

Hellooooo Brookfield !!!!!

By Bill Thudium

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Spring has indeed sprung here in Brookfield. The trees are leafed out and those that flower first were absolutely beautiful this year. Our winter was mild and unusually warm - this spring we didn't have any hard frosts to knock the tree buds and early flowers. Flowers are blooming like crazy all over town! Grass is of course growing so fast you can hear it, and lawn crews are busy all over town! We are looking forward to finishing out a good spring and moderate summer with all kinds of community events being planned. Spring rains have been somewhat sparse but recently we have enjoyed a quarter inch or so just about every other day. I got my garden in; 13 tomato plant, 4 green pepper plants, green beans, onions, lettuce and radishes. The rains have really kick started the plants – can't wait for those delicious tomatoes! By the way my friend Kevin Golden stopped me the other day to say he would again be by with lime and anti-fungus spray. With his help we had the very best tomatoes ever last year!

Twin Parks Work – The committee responsible for re-creating our Twin Parks has been working hard recently cutting down and removing dead and dying trees from the Parks, and just recently replacing them with 10-12 foot new trees of various varieties. I should inject here that our city crews performed the work of removing the trees and did a remarkable job in a very short period of time, plus Mendenhall's provided expertize, labor and equipment for the job of planting. A couple of weeks ago several volunteers met and scooped tree shavings around every tree in the Parks and around the shrubs and plants on the hillsides of the Main Street underpass. These folks working with the Master Gardner group have done a marvelous job of re-

doing the center oval, underpass and now dealing with the needs of the Twin Parks. By the way, a Clean Up Brookfield group has been working weekends to pick up and clean up the community. Recently they completed the area from the Twin Parks all the way out to and around WalMart. Thanks for all of the volunteers and the good work they have been doing!

Drive One 4UR School - Smith Motor Drive One 4UR School was held in Brookfield on Saturday, April 9th. Smith Motor provided several new cars, SUVs & trucks for the event. The event was hosted by the Brookfield Athletic Booster Club and funds raised from the event will go toward purchase of the new scoreboard at Burlington Field. The old scoreboard was replaced this past fall season due to age and condition anticipating this fundraising event would help pay for it. Smith Motor/ Ford Motor Company donates \$20 for each household test drive up to 300 drives or \$6,000. We were able to turn in 339 registrations to Ford following the event received a check this week for the maximum donation. Thanks to everyone who supported this really neat school/community/business partnership event! This will be the second time Smith Motor and Ford have teamed up with the Brookfield Athletic Booster Club to support the Bulldog football program.

Brookfield Chamber of Commerce Banquet – In mid-April daughter Kjersten and I attended the annual Chamber Banquet held at the Brickhouse Restaurant. In reviewing the list of Past Chamber Presidents I note that Blake DeVoy is the 67th Chamber President. Rollins Brownlee was the first back in 1938 but there were several years skipped over the years. Up until 1989 the Chamber had elected all men to the position however since that date we have seen 15 women elected – the world has indeed changed!! Part of the annual event includes a silent auction which is held throughout the banquet, and a live auction of donated items following the dinner. Kjersten and I always try to take part in both and there are usually some very nice items to bid on. I ended up winning the bid for four Royal's game tickets and a parking pass. I think I probably paid about full price but that was ok, the auction is all about raising money for the Chamber of Commerce plus I wanted to go to a Royals game so it worked out well! I was a little surprised

however to learn that I had also won three silent auction bids (things I didn't necessarily want and was bidding up the price for someone else to win) when I went to pay for my tickets, which of course boosted the amount of the check I had to write significantly!! Always a fun time however and we enjoyed the program, the fellowship and the food provided by the Brickhouse Restaurant. Nicely done Brookfield Chamber and Chamber Director Donna Hulett!

Thought you might enjoy reading a list of previous Chamber leaders over the years;

Past Presidents

1938 Rollins Brownlee

1944 LG Kelley

1946 PW Markham

1949 W.W. Rutherford

1950 Rev. W. Icenogle

1952 H.K. West

1954 H.L. Carroll

1955 O.J. Cleveland

1956 enry Williams

1957 James Price

1958 Darrell Rodd

1959 Pau Meyer

1960 Don Schooler, Sr.

1961 Phil Fosse

1962 Walter Allen

1963 Ray Brown

1964 Marford Easley

1965 Leon Robinson

1966 Wayne Black

1967 Dale Smart

1968 Raymond Baker

1969 Ross Kennedy

1970 Dean Mosley

1971 Bill Kennedy

1972 Mike Baker

1973 Bob Burkholder

1974 Allen Fisher

1975 Howard Graff

1976 Jack Liebhart

1977 Don Olinger

1978 Harry Wolfe

1979 Dr. W.B. Cople

1980 Junior Kearns

1981 Rick Austin

1982 Bill Dorsey

1983 Gary Redman

1984 Jack Jett

1985 Gary Ball

1986 Bob Thudium

1987 Jeff Elliott

1988 Dennis Fletcher

1989 Jewell Phillips

1990 Byron Byrd

1990 Jim Elliott

1991 Jim Elliott

1992 Pam Thomas-Davis

1993 Jerry Lindsay

1994 Jerry Lindsay

1995 Doug Ayers

1996 Mary Ann Reed

1997 Scott Davis

1998 Noel Clark

1999 Bob Walgren

2000 Carol Hedrick

2001 Mary Enyeart

2002 Mary Ann Sensenich

2003 Mary Ann Sensenich

2004 Rod Billingsley

2005 Brenda DeVoy

2006 Amy Huffmon

2007 Jarrod Black

2008 Marcia Cunningham

2009 Dave Hane

2010 Kathy McCurry

2011 Becky Fitzgerald

2012 Renalda Billingsley

2013 Vanessa Lincoln

2014 Monica Baker

2015 Jennifer Norman

2016 Blake DeVoy

Brookfield FBLA - The Brookfield Future Business Leaders of America officers recently hosted an appreciation breakfast for their 2015-16 Business Sponsors. Eight officers (current and next year) welcomed their local business guests with a breakfast, a short video of the businesses participating in the sponsorship program, and presented an overview of the chapter's involvement throughout the year. Each took part in telling about the leadership skills gained by attending leadership conferences and the different competitive events its members have been involved in on the district level and those advancing to the state level.

The Business Sponsorship program contains three levels of participation—Gold, Silver, and Bronze. Each level provides a different amount of sponsorship funds, but all levels help meet the FBLA Mission Statement: “to bring business and education together in a positive working relationship

through innovative leadership and career development programs.”

Gold Sponsors: DeVoy-Baker Insurance, Life Care Center of Brookfield, Weydert Insurance

Silver Sponsors: Stanbury Uniforms, Tastee Treat

Bronze Sponsors: Archery Zone, Brookfield Eagles Auxiliary, Brookfield Elks Lodge #874, Brookfield FOE Aerie #2463, Brookfield Senior Center, Casey’s General Store, Chariton Valley Wireless Services, First Missouri Bank, Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, McDonalds of Missouri, Show-Me Possibilities, Smith Motor

Lisa Hofstetter is the Linn County Area Career & Technical Center Business Instructor and Brookfield FBLA Adviser. Those local businesses represented at the breakfast appreciated the professionalism exhibited by the students, and of course we all enjoyed the delicious breakfast (prepared by my wife Shane!).

[Charley Bill](#) – On April 18th we lost one of the nicest guys I have ever known, Charley Bill Wright. He was 78 years old and gave in to cancer after fighting it for several years. I have known him since I was just a kid playing baseball. He was playing baseball in college at the time and also helping to run the Brookfield summer baseball program. He was one of those people who made a very positive impression on a young baseball player! I lost touch with him for a few years until I started being asked to sing at funerals when I was in high school. At the time Charley Bill worked with his Father and Mother, Harold Bell & Elizabeth running the Wright Funeral Home in Brookfield and several other satellite locations throughout Linn County. Charley Bill was one of those people who always seemed to be happy and could be counted on to tell great stories about a whole variety of subjects to just about anyone who would listen. In my case it usually had to do with music and people he knew who performed them over the years. He had a lot of funny experiences to share. I wish I had kept track over the years the number of times I sang for funerals for Wright Funeral Home. Most of those with my Mom or Jane Chick accompanying me on the piano

or organ.

When Wright Funeral Home and Hill Funeral Home decided to merge my connection to Charley Bill became even closer. Shane and I have been good friends with Bob and Sherry Baker for many years and the new partnership in a brand new facility meant I was spending even more time around them and Charley Bill, and I was happy for it. We will miss Charley Bill Wright in our lives.

Lane B. Thudium Memorial Football Award – This year our family struggled trying to decide who to give this award to. So many of our seniors were exceptional athletes with exceptional play this year, and for that matter the entire class of players seemed to play critical roles in the success of the team this season. For this reason we chose to give the award to all of the Senior players and our Senior Manager. All were given individual engraved plaques and we had Elliot Jewelry engrave their names on the large trophy that is kept on display in the high school trophy case. This year's winners were; Tucker Noble, Seth Speichinger, Reed McBroom, Matt Jackman, David Keller, Andrew Cupp, Taylor Wallace, Matt Teter, Art Huerta, Dalton King, Robert Johnson, Derick Ingram, Eric Flynn, Zane Chrisman, Jacob McLaughlin, Logan Leamons, Tony Martin, Tyler McCurley and Brittany Hedrick.

Here are some of the accomplishments of this team; 3 players were selected three years to the All-State team, one player was chosen 1st team All-State for two straight years, 6 players were All-State selections this season, there were a multiple all conference and all district honors, the team won 22 games the past two years alone, they won the Bulldog's 1st CCC Championship in school history, they won the team's first District title since 2006, this in perhaps the most difficult class 2 eight team district in the State, they reached the State Quarterfinal game for just the third time in School history, and set numerous individual School records.

Mendon Tiger Caravan – I attended the annual Mendon Mizzou Tiger Caravan this past week. This year I took my grandson's Devan Parn and Gambal Staddie with me. We got there early enough to sit at the front table that faces the head table. Perfect spot for two young boys who were a bit wide eyed by the spectacle of seeing and meeting the MU celebrities. Football Coach Barry Odom, Women's Basketball Coach Robin Pingeton, Athletic Director Mack Rhoades all spoke to the audience and Coach Odom brought the boys up, introduced them to the crowd and visited with them for a bit. They had a great time! Another enjoyable evening mingling with MU Coaches, administrators and my fellow North Missouri Mizzou fans!

Industrial Park Growth– The Brookfield Industrial Park is filled with four companies; Stanbury Uniforms, Brookfield Fabricating, Excelsior Manufacturing and Federal Express. This past year we have seen Fab, Excelsior and Federal Express do an expansion and now learn that Stanbury Uniforms is seeking an office expansion. Obviously this means they are all doing well - good news for Brookfield because it has means additional job opportunities.

Birthdays – May 14th, Gene Thudium, Rose Anthony, Derek 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, Ann 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, Nina Elliott, Tracy Crafton, Bruce Helms, Ida Mae Wombwell, May 30th, Glenn Bragg, Gary Horton, May 31st, Dee Carmical, Waldo Roberts, June 1st, TJ Hall, Teresa Lark, Teresa Williams, Hurschel Lain, June 2nd, Teague Cantrall, Abby McCracken, Randy Rasmussen, Alyson Wade, June 3rd, Kacee Collier, Elizabeth Scates, Shannon Scott, June 4th, Carl Bunten, Mark Smith, Donnie Stevens, June 5th, Timber Estes, June 6th, Zane Still, Butch Mosley, June 7th, Sherry Ellison, Mary Stufflebean, June

9th, **Matt Parn (our son in law)**, Lauren Bush, Pat Gooch, June 10th, Cheri (Pope) Hunt, Joan Stuffle bean Sullivan, Mike Morris, Carolee Hall, Graham Smith, Cathy Wombwell, June 11th, Sarah Holtz, Wilma Helms Jobson, June 12th, Mary Shaul, June 13th, Kim Molloy, Jim Bennett, James Cowan, Jennifer Darby, June 14th, Abby Sattman, Terry Tschannen, Dennie Calhoun, Lottie Phillips, June 15th, Jerry Wine, Caleb Buckallew, Scott Wohlgemuth, June 16th, Cheryl Hayen Bradley, Kathy Gall, Julee Reese, June 17th, George Johnson, Vickie Roberts, Dee Williams, June 18th, Jocelyn Lincon, Eugene Seaboldt, Melissa Sportsman, June 19th, **Jaida Staddie (our granddaughter)**, KyLynn Schnetzler, Peggy Price, June, 20th, Vanessa O'Dell, June 21st, Ryan Collins, Lela Groes, Shannon Moser, Karen Ewing Bradley, Kathleen Burris, Michael Libby, Addison Rodriguez, June 22nd, Ben Keller, Megan Scott, June 23rd, Jennifer Shoemaker, Kylin King, June 24th, Nickolas Mason, Tristian Hamilton, Sue Kimble, Hayden Harms, June 25th, JoAnn Bunten, Ashley Grant, June 26th, Frances Smith, June 27th, Jo Hunt, Daniel Alexander, Samantha Gonzalez, Brandon McKenzie, June 28th, Jack Varnedoe, June 29th, Kaler Still, June 30th, , Jack Ogden, Debbie Lain, Pat Sportsman, Anna Wombwell, **Mason Swift Thudium (our grandson)**.

[*Anniversaries*](#) – May 15th, Ron & Waverly Dixon, May 18th, Dick & Joann King, Kenneth & Mary Almond, May 20th, Mike & Carolyn Logue, Jerry & Stacie Wild, May 21st, Jeff & Lori Elliott, May 22nd, Kyle & Abby Wilkerson, May 23rd, Dan & Melinda McCormick, May 24th, Terry & Barb Tschannen, May 25th, Chuck & Kelli Gonzalez, May 26th, Brian & Deana Grant, May 28th, Ross & Whitley McKenzie, May 29th, Randy & Sue Head, Charlie & Nicole Reid, May 30th, Dave & Amy (Gentry) Hoehne, June 1st, Bruce & Sharron Conner, Joel & Sarah Dixon, Matt & Amy Lewis, June 4th, Mickey & Martha Beach, Bob & Teresa Miller, June 5th, Jack & Bridget Gillespie, June 6th, Jerry & Beverly Staley, June 7th, David & Pamela Hardy, Chris & Ann Zumbrennen, June 9th, Ernie & Kathy Libby, June 10th, Glenn

& Stacie Bragg, Eric & Paula Jessen, June 12th, Mike & Elizabeth Quigley, June 13th, Chris & Jean Ham, June 14th, Greg & Debbie Gentry, June 17th, George & Pat Kimbrough, Bob & Mary Ann Roe, June 18th, Wade & Dorothy Watts, Daniel & Emily Littrell, June 19th, Ray & Joyce Epperly, Rex & Renee Moore, June 20th, Ed & Linda McDowell, John & Julee Sheerman, Terrill & Dana Lane, Jason & Kerri Cowan, June 21st, **Matt & Kjersten Parn (our daughter and son in law)**, Larry & Sherry Ellison, June 24th, Heath & Shelly Harms, June 26th, Ronnie & Bev Liebhart, June 28th, Jimmy and Kacey Collier, Jim & Marth McIntyre, Dennis & Suzan Stephenson, **Nile & Jenny Thudium (our son and daughter in law)**, June 29th, Bill & Rhonda Copple, Terry & Carla Watts, June 30th, Gary & Jo Anne Horton.

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** you would like to share. See you next month!