



The Brookfield Citizen

Community Identity Through Communication

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Average People Promoting a Loving Environment.

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A Look Back

The year 2010 marks the 350th anniversary of the Quaboag Plantation. As part of the celebration, the Brookfield 350th committee, in cooperation with the Brookfield Citizen, will present news items from the Brookfield Times from the year 1909. The Times was a local newspaper publishing items about the Brookfields, New Braintree, and Oakham. The news items are taken directly from the Times, with an occasional editor's change. We hope the selected items give you some sense of life in our town 101 years ago.

January 1, 1909

Business prospects for Brookfield are good for 1909. Foster-Moulton shoe company are to double their capacity, and the Ideal Coated Paper Company is running its factory night and day with two shifts of men. The box shop expects to start up soon.

There has been but one serious fire in Brookfield during 1908 - the burning of the Hotel Metropole. The Grover house was burned last week, and St. Mary's church was damaged by lightning and the ensuing fire. Other fires were slight.

North Brookfield The B&R basketball team was defeated by Brookfield, 37 to 7 in the town hall, Thursday night. Clancy was best for Brookfield while Minns did the best for the B&R.

January 8, 1909

Miss Edith A. Walker and mother will occupy the Cook house on Lincoln street.

On account of whooping cough, the school in the Over-the-River district, Miss Peck, teacher, is suspended for two weeks.

Regular selectmen's meeting next Monday.

Jarius Charles Hagar, in the Over-the-River district, has sold the Dr. Shepard Place to Norman McGregor, of Waverly. The price paid is reported as \$1000.

There was no session of grades five and six in the Blanchard Building, Tuesday afternoon, on account of the illness of the teacher, Miss Edith A. Walker.

Reverend Father Murphy has completed 19 years as pastor at St. Mary's Catholic Church in
(Continued on page 4)

AN APOLOGY

Philip Peirce

Since the beginning of this newsletter it has been the source of the good news in our community and the neighboring towns. It began as an effort to supplant the gossip over the back fence with articles of interest and notifications of worthwhile events of importance to all facets of Brookfield life. The intent is to add to the strength of the community in helping its neighbors, providing information on cultural events, municipal notices, and other local groups reaching out to do the same.

As the erstwhile Editor, I have tried to maintain the goals we had set up in the beginning. But, I have to admit to a failure to do so in the last issue. The insert which appeared in that issue came from a source that had provided other inserts of an innocuous nature that seemed to have a message dealing with people dealing with adversity. These inserts are a form of paid advertising, whereas we charge for the service of including it in the newsletter. The call for putting this one in came within a few days of printing, was delivered to my office in the Town Hall, with a check for payment. At work, our office was quite busy with dealing with the

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BRUSH BURNING

Starting January 15, permits for the outdoor burning of brush and forestry debris will be available. Permits will be issued until April 30. With this permit, you can only burn brush and forestry debris.

The burning of leaves, tires, trash, stumps or building materials is prohibited and may result in the suspension of burning for the rest of the season or even fines.

Burning is only allowed between the hours of 10am and 4pm.

These regulations are set by the state and are not subject to local control. (310 CMR 7.07)

To obtain a permit call the dispatch office at 508-867-1066 between the hours of 7:30am and 12 Noon on the day you want to burn. The dispatcher will take some information and issue you a permit number. Do not call 9-1-1, the fire station, or the regular dispatch number. You do not need to go to the fire station.

Each permit is only good for one day, as burning may be suspended from time to time due to weather, holidays, or Fire Department concerns.

Permits will not be available on Easter Sunday.

You must have adequate means to put the fire out (sufficient help, shovels, and water) and the fire can be no closer than 75 feet from any structure. Local or

State Fire officials may stop by to inspect the fire and make sure you have obtained a permit.

We ask that everyone exercise common sense when burning brush and treat fire with the respect it requires, minimizing the potential for injury and property damage.

Please keep this page as a reference.



350th Parade

The Quaboag Plantation's 350th Anniversary Parade will be held on Sunday, September 19, 2010, in West Brookfield. The Brookfield division will lead the parade.

The parade committee (for all six towns) has given a deadline of April 15th for parade entries. Please let us know at BrookfieldQuaboag2010@gmail.com if you are planning on making a float, march as a group, drive a vehicle, or otherwise participate in the parade. We would like to have as many participants as possible.

MAB Community Services

Press Release

Your car, truck or camper may be worth more as a donation than a trade in. Call the Massachusetts Association for the Blind at 1-888-613-2777 for details. This is a free tow, quick pick-up and donations are tax deductible.

Proceeds benefit the blind and vision impaired in Massachusetts.

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Welcome to the family

The Senosk/Hoyt family would like to welcome to the world our Beautiful Baby Girl. Kylie Marie, born to Dianna Senosk and David Hoyt on 12/25/09. 5 lbs 13 oz. 18 1/2 inches long, she joined us at 5:51 p.m. The proud parents and grandparents Denise Senosk of Brookfield and Richard and Gail Hoyt of Spencer and 1st time uncle John are more than excited to have this wonderful addition to our families.



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*Complicated Laws**Common Language***The Folding Corner***Philip Peirce*

I don't seem to remember a time when I was either inclined or able to leave New England in one of its more picturesque seasons. But here I am, on the brink of an adventure to the Panama Canal and the warmer climes, and I feel **good** about leaving! Today, while I'm writing this column, we are 5 days from departure. My wife is almost 100% packed, and I am almost 1% packed. This is why we had to shuffle the deadlines around this month. We wanted to make sure that we could have it all ready for mailing before we left, and all things being equal, it will be.

It's been a couple of years since we had a memorable vacation, and I can't think of a better time for this one. I'll hate to miss the storm or two that you're likely to get before we return on the second of February; that is usually one of those events that falls under the picturesque part of my first sentence, above. Hopefully I can convince my neighbors to refill my bird feeders while we're gone; they (the birds, that is), get a little fussy if they don't have their din-din on time.

And, the bulk of the work in the Assessors office is done, for the time being; the tax bills will be on their way by the end of the month, and I'll be back in time for the fall out from that mailing. Life is good!

See you when I get back.

Phil

Scanning Horizons for Pictures

I just got word from a member of the Brookfield Quaboag 350th Committee that they are in dire need of historical pictures of Brookfield. Their need is only to scan whatever documents are available, and then return them to their owners. Pictures, text, or memorabilia in a form suitable for scanning are needed to set up for one of the 350th celebration events, this one to take place in our town.

I just know that a lot of you old-timers, (I know, I'm an old-timer, too, just not a Brookfield one, since I've only lived here for 30 years), have favorite pictures and stories squirreled away in your homes that you are saving for your family. The Committee does not want them to keep; they have a very good scanner that can capture the essence of your documents quite nicely, and then return them promptly to you.

Kindly let Mr. Ron Couture, or any other member of the 350th committee in Brookfield, know what you have and when he can borrow it to do the scanning. I'm sure if everyone brought forth some of their mementos, we would have quite a compilation of historical scenes and events to look at.

Let's get a grand display together that shows our pride in our heritage.

Phil Peirce for Ron Couture

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