

Haston Highlights

[Almost] May Festival Returns to North Brookfield!

The Friends of the Haston Free Public Library's annual May Festival, interrupted by the pandemic, is back this year on **Saturday, April 30, from 10 am to 2 pm.** The Library's first May Festival was held in the spring of 2010 and, until the COVID pandemic, was an annual event celebrating our area's wonderful agricultural, food, craft, and horticultural resources.

The Festival provides exhibitors with space on the lawns of the library and the Congregational Church just across North Main Street. Plants and flowers, ice cream, maple syrup, alpaca scarves and hats, and other items are available for sale, and door prizes, donated by participants, also attract visitors. The North Brookfield Cultural Council conducts its annual Plant Swap and local musicians entertain visitors who stop by.

We're working again this year with the North Brookfield Cultural Council, and the Friends of the Town House, and, for the first time, the Earth Day Committee to expand the Festival to include additional events that will bring more folks out to celebrate the season.

We're inviting local farmers, nurseries, restaurants, crafters, and others to participate in whatever way works best —

- setting up a display to promote your business, organiza-

[Festival, cont. on p. 2]



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Laugh & Learn.....	2
Nat'l Library Week.....	3
Nat'l Volunteer Week....	3
Watercolor workshop....	4
Fused Glass workshop ..	4
April Book Group	5
2-hour Parking	5
Friends Book Bag	5
PJ s Update.....	6
Seeds	6
Lotus Lanterns	6
Judge McCarthy	6
April Story Times	7

LIBRARY HOURS

Monday:	1 PM—7 PM
Tuesday:	10 AM—5 PM
Wednesday:	9 AM—7 PM
Thursday:	1 PM—6 PM
Saturday:	9 AM—12 PM

Haston Highlights

Dawn Thistle, Editor

[Festival, cont. from p. 1]

- tion, or services and to let people know how they can take advantage of your offering
- providing informational materials for people to pick up, if you can't be present
- selling products and/or services
- offering samples and/or giving away coupons for future use
- giving a short talk, presentation, or demonstration
- donating a door prize
- or any other way you'd like to participate that we haven't thought of!

Our family-oriented festival will be well-publicized, and we hope that it will attract many enthusiastic visitors as we welcome Spring to New England. The 2022 May Festival registration form is attached;

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION IS APRIL 10, 2022.

The library's website www.northbrookfieldlibrary.org will list all participants and give more details and links. We look forward to your participation in our May Festival. If you have questions please contact Ellen Smith, smithe_01535@yahoo.com (508-867-8935).



LAUGH AND LEARN with DAVE MALOOF **for All Ages APRIL 28, 7:00 PM**

Imagine a comedy club in a school or a library, and you've got "Laugh & Learn," an educational show that entertains while it explains. Dave Maloof – a teacher, comedian, writer and musician – will discuss how and why we laugh, the health benefits of laughter, and how comedy is written and performed.

He'll also perform (singing while playing ukulele or keyboard) his own comedy songs, including "My Wife Is In Love with the Dog" and his parody of "Hush Little Baby," as well as some of his own jokes (including the one about how his daughter doesn't even look like him).

Dave writes and performs his own songs, and also has published articles, essays and reviews in *The Boston Globe* and other publications. He has taught writing and music to students ranging in age from 5 to 70. He has performed (formerly, as "Dave Yubruh") throughout New England, New York and Florida, at theaters, clubs, schools, businesses, restaurants, private homes, retirement homes, senior centers, and other venues. And since 2014 he has been presenting Music + Education programs in various communities throughout Massachusetts.

Please call the library to register: 508-867-0208.

This program is offered free of charge, supported in part by a grant from North Brookfield Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK ★★

APRIL 3-9, 2022

"Libraries are places where communities connect—to things like broadband, computers, programs and classes, books, movies, video games, and more. But most importantly, libraries connect us to each other."

MOLLY SHANNON

NATIONAL
LIBRARY
WEEK
HONORARY
CHAIR



CONNECT WITH YOUR LIBRARY



VOLUNTEER



NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

April 17-23

National Volunteer Week was established

in 1974 and is an opportunity to recognize and thank volunteers who use their time, talent, voice and resources to meet the critical needs of our communities. Their efforts serve to inspire others to take action, to realize their power to make a difference and be a force that transforms the world. National Volunteer Week is a time to celebrate the impact of volunteer service on our communities.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our wonderful Has-ton Library volunteers for all the things they do to supplement the work of our tiny staff. Volunteers provide circulation assistance, shelve books, retrieve books requested by library patrons, label and process new books, dust the shelves and disinfect surfaces, create displays, maintain the library website, and perform many other tasks that keep the library moving forward. Thank you, Volunteers:

Laura Biro

Helen Foyle

Deb Hill

Emily Janes

Florine Martel

Peter Myers

Ellen Smith

Roan Testa

Judy Zalansky



We also greatly appreciate the volunteer work provided by the Friends of the Library and the Board of Library Trustees.

Without the efforts of all these people, the library would not be the vibrant, beautiful place it is!

To thank these wonderful people, we will be having a Volunteer Tea on Thursday, April 7 at 2:00 pm. Please join us!

If you are interested in volunteering at the library, call Dawn at 508 -867-0208.

Haston Art Club



Watercolor for Beginners

Award winning watercolor artist Debbie Roberts Kirk will be giving a beginner watercolor class on **Monday, April 11th and Thursday April 14th from 5:30-7pm.** The class is open to all teens and adults. This will be an introductory workshop to expose participants to the enjoyment and techniques of exploring watercolor. This is a relaxing program, and no experience is necessary. Materials will be provided for use during the workshop.

Deborah Roberts Kirk has enjoyed creating art since her youth. After getting her BFA in Visual Design and Illustration she worked in Kansas City designing greeting cards for Hallmark cards. Upon returning to New England her freelance work included writing and illustrating a children's book for Old Sturbridge Village (which is still in print). In 2004 she helped found the Massasoit Art Guild where she is still a board member and is also a member of the Princeton Art Society. She is an award winning watercolor artist who enjoys painting New England landscapes (and wherever she vacations) en plein air or in her studio. She has also begun working in oils and creating abstracts in acrylics. Deborah has taught watercolor and drawing classes through Adult Evening Programs. Her work is displayed at Cormier



Jewelers Gallery, other local venues and the annual Massasoit Art Show. To see more of the artist's work go to: www.drobertskirkart.com.

Class size is limited, call the library to register: 508-867-0208. *This program is offered free of charge, supported in part by a grant from North Brookfield Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.*

Mark your calendars: Our next Haston Art Club workshop will be Fun Fused Glass with Deeni Pacik Giuliano on Tuesday, May 10, at 6:00 pm. You'll be able to create your own Dichroic fused glass pendant or magnet with colorful, pre-cut glass. Open to all, aged 9 and up. \$5 fee for supplies. Space is limited, so call the library at 508-867-0208.



APRIL BOOK GROUP

In April, the Haston Library Book Group traditionally celebrates **National Poetry Month**. Conscious of the invasion of Ukraine, this year our theme is PEACE.

Members are asked to come to our meeting on **April 19 at 7:00** prepared to discuss a poem that addresses the PEACE theme. When you have selected your poem, please email a copy to Dawn at dthistle@cwmars.org so that it can be distributed to the rest of the group.

We will also spend some time remembering our long-term member and beloved friend, Clarence Burley. Clarence died on March 16 at the age of 95.



As one of our members put it, “he was a scholar and a gentleman,” knowledgeable about so many things, generous with that knowledge, and always reading and learning more.

We will miss you, Clarence!

2 HR Parking



The library would like to thank Jason Benoit and the Highway Department for placing a 2-Hr Parking sign in front of the Haston Library building. We had been receiving many complaints from senior citizens with mobility issues and mothers with young children coming to story hour, that there was no parking to be found in front of the library. Three

or four cars had been parking there all day on most business days, taking up all but one space. While there were sometimes spaces across the street, traffic on Main Street makes crossing with children and strollers or when using a cane quite dangerous.

When everyone respects the 2-hour limit—usually more than enough time to use the library, pick up lunch at Subway, go to a doctor’s appointment, or even get your nails done—there is enough parking for everyone who needs it. Thank you!

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!

The Friends of the Haston Free Public Library book bag is back! This sturdy, red canvas bag will be your go-to tote for library books, or anything else you have to schlep around.

The cost is \$10/bag, with all profits going to support the work of the Friends of the Library. Makes a great gift! Stop by the library and get yours today!





BOSTON BRUINS PJ DRIVE

Thank you to everyone who has donated PJs to the 15th Annual PJ Drive sponsored by the Bos-

ton Bruins, benefiting Cradles to Crayons and Wonderfund MA, two non-profits that ensure positive living conditions for children.

We exceeded our goal of 50 PJs and collected 75!

Thank you for your generosity!

Haston Seed Catalog

Gardeners—don't forget that we have SEEDS! FREE SEEDS! Don't miss this opportunity to try something new in your garden. We have most vegetables and a good variety of flower seeds, too. Stop by and grab some packets!



LOTUS LANTERNS

On March 9, nine people gathered in the library and on Zoom to make beautiful lotus flower lanterns. After a few technical difficulties, our instructor, Younhee Shin, walked us through the process of gluing petals onto a covered wire frame. Elisabeth Hyder (left) shows her lantern, and everyone else had similar, lovely results!

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A DISTRICT COURT JUDGE!

A crowd of about 20 people came to the library on March 22 to hear a presentation by the Hon. Maura K. McCarthy, First Justice of the East Brookfield District Court. Judge McCarthy shared copies of a typical docket and talked about the different kinds of cases she handles. In response to a question about "reasonable doubt," she told us that it's "really hard to meet the standard of 'beyond a reasonable doubt,' but the Constitution designed it to be really hard!" She told us that "access to justice is local," and that she feels privileged to serve the community in this way. She declared, "My one role is to uphold the Constitution." Everyone was inspired, including a group of middle school students who asked great questions. In the picture above, Judge McCarthy (center) is with students Anya Kittredge, Rebecca Batchelor, Sammy Kittredge and Joe Daige.





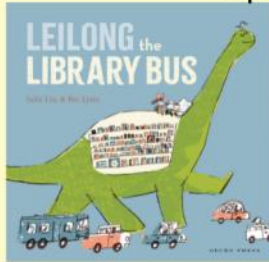
HASTON LIBRARY CHILDREN'S ROOM

April Storytimes

TUESDAYS 10:30 AM



April 5

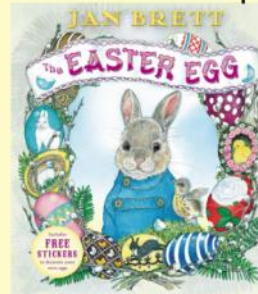


Leilong the
Library Bus
by Julia Liu and
Bei Lynn



Peekaboo
Leilong
Craft

April 12



The Easter Egg
by Jan Brett



Bunny and
Egg Craft

April 19



Gwendolyn's
Pet Garden
by Anne Renaud



Decorate & Grow
Seed Starters

April 26



Fletcher and the
Springtime
Blossoms
by Julia Rawlinson



Cherry Blossom
Tissue Paper
Craft

