



New Marlborough 5 Village News

VOL XI
NO 9
January 2011



Clayton • Hartsville • Mill River • New Marlborough • Southfield

Happy New Year!

THE JUNGLE BOOK: AN ENTHRALLING PERFORMANCE

reviewed by Jane Burke

The Southern Berkshire Regional School District's theater department presented the musical *The Jungle Book* at Consolati Performing Arts Center on December 4 and 5. One might not expect to be thrilled by a sixty-minute performance of children from grades three through five, but this viewer was enthralled by every aspect of the show. Artistic director Travis Daly brought together an outstanding professional crew - imaginative set design by Michael Brahce, excellent lighting by Jaime Davidson, effective audio by Darren O'Brien, and beautiful costumes by Amanda Sewall. Brielle Hart's direction and choreography enabled the cast members to fully embody their characters and deliver endearing performances. With musical direction from Courtney English, supported by accompanist Hilda-Banks Shapiro, the young thespians sang with clarity and conviction. Taken as a whole, it was excellent theater and a testament to the Southern Berkshire Regional School community's dedication to theater as a valuable experience for young people.

Two of the most outstanding actors were New Marlborough residents: Lily Duvall as Baloo and Olivia Marchione as Kaa the snake and a vulture. Olivia also designed the artwork shown on this page which was used for the publicity poster. See below Olivia's comments about being in the play. □

Olivia's Comments

For the last seven weeks I worked on *The Jungle Book* at Undermountain Elementary. In the *Jungle Book* I learned more about theater and made some new friends. I had an exhausting rehearsal schedule every afternoon Monday to Friday and I worked for many hours on the poster for the show. Practicing every day was not so bad except when nobody concentrated!

We started by learning the music for the biggest numbers. Courtney English taught us music and Hilda Banks-Shapiro played the piano, while Brielle Hart, our director, taught us the dances. During the week before the show, also known as tech week, we got to try on our costumes, which were made by Amanda Sewall. I had three costumes that I had to learn to change into fast, but when the whole show was put together everything worked out fine. All the hard work was worth it because the audiences clapped and laughed for both of the two performances. □



design by Olivia Marchione

THE NEW EMERGENCY SERVICES BUILDING OPEN HOUSE

Sunday January 30, 2011

2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

The New Marlborough Township Volunteer Fire Company is pleased to announce that it will be holding an open house for the new Emergency Services Building on Sunday, January 30, between 2:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

The actual construction and completion of the building has been nothing short of miraculous. Through every stage of the process the individuals, organizations, and companies involved have offered their valuable services, labors, equipment, materials, and expertise at no or at a substantially discounted cost. The work has been swift, professional, and first-rate. The building has been completed ahead of schedule, under budget, and at a fraction of the cost of a comparable commercial structure. Thank you to all of the following:

Andrus Power Solutions - Lee	Mount Everett Landscaping and Construction Inc. - New Marlborough
Barry Architects - Pittsfield	National Grid
Pete's Paving Services Inc. - Sheffield	The New Marlborough Emergency Services Fund
Canton Well Drilling - Torrington, CT	The New Marlborough Fire Department
MT Cavanaugh Inc. - Sheffield	Northern Foundations Inc. - Dalton
Century Acquisitions - Berkshires and CT	O'Connor Bros. Gravel Inc. - East Canaan
Herbert and Jeanine Coyne - Southfield	Louis J. Oggiani, Attorney, Great Barrington
Home Advancements LLC - Barkhamsted, CT	E. Osterman (Propane) Inc. - Lee
Charles Loring Excavating - New Marlborough	Pittsfield Communications Inc. - Pittsfield
Deland Steel - Ashley Falls	Bruce Poor - New Marlborough
Doorcraft - South Hadley	Todd Riiska Property Services - New Marlborough
East Hill Services - New Marlborough	S and A Supply Inc. - Great Barrington
Frederick Friedman - Southfield	Salisbury Bank
Granby Fire Department - Granby, MA	Soil Tech Inc. - Great Barrington
Ed Herrington Inc. - Hillsdale, NY	Torrington Overhead Door Co. - Torrington, CT
Konkapot Property Services - Mill River	Tri-Point Stone Inc - New Marlborough
Lapointe - Winsted, CT	United Concrete Products - Yalesville, CT
C. A. Lindell and Son Inc. - Canaan	Valley Roll Off - Lee
Lindell Fuels - Canaan	Joe Wilkinson and Sons Excavating Inc. - Sheffield
Scott Mackenzie Excavating - New Marlborough	Windemere Lake Corporation - Southfield
Mill River General Store	

Last, but certainly not least, to the townspeople of New Marlborough who through their kind, generous, and continuing donations, through this decade and into the future, have made this entire project possible. □

*reported by Robert Scott
Past president, New Marlborough Fire Company*

CURTIS INSURANCE AGENCY

Serving Mass. and
Conn.
For 60 years

Office: 860 • 824 • 7327
Res: 413 • 229 • 2966

Paul Koneazny
Certified Insurance Counselor

49 MAIN ST. • P.O. BOX 748
CANAAN, CT 06018

Berkshire Environmental Research Center

Environmental Management in the Berkshires since 1985

- ◆ Lake, Pond, and Fisheries Management
- ◆ Wetland Delineation and Restoration
- ◆ Ecological Research and Education

www.berkshireecology.org

Thomas Coote, Director: 413-644-4509
tcoote@simons-rock.edu

ASSESSMENT 101

What Makes for Value in New Marlborough

One theory about armoires in Colonial homes traces their proliferation to the fact that the Crown taxed closets as if they were rooms. The armoire hung clothes tax-free. New Marlborough does not tax closets, but, in a complex effort to arrive at property values, it does tax, among other things, lakefronts and views. Here, as we brace ourselves for the arrival of next year's property tax bills, is a brief guide as to how your property is valued for tax purposes.

The basic guideline is the market: the amount a willing buyer would offer a willing seller in an unconstrained transfer ~ a sale, that is, that is not influenced by a bankruptcy or a foreclosure or a sweetheart deal between, say, siblings. This method depends on a sufficient number of sales to provide benchmarks for most of a town's property. With the sluggish market of the past two years, however, the Board of Assessors (currently Marsha Pshenishny, chair, Wendy Miller, secretary, and Fred Friedman) has had to go back to sales activity in 2009 to establish basic values.

No two properties are exactly alike, and, even with a quantity of sales data, establishing value can be a complex process. In Massachusetts, each town's assessor must be certified, a requirement met by Ms. Pshenishny, New Marlborough's assessor for the past twenty-eight years, by attending a ten-week course at Berkshire Community College in Pittsfield. Due to the complex requirements imposed by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue, however, most municipalities contract with outside consultants. Since 2003, the Town has utilized the assessment software and valuation services of the South Hadley firm of pkValuation Group.

Land and houses are evaluated separately. One-acre building lots in New Marlborough are presently evaluated

at \$66,900, says Paul Kapinos, president of pkValuation Group, unless it is within one of the five villages (see map for village boundaries), in which case the value is increased by 30 percent. Excess size, as it is called, is assessed at \$5,400 each for the first fifty acres, \$1,800 for next fifty, and \$1,400 for each acre over 100.

Two other factors figure in to the value of your land. A view, says Mr. Kapinos, adds about 50 percent; access to a waterfront, which in New Marlborough means either Lake Buel or Windemere (rivers and ponds don't count), increases the lot value by a factor of six. A quarter-acre lot on Lake Buel, for example, would be assessed at \$100,350. Because it has self-imposed five-acre zoning, Windemere, a lakeside sub-development on East Hill Road, has relatively higher values that are isolated from the averages in the rest of town.

Assessing the value of houses introduces another set of complexities. Beyond size, the basic criteria, says Mr. Kapinos, "are style, age, and condition." At the top of the style chart would be a well-preserved antique farmhouse. But if the house is new, the newer the more valuable. As to condition, Mr. Kapinos looks to such items as an upgraded kitchen or bath, new plumbing and heating, new roofing, siding, or windows.

Personal property is taxed in second homes, but not in primary residences.

Assessment criteria are not dreamed up by the assessors. They are, as Ms. Pshenishny emphasizes, what the market tells us about the value of a property in New Marlborough. Many homeowners, she says are reluctant to let the assessor into their houses. But they should. "Most of the time when we get in, we find things that are over-assessed," says Ms. Pshenishny. This assumes that you have not just refinished your basement, an amenity that would probably go unrecorded by the other inspection method, the drive-by. □


reported by Joe Poindexter



Unique products to help you attract and feed wild birds or to help you create a beautiful birdscaped backyard habitat.

783 South Main Street
Great Barrington, MA
Phone: 413-644-9007
www.wild-birdstore.com

Residential
Commercial



Shane M. Oates
Owner

Phone/Fax: 413-229-0055
Cell: 413-329-1470

TOWN BUSINESS

Is Your Business

Board of Selectmen

November 22: At 6:45 p.m. the three selectmen – Chuck Loring, Larry Davis III, and Tara White – opened a hearing for the classification of real estate and personal property taxes. The assessors had voted to recommend that the Town continue its policy of having a single tax rate as there were no significant business properties to warrant a separate tax class. Assessor Marsha Pshenishny stated that **estimated property values were \$461,000,000 at this time and that the tax dollars generated by new growth had fallen from nearly \$69,000 in 2008, \$60,000 in 2009, and \$48,000 in 2010 to \$25,000 for the next year.** She will have firm figures and send the Recap form to the Department of Revenue next week. Final approval is expected within ten to twelve days. A motion was made by Tara White to approve the report and it was so voted.

Following the hearing, School Committee Chairman Herb Abelow reported that the financial figures for the proposed revised Berkshire Regional School District agreement will be soon delivered to the selectmen.

November 29: All three members were present to hear **Bob Litchfield, chairman of the First Responders, present their thanks to the Selectmen and to Administrative Assistant Mike Skorput for their cooperation in the purchase of the new ambulance.** At that moment it arrived in the Town Hall parking lot with lights flashing and Ed Harvey at the wheel. Mr. Harvey and Mr. Litchfield invited the selectmen and visitors to step outside to see the ambulance and its state-of-the-art equipment.

Police Chief Scott Farrell and Highway Supervisor Peter Marks described their **plans for resolving a parking problem at the New Marlborough Central School.** A split-rail fence will be moved in from the roadside to allow curbside parking for several cars without impinging on the right-of-way passage for through cars. The area will be covered with gravel. The selectmen supported the proposal.

Selectman Loring reported that **a cell-phone company has expressed interest in placing towers in New Marlborough at cost.** Each tower will be leased first to ATT and later to other providers. The company is studying the area to see how many towers will be needed for the most extensive coverage and where they might be located. Mr. Loring explained that, in light of the fact that the Town has no available land for such usage, privately owned sites would presumably be leased to the installing company. He added that **a Town bylaw exists that spells out details regarding the siting of cell towers. Copies can be obtained from the town clerk's office information table to the right of the**



entrance hall.

December 6: A brief meeting of the Board was held prior to the Special Town Meeting (*see below*) so that the selectmen could finalize the warrants. The Special Town Meeting then began at 7:00 p.m., with all selectmen present. Selectman Loring reported that the Recap forms had been sent to the DOR and the Town is on time with the schedule for establishing the tax rate for FY2011. **The taxes will be due May 1, 2011.** The three selectmen adjourned their meeting to attend the Town meeting in the Great Hall for a one-hour question-and-answer period on the debates surrounding the revised Southern Berkshire School District agreement.

December 13: A brief meeting was held with all three members present on a cold and snowy evening. Selectman Loring opened the meeting with **a report on the Hatchery Road project.** The grant request for \$86,000 was approved by the Natural Resources Division of the U.S. Department of Agriculture with a 220-day project limit. The terms of the grant require the Town to contribute 25 percent the total amount either in cash or in-kind use of supplies and or equipment. The project grant is for stabilizing the bank of the Konkapot River as it comes by. The rebuilding and resurfacing of the roadway and the replacement of guard rails must be done by the Town at its expense. It is possible because of the time of year and waterway restrictions, complicated by permit processing that an extension of time will be required, a not unexpected issue in such programs. This should not be any problem. It is likely that the project will not be completed until after the current May one deadline. It is also probable that the initial surfacing of the roadway will be oil and gravel followed the following year by asphalt.

James Mullen, chair of the Planning Board, asked that the selectmen approve a grant application to the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission for technical assistance in the implementation of the Comprehensive Town Plan. The selectmen were all in favor and, on a motion by Selectman White, Chairman Chuck Loring signed the grant request.

Informational Meeting and

Special Town Meeting on December 6

An initial gathering of twenty-nine persons swelled to more than eighty within the hour. Included were Michael Singleton, superintendent of the Berkshire Regional School District; Andrew Federoff, a District School Committee member appointed to be a facilitator providing information and answers to the committee drafting the revised agreement; and Catherine Miller, Charles McSpirtt, and Chairman Herbert Abelow, of the District School Committee.

Ms. Miller stated that the District School Committee is

made up of a representative of each of the towns and all are elected by all voters of the district of five towns. She emphasized the fact that the committee represented the children of all towns in the district, and she **reminded the audience that section three of the Agreement considered opening a new school as well as the option of closing a school.** Because the district's mission is to educate all the students, it is in the interest of each town that the district be empowered with financial viability for its needs.

Superintendent Singleton pointed out that the Regional School District has a stellar reputation in the commonwealth, and that **more children "choice-in" than "choice-out" of the district.**

Mr. Abelow, for his part, emphasized that the District School Committee has not considered closing the New Marlborough Central School, adding that the superintendent has indicated there is even consideration of providing physical improvements to the school.

Kay Jaffe wanted to know "to what degree do the School Committee members make their decisions on the basis of their town's interests." Mr. Abelow replied that decisions are based on the best interests of the district as a whole. Ben Harms asked, **"If there is no talk of closing a school, why change the policy?"** Mr. Abelow replied that, as economic conditions, populations, and other factors change within a district over the years, a situation might arise that could require such action; meanwhile, the committee that wrote the revised agreement wanted to place high hurdles to ensure careful consideration and fair procedures to answer the question.

Paul Marcel stated that he had been a member of the District School Committee in the past and that many meetings had been rancorous and that discussion of closing the Monterey and Egremont schools had been cut off. Bruce Turner of the Egremont School Committee denied that talk had been suppressed.

Jane Burke stated that many things change over time and that in the future it may be necessary to make sacrifices in order that the most children get the best education possible. This agreement, she said, provides the many procedural steps to provide a safe and fair method of decision making.

continued on next page

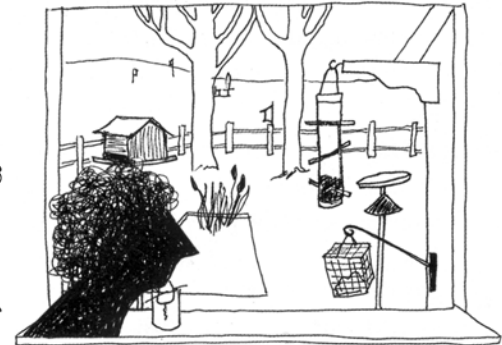
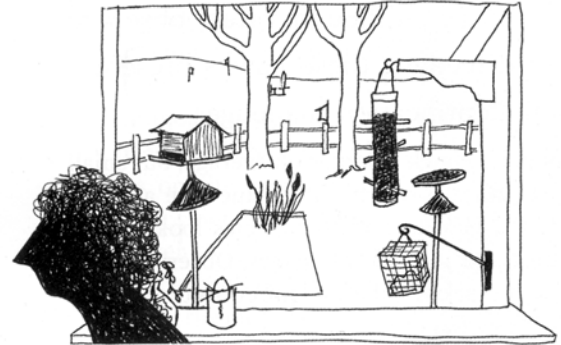
PIANO INSTRUCTION

It's time to embrace the joy that music brings. Make that decision and let me help you bring the gift of song back into your life.

All ages and levels

David Johnson 229-0488

Robin Tost's cartoon, showing what happens when bird watchers are not looking at their feeders: CornellLab of Ornithology's Winter Bird Highlights



David Hastings pointed out that the Southern Berkshire Regional School couldn't physically take in all the students of the district town schools. Peter Scala followed up by asking how it could be that a school built to accommodate 1,500 students couldn't take in more than the 870 presently enrolled.

Superintendent Singleton replied that when the school was built it met the state requirements but in the late 1990s there was a great influx of special needs students which, in turn, required many support areas. In addition a pre-school program was instituted. Finally, as Mr. Abelow pointed out, the initial school design did not provide for the many laboratory spaces that are currently required.

Mr. Friedman asked what would the impact on students would be if the agreement was voted down. Charles McSpiritt explained that it would be much more difficult to raise capital for the system. A major component of the agreement, he said, provides for the raising and appropriations of funding for educating our children. Dave Herrick said that the new agreement will provide a significant decrease in New Marlborough's costs, amounting to several thousand dollars of savings that had been imposed on New Marlborough by the previous agreement's unfair distribution of costs.

Jennifer Nacht, a member of the New Marlborough PTA, requested stronger language to protect the interests of parents in New Marlborough from the conditions of section three of the revised regional district agreement. (Ms. Nacht subsequently circulated a petition seeking a reversion to the original agreement, which says that an existing school can be closed only if the voters in the town in which the school is located give their approval.) Mr. Federoff answered that the revision committee had discussed that issue many times over the past nine months and had put in the strongest possible protective hurdles. In speaking for the district, Bill Garrett pointed out that the New Marlborough student body of seventy-five is made up thirty-eight students from the town and the others are "choice-in" from other district towns. Barbara Marchione called for leaving section three as it is for now and revising it in the future. There was no further discussion of this suggestion.

Responding to a questioner who asked about the criteria for closing a school, Selectman Larry Davis, who sat on the revision committee for nine months, answered that the District School Committee has no criteria for closing schools. Former Selectman Daniel Litchfield wondered what the benefits were to the town. Mr. Abelow replied that if the agreement failed there would be no school budget for the year and that control would revert to the State Department of Education. In all likelihood, he said, there would be strong pressure to revert to a statewide district and loss of any local control. Moderator David Lowman closed the discussion session and, after a five-minute break, opened the Special Town Meeting with two warrant items. *see sidebar*

A motion was made to reverse the order of the warrants.

It was moved, seconded, and passed with no discussion. Article Two asked whether the Town would be willing to withdraw \$5,000 from available funds in the Perpetual Care Fund to serve as the Town's share of a State Cemetery Preservation Council grant, for the purpose of preserving the oldest cemetery in the Town of New Marlborough and considered by many to be the oldest active cemetery in Berkshire County. The grant applicant is the New Marlborough Historical Society... An administrative motion was made by Town Accountant Tara White to amend the motion to read: from the Perpetual Care Interest account. The motion was seconded and the vote in favor was unanimous.

A motion was made by Selectman White and seconded for discussion to approve the Revised School District Agreement. Ms. Marchione moved to amend the previous motion to eliminate section three regarding the method of closing town schools in the district. The motion to amend was seconded and Jane Burke asked if a citizen who was not a member of the school committee could make a motion to amend a school committee agreement. Town Counsel Jeremiah Pollard was asked for his opinion. He began by telling the audience that he represented all the towns in the School District. In his opinion, there would be no value to such a motion because it would have no standing in the School Committee, but if the Town wished to bring it to a vote they could. Daniel Litchfield encouraged taking a vote because it could send a message to the School Committee. **The amendment was voted down by hand count of a majority of voters: 43 yea to 28 nays.**

The vote on Article one was taken by ballot count among registered and certified voters. The count was 47 yea to 36 nays from 83 voters. The School Committee Agreement as revised was approved and the meeting declared adjourned by Mr. Lowman. □

reported by Charlie Parton

Editor's note: A group of Egremont citizens has challenged the legitimacy of New Marlborough's Special Town Meeting on the ground that it failed to include on its warrant the group's amendment to the restatement of the school district agreement. This amendment, already voted down in Egremont, would restore the language in Section 3 of the original agreement regarding the closing of schools..

LEISURE POOLS

DESIGN • CONSTRUCTION • SERVICE

Pools • Spas • Saunas

789 So. Main Street
Great Barrington, MA 01230

Tel: {413} 528 • 1765
Fax: {413} 528 • 3039

www.leisurepools.net

Goewey Painting Services

Impeccable References
Fully Insured

Interior / Exterior Painting
Pressure Washing
Residential & Commercial

Your need is our job, no matter the size.

goeweyservices@hotmail.com

413-229-2787  413-717-2817



Webster Ingersoll

FINE GARDENS • STONEMWORK • TREE CARE
PLANT HEALTH CARE

Design • Installation • Maintenance • Pest and Invasive Species Management
Accredited Organic Land Care Professionals • MA Certified and CT Licensed Arborists
Serving the Berkshire-Taconic Regions of MA, CT and NY

Sheffield, MA www.websteringersoll.com 413-229-8124

Mill River General Store
10 Mill River-Great Barrington Road
Mill River, MA 01244 David E. Herrick

Wi-Fi Now Available

Daily Newspapers
Deli * Homemade Muffins * Lunch
Snacks * Breads * Coffee * Donuts * Pastries
Full Liquor
any item maybe specially ordered

Tel. 229-2663 Fax 229-2753

Let Us Build for You

Mill River Builders

Renovation
All New Construction
Contracting

413
229-7728

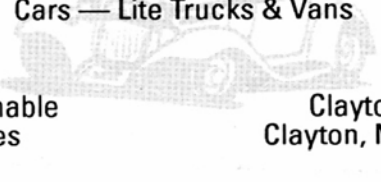
Licensed & Insured HIC #109858



(413) 229-3508 Bill Goewey, Prop.

B.G. REPAIRS
Quality Repairs on
Cars — Lite Trucks & Vans

Reasonable Rates Clayton Rd.
Clayton, MA 01259



Chuck Loring Excavating

91 Main Road
New Marlborough, MA 01230
413-528-6618

Septic Systems
Driveways
Site Clearing & New Home



Reiner White & Sons, Inc.

General Contractor

147 Mill River/Southfield Rd
Southfield, MA 01259-0420
Telephone 413-229-8450

MA Lic #20390 CT Lic #4485
MA HIC #137599 CT HIC #578070

Barnbrook

Mary White
Broker Owner

www.BarnbrookRealty.com

271 Main Street
Great Barrington MA 01230
Mary@BarnbrookRealty.com

(413) 528-4423
FAX (413) 528-4727

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

December 7: The meeting convened in the assessor's office for a change, with all three members present- Ned Wilson, John Weinstein and Tom Coote.

The only scheduled hearing for the evening started at 7:15 p.m. Mike Parsons of Kelly, Granger and Parsons presented a Request for Determination (RDA) for Ann Louise Henegan of Lakeside Road on Lake Buel. Mr. Parsons explained that the scope of work was twofold: removing an existing basketball court and paving the existing driveway.

After some discussion, the Commission agreed that the removal of the basketball court would be a net improvement by converting an impervious surface to a pervious one. The paving of the driveway was evaluated separately. The new pavement would top the existing paved drive and continue over what is now gravel. The Commission agreed that the work would not alter the resource area (Lake Buel) and that in a sense there would be a net reduction of impervious surfaces which would lessen any runoff toward the lake. The project was given a negative determination (meaning that permit was accepted) by unanimous vote from the members.

Next, the minutes from last month's meeting were read and accepted with some minor corrections. The mail was reviewed and several conservation newsletters were circulated. Mr. Wilson then made a motion to make John Weinstein co-chair of the Commission. The motion was second and, by unanimous agreement, Ned Wilson and John Weinstein became co-chairs.

Finally, Martha Bryan, wearing her hat as co-chair of the New Marlborough Land Trust, came before the Commission to review the approved Notice of Intent (NOI) permit for the construction of a footbridge at the Thousand Acre Swamp. Ms. Bryan explained that an engineer who had been hired to ensure proper construction and safety standards required that four concrete piers be poured to anchor the suspension wires rather than the originally proposed helical anchors. The Commission noted that the piers were all hand dug and greater than twenty-five feet from the bank, resulting in only a minimal shift from the original permit that had been approved. The Commission filed the stamped drawings from the engineer and agreed that a new permit was not necessary.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m. □

reported by Martha Bryan

THE PLANNING BOARD

November 17: The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. with the following present: J. James Mullen, Patricia Hardyman, Holly Morse, Amy Kacala from the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission, and Elizabeth Olenbush representing the New Marlborough Green Community Steering Committee.

The minutes from the October 20 meeting were read and approved. A quorum was not present for the November 1 meeting, which was accordingly cancelled.

The Board's secretary, Tara White, advised the Board that there are balances left in two grants amounting to \$2,000 that could be used for ongoing projects. Ms. Hardyman will review and submit the FY2012 budget to the Board for review.

Wayne Feiden from the Highlands Community, who provided technical assistance for the drafting of sub-division bylaws, has agreed to assist the Board in preparations for a public hearing on the updated bylaws to be scheduled after the first of the year.

Mr. Mullen will apply for the District Local Technical Assistance (DLTA) grant, which is due to the BRPC by December 15. If received, this money could be used for land-use and village-centers implementation of the Comprehensive Plan.

The Board received a copy of a letter sent to architect Diego Gutierrez from Building Inspector Thomas Carmody regarding the change to a multi-use for the Buggy Whip Factory in Southfield. The letter stated that the proposed creation of three residential units within the existing building envelope was denied due to various Massachusetts Building Code issues. This was disturbing to the Board as part of the Comprehensive Plan encourages mixing of uses in village centers and the adaptive re-use of land and structures such as the Buggy Whip Factory. The denial appears to also conflict with the Commonwealth's ten Principles of Sustainability.

The Board reviewed with Amy Kacala and Elizabeth Olenbush the Green Community Action Plan for the town. This draft plan covers the following criteria and the discussions for and against them that were discussed at previous Planning Board meetings: Criterion 1: As-of-Right Siting; Criterion 2: Expedited Permitting; Criterion 3: Energy Use Baseline Inventory and Reduction Plan; Criterion 4: Policy to Purchase Only Fuel Efficient Vehicles; and Criterion 5: Minimize Life-Cycle Costs of New Construction (stretch code). There was also discussion that the town may not meet all of these required criteria to become a "green community," but that does not mean that there were no other alternatives that could be addressed to make homes or businesses "green" on a smaller scale which residents could implement themselves. The document will be updated and reviewed again at the next Planning Board meeting.

With all business concluded, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m. □

Editor's note: Holly Morse, our valued editorial team member who has covered the Planning Board for the past year, has taken a leave of absence. Until a replacement can be found, the minutes of the Board's meetings will appear in this column. We thank the Board's secretary, Tara White, for providing the approved minutes at the earliest possible opportunity.

THE NEW SIGNATURE QUILT

Your Name Can Go Down in Stitchery

You may have noticed the 1915 Southfield Ladies Aid Society Signature Quilt that is on exhibit at our town library. Realizing this quilt will soon be 100 years old, and remembering all the interest visitors had reading the names sewn into it when it was the centerpiece of a quilt exhibit at the Meeting House in 2002, a small group of quilters and embroiderers has begun planning a similar type quilt to record the names of full-time and weekend residents living in the five villages today.

The project has been fully funded by a generous grant from the New Marlborough Cultural Council. Work will begin in the weeks ahead, and from time to time you may find us at the library, needle and thread in hand.

We hope everyone will participate and submit individual and family names to be included in this new quilt. No fee will be charged. There will be a box at the Library for you to submit your names, or they can be sent to Barbara Kelly, PO Box 305, Southfield, MA 01259-0305. To be sure we record your names accurately, please print them and include your telephone number in case we need to

contact you.

At the same time, however we would like to take this opportunity to raise money to help the Historical Society safeguard and protect all the memories of our town, past, present and future. So for those who can, we ask that you make a donation, large or small. Donations can be sent to The New Marlborough Historical Society, PO Box 338, Southfield, MA 01259. Please note the word "Quilt" in the memo portion of your check.

Anyone in the community with embroidery and/or quilting experience who would like to join in the work - either for the full project or for whatever limited time is available - will be most welcome.

As work progresses on the quilt, it would be fascinating to learn about quilts that are in the community now - owned or collected, covering beds, stored in attics, put away in trunks, or on shelves in closets - and any known history of the quilts. Perhaps if a collection can be established, the quilts can be put on exhibit, along with the new signature quilt when it is completed.

For questions about joining in the work or to pass on information about existing quilts, please call Barbara Kelly at 413-229-3126. □

reported by Barbara Kelly

NEW MARLBOROUGH WINTER

House Concerts Schedule

The thirteenth season of the New Marlborough Winter House Concerts will commence on Sunday, January 16, (Martin Luther King Weekend) at Mepal Manor.

The artists for this concert are Yuki Numata, violin, and Joshua Roman, cello, both emerging young soloists with a passion for chamber music and new music.

Yuki, a native of Vancouver, Canada, works in New York now with the American Contemporary Music Ensemble (ACME) and the String Orchestra of New York (SONYC).

She has a special interest in composers of her own generation, a concept that may be unusual to many in her audiences, but certainly would not have been in the time of Beethoven. She has performed as soloist with many orchestras including the Tanglewood Music Center Orchestra, the New World Symphony and the Univerity at Buffalo Slee Sinfonietta.

Described by the San Francisco *Chronicle* as a "cellist of extraordinary technical and musical gifts," Joshua Roman has also been dubbed 'a classical rock star.' He has earned a national reputation as a performer of a wide range of repertoire, including chamber music, the newest of new music, and experimental hip-hop. He has appeared as soloist with many orchestras, as well as being appointed principal cellist of the Seattle Symphony at age twenty-

two.

These exciting young artists will offer a program of music by Handel-Halvorsen, Ravel, and Theofanidis.

All of the Winter House Concerts begin at 4:00 p.m. and last an hour, with wine and hors d'oeuvres served afterwards. Seating is limited so please make reservations in advance at 413-229-2785 or at www.newmarlborough.org. This concert will be the only one offered this season □

reported by Lucy Bardo

THANKS TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS!

Eric Katzman & Melissa Elstein; Priscilla J. Beers;
Joan & Dick Hulett; Jean Travis;
Antonia & Jack Grumbach; Jim & Leni Herzog;
Robert F. Ovitt; Mary & Walter Simons;
Robin Tost; Bev, Dan, & Robert Litchfield;
Michael & Meta Levi; Joe Krejci; Julia Chretien;
Edith MacGuire; Leon & Connie Sussman;
Brian & Patricia Killeen; Bruce & Barbara Bean;
Ron & Sharon Bassett; Miladeen Wyman;
Lynn & John Williams; Ned Goodnow;
Laurence & Virginia Chipurnoi;
Ben Harms & Lucy Bardo;
and Andrea Marks & David Warmflash

NEIGHBORS

*Eleanor VanDeusen

Longtime New Marlborough resident **Eleanor VanDeusen** passed away on December 6 at the age of seventy-eight. She and her husband of sixty-one years, David, ran VanDeusen Custom Upholstery for thirty years on the Clayton Mill River Road. She was a member of Old Parish Church in Sheffield, and of the Old Parish Quilters. Two of their four sons still reside in New Marlborough: **Ronald VanDeusen** of Crossroad to Canaan Valley Road, and **Tim VanDeusen** of Clayton Mill River Road.

* Jon Swan,

reading from his new collection of poems, *Landscape & Language*, at the Geoffrey Young Gallery in Great Barrington, on December 11.



photo by Martha Bryan



photo by Rebecka McDougall

* Roy Blount, Jr.,

signing copies of his new book, *Hail! Hail! Euphoria! Presenting The Marx Brothers in Duck Soup, The Greatest War Movie Ever Made*, at the Lenox Library, on December 12.

* Feathered Friends

On December 16, a hoary redpoll visited the Partons' back-deck thistle feeder in New Marlborough village. Pale, almost white, with a red poll, a red blush on its chest, and a white patch on the base of the tail, the bird, at home in the high Arctic, is a rare winter visitor to southern Canada and the Northeast. Also in mid-December, a red-breasted nuthatch ~ a stubby little bird that weighs only 0.35 ounces ~ checked out Celia June's bird feeder in Clayton. The Cornell Lab of Ornithology gives a nice description of their call: "Their excitable yank-yank calls sound like tiny tin horns being honked in the treetops."

* Dr. Marc Boult,

son of Janice and Chris Boult of Southfield, graduated on December 10 from the University of Saint Augustine for Health Sciences in Florida. Electing to take a difficult and accelerated program, Marc completed the equivalent of eight years of college in six and a half, earning a doctorate in physical therapy. Marc was a 2004 graduate of Mount Everett Regional High School and continued his undergraduate education at the University of Tampa, pursuing a bachelor of science in athletic training. He was enrolled in the Tampa's Ambassador Program, preparing early for his intense studies at Saint Augustine.

Congratulations Marc!



photo by Wally Deane Jr.

* Moose: Our New Neighbors

Increasingly, townspeople are seeing moose. They are our new neighbors. Dave Herrick saw a bull moose walking up Main Street in Mill River in late November. In early December, a full-grown cow moose and a two-year-old cow moose were seen wandering around Hadsell Street. Jim and Cassie Keeley spotted a lone moose twice on Foley Hill Road. Ed Harvey saw a moose ~ perhaps the same one ~ on the long Clayton cornfield. Teresa Eichstedt, driving down the Clayton Mill River Road, almost bumped into the animal. It was alone and limping and walking quite slowly, just shambling alone. Wally Deane, Jr., took photos and a film clip of the moose. (The clip can be seen on U tube; see below.) The moose wandered down to the state line and into Connecticut.

Among the people keeping an eye on the moose was Environmental Police Officer Melissa Hamm. When the animal crossed the state line, Officer Hamm notified that state's Department of Environmental Protection. "That was the end of my involvement with her," she said.

Rumor had it that the moose had found her way down to the Allyndale section of North Canaan, where there is a large limestone plant. The man who picked up the phone there said that, yes, a young cow moose had been wandering around the area for a couple of days, but had not been seen since. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wXIT650vLMQ> Wildlife officials urge people to keep their distance from wild animals, even if the animal seems harmless and does not back away.

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



photo by Anne O'Connor

POSTSCRIPT ON HAITI

by Anne O'Connor

Editor's note: In the December issue of the 5 Village News, Charlie Parton provided an introduction to an e-mail message Anne O'Connor's had sent him shortly after her arrival in Haiti, where she had volunteered to work as an art conservator in the devastated country. We encouraged Anne, now back home in New Marlborough, to write at more length about her experience there and the conditions in which Haitians live nearly a year after the quake.

The January 12 earthquake in Haiti claimed over 300,000 lives and destroyed over 200,000 buildings. Much of the country's artwork and cultural artifacts were severely damaged in the collapse of the museums and historic sites. In May, Haitian government officials met with representatives from the Smithsonian Institution, the U.S. committee of the Blue Shield, the American Institute for the Conservation of Historic Works (AIC), and others, to tour the damaged sites and create the Haiti Cultural Recovery Project.

One of the first steps was to find a structurally sound building to be used as a base for the project. A former UN development building in Port-au-Prince was secured, which now houses the Cultural Recovery Center (CRC). The facility consists of administrative offices, art conservation labs, and storage areas.

Paintings make up much of Haiti's artistic heritage and constitute the bulk of artwork damaged in the earthquake. So many buildings were destroyed that storage of artwork is a major issue. The sheer volume of damaged paintings meant that many of the works are stored in shipping containers at the CRC until they can be treated.

The American Institute for the Conservation put out a call asking its professional membership to volunteer to conserve the thousands of damaged paintings. A number of conservators from the US, Canada, and Europe have gone to Haiti for one to two weeks. I volunteered in this effort through the AIC in my capacity as a painting

conservator and went to Haiti in November. The goal is to have a Haitian team trained in technical aspects of painting conservation take over the CRC by late next year.

I spent two weeks in Port-au-Prince working at the CRC with a colleague from Quebec, Marie-Chantale Poisson. She and I treated and stabilized many paintings. Because of the tropical climate and the lack of environmentally controlled storage, mold is a serious concern. Moldy paintings were quarantined from non-moldy works and individually sprayed to inhibit further mold growth. There were so many badly damaged works in need of immediate care that the more time-consuming cosmetic work will be done at a later date.

Most of my time in Haiti was spent working at the Center, but what I did see of the city and some of the countryside was very disturbing. Many charitable groups are doing amazing humanitarian work in Haiti, but it is puzzling that so little reconstruction has been done almost a year after the earthquake. The international community, including the United States, is taking far too long to honor commitments of aid made publicly days after the disaster. Over a million people in Port-au-Prince still live in tents eleven months after the earthquake. There are over 1,300 overcrowded tent camps. The tents are torn and tattered from the searing Caribbean sun. Piles of rubble remain in the street and the most basic infrastructure for sanitation and clean drinking water are not in place. Now a growing cholera epidemic and disputes of fraud in the recent presidential elections have made the situation even more dire.

I felt a sad irony in the amount of resources being directed toward paintings and works of art when the human need is so great. While I continue to struggle with this thought, I was somewhat reassured to hear the Haitians we worked with at the CRC speak of the importance of preserving their cultural heritage for future generations. Many expressed that it was all they have left. □



CORASHIRE
REALTY, INC.

NANCY E. DINAN and DEBORAH D. MIELKE
Broker Broker

70 Corashire Road, Great Barrington, MA 01230

Office: 413-528-0014 or 413-528-1871

FAX: 413-528-4809

www.corashire.com

e-mail: corashire@aol.com

Artists & Artisans

Studio Spaces Available

Charming, Bright & Airy. High Speed Internet.
470 sq.ft @ \$195. per month;
890 sq.ft.@\$295. per month;
1100 sq.ft. @ \$395. per month

Storage Spaces also Available
affordable - safe - secure - climate controlled

call Neuma or Hank at 413 229-7704

SCOTT MacKENZIE EXCAVATING

Excavating
Grading
Driveways
Septic Systems
Land Clearing

(413) 528-2921 TEL • (413) 528-3864 FAX
New Marlborough, MA 01230

Alexandra's HOUSE SERVICES



- Caretaking
- Rental Turn-Over Management
- Help with Renovations
- Professional Organizing
- Moving Services
- Staging to Sell

I'm an ex-New Yorker with a professional background, now living in the Berkshires full-time. Hire me for a substantial project like a renovation or just a few hours for small projects. The initial consultation is free and my rates are affordable. Check out my website!



Alexandra Eidenschenk

413-528-6169
AlexandrasHouseServices.com
info@alexandrashouseservices.com

Campbell Falls Carpentry Fine Building from Frame to Finish 413-229-6097



413-429-7677
Also specializing in: Decks
Additions
Garages
Remodeling
& Creative Accents

Henry Reeve of the Buggy Whip Factory presents

Revolutionary Floor Finishing

- * Half the Cost of Traditional Sanding
- * One Day Service * No Dust * No Fumes

*Dedicated to saving & enriching the patina
of your valuable wood floors*

413 229-7704 www.fixmycountryhome.com

SUSAN M. SMITH Attorney At Law

32 Corser Hill Road
Great Barrington,
Massachusetts 01230

Telephone: (413) 229-7080
Facsimile: (413) 229-7085
Email: ssmithlaw@hughes.net

Precision Autocraft THE ART OF COLLISION REPAIR

High Quality Body Repair & Finishing

- ▶ Complete Collision **413-528-1457**
- ▶ Paint ▶ Glass Services **1-800-734-1457**
- ▶ Laser Frame Measuring
- ▶ Computer Controlled Estimating and Paint Mixing Systems



Rt.7 - 1939 North Main St. • Sheffield, MA

MOUNT EVERETT STUDENTS START SWAG

According to Karissa King, president of SWAG (Students Who Achieve Goodness), students at Mount Everett Middle and High Schools have been inspired by new art teacher Stephanie Graham to start a humanitarian group that allows students to do positive things for others. She knew that the schools were not lacking in opportunities for students to be sensitive to the needs of others. There is the Interact Club, where students participate in the South County Rotary's projects. In SADD, Students Against Destructive Decisions, members focus on discouraging the use of drug and alcohol among students. The GSA, Gay Straight Alliance, promotes tolerance for the differences among the students. All of these clubs are chapters of regional or national student organizations.

The SWAG group is a bit different. Karissa emphasized that this group originated at Mount Everett and is not a chapter of a larger organization. In this group students come up with their own ideas of what constitutes a worthy project that makes sense to the school community. They choose a project, seek funding, plan, and implement the activities themselves.

The group began this academic year with an anti-bullying campaign. This was a modest effort in which members encouraged discussion of the issues of thinking about the feelings of others with students and made posters that called attention to the value of caring about their peers.

Their next project was more ambitious. Ms Graham told them about the Locks of Love foundation and it captured their imagination. They launched their own

project to encourage girls to donate their long hair to this organization, which makes wigs for cancer patients. They applied for and received a grant of \$250 from the Do Something Foundation to hold a Locks-a-thon. This involved a month-long publicity effort to recruit twenty girls to donate hair and to hire a stylist to come in to do the cutting.

On December 2, Ruth Wagner of Mystique Hair Salon set up a hair salon in the Eagles loft. Over the course of the day, she harvested ponytails from twenty-three girls, including two donors from New Marlborough ~ Tara Sullivan and Mackenzie Loring. Since this is a significant donation for teen-aged girls inasmuch as long hair is often a cherished aspect of their self-image, she was careful to create a stylish new look for each girls. The total length of hair donated was 211 inches.

The day was very festive as other students were serving senior citizens at the annual holiday luncheon. Many of the guests for the Senior Luncheon were able to stop in to see the excitement generated by the event. A video of the process has been posted on the Do Something website so everyone can share in the experience. Go to dosomething.org, click on clubs and search for SWAG. The club members are already talking about repeating the hair donation after the girls have had six more months to grow their hair back!

Karissa mentioned that the group is interested in hearing from community members who might need their assistance. She encourages requests, which should be directed to Stephanie Graham their faculty advisor at sgraham@tek2000.net. □

*by Jane Burke from an interview
with Karissa King and Stephanie Graham*



SANTA COMES TO TOWN AGAIN!



After Ben Harms led the carol singing in the Meeting House Gallery, Santa arrived via fire truck and to Ho-ho-ho and hand out candy canes.

Photos by Larry Burke



NEW ACQUISITIONS AT THE NEW MARLBOROUGH LIBRARY

Adult Fiction

Dead or Alive, by Tom Clancy
The Twelfth Imam, by Joel C. Rosenberg
Valley Forge: a Novel, by Newt Gingrich and William Forstchen
Great House: a Novel, by Nicole Krauss

Adult Nonfiction

Louisa May Alcott: A Personal Biography, by Susan Cheever
Atlantic: Great Sea Battles, Heroic Discoveries, Titanic Storms, and a Vast Ocean of a Million Stories, by Simon Winchester
Robbing the Bees: A Biography of Honey, the Sweet Liquid Gold That Seduced the World, by Holley Bishop

Children Fiction

The Boy in The Garden, by Allen Say
The Odious Ogre, by Norton Juster
Ernest, the Moose Who Doesn't Fit, by Catherine Rayner
Old Bear and His Cub, by Olivier Dunrea
Snook Alone, by Marilyn Nelson
Hugless Nelson, by David Melling

Children's Nonfiction

The Secret Cave: Discovering Lascaux, by Emily Arnold McCully

Project Bee has generously donated many new titles to the library's collection. Here are just a few:

DVD - *Vanishing of the Bees*; DVD - *Bees: Tales from the Hive*; *Buzzzzzzzzzz... What Honeybees Do*, by Virginia Wright
Robbing The Bees: A Biography of Honey, the Sweet Liquid Gold That Seduced the World, by Holley Bishop
Show Me the Honey, by Tish Rabe
The Soapmaker's Companion: A Comprehensive Guide with Recipes, Techniques, and Know-How, by Susan Miller Cavitch
The Candlemaker's Companion: A Complete Guide to Rolling, Pouring, Dipping, and Decorating Your Own Candles, by Betty Oppenheimer
The Backyard Beekeeper: An Absolute Beginner's Guide to Keeping Bees in Your Yard and Garden, by Kim Flottum

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP at the library

Please join us Saturday January 22nd at 10am for coffee, bagels and a lively book discussion. Our book will be *Major Pettigrew's Last Stand*, by Helen Simonson.

Stop in and pick up your copy today!

For more information contact the library at 229-6668

Library WINTER HOURS

Tuesdays & Thursdays:
1:30 - 5:30 p.m.

Wednesdays & Saturdays:
10:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Fridays: 1:30 - 7:30 p.m.



DENNIS J. DOWNING

ATTORNEY & COUNSELLOR
AT LAW

17 MAHAIWE ST.
GREAT BARRINGTON, MA 01230

Tel.: (413) 528-5040; Fax: (413) 528-5095
e-mail: downing.law@verizon.net



MEPAL
MANOR + SPA

**GIFT CERTIFICATES
MAKE THE PERFECT
GIFT**

**THE BEST LITTLE SPA
IN THE BERKSHIRES**

**AWARD WINNING MEPAL
413-229-3498**

**NEW MARLBOROUGH, MA
MEPALSPA.COM**

(413) 229-2544
Free Estimates



Contributions are needed to continue the paper!

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

New Marlborough 5 Village News, P.O.Box 243, Southfield, MA 01259

YES, I WANT THE New Marlborough 5 Village News TO CONTINUE!

HERE IS A TAX DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTION OF \$_____ (payable to NM5VN)

NAME _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

We welcome advertisements from businesses owned by New Marlborough residents.

Other businesses can be listed in the Service Sector (see back page). Questions, rates? Call Barbara Lowman; 229-2369

NM5VN Editorial Team

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

New Marlborough 5 Village News appears monthly.

The next issue will be dated February 2011
All copy must be submitted no later than January 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:** Last Tuesday at 7 p.m.
- * **Board of Assessors:** June 1 - Aug.31 Monday through Thursday 7a.m. - noon
- * **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:** Monday- 9 -12 a.m.
- * **Tax Collector:** Monday - Thursday. 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 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
Emergency calls: Police, Fire, and Medical: 911

Transfer Station hours:

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

PERMITS WILL BE DUE ON JULY 1

FEE IS \$80 CAN BE PAID BY MAIL
They are available at
the Town Hall in Mill River

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

New Marlborough 5 Village News
P.O.Box 243, Southfield, MA 01259
e-mail 5villagenews@gmail.com

U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Non-Profit Org.
PERMIT #95
GT. BARRINGTON
MA 01230

CHANGE SERVICE
REQUESTED

SERVICE SECTOR

- ♦ **Absolute Animal Control:** Douglas Faits; Problem animal solutions, wild life removal. MA and CT licensed and insured. 413-562-7907 or 413-237-5550 (cell) WWW.AACWR.COM
- ♦ **Alexandra's House Services:** Home-keeping help for home owners with organization, house projects, contractor liaison work, moving and staging. 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
- ♦ **Campbell Falls Carpentry:** Licensed contracting and building services. 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 cljedelman@aol.com
- ♦ **Garden Maintenance/Consultation:** We'll do the work or help you and show you how; mow the lawn, too. Jon Hipps/Caroline Corbin 528-0818; jonhipps@yahoo.com
- ♦ **Goewey Painting Services:** Interior & exterior painting, window washing, pressure washing, vinyl siding washing, deck and floor refinishing; fully insured; impeccable references. 413-229-2787
- ♦ **JTC and Sons Inc.:** Locally owned and operated residential & commercial waste removal service. Reasonable rates, routes forming immediately. Contact: Jim or Theresa Collingwood Jr. 413-229-3186
- ♦ **Land of Nod Winery:** 99 Lower Rd., East Canaan CT 860-824-5225 Come try our new chocolate raspberry dessert wine! www.landofnodwinery.com
- ♦ **Lori Riiska. CPA LLC:** Accounting and tax preparations -business, individual, partnership, corporations. 860-379-6360 loriwelc@snet.net 16 Union Street, Winsted, CT 06098
- ♦ **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
- ♦ **Lawn Care Plus:** Small bucket & back hoe work, snow plowing, spring clean-up, house watching and odd jobs. Call Jim @ 229-3057
- ♦ **Piano Teaching:** with insight and humor for all ages and levels. David Johnson 229-0488
- ♦ **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
- ♦ **Reiner White:** General Contractor; 413-229-8450
- ♦ **Wild Birds Country Store:** Absolutely everything to enjoy nature and backyard birds. www.wild-birdstore.com 783 Main St., Great Barrington 644-9007
- ♦ **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

To list your business or organization here, contact Barbara Lowman at 229-2369. A listing of up to 25 words, free to advertisers in the current issue, is \$5 per issue or \$50 per year