



# New Marlborough 5 Village News

VOL XI  
NO 12  
April 2011



Clayton • Hartsville • Mill River • New Marlborough • Southfield

## PICKING UP HISTORY: A FAMILY PASSION

by Jon Swan

In the early 1970s, Michael and Maryrose Quenneville, whose property in Sheffield abuts the New Marlborough Town line, saw a man walking, head down, through a cornfield. He was obviously looking for something. The man was a North Canaan resident named John Feathers, of upstate New York American Indian descent. He told the Quennevilles that he was looking for arrowheads, and had been doing so for years. (As he later told this reporter, as soon as he was old enough to get a driver's license, he had driven from Maine to California, searching for arrowheads, but, unfortunately, failed to document exactly where and when he had found them.)

As it happened, Maryrose had recently discovered that her grandmother was a Stockbridge Indian. A long-locked chest opened after the grandmother's death



*Dr. Lucianne Lavin of the Institute for American Indian Studies, and Michael Quenneville. On March 10, Dr. Lavin officially accepted the Quennevilles' large collection of artifacts, including arrowheads, spearheads, and tools, assembled over the past thirty years. The collection will be displayed at the Institute's museum in Washington, Connecticut. Photo by Marianne Swan*

turned out to contain the full regalia of the dress she had worn as a medicine woman. The Quennevilles decided to start looking for arrowheads in the nearby cornfields when the ground was opened up in the spring plowing.

To the north of their property lies the longest cornfield in New Marlborough, and, beyond it, the second-longest, extending up along the Clayton Mill River Road to the bottom of Brewer Hill Road. To the south, below the Connecticut state line, lie other cornfields. To archaeologists, this area is part of Robbins Swamp, a vast flood plain that contains some

of the richest archaeological sites in the Northeast.

Dr. Lucianne Lavin, director of research and collections at the Institute for American Indian Studies, points out that digs near the Institute's headquarters in Washington, Connecticut, revealed a 10,000-year-old Paleo-Indian

*continued on page 2*



### Cautionary Notes for Would-Be Collectors

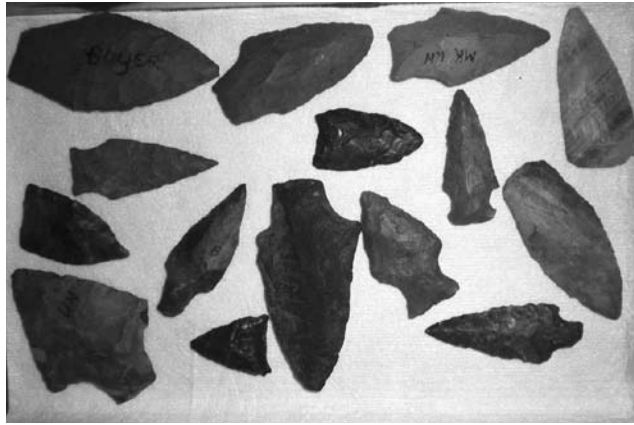
Archaeological sites are fragile, non-renewable resources, and artifact collecting on public property is against the law. Do not go on private land without first obtaining permission. Casual digging by untrained enthusiasts causes significant and irreparable damage to archaeological sites. Training in proper methods of surface collection should be sought through membership in responsible organizations such as the Massachusetts Archaeological Society. Responsible, trained collectors make records of the exact locations of finds, and keep the individually collected material and the location information together so that the information does not become lost or confused. Report discoveries to the Massachusetts Historical Commission <http://www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc/> and make arrangements to preserve collections of artifacts and records in a museum. In case you discover bones, do not touch or disturb them. Notify the state or local police and the regional medical examiner about the discovery and location.

*Editor's note: this text was written in collaboration with the Massachusetts Historical Commission.*

*Picking up History, continued*

camp site. The Quennevilles' collection of Native Indian artifacts – consisting of some 15,000 pieces, the oldest of which has been estimated to be about 7,000 years old – will be permanently housed at the Institute's museum. What sets the Quennevilles' collection apart from those of most other amateur collectors is that, from the start, Michael and Maryrose documented exactly where and when they found each arrowhead, ax head, chopping blade, gouge, hammer stone, drilled stone, and so on. One of the ironies of donating a collection, Michael said, was that it must be professionally assessed before it can be accepted. The assessment cost \$475; the value was set at \$5,500.

The Quennevilles' son, Kenneth, recalls that from the time he was old enough to grip his father's boot, he held on to it, looking backward over the field as his father walked forward, and calling out if his father missed a



*A small fraction of the Quennevilles' collection.  
Photo by Marianne Swan.*

glinting bit of quartz or the sharp edge of flint. When his mother carried him on her back, he had a different perspective, peering down over her head. (Maryrose died in the fall of 2008.)

Kenneth said that during the winter months, his mother would spend hours studying fragments of arrowheads and other artifacts to see if the missing piece was among the boxes in which they

stored their finds. From time to time she would find the missing piece and, Kenneth recalls, when the fit was perfect, there would be "a kind of magnetic click."

The shared passion for roaming the fields and searching for Native Indian artifacts made for a strong family bond. Father and son are eager for this rough winter to be over and for spring and the plow to loosen the soil so they can resume their search for surviving pieces of a once-flourishing civilization. □

## 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](mailto: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



## SUMMER PROGRAMS

# S·M·ART!

## Science Meets ART

*For Ages 5-14*

*2 Sessions*

**June 27 - July 15**

**July 18 - 29**

*Performing Arts*

*Visual Arts*

*Science*

Go to: [flyingcloudinstitute.org](http://flyingcloudinstitute.org)  
for information and registration



## A FISHY CRY FOR HELP Don't Get Hooked!

Have you received an email from Mike Skorput asking for your assistance with an urgent and embarrassing financial problem? Did you consider, even for a moment, wiring money to help him get home from England after he left his wallet and valuables in a taxi?

Perhaps the email struck you as a bit odd. Maybe you were surprised to learn that Mike was abroad. Did the text strike you as sloppy and ungrammatical, a bit like a bad translation from some unknown tongue? But then again, perhaps this is what one would expect in a hastily written cry for help from a man in severe distress?

If you only glanced at the return address you might have presumed that the message came from the New Marlborough Selectmen's email address, NMBdSelectmen@aol.com. A closer look would have revealed a misspelling in the address as there were two l's in selectmen (NMBdSellectmen@aol.com). The full message header shows that the true sender was mystery@mysteryshopperalliance.com. (By default, most email programs show you only a truncated view of the available information on a message's origin but there is typically a mechanism by which you can view the full message header.)

The email purporting to be from Mike Skorput was actually an instance of an e-scam that centers on claims of being stranded. Such emails attempt to trick the recipients into sending money to aid friends or relatives in distress, but the money actually ends up in the hands of internet criminals. You can read more about this category of scam on the FBI web site, <http://www.fbi.gov/scams-safety/e-scams>.

How did the scammer figure out that you were connected to Mike and might consider coming to his aid? Such scams typically begin when the scammer compromises a random webmail account. Once the scammer has learned the password to the account, perhaps by means of what is called a phishing scam attack, the scammer has access to the account's address book. (A phishing email attempts to trick the recipient

into revealing personal information such as an account password.) All it takes for the scam to succeed is for one contact to fall for the ruse and wire money.

How can you avoid being the victim of such a scheme? (Mike thinks the scammers might have used information from his Facebook page to launch this attack.) First, protect your email accounts with secure passwords. Avoid using passwords that are easily guessed. Don't use passwords that are in the dictionary. A secure password should contain a combination of alphabetical and numerical symbols. Special characters such as the ampersand (&) or asterisk (\*), when allowed, will make your password harder to guess. Use mixed case, that is upper and lower case letters. Change your password from time to time, especially if you think there is any chance your account has been compromised.

If you get an email that asks for money or sensitive information, do some checking before you take any action. Internet scammers can be quite clever and convincing, so you need to be wary and skeptical.

If, despite your best efforts, you become the victim of such a scam, report it to the federal government's Internet Crime Complaint Center at [www.IC3.gov](http://www.IC3.gov). □

by Debra Herman

### 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](http://www.berkshireecology.org)

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

### 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

WILD BIRDS



COUNTRY STORE

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](http://www.wild-birdstore.com)

## TOWN BUSINESS Is Your Business

### Board of Selectmen



During the past month there were a number of meeting dates that fell on holidays, snow storms or Special Town Meetings. All regular meetings however, have been reported in the NM5VN.

**March 14:** All three members were present. Selectman Chuck Loring raised the need for at least **two representatives of the Town to attend the Finance Committee meetings of the Southern Berkshire Regional School Committee** to keep abreast of all financial issues discussed, and if allowed, to offer opinions or ask questions appropriate to the discussion. He and Selectman Tara White will attend.

Maureen Hosford and Louise Yohalem, Co-chairs of the New Marlborough Cultural Council, presented the

**winners of the Cultural Council grants for this year.** The grants totaled just over eleven thousand dollars. The majority of the grant funds came from generous donations to the Council by full- and part-time residents of the town. Council members Barbara Lowman, Sheila Fitzpatrick, Owen Hoberman, and Brian Mikesell attended the meeting as a show of the entire Council's pleasure in this year's awards. To mark the twentieth anniversary of the popular Music and More summer series, the New Marlborough Village Association will celebrate Harold Lewin's accomplishment as founding and continuing director of the series by sponsoring the Daedalus String Quartet in a performance on Saturday, August 27, 2011. □

reported by Charlie Parton

## CONSERVATION COMMISSION

**February 22:** Due to a lack of business, members John Weinstein and Ned Wilson met, reviewed the mail,

and called it a night. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 28 at 7 pm. □

reported by Martha Bryan

**LEISURE POOLS**  
DESIGN • CONSTRUCTION • SERVICE

Pools • Spas • Saunas

789 So. Main Street      Tel: {413} 528 • 1765  
Great Barrington, MA 01230      Fax: {413} 528 • 3039

[www.leisurepools.net](http://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](mailto:goeweyservices@hotmail.com)

413-229-2787      413-717-2817

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 Eidenschek

413-528-6169  
[AlexandrasHouseServices.com](http://AlexandrasHouseServices.com)  
[info@alexandrashouseservices.com](mailto:info@alexandrashouseservices.com)

## MARCH 2 SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

Seventy-six citizens turned out at Town Hall to consider the fate of seven articles on the warrant for the Special Town Meeting on Wednesday, March 2. Edgar Zukauskas, serving as Moderator, gaveled the meeting to order shortly after 7:00 p.m., and Article 1, a preliminary procedural article to enable consideration of Article 2, was unanimously passed at 7:06.

Discussion on Article 2 occupied the next half hour or so. The initial reading of the lengthy article, the purpose of which is to create an authority whereby delinquent tax payers may be denied business licenses, elicited a good deal of comment. John Miller categorized the proposed amendment to the Town Bylaws as "too bureaucratic;" Laura Endacott thought it "draconian;" Brad Wagstaff stated his feeling that the stipulation of a business in arrears becoming delinquent at twelve months is too short a time period for the business to react. On the other side of the coin, several citizens, including Bert Imberman and Jane Burke, pointed out that the proposed amendment clearly allows for businesses to file for abatements that would extend the period in which the taxes could be paid up.

Early in the discussion of this article, Owen Hoberman pointed out an apparent typo in the second section of the article. Town Counsel Jeremiah Pollard checked the Massachusetts General Law, and discovered that a whole extended clause had somehow been deleted from the Warrant. His quick-fix solution was to suggest that an amendment be made that would replace all the language of the article, reducing it to: "To see if the Town will vote to adopt the article as published in Massachusetts General Law." This amendment was made, seconded, and approved.

A number of citizens queried the Selectmen as to just what the urgency was that had led them to place this new Bylaw proposal on the Special Town Meeting warrant. Other than Chairman Loring's stating that the Town needs to be able to monitor businesses, no compelling reason was given. Eventually a vote was called, and, by six ballots, the article passed (36-30).

Article 3, which is another proposed amendment to the Town Bylaws, sought to classify the pushing of snow into Town roads as a punishable violation. A motion "to continue indefinitely" was promptly made, and this, Selectman Tara White explained, is the currently preferred phrasing for "tabling." Police Chief Scott Farrell informed the gathering that he and the Selectmen felt there were too many "gray areas," questions as to jurisdiction and enforcement, and so the feeling was that we should not act on this amendment at this time.

An introductory explanation of Article 4, known as the "WiredWest" article, was given by Southfield resident Tim Newman. The vote on this article is the first of two, both needing two-thirds majorities, that will enable the

Town to move forward as one of the charter member towns of the WiredWest cooperative, with the goal of bringing fiber optic connectivity to all homeowners, businesses, and municipal government offices in New Marlborough.

Mr. Newman explained that the strategy for obtaining twenty-first century communications technology was to invoke a very old provision of the General Laws, dating back to the days of rural electrification, allowing any town in the Commonwealth to create its own "municipal lighting plant." Initially created in the 1930s, this provision has been repurposed by municipalities in the 1950s and 1990s, first to create public access television stations, and then to push further into other forms of telecommunications.

A number of questions came up about the availability of DSL (Digital Subscriber Line) currently in New Marlborough. Mr. Newman said Verizon claims that eighty percent of New Marlborough is served, but, whether or not this is accurate, he went on to say that, "DSL is last century's technology." Relying on copper wiring as its vector, DSL is only able to carry signals at a fraction of the speed of fiber optic, and at a much narrower bandwidth.

On questions of cost and financial implications to New Marlborough, Tim Newman stated that WiredWest is not planning to request capitalization funds from the member towns. He did say there was a possibility that, at some later date, the towns joining the WiredWest cooperative may each be asked for a \$1,000 membership fee. To convey the overall goal and financial model of WiredWest, Mr. Newman employed the metaphor of road construction, saying that their aim is "to build the road" and to let internet providers such as Verizon drive on that road, paying tolls for the privilege, thereby funding the construction costs.

As discussion on this article wound to a close, Bill Garrett asked Mr. Newman what he thought the time

*continued on the bottom of page 6*

(413) 229-3508

Bill Goewey, Prop.

**B.G. REPAIRS**

Quality Repairs on  
Cars — Lite Trucks & Vans

Reasonable  
Rates

Clayton Rd.  
Clayton, MA 01259

## THE \$3-MILLION BOND

### *Years of Deferred Maintenance Have Caught up with Our Schools*

What do you get for three million dollars? That was the key question buried in Article 4 of the warrant presented at the March 2 Special Town Meeting. But the article, asking whether the Town wanted to nix an initiative by the Southern Berkshire Regional School District School Committee to borrow \$3 million, arrived with too little time for voters to render an informed decision. Anticipating this problem, however, the School Committee had rescheduled the borrowing to take place at the end of May – allowing the article to be tabled until the Annual Town Meeting, May 2.

While some New Marlborough residents wondered why the bond issue had been launched in apparent haste, the district actually began to consider its needs a year ago with the formation last April of a Long Range Capital Planning Committee for the purpose of developing a five-year plan. Later, the momentum for capital planning shifted to the Buildings, Grounds and Technology Sub-Committee, which asked teachers and administrators throughout the district to itemize specific needs.

Two objectives guided the sub-committee: an aggressive maintenance plan to make up for years of deferred repairs, and a thorough upgrade in technology. “We are currently operating with 1990s technology,” says Charles Flynn, chairman. “I thought we had to get into the 21st century.”

Early this year, Buildings, Grounds and Technology presented preliminary recommendations to the School Committee. Total cost: \$2,803,000 – with \$100,000 designated for Monterey, \$300,000 for Egremont, \$500,000 for New Marlborough and the balance to the main campus in Sheffield. The satellite school projects were aimed mostly at catching up with overdue renovation. Among those at New Marlborough Central: pointing and relining the chimney, repairing outside stairs and replacing the doors at both entrances, replacing the hot water tank and the heat circulators, upgrading wiring and the kitchen, and about a dozen other projects.

Of the \$1.9 million earmarked for the Mt. Everett/Undermountain campus, \$150,000 would go to installing air conditioning, \$200,000 for repairing and replacing carpeting, \$150,000 for new tennis courts, \$150,000 to repair or replace the track, and \$110,000 to replace a nine-year-old Ford F350 and a fifteen-year-old Deere tractor. Capital expenses include \$88,500 to upgrade equipment in the food service department and \$208,100 to renovate the elementary school theater. The largest expenditure, \$514,000 in all, would go for technology equipment: 300 desktop computers, 75 notebooks or laptops, 20 printers, 100 flat-screen TVs, and a total of \$145,000 to enhance the on-campus communications network.

At its January 27 meeting, the School Committee authorized the District to issue a bond for \$3 million to pay for these projects and spread their cost over the term of the bond. A preliminary analysis based on the current list of projects foresees a ten- to twelve-year bond with an annual carrying cost of \$378,000 – or slightly less than the \$400,000 the School Committee believes should be invested in yearly maintenance. “It’s going to cost taxpayers a few more dollars,” says Mr. Flynn, “but we have to maintain our schools. For families choosing where to move, schools are the single most important factor.”

State law stipulates that the loan cannot be taken before sixty days after the boards of selectmen in each of the district’s towns are apprised of it and further that the application be withdrawn if one or more of the towns rejects it within that period. Thus the somewhat awkward wording of the article in New Marlborough’s March 2 warrant, asking voters if they “disapproved” of the issuance of a \$3-million bond. The question was made moot when it was tabled until the Annual Town Meeting. □

*reported by Joe Poindexter*

---

#### *Special Town Meeting, continued*

frame for implementation of the fiber optic “road” might be; Tim hazarded the guess of four years. The vote was taken, with seventy in favor and six against, easily passing the two-thirds requirement, and setting up a second vote on the same subject at the Annual Town Meeting in May.

Article 5, authorizing steps to repair and preserve gravestones in the New Marlborough Village cemetery, passed unanimously.

As for Article 6, dealing with the Town’s right to disapprove of a School Committee decision to borrow

\$3,000,000 for school building repairs, Nat Yohalem proposed an amendment to “vote to continue” this matter to the Annual Town Meeting. He explained that the School Committee had amended its original vote so that the five member towns would be able to put the question on their warrants for all the annual town meetings. The amendment to continue was unanimously approved, as was Article 7, to transfer \$1,750 from the Police Chief Salary Account to the Police Officers Salary Account.

The meeting was over at 8:15p.m. □

*reported by Larry Burke*

## SCHOOL BUDGET PREVIEW

The school budget-setting process was concluded on March 16 with the unanimous vote of the School Committee to adopt the FY 2012 Southern Berkshire Regional School District Budget. This marked the end of a months-long effort on the part of teachers and administrators to be as economical as possible without cutting programs or shortchanging the students.

Along the way, the Finance Subcommittee of the School Committee met with selectmen from the five towns to discuss the fiscal challenges brought on by the slow economic recovery. These conversations helped to clarify the positions of the towns and provided an opportunity for the District needs to be heard.

The budget overall is up 4.14 percent from last year. Expenses like medical insurance, special education programs, fuel, and transportation all increase annually and are beyond the control of the District. This number was based on the assumption that the state reimbursement for transportation, the Chapter 70

funds, and the pot hole grants are likely to decrease from last year's amounts. Unfortunately, none of the actual numbers will be available from the state until after the Annual Town Meeting.

As a result of the adoption by the five towns of a new Regional Agreement in 2010, this year is the transitional year in calculating the assessments by town. For FY12, Alford assessments are down 5.51 percent, while all other towns will be up: Egremont +2.67 percent, Monterey +3.20 percent, New Marlborough +5.87 percent, and Sheffield +4.96 percent. These assessments are derived from a State Statutory Formula that includes such criteria as a town's ten-year rolling average student enrollment, the property value, and the wealth.

Much is being asked of schools to help special needs students and to prepare all students for the workforce. In a small district like Southern Berkshire, this is an expensive undertaking. □

*by Jane Burke*

## TO THE RESIDENTS OF NEW MARLBOROUGH

The Board of Selectmen has recently heard that there is a possibility that funding for the Hatchery Road project may be cut in the upcoming federal budget. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) are looking at a reduction in their budget of \$86 million.

Hatchery Road, which connects New Marlborough to Monterey, was damaged by flooding near the U.S. Fish Hatchery back in 2005. Since that time, the Town and the USDA/NRCS and numerous other state and federal agencies have been trying to obtain the funding that would be needed to make the repairs. In 2008, engineers for the Town deemed the road unsafe and it has been closed ever since.

Last year, Berkshire Engineering was hired by the Town to review the project and get a new cost estimate. At the same time, the Town was in contact with USDA and NRCS and was assured that the funding for this project was available. Berkshire Engineering is currently in the permitting stage of this project and we expected that the repairs would begin this spring.

If the Town is to keep this project alive, we are asking that you call or write Senator John Kerry and Senator Scott Brown letting them know how important this project is to our community and what the funding cuts to the USDA could mean to our Town.

You can reach Senator John Kerry at: 617-565-8519 or by mail at: 1 Bowdoin Square, 10th floor, Boston, MA 02114. His website is: <http://kerry.senate.gov>.

You can reach Senator Scott Brown at: 617-565-3170

or by mail at: 15 New Sudbury Street, 2400 JFK Federal Building, Boston, MA 02203. His website is: <http://scottbrown.senate.gov>

The time is short, so your immediate attention to this would be great. Thank you for helping the Town in this effort. □

*The Board of Selectmen*

### NEW CHARGES FOR FURNITURE DISPOSAL

As of November 1, the Transfer Station is charging for the disposal of furniture.

Sofas, couches:	\$15
Box springs	\$15
Mattresses:	\$15
Upholstered chairs	\$10
Convertible sofas	\$25



Payment in cash or, preferably, check must be made at the time of disposal.

As in the past, a \$10 charge will be collected for the disposal of any item of electronic equipment and \$20 for refrigerators, air conditioners, and TVs. Tires still go free.

## PUBLIC MEETING APRIL 16

### Changes To New Marlborough's Subdivision Control Bylaw

The Planning Board will host a public meeting on Saturday, April 16, 2011, at 10:30 a.m. at Town Hall to answer questions on the proposed revision to the Subdivision Control Law, Massachusetts General Law Chapter 41, Sections 81-K to 81-GG. The New Marlborough Planning Board adopted the existing subdivision regulations in 1993. It is anticipated that the Planning Board will adopt the proposed Subdivision Control Law revision after the public meeting. An overview and comparison of the proposed changes to the current regulations has been prepared for this meeting.

The overview highlights how the revised Subdivision Control Bylaw will bring future subdivision of land in New Marlborough in line with the vision laid out in our Comprehensive Plan. It will do this by helping to:

- Retain the small-town rural character;
- Preserve its natural beauty and resources; and
- Facilitate the development of housing options.

Although the proposed revised regulations are twenty-eight pages longer than the existing regulations, these additional pages add specificity and detail. For example, where the enactment of the subdivision control law is described in the existing regulations as "for the purpose of protecting safety, convenience, and welfare of the inhabitants," in the revised bylaw it is described as "for the purpose of protecting the environment, natural resources, character, public health, safety, convenience and welfare of the Town of New Marlborough." The revised regulations also encompass tighter controls for proposed subdivisions, their plans, and administration, as well as closely detailing the responsibilities of the Planning Board and respective town offices in aiding and regulating the execution of those plans.

Wayne Feiden, FAICP, of Feiden Associates, who worked with the Planning Board on the revision of the Subdivision Control Bylaw, had this to say about the

timeliness of a new set of regulations: "It is a question of preparedness." He suggested that while housing trends show that a larger subdivision will be proposed in one of the local hill towns in the not too distant future, "we just don't know in which town." Many neighboring towns have updated their subdivision regulations. Having more clearly delineated controls on the books in New Marlborough will protect the town from build-out that does not meet the vision set forth in our Comprehensive Plan.

Look for the overview of the updated Subdivision Control Bylaw at Town Hall or The New Marlborough Library after April 1. A copy of the complete revised bylaw will also be available at the Library. Mr. Feiden will be on hand with the Planning Board for the public meeting. Please plan to come on April 16 with your questions. □

*reported by Holly Morse*

# Barnbrook

**Mary White**  
**Broker Owner**

[www.barnbrookRealty.com](http://www.barnbrookRealty.com)

271 Main Street  
Great Barrington MA 01230  
(413) 528-4423  
FAX (413) 528-4727

[mary@barnbrookrealty.com](mailto:mary@barnbrookrealty.com)



Let Us Build for You

## Mill River Builders

Renovation  
All New Construction  
Contracting

413  
229-7728

Licensed & Insured HIC #109858



## Webster Ingersoll

FINE GARDENS • STONEMWORK • TREE CARE  
PLANT HEALTH CARE

Creatively restoring, conscientiously repairing,  
sustainably re-envisioning landscapes large and small.

Sheffield, Massachusetts 413.229.8124 [www.websteringersoll.com](http://www.websteringersoll.com)

## SLICE 'EM & DICE 'EM, OR, I THINK I NEED TO LIE DOWN NOW

Ever hear people saying they could just about die to eat whatever? Think about this. Think further about this. Imagine a scenario in which someone wicked used food as a murder weapon. Not just spoiled food, or food spiced with arsenic – appropriate, but so obvious. Think instead of serving up a barbecue cooked over twigs from a poisonous shrub. Think of a wild herb an animal could safely eat but which would fatally taint its flesh.

Think.

And when you have thought, enter the Slice 'em & Dice 'em Short Story Contest, murder scenarios in which the victims have to be killed off by ingesting organic edibles. The story must be short enough to be read out loud in ten minutes or less. (This might turn out to be about 1200 words.) The deadline for submission is June 15, 2011. Send submissions by email to nmva@newmarlborough.org, or mail it on a CD to Margie Shapiro, P.O. Box 237, Sheffield, MA 01257.

Any Berkshire County resident who wants to have fun with this challenge may enter. Three judges (to be named) will pick six winners, who will gather at the Meeting House in New Marlborough on August 6 for not a bake-off, but a read-off. The author and actor Peter Bergman will be the host. And at the end of the program,

three ingeniously wicked winners will get awards:

3rd prize: \$150 cash.

2nd prize: \$250 cash.

1st prize: A chef's knife (worth \$750) wrought by Mill River's own knife maker, John Manikowski.

This contest is made possible thanks to a grant from the New Marlborough Cultural Council and is presented by Music and More, a multi-arts series founded twenty years ago by Harold Lewin and sponsored by the New Marlborough Village Association. (These two organizations are usually so benign of purpose. Who knew?)

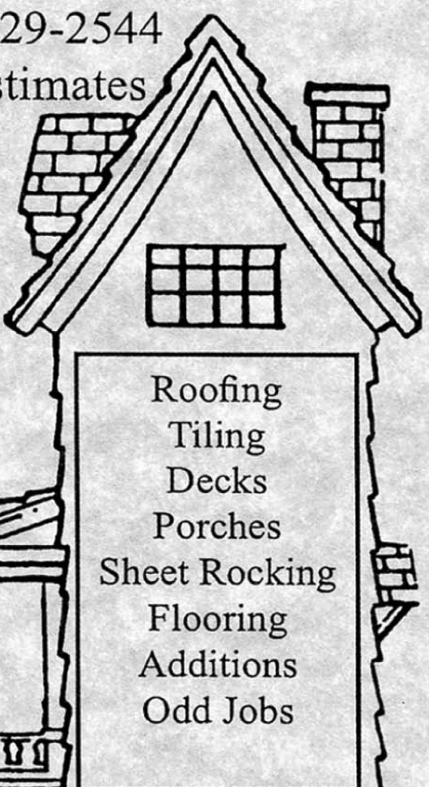
Don't take it too seriously.

Seriously.

But indulge yourself.

*by Mary Richie Smith*

(413) 229-2544  
Free Estimates



Roofing  
Tiling  
Decks  
Porches  
Sheet Rocking  
Flooring  
Additions  
Odd Jobs


**Herbert W. Eichstedt III**  
**Jason W. Eichstedt**

## A Call for Writers

**Murder Mystery  
Short Short Story Contest  
Food As A Weapon!**

**Deadline June 15, 2011  
Limit 1200 words  
or 10-minute reading time**

**See story in this issue or contact:  
John Manikowski 229-2905  
johnski3@verizon.net  
or  
Margie Shapiro 229-3993  
merryfield@live.com**



**Chuck Loring Excavating**

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

Septic Systems  
Driveways  
Site Clearing & New Home

## VIM CONCERT PLANNED

Volunteers in Medicine, Berkshires (VIM) will benefit from a concert at Infinity Hall, Norfolk, Connecticut, on Tuesday, April 12 at 7:30 p.m. Erin McKeown and her full band will headline the evening's performances as part of her tenth-anniversary *Distillation* album tour to a limited number of U.S. cities. Erin began writing songs in high school, and continued at Brown University. She has appeared on both morning and late night television and has a large, loyal fan base.

A second popular singer, Amy Correia, will round out an incredible and intimate evening of music at the restored Infinity Music Hall. Amy has opened for singers of note such as Ani di Franco and has been compared to Tom Waits and Michelle Shocked. Her critical acclaim

has included *New York Times* Critics Choice reviews and WFUV/NY's Listener Poll's Best of 2010. Dedicated fans raised the money to produce her third album, 'You Go Your Way.'

Tickets went on sale February 10 at [www.InfinityHall.com](http://www.InfinityHall.com) and at the box office. Prices are \$30 (orchestra), \$45 (mezzanine), and \$20 for a post concert meet-and-greet with the artists.

A portion of the proceeds will help support the services of Volunteers in Medicine Berkshires. VIM provides free medical, dental, vision, and mental health care to the uninsured and underinsured in the Berkshire region. For more information or to volunteer, visit [www.vimberkshires.org](http://www.vimberkshires.org) or call VIM at 413-528-4014. □

*reported by Elise Richman*

## FOR YOUR HEALTH

### Take Advantage of Our Visiting Nurse

One of our town's best-kept secrets is the Berkshire Visiting Nurse Association. On the second Thursday of every month, BVNA sets up shop from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in the Town Hall, where Cindy Croce, RN, takes blood pressure, answers questions about medications, weight and nutrition, and other health matters, and provides referrals where appropriate to diabetes clinics, quit smoking programs, and other resources provided by the Berkshire Medical Center. The trouble is, few people

seem aware of the program. In 2010 Ms. Croce saw a total of twelve New Marlborough residents, who together made fifty-one visits during eleven monthly clinics. (In the twelfth month, October, Ms. Croce administered twenty-two flu shots.)

The service, funded from the Town budget – \$2,334 in the coming fiscal year – is free to all residents of New Marlborough. Stop in – feel better. □

## 2011 GRANT RECIPIENTS FROM NEW MARLBOROUGH CULTURAL COUNCIL



photo by Louise Yohalem

Co-chair Maureen Hosford presented award certificates to the 2011 grant recipients at the March 14 meeting of the Board of Selectmen. In addition to reading a summary of each project, she also announced that Project BEE, now in its second year, has been designated as a Gold Star project by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, one of only six in the commonwealth. □

L – R: Debora O'Brien, Dorothea Burnett, Barbara Kelly, Paula Hatch, Elizabeth Lombardi, Larry Burke, Jane Burke, David Hosford. Kneeling: Marius Louw, Laura Endacott

## Upcoming: Events Calendar for April and May

**April 1** - Last day for nominees to Town offices to be certified - at the Town Hall, and by 5 p.m.  
After that, it's too late. No foolin'.

**April 2** - Not yet registered to vote? This is the last day, 2 to 4 p.m. and 7 to 8 p.m. at the Town Hall

**April 25** - The warrant for the Annual Town Meeting must be posted by this day.

**May 2** - Annual Town Meeting, 7 p.m., Town Hall

**May 9** - Town elections, Town Hall, noon to 7 p.m.

## WHITE ELEPHANTS BEING ASSEMBLED

The ever-popular White Elephant Sale, a regular feature at Elihu Burritt Day, will take place again this year on Saturday, August 20. The New Marlborough Cultural Council sponsors this community festival. The White Elephant Sale is an opportunity to donate small household items that are in good condition, are no longer needed or wanted by the current owner, but might be just the thing that someone else is looking for.

Based on its success last year, a Silent Auction will be conducted again. Selected items of higher value will be available for bidding, and will go to the highest bidder at the end of the day. Proceeds from the Silent Auction

and the regular White Elephant Sale help to support the Cultural Council's grant program, which has just awarded \$11,000 in grants to sixteen projects for 2011.

The collection point for White Elephant and auction items will again be Elizabeth Olenbush and Roger Levine's red barn in Mill River, directly across from Town Hall. The first collection time will be Saturday, April 16, between 10:00 and noon. Subsequent dates will be the third Saturday of the month, through July: May 21, June 18, and July 16. In August, collections will be held on August 6 and 13, with Burritt Day scheduled for August 20. □

*reported by Barbara Lowman*

## GALLERY EXPANDS ART SHOWS

### *Call for Artists to submit work for Juried Show*

Exhibitions in the New Marlborough Meeting House Gallery are expanding this year to run from Memorial Day weekend to early October. The gallery will be open Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.. beginning Friday, May 27, with an opening for the juried show *Fire and Water*, an exhibition of ceramics and watercolors.

This will be followed by a two-week individual show of three-dimensional pieces by Monterey artist Toby Frank, which will run June 24 to July 10. Flying Cloud Institute shows its student work of *Science Meets Art* on July 14—17, followed by an invitational show on the theme of *Blue*, opening July 22 and running through August 21.

The fourteenth annual New Marlborough Artists' show, displaying the work of some of our own talented artists, starts August 26 and runs through September 24. A special show of nationally-recognized Otis photographer Ken Regan will feature photos of Bob Dylan as an end-of-season treat running September 24 to October 2. This last show is underwritten by a generous grant from the New Marlborough Cultural Council, supplemented by grants

from the Local Cultural Councils of Egremont, Otis, West Stockbridge and Lee.

The Gallery Committee has done a wonderful job over the past fourteen years of finding the artistic talents of our area and providing a professional venue in the Meeting House Gallery. At the same time the Committee is conscious that some talented artists may not be sufficiently recognized. The first show of the season has therefore been designated as a juried show, where the artists themselves choose to enter. The medium will vary from year to year.

This year's juried show concentrates on the mediums of watercolor (any water media under glass) and ceramics as an art form. Anyone over the age of eighteen may enter. The final decision of what work will be displayed in the show will be determined by well-known watercolor instructor Pat Hogan, formerly of ISI83, and ceramic instructor Ben Krupka, of Simon's Rock College. Those wishing to enter the show should contact Elizabeth Lombardi at [elizabeth.mill.river@gmail.com](mailto:elizabeth.mill.river@gmail.com) or 413-229-8972. Look for further notes about the New Marlborough Meeting House Gallery in upcoming issues of the *5 Village News*. □

*reported by Elizabeth Lombardi*

## NEIGHBORS

New Marlborough residents were startled and saddened to learn of the unexpected and untimely death of **Randy Leonard** of Hartsville. He essentially grew up in the family business, Mt. Everett Landscaping and Sanitation, of which he was vice president and co-owner. His many customers and friends throughout the town will miss him.

She's here! **Krissie Anne Davis** arrived on February 25, nineteen inches and weighing seven pounds. She is the daughter of **Lacey Leone and Tom Davis** ... and the granddaughter of **Laura Davis!**

**Rebecca Burnett** grew up in Southfield (daughter of Dorothea and Ed Burnett; sister of Margaret, Chris, and Paula; niece of Margaret and Myles Stevens). She attended New Marlborough Central School in Mill River (grades 1-6) and then Mt. Everett (grades 7-12). She attended Red Fox Music School for several summers. She worked in the New Marlborough Village Post Office (which no longer exists) during some summers and vacations throughout high school. Since then, she has earned her B.A. and three advanced degrees in English, education, and rhetoric. Rebecca taught in public schools and local colleges for nineteen years, and was a professor at Iowa State University from 1991 to 2007. Currently she is the Director of Writing and Communication at Georgia Institute of Technology. Her professional expertise caused her to be invited to a conference in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia in February. She shares some of her observations from that experience in the article on page 13.



*Krissie Anne Davis*

photo by Tom Davis

On March 14, six members of the Mt. Everett Future Farmers of America chapter went to the Massachusetts state convention led by their FFA advisor, Will Conklin. Members participated in the science fair, team demonstration, Chapter exhibit, and creed speaking. Throughout the three-day convention, members interacted with others from over fifteen other chapters around the state. **Catherine Twing** of Hartsville placed second in the creed speaking category. The creed speaking competition is about becoming familiar with the FFA creed. The contestants read the creed and answer questions about what it means to them.

When not fulfilling his duties as Assistant Director of Security at Simon's Rock College or answering calls as a member of New Marlborough Fire & Rescue, **Ed Harvey** likes to get out into nature with his digital camera. Here is his story of an encounter with one particularly photogenic denizen of our town:

"On Tuesday, March 8, I was between errands so I thought I would check on the beaver activity alongside Route 183 just south of the Route 57 intersection. It must have been a bit too cold for the flat-tailed ones to be out and about, so I drove further along, passing the transfer station, and there I noticed a small raccoon foraging in the snow bank. I slowed down, put my hazard lights on, and shut off the engine. The critter scooted up a large, hollow tree, keeping a close watch on me. I stood on the bottom of the truck's door frame to get myself closer to eyeball-to-eyeball level with the raccoon. Our time together was short, as the little rascal crawled deep inside the tree and I couldn't see anything more than a tip of its ear. I left a single peanut butter cookie for my accommodating model, probably not the right thing to do, but what's one cookie gonna hurt? More photos of the raccoon and other local wildlife can be found on my website: [www.ruralamericanimages.com](http://www.ruralamericanimages.com)." □

*Neighbors is compiled by Barbara Lowman: [deeuwell@yahoo.com](mailto:deeuwell@yahoo.com)*



Photo by Ed Harvey

**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

## SAUDI ARABIA: CULTURAL DIFFERENCES

**D**uring February, I spent a week in Riyadh, the capital of Saudi Arabia. This article explains why I was in Riyadh and describes some aspects of the Saudi culture.

**Travel and Time.** Everyone always asks about the length of the flight. Going to Riyadh took sixteen hours of flight time (fourteen hours nonstop from Atlanta to Dubai and then two more hours from Dubai to Riyadh.) Coming home took eighteen hours of flight time (two hours from Riyadh to Dubai and then sixteen hours nonstop from Dubai to Atlanta.) Riyadh is eight hours ahead of us, so when it's midnight in Southfield and Atlanta, it's 8:00 a.m. in Riyadh.

**Reason for Riyadh.** I was invited by the Saudi Arabian Ministry of Higher Education's National Center for e-Learning and Distance Learning to be a keynote speaker at an international conference. My presentation, "The Critical Role of Writing in a Multimodal Curriculum," focused on the results of a research study I conducted about upper-level university students who created multimodal projects such as websites, videos, and MP3 broadcasts. The results indicate that writing is an important part of students' processes even when writing is not the primary focus of their work.

This keynote presentation was much like others I've done — with one big exception. Because Saudi Arabia is a society that separates virtually all social and professional activities by gender, I spoke directly to several hundred professional women in one hotel ballroom while the men at the conference were in another ballroom. The men saw my PowerPoint slides on a large screen and heard my voice and could ask me questions, but they couldn't see me.

**Gender Separation.** I became acutely aware of the gender separation when I realized that the women had to enter the 5-star conference hotel through a small side door behind a series of screens, marked by a large sign that said, "Females Only." Despite the separation, Saudi women have a highly sophisticated culture, with separate classrooms, hotels, shopping malls, and banks. Because Saudi women do not drive, their drivers take them to school, to malls and souks, to work, and to social engagements. One women-only social event I attended included about sixty women in an evening filled with conversation, hors d'oeuvres, music, dancing, and dinner.

**Clothing.** Yes, I did wear an abaya (long, black robe) and a hijab (headscarf) anytime I was in a public place where men were present. Why? Following the custom of the country is respectful and expected. Being modest is an Islamic religious expectation, but Saudi cultural practice goes further to include being covered with an abaya and hijab.

**Food.** Saudi Arabian food is delicious! Extraordinarily

good Saudi coffee (golden and seasoned with cardamom and saffron) is served in tiny glasses holding about a tablespoon. Tea made with fresh ginger and simple syrup is served in very small glass cups. Dates are a staple, prepared in many delectable ways. Variations of hummus and eggplant are usual appetizers. Grilled vegetables, meats, poultry, and fish are beautifully presented, often accompanied by potatoes or grains such as bulgur, couscous, and rice. Fresh fruit is common, served in fruit "bouquets," in smoothies, and on platters. The desserts are astounding! Of course, no alcohol.

**Malls and Souks.** Upscale shopping malls include every imaginable material good. Under their abayas, Saudi women wear beautiful clothes and jewelry. As their only visible accessory, many carry large, extravagant, elegant purses. Traditional shopping is done in souks—small shops and open-air booths with many traditional goods (from carpets, knives, and brass to abayas, incense, and prayer beads), crowded along narrow, winding streets and alleys. Negotiation on prices is common in souks.

**Uprisings.** I was in Saudi Arabia after the Tunisian and Egyptian uprisings and near the beginning of the Libyan one. Everyone was eager to discuss these revolutionary events. The general sentiment was that the uprisings in Tunisia, Egypt, and Libya were justifiable and merited strong support. People were similarly sure that such uprisings would not have widespread support in Saudi Arabia. Many people were particularly interested in hearing the views of an American. Discussions about current events were common, and I had a number of fascinating conversations about topics ranging from religion to air strikes. □

by Rebecca E. Burnett

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](http://www.fixmycountryhome.com)

## REMINDER FROM THE NEW MARLBOROUGH FIRE DEPARTMENT

With burning season now well underway, the New Marlborough Fire Department would like to remind residents of rules for open burning, which may take place through May 1.

Burning permits may be acquired, for no charge, at the Mill River General Store or at the Emergency Services Center at 7 p.m. on Tuesday nights. Call 229-0246 prior to every burn—as there may be some days when burning is not permitted—and leave your name, location of burn, contact number, permit number, and date and time of call. Burning is permitted between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. All fires must be out by 4 p.m.

A few additional reminders:

- Avoid burning on days with high winds
- Keep fires at least seventy-five feet from all dwellings
- When possible, have a garden hose or other water supply available, as well as a rake and/or shovel
- Do not leave fires unattended
- Burn the fire down to coals and drown with water to extinguish
- Call 911 if the fire gets away from you

The New Marlborough  
Fire Company

### 2011 Spring Dance

Saturday April 30 at

Gedney Farm

6:30 – 11:00

Buffet Supper

Cash Bar

Live Music & Dancing

Tickets at \$35.00 each available at the  
Mill River General Store

## Reiner White & Sons, Inc.

### General Contractor

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

MA Lic #20390

MA HIC #137599

CT Lic #4485

CT HIC #578070

**SCOTT**  
  
**MacKENZIE**  
**EXCAVATING**

**Excavating  
Grading  
Driveways  
Septic Systems  
Land Clearing**

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

## Thank You to our Contributors!

Rene & Marjorie Biber; Edward & Claire Stiepleman; Sam & Betsey Farber;  
Carroll Woodward; Enid Michelman; Pat Merrill Maloney; Elaine & Steve Mack;  
Michael & Barbara Flach; Roger & Jerry Tilles; and Robert Fleming

## FLYING CLOUD CLOSES 2011 SEASON OF GIRLS! SCIENCE CLUBS

During the third week of March, Flying Cloud Institute concluded its winter season of programs for girls in science and engineering. Over 110 girls in grades three through six and thirty-four high school student mentors from Lee, Berkshire Hills, and Southern Berkshire schools participated in after-school GIRLS! Science Clubs and girls' robotics teams. Each club had a final presentation of their work with professional scientists and engineers. The robotics teams were part of the March 19 Berkshire Robotics Challenge. Two of the teams received awards. The Radical Radii from Berkshire Hills received a robot design award. The Funny Bones from Undermountain Elementary, headed by Samantha Swartz of Sandisfield, received the Comeback Award for increasing their point score fifteen-fold from the first round to the last round. This is the largest number of girls participating in the Young Women in Science school-based programs. In the spring, the Institute is launching clubs in Pittsfield and North Adams. □

reported by Jane Burke



Photo by Lindy Marcel

Eila Kennedy, far right, poses with the girls she mentored in the third and fourth grade GIRLS! Science Club final celebration at Monument Valley Middle School on March 14.



Photo by Jane Burke

The three Flying Cloud Institute all-girl robotics teams at the March 19 Berkshire Robotics Challenge. The Undermountain Elementary School team, the Funny Bones, is on the right. New Marlborough team members are Michaela Loring, who specializes in programming, and Olivia Marchione, designer and builder. Olivia ran the robot in all three rounds of the competition.

Charlotte Smith (left) of New Marlborough was among the presenters of information about magnetism at the finale of the GIRLS! Science Club held at Mt. Everett Middle School on March 11.

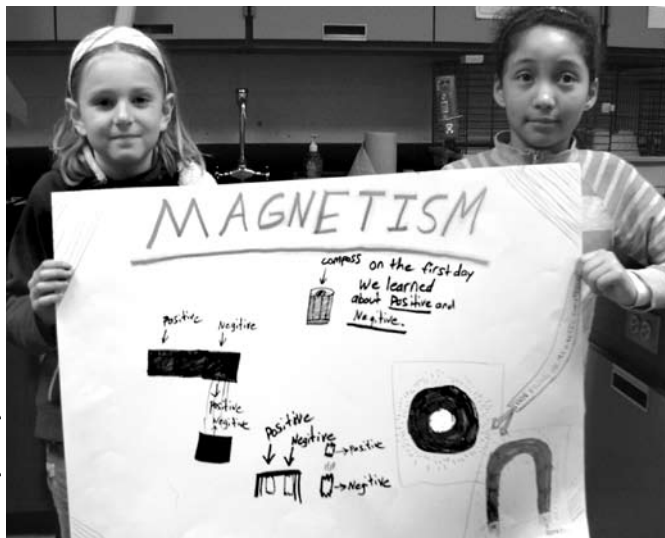


Photo by Lindy Marcel

**Campbell Falls Carpentry**  
**Fine Building from Frame to Finish**  
**413-229-6097**  
**413-429-7677**  
**Also specializing in: Decks**  
**Additions**  
**Garages**  
**Remodeling**  
**& Creative Accents**





**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

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

**February 10:** The committee approved a request of \$1,100 for household hazardous waste disposal (down from \$1,800 in FY11) and a transfer of \$1,709 from the reserve fund to cover unanticipated advertising costs incurred by the tax collector. The committee then deferred to a later meeting a request from the Highway Department that its salaries be increased by four percent.

**February 24:** Harsh winter weather was the focus of opening discussions. The Committee approved transfers from the reserve fund of \$655 to the library to pay for removal of ice buildup on its roof and \$4,000 to the Highway Department to replenish its supply of propane to heat the garage. In response to a question from Burt Imberman, the committee was advised that New Marlborough's local propane contractor is given the opportunity to match the bid of the county supplier.

Among the seven FY2012 expense requests reviewed, two were substantial and both were for less than current year expenditures. The Transfer Station was approved for \$70,000, a reduction of \$5,000, and the Insurance Expense for \$58,000, down from \$65,000 in FY11. A request for \$16,000 to conduct an audit of Town books was questioned because the committee had previously recommended an audit every two years, rather than annually. It approved an \$8,000 expenditure in FY12, with the balance to be made up in FY13, the year in which the next audit would be conducted. The only increase came from Treasurer Pat Mielke, whose request of \$4,424 for expenses was \$1,524 more than FY11. The additional amount, explained Ms. Mielke, was for computer program support. The committee also approved the treasurer's request of \$3,605 for a new Tax Title program.

Administrative Assistant Mike Skorput advised the committee that reconfiguring the Transfer Station for a new compactor, requested last year, would cost \$30,000.

**March 3:** Before tackling the main event – salaries – the committee determined that Mike Skorput's request

of \$30,000 to cover Town Hall expenses was too conservative. Actual FY11 costs, including transfers from the Reserve Fund, totaled \$39,000. After noting the need for new computers and software to back up such files as those of the Tax Collector and the Town Accountant (those of the Town Clerk and the Assessor are backed up by the state), the committee recommended an FY12 Town Hall expense budget of \$37,500.

On the question of salaries, the committee's frequent pleas to the Board of Selectmen to introduce a merit-based system of raises – the selectmen declined an invitation to meet with the committee – have once again gone unheeded. The Board recommended across-the-board increases of two percent. Members of the committee noted that Town employees had received no raises for the past two years; member Edgar Zukauskas reminded his colleagues that a few years ago, some workers took a ten percent cut in pay to help the Town get past a particularly tight budget year. Tara White, attending in her role as Town Accountant, said that salary levels needed to be determined to gauge their impact on the total budget. Yielding to this urgency, the committee endorsed a two-percent increase, resulting in the following FY12 salary recommendations:

Accounting Officer, \$15,925  
 Administrative Assistant, \$33,456  
 Assessor's Clerk, \$16,226  
 Cemetery Commission, \$32,251  
 Clerk to the Administrative Assistant, \$22,606  
 Tax Collector, \$24,093  
 Town Clerk, \$11,528  
 Transfer Station, \$16,660  
 Treasurer, \$15,943

On their own recommendation, the salaries of the selectmen will remain at \$8,550. □

*Summarized from the Finance Committee's minutes, recorded by Secretary Prudence Spaulding and edited by Joe Poindexter.*

Residential		Commercial
<b>OATES CONSTRUCTION INC.</b> "From the Ground Down"		
Shane M. Oates Owner	Phone/Fax: 413-229-0055 Cell: 413-329-1470	

<b>CURTIS INSURANCE AGENCY</b>	Office: 860 • 824 • 7327 Res: 413 • 229 • 2966
<b>Paul Koneazny</b> Certified Insurance Counselor	
<b>Serving Mass. and Conn.</b> <b>For 60 years</b>	
49 MAIN ST. • P.O. BOX 748 CANAAN, CT 06018	

## YOU ARE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN!

In their March 17-20 performances of the happy and uplifting musical comedy *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*, the students at Mt. Everett Regional School brought the issue of bullying to life with empathy and charm. Judging from the latest issue of the school newspaper that was devoted to the problem of bullying, and the number of posters up in every school corridor, these students really care about dealing with this issue at their school.

From an artistic perspective, this production also hit the mark in every way. The professionalism of the sets, costumes, lighting, music, and acting was remarkable. Students participated in every aspect of this complex performance, from directing to sets to lighting, under the guidance of a very strong team of specialists. Nathan Bona of Southfield worked under the direction of Jamie Davidson, lighting designer, and was the follow-spot operator.

The cast moved seamlessly through the fourteen musical numbers under the direction of Ralph Petillo and student musical director Gabriella Makuc, who played the piano flawlessly throughout. The instrumental ensemble was an all-student group



In the matinee evening performance of "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown," Schroeder was played by Hartsville's own Kyle Carson, seen here in a duet with Sally Brown, played by Caroline Mack, formerly of Southfield.



For the Mount Everett High School production of "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown," which was performed from March 17 to March 20 at the Consolati Performing Arts Center, the cast of seventeen doubled the fun for themselves, as each actor learned two different parts, and then played each of their characters, switching from one to the next at each succeeding performance.

including Southfield's Peter Zdziarski on percussion and Lilly Ford on violin. There were two casts over the five-performance run. In one cast two students connected to New Marlborough gave outstanding performances with their challenging roles. Kyle Carson of Hartsville did a convincing portrayal of Schroeder, the moody musician, and he proved to be an excellent musician himself with his outstanding singing. His duet with Caroline Mack, who moved from Southfield to Sheffield but still has strong connections here through her grandparents, was a real crowd-pleaser. Caroline did an outstanding job of creating the sassy character of Sally Brown and delivering her musical numbers with professional quality.

Kudos to Travis Daly, Theater Director for the district. He has built on the tradition started by Robert Law and created an excellent theater program for students in grade three through twelve. The community is treated to four productions a year. Look for *Seussical the Musical*, May 20-22. Students from grades six to eight went into rehearsal March 25, and the show is sure to be entertaining. □

reported by Jane Burke,  
photos by Larry Burke

### ATTENTION

#### *Watercolor and Ceramic Artists*

THE NEW MARLBROUGH MEETING HOUSE GALLERY  
INVITES ENTRIES TO THE JURIED SHOW

### Fire and Water

TO TAKE PLACE MAY 27TH-JUNE 19TH, 2011

THE JURORS ARE CERAMIC ARTIST BEN KRUPKA OF  
SIMON'S ROCK AND WATERCOLOR ARTIST PAT HOGAN,  
FORMERLY DEPARTMENT HEAD AT IS183.

FOR A PROSPECTUS PLEASE CONTACT ELIZABETH LOMBARDI AT  
ELIZABETH.MILL.RIVER@GMAIL.COM OR CALL 229-8972

CARPET CLEANING FLOOR REFINISHING WINDOW WASHING

### GREG'S SERVICES COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL CLEANING

DAILY, WEEKLY, MONTHLY

### ALL TYPES OF LAWN CARE

413-229-2732  
GREG GOEWY, Prop.

FULLY INSURED  
ALL TYPES OF ODD JOBS

## NEW ACQUISITIONS AT THE NEW MARLBOROUGH LIBRARY

### Adult Fiction

*Rock Bottom: A Novel*, by Erin Brockovich  
*Someone Else's Garden: A Novel*, by Dipika Rai  
*The Red Garden*, by Alice Hoffman  
*Sing You Home*, by Jodi Picoult  
*Murder at Spouter's Point*, by Leslie Wheeler  
*The Complaints*, by Ian Rankin  
*Silent Mercy*, by Linda Fairstein  
*The Jungle*, by Clive Cussler  
*The Paris Wife: A Novel*, by Paula McLain



### Adult Nonfiction

*Mulch It!: A Practical Guide To Using Mulch In The Garden And Landscape*, by Stu Campbell  
*Week-By-Week Vegetable Gardener's Handbook*, by Ron Kujawski  
*Chick Days: An Absolute Beginner's Guide to Raising Chickens from Hatchlings to Laying Hens*, by Jenna Woginrich  
*Against All Odds: My Life of Hardship, Fast Breaks, and Second Chances*, by Scott Brown  
*Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption*, by Laura Hillenbrand  
*33 Men: Inside the Miraculous Survival and Dramatic Rescue of the Chilean Miners*, by Jonathan Franklin

### Children's Fiction

*Won Ton: A Cat Tale Told In Haiku*, by Lee Wardlaw  
*The Runaway Wok: A Chinese New Year Tale*,  
 by Ying Chang Compestine  
*Argus*, by Michelle Knudsen  
*Little White Rabbit*, by Kevin Henkes  
*No! That's Wrong!*, by Zhaohua Ji  
*In The Pond*, by Anna Milbourne  
*The Tooth*, by Avi Slodovnick

### Children's Nonfiction

*Science Projects That Surprise And Delight: Fun Projects For Curious Kids*, by Sheri Bell-Rehwoaldt  
*Water Goes Round: The Water Cycle*, by Robin Koontz  
*Electrifying Eco-Race Cars*, by Michael Sandler  
*Glow-In-The-Dark Animals*, by Natalie Lunis  
*A Germ's Journey*, by Thom Rooke  
*The Arabian Nights*, by Wafa Tarnowska

## BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP AT THE NEW MARLBOROUGH TOWN LIBRARY

Please join us Saturday, April 9, at 10:00 a.m. for coffee, bagels and a lively book discussion. Our topic will be a "Reader's Choice". We are asking participants to bring their favorite book and share it with the group. For more information, contact the library at 229-6668

### EGG HUNT

The New Marlborough Library will host a Spring Egg Hunt for ages 3 - 11 at the New Marlborough Central School on April 16 at 10:30 a.m. (Rain Date: April 17 at 1:00 p.m.)

Bring your own basket. The Easter Bunny will also be stopping by! For more information, contact the library at 229-6668.

## WOWBRARY: AN EXCITING NEW WAY TO ENJOY YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY

The New Marlborough Town Library buys many new books, movies, and audio books each year. As library director, I'm proud to now offer you weekly email alerts showcasing our newest items. We hope you will enjoy hearing about the many exciting bestsellers, movies, and recorded books almost the very moment they arrive at the library.

Whenever you spot something of interest, you will be able to click instantly, reserve it, and check it out at your convenience. And of course, like everything else in the library, this service is free! To get started and see what the emails look like, just visit [www.wowbrary.org](http://www.wowbrary.org). You can quit the weekly emails any time you wish.

Our library is excited to offer this new service. We hope you will enjoy it and the library's many new acquisitions.

# 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\_\_\_\_\_

## Town Times

- \* **Board of Selectmen:** Every Monday at 6:30 p.m.
  - \* **Board of Health:** First Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.
  - \* **Planning Board:** First and third Wednesday at 7 p.m.
  - \* **Conservation Commission:** Last Tuesday at 7 p.m.
  - \* **Town Treasurer:** Monday- 9 -12 a.m.
  - \* **Tax Collector:** Monday - Thursday. 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
  - \* **Board of Assessors:** June 1 - Aug.31 Monday through Thursday 7a.m. - noon
  - \* **Building Inspector:** Monday 5 - 7 p.m. Wednesday 8 - 10 a.m.
  - \* **Cultural Council:** Second Thursday at 4:15 p.m
  - \* **Visiting Nurse:** Second Thursday, 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. at Town Hall
  - \* **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
  - \* **Fire Department training:** Every Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the Fire Station
  - \* **First Responders meeting/training:** First and third Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the Fire Station
- Emergency calls: Police, Fire, and Medical: 911 Police business phone 229-8161

### 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

### 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 ARE DUE ON JULY 1

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

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

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

New Marlborough 5 Village News appears monthly.  
The next issue will be dated May 2011  
All copy must be submitted no later than April 15.  
For advertising contact: Barbara Lowman,  
tel: 229-2369  
PO Box 243, Southfield, MA 01259  
5villagenews@gmail.com

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 or NancyBenchmark@verizon.net
  - ▶ **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.
  - ▶ **Land of Nod Winery:** 99 Lower Rd., East Canaan CT 860-824-5225 Come try our new chocolate raspberry dessert wine! www.landofnodwinery.com
  - ▶ **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
  - ▶ **Goewey Painting Services:** Interior & exterior painting, window washing, pressure washing, vinyl siding washing, deck and floor refinishing; fully insured; impeccable references. 413-229-2787
  - ▶ **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:** Lawn mowing, snow plowing, spring clean-up, house watching and odd jobs. Call Jim @ 229-3057
  - ▶ **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. Len Mandile 413.269.8948 Contractor registration #147903.
- 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*