

## Lancers back in action



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Brookfield Central sophomore quarterback AJ Seymour takes off up field during a nonconference football game against Pewaukee Aug. 24 at Central.

The Lancers won 9-8 over the visiting Pirates.

More photos on Page 4.

Dave Radcliffe,  
Freeman Staff

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# K9 Resorts Luxury Pet Hotel of Brookfield opens

**By Faith Rae**  
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BROOKFIELD — The new K9 Resorts Luxury Pet Hotel of Brookfield is providing local residents with a new facility that will care for their furry friends.

The pet resort offers dog owners day care and overnight boarding with a number of luxury accommodations for their pets.

“First and foremost, it’s a cage-free environment,” said Allen Kline, who owns the resort with his wife Sara Kline. “Regardless if your dog is coming for day care or overnight boarding, the dogs are either in our indoor play area, or in our outside play area all day long.”

For overnight boarding, dogs are placed in what Kline referred to as “suites” to sleep in at night. The suites are broken into different sections within the resort, and each section will have their own air system to help prevent the spreading of any airborne diseases. Kline said their focus on air quality is an aspect of the business that sets them apart behind the scenes.

The suites are broken down into three sections — the traditional dog compartments for dogs who are used to being in a cage at home; executive suits that are larger and have their own dog bed; and

the luxury suites that are fully enclosed and feature a dog TV. There are currently six luxury suites available in the approximately 9,000 square-foot space.

Kline said they built out a little over 7,000 square feet of the space, and the other 2,000 will be used for future expansion based on what type of suites people are buying most. However, Kline emphasized that regardless of the suite size pet owners sign their dogs up for, each K9 will receive the same type of service, treatment and food.

The facility will not offer retail or grooming. The space is strictly focused on day care and boarding.

“100 percent focused on making sure the dogs are having fun during the day and go home tired to sleep all night with their owners,” said Kline. “If you think about it from a dogs’ perspective, they know when they are going to the vet, and they know when they are going places, so what we want to be able to do with K9 Resorts is really focus on a fun environment for the dogs.”

“Everyone is surprised at the quality of the building inside,” said Kline, adding that they have given a few tours of the facility already. “Most people equate it to a spa that humans go to.”

K9 Resorts is located at 19255 West Bluemound Road. The facility officially started accepting dogs on Aug. 12.



Courtesy of Allen Kline

K9 Resorts Luxury Pet Hotel of Brookfield is located at 19255 W. Bluemound Road.

“When they go into a K9 resort, they know they are there to have fun,” said Kline.

For more information about K9 Resorts Luxury Pet Hotel of Brookfield, visit <https://bit.ly/47mFSiw>.



Courtesy of Allen Kline

A “suite” for dogs to stay in overnight at K9 Resorts Luxury Pet Hotel of Brookfield. It features their own bed and a dog TV.



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# Ruby Farms celebrates 175th anniversary

*Fourth generation reflects on family history in Brookfield*

By Isabella Kostolni  
ikostolni@conley.net.com  
262-513-2651

BROOKFIELD — Little did Brookfield know when it welcomed German immigrant Jacob Ruby to the area in 1848 that his family would go on to become a pillar of the community for the next century and three-quarters.

But when Jacob arrived in America’s Dairyland, he had a slightly different last name – Rube. It was in the 1850s that he adopted the “y,” due to recurring mail mixups with the Rube family of Milwaukee. And it was a good thing he did, because the image of a shiny red jewel is reflective of what the Ruby family was (and continues to be) to many people in the community – a real gem.

When Ruby Farms first started its agricultural venture 175 years ago with only 80 acres, Jacob focused on the production of sugar beets. Each year, roughly 400 tons were shipped to Green Bay.

But beyond the sweet root vegetable, Jacob also contributed to the local economy through the sale of other vegetables, feed, calves, honey, hay, and apples. Work horses were an important part of the operation and continued to be integral to the Ruby family’s history up until the 1990s.

A log cabin stood on the property during the early days of the farm. After a decade of success, the Rubys constructed a more stately home. The Cream City brick house has been standing since 1858. It underwent some small renovations in the 1990s, but the family says the home is still 90 percent original.

In 1907, Jacob’s grandson Rolland Ruby was born. For many Brookfielders, this is the man who comes to mind when one thinks of Ruby Farms.

Rolland cultivated over 1,000 acres of land. He was also the man who built up the Ruby Farms dairy business.

Up until 1933, the family’s dairy cows produced milk to be shipped off to another manufacturer. Soon enough, Rolland came to the conclusion that the entire dairy process could be done in-house. So for the next 20 years, the Rubys produced and delivered milk to families in the area.

During that time, Rolland employed 20 men and had four panel trucks bringing milk to local homes six days a week.

Born in 1945, Rolland’s son Jake vividly remembers this time in his life. The fourth generation of Ruby farmers, he and his older sisters Betty, Joanne, and Sally all helped out around the property — tending to animals and mowing lawns. “We all chipped in,” Jake said.

In 1953, Rolland decided it was time to move away from dairy and try his hand at something else. “What transpired was he was a small dairy, but there were big ones in town,” Jake said. “People were getting their milk from bigger farms ...Times were changing.”

They were, indeed. Following World War II, families were growing and moving into the suburbs. So Rolland saw an opportunity to try his hand at real estate.

He used some of his land to develop a subdivision, and many of the families who had once bought milk from him soon turned into real estate customers.

“Having had the milk routes, he knew a lot of people,” Jake explained. “When you buy a product like milk — a product that you put in your mouth — you want to buy from someone you trust. So he was a man that was trusted.”

Fully entrenched in this new area of business, Rolland built the Ruby Isle Shopping Center, which opened for business in 1963. Community members might recall the center’s 800-seat movie theater. The theater was known for its 79¢ showings on Thursdays. Jake recalls how many local children liked watching movies from the theater’s upper level. “The balcony had relaxing chairs and a lot of times the boys and girls enjoyed going up there,” he said.



Jake Ruby and wife Gay in front of a “Ruby Farms Milk” neon sign in their Pewaukee home. Jake is the son of Rolland Ruby, who ran the dairy business from 1933-1953.

Isabella Kostolni,  
Freeman Staff



Photos courtesy of Ruby family

Rolland Ruby and his six-horse hitch next to the Ruby Realty billboard off Interstate 94 circa 1969.

Around that same time, Rolland opened Elm Brook State Bank to offer mortgages and other services to his real estate clients and other people in Brookfield. In order to dedicate more resources to and ensure the success of the bank, Rolland only accepted a salary of \$1 a year. The Ruby family later sold Elm Brook State Bank to M&I Bank. Now, a Chase Bank stands in that location.

Even though Rolland’s real estate business was booming, he still had a passion for farming. So he channeled this love into his horses — this time for show, rather than agricultural labor.

Rolland trained eight purebred Belgian draft horses for his famous six-horse hitch (two were alternates). Attached to a turn-of-the-century Studebaker wagon emblazoned with “Ruby Realty,” Rolland would show his six-horse hitch at countless parades, exhibitions, and competitions. “The horses were part of the family,” Jake explained.

It was in 1970, when Rolland took his horses to the Wisconsin State Fair (where he had been superintendent for 40 years), that Jake was introduced to his wife Gay. As Fairest of the Fair, Gay rode in the wagon with Rolland around the fairgrounds. Partway through the fair, Rolland suggested that Jake take the wagon for a spin. “The fair was good to me,” Jake added with a smile. Jake and Gay have now been married for half a century.

Rolland died in 1990, and the last of the horses left the farm at that time. Jake continued to keep up the family real estate business, managing the Ruby Isle Shopping Center for decades.

In 2016, Jake sold Ruby Isle to a management company. Now, he and his wife Gay live a quiet life on Pewaukee Lake. They are thankful for all the love and support the Brookfield community has shown their family over the years and they hope everyone knows they, Rolland, and all the other past and present Ruby family members love Brookfield right back.

“[Rolland] was known as a man who was honest and just,” Jake said. “He was a real supporter of Brookfield as an area. He really believed in it. We do too.”



Photos courtesy of Ruby family

The Ruby family farmhouse was constructed in 1858 by German immigrant Jacob Ruby and remains standing to this day. This photo was taken sometime in the 1990s.



The Ruby Isle Shopping Center circa 1986. The center opened in 1963 and featured a movie theater, which was a favorite spot among Brookfielders.



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Brookfield Central senior J'Kein Forney breaks off a big gain after the catch as he runs past Pewaukee senior defensive back Luke Hauptert (3) and sophomore defensive lineman Ben Casto during a nonconference football game Aug. 24 at Central.

Photos Dave Radcliffe/Freeman Staff



Brookfield Central senior Nick Foster makes Pewaukee senior Alejandro Martinez-Luick miss as he returns a punt during a nonconference football game Aug. 24 at Central.



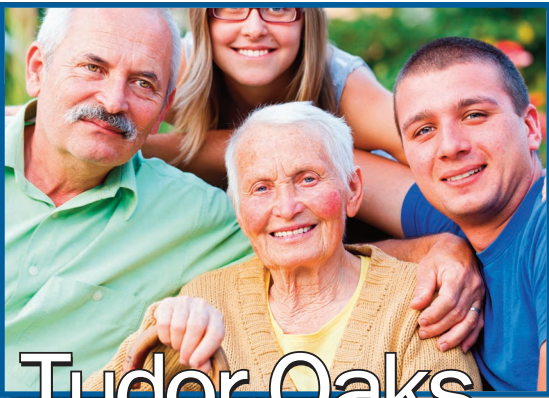
Pewaukee sophomore running back Omar Cherrington is wrapped up by Brookfield Central junior linebacker Thomas Bloom during a nonconference football game at Central.



Brookfield Central junior defensive back Bobby King celebrates after an interception during a nonconference football game against Pewaukee on Aug. 24 at Central.



Brookfield Central junior defensive back Bobby King intercepts a pass in front of Pewaukee senior running back Nick Borckmann during a nonconference football game Aug. 24 at Central.







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