



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

Sunburst Restaurant-30 Years Young. WOW!

By S. J.

A business to stay afloat for 30 years is a feat. For a restaurant owned and operated by women, is a phenomenon. The Sunburst was started in Brookfield, (where Dr. Chua's office is), and formerly Gorman's Dry Goods, on Central Street.

I can't possibly express the thoughts and feelings and friendships of so many customers. Some people came to the Sunburst by chance, and returned. Some came only at "Flea Market" time in Brimfield. Some travel through the area from North to South, or East to West. Lots of people meet old friends, relatives, or business associates for good food and a comfortable atmosphere.

Here are a few excerpts from our guest book:

Katanha & Sasha from Ellsworth, ME -

S=Super, Y=Yeow! Gr8 cook!, L=lovable, V=very best, I=ingenious, A=always smiling.

Wonderful place here in good old Mass. The Leland Family.

"The Check" Eighteen seventy three was the rate, for me-n-my sweetie, to go out for our date. We ate our fill, it wasn't much of a bill. We thank you and think that the food was just great. "The Phantom"

Barbara, Morgan, & Anthony from Naugatuck. We stumbled upon this place but were enchanted by the name. The food was excellent, the Sunburst (orange and coconut muffins) were amazing. It feels like we're home. May you have rich success and only joy!

John and Sue, Manahawkin, NJ We stop up and back every time we go to Maine or Boston. Thank you for having such a lovely place.

Linda, Jim, and Bonnie. We camp out at Wells State Park every year. Our tradition the day we break camp is to have breakfast at your wonderful place. It's friendly and cozy. We feel right at home! See you next summer!

I don't know how long I will continue the business, but I really love my job. I enjoy all the people who stop by. I just can't imagine not waking up early, going down Route 148, and to open the door, and hang the OPEN flag.

At this time, I would also like to thank all the people who have supported me throughout the 30 years.
Sylvia Jane

BREWER ANNOUNCES 13TH ANNUAL SENIOR CITIZENS ARTISTIC INTERPRETATION OF THE STATE HOUSE HOLIDAY CARD CONTEST

Senator Stephen M. Brewer (D-Barre) announced today that the Secretary of the Commonwealth, William Galvin, is sponsoring his 13th Annual Senior Citizens Artistic Interpretation of the State House Holiday Card Contest.

Entries will be accepted from both amateur and professional artists and will be exhibited at the Commonwealth Museum. Two winning cards will be chosen by professional artists and will be reproduced and sold at the State House Gift Cart with the artist's name printed on the card. Entries are due by July 1, 2009. All medium of arts are acceptable. The focal point must be the State House during the December season. The size requirements are a minimum of 5" x 7" and a maximum of 18" x 24".

"I encourage seniors throughout the Commonwealth to take place in the wonderful tradition. The State House is the people's building and I thoroughly enjoy seeing everyone's interpretations of his building and historical landmark during such a joyous time of year," said Senator Brewer.

Entries must be mailed or delivered to Dolores McCray (Commonwealth Museum at Columbia Point, 220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, MA 02125). Remember to print your name, address, telephone number and medium on the back of the artwork. An Affirmation of Award will be presented to the winning artists in a ceremony held at the Commonwealth Museum in early autumn. Artwork will be returned; however, the Secretary of the Commonwealth will retain ownership rights to the artwork only as a card.

CONTENTS

2. Candidate; Fire Dept.; Community Breakfast
3. SFS Festival; Elm Hill Center
4. Library; Drum Circle; Wedding Workshops
5. Folding Corner; Letters to Editor; Public Hearing
6. Recreation; Classic Movies; Hello Gardeners; MAB
7. BES Honor Roll
8. Fin, Fur, & Feathers; Serve Dates
9. Church Services; Pastor's Desk; Help Wanted; Info For Elders
10. Skipping Stones;
11. Public Hearing; Staff; Bystander
12. New Equine Facility; Wildflower Walk; Plant Sale
14. Help Wanted
15. Kids' Corner
16. Bulletin Board Event Listing; Annual Town Meeting

Candidate for Re-election, James Cooke

Although I'm running unopposed for a third term on Tantasqua Regional School Committee, I would still ask for the support of the people of Brookfield on election day.

As a senior member on the regional committee, I believe that I can render valuable service on behalf of the town. At present I'm chair of the curriculum subcommittee and a member of the budget subcommittee.

Given the economic downturn, the school committee will continue to face tough choices in the year ahead. I will work to ensure the continuity of the academic program at both the senior and junior high school. It's important that our students receive a good high school education to prepare them for jobs and a career in a global economy.

As your elected representative, feel free to contact me with any concerns or issues you may have regarding Tantasqua. I look forward to working for the town, its students and taxpayers for another three years.

Yours,
James A. Cooke



Brookfield Fire Department

4 Central Street
Brookfield, MA 01506
Telephone / Facsimile
(508) 867-7306
Emergency Call 911



The Brookfield Fire Department is proud to announce that it has received its first ever thermal imaging camera. This unit is in widespread use in departments across Massachusetts and is used to search for civilians and firefighters in need of assistance inside a burning building. They have also been used to search for lost persons. Thermal imaging cameras use a form of infra-red technology to identify heat sources, whether from a fire, people inside a smoke filled building with zero visibility, or a child lost in the woods. According to Chief Peter Martell, this would not have been possible without financial support from the Brookfield Fire Battalion and a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

The Brookfield Fire Battalion is a fraternal organization of Brookfield firefighters that supports the efforts of the department and the firefighters. Fire Captain Keith Karmann, who serves as the president of the battalion, says that in addition to the thermal imager, the organization has assisted in the purchase of hydraulic rescue tools, the member's formal uniforms, and other essential items for the department. They also give an annual community service award to a Brookfield senior at Tantasqua Regional High School named for former Chief George Clancy. President Karmann also said that the Battalion's largest fundraiser is the annual fathers' day chicken barbecue, for which tickets will soon be

Community Breakfast

Police Chief Ross Ackerman and the entire Brookfield Police Department cordially extend an invitation to a free Community Breakfast. This is an opportunity for residents to meet the Police Officers serving Brookfield. This event will occur Saturday, May 9, from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in the Brookfield Elementary School cafeteria. Join us for fun and food with members of the department dedicated to the health and well being of our citizens. For more information please call 508 867 5570.

Brenda Metterville, Library Director

Here's a great way to meet your town's members of the Police Department, without having to break any speed records in the process. Editor



Preschool Music Night

With Ms. Coro

on

Monday May 18th

From 6:30 -7:30 p.m.

at

Brimfield Elementary School

22 Wales Road

Brimfield, MA

Ms. Renee Coro will be singing and playing her guitar for preschoolers and their families.

Come join in the fun!

This is a free literacy enrichment event sponsored by the Union 61 Community Partnership for Children.

Lila M. Farrar • Music teacher

18 Mill Street
Brookfield, MA 01506
(508) 867-8806

Suzuki
piano - flute

The Suzuki method is based on ear training. For an explanation, call for free appointment.

Visitors always welcome.



Save The Date: Socks For Siberia 3rd Annual Family Festival

When? Saturday June 13th 12 Noon to 6 PM

Where? Hyland Orchards, Sturbridge

How Much? FREE!!!!

Why? This year marks our fifth visit to Russia to bring the love and support of so many of our friends here in America to so many of our young Russian friends far away in Siberia.

On July 1st, Wally and I will be leaving, along with Wally Hall, one of our Board of Directors for our fifth visit to the Khakassia region of Siberia in Russia. Our volunteers in Abakhan have been reaching out to other orphanages in the region to determine how we may be of assistance. The economy in Russia has been impacted by the same negative circumstances as the American economy has suffered and this, of course affects the resources available to provide for orphaned children.

We have always been able to count on our friends in the Brookfields to open their hearts and help us to help the orphaned children in Siberia. We hope that you will bring your friends and families out for a wonderful day in a wonderful place for a wonderful cause! There will be something for everyone - good food, good music, good fun and good people. Raffles, games and Red Sox tickets! Who could ask for more?

So - Save the date and watch The Brookfield Citizen for more details!



Other adults living with developmental disabilities.

"Mrs. Means had a vision for this property, and we are going to ensure that it is realized," Keefe-Layden said. "It is treasured property in our region, and we intend to make sure that it is a place that can be enjoyed by everybody, regardless of age or disability."



Elm Hill Center

The Blanchard Means Foundation



**Rehabilitative Resources Inc. Takes Over Operation
of Elm Hill Center**

***RRI Will Assume Control of Blanchard Means
Foundation, Which Owns Historic Farm***

Rehabilitative Resources Inc. (RRI), one of Central Massachusetts' leading care providers for people living with developmental disabilities, recently acquired control of the Blanchard Means Foundation, a charitable entity which oversees operations of Brookfield's historic Elm Hill Center.

RRI, of Sturbridge, was selected by the Foundation's board because of its long-standing position in the community, and its vast experience in integrating those living with disabilities into the community at large.

"We chose RRI because it will keep the historical and culture importance of the site," said Karlyn Stevens, the chairman of the Foundation. "We want Elm Hill Center and the farm preserved for the whole community, and RRI has a track record of interactivity."

Bonnie Keefe-Layden, the Chief Executive Officer of RRI, said she is excited to work with the Foundation to help re-build the farm into a community jewel that will eventually offer horseback riding and a petting zoo.

"The Foundation's mission matched our mission," Keefe-Layden said. "The excitement is twofold. First, with the animals, we can offer a different stimulus for treatment most other facilities don't offer. Second, there is the opportunity to explore alternative methods to fund ourselves and add services."

The Elm Hill Farm was built in the 1700s, and at its peak it was one of the largest working farms in the region with 1,300 acres, eight houses, apple orchards, horse stables and a purebred cattle operation. One of its cows was "Elsie the Cow," the face of the Borden Company and one of the most recognizable product symbols in America in the middle of the 20th century.

The farm was the property of the family of the late Blanchard Means, whose wife Louise, passed away earlier this month. Following the 1973 death of her husband, Mrs. Means became concerned about the future of the family farm, and envisioned it as a preservation place where the public and developmentally disabled individuals, like her daughter, would enjoy its natural beauty. Her

