

# *The Banister Bulletin*

“The new year stands before us, like a chapter in a book, waiting to be written.”  
– Melody Beattie

The library will be  
**CLOSED**  
**Saturday, Jan. 13th**  
in observance of  
Martin Luther King Day

**A NEW YEAR IS HERE!**

Happy New Year to our wonderful library patrons! Thank you for all of your support this past year; we look forward to continuing to serve you in the next! Onward to 2024!



**Merrick Public Library**  
2 Lincoln Street  
Brookfield, MA 01506  
T: 508.867.6339  
F: 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.\**

**LUMINARIES**

Thank you to everyone who helped make the 2023 Luminaries possible! This beloved Brookfield tradition couldn't happen without you!



**STORYTIME** Fridays at 11:30 a.m.

Join Miss Shanna for a story and activity! For kids pre-K and under. Free; no registration.



**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. Call for more information.

**Website:** merrickpubliclibrary.org  
**Facebook:** @Brookfield Merrick Public Library  
**Twitter:** @MerrickPL  
**Ask a Librarian:** brookfieldlibrary@gmail.com

**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 31st: *Horse* by Geraldine Brooks**

A long-lost painting sets in motion a plot intertwining the odyssey of a famed 19th-century thoroughbred and his trainer with the 21st-century rediscovery of the horse's portrait. Based on the remarkable true story of the record-breaking thoroughbred Lexington, *Horse* is a novel of art and science, love and obsession, and our unfinished reckoning with racism. "Strong storytelling in service of a stinging moral message." – *Kirkus*



**MEETINGS**

*\*These groups meet at the Library Annex at 18 Common St., unless otherwise noted.\**

**Library Trustees:** Wednesday, January 3rd, 6:30 p.m. (at Library)

**Historical Commission:** Thursday, January 11th, 6:30 p.m.

**Banister Book Group:** Wednesday, January 31st, 11:00 a.m.

*\*If you are interested in using this meeting space, please contact the library.\**



**HISTORY: A LOOK BACK**

**The Brookfield Times | January 1894**

- Geo. W. Oakes picked pansies in bloom in his garden, Jan. 4th.
- An effort is being made to secure a state road through Brookfield, from Leicester west, to form a part of the great road across the continent from the Atlantic to the Pacific.
- Mr. Riley Josslyn has remembered some of his friends here with splendid oranges grown in his grove at Eastlake, Fla.
- Grand opening dance of the season, at the town hall, Thursday evening, Jan. 18, under the direction of the ladies. As it is not a "leap year" gentlemen with their ladies are cordially invited. Dancing from 8 until 2. Refreshments served during the evening. Dancing tickets 75 cents. Admission to gallery 15 cents.
- Mrs. Cottle has a scarlet geranium in bloom which is a beauty.
- The water pipes in Gerald's block on Prouty street, froze during the last cold snap and in thawing, burst, giving Derrick & Delaney's market a good drenching.
- The new shop makes a brilliant appearance evenings, when all lighted up. They are working three evenings a week until 9 o'clock.

**BROOKFIELD COUNCIL ON AGING**

**FREE LUNCH FRIDAYS!**

One Friday per month during the school year, the Brookfield Council on Aging will offer free lunch (gratuity included) for 6 Seniors, at Tantasqua’s Cornerstone Cafe.

Be on the lookout for dates and sign-up information, coming soon!



**WEEKLY PROGRAMS**

at the Brookfield Congregational Church

**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



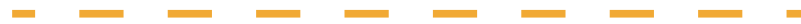
**MONTHLY PROGRAMS**

**3rd TUESDAY of the MONTH**

- Foot Clinic from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. | \$10 fee | Town Hall
- Blood Pressure Screening at 10:30 a.m. | Brookfield Congregational Church (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**

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OR Patty King at 508-867-2930 ext. 23