

Haston Highlights

Craft Workshops are Back!



Back by popular demand! Laura Dusty will once again lead a workshop on painting with watercolors on **December 9 at 6:30 p.m.** here at the library. This workshop is Crayon-Resist Watercolor Snowflake Painting, in which the crayon is used to create snowflakes to which the paint will not stick. All materials will be supplied.

On **December 16 at 7:00**, Louise Meierdierks will return to Haston to show us how to make a scherenschnitte holiday decoration. Scherenschnitte is the German art of cutting paper into decorative designs. If you have small sharp scissors, please bring them. All other materials will be supplied.



And next month on **January 13 at 7:00** our own Brianna Lamb will show us how to do needle felting. Join us to make these adorable felted owls!



Due to social distancing restraints, the library can only accept 6 registrants on site. Please call the library at 508-867-0208 to register. Face masks are required, of course!



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LIBRARY (PANDEMIC) HOURS

Monday:	4 PM–7 PM
Tuesday:	10 AM–1 PM
Wednesday:	4 PM–7 PM
Thursday:	10 AM–1 PM
Saturday:	9 AM–12 PM

Haston Highlights

Dawn Thistle, Editor



Origami Ornaments

Stop by the library and pick up instructions and paper to make an origami ornament. We have paper and instructions for cranes, swans, butterflies, stars and fortune cookies.

DONATE ONLINE TO THE FRIENDS

The Friends of the Haston Free Public Library would like to thank everyone who has responded so generously to our annual fundraising appeal. We are fortunate to have such wonderful support!

The Friends are happy to announce that we are now able to accept online donations on behalf of the library. Just hold your device camera over the QR code, below, and a PayPal donation screen will pop up. We appreciate donations in any amount, and THANK YOU!

The Friends of the Haston Free Public Library is a 501(c)(3) organization that was formed in 1991 to stimulate interest in the services and needs of the library, to enrich the cultural life of the community, and to provide 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 PHONES & FAX

This month all North Brookfield town offices, including the library, received new digital telephones. They have some great new features, like sending audio messages to email as well as saving messages to the phone's voicemail.



We are still finalizing the configuration of the library phones and appreciate your patience as we upgrade.

In this move to digital communication, our fax processes have also changed. We will now scan patrons' documents and email them from the scanner to the required fax number. Even though we are sending the documents via email, the recipient will still receive them on their fax machine. Our fee for faxing remains the same: \$2.00 per fax number up to 10 pages, with additional \$2.00 for each multiple of 10.

For those of you who would like to email documents directly from our copier/scanner but have been unable to do so in recent months, our equipment has now been reconfigured to enable emailing. We apologize for the inconvenience, but we're now up and emailing again!

North Brookfield Journal

December, 1906

Last month we said we would from time to time feature interesting articles from the North Brookfield Journal. Here's the obituary of the library's benefactor, Elvira Haston, who passed away on December 10, 1906.

Mrs. Elvira Haston.

After a long and peaceful life Mrs. Elvira Shedd Haston passed into rest at 4 o'clock on Monday morning, Dec. 10. She died at the home on Elm street, where the greater part of the four score years and ten have been passed. Mrs. Haston was born at Springfield, Vt., April 9, 1816, and married Erasmus Haston, April 12, 1849. Mr. Haston died March 13, 1895. The two children born to Mr. and Mrs. Haston, died in infancy.

Mrs. Haston became a member of the First Congregational church more than fifty years ago, and has been a constant attendant upon its services, whenever able. A fall, last week Tuesday, resulting in a severe fracture of her hip bone, was the immediate cause of her death. She lived a quiet, unostentatious life, yet, was ever ready to give to a worthy cause when presented to her. Some 12 years ago she joined with her husband in giving to the town \$34,000 for the erection of the beautiful library building, which bears their name, and which will stand as a living memorial. The only condition imposed with the gift was that an annuity of \$900 a year should be paid to Mrs. Haston by the town so long as she lived.

The 16 living nephews and nieces are—Mrs. Rebecca Gates, Vermont, Mrs. Mary Hebard, George P. Doane, Freeman R. Doane, Hubbard S. Doane, Jonas M. Doane, Mrs. Lydia Gilbert, Mrs. Allen Harwood, and Jane E. Damon, all of North Brookfield; Mr. Hiram Shedd, out west, Julia Ann Holmes, Derry, N. H., Charles Shedd, Hattie Shedd, and Jonas Shedd, all of New Braintree, John Shedd, Iowa, and Miss Addie Hoar, of North Brookfield.

There are also 40 great nephews and nieces, 42 great-great nephews and nieces, and one great-great-great niece.

The funeral of Mrs. Haston was held in the parlors of the church Wednesday afternoon, Rev. Mr. Cooper officiating. The beautiful pieces—"Peace, Sweet Peace," and "The Home Land" were sung by the quartette, Messrs. Reed and Pratt, Mrs. Corbin and Mrs. Crooks.

The bearers were Freeman R. Doane, George P. Doane, George R. Doane, Jonas Shedd, A. C. Stoddard and Allan Harwood.

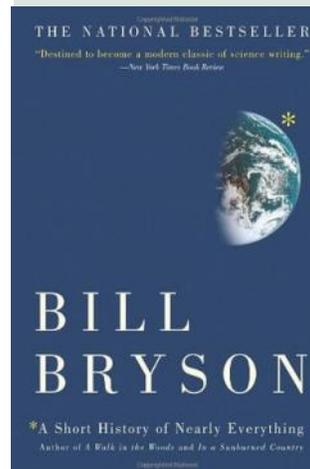
In her will, which will be opened this afternoon, Mrs. Haston leaves a few thousand dollars to be divided between Miss Addie Hoar, and other relatives. Mr. Freeman R. Doane is given the first right to the purchase of the homestead, and the Town of Franklin, Vt., is made the residuary legatee, to whom the balance of the property will go, for the erection of a library building. Franklin is a small town in Vermont, where some of Mrs. Haston's relatives live, and where she has been a frequent visitor in her later years. The will was made in 1896, shortly after the death of Mr. Haston.

BOOK GROUP NEWS

The Haston Library Book Group's December/January selection is *A Short History of Nearly Everything* by Bill Bryson. "In Bryson's biggest book, he confronts his greatest challenge: to understand—and, if possible, answer—the oldest, biggest questions we have posed about the universe and ourselves. Taking as territory everything from the Big Bang to the rise of civilization, Bryson seeks to understand how we got from there being nothing at all to there being us."—

Goodreads

Copies will be available at the library by December 23, so stop by and grab yours! We will be discussing the book on January 26 at 7:00 via ZOOM. Call the library (508-867-0208) for more information and the ZOOM link.





Happy Holidays!

The Library would like to thank NBHelps (formerly the Decorate our Town committee) for the beautiful wreaths, and the Friends of the Library and Ellen Smith for the pine roping on our front railing.

Christmas Food Drive

Please help us help those who are struggling right now to put food on their tables. Drop off canned goods or other non-perishable food items at the library, and we will get them to the North Brookfield Food Pantry at St. Joseph's Church.

Thank You!

