



# The Banister Bulletin



"In the entire circle of the year there are no days so delightful as those of a fine October."

– Alexander Smith



## 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 CLOSING

The library will be CLOSED on Saturday, October 11<sup>th</sup> in observance of Columbus Day, and will reopen on Tuesday, October 14<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m.

## SILENT AUCTION

The Friends of the Library are hosting their annual Silent Auction at the library from Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup> through Saturday, November 1<sup>st</sup>. Stop by the library to see the items and place your bids! Bidding closes at 12:45 p.m. on Saturday, November 1<sup>st</sup>.

## MUSIC & MOVEMENT with Julie

**Wednesday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, & 29<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m.**

Join Julie for songs kids know and love. Stretch, move, sing, and dance – all while developing early literacy skills through music and rhythm! This program is free and no registration is required. Recommended for children ages 0 – 5.

## 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.

## 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!

### October 29<sup>th</sup>: *The Lioness of Boston* by Emily Franklin

A deeply evocative novel of the life of Isabella Stewart Gardner, a daring visionary who created an inimitable legacy in American art and transformed the city of Boston itself. *The Lioness of Boston* is a portrait of what society expected a woman's life to be, shattered by a courageous soul who rebelled and was determined to live on her own terms.

## LOCAL HISTORY: THE NEFARIOUS HIRAM P. GERALD

### *The Brookfield Times* - January 3, 1896 (continued)

"[Mr. Gerald's] passing worthless checks off upon his friends just before he left town is being condemned right and left, but after all he did the most natural thing, surely he could not have raised the money amongst strangers. It is said that up to about a year ago Mrs. Gerald had tried to prevent his going into many of his wildcat schemes and speculations; he would give her a respectful hearing and then do as he pleased, so that for the past year she has given up trying to influence him to change his course. Not long ago he told a friend in confidence, that he should enter the new year worth \$30,000, and that he and his wife would then make an extended traveling tour. Among Gerald's friends it is a common remark to hear that "Hiram was a good fellow;" while he may not have been positively bad at heart, he certainly has not placed himself in the category of good men. It is the same old road that has but one termination and that is ruin for him who undertakes to travel on it." To Be Continued...

## BROOKFIELD COUNCIL ON AGING

### WEEKLY PROGRAMS

held at the Brookfield Congregational Church

#### MONDAYS

- 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.

#### WEDNESDAYS

- Walking Group at 8:30 a.m.

### OTHER PROGRAMS

held at the Brookfield Congregational Church

#### Blood Pressure/Glucose Screening

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the Month  
from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

#### Foot Clinic

3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the Month  
from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (\$10 fee)

**\*CURRENTLY FULL\***

**Not Accepting New Clients**

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



## BROOKFIELD COMMUNITY CLUB

### 46th Annual Apple Country Fair

**Saturday, October 11<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**  
**on the Brookfield Town Common**

Join us at the 46th Annual Apple Country Fair in Brookfield, MA!

The Apple Country Fair will showcase the work of more than 90 local artisans and feature live music, lawn games, baked goods, food trucks, raffles, and an apple pie contest – all to benefit the Brookfield Community Club, a charitable organization that awards grants to enrich community life.

Fair-goers can browse and buy hand-knit sweaters and blankets, carved wooden bowls and décor, beaded jewelry, specialty soaps and lotions, hand-crafted toys, locally-produced honey, baked goods, and more.

The RAFFLE will offer chances to win prizes including the community-stitched Quilt, family passes to local museums and attractions, and gift certificates to local restaurants and stores.

Entries for the APPLE PIE CONTEST will be accepted at the Brookfield Fire Station next to the Town Hall until 9:45 a.m. on the day of the Fair. Judging categories are for children under 12, ages 13-19, and adults ages 20 and older.

The Brookfield Community Club has been organizing the Apple Country Fair since 1979. The money raised at the Apple Country Fair has generated grants for many community service projects, including (but not limited to):

- 🍏 Supplies for the Town's annual Christmas Eve luminary display
- 🍏 Printing of the Brookfield Citizen, the town's monthly newsletter
- 🍏 Programs and speakers for Brookfield Council on Aging
- 🍏 Sweatshirts for Brookfield Elementary's 6th-grade students
- 🍏 Equipment for Brookfield Fire Department and EMS
- 🍏 Improvements to Brookfield Recreation's Lewis Field
- 🍏 Equipment for Brookfield Scout Troops
- 🍏 Programs at the Merrick Public Library
- 🍏 Diane Martell Community Service Award for a graduating Brookfield Senior

The Apple Country Fair is held outside on The Common **rain or shine.**