



# The Banister Bulletin



*"August rain: the best of the summer gone, and the new fall not yet born. The odd uneven time."*  
– Sylvia Plath



**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

**HOLIDAY HOURS**

The library will be CLOSED on Saturday, August 30<sup>th</sup> in observance of Labor Day. The library will reopen on Tuesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> at 1:00 p.m.

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**MUSIC & MOVEMENT with Julie Stepanek**

**Wednesday, August 13th 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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**SUMMER READING**

Friday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> is the LAST DAY of Summer Reading for 2025! Bring your reading chart in to get it stamped and pick out your remaining prizes. Also, the Teen Raffle Prizes will be drawn at 4:00 p.m. on August 22<sup>nd</sup>.

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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 players are always welcome and 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 for checkout at the library. New members always welcome!

**August 27th: The Amazing Adventures of Aaron Broom by A.E. Hotchner** Twelve-year-old Aaron Broom is protecting his father's car from repossession when he witnesses a jewelry store robbery gone wrong. To Aaron's shock, his father, a struggling salesman in the wrong place at the wrong time, is fingered as the prime suspect in the murder. Aaron-precocious, plucky, not a little naïve-must seek out gangsters, diamond dealers, bootleggers, and street kids in order to prove his father's innocence.

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**LOCAL HISTORY: A LOOK BACK, SERIALIZED**

**The Brookfield Times - January 3, 1896**

“Hiram P. Gerald an Embezzler and Fugitive from Justice. The story of Hiram P. Gerald’s downfall has been the leading topic of conversation since Monday morning. The newspapers have been full of all kinds of gossip detailing his crooked transactions until from one end of the country to the other the missing Brookfield Savings Bank treasurer has become known, people everywhere are anxiously scanning the papers, eager to catch the latest gossip concerning his dishonest transactions. As is usual, the “I told you so’s,” are very much in evidence, so much so indeed, that one might infer that had they been consulted sooner the downward career of Mr. Gerald might have been checked, if not stopped entirely. From the great mass of wild rumors and idle talk that is going the rounds, it is almost impossible to gain anything like the truth of how many have been victimized by the absconding treasurer.” To Be Continued...

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.

OTHER 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)

Every Other Thursday

Zumba Gold with Melanie at 9:00 a.m.

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



BROOKFIELD CULTURAL COUNCIL

Mama Americana: The Unofficial Acoustic T. Swift Experience  
Friday, August 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 p.m. on the Brookfield Common

The Brookfield Cultural Council’s Summer Concert Series continues this Friday, August 1, with Mama Americana: The Unofficial Acoustic T. Swift Experience. We’ll see you at 6pm on Brookfield Common for what is sure to be an amazing show! Lawn games will be set up, and we will have free popcorn and beverages. Also, visit our table for bandaids, bug bracelets, and bubbles!



BROOKFIELD AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

2nd Annual Agricultural Fair  
Saturday, August 9<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on the Brookfield Common

FREE Admission

Brookfield’s 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Agricultural Fair will be held on Saturday, August 9<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on the Town Common. The purpose of the Agricultural Fair is to boost public awareness of agriculture and its positive influence on our town, particularly among our youth.

There’s something for everyone at the Agricultural Fair, with local produce, animals, games, face painting, pony ride, flowers, beer, maple syrup, honey, essential oil products, handmade soap, sweet treats, and more!

Vendors and participants include:

- Aranelle Farms – Oakholm Brewing Company – Bucket List Maple Syrup – Mini Mania Farm
- Epic Pastries – Hop Hollow – Wildberry Acres Farm – The Domesticated Wild Child
- Lumberjack Emily – Beyond Yoga & Wellness – Scherer Family Honey – Cub Scout Pack 159
- Youth Flower & Vegetable Contest – Isabelle’s Floral Arrangements & Watercolors
- Tip Top Co-Op Community Market – Brookfield Conservation Committee

Also, the Friends of Brookfield & Oakholm Farm are teaming up to do a Cow Chip Fundraiser the day of the fair! For more details or to purchase tickets for this fundraiser, please visit: [oakholmfarmestate.com/farm-events](http://oakholmfarmestate.com/farm-events).