



BROOKFIELD

Chamber of Commerce

Message from the President

In my opinion right now is a great time to be a small business owner. I also think there is no better place to be a small business owner than in Brookfield. I say this because not many cities have the unique business community that Brookfield has. Brookfield's business community is mostly comprised of small independent businesses that offer unique products and services to their customers. These are usually owner operated businesses where the day to day operation is ran, or closely overseen by the owners.

I have always looked for a community like Brookfield to operate a small business in. Why some people might ask when they look at the business landscape in town, where is your big box retail, do you have a Costco, or a Walmart. I would proudly say no, but we have great independent owned restaurants, family owned funeral homes, a independent grocery store, and a lot of business owners who make a living with their business, and live and believe in the community. To me that is what makes Brookfield's Business Community unique, and also great reason to patronize its businesses. This was the reason for my wanting to lead the Brookfield chamber of Commerce, and the call to promote the businesses we do have.

In my upcoming columns I will touch on the need to look to small business, and not big box retailers and corporations for development in Brookfield, and the important role small business plays in our economy, and in our community.

Christopher DiBraccio
President
Brookfield Chamber Of Commerce

Brookfield Chamber of Commerce 2013 Officers & Directors

President

Christopher DiBraccio

Brixie's
387-0050

First Vice President

Tom Milani

House Pros Home Inspections
373-5441

Second Vice President

Allen Goodcase

Future Electronic Systems
485-8940

Secretary

Amanda Robert-Curry

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans
630/598-2143

Treasurer

Amy Weinert

First National Bank of
Brookfield
485-2770

Directors

Term Ending 2013

Deborah Barta (Chefsahoy)	312/560-3975
Betty LeClere (Betty's Flowers)	485-3893

Term Ending 2014

Charles Hitzeman (Hitzeman Funeral Home)	485-2000
Patricia Weber (Le Grand Décor)	485-2204

Term Ending 2015

Phillip Richard (First National Bank of Brookfield)	485-2770
JoAnn D'Altorio (Brookfield Little League)	710-2724

Term Ending 2016

Ellen Frantzen (Joe's Saloon)	485-7042
Erika Chavez (Baird Warner)	354-7355

Member Spotlight– Edward Jones Steven Langworthy



As Brookfield's Edward Jones Financial Advisor, I have been enjoying getting to know the community during the past year. Many of you may have seen me walking around the neighborhood knocking on doors introducing myself and Edward Jones services to the Brookfield residents. Edward Jones advisors work only with families and local businesses. The financial world can sometimes seem like foreign territory. I believe that my job is to help everyone become a more educated investor through gaining a better understanding of the tools and strategies available.

I personally believe in a long term investing approach that emphasizes the importance of diversification using quality, research driven investment selections. With every unique financial goal I invest my time to create a personalized strategy to help my clients reach that goal. As your financial needs grow and change, so should your portfolio. I pride myself in being proactive with my clients, updating them on market and economic conditions, hosting informational workshops at the Brookfield Library, and dinner seminars here in town. I do this to ensure that my clients the residents of Brookfield are educated about investing and understand how various factors can affect portfolios and financial goals.

Located at 3734 Prairie Avenue, directly across from the Post Office, you are welcome to stop in anytime. Office hours are 8 AM to 4:30 PM Monday through Friday.

Steven Langworthy
Financial Advisor
708-485-8291

Member SIPC"

Edward Jones

MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Dates to Remember



June 13th, 2013

Business Luncheon, 12pm Irish Times
8869 Burlington Ave, Brookfield

June 20th, 2013

Board Meeting, 12pm at the Brookfield Public Library
3609 Grand Blvd, Brookfield

June 27th, 2013

After-Hours, 5:30pm First National Bank of Brookfield
9136 Washington Ave, Brookfield

Insanity Run

Get ready for the wildest Obstacle Course Challenge this side of Insanity. The Brookfield Chamber of Commerce has merged their annual Insanity Run with the B.A.D. Obstacle Challenge, a world wide Obstacle Course Challenge & Adventure Run Series, making Brookfield home to its Chicago tour stop on Saturday, August 31st, 2013 at Kiwanis Park.

The race, presented by the Brookfield Chamber of commerce and brought to you by the Brookfield Zoo, will consist of a 7k (4.4 miles) course that will boast unconventional, but achievable obstacles that are truly "BADASS".

*As part of the merger, B.A.D. Management has agreed to offer all past Insanity Run competitors and Brookfield Chamber Members a discounted entry fee of \$40 for this year's race but this offer will expire May 7th!

REGISTER NOW AND USE THE PROMOTIONAL CODE "INSANITY" TO SAVE \$20 OFF YOUR REGISTRATION AT BADASSDASH.COM

The LeaderShop

This year's La Grange Rocks 5K Run/Walk takes place Friday, June 7. It is a benefit for The LeaderShop, an agency based in La Grange that builds service-oriented youth in Lyons and southern Proviso Townships.

6pm - Kids Mini Me One Lap Race (7 and under)
6:15pm - Kids One Mile Race (11 and under)
7pm - 5K Race

Live youth bands line the path and play at the post-race party. Families and community cheer all along the path. Medals for all age divisions.

La Grange Rocks is a CARA certified race. CARA members receive a discount at registration.

Register at www.theleadershop.org

Race packets may be picked up from The Runner's Soul on
June 5 and 6, Noon-8pm



Sokol Spirit Czech Film Series

2013 Czech Film Series

English subtitles!

Come join us at Sokol Spirit every first Friday of the month, from 7:30pm to 9:30 pm for a viewing and discussion of Czech cinema! Led by our esteemed instructor Pavlina Dropka!



Admission is only \$4 person,
and your first pop or beer is on us!

June 7th LIDICE. The film follows small-town love affairs and everyday white lies that set the groundwork for the eventual destruction of the village. R rating



Cantata Adult Life Services

Three Chicago Non-Profits Create First Home Improvement Company for 55+ Set

Chicago, IL – April 8, 2013 - Three non-profits have joined forces to create PrimeLife Home Improvement, the first Chicago area home improvement company aimed at helping seniors live comfortably and safely in their own homes – where studies show they want to stay.

AARP reports nearly 90 percent of seniors over age 65 want to remain home as long as possible instead of moving to a nursing or retirement home. Yet those who do often fall victim to scam artists who offer to perform home repairs but then take the money and disappear, or worse, commit violent acts.

PrimeLife is the brainchild of three innovative Chicago area non-profits with over 200 years combined experience serving seniors and advocating on their behalf. The three companies who formed PrimeLife are Cantata Adult Life Services, Chicagoland Methodist Senior Services and H.O.M.E. (Housing Opportunities & Maintenance for the Elderly). Each has representation on PrimeLife's board.

PrimeLife serves seniors in Chicago's Cook and collar counties and hires only the most trustworthy, reliable and skilled handymen and contractors. All hires are required to enroll in sensitivity and customer service training specific to working with the senior population. In addition, all contractors and handymen employed by PrimeLife Home Improvement complete rigorous drug testing and criminal background checks. PrimeLife also carries greater insurance and liability coverage than other home improvement providers.

"We have high standards for the efficiency and quality of jobs, and also for the professionalism and customer service skills of the person doing the job. We won't send out any handymen or contractors who don't meet those standards," says Sandra Crasko, Vice President of Community Services for Chicagoland Methodist Senior Services.

Chosen to lead PrimeLife Home Improvement is 46 year-old industry veteran Chris Roller, who has over 25 years of experience and an interest in working for a mission-driven company and giving back to the community. Roller started out as a carpenter and cabinet maker while working his way through college. He went on to work in project management roles for builders Cambridge Homes and Cherrington Design & Building, and also owned his own building and design firm. Roller has worked extensively with Habitat for Humanity. He earned a Bachelor's degree from Eastern Illinois University and also studied gerontology. Roller lives in Batavia with his architect wife and their two children.

"People see why this is a good idea right away when I tell them about it. You want someone trustworthy and reliable to provide home maintenance for seniors. When we work in people's homes we appreciate that we're entering their inner sanctum. We're working in their space on their time," says Roller.

"Many older adults have been living in their homes a really long time. We just completed work for a 93 year-old living in the home where she was born," Roller adds, "That requires a special approach."

PrimeLife Home Improvement offers free estimates for projects of any size, with absolutely no obligation. To contact PrimeLife for home improvement services call 708-387-1055.

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