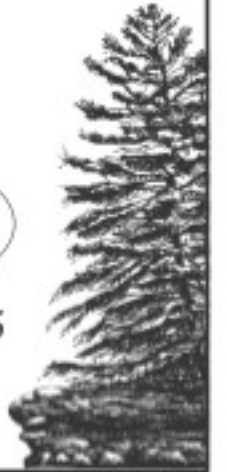




New Marlborough 5 Village News

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Clayton • Hartsville • Mill River • New Marlborough • Southfield

CHARLIE PARTON:

A Man for All Seasons and Then Some...

By Jodi Rothe

“A man ought to have eleven different occupations – don’t be afraid to try anything new,” was advice given to Bronxville high school students in 1942 by their civics teacher, Ignatius D. Taubanack. A familiar figure around town, Charles William Parton who turned ninety this past January, took his teacher’s advice to heart to such an extent that he could have stumped panelists 1950s CBS television show, “What’s My Line?” with his various occupations.

First and foremost a physician and pediatric surgeon, Charlie has spent time as a sheep farmer, wool spinner, general store owner on Martha’s Vineyard, Peace Corps worker in Borneo, plumbing supply salesman, bank teller, and author, not to mention husband of two wonderful wives, father of four, and grandfather of five.

Growing up in comfortable circumstances in Bronxville, New York, Charlie was more likely to see a sheep than someone who wasn’t a white Anglo-Saxon Protestant. In spite of such a sheltered life, Charlie credits his education in Bronxville with providing him with the tools to succeed. Students at his school started at one end of the building in kindergarten and came out the other end ready for college. In Charlie’s case, he left for college after his junior year. This was during World War II when private colleges were hunting for bright students, and Charlie got a phone call recruiting him for Kenyon College in Ohio.

He completed a year and then enlisted in the Navy, which he credits with “opening his eyes to the world of Italians, Jews, African Americans, mankind in all its many colors and creeds.” Having decided at the age of twelve to become a doctor, he became a paramedic in the Pacific. In mid-1945, he was scheduled to participate in the invasion of Japan when the atom bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Charlie believes he probably wouldn’t be here today had that not happened, because the bombs made the invasion unnecessary.

Discharged from the Navy, he went back to complete his education at Kenyon College, then to medical school at Cornell/New York Hospital, followed by a residency of seven years in Charlottesville, Virginia, and Boston. It was the early days of plastic surgery, and Charlie did a lot of operations on children for cleft palates and burns while in Boston. He then opened up a practice in Hartford, Connecticut, with another physician; they were among the first pediatric surgeons in the country.

By this time he was married to Jackie, a bio-chemist, whom he’d met in medical school. They had a son, who was to become a noted ballet dancer and soloist in Hamburg, Germany, and three daughters. His oldest daughter lives nearby in Monterey; another daughter lives in Vermont, and the third is a teacher in Texas.

But private practice in Hartford wasn’t enough for Charlie. For one thing,



Charlie and Teena at Charlie’s ninetyth birthday celebration

photo by Barry Shapiro

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he loathed what the insurance industry was doing to the practice of medicine even back then, in the 1960s. He briefly entertained leaving his practice to go to Nigeria where he felt he could be useful, and even met with the Surgeon General in Washington about this. Instead he was persuaded to stay by a Hartford friend who said, "We need you more here." So he opened up a clinic with his brother George, also a physician. The clinic still exists and now takes up more than half a city block. Still restless, Charlie decided to volunteer for the Peace Corps even though, being married with kids, he was considered too old. So he pulled some strings in Washington, and he and Jackie packed up and shipped out to Borneo. Jackie taught children there and loved it, and Charlie was an administrator of the Peace Corps program there. He says it was among the best experiences of his life. He and Jackie came back to Hartford, and he went into private practice again, but sadly, Jackie passed away in 1972. Later that year, Charlie and Teena Zanetti, who had been working as his administrative assistant, became a couple and married – and that was forty-two years ago!

Teena grew up in Great Barrington, and her family also had a summer house on Lake Buel. They also spent many happy vacation days on Martha's Vineyard and Teena wanted Charlie to get to know the island. Realizing he was susceptible to sunburn, Teena brought him to the Vineyard one winter, showed him her favorite places, and he fell in love with it. On one of their trips, they learned that the famous general store, Alley's (founded in 1858 by a blind West Tisbury resident who had failed to find gold in California), was for sale. They had visions of owning it some day after Charlie retired from Mount Sinai Hospital and from his job as Associate Professor of Medicine at Connecticut College. They discussed this future possibility with the

owner of the store and left the island.

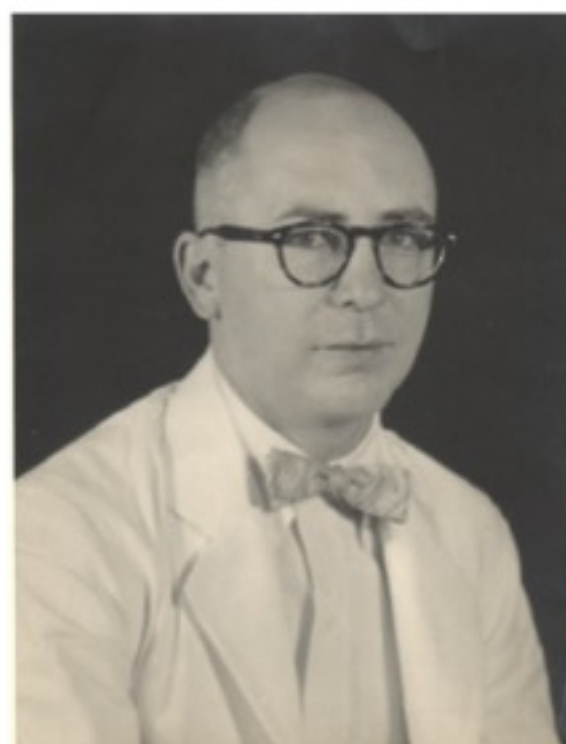
However, the very next day, they received a phone call from the owner saying he wanted to sell it now and wouldn't wait. Charlie and Teena talked it over and reached out to their accountant who thought it was a bad idea. Knowing Charlie's nature, he also acknowledged they probably wouldn't take his advice, and they didn't. With two years to go on his contract with Mount Sinai, they bought the store, and Teena moved to the Vineyard by herself to run it.



Charlie in the Navy during World War II

Teena and Charlie were only the fourth owners of the store, and she took to it with a passion. She recruited a friend from Hartford to work there until Charlie retired from the medical profession and, as he tells it, "went to work for Teena." Over the years, they increased the revenue of the store from several hundred thousand to a million dollars a year in sales. Their customers included many celebrities, such as Jackie Onassis and her children, Dan Ackroyd (who liked to hang out in the back with Teena and help her unpack boxes), John Belushi, and not a few Nobel Prize winners. There were

also government figures like Cyrus Vance and Robert McNamara. Charlie recalls, "Jackie liked to come in and have a cup of coffee and wander around and look at everything. She was a lovely person." It was a general store in the old sense of the word, and everyone was treated equally. They were open every day from 6:30



Charlie as a young doctor

in the morning until 7:00 at night except Christmas and Easter Sunday, which didn't leave much time for a social life.

Instead, they brought social life to the store. One of the things Charlie remembers most fondly is that when he and Tina first visited the island there was no place to get ice cream. "We drove all over the island and

couldn't find any." So they started Wednesday hot fudge sundae nights at the store only in the winter. This went on from January until March, and they called it "doldrum sundaes." Charlie says they sometimes had eighty people a night from all over the island.

They ran the store from 1980 to 1986 and Charlie wrote a book about the experience. But after a while,

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running the store became something of a burden. About the same time, a nephew of Charlie's who had been handling their retirement account was arrested for running a Ponzi scheme. Charlie says, "He took down about a hundred and twenty people with his bad investments, and our retirement savings went down the drain."

They sold the store and moved on to another adventure, this time in Barnardsville, North Carolina, outside Asheville. Charlie and Teena bought a farm and entered the world of sheep farming. Teena noticed that most of the sheep farming was for "meat" sheep and she had the idea that raising wool sheep, in particular Merinos, was the way to go. (Historical note: During the time of Queen Isabella, Merino wool was originally only found in Spain and was solely available to royalty. If anyone took a Merino sheep outside the country, they were sentenced to death!)

They also raised angora goats and combined the wools. They both learned to spin and weave, and Teena founded the Southern Appalachian Fiber Grower's Association, an organization that exists to this day. When asked what sheep are like, Charlie says "they're not particularly smart," but when asked about goats, it's a completely different story. "They're brilliant," he says.

Charlie's medical training came in handy because it was too expensive to have a vet deliver the lambs

and vaccinate seventy-five sheep. After about six and a half years in this rather lawless "backwoods territory," as Charlie characterizes it, they realized they missed New England. So they packed up and headed back to Martha's Vineyard on the ferry with a truckload of sheep. Charlie found work as a locksmith, and then got a job selling wholesale plumbing equipment, while Teena worked as a personal assistant to a retired Wall Street banker and did quite a bit of traveling. Later on, Charlie got a job as a bank teller. On the day he retired from that gig, he handed his tie to the bank president and said, "I never thought when I moved to the Vineyard I'd ever have to wear a necktie. So here it is."

Eventually, however, Teena was homesick for the Berkshires, and they decided to build a house in New Marlborough, where they've been since 2002. Teena bought the Elm Street Coffee Shop in Stockbridge but sold it after a year. It was time for retirement. After all, Charlie had more than fulfilled his teacher's life advice. He ended up pursuing eleven different occupations – Naval medic, Surgeon, Peace Corps, hospital administrator, professor, general store owner, sheep farmer, plumbing supply salesman, locksmith, bank teller, author, and "Teena's employee." He might still be "Teena's employee," but you'll have to ask him about that. □



Postcard of Alley's General Store on Martha's Vineyard



Teena with baby goats on their North Carolina farm

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BOARD OF SELECTMEN

January 21: Because of the Martin Luther King holiday on Monday and the looming budget process, the Board scheduled a special session for Wednesday at 11:00 a.m. to **begin its Fiscal Year 2016 budget deliberations**. All three selectmen were present to approve the following appropriations:

Conservation Commission Expenses: \$2,000
 Assessors General Expense: \$2,900
 Assessors Tax Map Update: \$2,900
 Assessors Consultant: \$5,000
 Assessors Revaluation: \$16,000
 Assessors Cyclical Re-inspections: \$10,000
 Tax Collectors Computer Services: \$6,500
 Tax Collectors Expenses: \$5,500
 Tax Title (Collector): \$3,000
 Town Clerk Expenses: \$2,200
 Town Records Preservation: \$5,000
 Election Expenses: \$2,225
 Street Listings: \$1,000
 Planning Board Clerical: \$1,300

Planning Board Expenses: \$873

Board of Appeals: \$600

All were level-funded and had previously been approved by the Finance Committee. In addition, the Board approved a \$479, or 9 percent, increase in the Assessors Computer Contingency budget, bringing it to \$4,804.

There followed a discussion of **annual salary increases for Town employees**, with Mr. Yohalem suggesting that salaries be increased by 2 percent this year, rather than the 1.7 percent cost-of-living increase that had been discussed previously. This was met with agreement by the rest of the Board and will be recommended to the Finance Committee, which needs to approve it before the Board can vote on it. Mr. Yohalem also suggested **holding Town officials' stipends level next year**. These include town moderator, library trustees, cemetery officers, town constable, and the selectmen. Finally the Board took up the subject of the **Town's growing indebtedness**, with Mr. Yohalem pointing out that the Town is already obligated for \$1.1 million, including \$550,000 for the new fire truck and \$228,000 for a highway truck, and that if the school bond issue passes, it will add \$957,000 to the total, bringing it to \$2.1 million. "To put it another way, the Town's credit will be impaired to the tune of \$2.1 million," he said. "And Tim Newman [New Marlborough's Wired West delegate] is coming here Monday to ask for an additional \$2.5 million," for the proposed high-speed broadband network. He then quoted a line that he attributed to Tony Soprano from long-running HBO series the *Sopranos*: "Fahgeddaboutit!" And with that, the meeting was adjourned.

February 4: In another mid-week meeting called to deal with budgets, the selectmen approved the following amounts:

Cemetery Officers Salaries: Level funded at \$400

Cemetery Expenses (Perpetual Care Funds): Level funded at \$2,700

Library Expenses: \$43,700, a \$3,049 increase

Library Trustees Stipends: Level funded at \$320

Cultural Council Trust Fund: Level funded at \$1,000

Umpachene Falls Park: Level funded at \$4,000

Care of the Village Green: \$4,480, a \$1,380 increase

Police Department Expenses: \$22,700, an increase of \$1,150

Police Department Rental: \$6,000, a decrease of \$6,000

Constable Expenses: Level funded at \$95



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Building Inspector Expenses: Level funded at \$2,617

Building Inspector Software Expenses: \$2,700, a decrease of \$4,700

Health Agent Revolving Fund: Level funded at \$17,000

Board of Health Expenses: Level funded at \$2,500

Visiting Nurse Association: Level funded at \$2,447

Mental Health: Level funded at \$200

Council on Aging Transportation: Level funded at \$5,497

Council on Aging Expenses: \$300, a \$100 increase

Senior Tax Workoff Expenses: Level funded at \$100

Veterans Benefit Trust: Level funded at \$8,000

There was a discussion of **whether the Town should upgrade the administrative assistant position** previously occupied by the retired Mike Skorput to **town administrator** once the Board finds a permanent replacement for Mr. Skorput. As Mr. Yohalem noted, three years ago the Board proposed such a change, but it was soundly defeated by the voters at the Annual Town Meeting, which Mr. Yohalem attributed to concern that if the change were approved Mr. Skorput would be let go. "But the time may be ripe for doing it, now that he's retired."

It was also noted the Town is looking for a new treasurer to replace Jennifer Goewey, who has accepted a job as director of the Senior Center in Sheffield. She was appointed treasurer in October of last year. She had previously been assistant treasurer.

Peter Schuyten

February 5: The meeting, postponed by a snowstorm on February 2, started at 5:30 p.m. to accommodate a heavy agenda. With all three members present, the selectmen voted to **delay participation in a state-sponsored grant program that assists first-time homeowners and helps rehabilitate substandard housing**, among other programs. As explained by Interim Administrative Assistant Joe Kellogg, the grants are structured as "deferred payment

loans," i.e. loans that don't have to be paid back. The selectmen were fine with subordinating such "loans" to bank mortgagers but balked at a provision in the letter of agreement that "an officer of the [state] Housing Development Corporation [can] act as a signatory to any community development program" financed by the grant. As Mr. Yohalem pointed out, this would empower a "complete stranger" to make decisions for the Town. Mr. Kellogg agreed to seek a clarification of this issue.

Next, the Board voted to **hold a Special Town Meeting on March 16 to determine whether the Town will approve a bond that would pay for the replacement of the roof and three boilers at Mount Everett Regional School.** (As noted in the February issue of the 5 Village News, that borrowing would be for \$4.6 million, of which New Marlborough's share would be about \$957,000.) For approval a bond measure needs to pass by at least two-thirds of those voting. The selectmen debated whether to make the vote contingent on the promised \$3.1 million grant from the state and on a twenty-year bond (rather than the ten-year bond the District seems to prefer.) In the end, they realized that a warrant that differed in any way from that being decided by the other four towns in the Southern Berkshire Regional School District would be unworkable and voted against including contingencies in the question.

In case the bond is approved, the selectmen have also called for a **Special Town Election March 18 to decide whether to permit a 2-1/2 percent override to accommodate debt service on the bond.** Again, passage requires a vote of at least two-thirds of those voting. (Later in the meeting, the Board agreed to send a letter to the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources in support of the District's request for an energy efficiency grant.)

In order to **pursue loans of \$550,000 for a new fire truck and \$228,000 for a dump truck**, the Board (on the advice of Chuck Loring, who is both fire chief and highway department superintendent) placed the **useful life of these vehicles at twenty-five and fifteen years respectively.**

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The Board took up a request that the Town pay the \$7,992 tuition of a high school junior who lives in New Marlborough and who has elected to enter the vocational education program at Housatonic Valley High School in Falls Village, Connecticut. As explained by Mr. Kellogg, the Town doesn't have a choice in the matter. Vocational training must be offered to any Massachusetts student who wants it, and SBRSD does not have a vocational education department — the nearest in the state is in Northampton. Since the town of the student's residence is also responsible for transportation, all agreed that "Housy", even though it is out of state, made more sense. (The parents, at any rate, have agreed to pay for transportation.) "We need vocational training at SBRSD," said Mr. Yohalem.

In other matters, Mr. Kellogg said he would create a help-wanted ad for a town treasurer; and the Board agreed that there was no reason to change the size of the finance committee, which is now comprised of six voting members plus the town treasurer.

Administrative Secretary Sharon Fleck interrupted a motion to adjourn by reminding Board members that they had not yet responded to her request that they download a data storage program she had sent them. All hastily said they would do so, and adjournment swiftly followed.

Joe Poindexter

February 9: With Tara White and Michelle Shalaby present and Nat Yohalem participating by phone from home, the Board approved minutes from January 5, 12, 21, and February 4, as well executive session minutes from meetings held with former Administrative Assistant Mike Skorput from August and September of last year.

In the first order of new business, the Board approved the hiring of Joseph (Jay) Keefner as a part-time police officer. According to Police Chief Graham Frank, he will spend his first two months riding with other members of the department before being able to patrol on his own. Prior to joining the department, he attended the part-time police academy in Springfield. He is currently a resident of Great Barrington.

Tim Newman, the town's WestWired delegate, appeared before the Board to give an update on the proposed high-speed broadband network and to urge the Board to sit down with two of the consortium's financial experts to go over the business plan. He said he's concerned that the project, if put to a vote at the Annual Town Meeting in May, has very little chance of passing, especially if the selectmen and the finance committee come out against it. As previously reported, the consortium will be asking voters to approve a \$2.5 million bond to pay the Town's share of the build-out costs. He'd like members of both groups to meet with Jim Drawe, the "architect" of the business model, and Joe Markarian, a former official with the state Department of Revenue, whom he characterized as an expert on municipal finance, to better understand what the costs really are and the mechanics of how the financing will work. He also asked the Board if it would consider signing a letter of conditional support for the project, which would then be sent out to eligible voters by WiredWest as part of a kickoff campaign.

For its part, the Board was largely non-committal about both requests. Selectman Shalaby said that in her mind "the major tipping point is the additional tax burden that would be levied on the people of the town," while Selectman Yohalem said his concern continues to be the Town's growing indebtedness, which, if the school bond passes, would reach almost \$2.1 million. "And now WiredWest is asking us to add \$2.5 million on top of that, which would take our indebtedness to nearly \$4.6 million against a total budget of about \$6.2 million. So our ability to borrow thereafter would be greatly impaired," he said, adding, "It's just too much money."

The Board next met with Brooke and John Humes, who were there to ask about their son's application for tuition to attend the vocational program at Housatonic Valley Regional High School. As previously reported, the Town is required by state law to pay his schooling costs since the local school district doesn't offer vocational training. The Board assured them the Town will pay his tuition costs for the 2015-2016 school year,

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but in return it asked them for two things. One is a letter stating that they are responsible for his transportation to and from the school, which they are because it's an out-of-state school, and two, the Town needs a letter for its records on school letterhead indicating the cost of the tuition, which comes to \$7,992.

February 11: Because of the press of business in large part due to budgets, the Board scheduled a second session this week for Wednesday at 11:00 a.m. All three selectmen were present for the first order of business, which was to approve the following budgets:

- Finance Committee Expenses: Level funded at \$500
- Treasurer Expenses: Level funded at \$3,300
- Treasurer Software and Support: \$3,450, a \$250 increase
- Roads and Bridges Salaries: \$274,061, a \$13,514 increase to cover the salary costs of an eight-hour-per-week secretary for the Highway Department
- Roads and Bridges: \$195,000, a \$5,000 increase
- Highway Department Training Expenses: \$2,300, an \$800 increase
- Electricity: Level funded at \$4,500
- Propane: Level funded at \$18,000
- Diesel: Level Funded at \$59,000
- Highway Uniforms: \$3,500, a \$500 increase
- Winter Roads: \$266,334, a \$10,000 increase

- Town Garage Maintenance: \$12,500, a \$1,000 increase
- Machinery Expense: \$76,046, a \$5,000 increase
- Fire Protection: Level funded at \$60,900
- Fire Stipends: Level funded at \$36,500
- Fire Department Dues: Level funded at \$200
- Fire Department Clerical: Level funded at \$1,700
- Ambulance Loan: \$27,494, a \$671 decrease
- 2013 Highway Truck Loan: \$40,832, a \$1038 decrease
- 2013 Town Hall Renovation Loan: \$14,073, a \$357 decrease
- 2014 Highway Truck Loan: \$25,680, a \$490 decrease
- 2014 Loader Loan: \$18,715, a \$236 decrease
- 2015 Highway Truck Loan: \$49,060
- Interest Expense: Level funded at \$5,000
- Banking Services: Level funded at \$200
- Berkshire County Retirement: \$112,635, an \$11,682 increase

The Board endorsed the idea of having an annual audit of the town's books, as recommended by the state and the Town's own auditors. In the past audits were scheduled once every three years, but the Board's feeling was that even though it will cost more to do them annually, it's a good investment to make sure, in Mr. Yohalem's words, "that the numbers are right."



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POTLUCK DINNER

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April 11, 6:00 p.m.  
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Town by our Townspeople
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Potluck contributions by last name  
*initials ~ bring*  
A – G ~ salad or vegetable  
H – N ~ appetizers/snacks  
O – S ~ dessert  
T – Z ~ main dish  
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The Board was **firm in its determination not to sign the letter presented to it** at Monday night's meeting by WiredWest delegate Tim Newman. As Mr. Yohalem put it: "I don't think there should be any letter from us because no matter what it says it's going to be viewed as an endorsement, and I for one am not endorsing the town borrowing \$2.5 million." However, the **Board did agree to meet with the WiredWest financial experts**, but were emphatic that the discussion should focus solely

on two issues: the tax burden that borrowing \$2.5 million would place on individual taxpayers, and the growing indebtedness of the Town that would result. "If they have something that will address those two issues, then great, we'd like to hear from them," Ms. Shalaby said. "But if we're just going to hear more of the same, it would be a waste of our time." □

Peter Schuyten

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

January 31: Commission members Ned Wilson, John Schreiber, and Freddie Friedman started the meeting by opening the hearing for resident Stinson Stroup of 62 Hadsell Street. Steve Mack from Foresight Land Services was on hand to explain the project involving the construction of a single-family home and the associated site work. Mark Stinson from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) was also present as advisor to the Commission for the duration of the meeting. Mr. Mack explained that, after considering the review from the DEP, the proposed house site would be shifted outside the riverfront area. Since the submitted plans for the Notice of Intent (NOI) did not show this current adjustment, the Commission agreed to continue the hearing until next month when a comprehensive review could be done. Abutter Carolyn Horton was also present for the hearing.

Next Ed Fairer, owner of land at 353 Clayton Mill River Road, presented a Request For Determination (RDA) to the Commission. Freddie Friedman recused himself from reviewing this project. Mr. Fairer explained that he intended to clear a wooded area of his land in order to plant garlic and onions for commercial production. The Commission explained to the applicant that the project would require further filing of a Notice of Intent because the work would alter a resource within jurisdiction of the Wetlands Protection Act. The Commission pointed out that all of the work was within 100 feet of the riverfront area. Mr. Fairer had many questions about what would be required for compliance and why. After much discussion Mr. Fairer agreed to do his due diligence and submit an NOI at a future date.

Next Mike Parsons from Kelly Granger and Parsons asked the Commission to comment on two future permits: one for Kathy and Joel Cohen on Lake Buel and the other for Joe and Holly Poindexter on East Hill Road. Mr. Parsons briefly described the two projects and asked the Commission to advise if an RDA would be sufficient for compliance. The Commission gave a preliminary review. Mr. Parsons said he would officially submit the permits for next month's meeting.

Finally the Commission reviewed an emergency permit

for a failed septic system for Courtney Turner on East Hill Road. The Commission approved the permit as proposed.

The Commission then noted that it had received an update from White Engineering regarding the cleanup for the enforcement order in effect at the Gourevitch residence, 98 Lumbert Cross Road. The news was that the cleanup of the site had started on January 6.

Lastly the mail was reviewed. A second anonymous letter was received stating concern over the removal of trees at 123 Brockway Road. The Commission agreed that they needed to try and see exactly what this complaint was addressing. They then reviewed the requirements for doing a site visit and the permission required.

Three forest cutting plans were received, one each from Joan Laskoff on Ford Hill Road, Allen Bachetti on Ford Hill and Hickey Hill Roads, and Joyce Hackett on East Hill Road.

Clarification from the DEP was received regarding compliance to the NOI for Lot #7 on New Marlborough Hill Road. Karen Hirschberg from the DEP noted that the Superseding Order of Conditions for Lot #7 was in the hands of the DEP but that any new or further permitting for the lot would come before the Commission.

Finally the minutes from last month were read and approved and the meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m. □

Martha Bryan



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FINANCE COMMITTEE

January 15: With Chairman David Herrick, John Pshenishny, Mark Carson, Burt Imberman, Ira Yohalem, and Prudence Spaulding in attendance, the Committee heard from interim Administrative Secretary Joe Kellogg on the question of whether the Town treasurer should be required to attend Finance Committee meetings. The selectmen, Mr. Kellogg reported, decided that the treasurer need only be present when some specific item relating to his or her duties was to be discussed. Mr. Kellogg then asked about the wisdom of a six-member committee (the size of the New Marlborough Finance Committee), which risks a tie vote. He mentioned that a by-law change could reduce the number to five, as is the case in most of the surrounding towns, or it could empower a selectman to break the tie. The options were left for discussion at a future meeting.

Mr. Herrick showed his fellow members a letter, co-signed by him, from the Board of Selectmen to the Southern Berkshire Regional School District School Committee, asking that the school budget, including operating, capital, and debt expenditures, be level-funded with the current year at \$2,505,996.

The Committee then approved the following 2016 budget requests, all, except where noted, level-funded with the current year:

- Website: \$2,425
- Conservation Commission Expenses: \$2,000
- Assessor's General Expense: \$2,000
- Assessor's Computer Contingency: \$4,804, an increase of \$479 over the current year
- Assessor's Consultant: \$5,000
- Assessor's Tax Map Update: \$2,000
- Assessor's Revaluation: \$16,000
- Assessor's Cyclical Re-Inspection: \$10,000
- Tax Title (Collector): \$3,000
- Tax Collector Computer Services: \$6,500
- Tax Collector Expenses: \$5,500
- Board of Appeals: \$600

- Planning Board: \$1,300
- Planning Board Expenses: \$873
- Town Clerk Expenses: \$2,200
- Election Expenses: \$2,225
- Town Records Preservation: \$5,000
- Street Listings: \$1,000.

A request of \$4,480 for New Marlborough Village Green maintenance, a \$1,380 increase over the current year, was put on hold awaiting information from Louise Yohalem, president of the Village Association. So, too, was a \$201 increase to \$4,306, for software, requested by the Town accountant. Finally, Selectman Nat Yohalem was invited to a future meeting to explain his request that the Town spend \$2,100 to put property records online. Such a program would incur continuing costs of \$1,500 a year after it was established. Mr. Kellogg stated that the program, which he claimed would save substantial time in the Assessor's office, allows citizens access to information on their properties, real estate agents access to properties they may wish to list or sell, and building inspectors and building contractors information they need for permits on buildings and land. □

Joe Poindexter from minutes prepared by Finance Committee Secretary Prudence Spaulding

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~~~~~  
A Special Photography Exhibit  
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Wants Your Photographs

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~~~~~  
Submit your photos to the Town Library by April 4
Up to five 8" x 10" photos in color or black and white
in a protective envelope or folder.
Identify each by subject, location and
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All submissions will be exhibited

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Exhibit April 11 and 12 in the  
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~~~~~  
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SCHOOL DISTRICT SEEKS APPROVAL FOR MAJOR REPAIRS

By David Hastings, Superintendent Southern Berkshire Regional School District

On January 14, 2015, I received a letter from the Massachusetts School Building Authority that began:

"I am pleased to report that the Board of the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) voted to approve the Proposed Accelerated Repair Project (Proposed Project) for the Southern Berkshire Regional School District (District) for a boiler and roof replacement project at the Mount Everett Regional High School [and Undermountain Elementary School]." The entire letter is available on the district's web site, www.sbrsd.org.

The letter went on to explain that the estimated MSBA grant is expected to be \$2,612,552 with a maximum of \$2,743,157, based on a rate 39.21 percent of approved project expenses incurred by the District. Further the letter informed us that the District "has 90 days to acquire and certify local approval for an appropriation and all other necessary local votes or approval showing acceptance of the cost, site, type and scope and timeline for the Proposed Project." (The 90 days expires on April 14.)

BACKGROUND

The boilers and roof are original to our campus. The roof's ten-year warranty expired over thirteen years ago, and the roof has been patched and repaired many times. One of the three boilers failed last year to the point where it no longer could be repaired. The second and third boilers, now both necessary to carry us through this winter, are beyond their useful life and one is leaking water. The MSBA project engineer examined the boilers again on January 21 and stated that he hopes the system will take us through the heating season. This further reinforced the engineers' original contention that the boilers need to be replaced immediately.

The District's School Committee, led by the Buildings, Grounds and Technology Sub-committee, voted in February 2014 to authorize the superintendent to submit a "Statement of Interest Form" to the MSBA under the Accelerated Repair Program (ARP), requesting: "replacement, renovation or modernization of school facility systems, such as roofs, windows, boilers, heating and ventilation systems, to increase energy conservation and decrease energy related costs in a school facility."

Prior to the MSBA's selecting the District for inclusion in the ARP, there were months during which independent engineering and architectural firms, vetted by MSBA, came to the campus to examine both the roof and boilers. Roof experts cut seven sample holes in the roofing and found that two of them showed that water had penetrated below the roof membrane, soaking the

insulation below. Further, MSBA standards require that roof insulation needs to be increased from a minimum rating of R-15 to R-25. (Additional details can be found on the District's website: www.sbrsd.org)

After submitting the required reports to the MSBA, the District received preliminary notification that the Project was eligible for an award from the ARP. The district administration and the School Committee worked with the architects and a project manager to design the final project-design, scope of work, and projected costs. During this period, the District also began investigating the use of alternative energy sources and additional funding sources.

THE PROJECT

Once approvals have been obtained from each of the five towns, the project will go out to bid. District officials hope that both parts of the project will commence by June and be finished before October in order to cause the least disturbance for students and teachers.

Roof: In order to meet the requirements of the MSBA Accelerated Repair Program, the new roof will meet the Massachusetts Stretch Energy Code and the 2012 International Energy Conservation Code. The roof membrane will be improved from 48 mils to 72 mils, allowing the district to secure a twenty-five-year warranty. The skylights will be replaced, and contractors will complete any needed repairs to the roof structure.

Boilers: The district is planning to install a hybrid energy system comprising two modern high efficiency, pellet-fired boilers and a modern oil-fired boiler. This system has many advantages, including a reduction of our carbon dioxide emissions by approximately 85 percent, and an annual savings of \$40,000 to \$50,000 in fuel consumption, based on oil prices and usage during the 2013/14 winter. Additionally, the District will still be able to take advantage of low oil prices, when they exist, to power the third boiler.

In December, the district was also awarded an incentive grant of \$360,000, offsetting a portion of the cost of the pellet boilers. Added to this good news, the District may have the added benefit of earning approximately \$40,000 to \$50,000 per year by selling Alternative Energy Credits to utility markets.

COST AND FINANCING

Now, for the information of interest to everyone: exactly what is this project going to cost me as a taxpayer? Here are the best estimates and an explanation of why it is not possible to tell anyone down to the last dollar what the impact will be on an individual tax bill.

First, the outside cost of the entire Project is \$7,741,013.

The district's project manager, who has led eighteen similar projects, indicated that he has never had a project go over the outside projection. On the contrary, his projects often come in with significant savings.

Second, the combination of the 39.21 percent MSBA grant and DOER grant of \$360,000, leaves the five district towns with an anticipated maximum of \$4,637,856 to pay, financed through a bond, obtained only after the project is complete. The district, in discussion with the five member towns, will determine the length of the bond based on the interest rates prevailing at that time.

Third, the amount we pay in school taxes each year depends on a state formula, largely related to the proportional enrollment from each town in the given year. Therefore, if we look at the worst-case scenario (a 4 percent interest rate on a twenty-year bond), based on the current state formula, this would be the taxpayer impact:

**PROJECTED APPROXIMATE COST PER
\$100,000 OF ASSESSED HOME VALUE
(20 Year Bond)**

PAYMENT AMOUNTS BASED ON FY15 ASSESSMENTS*

	1st Year Payment (2017)	20th Year Payment (2036)
ALFORD	\$ 5.74	\$ 3.08
EGREMONT	\$12.28	\$ 6.59
MONTEREY	\$ 9.28	\$ 4.98
NEW MARLBOROUGH	\$19.97	\$10.72
SHEFFIELD	\$37.86	\$20.32

*Assessment percentages change annually based upon Massachusetts state formula

The District anticipates that taxpayers will pay less than the amounts noted above because the project is expected to come in under the full price, the District will obtain the bond at a lower rate, and, thanks to a January 20 and 29 vote by the School Committee, any funds that accrue to the District through the sale of Alternative Energy Credits or any additional grant programs shall be used to reduce the principal on the bond.

MOVING AHEAD

At a special meeting on January 20, 2015, the School Committee voted to appropriate the necessary funds to pay for the project. The five SBRSD towns now have sixty days from the date of the vote to approve the District's right to borrow. All towns have scheduled special town meetings to give voters the opportunity to be heard. New Marlborough's special town meeting will be on March 16 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall.

WHY IS "THE PROJECT" SO IMPORTANT FOR THE DISTRICT?

The taxpayers of our District's member communities, as well as so many of our local businesses, have consistently supported necessary maintenance for the Mt. Everett Regional School/Undermountain Elementary School campus, the most valuable asset owned by the District. They have recognized that it is just as important for all of us to protect this asset as it is to protect our own homes. As I stated earlier, both the roof and boilers are on borrowed time. Replacing them now, with significant financial assistance from the MSBA and DOER, is the prudent course of action. The District's leadership and the School Committee hope that all of our voters will continue their history of supporting the District by attending their town's special meeting and voting to approve funding for "The Project."

Thank you.

Readers may find more information on the District's web site www.sbrsd.org. □

Editor's note: For New Marlborough, approval for the project is in two steps. At the Special Town Meeting on March 16, voters may discuss the issues, and then vote on whether or not to approve the project. If the project does receive a 2/3 majority vote, then a Special Town Election will be held on March 18. The question there will be whether the Town may override the Proposition 2 1/2 fiscal limitations, which also requires a 2/3 majority vote.



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NEIGHBORS



Alex and Adele Holman, of The Steeple in Mill River, recently celebrated Alex's ninety-fifth birthday. This photo, courtesy of Maya Parmer, shows the Holmans with their grandchildren at the birthday party in Palm Desert, California.



The Holman family

She's done it again! **Catherine Twing**, daughter of **Robert and Belinda Twing** of Hartsville, has earned a place on the President's List at Castleton State College in Vermont for the fall 2014 semester. This honor goes

to full-time students who maintain a 4.0 grade point average. She was on the President's List for the spring 2014 semester, and the Dean's List for the fall semester before that. She is a sophomore, majoring in Communications: Journalism. Congratulations, Catherine!

New Marlborough has lost two residents over the past month. **Sean Storti**, of Hartsville Road, died at age forty on February 7 as a result of injuries sustained in a motor vehicle accident. He was a 1992 graduate of Mount Everett Regional High School, and later attended an art school in Maine as well as Berkshire Community College. A talented artist and avid reader, Sean most cherished the time spent with family and friends.

Dennis Marcus, an adult and child psychiatrist of Clayton Mill River Road passed away on February 13, surrounded by his family, following a long illness. His wife, Leslie, is still in New Marlborough; their sons live in Los Angeles, California, Washington, D.C., and Cambridge, Massachusetts; his mother, Sylvia, is in Lenox. In accordance with Dennis' wishes, there will be no services.



Catherine Twing

The members of the **New Marlborough Highway Department** have been good neighbors to all of us, especially with all the snow, ice, wind, and frigid temperatures. **Jan Thompson-Moses**, of Mill River, contributed this story illustrating the level of help and care that members of the department contribute on a regular basis. This story is about the rain and ice event on January 18:

My stomach turned into a knot as our car was sliding backwards down a hill toward the trees. We stopped with our front wheels on the slick road and our back wheels in the snow on the ridge. We were no more than fifty yards from our driveway entrance.

I left the car immediately, fearful of rolling down the embankment. I turned to look as my husband was getting out of the car. And, for a moment, he was horizontal in the air before landing on his back and head. We were lucky; he wasn't hurt and the car had stopped moving.

It was a treacherous walk back to our house, on what felt like thick, wet glass, to get cardboard, de-icer, cat litter, and shovels. When we reached the house we got a reverse 911 call advising us to stay off of side dirt roads due to icing. Whoops...that came a little late! They also said trucks would be sanding. The image both of us had was of the truck coming down the blind, hilly turn and skidding into our car, demolishing it. I left a message at the highway department warning them that our car was a potential hazard for the sanding truck. It was only after many failed attempts to de-ice and pound away with shovels that we heard the beeping of the sander coming down the road. My husband raced up the snowy side of the road to forewarn the driver. And, like any experienced driver, he was backing down, sanding first. Foolishly, this strategy never crossed our minds.

Highwayman Bob saved the day. He waited patiently until we found a rope strong enough to pull us forward; we had to cut it off an old anchor. He pulled us free. We were grateful, but soaking wet.

We knew that leaving early for work the next day would have to be delayed. We used to be able to get out the short way, over a town bridge, but those days ended a few years ago and from what we hear, it won't be repaired in our lifetime. So, instead of snow days we had a couple of ice days.

Winters in New Marlborough can be challenging, but we have a highway department that does its best to keep us safe in our travels, and for that we are thankful. □

OUR WILDLIFE NEIGHBORS

On January 24, **Don Beauchamp**, of Clayton, writes: On Monday, the nineteenth, I had two pairs of **bluebirds** in the yard, and yesterday saw a dozen or so **cedar waxwings** and a pair of **northern flickers** up at the tree line. Snowing here now – six plus inches.

photo by Don Beauchamp



Carolina Wren

On January 28, I saw a group of four pairs of **bluebirds** eating seeds in the trees in the wet area across the bridge. Then a **chickadee** almost landed on me, but then thought better of it. I held out my hand, but it flew off. The following day, the thirtieth, a **Carolina wren** landed on my suet feeder, and a **white-throated sparrow** pecked on the ground under the feeder.



photo by Don Beauchamp

Bluebird

On February 7, **Tara White**, who lives on the Norfolk Road, writes: Unfortunately, there are not many animals out in this cold and snow except us! There has been a beautiful **hawk** at the barn near the intersection of the Norfolk Road and the Southfield Branch Road, and many extremely hungry birds at the feeders, including the **red-bellied woodpecker**, **downy and hairy woodpeckers**, **nuthatches**, **juncos**, **chickadees**, and **finches**.

This winter cannot end soon enough!

On February 7, **Charlie Parton**, of New Marlborough village, writes: For the first time in thirteen years we have a pair of **cardinals** as regulars at the feeder and a lovely little **tree sparrow**, who seems to be alone but is a hearty eater; and we note that he is the only one to scratch the feeder tray, yielding little puffs of snow and seed, much like most of the ground feeders. He's well tolerated by the bunches of **goldfinches** on the sock and sunflower feeder. In addition, these winter regulars have been joined at the feeder by a beautiful **red-bellied woodpecker**, even though there is a suet feeder at the ready. The feeder is so close to the slider door to the deck that it bangs against it when a group comes in. So the viewing for us is wonderful; the birds just look in at us on the couch and go on with their business.

On Friday 13, **Ari Korpivaara** of Southfield, writes: Finding bird's nests in summer often means peering into leafy hideouts. But in winter, after a snowstorm, they are easier to spot. Here's one in a bush in front of our house. What does it look like to you? A snow cone? An egg in a cup? Does the egg belong to the legendary snowy owl? How about a Mongol leader's hat?

On February 15, **Ann Getsinger**, of New Marlborough village, writes: I saw something dark and round near the top of a tall hemlock a few weeks ago. I determined, partly from the distinctive waddling tracks leading to the tree, that it was a **porcupine**.



photo by Ari Korpivaara

Winterized bird's nest

I haven't seen or heard coyotes lately and I figure it's because they aren't traveling much in this deep snow and bitter cold. Everything's hunkered down, reserving strength, I'd guess. This must be so hard for all but mice and bears, with bears hibernating and mice safely hidden from hawks in their tunnels under the snow.

On February 16, **Janice Boult**s, of Canaan Valley Road, writes: Lots of **blue jays** — sometimes twenty at a time — and they are bullies and pigs! I did have a half dozen **cowbirds** show up a few days ago, which I have never had in the winter; they usually arrive in the spring. So that was unusual. We see a few **turkeys** plowing through the snow to our feeders every once in a while; sometimes they give up walking and fly a short distance. □

Compiled by Jon Swan, joncswan@gmail.com

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UPCOMING: *Events Calendar March and April*

March 3: Informational meeting on school repair project; 5:30 p.m. at New Marlborough Central School.

March 4: The last day to register to vote for the Special Town Election 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at Town Hall.

March 5: SBRSD annual public hearing on 2015-16 operating and capital budgets; 5:00 p.m. at Mount Everett Regional School.

March 9: The last day to register to vote for the Special Town Meeting 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at Town Hall.

March 14: Cabin Fever Intergenerational Playshop; 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. at Southfield Church Hall; creative movement, non-competitive games, music, and more with Jeanne Bassis; free for ages 6 – 95.

March 16: Special Town Meeting on school repair project and approval for bond issue; at Town Hall, 7:00 p.m.

March 18: Special Town Election; If school repair project is approved, voters must also approve the override of Proposition 2½ financial limits; Town Hall, noon – 7:00 p.m.

March 21: New Marlborough Land Trust Campbell Falls hike; 10:00 a.m. Parking is a short distance from Route 272 on Spaulding Road in Connecticut.

March 27: Mount Everett Regional School production of *Footloose*; 7:00 p.m. at Thomas A. Consolati Performing Arts Center at Mount Everett Regional School; performances also on March 28 at 7:00 p.m. and March 29 at 3:00 p.m.

March 29: New Marlborough Fire Company Rabies Clinic: The annual Rabies Clinic will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the New Marlborough Fire Station on Norfolk Road in Southfield. The town clerk can issue dog licenses there, and there will be coffee and a bake sale for pet owners.

March 31: Annual Town Caucus, to determine nominees for various Town offices. 7:00 p.m., downstairs in Town Hall.

April 3: Last day for nominees for Town offices to register with the town clerk.

April 4: New Marlborough Volunteer Fire Department Spring Dance; 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. at Gedney Farm on Route 57; Buffet dinner. See ad on page 15.

April 11-12: Annual Photography Show and Potluck Supper; exhibit by local photographers, followed by potluck supper at 6:00 p.m. on April 11. Photo exhibit also open on April 12 until 1:00 p.m. Sponsored by New Marlborough Cultural Council.

April 18: New Marlborough Land Trust 1000 Acre Work Hike; 10:00 a.m. Parking is at Hotchkiss Road Trailhead.

April 25: New Marlborough Land Trust Spring Road Cleanup; 10:00 a.m. Meet at Town Hall parking lot.

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NEWS FROM THE LAND TRUST



Did you know that goats eat more than tin cans...what will the Land Trust do with goats? Are you kidding?

The New Marlborough Land Trust has been awarded a grant from the Norcross Foundation to pilot a project which trials an innovative method of removing invasive plant growth from the landscape. Additional details on this exciting project will be reported in the coming months.

The Land Trust recently participated in the planning for a network of public and private organizations named the Sandy Brook Conservation Corridor Partnership (www.sandybrook.org) whose mission is "to promote land preservation and ecologically sound land management" in Connecticut and Massachusetts – testimony to the reality that successful conservation often takes a partnership of organizations and that conservation projects are not defined by state lines.

Unfortunately, the February hike "Wake Up Walk with the Land Trust" was cancelled due to subzero temperatures. Please join us for our hike in March on the Campbell Falls loop. We can't promise beach weather but we can promise fun and fresh air.

Visit www.nmlandtrust.org for events and membership information. □

Martha Bryan



photo by Larry Cihacek

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New Marlborough Volunteer Fire Company

2015 Spring Dance

Saturday April 4th at Gedney Farm 6:00 - 10:00

Buffet Dinner
Cash Bar
Live Music and Dancing

~
Tickets: couples \$70, \$35. each

Available at the Mill River General Store or from any Fire Company Member

More info: (413) 229-0291

THE LOG**POLICE DEPARTMENT (SELECTED ENTRIES)****DECEMBER**

Jan. 9	11:40 p.m.	Vehicle runs off Adsit Crosby Road, taking down "Low Salt Area" sign.			
Jan. 10	3:34 a.m.	Car skids off Hartsville New Marlborough Road into tree area; driver taken to Fairview.	Jan. 18	12:21 p.m.	Motor vehicle accident on East Hill Road.
	9:18 a.m.	Clayton resident reports a deer with a broken leg, apparently hit by a vehicle, in his back yard; the deer is dispatched, later removed by the Highway Department.	Jan. 19	2:04 p.m.	Motor vehicle on Route 183 stopped after multiple lane violations; driver explains he was having an argument with his family.
Jan. 13	12:17 p.m.	Illegal outdoor burn on Konkapot Road two days before the start of burning season; contractor claims "everyone else does it."	Jan. 23	12:26 p.m.	Motor vehicle hits patch of ice at the intersection of Brewer Hill and Hayes Hill Roads and slides off road.
Jan. 14	7:32 a.m.	Mill River Southfield Road resident reports baby stroller, baby formula, and clothes missing from his house; a former girlfriend, owner of the items, who claims she had retrieved them, is issued a no-trespass notice.	Jan. 25	1:23 p.m.	Caller reports a mattress and a bottle of vodka missing from his Norfolk Road residence. Check of security cameras implicates the housecleaner.
Jan. 16	4:26 p.m.	New owner of house on Canaan Valley Road pushes a panic button, not	Jan. 28	8:55 a.m.	Assist a driver on Norfolk road who had locked himself out of his truck.
			Jan. 30	10:23 p.m.	Thirty-eight marijuana plants and marijuana-growing equipment seized from Alum Hill residence.

FIRE AND RESCUE

Jan. 1	1:27 p.m.	Canaan Southfield Road Medical Call	Jan. 21	1:29 a.m.	Clayton Mill River Road Medical Call
Jan. 7	12:40 p.m.	Stratford Road Fire Alarm			
Jan. 7	3:47 p.m.	Hartsville New Marlborough Road Fire Alarm	Jan. 24	10:05 a.m.	Mutual Aid to Great Barrington Medical Call
Jan. 10	3:36 a.m.	Hartsville New Marlborough Road MVA	Jan. 24	6:36 p.m.	Hartsville New Marlborough Road Fire Alarm
Jan. 13		Mutual Aid to Sheffield Structure Fire	Jan. 28	10:38 a.m.	Konkapot Road Medical Call
Jan. 13	12:17 p.m.	Konkapot Road Outside Burn	Jan. 30	9:10 a.m.	Canaan Southfield Road Medical Call
Jan. 14	9:24 p.m.	Red Fox Road CO Alarm			

Mark Your Calendars:

New Marlborough Fire Company Rabies Clinic: The annual Rabies Clinic will be held from **10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 29**, at the New Marlborough Fire Station on Norfolk Road in Southfield. New Marlborough Town Clerk Kathy Chretien will be on hand to issue dog licenses, and the clinic will include coffee and a bake sale for pet owners.

The New Marlborough Fire Company's Annual Spring Dance will be held from **6:00 to 10:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 4**, at Gedney Farm in New Marlborough. Tickets will soon be available at the Mill River General Store or from any New Marlborough firefighter. Call David Smith, (413) 229-0291, for more information.

THANK YOU TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS!

Caroline Corbin; Anita E. Matthews; Peter Goodman;
John & Linda Lowman; and Alan and Elizabeth Lombardi

FOOTLOOSE! IN PRODUCTION AT MOUNT EVERETT

This year Mt Everett's high school theater production is *Footloose!* It is directed by Kathy-Jo Grover and choreographed by Tom Masters of New Marlborough, with music direction by Carleton Maaia III. The female lead role, Ariel, is New Marlborough resident Samantha Twing. Also participating from New Marlborough are Angus Kerr, Olivia Marchione, and Mary Shalaby. The show had to be moved to March 27, 28, and 29 because

so many rehearsals were cancelled due to snow days.

This year is a much smaller cast compared with last year's production of *Grease* but even though it is smaller, there's just as much enthusiasm going into the show. Everyone is very excited. It's going to be a great show because it brings you back to the 1980's. Even though it's not Kevin Bacon, it's just as entertaining! □

Mary Shalaby



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Pizza and a movie at the New Marlborough Library February 18 at 5:30 p.m. Featured movie: Chicken Little. Three Big Y party pizzas (forty slices each) – gone!! forty juice boxes – gone!! A great time was had by all!

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A Spool of Blue Thread, by Anne Tyler
Obsession in Death, by J.D. Robb
Twelve Days, by Alex Berenson
Dreaming Spies, by Laurie R. King

Adult Nonfiction

*The Tao of Vegetable Gardening:
 Cultivating Tomatoes, Green Peas,
 Beans, Squash, Joy and Serenity*, by Carol Deppe

Children's Fiction

Smick! by Doreen Cronin
Click, Clack, Peep! by Doreen Cronin



Our Sweet Treats

The New Marlborough Library held its Second Annual "Sweets for your Sweet: A Chocolate Celebration" on February 7 from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., just in time for Valentine's Day!

We had homemade confections; the children made Valentine cards at the activity and had fun dipping strawberries, pretzels, and rice crispy treats into the chocolate fountain. Everyone enjoyed the free hot chocolate. Proceeds from this sale help fund our summer reading club. Thanks to all who helped make this a huge success!



Families making Valentines



The Brazie Family

Contributions are needed to continue the paper!

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

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Town Times

- * **Board of Selectmen:** Every Monday at 6:00 p.m.
- * **Planning Board:** Second and fourth Wednesday at 7 p.m.
- * **Board of Health:** First Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.
- * **Conservation Commission:** Last Saturday of the month at 10 a.m.
- * **Board of Assessors:** Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
- * **Fire Department training:** Every Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the fire station
- * **Building Inspector:** Monday 5 - 7 p.m. Wednesday 8 - 10 a.m.
- * **First Responders:** meeting/training: First and third Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the fire station
- * **Cultural Council:** Second Thursday at 4:15 p.m at the library
- * **Town Treasurer:** Wednesday 3:30 p.m. - 6 p.m. and Saturday 8 a.m. - 10 a.m.
- * **Tax Collector:** Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
- * **Selectmen's Administrative Secretary:** Monday - Friday 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- * **Dog and Animal Control Officer:** John Springstube 413-232-7038
- * **Town Clerk:** 229-8278; 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. weekdays; Saturday by appointment
- * **Town Hall:** 229-8116
- * **Police:** Business office: 229-8161

Emergency calls: Police, Fire, and Medical: 911

Transfer Station hours:

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

They are available at
the Town Hall in Mill River
FEE IS \$125 AFTER AUGUST 15
CAN BE PAID BY MAIL,
PLEASE ENCLOSE A SELF-ADDRESSED
STAMPED ENVELOPE

New Marlborough Highway Department

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

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 Barth, designer;
Martha Bryan, Jane Burke, Larry Burke, Kenzie Fields,
David Lowman, Joe Poindexter, Jodi Rothe,
Peter Schuyten, Barry Shapiro, Pam Stebbins,
Jon Swan, Marianne Swan
Contributing writers: Ann Getsinger,
Mary Richie Smith, Tara White. Index: Donna Weaver

New Marlborough 5 Village News

appears monthly,
also online at our new website! www.NM5VN.org
The next issue will be dated April, 2015.
All copy must be submitted no later than March 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

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CHANGE SERVICE
REQUESTED

SERVICE SECTOR 3/15

- ♦ **Benchmark Real Estate:** Nancy Kalodner, Broker/Owner. Offering New Marlborough the finest professional real estate services since 1979. 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 and insured contracting at campbellfallscarpentry@gmail.com (413)229-6097 and (413)429-7677. Mass Contractors # 7614140, HIC# 170377
- ♦ **Corashire Realty:** Serving New Marlborough for 40 years. Let experience, knowledge, and personal attention work for you. 528-0014
- ♦ **Dellea:** Dellea.biz offers affordable on-site Windows computer repairs, virus removals, and more to homes and small businesses in southern Berkshire County. Browse <http://www.dellea.biz> or call (413)528-1141.
- ♦ **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. chris@design-planning.com.
- ♦ **DesignFirstBerkshires:** Architectural design, space planning and renovation management. 413-528-6169 or info@designfirstberkshires.com.
- ♦ **Fine Jewelry:** Designers and manufacturers; custom orders/commissions welcome; expert repairs. 45 years experience. Sachs Reisman, Inc. 25 Maple Ave., Sheffield 229-0050
- ♦ **One call does it all!:** Vinyl siding cleaning; pressure washing; deck refinishing; floors refinished; window washing; odd landscape jobs; all odd jobs. David Goewey, (413)229-2787
- ♦ **Project Bee** meets on the last Saturday of every month from 10:30 until noon at the New Marlborough Library in Mill River.
- ♦ **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
- ♦ **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
- ♦ **Reiner White:** General Contractor; 413-229-8450
- ♦ **Woodruff Mountain Landscaping:** Excavation and landscape contracting, all forms of stone work and masonry, and outdoor services, including lawn mowing and yard work. 413-229-2919 woodruffmountain@aol.com

To list your business here, contact Barbara Lowman 229-2369.