

Haston Highlights

Library Materials Selection

The Haston Library strives to offer the residents of North Brookfield and surrounding towns a wide selection of books, DVDs, audio books and children's and young adult items, to meet a variety of needs and interests. Displays on the main level and in the Children's Library will show you the most recent acquisitions that you may want to borrow, including fiction, science, DIY, cooking, foreign affairs, biography, art and music, health, technology, history, economics and politics.

The library's *Materials Selection Policy* (<https://northbrookfieldlibrary.org/gen-info/library-policies/materials-selection/>) provides broad guidance and encouragement to library staff to ensure that the collection represents a variety of viewpoints, and we try our best to follow it within a limited budget. Because we obviously cannot purchase all books that are published, or even all the titles we would like, we must make subjective decisions about purchases. As much as possible, we base those decisions on trusted review sources, title popularity, quality, availability within the CW MARS network, and strengths or gaps within our existing collection. But our best source of information about purchases for the library is YOU. We want our collection to reflect the interests of North Brookfield library users.

If there is a recently-released title that you think we should own, please let us know. If you notice that there is a gap in our collection, tell us about that. We would welcome suggestions of books that may fill that gap. For example, at the suggestion of a patron we recently added several more books about the war in Vietnam to bolster our collection in that area.

[Selection, cont. on p. 2]



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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 |

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Dawn Thistle, Editor

LETTERS FOR SANTA

December 4, 4:00 pm

Kids (and their families!) are invited to come to the library before the Christmas Parade on December 4 at 4:00 to write letters to Santa and make a Christmas craft. The library will provide the stationery and envelopes and make sure that the letters get to Santa in plenty of time. Santa has assured us that he will even answer all letters, as long as children include their return address on the envelopes! We'll also have music from OnQ Studio while you write your letters and wait for the parade, which starts at NBES at 5:00.

If you are unable to come to the library on December 4, don't forget that you can post your letters to Santa in the special mailbox at the North Brookfield Post Office. If your address is on the envelope, Santa will be sure to answer those letters, too.



[*Selection*, cont. from p. 1]

Please remember that even if we do not own a specific book, you can still borrow it through interlibrary loan. Most of the time, desired items are available from other CW MARS libraries. If not, we can then usually obtain them through the Commonwealth Catalog. You can make these requests online yourself, or we will be happy to request them for you.

Finally, book donations are always welcome. New donated items are almost always added to the collection and are particularly helpful for titles that are out of print. Other materials that are duplicates or in less-pristine condition may be kept for the book sale, which provides funds for new purchases. As a rule, donors are informed that books may be added to the book sale, in case they prefer not to donate under that condition.

So don't be shy about letting us know what you would like to see in the library, whether it's materials or programming. We want to hear from you! Stop by, or call Dawn at 508-867-0208.



It's a Puzzle

The library is looking for donations of new or barely-used jigsaw puzzles to add to our growing collection of games and puzzles. Please —no missing pieces! It's frustrating to be almost done with a missing piece or two! Thanks!



DECEMBER

BOOK GROUP SELECTION

The December selection for the Haston Library Book Group is *Hamnet* by Maggie O'Farrell. "Set in Stratford, England, in the late 16th century, *Hamnet* imagines the emotional, domestic, and artistic repercussions after the world's most famous (though never named) playwright and his wife lose their only son, 11-year-old Hamnet, to the bubonic plague in 1596. Four years later, the boy's father transposes his grief into his masterpiece — titled with a common variant of his son's name — in which the father dies and the son lives to avenge him. ...Although more than 400 years have unspooled since Hamnet Shakespeare's death, the story O'Farrell weaves in this moving novel is timeless and ever-relevant."—NPR



We'll be discussing the book on December 28 at 7:00 in the library and via ZOOM. Copies are available in the library. Call (508-867-0208) for more information and/or the ZOOM link.



Again this year, the Haston Library will be collecting non-perishable foods for the North Brookfield Food Bank at St. Joseph's Church. Please drop your canned goods, boxed mixes, jars of peanut butter, etc. off inside the library. Thanks in advance for your generosity!

LOST & FOUND

There are several baseball hats, winter hats, gloves, sunglasses, a scarf and a sweater in the library's Lost & Found box. If you think you may have lost one of these items at the library, please stop by and take a look at them.

There is also a lovely ring that was left in the bathroom in early November. If you would like to claim your ring, please call the library at 508-867-0208 and describe it for us. If your description matches, it's yours.

All the clothing items that are not claimed will be donated to charity after Christmas.

Haston Art Club



NEEDLE-FELTED ORNAMENTS

The Haston Art Club met on November 8 to create ornaments using a needle and wool. In this class, the second we have held for needle felting, Brianna Lamb once again guided the group through the necessary steps. Attendees were enthusiastic about the workshop. Ellen Carpenter raved, “I LOVED the felting workshop last night. Please tell Bri that she did a great job. It was wonderful and inspiring. This is a whole new media to explore!”

The Haston Art Club’s next meeting will be on December 13 at 5:30 pm. Prepare to get messy—we’ll be printing holiday wrapping paper! All ages are welcome! Please call the library at 508-867-0208 to register.



From the top: Campbell Stocks shows off his ornaments; Becky Ikehara and Chris Bristol are hard at work; and Rosemary Mackenzie with her creations.



The Tale of Bernard the Bat

Miss Bri discovered a friend on November 15 as she was getting the Children's room ready for opening. Sitting in the sun on the floor and taking a nap was a brown bat. After getting the library's "bat net" and gently moving it outside, we thought the story was over and the bat would continue on with its life. The next day, Miss Bri realized the bat was still there, looking very cold and barely moving. After contacting a Tufts wildlife clinic and a rehabilitation center, Miss Bri brought Bernard the Bat (as she has dubbed it) to a volunteer in Hubbardston who brought it to the Colrain Center for Conservation and Wildlife Rehabilitation the next day. Bats don't do well in colder weather, so it is wise to contact wildlife rehab centers if you need a bat removed or see a bat in distress outside, before you do anything else. We hope little Bernard is doing well and wish him the best!

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SAVING SANTA'S CHRISTMAS COOKIES!

Join us on Saturday, December 18 at 10:00 a.m. in the Children's Library, when Puppet Playhouse Theatre presents the original story, *Saving Santa's Christmas Cookies!*

Princess Sally is making Santa's magic cookies for his big ride, but someone is trying to steal them! See if she and Randy the Reindeer can save Santa's cookies from Eddie the Elf!

Puppet Playhouse Theatre, with Dawn Sedlier, is a traveling theatre offering engaging fables and beloved stories cleverly told with fun puppets. Programs capture children's imaginations and balance learning with creativity. This show is appropriate for toddlers through school age kids.

This holiday program is free to the public, sponsored by the Friends of the Haston Free Public Library.

