



# The Banister Bulletin



“April is a moment of joy for those who have survived the winter.” — Samuel Johnson



**Merrick Public Library**

2 Lincoln Street  
P.O. Box 528  
Brookfield, MA 01506

**CONTACT**

Tel: 508-867-6339  
Fax: 508-867-2981  
brookfieldlibrary@gmail.com

**HOURS**

Tuesday & Thursday  
1 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Wednesday & Friday  
11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Saturday  
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Sunday & Monday  
Closed

**FREE SERVICES**

- Wi-Fi
- Computers
- Printing
- Copying
- Scanning
- Faxing
- Notary Public
- Home Delivery (for those Housebound)

*\*Please be aware that the public computers and photocopier are shut down 15 minutes before closing time.\**

**RESOURCES**

**Library Website:**  
merrickpubliclibrary.org

**Library Catalog:**  
brookfield.cwmars.org

**Library Facebook:**  
@Brookfield Merrick Public Library

**MUSIC & MOVEMENT with Julie Stepanek**  
**Wednesday, April 9th at 11:30 a.m.** Join Julie for songs kids know and love. Stretch, move, sing, and dance – all the while developing early literacy skills through music and rhythm! This program is free and no registration is required. Recommended for children ages 0 – 5.

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**CHESS CLUB** Fridays from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.  
All ages and skill levels welcome. This drop-in program is free to attend and no registration is required. New members encouraged, even if you can only attend once or twice.

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**BANISTER BOOK GROUP**  
This book discussion group meets at the Library Annex at 18 Common St., on the last Wednesday of every month, from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Copies of the current book are available to check out at the library. New members always welcome!

**April 30th: Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt**  
For fans of *A Man Called Ove*, a charming, witty, and compulsively readable exploration of friendship, reckoning, and hope that traces a widow's unlikely connection with a giant Pacific octopus. This debut novel is a gentle reminder that sometimes taking a hard look at the past can help uncover a future that once felt impossible. "As Van Pelt's zippy, fun-to-follow prose engages at every turn, readers will find themselves rooting for the many characters, hoping that they'll find whatever it is they seek. Each character is profoundly human, with flaws and eccentricities crafted with care. But what makes Van Pelt's novel most charming and joyful is the tender friendship between species, and the ways Tova and Marcellus make each other ever more remarkable and bright." – *BookPage*

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**LOCAL HISTORY: A LOOK BACK**  
**The Brookfield Times - April 1895**

- Hiram Barrett has exchanged his farm for John Mulcahy’s house on Prospect street.
- Martin Donahue has launched his boats on the Quaboag river, and is ready for the season’s business.
- Taylor Clough has begun his season’s work at the cemetery, improving and caring for the burial lots.
- Edward Sabates and family, the new proprietor of the King farm, arrived on Monday and will sell good milk at four cents a quart to his customers in summer, and five cents in winter.
- For the first time in a year the meadows along the river are covered with water. From West Brookfield to Quaboag lake is a vast sheet of water.
- The overhead bridge at the depot has been re-timbered and newly planked.
- The blowing out of a cylinder head at Moulton’s factory caused a temporary shutting down of a portion of the business for a few days. But now everything is running as usual.

BROOKFIELD COUNCIL ON AGING

WEEKLY PROGRAMS

held at the Brookfield Congregational Church

MONDAYS

- Walking Club 8:30 a.m.
- FUNctional Fitness from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

TUESDAYS

- Chair Yoga from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m.
- Coffee Hour from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

THURSDAYS

- Tai Chi at 8:30 a.m. | \$5 fee
- Needlework & Fiber Arts from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

MONTHLY PROGRAMS

held at the Brookfield Congregational Church

2nd Tuesday of the Month:

Blood Pressure/Glucose Screening  
from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

3rd Tuesday of the Month:

Foot Clinic from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
\$10 fee (call Patty King for an appointment)

**CONTACT: Email** seniors@brookfieldma.us | **Phone** 508-867-2930 ext. 23 (Patty King)

FRIENDS OF BROOKFIELD

The Brookfield Gala will take place on Friday, April 11th at 5:30 p.m. We can't wait to see you there!

BROOKFIELD CULTURAL COUNCIL

WE'RE BACK! And we have so many exciting announcements.

- **Sunday, May 25th at 1:00 p.m. – Practical Magic: The Music of Stevie Nicks & Fleetwood Mac.** Please join Brookfield Cultural Council for this special collaboration with the Brookfield Council on Aging on our beloved town common, where we will be co-hosting an incredible tribute to Stevie Nicks and Fleetwood Mac as performed by local duo *Heavens to Zeppelin*. Although this program was created with our seniors in mind, it is open to the public and free of charge! Tips for the musicians are always welcome.
- **Friday, July 25 – Block Party and Summer Concert Kickoff.** Details and further Summer Performance dates TBA.
- **Saturday, September 6 – Town Rummage Sale/Town Wide Yard Sale.** Registration will be opening soon, keep an eye out. This event is free to all sellers and vendors, and will take place on the common with a Town Wide Yard Sale happening at the same time. Maps will be provided.
- **Saturday, October 4 – Spookfield.** Details TBA, we already have a lot planned for this year.
- **Saturday, December 6 – Tree Lighting**

In addition to these events, we want to also invite any members of the community who have creative projects with a public benefit and may need some help to reach out to us! We already have exciting collaborations coming up with the Friends of Brookfield for the first ever Brookfield Gala, and with the Council on Aging for a wonderful spring concert. More information is forthcoming. We would love to support you in your creative and community building endeavors! We can't wait to see everyone at this year's events!