

# BROOKFIELD

## Chamber of Commerce

April 2014

### Message from the President

Greetings Brookfield Chamber of Commerce Members. I hope you and your businesses are doing well. Over the last month, I've met with elected officials and village staff to discuss ways in which we can more effectively work together to make the Village of Brookfield a great place to own a business.

While we're all aware that there have been some disconnects in the past that have sometimes made working with the village challenging for business owners, I sense a genuine commitment on the part of village officials and village management to work more closely with the chamber and local businesses. We hope to develop a process that will enable anyone who wishes to open and run a business in town to do so efficiently. The goal is to provide information, advice and answers in a cohesive, easy to understand package that will be presented in a courteous and supportive fashion. We also hope to have questions and concerns answered clearly and concisely, and in a timely manner. The context of recent discussions has centered on new businesses, but our hope is that the same commitment to greater cooperation and friendly efficient communications will benefit existing Brookfield businesses as well.

In addition to working more closely with the village, the chamber is also committed to enhancing our working relationship with Brookfield Zoo, and to making sure we're taking full advantage of this incredible resource and attraction that's right in our back yard. To do this, we thought it was important to have someone from the zoo on our board, and I'm happy to announce that for the first time, we now have a director on our board from the zoo. Amelia Orozco, who is in the zoo's creative services department, is our newest board member. Please be sure and welcome Amelia when you see her at upcoming events.

We have our next business luncheon coming up on April 10<sup>th</sup> at Sawa's Old Warsaw at noon, and our April business after hours will be held at Brixie's on the 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:30. Come on out and bring along a fellow local business owner who should be a member of the chamber.

Don't forget to put on your dancin' shoes and join us on Saturday May 17<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 until 11:00 for our annual Street Dance on Broadway near 8 corners. It's always a fun event, and chamber member Toby Rhodes will once again be our host & DJ. I'd also love to see a lot of chamber members come out and enjoy the Battle of the Bands at noon on Sunday 5/18. The event is presented by chamber member A Sound Education and the Brookfield Recreation Department, and sponsored in part by the chamber.

Thanks for your continued support, and please feel free to share any ideas you have on how your chamber can better help your business.

Tom Milani

President

Brookfield Chamber of Commerce

## Brookfield Chamber of Commerce 2014 Officers & Directors

### President

**Tom Milani**

House Pros Home Inspections

373-5441

### First Vice President

**Allen Goodcase**

Future Electronic Systems

485-8940

### Second Vice President

**Tait Jorgensen**

Farmer's Insurance

630/850-7220

### Secretary

**Amanda Robert-Curry**

Nest Vintage Modern

334-1320

### Treasurer

**Amy Weinert**

First National Bank of  
Brookfield

485-2770

### Directors

#### Term Ending 2014

Betty LeClere (Betty's Flowers) 485-3893

Mike McNeily (McNeily & Company) 246-2737

Patricia Weber (Le Grand Décor) 312/403-7736

#### Term Ending 2015

Phillip Richard (First National Bank of Brookfield) 485-2770

JoAnn D'Altorio (Brookfield Little League) 710-2724

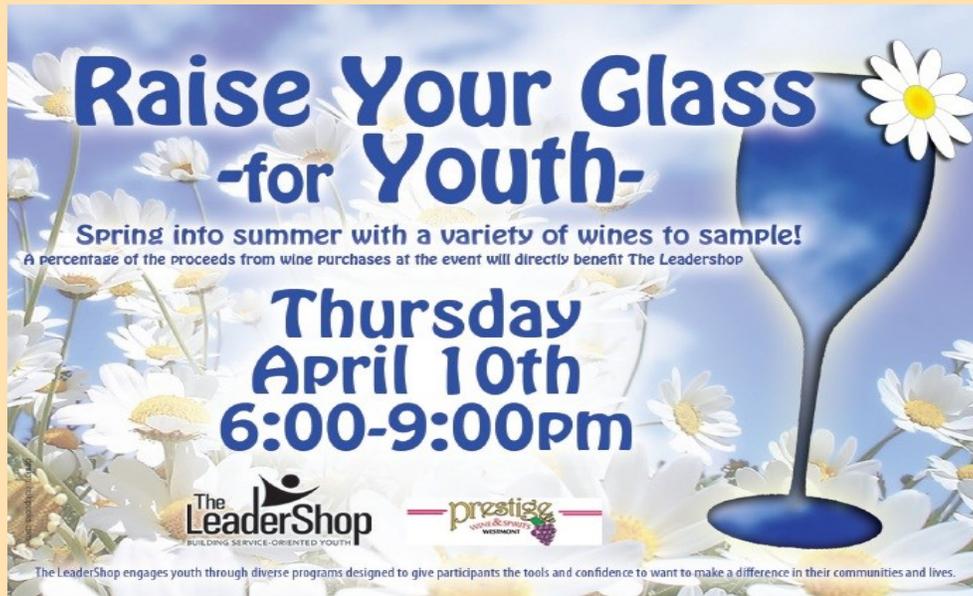
#### Term Ending 2016

Ellen Frantzen (Joe's Saloon) 485-7042

Erika Chavez (Baird Warner) 354-7355

### Immediate Past President

Chris DiBraccio (Brixie's) 387-0050



Village Club of Western Springs  
 4221 Lawn Avenue, Western Springs  
 \$25.00 in advance, \$30.00 at the door  
 Includes unlimited tastings and appetizers  
 Register via Phone or Online: 708-579-5898  
 Theleadershop.org



## Dates to Remember

### Thursday, April 10th, 2014

Business Luncheon, 12pm Sawa's Old Warsaw  
 9200 W. Cermak Road, Broadview

### Thursday, April 17th, 2014

Board Meeting, 12pm at the Brookfield Public Library

### Thursday April 27th, 2014

Brixie's Bar and Grill  
 9526 Ogden Avenue, Brookfield  
 5:30pm



Community Support Services, Inc.

Join Community Support Services for our Beat the Odds Event

*Friday April 11th 6:00 - 10:00 pm*

*William Tell Banquets in Countryside*

You'll enjoy appetizers and dinner buffet, great music, wine services provided by Redmoon's custom pedal powered bicycle, fantastic silent / live auction items & drawings. Also, this year, we are pleased to welcome Ryan Chiaverini, co-host of Windy City LIVE on ABC7 Chicago, as this year's Master of Ceremonies. For questions contact Nida by calling 708.354.4547 x 111 or email [nfaridi@CSSservices.org](mailto:nfaridi@CSSservices.org).

# Member Spotlight– Stanley Balcom

## ICF Life Catalyst



ICF Life Catalyst is a ministry of International Christian Fellowship, established to help people change. Whether just getting out of prison, recovering from addiction, experiencing grief or just wanting help to achieve some elusive life long goals, this ministry can help.

We offer classes in three, five to six week sessions every year that cover topics on subjects ranging from mentoring to anger management, the importance of attitude to changing self-destructive behavior. We have certified mentors ready to help in individual settings. On request we also make referrals to certified Christian Counselors and Christian Life Coaches.

Starting April 8<sup>th</sup> we start a six-week session on relationships. Starting with God we then cover marriage, family, community and work. The session will also include a class on effective communication. The classes will be held at International Christian Fellowship, 9146 Lincoln Ave, Brookfield, IL 60513.

Stan Balcom, the program director has over 17 years experience in human services. He has been a trainer of trainers, case manager, program manager and direct care worker. He served in the US Peace Corps in Ghana, West Africa where he taught math and education at a teacher's college.

Suzanne Balcom, his wife and co-director, has 9 years experience in prison ministry and is a Certified Temperament Councilor.

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### Like trivia?

**Think you have a team that can't be beat?**

**Come join us at Sokol Spirit for our annual**

### **adult team trivia night!**

**When: Saturday May 3 7:00pm**

**Where: Sokol Spirit's lower hall**

**3909 S. Prairie Ave in Brookfield, IL**

**Details: Bring a friend, bring a team, or just bring yourself!**

**This event is BYOB and BYOS (snacks!)**

**We also have beer available for purchase.**

**The cost is \$10 per person. Teams (of no more than 10 people) are encouraged!**

**We will also have split the pot raffles.**

**Questions?**



**Baby Ballerinas!**



*Are they too young to dance? This is what years of experience has taught us!*

Movement is the first learned behavior in humans. Before we learn to speak, we move. Even at a very young age, enrolling your child in a dance class holds countless benefits. Just ask the parents at Impact Dance Studio who participate in the "Parent & Tot" dance class for children as young as 12 months. Dancing alongside a parent to music they recognize, the child begins to build trust and muscle memory in a very short time period. The children begin to work on various muscles, using gross motor skills, and discover new ways to move their body, giving them self-confidence.

At 2 years old, our tiny dancers take on the studio without parents for some ballet and tap fun. By combining arm movements with dance steps, coordination is practiced. Our Pre-Dance Program has a detailed calendar to ensure our youngsters are learning in a beneficial sequence. Each week the students build onto previous steps, while mastering the basics. We focus on consistency and structure, enhancing memory in the students. Beyond physical benefits, dance class is a great way for children to work on their listening skills, as well as following directions. Our teachers provide both verbal and visual directions throughout the class, requiring the children to think, watch, and do - all at the same time.

Dance class is a phenomenal way to get your child ready for pre-school, and comfortable with other children in a classroom-like setting. Not only are the children developing and learning, they are having fun while doing it. It is important for children to spend time with other children to practice social skills and make new friends. The dancers begin to form a special bond with each other, and especially with the instructor. With catchy tunes, fun props, and an enthusiastic teacher, our baby ballerinas can't wait to come back to another dance class! For more information about the classes we offer or to sign up your child, visit our website [www.impactdancestudio.com](http://www.impactdancestudio.com)!

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## **Brookfield VFW**

Fish Fry Friday—now through May

Corn beef and cabbage dinner Sunday May 16th at 1:00pm, \$9.00/plate

Breakfast with the Easter Bunny Saturday April 12th 8:00am-12:00pm- \$6.00 all you can eat

