

Haston Highlights

YOUR INPUT IS IMPORTANT!

During National Library Week (April 7-13) the Haston Library Long-Range Planning Committee will be distributing a Library User Survey as a means to find out what is important to our library users. Please pick up a survey at the Library, Town Offices or Senior Center and fill it out. Or, you can fill out the form online at: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdKUZSoXIRIK1JXPybk3pEi_scdjeL9Kloa_lm3HBXuou_uEzQ/viewform. Whether or not you are a library user, we would love to hear from you!

In addition, the Committee will be scheduling some focus group meetings to discuss your ideas and *[Survey, cont. on p. 4]*

UPLIFTING POEMS & SONGS



To celebrate National Poetry Month, the Haston Library will be hosting a performance of ***Uplifting Poems and Songs*** by Carol Mays and Gary Blanchard. We invite you to come hear many beautiful, positive, relaxing images in poetry and song on **Thursday, April 4 at 7:00 p.m.** *This program is supported in part by a grant from the North Brookfield Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.*

[Poetry, cont. on p. 2]



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HASTON 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

Poetry, cont. from p. 1

Thursday, April 18 is *Poem in Your Pocket Day*. People across North America will carry poems to share with others throughout the day. Pick yours out and get ready to share it with your friends and co-workers. And while you're at it, you can sign up for a Poem-A-Day to receive a new poem in your email inbox every morning: <https://www.poets.org/poetsorg/poem-day>.

Finally, on Tuesday, April 23 at 7:00 the Haston Library Book Group will be discussing their favorite poems. Everyone is welcome to bring a poem to read and discuss!

Pick out a poem and get ready to share it with your friends and co-workers on Poem In Your Pocket Day, April 18.

Robotics Boot Camp

The Robotics Boot Camp will take place July 8-12 with half-day sessions for 1st-3rd graders and for 4th-6th graders. Each Boot Camp session will serve from six to ten North Brookfield children.

Boot Camp sessions will be led by Haston Library staff, assisted by the "Haston Tech Team," a group of up to four high school students. Two different robot systems will be used. For the younger participants, we plan to use the Ozobot Bit, and for the older group we will use the Bit and also Cubelets by Modular Robotics. Each half-day session will include open learning about robots, coding and operating the robots and a snack.

We hope that the children who participate in the Robotics Boot Camp (and possibly even Tech Team members) will join a new Robotics Club, which will meet regularly at the library throughout the year.

Applications for the Boot Camp will be

available in the Library this month.

High school students with an interest in robotics or coding who would like to help out are encouraged to contact Dawn Thistle, Library Director, dthistle@cwmars.org.



Ozobot Bit 2.0



Mark Your Calendars:

The May Festival is Just Around the Corner!

This year we've scheduled the Festival for **Saturday, May 4th**, the weekend prior to Mothers Day, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

The Haston Free Public Library's first May Festival was held in the spring of 2010 and has become an annual event celebrating our area's wonderful agricultural, food craft, and horticultural resources.

The Festival provides exhibitors with space inside the library or on the lawns of the library and the Congregational Church just across North Main Street. Plants and flowers, 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 inviting Local Farmers, CSA's, Nurseries, Restaurants, Food Crafters, Grocers, Open Space Preservers, and others to participate in whatever way works best for them.

Among recent participants were B & B Farms, Five Loaves Bakery, Inishowen Farms, Spencer Greenery, Brookfield Orchards, Shaler's Sugar House, Rocky Ridge Beef Farm, Fuzzy Boys Farm, Positively Perennials, and the East Quabbin Land Trust (EQLT), Thompson Maple Farm Ice Cream, Kirk's Creations, and Hunt Rd. Berry Farm.

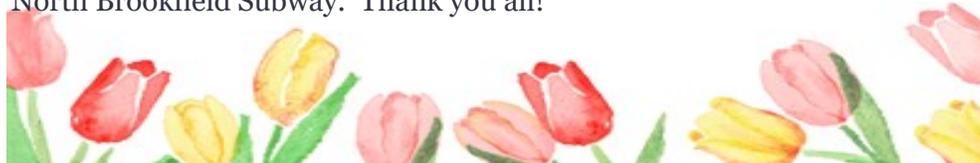
The library's website, www.northbrookfieldlibrary.org will list all participants and give more details and links.

We look forward to your participation in our May Festival. If you have questions please contact Ellen Smith, smithe_01535@yahoo.com.

EARTH DAY 2019

On Saturday, April 27, the Haston Library will host an Earth Day story walk from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. Children and families are invited to visit several locations along Main Street to read successive pages of a book on the Earth Day theme of Endangered Species. The last page of the book will bring readers to the Haston Library craft room, where they will make a craft related to the theme.

Businesses who will post book pages in their windows include Jim's Pizza, St. Jean's Country Package Store, Gillette Restaurant Equipment, twentyx2 graphics, Angel Nails, Cumberland Farms, Nash Contracting, North Brookfield Town Offices, Bush Mountain Stitchery & Framing, and North Brookfield Subway. Thank you all!



THURSDAY CRAFTS

In the Children's Library

4-5 PM

APRIL 4

Farm Animals & Corral

APRIL 11

Fish mobile

APRIL 18

Seashell card game

APRIL 25

Milk carton house

PUMPERNICKEL PUPPETS

A vacation week highlight will be a performance by Pumpernickel Puppets on Wednesday, April 17 at 2:00 pm. Puppeteer John McDonough and his oversized puppets have entertained audiences for over 40 years, and his previous visits to the Haston Library have been a rousing success. Don't miss this unusual and thoroughly entertaining performance!

This program is made possible by a grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council.



[Survey, cont. from p. 1]

suggestions for the library. If you would be interested in participating in these discussions, please contact Dawn at dthistle@cwmars.com.

If you have a suggestion or concern about the library—at any time—please email us at: hastonfreepubliclibrary@gmail.com.



BRUINS PJ DRIVE

Thank you to everyone who donated PJs to the Bruins/Massachusetts Libraries PJ Drive. We donated 23 sets of pajamas!

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK IS FINE-FREE!

During National Library Week, April 7-13, we will forgive any and all fines* owed to the Haston Free Public Library. So, if your library account is in arrears, stop by during the 2nd week of April, and we will forgive you!

**This does not apply to lost book replacement charges.*

JOIN THE FRIENDS

The Friends of the Haston Free Public Library is a 501 (c)(3) organization that was formed in 1991 to stimulate the interest of the community in the services and needs of the library, to enrich the cultural life of the community, and to provide a program of assistance through volunteer help and fund raising that will enable the library to keep pace with the growth of the Town of North Brookfield.

New Friends are always welcome. Monthly meetings are usually held on the third Thursday of the month at 6:15 pm in the Reading Room, **though the April meeting will take place on Thursday, April 25.** Please drop in at the library to fill out a membership form or just come to the next meeting. Annual dues are only \$10!



Membership Application

Yes, I would like to be a Friend of the Haston Free Public Library. Please enroll me as a member.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Annual Dues: \$10.00

Please make checks payable to the Friends of the Haston Free Public Library.

THANK YOU!

