesting Stories! See you soon!