



New Marlborough 5 Village News

VOL XII
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Clayton • Hartsville • Mill River • New Marlborough • Southfield

Happy Holidays!



photo by Larry Bunke

On Friday, December 16, at 5:30 p.m. Santa will arrive on a New Marlborough fire truck at the Meeting House and will then go into the gallery for visits with the children.

CAROLING IN NEW MARLBOROUGH

When not playing with the Metropolitan Opera as a percussionist, Ben Harms leads the annual community caroling and visit from Santa Claus in New Marlborough each December. This year's festivities will take place on Friday, December 16, at 5:30 p.m. in the heated Gallery of the New Marlborough Meeting House. Santa will arrive on a New Marlborough fire truck and will then come into the gallery for visits with the children. Song books will be provided. The selection of music comes from the traditions of Christmas, Chanukah, and Kwanzaa. This is the fourteenth year for this event, and for the first time it will be held together with Family Friday (the program initiated this fall to include children and families in Meeting House events). This is the forty-sixth year that our Santa (a local resident) has been playing his part. Come and experience the joy he brings to one and all! This event is co-sponsored by the New Marlborough Village Association and the New Marlborough Fire and Rescue. Refreshments will be served. □

reported by Kenzie Fields

...AND SINGING IN SOUTHFIELD

Another musical happening this December will be the service of Lessons and Carols, led by Robert Olsen at the United Church of New Marlborough, starting at 7 p.m.. Robert is leading the church choir and other New Marlborough residents are joining him for the occasion. The Christmas Eve service, a Southfield tradition, will introduce a new format for Christmas Eve this year. The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols is a service made up of nine short Bible readings, interspersed with the singing of corresponding carols by a choir and the congregation. This service first began in England in 1880, purportedly in a temporary wooden shed serving as a cathedral, as an effort by the Church of England to keep men out of pubs on Christmas Eve. The format has grown in popularity as a beautiful gift of choral music for all. United Church of New Marlborough, 243 Norfolk Road, Southfield. □

reported by Kenzie Fields

frantically busy five weeks, to shore up and restore roads severely damaged by Hurricane Irene's devastating rains.

Peter says that his crew - Paul Krom, David Colucci, and Nick Trierweiler - is the best he has ever worked with. He estimates that he and his crew helped by Larry Davis, Sr. and Bob Palmer were on the job for nine twelve-hour workdays, which included two Saturdays.

In this time, they made every storm-damaged road safe and passable for police, fire, and rescue personnel, as well as making the roads passable for the public for the rest of the winter, although in some cases with restricted lanes.

Meanwhile, they were aware of the ticking of a federal-funding clock. FEMA funding for repairs related to Hurricane Irene, which struck on August 27, was available for six weeks. Because some projects required heavy equipment the Highway Department doesn't own, one of Peter's additional tasks was lining up outside contractors who could bring in the big equipment required for major repairs, a tactic he uses as needed throughout the year or for as long as his budget allows.

As of this writing in early November, there is still a great deal of work to be done. There are detours, bridges closed to traffic, and potholes and bumps, but the network of roads that binds the five, far-flung villages has been repaired.

On Tuesday October 4, Peter Marks took this reporter for a three-hour ride over all the roads that had suffered significant damage and were either under repair or scheduled for repair. The first site we visited was on the Canaan Southfield Road, between Foley Hill Road and the junction with Lumbert Cross Road, where the bank opposite the hillside was severely undermined by water draining under the road base. Once water gets under the asphalt, Peter explained, it breaks the seal and the surface literally floats on the base which is being continuously eroded. As the water seeks the lower level, it eats at the downhill bank and there is danger of the surface slipping off.

To correct this problem, Peter and his crew will have to install 1,200 feet of "curtain drains" - buried, perforated



*Paul Krom, Dave Colucci,
and Bob Palmer*



Peter Marks

PETER MARKS AND HIS HIGHWAY CREW MEET THE CHALLENGE OF IRENE

We all know that New Marlborough is held together by a ninety-mile network of roads. Drivers know

that long stretches of various roads suffer frequent weather-related damage. Nobody knows this better than Highway Superintendent Peter Marks. Appointed supervisor nearly three years ago, he brought to the job twenty-two years of road experience, including construction and maintenance. As superintendent, he directs the expenditures of the second-largest accounts item in the Town budget - sufficient reason to take a moment to appreciate what he does within the constraints of the department's budget and, more particularly, what he and his crew did, within a

plastic pipes that capture water and direct it, via conventional piping, out of harm's way. The installation of the pipes will be done before winter. The road bed on the southbound lane has been stabilized; the drainage pipes will be installed soon, most probably with the assistance of an outside contractor.

Next year, Peter hopes to attack the road surface, which will have to be chopped up and then compacted to form a new road base. Drain boxes with grated tops will be installed to gather water from the curtain drains and then piped under the road. This basic pattern of work is used for both paved (asphalt) as well as un-paved (dirt) roads.

From this site we drove to a section of Clayton Mill River Road north of the junction of Hadsell Street and Brewer Branch Road where the Konkapot River had eaten severely into the soil of the bank exposing large, flat sheets of sandstone providing a smooth surface for bank soil to slide into the river. As a result, road safety was seriously threatened. Here, the repair requiring heavy equipment was contracted out to Ron Leonard, owner of Mount Everett Landscaping and Excavating, of Hartsville. The road was closed to traffic for a few days while huge boulders were placed in the riverbed and a great, sloping rip-rap wall was built to protect the road.

Another place where rip-rap was used was where the Umpachene River had eroded the bank of Hadsell Street, just downstream from the bridge, now closed, at the juncture of Hadsell and Umpachene Falls Roads.

From here we drove up to County Road, toward Sheffield. Once again water was the problem. Ultimately, Peter said, this section of road will have to be redone, with better side drainage assisted by curtain drains and increased boxes and drains. One of the problems



Larry Davis, Sr.

Peter faces here and elsewhere is where the drainage can be taken in a way that will not damage private property while, at the same time, allowing the water to follow its natural downhill course into the ground-water distribution. In such cases, often an easement must be obtained that will allow the Highway Department to install drainage pipes that will take the

water a considerable distance from the roadway. Much of the damage caused to County Road, Peter said, could be attributed to an old drainage system that had failed and will be replaced when the ground has dried out.

We proceeded to Hatchery Road in Hartsville where Keith Wilkinson, of Joe Wilkinson Excavating, Inc., of Sheffield, was directing the work being done. Keith showed us the rip-rapping of the river bank with added road-sheeting – grids of plastic and metal to hold dirt and stone in place – and multiple drains to redirect the groundwater.

After years of state interdepartmental dicker, Hatchery Road will soon be reopened to Monterey. It took Irene to cut through the sticky red tape.

Finally, we visited North Road, officially known as the New Marlborough Monterey Road. Water draining from the hills has ravaged this dirt road for years, but by constantly searching for private property areas where water drainage can be redirected to protect the road surface and by installing curtain drains, Peter and his predecessors have kept the road passable. In fact, to this reporter, the road seems better now than at any time in my past years of travel over it. For Peter, though, it presents a never-ending challenge – which holds true for the network of roads as a whole. □

reported by Charlie Parton,
photos by Ed Harvey



Nick Trierweiler

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Town Business Is Your Business

Board of Selectmen



October 24: All three members were present to accept Selectman Nat Yohalem's motion to approve Peter Marks's appointment to the Conservation Commission, on which he had served before.

Only one bid was returned for the rental of heavy equipment by the Town, and once again the bid from Joe Wilkinson Excavating, Inc was accepted unanimously. Bids for the supply of sand, gravel, and processed stone were reviewed and accepted for Wilkinson and for O'Connor Bros, Inc, pending information on the latter remaining in business. (A For Sale sign on Route 57 in Hartsville occasioned the question; but it turned out that the sign related only to the local gravel pit.)

The hazard mitigation plan for the Town has been completed and accepted, with a six-month review provision, by all three selectmen. Emergency Management Supervisor Barbara Marchione reported that she received a letter from the U.S. Department of Agriculture stating that it will not cover the costs of tree removal from the rivers, but noting that the project is acceptable and that other funding is available.

The Konkapot River was cleared of debris from the Route 57 bridge in Hartsville to the bridge across Adsit Crosby Road. Peter Marks said that there will be more clearing in other areas. Ms. Marchione pointed out that FEMA will reimburse the Town after it receives a letter of inability to pay signed by the Department of Agriculture. The required letter will be drafted.

Police Chief Scott Farrell came before the Board with an estimate of \$5,000 and approximately two days of work for repairs to the braking system of the police cruiser. Precision Autocraft estimates that, within a year, the suspension structures will need to be replaced at the cost of approximately \$2,000. The present 2005 vehicle has over 90,000 miles on the odometer and almost twice that amount in static engine usage. **Selectman Yohalem urged the Board to find a way to purchase a new vehicle rather than continue to put money into the old one.** He asked Chief Farrell to find out how long it would take to obtain a new cruiser with the outfitting required and how the purchase might be financed. Chief Farrell then discussed the new proposed policy on the use of police in traffic control when "details" are a part of an outside company's bid for work - for example, when the electric company is arranging for tree pruning to protect their lines. The

policy sets the fee that can be charged. In no way does this affect the use of Town personnel who have been trained and certified in the role by the state, but are detailed by the Highway Department supervisor, who has agreed with Chief Farrell to notify him of such use.

Chief Farrell will have complete authority over "details" on major state highways. The policy was unanimously approved by the selectmen.

November 7: The three members were present for **the appointment of Scott MacFarland, health agent for New Marlborough, as our representative, and Jack Bellinger as our alternate representative, to the Berkshire County Public Health Municipal Cooperative Agreement.** Mr. Yohalem announced that the committee to look into the need for or feasibility of a town administrator had been appointed. They are Barbara Marchione, Prudence Spaulding, Daniel Litchfield, Harvey Thompson, and David Lowman. Bert Imberman is an alternate member. The committee will hold its first meeting on November 17, and a report of their considerations will be expected before the Board on April 1, 2012.

Six warrant items were reviewed by the Board: 1) to raise and appropriate \$100,000 for funding the Town's share of the FY12 School District operating and transportation budget; 2) to reduce the current appropriation for the FY12 insurance expense account by \$5,000 in order to reduce the tax rate; 3) to transfer \$1,000 from Free Cash and appropriate said amount to the cemetery map account for the purpose of mapping the cemeteries; 4) to transfer and appropriate the sum of \$20,000 from Free Cash for the purpose of reducing the tax rate; 5) to transfer the sum of \$45,000 from the stabilization account and appropriate the sum to the police cruiser account for the purchase of a new vehicle; 6) To see if the Town will accept a donated sum of \$4,000 and to appropriate the sum to the New Marlborough ladder-sign account for the purpose for erecting and maintaining ladder signage and to accept any future amounts donated for these purposes.

As there is some possibility of a revision of the School District operating and transportation budget the warrants will be signed after a final decision is made, but within the legal time proscriptions. It is estimated that the impact on of these warrants on property owners will be an increase of 30 cents per \$1,000 assessed valuation of their property; articles 1, 3, and 5 being expenditures and 2 and 4 tax reductions, and in the case of item 6 no cost is involved but rather a donation to the Town.

□

reported by Charlie Parton

PAYING OUR TEACHERS In Hard Times, How Much?

The school budget. It was the subject of hot debate for New Marlborough residents in 2011, and it is likely to be the focal point of budget balancing next year. Voters were concerned that the Town's share of the Southern Berkshire Regional School District (SBRSD) budget was being imposed without regard to the economic hardship being experienced by many of the Town's residents. Some residents were particularly vexed that the district's teachers had been given raises when many in town were seeing their incomes decline.

Salaries, however, were established by contract in 2010, so eliminating the 2011 raise, as some New Marlborough residents had suggested, was not an option. The three-year contract, retroactive to the 2008-09 school year, called for an effective non-compounded 2-1/2 percent raise per year. (In fact, the increased compensation was achieved by moving each teacher up a notch in a pay-scale matrix that takes into account seniority and professional training.) The contract expires at the end of this school year, so salaries will once again be an issue in budget discussions for fiscal 2013.

So how much should teachers be paid? One answer: at least enough to retain them. A comparison with nearby districts and schools indicates that Southern Berkshire's salaries are, in fact, competitive. According to 2010 figures (the latest available compiled by the Massachusetts Department of Education), the average salary at SBRSD, \$57,557, is roughly equivalent to that of Central Berkshire - the district located in Dalton and surrounding towns - and Lee. (See table below.) It is substantially below that of Berkshires Hills (the Great Barrington-centered school system). Since seniority figures into the equation, the comparison reflects in part the relative youth of the Southern Berkshire faculty.

2010 Teacher Salary Comparison

	<i>Number of Students</i>	<i>Number of Teachers</i>	<i>Average Salary</i>	<i>Student-Teacher Ratio</i>
Berkshire Hills	1,351	119	\$63,269	11.4:1
Central Berkshire	1,933	145	\$58,520	13.3:1
Lee	821	76	\$57,772	10.8:1
SBRSD	870	77	\$57,557	11.3:1

One measure of the quality of the teaching at Southern Berkshire is the performance in Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) tests, given annually to fifth, eighth, and tenth graders. According to Middle and High School Principal Glenn Devoti, Mount Everett's was the only tenth grade in Berkshire County in which every student passed all three tests - English, math, and science. What's more, the tenth-graders were first in the county in math and second in English.

Faculty salaries are only one component of the school budget, but once again on a per-pupil basis, SBRSD's total costs are in line with those in the surrounding area.

2010 Cost per pupil

	<i>Administration</i>	<i>Teaching</i>	<i>Maintenance</i>	<i>Total</i>
Berkshire Hills	\$707	\$5,793	\$1,140	\$15,545
Central Berkshire	\$658	\$4,116	\$1,126	\$12,329
Lee	\$423	\$5,103	\$1,103	\$13,300
SBRSD	\$573	\$5,299	\$1,089	\$13,055

Some New Marlborough voters argued that eliminating such extra-curricular activities as theater and band - or transforming them into "pay-for-play" programs - would help ease the budget burden. Mr. Devoti thinks that would be a mistake. "What we offer," he says, "is not only quality teaching, but a nurturing community in which an extraordinarily high percentage of kids choose to participate." He says that up to three quarters of his students take part in after-school programs and that 60 to 70 percent of the faculty devote time - much of it unpaid - to extra-curriculars.

Just how much to invest in education is a balancing act. Mr. Devoti notes that for the first time in nearly a decade, SBRSD is on the plus side of choice-in/choice-out tuitions - i.e., gaining, not losing students. Spending extravagantly, he admits, is insupportable. But cutting into the core qualities of a school can, in the long run, be even more costly.



PLANNING BOARD

November 2: The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. with the following present: James Mullen, Patricia Hardyman, Holly Morse, and Mackenzie Greer from the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission.

The minutes of October 19 were read and approved.

The Board submitted its level-funded budget for 2013.

Ms. Greer suggested that the Board concentrate on the proposed dimensions and standards for the village centers. New Marlborough is unique with five village districts creating a challenge, with each possibly having a different settlement pattern. Creating setbacks and frontages should be considered for the present as well as the future. This needs to include the option of less road frontage on pieces of property that are rectangular and cannot meet the road-frontage requirements, but have the required amount of land. Two of the villages, Southfield and Mill River, have small water companies that serve thirty homes or fewer. What is the capacity of each of these and the cost to upgrade if public water were to be expanded in the future?

The discussion shifted to the Intensity Table recommendations that Ms. Greer brought. There was a question as to whether this table addressed just new construction or new and conversion. The table needs to address uses of not only houses, but also barns and other structures (up to six units) and mixed use. What should the minimum lot size be in the Rural/Residential District and the Village Center District? Could the lot size be reduced if there was public water and sewer? What acreage would be needed for additional units? What would be the minimum lot frontage and side setbacks? Is flexible frontage applicable? Is there a formula that could be used instead of one set of setbacks for the front and sides of the lot? The conversation was lengthy and it was decided to review those issues and come back to the next meeting with some ideas.

Brian Domina from BRPC is also re-doing the Permitted Uses table, which he will bring to the next meeting.

With all business concluded, the meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m..

Submitted by Tara White, Secretary

November 16: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. with the following present: James Mullen, Patricia Hardyman, Holly Morse, Mackenzie Greer, and Brian Domina from BRPC.

The minutes of the November 2 meeting were waived until the next meeting.

A Form A application by Taconic Construction was presented for Freeman Elms Nominee Trust. Lot 3, consisting of 2.605 acres bordering both Mill River Great Barrington Road and Old County Road. The Board

approved the application.

The Board reviewed the Draft Table of Permitted Uses that Brian Domina had revised. All uses on the table were categorized: A—Residential Uses, B—Municipal, Non-Profit, Religious, Educational Uses, C—Agricultural Uses, D—Commercial Uses and E—Miscellaneous Uses. After each listed use, there is a column which indicates if the use is acceptable in the Rural/Residential District, Village Center District, or both. It also indicates if it is an approved use or if the use will need a special permit from the Board of Selectmen and the Special Planning Committee. Mr. Domina was also asked to create another column with the uses as they exist now so that they can be compared to what is being considered. Mr. Domina also brought the draft Proposed Definitions for the Board to review and comment on before the next meeting.

The Board then moved on to the Draft of the Proposed Amendments to Enact Village Center Zoning Districts. There was a question on 5.5 Village Center District Mixed Use Development, and 5.5.1.1, which addressed the gross floor area, was deleted. There were questions on the Accessory Dwellings and what it covered and the differences between grandfathered structures (pre-May 2003) and present. Is a new conversion a percentage of the main dwelling?

The Board then returned to the front and side setbacks for the lots. Currently there are different front setbacks of lots in the five villages, with none following the same pattern. Determining a specific setback that will apply equally to all five villages is proving to be difficult. After much consideration, it was put forth to accept a formula of the five closest lots with buildings and average the setbacks in the village districts, leaving no specific front setback in the Intensity Table. Side and Rear setbacks will be addressed at the next meeting.

As the District Local Technical Assistance grant, which has been funding Ms. Greer and Mr. Domina's help with the Village Districting, will come to an end on December 31, the Board agreed to file for the next round of funding to continue with the project. In the meantime, the Board will continue the process and begin by looking at the partial and constrained lands. Mr. Domina will see if he can obtain more up-to-date FEMA flood-plain maps, which were based on the 100-year storm. Ms. Greer emphasized that a methodology should be established and kept consistent when looking at all of the villages in doing the boundaries for the Village Districts. It was suggested that lots not be split when looking at this plan.

With all business concluded, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m. □

Submitted by Tara White, Secretary

Editor's note: We are grateful to the Board for providing the minutes, which have yet to be read and approved by the Board.

**THANK YOU
TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS!**

Dean & Laura Godown; William & Anne Tatlock;
Karen Stiles Brusie; Mary Ann & Bruno Quinson;
Virginia Joffe; Hildreth McCarthy;
Mrs. Gwen Melvin; Carol Majkowski;
Mr. & Mrs. Frederick Vorck;
and Brian Mikesell & John Weinstein

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CONSERVATION COMMISSION

October 29: The meeting started promptly with three Commission members present: Ned Wilson, John Weinstein, and Peter Marks. (Mr. Marks, who has previously served on the Commission, was appointed by the Board of Selectmen to replace Tom Coote. Mr. Marks will serve through June 2012.)

The meeting began with a hearing continued from last month for work at Steepletop Reserve on Stump Road. Doug Bruce of Berkshire Natural Resources Council explained the scope of work to be twofold: to clearcut two designated areas for habitat creation for the woodcock and to treat invasive species with herbicide. The Commission reviewed the project and consulted the comments from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). The Commission requested that there be no "grubbing out" of the root systems of the invasive species to prevent disturbance of the soils associated with the wetland resource. The Notice of Intent (NOI) was approved unanimously.

Next, Al Thorpe of Accord Engineering presented a Request For Determination (RDA) for Ned Odegaard of Norfolk Road. The work proposed involved demolishing an existing garage and building a new structure on the same footprint and replacing a collapsed culvert at the driveway. The Commission agreed that the garage renovation was outside the fifty foot setback from the bordering vegetated wetland. The discussion turned to the work involved in repairing the culvert. Mr. Weinstein asked Mr. Thorpe to describe how the culvert would be repaired. The Commission agreed that the alteration would be temporary and that, upon completion of the work, the area would be returned to its original condition. The permit was approved with one condition applied only to the culvert work - that the work be done when the stream had minimal flow.

Selectman Nat Yohalem presented next for the Town of New Marlborough to build a new entrance to Town Hall. The Commission noted that the work would be barely within the buffer zone, roughly ninety-five feet from the perennial stream. The permit was given a negative determination (meaning the work would be allowed as permitted) because even though the work would be within the buffer zone, the resource would not be altered.

Former Commission member Tom Coote of the Berkshire Environmental Resource Center presented an RDA for John Schreiber of Hillingdon Road. Mr. Coote explained that Mr. Schreiber wants to treat the phragmites in his fire pond with an approved herbicide. The herbicide would be applied two times, either by the cut and dip or the painting method. The RDA was approved.

Next, resident Mrs. Wicke of Clayton Mill River Road submitted an RDA for making improvements to her

existing driveway. She explained that she would like to reconfigure her driveway and change an existing lawn area to driveway. Even though the work would be within the two-hundred foot setback from the Konkapot River, it was agreed that the work would be a net improvement and would not alter the resource.

Tom Coote then returned with a NOI for David Shalaby on Clayton Mill River Road. The work involved tearing out two culverts and replacing them with bridges. Since the Commission had not yet received comments from the DEP, the hearing was continued to next month.

Last on the agenda was Mark Reynolds of Kelly, Granger and Parsons, presenting an RDA for Don Massini. Mr. Reynolds explained that the septic system at the house had failed and that the new location for the leaching fields would be outside the setback to the Konkapot River. The Commission agreed that the new design would be a net improvement and would not alter the resource.

Given a letter from White Engineering stating that the work was completed, the Commission then issued a Certificate of Compliance to Barbara Gopen for work permitted in 1998.

Finally the Commission discussed the permit for Keith Watson of Hayes Hill Road, which involved FEMA-funded repairs to a driveway culvert. The work was declared an emergency repair by the New Marlborough Highway Department.

The mail was then reviewed. Secretary Kathy Chretien informed the Commission that she would submit the annual budget for 2012 to be equal to last year's at \$2,000. The Commission opened two forest cutting plans - one from Benjamin Levin on Rhoades and Bailey Road and the other from Sisson Hill Nominee Trust of Sisson Hill. The Commission received notice of a new vernal pool registration located off of Adsit Crosby Road. The minutes were then read and approved and the meeting adjourned. □

reported by Martha Bryan



Photo by Larry Bunke

The weather trick-and-treated early at the library's annual Halloween celebration.

POLICE LOG FOR DECEMBER 2011

Editor's note: Publication of the Fire Log will resume in the January issue.

In an effort to provide the community with information about police, fire, and ambulance activity in town, New Marlborough Fire and Rescue and the New Marlborough Police Department will provide their call logs on a regular basis. The aim is to make residents and non-residents alike more aware of the activity occurring around them.

If you have questions, comments, concerns, or issues you would like to see addressed in a future edition, please contact Fire Chief Peter Scala, at (413) 229-8100, or Police Chief Scott Farrell, (413) 229-8393, with your suggestions.

And, as always, dial 911 if you have an emergency.

New Marlborough Police Call Log

- Oct. 2 2:15 a.m. Panic Alarm, Mill River
2:41 a.m. Abandoned 911 call, Mill River
- Oct. 5 6:40 p.m. Motor Vehicle lockout, Mill River
8:00 p.m. Trespassers, Mill River
9:21 p.m. Loose dog, Southfield
- Oct. 8 10:00 a.m. Gunshots, Hartsville
4:00 p.m. Dirt bikers trespassing, Umpachene Falls
- Oct. 9 10:00 a.m. Motorcycle accident, Norfolk Rd
- Oct. 13 12:05 p.m. Mutual Aid, Sheffield Police
2:30 p.m. Assist with fire alarm, Mepal Manor
- Oct. 14 4:00 p.m. Party in for fingerprints per employer
- Oct. 17 8:56 p.m. Assist with structure fire, Mill River
- Oct. 18 09:00 a.m. Investigate suspicious vehicle, Clayton.
09:10 a.m. Complaint filed on speeding trucks
12:00 p.m. Suspicious male in roadway, Mill River

- Oct. 19 07:12 a.m. Disabled tractor trailer, Norfolk Road
1:05 p.m. Runaway dog, Mill River
9:07 p.m. Report of wire in roadway, Mill River
- Oct. 20 12:50 p.m. Tree down on wires, Mill River
4:30 p.m. Complaint of speeders, Southfield
- Oct. 21 7:20 a.m. Disgruntled ex-employee, Southfield
7:45 a.m. No Trespass Order issued, Southfield
9:00 a.m. Cement truck tangled in wires, Mill River
- Oct. 22 7:10 p.m. Domestic disturbance, Clayton
- Oct. 25 5:50 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident (MVA), car hit pole, Rt.57, occupants taken to hospital
- Oct. 28 7:00 p.m. Met with hunters out of woods, Southfield
7:05 p.m. Report of dead deer near 1000 Acre Swamp
- Oct. 29 2:30 p.m. MVA, car hit pole, two passengers Rt. 57
5:58 p.m. MVA, car stuck, Southfield
7:30 p.m. Tractor trailer off road, no injuries, Rt. 183
8:30 p.m. Car off of the road, no injuries, Southfield
8:40 p.m. Wellbeing check, storm victims, Southfield. Noted numerous areas with trees down blocking roads and on wires. Contacted Highway Department, National Grid and Verizon. Patrol until 11:30 p.m. for storm damage
- Oct. 30 9:15 a.m. Moderated civil dispute, Hartsville
10:45 a.m. Car vs. snow plow accident, Southfield
2:28 p.m. Burglar alarm, Southfield

Until Oct 31: Log entries 412; Motor Vehicle Citations 185. All calls represent active patrol time, with an investigation by the responding officer. Outcomes of many of the calls have been omitted to save space, with the exception of arrests and filing of criminal charges.

If residents have concerns about calls and would like more information, they may stop by the station on Monday nights from 6:30-9:30 for additional details

Log entries represent an officer's interaction with the public—either as a call for service/assistance, or an officer's initiation of an investigation. □

COUNCIL ON AGING

On Saturday, October 22, at the Southfield Ladies Aid Hall, thirty-eight seniors were treated to a luncheon by the New Marlborough Council on Aging. The guest speaker was Mrs. Candace Marks, SHINE representative for New Marlborough. (SHINE, an acronym for Serving the Health Information Needs of Elders, is a state-funded program using trained volunteer counselors.) She presented timely information on medical insurance choices, and is available to help seniors make those choices. She can be reached by calling 229-3038.

Seniors were reminded that the Southern Berkshire Elderly Transportation Company, which is supported by the Town, will provide transportation to doctors, dentists,



Candace Marks

hospital tests, banks, and grocery stores. (Appointments needed: call 528-4773.) They were also reminded of the Wellness Swim at Kilpatrick Center on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 11:00 a.m. until noon. Seniors in need of fuel assistance should contact CONSTRUCT at 528-1985 to make an appointment with Ms. Jamie McCormick, who comes to South County on Thursdays, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. The New Marlborough Council on Aging was invited to the Fall Festival Concert and luncheon at Monument Mountain Regional High School held on Tuesday, November 15, and the Council expressed its gratitude to the Southfield church for providing the hall for the luncheon, and to Mrs. Marks, who was generous with her time and expertise. □

reported and photo by Prudence Spaulding,

Neighbors



Longtime Mill River resident **Domenic Broggi** passed away on November 2. He was an electrician for nearly forty years, and was active in various community organizations such as Our Lady of the Valley Church in Sheffield and the Knights of Columbus. He was a volunteer fireman with the New Marlborough Fire Department, and a member of the Harold Rood American Legion Post #350. His fellow Legion member, **Marty Love**, recalled that “Dom” was a good cook, and was the mainstay in producing dinners at the Legion Hall over many years. “He enjoyed doing all those suppers,” said Marty, “and we’ll sure miss him.” Legion colleague **Butch Consolini** also remembered the regular chicken and polenta dinners, and noted that after card tournaments, Dom would prepare a roast beef dinner for the participants. He was a Legion member for thirty-five years, and served on its Board of Directors. Butch observed, “He did a lot of stuff that nobody knew about. He was an awfully good man.”

Susie Hardcastle died on November 2 after a battle with cancer. She was surrounded by family and friends. Here are some of their memories of Susie.



Ann Getsinger: Susie and I started the Meeting House Gallery together about thirteen years ago, brought together by a common vision of turning the space into a creative meetinghouse where all were welcomed and artistic freedom was encouraged. Getting it started was all-consuming and we sometimes banged heads over the details, but always ended up laughing and full of respect for each other. Like many exceptionally interesting people, Susie had contrasting ways of being that were simultaneously true. She could be social and private, determined and flexible, wildly funny and also serious.

As an artist Susie was the real thing. Teaching and encouraging young people was a priority, while self-promotion and career-building were practically off her radar. She felt things strongly and created her own elegant visual language that had more in common with aboriginal cultures than with Western tradition. The sensual flow to her lines and forms reflected a physical connection to the natural world and its primal patterning, its plant and animal forms. In clay, on fabric, or in prints and paintings, she applied her discipline and skills, heart and mind, to express and share her distinct vision.

Jane Burke: Susie helped to make Flying Cloud Summer Program a treasured experience for hundreds of budding artists. For twenty-three summers she would pull up to the barn each morning, her van overflowing with waste wood from Berk Marchione’s shop and great odds and ends scavenged from the dump, fresh raw materials for the children’s adored sculptures. All day long a cacophony of shouts for Susie’s help would keep her in constant motion as she thoughtfully catered to the creative whims of each child. Through the apparent chaos, great art was produced. Her willingness to meet young artists at their varying stages of development, and to share their excitement about their discoveries, made her a role model for the other artists who joined the faculty over the years.

Every child looked forward to the opportunity to do silk screening with Susie. This tradition began when Susie told me it would not cost too much because Berk could make some screen frames for a bargain price. They were huge and sturdy, a pile of thirty of them for ten students to use. Susie figured out how to replace silk with cheap curtain material and drove an hour to purchase it. Next she was off to Sheffield with the half-gallon plastic pickle containers she got from The Deli to get free inks donated by Dek Tillet Designs. The night before the start of the workshop each year, Susie would install herself in the barn, spending hours stretching and stapling the fabric across the screens. The next night she was back in the barn again with her acrylic paint and squeegee to coat the screens after the children had made their wax designs on them. And, yes, the next night she was back yet again to take all thirty of the screens home to wash the wax off of them with hot water in her bath tub! (After she clogged her septic system with the wax, this part of the process was refined!) There are now many, many Flying Cloud tee-shirts decorated with wonderful designs she coaxed out of the children, and all will be treasured reminders of how Susie shared her passion and dedication to art so generously.

Neighbors, continued

David Lowman: In 1990, circumstances required that Susie physically move her house about fifty feet. This was financially impossible for her, but her grace and innate loveliness brought out the generosity of this community. In a very short time, contributions of labor, materials, and money were assembled to accomplish that move, and to allow Susie to remain in New Marlborough. That's the kind of community we're fortunate to be a part of. And that's the kind of warm and loving woman Susie was. We will miss her terribly.

And, in a related neighborly way, **Susan Engel** of Mill River built an email list of more than forty of Susie's friends to keep them abreast of events throughout Susie's illness. Because of her efforts, Susie's friends were able to know how they could help – and when to stay away.

Asa Hardcastle: Every time I walk into the woods. I am thinking of my aunt, hearing her voice, feeling her passion for the outdoors. She is a part of me. Susie is in my earliest memories, and has been ever-present in my life. Growing up, my brother and I went for many long adventures with her to Thousand Acre Swamp. I can still feel my boots stomping in the mud puddles on Hotchkiss Road as we made our way to our secret entrance. We would sing most of the way. "Row, row, row your boat," or anything else. She would tell us stories, and we would tell her everything that was going on in our lives, and she would always listen. On the way, we found berries to eat, and a new way to wander through some part of the New Marlborough woods. Finally at the edge of the swamp, Evan and I would be tossing sticks and rocks as far as we could into the water. We would climb over and around everything, exploring, digging, and moving logs. Tall and beautiful, Susie would laugh and play, making the woods magic and safe.

Jake Levin: Susie and I started working together closely when I was in middle school. I was very unhappy at school and my mom asked Susie if she would be willing to work with me once a week. Susie would pick me up on Thursday nights in her minivan and we would drive over to her studio at the Eggenbergers' old dairy barn. In the dead of winter we would be in there, wearing three or four layers, making art, listening to NPR, and laughing. Susie was always the optimist, looking at the bright side of life, while I was a cynical and angry adolescent. She taught me the most valuable lessons I have learned as an artist (and for life in general): slow down, mistakes are happy accidents, challenges make things better, and follow through with a line. Everything makes me think of Susie. She was my best friend.



The Old Inn on the Green has been named the Number One Historic Inn in New England by *Yankee Magazine* in its November/December issue. Earlier this year, *Yankee* highlighted the **Southfield Store** as having the Best General Store Brunch. Congratulations to owners **Peter Platt and Meredith Kennard!**

Neighbors is compiled by Barbara Lowman:
deeuell@yahoo.com

Pause

For now
The work is done
For a moment
Duty is fulfilled
Demands fade away
Stowed and stilled
Put the papers down
Don't pick up the phone
Raise the latch on the door
Walk away from the clutter
Turn away from the din
Smile for no reason
Step into the sun

-Nick Hardcastle

WINTER HOUSE CONCERT

The fourteenth season of the New Marlborough Winter House Concert Series will begin on Sunday, January 15 (Martin Luther King Weekend), with a program played by the esteemed and venerable Renaissance Band, Calliope. The concert will take place in the beautiful parlor at Mepal Manor.

A second concert is yet to be determined. Concerts, which last an hour, start at 4:00 p.m. and are sponsored by the New Marlborough Village Association. For information and reservations call 413-229-2785 or check the website, www.newmarlborough.org. □



Renaissance Band, Calliope.

reported by Lucy Bardo

HOLIDAY FAIR- Many Hands Make Light Work

The New Marlborough Central School ushers in the holiday season with its Annual Holiday Fair, on Saturday, December 3, from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. There will be caroling, and Santa Claus, of course, as well as gifts handmade by parents and children. The Holiday Fair brings everyone together on the first Saturday in December, but it also brings parents and teachers together weeks before in planning the event. The Silent Auction, organized for the last five years by Sabrina Ruggiero, is the Fair's largest single source of financial support to the school. Auction items in the past have run from the practical (a cordless drill) to the fantastic (a bear-hunting trip in Alaska). Some of the most heated bidding wars go for services that fairgoers already plan to purchase (septic pumping! fuel and oil!) and often ending at reduced prices, all of which benefits the school children directly. Brian Mikesell, of Mill River, mentioned winning the services of a landscaper who contacted him many months after the Fair to honor the proposed job. Brian was so pleased with both the initiative and the work that he was able to spread a good word for the landscaper. In true community and holiday spirit, participating in the Fair is a benefit to all. There will also be opportunities to bid on paintings by local artists, an evening of music by a professional jazz pianist, gift certificates for the farmers market and a local ukelele shop ~ the array is quite dazzling and diverse.

Each teacher also turns his or her classroom into an elfy workshop to produce variations on the lanyard-and-macaroni angel theme—homemade ornaments and other treasures abound that even the steeliest Scrooge couldn't pass up. The Holiday Fair is also a source for Christmas trees of very high quality coming from Justamere Farm in the Berkshires. Parents are also making evergreen wreaths and garlands to sell, using locally cut greens. If you'd like to time your visit to the Fair, here are some of the events to plan around:

Silent Auction -10:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Live music in the Café -10:00 a.m.-12 noon

Santa Claus! -11:00 a.m.-12 noon

Caroling with Ms. Petty -12 noon -12:30 p.m.

Live music with Zack Cross -12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.

Family photographs (with or without Santa)- all day

Hot dogs, hamburgers, corn chowder-until they run out!

Children's "Make and Take" - all day

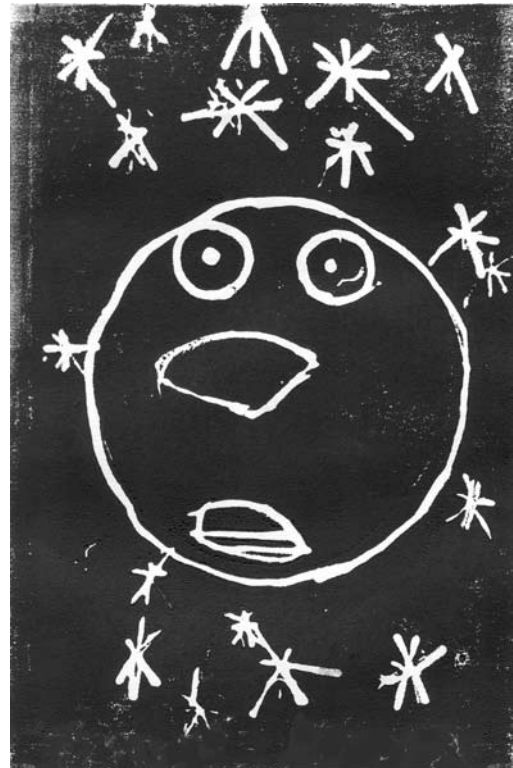
reported by Kenzie Fields

HOLIDAY FAIR

NEW MARLBOROUGH CENTRAL SCHOOL
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3RD, FROM 10AM -3PM

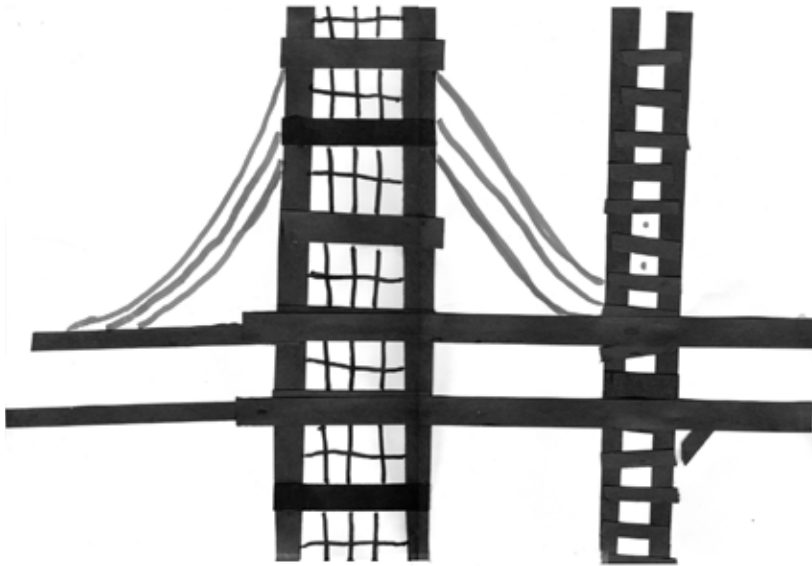
*gifts handmade by school children,
christmas trees, evergreen wreaths,
bake sale, maple syrup, beeswax candles,
holiday gifts made by parents,
children's make and take and penny auction,
Papa dogs (and hamburgers!), corn chowder & more*

*Plus, the ever famous silent auction,
caroling, and Santa.*



Art work from the New Marlborough Central School students

We read about building bridges, skyscrapers, and dams. The stories taught us about the feelings of the workers and their families.



The Golden Gate Bridge was built in 1933 to 1937



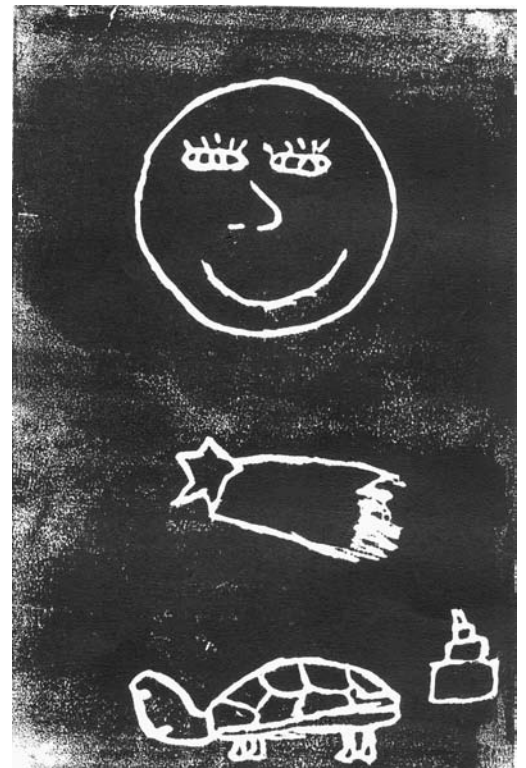
The Empire State Building was built in 1931-1937.

These moon prints, one to the right and one to the left, were made by Tom Master's 3rd-4th graders at New Marlborough Central. Mr. Masters and Spanish teacher Christine Martin collaborated to create a Mayan play entitled Doña Luna, which combined science, art, drama, and language arts, along with Spanish language and cultural lessons.



Students performing in a Thanksgiving play on November 22 in the Town Hall. For another photo see page 17.

Photo by Kenzie Fields



A STIRRING HAMLET

Each fall the Mount Everett community is touched by the genius of William Shakespeare through their participation in Shakespeare & Company's Fall Festival. This year, thirty six students participated in some aspect of bringing *Hamlet* to life at the Consolati Performing Arts Center on November 11 and 12. Many in the cast and crew had been part of this process for years, some for as many as six different plays over their time at the school. The professionalism and talent they brought to the production was remarkable.

This outstanding performance of *Hamlet* was led by skilled Shakespeare & Company mentors who led cast and crew through all aspects of mounting the play. Directors Carmen Mandley and Adam Maldonado established an atmosphere of trust and respect. They inspired the students to be courageous educationally, artistically, and personally.

The fourteen-member student technical crew was guided by Kevin Harvell, Mike Pfeiffer, and Peggy Walsh. The students assisted with lighting, costumes, music, and backstage management. Their efforts resulted in a very smooth performance that moved quickly through the entire ninety-minute show. Music, composed by Kyle Carson of Hartsville, was seamlessly woven into the performance by twelve student musicians.

There were many familiar faces in the twenty-five-member

acting ensemble. For some it was their first time in the Festival after years of performing in the elementary school productions. For others it was a return to a favorite artistic experience. To a person, they all delivered their lines with conviction and insight. The three actors who shared the role of Hamlet were so in tune with each other that they remarkably became one character. In many scenes all three were on stage together, each taking parts of a speech. In others they spoke the lines together as a chorus. Their performances were riveting.



From left to right are: Jesse Smerechniak, Samantha Twing, Zach Shepard, Anna James, and Kristen Wolfe. Photo by Jennifer Abbott

In this dark play of betrayal and death there were some humorous moments. Rosencrantz and Guildenstern were portrayed by Kyle Carson and Catherine Twing of Hartsville. Both actors brought their skill and sense of fun to their roles so that these characters came

alive. Samantha Twing played Lucianus, an invented character. She met the choreographic challenges with grace and projected her character with maturity.

After the performance, members of the audience mingled in the lobby, waiting to congratulate the actors as they emerged. Everyone was filled with emotion from the power of the students' performances. Their *Hamlet* reminded everyone what heights young people can reach if given the means and the opportunity. □

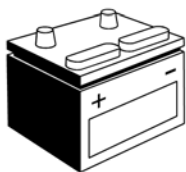
reported by Jane Burke

Batteries

Why should we be concerned about battery disposal?

Batteries may contain toxic metals such as mercury and cadmium. If batteries which contain these metals end up in incinerators, the metals are released into the air and from there can contaminate lakes and drinking water. If the batteries end up in landfills, the heavy metals can leach out into groundwater. Long term exposure to cadmium can cause liver and lung disease. Mercury can cause damage to the human brain, spinal system, kidneys and liver and has been linked to developmental and learning disabilities. Consumers can help protect themselves and the environment by properly disposing of all types of batteries (see chart).

Since 1994, most types of alkaline batteries no longer contain mercury, and can be disposed of in the trash.



What's the difference between batteries?

Type of Battery:	Common Uses:	Recycling/Disposal:
Button	Hearing aides, watches, cameras, calculators, paging devices	Return to point of purchase (save receipt) or save for recycling
Alkaline	9-volt, D, C, AA, AAA	Dispose of in trash.
Rechargeable	Appliances, power tools, camcorders, radios, cellular phones	Recharge, then recycle or save for town hazardous waste collection days.
Lithium	AA, C, 9-volt, found in computers and cameras.	Save for town hazardous waste collection days.

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OUR WILD LIFE NEIGHBORS

Ed Harvey of Mill River writes: I took two great hikes in the area of Thousand Acre Swamp on Monday, November 7, and Tuesday November 8, and did a good deal of exploring the foundations out near Mill Pond and East Indies Pond. There was very little wildlife activity until the sun was below the horizon on Monday; then a **beaver** swam by and a **few hundred Canada geese** noisily landed on the water. I also heard a barred owl sound off, but never found out from exactly where. Tuesday, a few chipmunks were the highlight of the day, with tracks of beavers, deer and maybe some coyote tracks – blurry in the still six-inch-deep snow – near Wolf Swamp.



Charlie Parton of New Marlborough Village writes: Most of today [November 2] we have been watching a **mink** fishing in our pond. It's such fun to watch him slide down the snow bank and dive into the pond, come out, shake himself off, and run back to his home under the cap-stone

to our waterfall. Great! Of course we'll have no fish left, but that's the price of the ticket.

Laura Endacott of Mill River writes: The most unusual sighting I have seen since the Hayes Hill dam coming down was the largest **snapping turtle** that I have ever seen in my life – approximately four feet – right off my back porch. The turtle probably lived above the dam before Irene.

Mary Richie Smith writes: In the dim light of early evening, I was driving along the Konkapot to Mill River when – what ever is this in the road? It was a few days after Halloween. Was this someone still playing scarecrow?

The face – all I could see was the face – was big, very big, rectangular, the shape of a shoe box. The gaze was direct, amiable. And this individual was big! From his height, and the shape of his head, he must be afflicted with gigantism. I had, long ago, in another country, known such a person.

Wait! It was a moose. The first I had ever seen. With party-hat antlers and elegant breech-clad legs.

I identify with animals, feel one with them, and so give them human attributes. But they aren't supposed to know this. They certainly aren't supposed to make their human attributes visible. And in the form of a face!

I was both charmed and alarmed. I wasn't sure I wanted to have my secret fantasies not only known but projected. I swung wide around the moose and kept going.

So out of fear I missed whatever he might have wanted to say. □

Compiled by Jon Swan

Falls Prevention Program

A Free Educational Series Offered by Berkshire Visiting Nurse Association

Falling poses a great threat to the independence and health of adults ages sixty-five and older. Falls are often preventable through strengthening and balance training, education, and improving home safety. The Berkshire VNA will be presenting a falls prevention program in collaboration with "Strength in Numbers," a falls prevention program from the VNA and Hospice of Cooley Dickinson.

The Berkshire VNA in cooperation with the Great Barrington Senior Center would like to invite you to participate in an educational series of six Falls Prevention sessions at the Claire Teague Senior Center in Great Barrington.

Berkshire VNA physical and occupational therapists will lead sessions once a week for six weeks on determining your own risk of falling, strengthening exercises, balance activities, managing your own medications, visual concerns, and home safety recommendations. Practical items such as strengthening devices, medication organizers, and visual aides will be distributed to series participants.

Please contact Rebecca Tillinghast at the Claire Teague Senior Center in Great Barrington if you are interested in participating in this program. There is a limit of twenty participants. The anticipated start date is after January 2012. Call for details: 413 528 1881. □



THE COOKIE FACTORY



The result of Cornelia Webster's efforts.
Photo taken in 1998, from a family album

Creating gift tins of holiday cookies for friends and family conjures up charming images of warmth, love, and wonderful scents. For Cornelia Webster, of Adsit Crosby Road, this has become a twenty-one-year-old tradition that by now borders on legend. The hominess is tempered with the precise organization necessary for a project of this scope. As she says, "Sometimes you just have to be that way to achieve the result you want." When that result is two dozen tins and more than ninety dozen cookies, this is crucial. After compiling these figures, she cried, "I need to lie down and take a nap *right now!*"

Cornelia has lists going back to 1990: lists of recipients, lists of cookies, lists of what was baked on each day, and lists of favorite cookies of various friends. Surprisingly, Cornelia doesn't have old family recipes, since her mother didn't especially like to bake, but she loves using her grandmother's eighty-year-old green bowl. Her recipes come from traditional sources like the *Fannie Farmer Boston Cooking School Cookbook* and *The Joy of Cooking*, as well as



Cornelia Webster at work in her kitchen. photo by Barbara Lowman

from Martha Stewart.

The assembly line takes over the kitchen around December 17, and lasts for five or six days. Although Cornelia used to do all her mixing and kneading by hand, in 1993 her family presented her with a large stand mixer that has become a central and time-saving feature of the production. In addition to her lists documenting each year's activity, Cornelia saves the wrappers of each stick of butter. She uses them to grease the cookie sheets, and counts them at the end. Last year she used thirteen pounds of butter! And, of course, there is a "House Box" for those cookies that are less than perfect.

The recipe to the right is an all-time favorite from the *Fannie Farmer Boston Cooking School Cookbook*. □

reported by Barbara Lowman

Coffee Cookies

Butter a cookie sheet. Set the oven at 350 degrees. Cream together until very light:

- ½ c. shortening
- 2/3 c. sugar
- 2 Tbsp. instant coffee

Add:

- 1 egg, slightly beaten
- ¾ c. flour
- ¼ tsp. salt
- ½ tsp. vanilla
- ½ c. chopped nuts

Mix well. Put on the cookie sheet by teaspoonfuls. Bake until edges are firm and the tops dry (about 12 minutes). Remove from the tin immediately. Makes 36.



Parents and friends of the New Marlborough Central School watch the Thanksgiving re-enactment at the Town Hall, photo by Kenzie Fields

New Acquisitions at the Library

Adult Fiction

The Litigators, by John Grisham
The Best of Me, by Nicholas Sparks
The Battle of the Crater, by Newt Gingrich and William Forstchen
Zero Day, by David Baldacci
The Next Always, by Nora Roberts
House of Silk: A Sherlock Holmes Novel, by Anthony Horowitz
Prince of Ravenscar: A Sherbrooke Novel, by Catherine Coulter

Adult Nonfiction

Part Wild: One Woman's Journey with a Creature Caught Between the Worlds of Wolves and Dogs, by Ceiridwen Terrill
The Orchard: A Memoir, by Theresa Weir
Shucked: Life on A New England Oyster Farm, by Erin Byers Murray
Eating Well One-Pot Meals: Easy, Healthy Recipes for 100+ Delicious Dinners, by Jessie Price

Children's Fiction

Neville, by G. Brian Karas
The Jewel Fish of Karnak, by Graeme Base
Son of Neptune, Rick Riordan
Cabin Fever, Jeff Kinney
Inheritance, by Christopher Paolini

Marcel The Shell With Shoes On: Things About Me, by Jenny Slate
Stuck, by Oliver Jeffers
Home for Christmas, by Jan Brett

Children's Nonfiction

Swirl By Swirl: Spirals in Nature, by Joyce Sidman
How the Dinosaur Got to the Museum, by Jessie Hartland
Treasury of Greek Mythology: Classic Stories of Gods, Goddesses, Heroes, and Monsters, by Donna Jo Napoli

DISCUSSION GROUP AT THE NEW MARLBOROUGH TOWN LIBRARY

Please join us Saturday January 14 at 10:00 a.m. for coffee, bagels, and a lively book discussion. Our book will be *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, by Mark Haddon. Stop in and pick up your copy today. For more information contact the library at 229-6668.

Notice: The Library will close December 30 at 5:00 p.m. and will not reopen until January 3 at 1:30 p.m. This is due to a state-wide computer program upgrade called Evergreen. We regret any inconvenience this may cause. The new system will help us to provide better library services for our patrons. Please check the library's web page for news and updates regarding Evergreen.

www.newmarlboroughlibrary.org



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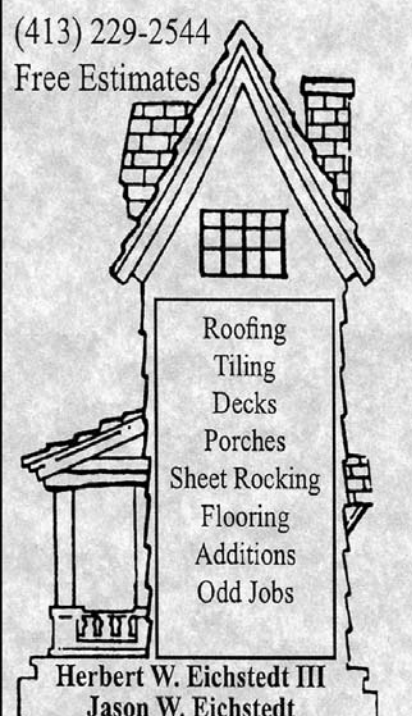
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Please fill in the form and send with your contribution to:
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NM5VN Editorial Team

Jon Swan, issue editor; Marianne Swan, layout;
 Pam Stebbins, Debra Herman, Kenzie Fields,
 Jane Burke, Charlie Parton, Larry Burke,
 David Lowman, Martha Bryan, Joe Poindexter,
 Peter Schuyten, Barbara Lowman, Diane Swartz,
 Contributing writers: Janice Boults, Laura Endacott,
 Ann Getsinger, Mary Richie Smith, and Tara White.

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 All copy must be submitted no later than July 15.
 For advertising, contact: Barbara Lowman, tel: 229-2369
 PO Box 243, Southfield, MA 01259
5villagenews@gmail.com

Town Times:

- * **Board of Selectmen:** Every Monday at 6:30 p.m.
- * **Planning Board:** First and third Wednesday at 7 p.m.
- * **Board of Health:** First Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.
- * **Conservation Commission:** Saturday at 10 a.m.
- * **Board of Assessors:** Monday through Thursday 9a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
- * **Fire Department training:** Every Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the Fire Station
- * **Building Inspector:** Monday 5 - 7 p.m. Wednesday 8 - 10 a.m.
- * **First Responders:** meeting/training: First and third Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the Fire Station
- * **Cultural Council:** Second Thursday at 4:15 p.m.
- * **Town Treasurer:** Wednesday 3:30 p.m. - 6 p.m. and Saturday 8 a.m. - 10 a.m.
- * **Tax Collector:** Monday - Thursday, 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
- * **Selectmen's Administrative Secretary:** Monday - Friday 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- * **Dog and Animal Control Officer:** John Springstube 232-7038
- * **Town Clerk:** 229-8278 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays; Saturday by appointment
- * **Town Hall:** 229-8116
- * **Police:** business office: 229-8161

Emergency calls: Police, Fire, and Medical: 911

Transfer Station hours:

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 Saturday: 10 a.m.- 4 p.m.
 Sunday: 10 a.m.- 2 p.m.

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 ENVELOPE

New Marlborough Highway Department

Located on Mill River-Southfield Rd.
 Hours: Monday - Friday 7:a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
 PO Box 99, Mill River, MA 01244
 (413) 229-8165

SERVICE SECTOR

- ◆ **Alexandra's House:** Help for second homeowners with renovations, organizing, decorating, moving and staging to sell. Call 413-528-6169. Info@AlexandrasHouseServices.com
 - ◆ **Benchmark Real Estate:** Nancy Kalodner, Broker/Owner. Offering New Marlborough the finest professional real estate services for over 25 years. Call 528-9595
 - ◆ **Berkshire Environmental Research Center (BERC):** Thomas Coote. Lake & pond management, wetland delineation, ecological research, rare/invasive species assessment. 413-644-4509. tcoote@simons-rock.edu
 - ◆ **Berkshire Geo-Technologies:** Civil engineering – perc testing, septic designs, wetland permitting, residential & commercial site design, structural evaluation & design. Located in Monterey. Please call 413-429-4888
 - ◆ **Campbell Falls Carpentry:** Licensed contracting and building. Custom cabinetry and built-ins. Design and planning help on small- to medium-size projects. Call Tony at 413-229-6097.
 - ◆ **Cale's Pet Care:** Pet sitting, dog walking, small farm care. Experienced, caring, and reliable. Call Cale James at 229-2271
 - ◆ **Corashire Realty:** Serving New Marlborough for 40 years. Let experience, knowledge, and personal attention work for you. 528-0014
 - ◆ **Design+Planning:** Christopher Blair; Since 1986, creative, budget aware design. Achieve your goals for additions, alterations to an existing home or new construction. 413- 528-4960. christopher.f.blair@verizon.net.
 - ◆ **James Edelman:** General Contractor, Real Estate Sales. Best Results. Construction License #090773. Home Improvement Registration #152035. Real Estate Sales License #9086247. 413-528-0006 or cljvedelman@aol.com
 - ◆ **Fine Jewelry:** Designers and manufacturers; custom orders/commissions welcome; expert repairs. 45 years experience. Sachs Reisman, Inc. 25 Maple Ave., Sheffield 229-0050
 - ◆ **Firewood!** Split for you and delivered. Call Jim 229-6030
 - ◆ **KMB House Checking Unlimited:** Committed to outperforming my competitors by providing a thorough, reliable, and individualized property management and house checking service. Kristopher Balestro 413-429-7094
 - ◆ **Land of Nod Winery:** 99 Lower Rd., East Canaan CT 860-824-5225 Come try our new chocolate raspberry dessert wine! www.landofnodwinery.com
 - ◆ **Mac's Custom Installations:** Licensed contractor #CS81431; kitchen and bath design. Ceramic tile and stone installation, specializing in custom shower pans. Call Mac: 413-442-9674
 - ◆ **Pat Nurse:** Monterey. Youth patchwork quilts and American Girl doll dresses. 644-9530
 - ◆ **Mill River Knifewright:** Custom designed, One-Of-A-Kind kitchen, hunting and fishing knives. Repairs, sharpening. Drop off and pick up: Mill River Store or call John Manikowski: 229-2905
 - ◆ **Picture Framing:** Over 30 years experience, archival materials, large selection of mouldings and mats, free local delivery. Call for appointment, Ann Getsinger 229-2119
 - ◆ **Quality Painting Services:** Beautifying Homes in the Berkshires. Offering interior/exterior painting, staining, sheetrock repair. Pressure washing decks. Contractor registration #147903. Len Mandile 413.269.8948
 - ◆ **Reiner White:** General Contractor; 413-229-8450
 - ◆ **Southfield Fitness Training:** Certified and insured. Private and group physical exercise in your home or mine. Call Cassie 229-6030
 - ◆ **Susan M. Smith:** Attorney At Law; Concentrating in the areas of Estate Planning, Estate Administration, Elder Law, Real Estate and Zoning Matters. ssmithlaw@hughes.net or 229-7080
- To list your business here, contact Barbara Lowman 229-2369.