



The Brookfield Citizen

Community Identity Through Communication

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Average People Promoting a Loving Environment.

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Did you know?

Did you know another famous person's ancestors had their roots here in our tiny community? A business in town sold this individual's products for many years and all of us are familiar with them.

In 1710 Captain William Olds had a grant of 60 acres and finally an additional 200 acres. He built his home and lived on the south side of the river near Mason's Rill (brook). His property ran along the east side of Route number 148 and extended up to the present rail road bridge.

His son Ezekiel built his home on this property east of Route 148 and adjacent to the present tracks. (Home of this writer in the 40s and early 50s). This site is under the ramp leading to the bridge. It was covered over several years ago when the bridge was moved about 75 feet to the east of the original roadway.

Ezekiel's fourth son Reuben was present at the Spooner house when Joshua was murdered by his wife and three soldiers. He, along with two others turned states evidence, sparing themselves while leading to the execution of Bathsheba and her accomplices in 1778 by hanging.

Recently, two visitors came to town, went to our library and inquired into their ancestors' past. After receiving considerable information, at the library, I was contacted asked if I could provide further aid to these people who had traveled 3000 miles on their quest.

After we finished our discussions, we went on a short tour and finally came to a stop, disembarking on the causeway one quarter mile south of White's Landing. I pointed to a small, red saltbox (now being used as a manufactory) and explained that this was a site where their grandfather to the 10th generation lived and this was his house, built in 1710.

The uproar and jubilation was indescribable. Photos and more photos, but sadly they were not permitted to look into the building. Tour over, we returned to the library where the ladies working at the time received accolades. The gentleman visitor explained that one hour in Brookfield was worth every cent he spent following the footsteps of his grandfathers to our town, and seeing his Grandfather's (10th generation) home so well preserved and still in existence.

The visitors were grandsons of Ransom Olds, inventor of the Oldsmobile and laid the Reo automobile. Remember them? To our librarians, a hearty well-done!!

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Wilder

I'm sure you remember that guy who's always looking for money for the Citizen. Well, now he's at it again,



except he's not asking for money. He's asking for participation in this year's Apple Country Fair.

The Executive Board has been hard at work, (or is that hardly working?), since November of 2008, on the preparations for this year's event. One of the most important needs we have is for volunteers to do a myriad of tasks. The more volunteers we get, the shorter the span of time each will be asked to contribute.

Last year we had an impressive roster of dedicated volunteers, who, by all accounts, enjoyed themselves immensely as well as took pride in their own contribution to the community.

And, if you DO want to volunteer, you get an added benefit; you get a chance to talk to Uncle Phil directly. Just call (508) 867-9553.

The Brookfield Community Club will have two open meetings at the Town Hall in September. All participants in the planning of this event are invited to attend and get final instructions. The meetings will be on **September 9** and **September 23 at 7:30 p.m.**

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Father's Day Chicken Barbecue

The Brookfield Fire Battalion will be having it's annual Fathers Day Chicken Barbecue on Sunday June, 21, serving at Noon at the Fire Station. For a \$10 donation you get a barbecued half chicken, baked potato, salad, roll, apple pie, and a carton of milk - all packed to take home. There will be some seating for eating in. There will be a few tickets available at the door, but to be safe, get tickets from any Brookfield firefighter or call the station, 508-867-7306. Thanks for your support.

Brown Bag Lunch

Save the dates! The Council on Aging (COA) of Brookfield invite seniors to a bring your own Brown Bag Lunch in the Banquet Hall of the Brookfield Town Hall on **Tuesday, June 2 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.** The COA will have ice tea, lemonade and desserts available free. Robert Denehy will entertain us by playing piano and will bring some sheet music with old songs. A nurse will be present to review your medications—**Brown Bag Med's!**

Summer game dates: Tuesday, July 1, and Tuesday, August 4, from 1:00 to 3:00. Play card games, cribbage, checkers while enjoying free refreshments and treats. Barbara Harrington, our Outreach Coordinator (508 867 0220) will be present at each event. For more information, please call **Barbara Clancy at 508 867 6043.**

BROOKFIELD GARDEN CLUB presents "PRESSED FLOWER ART WORKSHOP"

On Sunday, June 28, 2009, the Brookfield Garden Club will hold a "pressed flower" workshop, using plant materials for framed art. The program will be held in the basement of the Brookfield Congregational Church from 3:00 PM to 5 PM and will be presented by Linda Pelletier of West Brookfield. The program will be open to the public.

Mrs. Pelletier explains, "I will demonstrate a low-tech, low-cost method for preserving flower parts and leaves for use to make mini framed art. This method can be expanded to make larger pieces. We'll discuss the best types of flowers to use and when to press them. All materials will be provided for a mini project for attendees to take home."

Linda has been in business as the owner of Sweet Arts for almost 10 years, located at 56 N. Main St. in West Brookfield, just off the Common. Sweet Arts provides decorated cakes for all occasions and a variety of cookie platters and bouquets, petit four platters, gingerbread creations and as well as treats for special diets.

From the Board of Health (As reported by Town Counsel)

Re: Outdoor Wood Boiler Regulations

Recently, many communities have had questions regarding regulation of Outdoor Wood-fired Boilers (OWBs). An OWB is an alternative outdoor heating mechanism which burns wood to heat water that the system then pipes underground to heat structures, including homes. As you may know, the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has enacted regulations governing the use of OWBs in the Commonwealth. The DEP regulations, 310CMR 7.26 (50), address the use of new and existing OWBs, including their certification, emission, and set back requirements, and seasonal use. For your reference, the regulations are available online at <http://www.mass.gov/dep/service/regulations/ohhregfl.pdf>. The regulations also permit municipalities to adopt their own more stringent regulations concerning the local use of OWBs.

Letter to the Editor

Robo Calling

How many of you have called a place of business and got a recording telling you to press 1 for this, 2 for that, etc., a lot I would bet. How many of you liked it; I would guess not many.

Our town just finished its annual elections and I was deeply saddened to see the impersonal route that some running for office used to get votes. This isn't the first time this process has been used but, I sincerely hope it is the last.

I know, from personal experience, that if you are running for office you set-up a committee and gather your friends to help you run your campaign. Once this is established, you plan out how you will go about gathering votes, i.e.: get a voter list, decide who will make calls and to whom you want to make them, signs, advertising, etc. I don't ever remember discussing "where do we get a listing of towns people so we can make automated phone calls."

I personally feel that in a town our size, 3277 people, and of those people there are 2300 registered voters, the personal touch is the best route to go. As much as I don't like political calls, on any level, you can never know how someone feels about the issues or the candidate if you are not willing to speak to them.

Lets get back to personalizing our elections, talk to people one on one, hear what they have to say, and thank them for their consideration!

Linda Peirce

Police Patrol

By: Officer Nick Abair

Safety, safety, safety. June is National Safety Month, and this is an important month to me, since the education of safety is a serious topic. Summer vacation is right around the corner, and often times this leaves a lot of free time for children, teens, and young adults.

Teenagers and young adults with a license and a car need to be educated before they head out on their own. According to the National Safety Council, traffic crashes are the leading cause of teen fatalities. It's estimated that 38 percent of all teen deaths occur from crashes. Some of the leading factors of these crashes are inexperience, speeding, cell phone use/texting, and alcohol. Parents and teenagers need to work together and talk about making good decisions and driving responsibly. Here are a few tips for parents to share with teenagers:

- Wear a seatbelt, and require everyone in the car to wear a seatbelt. It's the LAW.
- Make sure the teenager is experienced with driving. Spend time teaching.
- Eliminate distractions, such as talking or texting while driving.
- Know who your teen is riding with, and if they are allowed to have passengers in their car.

Let's all set a good example for young drivers, and if you or your teens have questions about driving restrictions for new drivers, stop by the police department.

Soon we'll see young children out and about as well, not driving cars but playing in yards, driveways and roadways. It's our responsibility to be concerned of their whereabouts while driving. It's sad, but children are being accidentally backed over by cars. One fact shows that about 1 child a week dies in the United States because they were accidentally backed over by the family car, in their driveway. Often times this doesn't happen due to careless driving, but its because many of the cars we are driving today are large and have many blind spots.

Here are a few tips to prevent this awful tragedy from possibly happening to you or someone you know:

- Try to be aware of where the children are before you back up
- Invest in a back-up safety device, which includes: **safety alarms** or **video cameras** that allow you to see your blind spot.
- Do NOT talk on your cell phone
- Keep your radio turned down
- Keep a window down so you can hear outside the vehicle

The Brookfield Police would like to thank all of you who came and enjoyed our community pancake breakfast on May 9. A special thanks to the elementary school, and Paula from the kitchen staff. It was a great success and we all had a great time!

I hope you all enjoy the start of your summer! Let's be safe and keep each other safe too! And remember, if you need us, CALL US! 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Your Friend,

Officer Nick

Hello Gardeners!

Edna Schron

Frost is unlikely in the month of June, so set out all tender annuals and vegetables. Pinch off suckers from indeterminate tomatoes (the ones that keep growing in height all season), plant a second sowing of beets, carrots, lettuce and beans to continue your harvest through the summer.

Sidedress asparagus and rhubarb with a balanced fertilizer when harvest for the year is over. Speaking of rhubarb, hopefully you've enjoyed a strawberry-rhubarb pie. Don't forget to remove all but two or three runners from newly set out strawberry plants...it will increase your yield. Cover your blueberries with netting if you want to harvest the berries when ripe. Most birds love them and it's a hard competition to win without the netting to protect the fruit.

Gardeners are busy, busy, busy this time of year. As we sow our seeds, we also sow friendships by sharing. It is also time to dig and divide spring bulbs. They need to be replanted immediately or stored in a cool and dry spot until fall. They make a great gift to share with a friend as well as left over seedlings and perennial divisions. Many plants in my garden are gifts from friends that remind me of them daily.

Church Wide Tag Sale Quaboag Valley Baptist Church 175 Fiskdale Road Brookfield

Saturday, June 6th (Rain Date is June 13th)
9 - 2 pm

Free Activities for Children
Free Hot Dogs

Proceeds do not benefit the church but help with a

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

When? Saturday June 13th 12 Noon to 6 PM

Where? Hyland Orchards, Sturbridge

