

# *The Banister Bulletin*

*"Every man should be born again on January first. Start with a fresh page."  
– Henry Ward Beecher*

The library will be  
**CLOSED**  
**Wednesday, Jan. 1st**  
**and**  
**Saturday, Jan. 18th**



## Welcome 2025!



**Merrick Public Library**  
2 Lincoln Street  
Brookfield, MA 01506  
Tel: 508.867.6339 Fax: 508.867.2981

**Regular Hours**  
Tuesday & Thursday  
1pm - 8pm  
Wednesday & Friday  
11am - 5pm  
Saturday  
10am - 1pm  
Sunday & Monday  
Closed

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

**MUSIC & MOVEMENT with Julie**  
**Wednesday, January 8th 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 ages 0 - 5.

**KNIT & CROCHET CLUB** Thursdays from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m.  
*\*Starting Thursday, January 9th.\** The first project will be a crocheted headscarf. All ages and skill levels welcome. Supplies and instruction will be provided. Please contact the library to register.

**CHESS CLUB**  
Fridays from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.  
All ages and skill levels welcome. Drop-in; no registration necessary.

- FREE LIBRARY SERVICES**
- Wi-Fi, public computers, printer, copier, scanner, and fax machine all available for public use.
  - Notary Public services offered by Brenda Metterville, Library Director. Call to confirm availability.
  - Home delivery and pickup of library materials for housebound individuals.

**Website:** [merrickpubliclibrary.org](http://merrickpubliclibrary.org)  
**Facebook:** @Brookfield Merrick Public Library  
**Ask a Librarian:** [brookfieldlibrary@gmail.com](mailto:brookfieldlibrary@gmail.com)  
**Library Catalog:** [brookfield.cwmars.org](http://brookfield.cwmars.org)

**BANISTER BOOK GROUP**

This book discussion group meets at the Library Annex at 18 Common St. (next to the library) on the last Wednesday of every month, from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Copies of the current book are available at the library.  
New members always welcome!

**January 29th: *Alice Across America: The Story of the First All-Girl American Road Trip* by Sarah Glenn Marsh**

Writer Sarah Glenn Marsh and illustrator Gilbert Ford's *Alice Across America* is a nonfiction picture book account of maverick Alice Ramsey, the first woman to drive a car across America in 1909. With a clever blend of women's history, technological history, and American roading geography, this is a celebration of unstoppable women making strides in twentieth-century America.

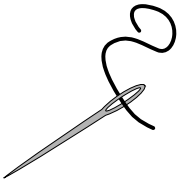


**HISTORY: A LOOK BACK**

***The Brookfield Times* | January 1895**

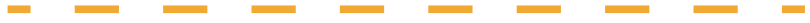
- Welcome, 1895. Thankful for the past, hopeful for the Future. Our Town of Brookfield has, as a whole, had a prosperous year. Business has been good in the shops, considering the hard times. Despite the dry weather our fruit crop was abundant, although some of the other crops were whole or partial failures. Some new houses have been built. Alvin Hyde has put up four cottages, Hiram P. Gerald three, and yet there is a call for more, to accommodate workmen who would like to live here. There has been no great loss by fire, yet there has been four alarms – but the damage in each case was slight.
- Rev. C.P. Blanchard has filled his ice house with ice ten inches thick.
- Mrs. L.T. Newhall has a pair of pet red squirrels that are worth seeing.
- H.L. Wheeler has bought H.P. Gerald's new cottage on Main street.
- Miss Mary J. Brewster will sail for Europe the 19th of this month to be gone a year.
- The Brookfield Brass Band will hold a social dance in town hall, Saturday evening, Jan. 19.
- Don't fail to see Howard Brummett's picture in water colors of "Among the Breaker," on exhibition in L.G. Thompson's store window.
- Warren Bacon sold 105,000 paper boxes last month, disposing of his surplus. He is now making as many boxes as his accommodations will allow.
- C.S. Corbin and E.C. Strong, agents of the American Cereal Co., of New York, stopped at the Brookfield house recently.
- The hedge is being removed and the trees cut down in front of the Clapp place on Pleasant street. The house is to be raised, repaired, and 12 rooms added. When done it will be used for a hotel.

**BROOKFIELD COUNCIL ON AGING**



**Needlework & Fiber Arts Group**

Thursdays 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. *(Starting Thursday, January 9th.)*  
 All crafts and skill levels are welcome! Come and enjoy socializing, sharing skills, and learning from one another!



**COA WEEKLY PROGRAMS**

at the Brookfield Congregational Church

**MONDAYS**

- Walking Club 8:30 a.m.
- FUNctional Fitness from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.



**TUESDAYS**

- Chair Yoga from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- Coffee Hour from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.



**THURSDAYS**

- Tai Chi at 8:30 a.m. | \$5 fee



**COA MONTHLY PROGRAMS**

at the Brookfield Congregational Church

**2nd TUESDAY of the MONTH:** Blood Pressure/Glucose Screening from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**3rd TUESDAY of the MONTH:** Foot Clinic from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. | \$10 fee (call Patty King for an appointment)



Follow the **Brookfield Senior Center** on Facebook for more information and updates about events!



*Programs offered by the Brookfield COA are funded in part by grants from the MA Office of Elder Affairs, the Jeppson Family, and the Brookfield Community Club.*

**CONTACT**

brookfieldseniordirector@outlook.com  
 OR Patty King at 508-867-2930 ext. 23