



The Brookfield Citizen

Community Identity Through Communication

Published Monthly by: A.P.P.L.E. Seed, Inc.

Average People Promoting a Loving Environment.

PO Box 411 Brookfield, MA 01506

Funded in part by Jeppson Memorial fund for Brookfield of Greater Worcester Community Foundation and the Brookfield Community Club

From the Brookfield Times, 1892 "Wrath of God"?

If you please, go back in memory with me for thirty-two years, we will take a little look at the town and village of Brookfield.

First, the public buildings that were here at that time, 1860's; just before the war of the rebellion opened. Two only remain:

1. The school of District No. 1, afterwards used as the Merrick library and the high school of the town.
2. The Orthodox Church (Congregational) which was recently built. (1857)

January 1st, 1862, in the evening the steeple of this church blew off, falling across the roof, crushing it in, causing much damage to the interior.

The Methodist minister in his discourse a short time later, remarked on vanity and pride, and said the other society in their pride raised the steeple too high and the Lord rebuked them. Perhaps it was a test of their faith.

Two years later on Sept. 25th, 1864, his own church, being raised to put an additional story under it was blown into a shapeless mass.

What the Rev. gentleman's interpretation of the lesson the Lord was teaching his people, we never learned. Perhaps it was to test the strength of their faith. If so, it accomplished its work for they gathered themselves together, purchased a new location on the corner of Main and River Streets (*just North of Warren Campbell's present home*). Their new house of worship was built there.

Their old site, where the town hall stands was purchased by the town in 1867 and the town hall was built.

Respectfully submitted with included explanatory notes.

Free Books for Brookfield Troops

Michelle Bushee

Do you know a Brookfield resident who is currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces overseas? Let Got Books send them a care package full of books! Local organization Got Books is looking for servicemen and women from Brookfield and the surrounding area to send books to. Packages of about 50-100 books will be sent to each local service member, which means there will be plenty of books to enjoy and to share with friends in their unit.

The "Books for Troops" program was started earlier this year as a mission to send at least 25,000 books in 2008 to the troops overseas. Got Books founder and former Marine Bob Ticehurst began the program as a means of giving back to the local community and the military that he once served. "Being able to give these books to men and women who are fighting for us is so gratifying. We want to do anything we can to make their time overseas more enjoyable."

This program provides local troops with engaging and high-quality books to read while serving in the military. Got Books will hand-pick the books, ensuring that every one will be appropriate and pleasing to its recipient. The books will typically be small paperbacks which are lighter and easier to carry. Got Books sorts, selects, and ships all book packages so there is no cost incurred by other involved parties.

To submit the name and address of a Brookfield resident overseas, please visit www.GotBooks.com/troops. Got Books is dedicated to re-circulating your book, CD, DVD, and video donations back into the community. This is done through the "Books for Troops" program, as well the "Books for Teachers" program and other donations to community groups. Books donated from the public make these and other programs possible. To donate books or find out more about Got Books call 978-396-6026.

CONTENTS

2. Friends of the Gilbertville Organ; Christmas Cantata; Puppet Theater; Open House at W. Brookfield's First Congregational; Food Pantry Needs
3. Christmas Angel Faire; Shh! We're Writing the Constitution
4. Library News
5. Folding Corner;
6. Tree Lighting; Hello, Gardeners!
7. Serve Dates;
8. Fin, Fur, & Feathers;
9. Church Services; From the Pastor's Desk
10. Knives, Part 1; Heating Concerns
11. Police Patrol
12. Brookfield Seniors News
14. Staff; Answers to Kids Pg.; DivorceCare; Blue Christmas
15. Kids' Corner;

Friends of the Gilbertville Organ

The Friends of the Gilbertville Organ open their nineteenth season with an Advent Concert on Saturday evening, December 6m 2008. A varied and sometimes surprising program of music in anticipation of the season will be presented by Uncle Don's Merry Little Band, assisted by organist, Ethel Howard.

The concert will be preceded by a dessert reception in the Church Hall, beginning at 7:00 P.M. Then all assembled will move into the Church, where the concert begins at 7:45.

It all takes place in the Trinitarian Congregational Church on Route 32 in Gilbertville, a village within the Toen of Hardwick, Massachusetts. A donation is asked. All are welcome.

16th Annual White Christmas in West Brookfield December 7

In conjunction with West Brookfield's White Christmas on the Common, the **First Congregational Church**, 36 N. Main Street, will hold an open house beginning at 12:00 PM. A luncheon will be served at 12:30 PM. They will also have a bake table with delicious home-made goodies. West Brookfield afghans and ornaments featuring the church will also be available for sale.

A silent auction will run all day and conclude at 5:00 PM. The annual *Carols and Cocoa Sing-A-Long* will begin at 4:00 PM in their beautifully decorated sanctuary. Please join the West Brookfield community as we sing in the blessed Christmas season with beautiful carols. The Sing-A-Long will be led by Wally Hall and accompanied on the piano by Ginny Bailey. All are welcome!



NOTICE: WINTER PARKING BAN FOR ALL PUBLIC WAYS IN THE TOWN OF BROOKFIELD

From now to April 15, 2009 during
the hours of 11:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.

Brookfield Congregational Church

On the Common

Presents the 11th Annual Christmas Cantata

Saturday, December 20th 7:00PM

Snow Date:

Sunday, December 21st 7:00PM

In the Church Sanctuary

The Drawbridge Puppet Theater

The Drawbridge Puppet Theater - 1335 Massachusetts Ave. Lunenburg, presents "Santa and the Christmas Trolls" starting Friday, November 28 thru Dec. 28. Public Show-times are held every Friday: 7:00 PM, Saturday and Sunday: 11:00 AM & 12:30 PM. Ticket price is \$5.00 p/p. Reservations are strongly recommended. Call 978-582-6565 or 800-401-3694. Visit our web site for more information, or to reserve online: www.drawbridgepuppets.com

Your Food Pantry Needs Donations

The hours for the food bank are every Wed. and Sat. from 9:30 AM to 11:00AM. Donations from the community our most welcome at that time.

These are the most needed items at this time, but please be aware that in addition to these items, any non-perishable food items are greatly appreciated!

Jelly/Jam	Toothpaste
Mustard	Dish Soap
Ketchup	Juice
Mayonnaise	Can Veggies (except corn and green beans)
Baby wipes	Deodorant (women and men)
Paper towels	Stuffing
All Purpose Cleaners	Box and canned meals (ie, hamburger helper, beef ravioli, etc..)
Toilet paper	Cereal (box and instant oatmeal) (except corn flakes and rice crispies)
Kleenex	Baked beans, red beans and black beans
Laundry Detergent	
Sugar	
Flour	
Oil (all kinds)	
Vinegar (all kinds)	
Aluminum Foil	
Plastic Wrap	

These are just items we have trouble keeping in stock. All donations are most appreciated!

ITEMS NOT NEEDED AT THIS TIME: Soups, Pasta, Peanut Butter, macaroni and cheese, cranberry sauce, peaches or fruit cocktail.

Thank you for your generous donations.

"Shh, We're Writing the Constitution"

Brookfield Elementary School - Grade 5

Cast of Characters

Announcer:	Jacob Sterndale
George Washington:	Nicholas Lescord
James Madison:	Jessica Booth
Ben Franklin:	Kassidy Roberts
Alexander Hamilton:	Joshua Angel
Delegate Morris:	Cameron Roberts
Delegate Randolph:	Michael Granger
Delaware Delegate:	Tyler Galuska
New Jersey Delegate:	Sara Magnuson
Pennsylvania Delegate:	Brian Sullivan
Connecticut Delegate:	Jesse Fimian
Massachusetts Delegate:	Tyler Roussin
New Hampshire Delegate:	Faye Rhault
Georgia Delegate:	Glenn Conlon
Maryland Delegate:	Julia Normandin
New York Delegate:	Madisen Walther
Viginia Delegate:	Cameron Girard
South Carolina Delegate:	Kyle DeCell
Reader:	Morgan Fenneuff
Representatives:	Amanda Dubeau Emily Love Sydney Summers Matthew Menard Tristan Bosse Nicholas Dougan Kaila Jackson Emily Metterville Krystina Nieves Brianna Pincince- McLeish Laurel Seery Brytni Simmons
Stage Hands:	Justin Alicea Andrew McDermott

On Thursday, November 20, 2008, a wonderful group of folks who have worked with the Council on Aging to provide informational meetings for the "more mature" sector of Brookfield residents, collaborated with Brookfield Elementary School to provide a scrumptious turkey dinner to an appreciative group of those "mm" folk. To top it off, the cast above presented their play, and it was great!

Kudos to the cast, the director and her assistants, and to Kathleen Hosterman, Principal. Bravo!

Hear Ye... Hear Ye...

The Christmas 'Angel' Faire

of

The Brookfield Congregational Church

will be held on:

*Friday, December 5th from 6-8PM and
Saturday, December 6th from 9AM-2PM*

Luncheon from 10AM-2PM

One Stop Shopping!!

Visit the Gift Boutique, Country Store, Bake Shop, Jazzy Jewelry, Grimes' Greens, Bountiful Baskets, and the Take-A-Chance Table. Also the Kids' Korner will be open for children under 12 to buy gifts and get them wrapped and ready for Christmas Morning.



**Win a NAPA
Custom
BMX Bike!**



>Dual suspension Front and Rear for tricks and trail riding
>20 inch Knobby Tires
>6 Speed Grip Shifter

**117 West Main Street
West Brookfield, MA
(508) 867-9947**

