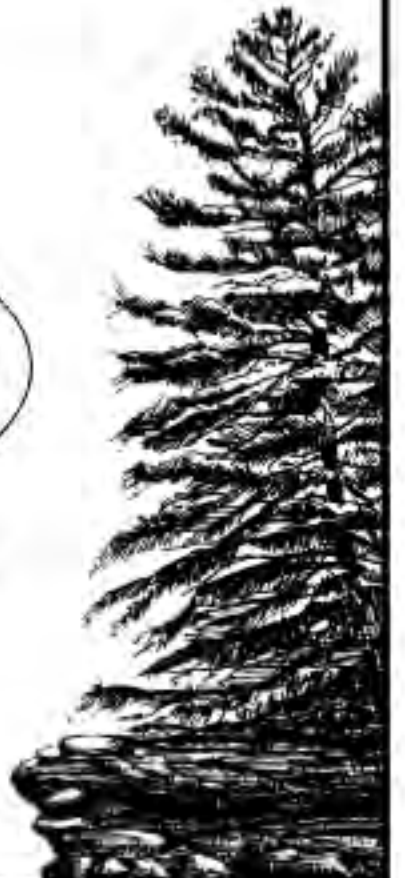




New Marlborough 5 Village News

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Clayton • Hartsville • Mill River • New Marlborough • Southfield

MUSIC AT THE SOUTHFIELD CHURCH RETURNS

by Robbi Hartt

“Years ago, when I expressed my desire to the community for the church to possess a fine piano, I had no idea all that would come into being from such a gift!” Robert Olsen states. “What started with a single piano concert meant simply to give thanks for its arrival turned into a concert series — Music at The Southfield Church — now in its sixth season.” This series has brought a diversity of musical styles and performance levels to the New Marlborough community, from budding protégés to world-traveled, seasoned pros.



Jon Suters

After the conclusion of its fifth season, which showcased most of the musicians who had performed in the first four seasons, Olsen envisioned a season focused on musicians residing in New Marlborough. Unfortunately, Covid brought the series to a grinding halt. “For two years, we refrained from merry music-making out of an abundance of caution,” Robert acknowledges, “but now we are returning, and I felt it was more important than ever to stick to the idea of neighbors making music for neighbors.” Exploring the local musical landscape, he was thrilled to find that (in part, due to Covid) there are even more talented musicians within New Marlborough than he had thought, enough to present in future seasons. “Our cultural cup runneth over!” he beams. Opening on June 4 with Jon Suters and closing on July 2 with Houry and Jacqueline Schmeizl, the early summer offerings have something for every age and taste.

When Robert asked **Jon Suters (June 4)** what he wanted to play, he answered, “500 years of guitar masterpieces — classical, jazz, Celtic, avant-garde.” Many of the pieces he plays (Chopin, Beethoven, Bach) were written for other instruments, or for an entire orchestra, but he plays them on guitar. Suters, who gives private music instruction at Berkshire Music School, has performed with different groups at Gedney, Mepal, Naumkeag, and The Mount but is known by many locals as “James Taylor’s guitarist.” Responding to that distinction, he explains that he had the “good fortune” of being asked to teach James Taylor’s kids guitar lessons and later being invited to play in Taylor’s project band, which he describes as the crème de la crème of studio musicians. “I lucked out so much,” he says. “When you play with him and look out at the audience, every single person is singing along. He’s extra special. That’s the best street cred you could ask for!”

Raised in a musical family (his father still performs on bass with him on occasion), Jon began studying music at age nine and has mastered a wide assortment of instruments, including piano, guitar, string bass, cello, violin, trombone, saxophone, drumset and percussion, and steel drums. While each musician has experienced unique challenges during the pandemic, for Jon, Covid feels like an important marker in his thirty-year career. “During the last two years, I only played for weddings and memorial services of people I knew,” he says. “I had all kinds of time to work on stuff that I wouldn’t otherwise be able to and used the time to reassess and redefine.” One of his discoveries

continued

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was a greater interest in playing solo guitar in smaller, more intimate venues. At his last gig, he notes, "I knew almost everyone there."

Katherine Slingluff and Andy Stuckey (June 11) are a husband and wife singing and songwriting duo from Dothan, Alabama, who, along with Cole Rotante on dobro, have performed their blend of country, bluegrass, and Americana songs in New York City as well as locally in the band Paper Anniversary. "We both came from musical families," Katherine notes. "We started playing music together when we were dating." Since their debut album, "Signature Confessions," was released in 2014, they have played throughout New York, including Joe's Pub, The Atlantic, and Rockwood Music Hall. They describe their most recent release, "It's Hard to Miss You When You're Always Around," as a pandemic anthem. During Covid (April 2020), they did a livestream from The Barn in Egremont and returned to perform there live with the full band in July. They have also performed at Great Barrington's Berkshire Busk and Farmer's Market. When asked who their target audience is, Andy jokes, "The people that like us the most are anyone who's been in a relationship with another human being."

Long-time Brooklyn residents, Katherine and Andy became New Marlborough homeowners in 2015 when their children, Mo and Maggie, were three and six; like many families, they moved here full time during the pandemic. How did this impact their music? "We grew more, musically, throughout Covid," Andy explains. "Our children got more involved in playing music and are now part of the family band. The downtime Covid provided gave us a chance to polish things in the works and find things that fit their voices." They look forward to sharing a combination of original material, some old and some new, and a few cover songs on June 11 — all appropriate for any age. "One thing we want to come through our concert is how important being part of the New Marlborough community has been to us. This feels like coming home to our roots. We are so inspired by our



Top, Andy Stuckey and Katherine Slingluff, Above, from left, Calliope's Ben Harms, Lucy Bardo, and Allan Dean

fellow musicians out here and think of the concert as a great way to introduce ourselves and show our thanks."

Lucy Bardo, Ben Harms, and Allan Dean (June 18) have been part of Calliope: A Renaissance Band since the 1970s, when they formed a group in order to explore the rich instrumental literature written prior to the 18th century. Earning national attention in 1975 when they won the Naumburg Chamber Music Award, they were able to commission two pieces. At that point, they got a manager and started touring throughout North America, bringing Renaissance instruments (more than forty different types) and music to modern audiences. "We covered every state and territory in the U.S. over the next twenty-five years, performing in many of the most prestigious concert halls," Lucy notes, "usually on two-week tours, with Ben on percussion, Alan on trumpet, and me playing cello." Although their national tours ended in 2001, the group continues to perform in the Northeast. In addition to playing a concert in New York City each year, they have performed locally in the New Marlborough Meetinghouse, Simon's Rock, and The Clark Institute concert series, and made a recording in 1995 in the Southfield Church — "a lovely place to record," Lucy recalls.

Allan Dean is Professor of Trumpet at the Yale University School of Music and also performs and teaches each summer at the Norfolk Chamber Music Festival. Lucy Bardo is a long-time member of the New York Consort of Violas and the Berkshire Bach Society, as well as teaching viola da gamba at Simon's Rock and teaching viola and cello privately. Ben Harms has been a percussionist throughout his career, performing medieval and Renaissance music with the Boston Camerata, Waverly Consort, and other ensembles. He has performed with the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra since 1968, playing percussion and recorder. In addition, he builds historical percussion instruments at his New Marlborough workshop. Calliope's repertory has expanded over the years to jazz, folk and pop music, and blues. This will be their first performance since the beginning of the pandemic.

New York Blues Hall of Fame singer/songwriter Billie Williams (June 25) is a Berkshire native, born in Pittsfield. “I’ve made a figurative and literal circle in my life,” she notes. She moved to New York in her late twenties, playing with a number of bands in Brooklyn over the years, including performances at The Bitter End in Greenwich Village, where all the greats have played. Five years ago, she and her husband, Colin Montoute, returned to the Berkshires for vacation and began hunting for a second home. They found what they were looking for next to the Southfield Store.

For Billy, the pandemic has had upsides, such as being able to write and do a lot of work remotely, and downsides, such as no live performances or connecting with the audience while sharing her music. She found plenty of creative grist for the mill in the socioeconomic realities present before Covid, inspiring songs like “Ten Million Sisters” and “Hell to Pay” in her latest album, and “Thief in the Night,” which has enjoyed a great reception around the world. “This will be my first live performance since Covid,” she says. “I had come to a decision that I was retiring from live performances, due in part to the big juggling act of managing schedules, personalities, and expenses for a nine-person band during the uncertainties of the pandemic.” But Robert’s invitation to perform in the local community intrigued her. “My neighbors don’t know this side of me,” she notes. “It will be nice to share my music.”

Houry and Jacqueline Schmeizl (July 2) will close the season with a mother-daughter piano duo celebrating four-hand piano literature. “There is something very special about the ability to make music with family,” Houry reflects. “The whole concept of generations connecting is so important.” She and Jacqueline started performing together five years ago; their last concert (before the pandemic) was three years ago at Lincoln Theater, University of Hartford. “We enjoy performing all kinds of music,” Houry states, from classical to fun works that resonate with young people, like Saint-Saens “Carnival of Animals.” This will be their first performance in New Marlborough.



Top, Billie Williams, and above, Jacqueline and Houry Schmeizl

Houry and her husband Mark relocated from Connecticut to New Marlborough two years ago, when Jacqueline started at Simon’s Rock — a move Houry describes as a “starting over” point. “We found the most incredible group of people here in the Berkshires and fell in love with what we saw,” she smiles. Holding a Master of Music from the Hartt School of Music, Houry has enjoyed a twenty-five-year career performing and teaching private piano lessons; under her guidance, students have earned prestigious awards and admittance to schools such as Juilliard and Berkeley (California) School of Music. As she rebuilt her business here (Piano Academy of New Marlborough), Houry witnessed a new interest in learning and re-learning how to play the piano among adults. (Of her twenty-six students currently, five are adults.)

Jackie, currently a freshman at Simon’s Rock, has been playing the piano since she was five, studying with her mother for ten years and then with Margreet

Francis at the Hartt School of Music. She has performed in Carnegie Hall seven times as a top tier prize winner as well as in Rome as a top winner for the Grand Prize Virtuoso Competition. She is currently pursuing a concentration in psychology.

For Robert Olsen and Southfield Church, the Welcome Back series represents the closest thing imaginable to a return to normal life and community. “Just as everyone has, we have been wrestling with Covid protocols and restrictions,” Robert admits. As of the writing of this article, to provide a comfortable level of safety for everyone, masks will be worn inside the church and proof of vaccination shown at the door (updates will be posted on the church website, thesouthfieldchurch.org). For the New Marlborough community, the summer concert series represents a unique opportunity to hear extraordinary musical talent and get to know our neighbors — both performance musicians and those who simply enjoy listening to music. A little fellowship and a scoop of gelato out on the lawn following each concert will no doubt do us all some good, too. □

Town Business Is Your Business

BOARD OF SELECTMEN



March 21: Meeting via Zoom, the Board expeditiously dispensed with the evening's business. First up, a hearing on the placement of two National Grid utility poles to handle new service on Crossroad to Canaan Valley Road near its intersection with Konkapot. The Board approved the two installations but postponed its response to a third pole placement request for lack of the required paperwork.

It then approved a request from Nancy Barbe, chair of the New Marlborough Cultural Council, to appoint Sherri Gorelick to a three-year term on the Council. Selectman Mark Carson said he had met with State Representative Smitty Pignatelli over sources of funding to shore up the bank of the Konkapot River where it comes in proximity with Hartsville Mill River Road in Hartsville. He was cautioned by Chairman Richard Long that ARPA funds, intended to respond to costs triggered by the Covid pandemic, would not be available for river-bank remediation. And with that the meeting was adjourned.

March 25: In a joint meeting, the Board of Selectmen and the Finance Committee met with Chuck Loring in his roles both as Fire Chief and Highway Superintendent. Responding to the Fire Department's proposed FY23 budget showing an increase of 20 percent over the current fiscal year, **Finance Committee Chairman Steve Klein noted that this was well above the current inflation rate of 7.9 percent. Mr. Loring said that the costs of service and repairs to department equipment, which account for much of the budget, have increased two to three times those of last year.** Fuel costs, also a wild card, were computed some months ago, said Mr. Loring, and will need to be updated. Mr. Klein, while granting that the price of fuel will be hard to predict,

asked that the Department provide an updated dollar figure, as imprecise as that might be.

The Fire Department requested \$60,000 to pay the salary of a day-shift firefighter/EMT, a position that has become increasingly hard to fill with volunteers. Mr. Klein, noting the high per-call cost, asked, "Is this the only way to solve the problem? Everybody," he added later, "has got to think creatively. Our job is to challenge assumptions."

"When people dial 911, they want someone to come to help them," responded Mr. Loring, emphasizing the need for a solution to the volunteer problem. Board of Selectmen Chairman Richard Long suggested that a salaried person could be hired to respond to weekday calls, while volunteers continued to cover weekends. Finally, Mr. Loring observed that the daytime employee could handle administrative matters that accumulate at the Fire Department.

Maureen Krejci, on hand to defend a 5 percent increase in the Rescue budget, pointed to an anticipated step-up in the cost of repairs and supplies. Licenses and permits, \$1,400 in FY22, will go to \$3,400 next fiscal year, she said.

The joint meeting then shifted its focus to the Roads and Bridges budget, where a union contract and a cost-of-living adjustment account for a sizable increase in salaries. Mr. Loring pointed out that culverts have tripled in cost and that equipment purchased seven to nine years ago now requires significant maintenance. Once again, looking at an overall budget increase of 30 percent, Mr. Klein sought more detailed information. "I know there is a limit on how precisely you can predict," he said, "but we need more detail to fully support the request."

With an agreement to continue to review budgets at joint meeting in early April, this meeting was adjourned.

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March 28: The Zoom meeting of the Board opened with a discussion of the timing and location of the Annual Town Meeting (ATM). As established in the Town bylaws, the ATM is to be held on the first Monday in May and has traditionally taken place in the evening. Based on the encouraging participation in Saturday morning meetings in the past two years, Selectman Tara White suggested that the Board consider holding the ATM on a weekend morning — “Just something I have been thinking about,” she said. Moderator Barry Shapiro, present at the meeting, cited other Massachusetts towns that have adopted flexible ATM scheduling and noted that a Saturday meeting might allow more weekenders to participate. All three selectmen thought the idea had merit and left the matter for further discussion. This year’s meeting, however, will be held, as scheduled, on May 2, with the Town election to follow on May 9

Emergency Management Director Barbara Marchione said she was continuing to pursue state and federal grants to address the deficits incurred by road repairs after last summer’s storms. A state reimbursement will cover part of the deficit but “we are trying to get more,” said Ms. Marchione. Another cost sector, black-topping of roads, is also proving to be a challenge. “With the increase in the price of fuel, we may be paying triple for blacktopping,” said Ms. Marchione.

Regarding his interview with David Lupiani, a candidate for part-time police officer, Selectman Mark Carson gave a positive report. “He knows the ropes and lives locally,” said Mr. Carson. The selectmen voted to hire him. Mr. Lupiani still must complete state-mandated training with the Bridge Academy.

The Board agreed to acquire from Eric Mandell — for \$1 — a right-of-way to address erosion adjacent to Hartsville Mill River Road. In a brief discussion of enacting a local room-rental excise tax, Ms. White said

there are now an “incredible number of AirBnB’s in town.” Town Administrator Mari Enoch said that one website put the number of rental units in New Marlborough at forty-seven.

Following the postponement of a decision on whether to join the Southern Berkshire Regional Health Collaborative and the issuance of business licenses to two Lake Windemere construction and maintenance concerns, the meeting was adjourned.

April 4: The 6:00 p.m. Zoom meeting opened with an appeal from Tom Sebestyen of Knight Road to liberalize a dangerous dog ruling handed down by the Board last summer. In response to a complaint from Carrie and Kevin Liba of Aberdeen Lane that the Sebestyen dog, Reba, had invaded

their chicken coop and killed six chicks, the Board had ruled that Reba, among other things, be tethered to a six-foot leash whenever it was off the Sebestyen property. Mr. Sebestyen asked that he be allowed to use a twenty-six-foot retractable leash.

Mrs. Liba complained that a retractable leash has not been recommended for dogs deemed “dangerous” and that Reba had been walked on private property. (Aberdeen Lane, which abuts the Sebestyen property, is owned and maintained by the residents whose properties are served by it.) Her view was seconded by Animal Control Officer Cassie Keeley. It turned out, however, that the dispute was scheduled to be heard on the following day by a Berkshire Country District Court. The Board, reluctant to establish a precedent for altering rulings such as this one, elected to defer to the court.

Next, the selectmen considered a citizen’s petition that the Town pay the health insurance premiums of its retired employees — defined as anyone who has worked at least ten years for the Town and not less than twenty hours a week. The initiative immediately raised a flood of questions: Would it retrospectively cover currently

There was considerable discussion, over several meetings, of Fire and Rescue’s request to hire someone to answer the phones during daytime, when it is increasingly difficult to staff it with volunteers.



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retired employees? Would premium payments continue for dependents of deceased employees? When would the payment plan take effect? Ms. White pointed out that the current budget would not cover the cost of premiums were the plan to go into effect immediately. “We’re operating totally in the dark,” said Mr. Long. “We need time to work up an alternative to the citizen’s petition.” With that the subject was tabled.

The selectmen moved on to the Transfer Station sticker fee, currently at \$180 a year. Mr. Long noted that costs continue to rise, and even with an annual fee increase of \$15 or \$20, “the Transfer Station would still be an absolute bargain.” Mr. Carson cautioned that an increase in this amount would result in more people dumping their garbage at the side of the road. Ms. White, suggesting that smaller increases made annually would ease the burden over time, proposed adding \$5 to the Transfer Station fee. With the concurrence of all three selectmen, a sticker price of \$185 was voted for FY23.

Ms. Enoch noted that residents renting out AirBnB space were generating an excessive amount of refuse and might be asked to purchase a second sticker, if there were two separate living areas. She also said that Solid Waste Coordinator Freddy Friedman favored raising the price on the disposal of tractor/trailer tires to \$120 — the current rate is \$20. The selectmen favored an increase but said they wanted a more precise definition of the tires to which it would apply.

Finally, the Board embarked on a lengthy discussion of the FY23 operating and capital budgets, ranging from the impact of debt service on the operating budget to the request from Fire and Rescue to hire someone to respond to calls during daytime hours, when it has become increasingly difficult to find volunteers for the job, and the impact of renting rather than purchasing body and vehicle cameras for the Police Department. Mr. Long agreed to summarize, in an email, the Board’s

positions on the FY23 budget in anticipation of a joint meeting with the Finance Committee. With no updates, business licenses, or past meeting minutes to deal with, the meeting was adjourned.

April 7: In a joint meeting, the Board of Selectmen and the Finance Committee once again tackled a number of increases in departmental FY23 budget requests. “We’re getting down to the wire,” said Board Chairman Richard Long, “where do we want to begin?” Robert Miller, chairing the Finance Committee in the absence of Steve Klein, framed the challenge by observing, “We have met with department heads and didn’t find requests that were unneeded. But the increases are greater than I have ever seen, and we need to get the numbers down to what makes sense to the Town financially.”

Two budget requests, Police Department cameras and a daytime employee for Fire and Rescue, came up for extended discussion. Responding to a statewide initiative to increase the use of body cams, Police Chief Graham Frank has requested some \$11,000 for the outfitting of body cameras and the installation in police cruisers. Mr. Long suggested that vehicle cameras could be delayed, and the matter was pushed ahead to a later meeting.

The request to add a paid employee, at \$60,000 per year, to cover daytime duty at Fire and Rescue was the subject of extended debate. Maureen Krejci once again defended the need, saying that fewer and fewer volunteers were available for daytime coverage. Two other matters were then debated: Could coverage be reduced from seven days to four or five, leaving volunteers to cover weekends? And could the need be met with part-timers rather than a full-time employee? “The state does not allow for missed calls due to a lack of staffing,” said Fire and Rescue’s Joe Krejci in defense of seven-day coverage.

On the question of a full-time employee versus part-timers, Fire and Rescue leaned toward part-timers. They

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would not incur health and pension coverage, as would a full-timer, and they would bring in multiple skills to apply to the administrative work that could also be handled by daytime staff. Mr. Krejci assured the group that the requisite number of part-timers could be found.

Discussion of other operating budget lines followed:

- The salary being offered for administrative secretary to replace Sharon Fleck is competitive with that in nearby towns.
- \$5,000 more for books reflects a state mandate that 25 percent of the library budget, which has been driven higher by, among other things, fuel and internet costs, go into the purchase of books.
- A saving of \$6,000 in the Police Department budget might be realized by garaging cruisers at the homes of officers rather than, as at present, in the fire station.
- After considerable discussion, a \$4,000 annual stipend was granted to the director of senior services of the Council on Aging.

With two more joint budget meetings to tie up loose ends on the calendar, this one was adjourned.

April 11: To start things off, the Board approved the relocation of a utility pole at the intersection of Konkapot and Cross Road to Canaan Valley Road to accommodate a new residence. Then, following a presentation from Jim Wilusz of Lee, the Board agreed to have the Town join the Southern Berkshire Public Health Collaborative, a ten-town group that includes, Alford, Great Barrington, Monterey, Mount Washington, Lee, Lenox, New Marlborough, Otis, Sheffield, and Stockbridge and that provides nursing and other health-care benefits.

The discussion moved on to the **possibility of employing electronic voting technology at town meetings**. As explained by Moderator Barry Shapiro, the system uses remote devices that are passed out to every voter present at the meeting. Pressing the device indicates a vote just as a raised hand would, but it is counted instantaneously and the voter's preference, not visible to others in the room, remains confidential. Equipment rental would run to around \$1,000 a meeting, and its use requires a technician to run it. With the selectmen's approval, Mr. Shapiro said he would investigate its availability for this year's Annual Town Meeting.

The Board approved payment for unused vacation time to former tax assessor, Marcia Pshenishny. **Animal Inspector Prue Spaulding alerted the Board to the possible influx of the avian flu virus, which has been detected in birds in the eastern part of Massachusetts.** All domestic birds are at risk, she said. Town Administrator Mari Enoch reported that New Marlborough had received a

grant of \$2,340 to purchase an external defibrillator. The device will be used by the ambulance crew to treat certain kinds of cardiac arrest. The meeting was adjourned — and then immediately reconvened for a...

Joint Meeting, Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee: With five members of the Finance Committee Zooming in, Chairman Steve Klein indicated there were a few wrinkles to be ironed out before a draft of the FY23 budget could be finalized. Mr. Klein was concerned with

an increase of \$2,449 budgeted for Conservation Commission clerical and said he thought the pay scale for all clerical positions should be standardized. Ms. Enoch explained that the additional pay for the Conservation Commission clerk was simply being swapped out of the tax collector department. Further, said Ms. Enoch, the job, more than simply taking minutes — letter writing, filing, and other

tasks — warranted the additional pay.

In a return to the debate over whether a daytime employee at Fire and Rescue could be hired for fewer than seven days a week, Emergency Responder Joe Krejci, present at the meeting, said there was no alternative to the full seven-day coverage. "We cannot predict when we will need to answer a call," he said.

In response to a suggestion from Finance Committee member Barbara Marchione that a part of the daytime salary be paid out of Free Cash, Mr. Long pointed out that as an operating cost it could not be paid out of Free Cash, an account intended to cover one-time expenses. Ms. White's recommendation that the burden of a \$60,000 additional **Fire and Rescue salary could be eased by a payment of \$20,000 from the Comstar account met with general approval.**

Before the meeting was adjourned, Mr. Klein polled members of the Finance Committee on each of the eight categories of the operating budget: General Government, Highway and Public Works, Schools, Culture and Recre-

Setting the FY23 budget was made more difficult by the sharp rise in costs for fuel, insurance, service and repairs to equipment, and road maintenance.

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ation, Protections of Persons and Property, Health and Human Services, Debt and Interest, and Unclassified expenses. They received unanimous approval. Following an assurance from Ms. Enoch that the budget could be met within the 2-1/2 percent ceiling on tax increases, the meeting was adjourned.

April 14: Convening at 5:00 p.m. to accommodate a 6:30 joint meeting with the Finance Committee, the Board briefly discussed a payment of \$438,000 due the Town through the American Rescue Plan Act, a federal program intended to assist municipalities in the recovery of lost revenues due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Chairman Long noted that towns with an annual budget of less than \$10 million were not obligated to itemize losses. About half of the amount proffered to New Marlborough has been reserved for a potential investment in affordable housing, but a decision on where to spend the remainder was left for future consideration.

The selectmen then turned their attention to the principal business of the evening: review and approval of the FY23 budget and the Annual Town Meeting warrant. Mr. Long advanced the view that the Board was pretty much in accord with the operating budget okayed at the previous meeting by the Finance Committee. Following clarifications and explanations of various lines on the budget, the selectmen identified four dollar-amounts that were at odds with those on an account approved by the Finance Committee:

- An addition of \$1,000 to the General Government category to accommodate the possible rental of electronic voting equipment.
- A reduction from \$6,000 to \$3,000 in the annual cost of renting space for a police cruiser at the Fire Department. Fire Company President David Smith expressed a desire to maintain a relationship with the Police Department and agreed to negotiate the lower rental.

Fees at the Transfer Station were discussed, and the annual sticker price was raised to \$185 – still a real bargain.

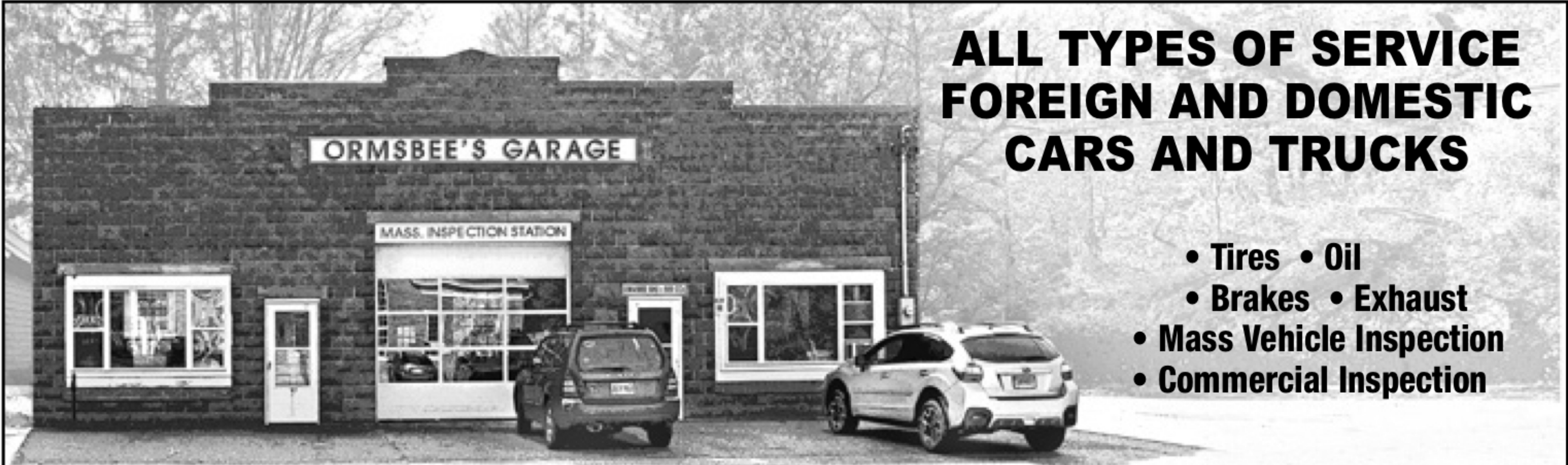
- An increase of \$2,000 in the Town's contribution to employee Medicare insurance, bringing the total to \$23,000. The contribution is figured as a percentage of salaries, which are also increasing in FY23.
- A provision of \$4,000 to cover survey and legal costs for a half-acre or so of land being donated for a right-of-way to address Konkapot River erosion on Hartsville Mill River Road in Hartsville.

Before calling for adjournment, Mr. Long noted that Valley Roll-Off Dumpster Service was billing for a fuel surcharge to reflect the recent rise in gas and diesel costs. He took issue with three elements of the request. One, the Town has a year left on a contract with Valley Roll-Off, which contains no provision for fuel-price adjustment.

Two, the base price being used by Valley Roll-Off to determine the surcharge was 25 cents per gallon lower for New Marlborough than for Monterey, another of its customers, which meant that New Marlborough would be paying 25 cents more in surcharge. And three, the Town needed an accurate statement of milage and miles per gallon of fuel in any surcharge claim Valley Roll-Off planned to make.

At 6:30 p.m. the meeting was joined by members of the Finance Committee, including Chairman Steve Klein, who evidently had tuned in from the passenger seat of a moving automobile. Town Administrator Enoch described the four changes in the previously approved Finance Committee budget, and each in turn was unanimously accepted by the five Committee members present. The FY23 budget to be presented to voters at town meeting will show operating expenses of \$6.1 million and capital expenses of \$103,500. Mr. Klein, with an assist from Finance Committee member Beth Reynolds, expressed his intention to review the budget at a public meeting late in April. □

Joe Poindexter



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CONSERVATION COMMISSION

March 17: All Commission members – John Schreiber, Freddy Friedman, Nanci Worthington, and Doug Hyde – were present to address the month's agenda.

The Commission started by re-opening the hearing for a Notice of Intent (NOI) for Leonard Golub of Rhoades and Bailey Road. Jackson Alberti of Foresight Land Services was present on behalf of his client. Mr. Golub requested a continuation of the hearing pending receipt of cost estimates and a comprehensive plan for the new access road. The Commission agreed to continue the hearing. Mr. Golub shared the news that he has successfully created the Benton Hill Nature Preserve Association and the Benton Hill LLC.

Next the Commission expected to continue review of the work proposed at the "Rooney Farmhouse" by Jane and Eliot Rennert of New Marlborough Southfield Road. However, the Rennerts did not join the Zoom, so the Commission moved to the next agenda item. Shannon Boomsma of White Engineering reported that the requested silt fence has been installed around the work area.

Mark Amstead, board member to the Lake Buel District, addressed the Commission requesting an extension to the NOI issued in 2019 involving the drawdown of the lake and maintaining the outlet from the lake. The extension was allowed.

Recognizing that no one joined the Zoom to address the Request for Determination (RDA) for Frederick Hooven of 32 Deerwood Park, the Commission moved to the next agenda item.

Marc Gourevitch of 98 Lumbert Cross Road addressed the committee with an NOI for Peter Steinglass of 148 Lumbert Cross Road concerning tree work related to and in coordination with work already approved for Mr. Gourevitch. Ms. Boomsma of White Engineering described the tree removal to be performed on the river bank opposite the Gourevitch's home. Ms. Boomsma submitted pictures of the three trees in question, which

are leaning and threatening to fall. Ms. Boomsma explained that the stumps of the trees will remain to minimize disruption to the river bank. The permit was approved.

Next, Chris Tryon of Berkshire Geo-Technologies addressed the Commission with an NOI for his client Jack Tobin of 114 Downs Road. At issue is the removal of the existing house and the construction of a new single-family residence, new garage, a septic system, and well. Mr. Tryon explained the plans to manage the storm water runoff via catch basins and over-flow pipes which will distribute water to be absorbed in the ground. The conversation labored over the proposal for the construction of a dock which is in an area regulated by the Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program. After some discussion, since the Program has not yet issued comments and review of the work, it was agreed to remove the dock from the NOI. Mr. Tryon agreed that removal of any shade trees near the water would be replaced one-to-one with equivalent shade tree species. The NOI was approved.

Finally, the Commission reviewed new business. The Commission discussed a complaint from Margaret Koerner, neighbor to the gravel pit on Canaan Southfield Road owned by Grassmarket LLC and leased to Joe and Todd Wilkinson. At issue is the construction of a berm expanding the gravel pit nearer to the 200' setback required from the Konkapot River and into the flood plain. The Department of Environmental Protection has advised that the berm be removed and pushed back to the prior boundary of the gravel pit. Attorney Puciloski joined the Zoom on behalf of his client, Grassmarket LLC, as did the representative and caretaker for the Koerners, Will Hosier. In the end, Todd Wilkinson agreed to move the berm once the frost lifts.

The minutes from last month's meeting were approved and the meeting adjourned. □

Martha Bryan



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PLANNING BOARD

Four members of the Planning Board – Chairman Bob Hartt, Tom Sebestyen, Paul Marcel, and Mark Carson – as well as Secretary Sharon Fleck, met in person at Town Hall for the April 13 meeting. After accepting the minutes of the two previous meetings, the Board took up consideration of an Approval Not Required (ANR) division of property on Aberbeen Lane. Brian Koczela of BEK Land Surveyors presented the plan on behalf of owners Mark and Pamela Caiola and Gregory Pierce. The parcel of land, which includes acreage in both New Marlborough and Great Barrington, is to be divided into two lots, each with sufficient road frontage and acreage to comply with ANR requirements. The plan was signed off on by the Board members.

The rest of the meeting was spent on organizational matters, figuring out what the priorities would be for the Board in the coming year. Among the possible areas of focus discussed were: 1) an examination of the Town’s bylaws, both the General and Protective Bylaws, with the goal of cleaning up and clarifying the entirety of it; 2) exploring the possibility of establishing ridgeline protection; and 3) digitizing Planning Board files.

There was some discussion about population density around Lake Buel, but the Board decided eventually that this was not an immediate issue, and is probably one that

should be initiated by Lake Buel residents themselves. Mark Carson also urged the Board to work on the notion of common driveways, language for which might actually be already existing in the Town’s bylaws.

As the meeting wound to a conclusion, Chairman Hartt spoke of the need for recruiting at least one, possibly two new members. Mark Carson is leaving the Board in May, and Paul Marcel, while willing to stay on, feels that he is no longer in town for a good part of the year, and is therefore less effective as a member. Mr. Hartt urged the other members to think about possible replacements. The meeting then adjourned at 8:04 p.m. □

Larry Burke



Submission Deadline May 20
For further details, visit
nmmeetinghouse.org/crow-flies-show

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CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

The annual town caucus, held on March 29, established the ballot for the town election on May 9. All candidates were invited to submit statements for publication. The statements of those who responded appear below. The polls will be open at Town Hall in Mill River from 12:00 noon to 7:00 p.m.

MODERATOR, ONE YEAR:

► BARRY SHAPIRO

I am honored to once again seek election as your town moderator, a position I have held with deep personal pride since 2015. I greatly enjoy the responsibility of presiding at our town meetings and creating a respectful and open atmosphere where everyone can feel comfortable speaking and where people can listen, think, and act in the best interests of our wonderful town. I also enjoy working with our dedicated Town employees and volunteers who help the meeting run flawlessly. I continue to work hard to identify the best practices to run our meetings and am grateful to my colleagues at the Massachusetts Moderators Association with whom I regularly exchange ideas and where I have chaired or participated in many meetings during the year. I look forward to serving the town again and thank you for your vote. Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions. barryrshapiro@gmail.com; 413-229-3993.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN, THREE YEARS:

► JOHN MILLER

For those who do not know me, my relationship with New Marlborough spans seventy-eight years when my family first purchased Brookmede Farm on Route 57. My professional and business background includes film production, residential construction, and real estate, as well as farming. The present Board asked me to run for office knowing I would be a supportive and contributing member in the absence of retiring Board member Richard

Long. (And a note of thanks to Selectman Long for his outstanding service to New Marlborough.)

New Marlborough faces many challenges due to Covid, the economy, and growth issues due to new residents who are relocating. Measured steps must be taken to accommodate the inevitable changes the town and all of its residents will face in the coming year and the years to follow.

If we work together these changes can be met in a respectful and positive manner embracing all our residents, new and old, sharing the best ideas all can offer. If elected, my motto will be, "Embrace the best for our town!!"

FINANCE COMMITTEE, THREE YEARS:

► JOHN PSHENISHNY

My name is John Pshenishny.

I have been on the Finance Committee for seven years. I am running for re-election. I would like to continue working to save money for the taxpayers by keeping spending under control.

Thank you for your support. □



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ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

MAY 2, 2022, 7:00 p.m. NEW MARLBOROUGH FIRE HOUSE

You won't want to miss it!

By Barry R. Shapiro, Town Moderator

If you haven't been to a New England Town Meeting, you're missing out.

The last vestige of pure democracy in the country, New Marlborough town meetings are typically entertaining, don't usually run for more than a few hours, and, for many, are one of the highlights of the year.

If you haven't attended a town meeting before, here's some information to help you feel like a veteran.

What exactly is a town meeting?

Just what the name says: a deliberative, legislative meeting of all registered voters in town, something which is required by Massachusetts law.

When is the annual town meeting held?

New Marlborough's bylaws require that the annual meeting be held on the first Monday in May, although state legislation allows it to be delayed by the Board of Selectmen, but not past June 30.

What does a town meeting decide?

Some major things and lots of less major things: the programs and services the town offers, how much money will be spent on services like police, fire, education and other activities, the enactment or amendment of the town's local laws, called bylaws, and other items which impact the quality of life in town.

Who are the key players at the town meeting?

The moderator, the Board of Selectmen, the town administrator, the town clerk, the town counsel, and the Finance Committee. There may also be other important participants, such as members of the School or other committees.

What's a Moderator?

The moderator presides, regulates and decides all questions of order at the meeting. By law going back hundreds of years, the moderator has the absolute authority to recognize the speakers, to rule on all points of order, and to determine the outcome of each vote. All rulings by the moderator are final. The moderator is elected annually.

What's a Selectman?

The selectmen (sometimes called the "selectboard members" for gender neutrality) are the town's executive officers, elected annually to three-year terms. The selectmen run the town and supervise town workers. Importantly, the selectmen are bound to carry into effect the policies and decisions made by the voters at town meeting.

What does the town administrator do?

The town administrator is the town's chief operating

officer and assists in the preparation of the warrant. She is present to answer questions regarding the business of the town which may arise at the meeting.

What does the town clerk do?

The clerk records all votes and takes the minutes which are the official record of the proceedings.

What does town counsel do?

Town counsel is an attorney retained to advise the town on all legal matters and, at town meeting, to answer any legal questions which arise.

What does the Finance Committee do?

The Finance Committee prepares a draft of the town's budget and recommends its adoption by the Board of Selectmen. The Committee also analyzes the fiscal impact of warrant articles and, when appropriate, makes recommendations to town meeting.

What's a warrant?

The warrant, known in some states as the "warning," is the agenda for the meeting. It sets the time and place for the meeting and the topics to be discussed. It is prepared and issued by the selectmen. Only items (called "articles") in the warrant may be discussed at the meeting.

When can I see the warrant?

Copies of the warrant are available at the town meeting and are posted at least seven days in advance of the meeting in public places, such as the post office, library, and the transfer station. A copy is also posted on the Town website.

Can a voter add an article to the warrant for the annual meeting?

Yes, but only in advance of the issuance or "closing" of the warrant. There are specific guidelines to do this. The moderator will be happy to discuss the procedure if you have any questions.

Who can attend a town meeting?

All residents, whether primary or second homeowners, are welcome!

Is there a quorum for town meeting?

No. If only a single voter shows up, the meeting may start and conduct its business.

What happens when I arrive at the meeting?

Look for the check-in desk. There, you'll receive your voter packet. Take your packet and find a seat. By state law, only residents who are registered to vote in town may vote (second homeowners may not vote).

Who may speak at the meeting?

When recognized by the moderator, all registered voters

may speak, as may second homeowners (even if they can't vote). Invited guests, such as school administrators or others who have something important to share with the meeting, may also speak with the prior consent of the moderator.

How do I speak at the meeting?

If you wish to speak at the meeting, simply raise your hand and wait to be recognized by the moderator. Go to the microphone, state your name and address and then speak what's on your mind, being sure to keep your remarks pertinent to the topic being discussed, to address the moderator and not the town meeting, and to keep your remarks civil, respectful and not personal. The moderator will make certain that your question is properly answered by the appropriate official. You will have two minutes to complete your comments, except by pre-arrangement with the moderator. You are welcome to return to the microphone, when recognized, after others have spoken.

How does the voting work?

Very simple. The moderator calls for a motion and second on each article and then asks for discussion on the motion. After the discussion, the moderator calls for the vote. See the box below for news about voting.

Once made and seconded, can a motion be amended?

Generally, yes. Amendments typically seek to add, delete or modify words in the motion. Any amendment must be made by a motion, seconded, and be within the "scope" of the warrant article, meaning that the proposed amendment must be sufficiently close to what was stated in the article that voters have been sufficiently warned about the potential action in advance of the meeting. If the amendment is not in "scope," the moderator has the responsibility in his sole discretion

to rule the amendment out of order and not allow it. If the amendment is permitted and then approved by a majority of those voting, the meeting will then vote on the original motion as amended.

Is voting determined by majority or 2/3 vote?

Almost all votes (including amendments) are determined by majority vote, although some votes, such those relating to zoning bylaws or purchasing land, may require a vote of 2/3 of those voting.

Do I need to know "parliamentary procedure" to attend the meeting?

Absolutely not. Parliamentary procedure can be complex, and you need not have a mastery or even a passing familiarity with it. Just stand up when recognized, state your point and the moderator will help you achieve what you want to do or explain why it can't be done.

How does the meeting end?

When all articles have been addressed, the moderator will ask for a motion to dissolve the meeting, ask for a second and then the meeting will vote to dissolve. Typically, the motion is accompanied by a round of applause from a group of voters who have, for a few hours, become legislators and taken direct control of the Town's future.

I look forward to seeing you there!

Barry R. Shapiro
Town Moderator

Here's some information which will be of use to you:

- For the first time in the Town's history, we are going to utilize electronic voting at the meeting. Each voter will be provided with a "clicker" to register their votes. All votes will be completely confidential and private. Electronic voting, utilized by many towns in the commonwealth, eliminates any concerns about privacy and accuracy, and speeds up the proceedings. The "clickers" are very user friendly, and we'll go over their use at the beginning of the meeting.
- Parking will be on the street in front of the Fire House as well as in the lot of the Southfield Church and the Southfield Store. Handicapped parking will be available directly in front of the Fire House. Please follow the parking instructions from the police on duty.
- In keeping with government advice, masks will be optional. A separate seating section will be available for those wishing to wear masks and be seated away from people who choose not to be masked. Our ushers will be happy to direct you there. To the extent possible, the Fire House doors will be opened, and exhaust fans used. These protocols have been approved by the Town's Board of Health and our health agent.

I look forward to seeing you there!

Barry R. Shapiro, Town Moderator

THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT, SOMEWHAT BRIEFLY

The warrant for the Annual Town Meeting, scheduled for Monday, May 2, 7:00 p.m. at the firehouse in Southfield, begins with an invitation to voters to participate in the election of Town officers at Town Hall on Monday, May 9, from noon to 7:00 p.m. The warrant is a lengthy one, forty-six articles, including three proposed additions to the Town's bylaws.

The first nine articles of the warrant are administrative or organizational questions that are customarily dispatched by the Town Moderator in one go. **Article 10** asks for \$52,918 from Free Cash to cover repairs to damaged roads going back to the summer rainstorms of 2021. **Article 11** seeks permission to affix the salaries of Town officers, and **Articles 12 and 13** ask to raise and appropriate the amounts needed to fund those positions, plus all the expenses associated with running the Town offices and Highway Department. The total amount for Article 12 (General Government) is \$418,134, an increase of \$11,218 over FY22. The total amount for Article 13 (Highway/Public Works) is \$1,104,332 – an increase of \$74,957, with \$26,721 of that being salary increases. These articles, along with every other article involving budgetary impacts, are recommended for passage by the Finance Committee.

Article 14 requests \$25,000 for right-of-way expenses associated with the repair of the Keyes Hill Road bridge.

Articles 15 through 17 deal with public school expenses. The combined total of the Operating and Transportation expenses plus Capital expenses for New Marlborough's share of the Southern Berkshire School District comes to \$2,708,400 – a reduction of \$77,467 from FY22.

Article 18 accounts for salaries and expenses relating to culture and recreation in the town, asking for an increase of \$9,479 over last year, mostly due to Library expenses and salaries.

Article 19 seeks to raise and appropriate funds to cover the "Protection of Persons and Property," which includes

police, building inspector, and tree warden salaries, stipends for firefighters, emergency management officer, and the animal control officer, and the expenses needed to fund the operations of police, fire, medical, building inspector, and animal control officer. The total sum comes to \$489,622, an increase of \$37,079 over FY22. The largest increases within this category are \$20,866 for police salaries and \$9,850 for police expenses.

Still under the heading of protection, **Article 20** asks to raise \$40,000 and transfer another \$20,000 from the New Marlborough Rescue/Comstar Reserved Account for the purposes of staffing the Fire Department and ambulance during daytime hours. **Article 21** seeks another transfer of \$27,950 from the Comstar Account for general operation of the ambulance service. **Article 22** is for the transfer of \$40,945 from the Comstar Account for the New Marlborough Rescue Stipend Account, which covers overnight staffing of EMTs. (The Comstar Account is funded by payments from insurance companies for the transport of patients from New Marlborough to the hospital, and is therefore not a financial burden on the taxpayer.)

Articles 23, 24, and 25 respectively seek the raising and appropriating of sums that would purchase a new set of extraction tools for the Fire Department (\$41,000), upgrade police radios (\$22,000), and purchase police and cruiser cameras (\$11,500).

Article 26 covers health and human services, and reflects an increase of \$12,713 over last year, with three quarters of that being hikes in transfer station expenses and salaries. **Article 27** is about the Town's debt service on a 2015 fire truck, a 2019 grader, and 2021 Hatchery Road work, and shows a decline in the overall payments due of \$1,852. **Article 28** concerns "Unclassified Expenses," which includes the Berkshire County Retirement Fund, Medicare, veterans' benefits, and various insurance coverages for the Town. The increase over last year

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is \$68,540, and nearly \$60,000 of that is accounted for by raises in the insurance plans.

Article 29 asks the voters to raise \$150,000 for the Stabilization Fund.

Article 30 would give the Board of Selectmen the authority to accept the donation of a one-half acre parcel of land in Hartsville from owners Erik Mandell and Shauna Burke. A 2/3 vote is required. **Article 31** asks the Town to raise \$4,000 to cover whatever costs are incurred in the process of accepting the land in question in Article 29.

Article 32 seeks permission of the voters to transfer \$260,000 from the Stabilization Account for the purchase and equipping of a new ambulance, and to authorize the Town to sell or trade the current 2012 ambulance. A 2/3 vote is required.

Articles 33 through 35 are all road-related: \$150,000 for the purchase of a 2023 19.5 GVW highway truck; \$150,000 for the purchase of a loader backhoe; and \$500,000 to raise through borrowing for the purpose of road repair. A 2/3 vote is required.

Article 36 would set limits for the revolving sums associated with the plumbing, gas, and electrical inspectors, as well as the Board of Health.

Article 37 would authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept donations for the repair of the historic stone arch bridge on Campbell's Fall Road.

Article 38 asks voters to authorize a study of the potential costs of implementing post-employment health insurance benefits for employees with at least ten years of continuous employment by the Town; final action on the study would be addressed at the 2023 Annual Town Meeting. **Article 39** is a citizens' petition with the intent of offering the aforementioned benefits, with the employee contributing 25 percent and the Town 75 percent.

Article 40 proposes to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a tax agreement with the company that owns the solar fields on the Mill River Southfield Road.

Article 41 seeks approval for the Town to accept portions of Keyes Hill Road as a town road, and **Article 42** seeks permission to acquire land parcels, or the rights-of-way on certain parcels, associated with the construction of a new bridge on Keyes Hill Road. This requires a 2/3 vote.

Article 43 is the New Marlborough Historic Structure Demolition bylaw, which is designed to protect and preserve significant historic structures in town. The details of this ordinance have been written of in the last several issues of the *New Marlborough 5 Village News*, and are available to be read at nm5vn.org. This proposed bylaw is being presented as a town ordinance, and therefore requires a simple majority vote.

Article 44 is the Dark Sky Protection bylaw, which was presented in full in the pages of the April, 2022 issue of the *New Marlborough 5 Village News*. It is also being presented as a town ordinance, requiring just a simple majority.

Article 45, Protection Against Light Trespass, is related to the Dark Sky Protection ordinance, and is specifically designed to protect a person's or company's property from being subject to the glare of lighting from another property. In this ordinance, light trespass is termed a public hazard or nuisance.

And finally, **Article 46** is an amendment to an existing section of the Town's Protective Bylaws, stipulating that small ground-mounted solar panels in the Village Residential District will henceforth require a Special Permit. A 2/3 vote is required. □

Larry Burke

ELIHU BURRITT DAY VENDORS!

**The New Marlborough Cultural Council is
Seeking Vendors
for Elihu Burritt Day Festival**

Saturday, August 20, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

On the New Marlborough Green

For further information, contact

Holly Valente – villavalente@gmail.com

Wendy Miller – brookmedefarm@me.com



NEIGHBORS



Norman E. Hankey of Mill River passed away at the age of ninety-two on March 21 at his daughter and son-in-law's home in Sterling, Massachusetts, where he had been living for the past three years. Norman was born at home in Great Barrington on May 17, 1929. His early years were spent at the family home with his four brothers and three sisters. Upon his mother's passing when he was an early teen, he went to live with his brother, Irving, in Mill River. It was during that time that he met his future wife of sixty-seven years, Lucy. Norm began at age twelve driving trucks and operating a shovel for Charlie Wyman and Homer Stanton.



Norman Hankey

Around 1970 he began his own excavating/general contracting business. He continued working his equipment until the age of eighty-two when his failing knees finally forced him to stop. He loved working his equipment and took great pride in his work.

In the community he had been a volunteer fireman and was also on the Board of Health for forty years. Norm enjoyed country western music. He and Lucy traveled around Berkshire County and northwestern Connecticut to listen to the music, dance waltzes, and give Lucy a chance to dance the polka. Family and friends were important to him, and he tried to visit them whenever he could. He always thought kindly of people and was quick to help anyone who needed it. Norman is predeceased by his wife Lucy, and survived by his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren who will miss his love, kindness, and strong example of compassion for people and community. The family thanks the many friends in the community for their help in caring for Norm in his later years.

Scott MacKenzie, of Hartsville, offers this memory: My most important remembrance of Norm would be the years that I spent with Norm on the Board of Health. While I served on several other town boards and committees around that same period with very capable and intelligent people, Norm stood out for his common sense and complete commitment to helping whoever was in need. There was no agenda, no ego involvement, just a very pure desire to help.

When I think of what I want New Marlborough and our greater world to be, I think of people like Norm.

Larry Davis III, of Mill River, offers a specific instance of Norm's contributions: Norm was a great guy and friend. He was a very talented equipment operator, and loved running his dozers. He was good-natured and level-minded on most everything, but if you got him fired up, then watch out!!

We served many years together on the Board of Health until just a few years ago when he had to call it quits.

A few things you could always count on with him were his common sense and willingness to jump in and help out. For example, after the new septic system was installed at Town Hall, there was a need to keep cars from driving on the septic fields. Norm said, "I have some rocks at the plant we can put there!" The next day Norm and I placed the rocks where they sit today.

Here's to you, my friend. □

Owen Wright

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A GRAND RE-OPENING

Cantina 229 Is Back in Business

By Joe Poindexter

“When we started the restaurant,” says Josh Irwin, “A customer came up to me and said, ‘Don’t burn out.’” Seated in a corner of Cantina 229, Mr. Irwin adds, “The truth of the matter is I did.” Ten months ago, as the difficulties of serving the public and finding employees during the Covid pandemic added to the challenges of running a restaurant, Cantina 229 closed its doors. On Memorial Day weekend, they will re-open.

This time, however, Mr. Irwin believes he has solved the burn-out problem. He and his wife Emily are turning the kitchen over to two highly experienced chefs, who are partnering with them in the rebirth of the Cantina. They are Oliver Antunes, a Berkshire County native who trained in France as a chef, worked in a restaurant in Napa, California., then at Rouge Restaurant in West Stockbridge; and Raymond Stalker, who grew up in Kinderhook, New York, and was for seven years chef at Nudel in Lenox. “They will cook local, in the most creative way possible,” says Mr. Irwin.

And the Irwins have added another twist: Taco Tuesdays will be doubled to Taco Monday and Tuesday — with the cuisine supplied by Changon Taco Truck, a North Adams concern that specializes in Mexican cuisine and will be serving up tacos to the Cantina two nights a week. While he is no longer in the kitchen, Mr. Irwin plans to maintain a close working relationship with the restaurant. “We need to establish a sustainable, career-oriented, professional work environment,” he says, “a symbiotic relationship that includes employees, customers, community.”

Any suggestion that Mr. Irwin is transitioning into semi-retirement, however, would be seriously premature. Along with the re-opening of Cantina, he is gearing up for two other endeavors. This month he will begin to air a podcast that investigates social problems through the lens of the food business — ranging from such restaurant-specific issues as the pay disparity between employees in the front and back of the restaurant and the role of tipping, to broader topics such as the prospect of school lunches provided by local farmers. For this, he is partnering with Raffa Russi, formerly a chef at Race Brook Lodge in Sheffield, and then captain at Blantyre in Lenox. A link to what they are calling “Bunch The Podcast” will be available at the Cantina website, Cantina229.com.

The second venture is the conversion of a former Great Barrington inn into work-force housing, a twenty-unit



Emily and Josh Irwin behind the bar at Cantina 229

complex designed with affordable rentals in mind. Given living costs, says Mr. Irwin, a person offered a \$20-an-hour job in south county, along with a rental obligation of \$2,000 a month, may prefer a \$15-an-hour job and an \$800 rental in north county. “We know we are not fixing the entire problem,” he says, “but we can’t be afraid to look for solutions that will allow the workforce to come back to the region.”

But wait, there’s more. In January, before a decision on the Cantina had been reached, Emily Irwin opened Home Love, an eclectic gift and housewares shop on Railroad Street in Great Barrington. “I’ve always loved retail,” she says. And the couple continues to operate MoonCloud, their upscale cocktail lounge, also on Railroad Street.

Mr. Irwin, reminded of the burn-out issue, is asked if he might be headed back that way again. “I plan,” he says after a moment’s pause, “to be home by five every day.” □



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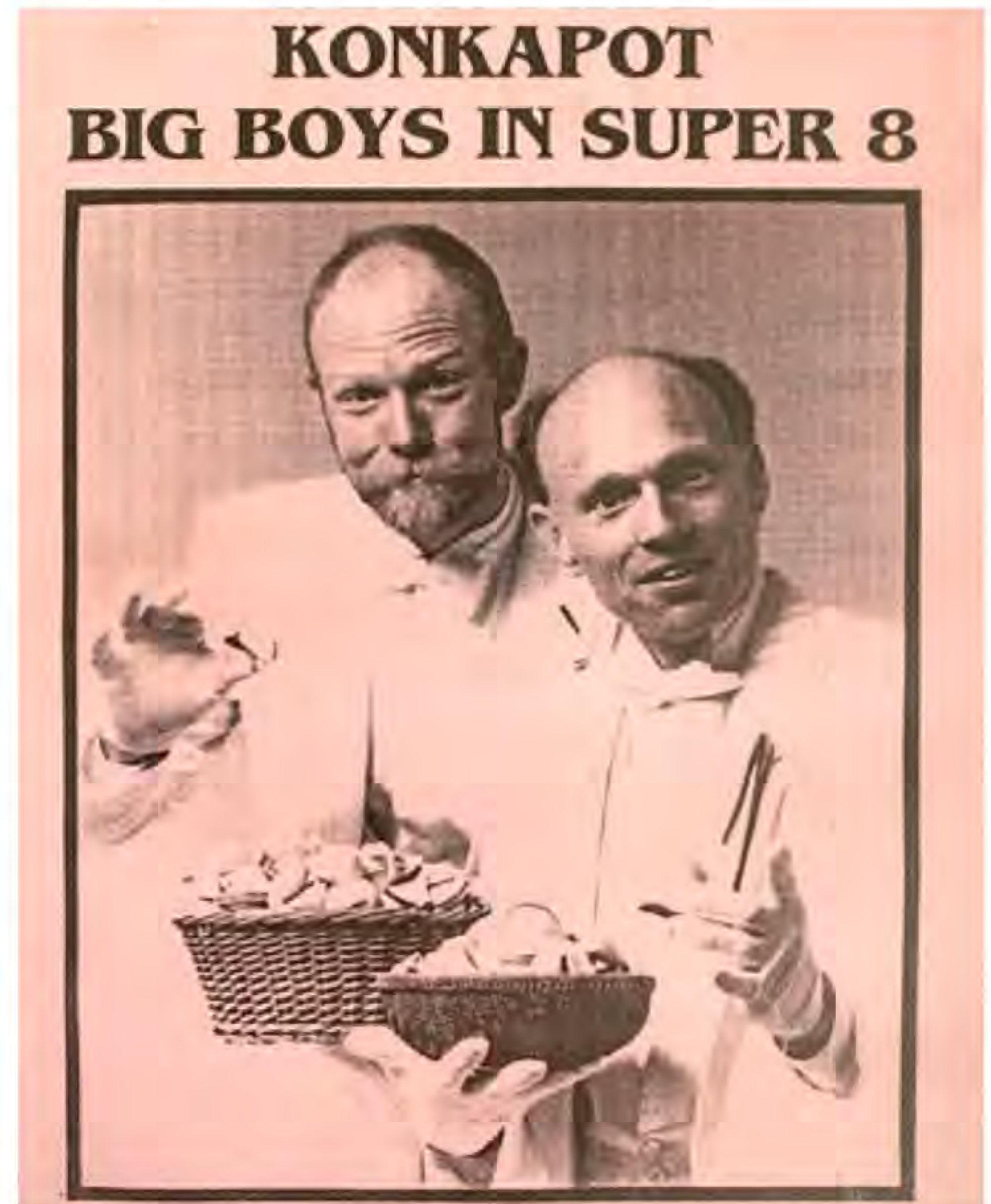
KONKAPOT BIG BOYS FILM FESTIVAL — RESCHEDULED

The Konkapot Big Boys Film Festival, originally scheduled for last October, is back on the calendar. On June 3, as the first of its 2022 First Friday programs, the New Marlborough Historical Society — in collaboration with the New Marlborough Meeting House — will screen a selection from the zany oeuvre created by the Big Boys in the fifteen years from 1979 to '94. The group, headed by Sanjiban Sellew and in partnership with his twin brother, John, and cousin Sam Mills, made some forty films; the program will air a half dozen of them.

As we reported last fall, Sam Mills said that “the films were an extension of our backyard shenanigans.” The boys grew up near the Konkapot River and spent a good deal of their youth swimming and fishing the river and exploring the surrounding woods. The “Big Boys” in their group name is “a bit of playful braggadocio,” said Mr. Mills.

While not as distant as most of the concerns of the Historical Society, the output of the Konkapot Big Boys represents a unique chapter in the creativity woven into New Marlborough’s communitarian energy. The program will be held in the main hall of the New Marlborough Meeting House, starting at 7:30 p.m. □

Joe Poindexter



ANIMAL INSPECTOR’S NOTICE

We have been notified that there has been a highly pathogenic Avian Influenza detected in Massachusetts. It has been confirmed in wild birds in multiple locations in the state and appears to be prevalent in at least some species of the wild bird population. According to the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources this means that all domestic poultry in Massachusetts may be at risk of exposure to the virus, which can be fatal for birds like chickens and turkeys.

Director of Animal Health Michael Cahill has issued orders of cancellation or postponement of all competitions, exhibitions, shows, swaps, or other in-person events encouraging the gathering or commingling of domestic fowl or poul-



try in Massachusetts until further notice. If bird owners have any questions about this, they can call 617-626-1795.

Prudence Spaulding, the animal inspector for the Town of New Marlborough, sent a copy of the original notice to all the bird owners listed with her. Bird owners need to be alert to this situation and be careful with their flocks. Should a bird appear sick, they have in her letter the telephone number to get help from the state. Of course, they can also use the phone number that Mr. Cahill included in his notice, above. While our town appears to be safe from this virus, things can change and extreme care needs to be practiced. □

Thank You to Our Contributors:

Tom & Linda King; Leonard & Hannah Golub; Crozer Martin; Eugene & Elizabeth Rosenberg

Upcoming: Events Calendar for May and June

May 21: Bird Watching, at the height of the migratory season, with birder Chris Blake, 7:00 to 9:00 a.m. at Thousand Acre Swamp, off Hotchkiss Road, sponsored by the New Marlborough Land Trust; email: nmlandtrust@gmail.com to reserve a space

June 3: Konkapot Big Boys Film Festival, co-sponsored by the New Marlborough Historical Society and the New Marlborough Meeting House, 7:30 p.m. at the Meeting House

June 4: Guitar masterpieces from John Suters, 7:00 p.m. at the Southfield Church, masks and proof of vaccination required

June 11: The band Paper Anniversary, with Katherine Slingluff and Andy Stuckey presenting bluegrass and Americana; 7:00 p.m. at the Southfield Church, masks and proof of vaccination required

June 18: Mariken Palmboom, Harpsichordist with the Berkshire Bach Society, 4:00 p.m., New Marlborough Meeting House

June 18: Calliope, a Renaissance Band, with Ben Harms, Lucy Bardo, and Allan Dean 7:00 p.m. at the Southfield Church, masks and proof of vaccination required

June 24: As the Crow Flies, a show of works by local artists at the Meeting House Gallery's first event of the 2022 season; opening party 5:00 p.m., on display Friday through Sunday until July 24

June 25: Blues singer Billie Williams, 7:00 p.m. at the Southfield Church, masks and proof of vaccination required

The New Marlborough Cultural Council Invites one and all to a

POTLUCK SUPPER

Saturday, May 21 – 6:00 p.m.

At the New Marlborough Fire House

Live Music! Free!

Please bring a dish large enough for 10-12 people

Last name: A-F – Appetizer or hors d'oeuvre

G-L – Salad or side dish

M-T – Main course

U-Z – Dessert

Bring your own beer or wine

We ask that guests observe Covid precautions by wearing a mask unless eating




THE LOG

Police Department (selected entries)

- Mar. 2 7:20 a.m. A missing man from Connecticut was located inside a Southfield residence where, having broken in, destroyed the inside and was, according to the reporting party, "going crazy."
- Mar. 4 6:21 p.m. Alerted by a driver, an officer dispatches a deer that had been hit by a vehicle on Mill River Great Barrington Road.
- Mar. 5 2:37 p.m. A Hartsville resident complains of a dog-walker trespassing on a private road.
- Mar. 6 3:39 p.m. A hiker in Questing, a preserve in New Marlborough village, reports that her bulldog has run off and been missing for an hour.
- Mar. 7 3:10 p.m. Following a stop on Hartsville New Marlborough Road, a tow is ordered for a sedan on which a license plate from another vehicle had been attached.
- 7:55 p.m. A caller reports a tree on wires near her Hartsville Mill River Road residence.
- 10:15 p.m. A resident reports a tree and wires down blocking Foley Hill Road.
- Mar. 8 6:55 a.m. National Grid is notified of two branches on wires on Campbell Falls Road.
- 10:02 a.m. National Grid notified of a tree on wires, igniting a fire, on Hartsville New Marlborough Road.
- 9:40 p.m. National Grid notified of a tree on wires on East Hill Road.
- Mar. 11 4:26 p.m. Stopped for speeding on Hartsville New Marlborough Road, a driver is arrested for operating under the influence and with an open container of alcohol in his car.
- Mar. 12 6:17 p.m. A section of Hartsville New Marlborough Road between Hartsville village and Adsit Crosby Road is closed while multiple utility pole fires, caused by downed wires, are extinguished.
- Mar. 13 9:30 a.m. Tree on wires on Sisson Hill Road.
- 1:23 p.m. The animal control officer is alerted to two dogs loose on New Marlborough Hill Road.
- 6:25 p.m. An officer delivers an Amazon package he found on Hartsville New Marlborough Road to its intended recipient.
- Mar. 17 1:30 p.m. A Southfield resident complains about speeding and failure to observe stop signs on Norfolk Road.
- Mar. 18 9:12 p.m. A caller asks for assistance in quelling a disturbance at a Southfield residence, blocking Route 57 east of New Marlborough village.
- Mar. 19 7:24 p.m. An officer assists in obtaining a tow for a vehicle disabled on Hartsville New Marlborough Road.
- Mar. 20 1:21 p.m. A Hartsville resident complains of a woman trespassing on her property and taking photographs.
- Mar. 21 5:07 p.m. Multiple residents throughout town report a suspicious person stopping at nearby houses, asking for work.
- 6:42 p.m. An officer advises the Highway Department of a tree blocking Route 57 east of New Marlborough village.
- Mar. 23 1:22 p.m. The animal control officer is called to assist in locating a husky that has gotten loose and is missing from its Clayton home.
- Mar. 24 1:32 p.m. Spectrum notified of damage to a fiber-optic cable on South Sandisfield Road, taking out several electric lines.
- Mar. 28 4:42 p.m. A Hartsville resident asks whether a dog walker can be prevented from using her private road.

Graham Frank, Chief of Police



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LAND TRUST NEWS

May is the transition month when the fresh cold winds and rains of April give way to spring flowers blooming, birds singing and life feeling a bit more joyful.

The New Marlborough Land Trust is happy to report that Stefan Zdziarski will be taking on the role as our trail steward. Stefan grew up in New Marlborough and has a BA in Environmental Studies from Green Mountain College.



Graffiti is gone! Nathaniel Bossi, one of our newest board members, spent an afternoon in April removing the graffiti from the Carroll Mill site.

We have several events planned for the spring and summer. Space is limited so please email nmlandtrust@gmail.com for a reservation.

Bird Watching with Chip Blake at 1000 Acre Swamp, May 21 7:00 - 9:00 a.m.

Birds are delightful to look at in any season, but never more so than mid-May when many species from the subtropics are moving through the Berkshires, on their way to their breeding grounds farther north. Please join local birder Chip Blake for a two-hour bird walk through the Thousand Acre Swamp. Meet at the boat ramp at 6:50 am.

JUNE OFFERINGS

Family Wilderness Survival and Primitive Skills at Thousand Acre Swamp with Tes Reed Sunday, June 12, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. (four hours)

What should you know to not only survive, but thrive in the wild? Pack a snack and a lunch and spend some time in the sprawling forest landscape of the Thousand Acre Swamp with your family learning about fire, water, shelter, and food and how, if you do get lost, what to do and what not to do. For families with children ages 8 and up.

New Marlborough Land Trust Partners with Berkshire Camino

The New Marlborough Land Trust is partnering with Berkshire Camino (berkshirecamino.com) to offer two special walks on our properties.

Berkshire Camino's founder and CEO, Mindy Miraglia says: "When we follow a ritual to walk with intention, curiosity, and a willingness to let something weighing on us go, it elevates an ordinary walk to a sacred walk."

Join us on **Friday, June 24, 2022 for a walk at 1000 Acre 9:00 - 10:30 a.m. and Friday, September 30 at Goodnow Preserve for 3:00 - 4:30 p.m.** Space is limited; registration can be found on the Berkshire Camino website: berkshirecamino.com. □

Executive Director Silvia Eggenberger

FIRE AND RESCUE

March 1	7:45 a.m.	Mill River Great Barrington Road Medical Call	March 14	2:48 p.m.	Canaan Southfield Road Medical Call
March 1	6:36 p.m.	Canaan Southfield Road Medical Call	March 17	11:06 a.m.	East Hill Road Fire Alarm
March 2	3:01 p.m.	East Hill Road Medical Call	March 18	12:48 a.m.	Hotchkiss Road Medical Call
March 5	1:42 p.m.	Mill River Great Barrington Road Medical Call	March 21	10:11 p.m.	Hartsville New Marlborough Road Medical Call
March 7	10:20 p.m.	Foley Hill Road Wires Down	March 23	1:30 p.m.	Rhoades and Bailey Road Medical Call
March 8	2:49 p.m.	Umpachene Falls Road Medical Call	March 24	7:35 a.m.	Mutual Aid to Salisbury, Conn. Structure Fire
March 9	5:17 p.m.	Rhoades and Bailey Road Medical Call	March 25	4:40 p.m.	Mutual Aid to Great Barrington Medical Call
March 11	11:19 a.m.	Norfolk Road Fire Alarm	March 26	12:19 a.m.	Mutual Aid to Sheffield Medical Call
March 11	6:55 p.m.	Arroyo Way CO Alarm	March 26	1:04 p.m.	Mutual Aid to Monterey Medical Call
March 11	6:30 p.m.	Hartsville New Marlborough Road Wires Down	March 30	9:15 p.m.	Norfolk Road Unattended Burn
March 11	7:50 p.m.	Mutual Aid to Monterey Medical Call			<i>Fire Company President David Smith</i>

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

This quick and easy recipe is a weeknight favorite. Putting the tortilla chips on top of the meat is a far superior approach than trying to jam the meat and toppings into taco shells which inevitably leak and break. Enjoy!

Marjorie Shapiro

School Night Tacos

Serves 6 Time: preparation and cooking: 30 minutes

Ingredients

2 tablespoons of safflower or another neutral oil	2 tsp cornstarch
4 large garlic cloves, minced	2 tsp sweet paprika
2 pounds ground beef	¼ to ½ tsp red pepper flakes (depending on how spicy you'd like it)
1 medium onion, diced	1 cup beef broth
1 tbsp chile powder	1 14 oz. can of baby tomatoes
1 tbsp cumin	1 bag of your favorite tortilla chips
1 tbsp kosher salt	Toppings (see last bulleted item below)
2 tsp black pepper	

Directions:

- Heat the oil in a large skillet over medium heat. When the oil is hot, add the onion and sauté until it is soft and begins to brown. Time will vary but likely will take about five minutes.
- Add the garlic and sauté for about a minute and then add the beef.
- Cook the meat, onion and garlic mixture until the beef starts to brown, stirring to break up the meat. This should take about five minutes.
- Add the can of baby tomatoes and stir to incorporate into the meat.
- Add the chile powder, cumin, salt, pepper, cornstarch, paprika and red pepper flakes, stirring to combine.
- Add the broth, mix well and bring to a simmer. Cook uncovered until the sauce thickens. This should take about five minutes.
- Serve in bowls and top with tortilla chips and sides such as grated Mexican cheese, sliced jalapeños, shredded iceberg lettuce, salsa, sour cream, avocados, or any other toppings you may prefer.

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MOUNT EVERETT SPRING MUSICAL

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee returned to the stage at the Thomas Consolati Performing Art Center on Friday, March 25. It was first performed there by the Barrington Stage Company in 2004, when the Southern Berkshire Regional School District rented this theater to them. A remarkable performance, directed by Allison England with Courtney English co-directing the music, included talented student performers supported by an orchestra of five professional local musicians. The enthusiastic audience response was energized by a large number of theater students attending from Monument Mountain High School, who loudly voiced their approval of the actors' antics.

The director noted that, due to the pandemic, this was the first opportunity for these students to present a live performance since 2019. She credited the dedicated faculty and administration for supporting the successful return to the stage. As a musical theater artist, she congratulated the cast in the discipline they showed to master their singing skills, vocal control, and dance numbers.

The cast included actors from grades seven through twelve with several adults stepping into improvised roles. The cast changed at each performance. On opening night Kelly Krom, a freshman from New Marlborough, delivered a hilarious portrayal of the flighty Leaf Coneybear. She had previously performed in three other plays. She said, "I would like to thank all the staff who helped put this show together and the assistant directors who made sure we did not forget anything. Also thank you to all the new friendships I have made through this



Opening night of the live Mount Everett student performance of the musical, the 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee was a high-spirited success. New Marlborough's Kelly Krom, front row third from the left, was outstanding in her comical portrayal of Leaf Coneybear.

production." Mickey Masters, 2021 graduate of Mount Everett from Southfield, made an encore performance at the Saturday night show. He commented, "I'd like to thank Ms. English for getting me into the show and for being a great mentor to me over the years."

Overall, the cast of eighteen delivered fifteen very uplifting musical numbers complete with complex choreography co-directed by Allison England and Tom Masters. They were supported by a student crew of seven, working backstage and on the lights.

As the director wrote in the program notes "Spelling Bee had given us all a chance to return to the consciousness of the middle school years and the unblemished innocence and magic of an open heart." □

Jane Burke

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EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL BEGINNING AT MOUNT EVERETT

On March 28, Governor Charlie Baker made it official that Mount Everett High School, in partnership with Bard College at Simon's Rock (BCSR), is one of eight high schools, the first in Berkshire County, to be approved to become an Early College High School in fall of 2022. The announcement said that a total of \$1,300,000 is earmarked for the implementation of programs that will be overseen by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) and the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education. Education Secretary James Peyser said, "Successful early college programs create a coherent course of study that can change the trajectory of a high school student's life. By designating these early college programs, we are creating a shift in the educational experience for thousands of students."

This announcement is the culmination of almost four years of work between BCSR and Southern Berkshire Regional School District (SBRSD). The idea came from former school committee member and BCSR professor Kenneth Knox, who in 2018 offered to help bring college courses to Mount Everett. There was enthusiastic response from both Superintendent Beth Regulbuto and the full School Committee. A memorandum of understanding was approved in 2019 whereby SBRSD and BCSR committed, for at least five years, to work together to develop a high-quality partnership to bring college courses to high school students at no cost to the students.

During the 2019–2020 academic year, Simon's Rock offered a successful pilot involving one course per semester at the high school. Holding classes at the school helped foster a safe and supportive learning environment. Students were selected for this program without regard to their previous grades or academic achievement. Students earned three college credits per course.

After a pause caused by the pandemic, in 2021 the partners committed to finding funding for a wraparound program that Dr. Regulbuto described as "a wonderful example of a way we can ease the burden of future educational costs for families, increase student confidence in pursuing higher education coursework, and give insight into the fields that our students think interest them. Starting college coursework early helps our students understand if it's a good fit for them." John B. Weinstein, provost and vice president of Simon's Rock said, "We are thrilled to work with SBRSD to support the educational needs of students, and help introduce them to pathways to college at an early age. The courses visiting students take as part of the program are the same as the introductory courses taken by full-time students at Bard College at Simon's Rock, with the same faculty and the same rigor of academic standards. Classes offered are common introductory courses for first-year college students such as Psychology, Language and Gender, Calculus I, Art and Literature, and even Local and Sustainable Food in the Berkshires." The program's value has been proven by a Mount Everett student who took these classes and has just been accepted to Princeton University with a full scholarship. She reported that she never would have even considered applying if she had not participated in the program.

There is great excitement now that the project has received close to \$500,000 in funding over the next four years. A descriptive publication, "The Mount Everett New Program of Studies," approved by the School Committee on April 7, includes a ten-page section outlining the details of the early college structure and offerings. All ninth and tenth graders will participate in unit instruction and college campus visits with all components integrated into the required curriculum. A major focus will be on family involvement in learning about the college process to engage the many families

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MAILBOX

To the Editor,

I am not running for re-election to the Board of Assessors this year. I have been an assessor for thirty-six years. I am retiring in May to spend time with my husband.

I am happy to say that I have enjoyed the last thirty-six years. I have learned a lot and met a lot of really nice people. I hope whoever takes my place will continue to care about the people and help them afford their taxes. I have always been willing to listen and tried to be compassionate to help the people.

Thank you for a good ride.

Marsha A. Pshenishny
Clayton

that may not have had other family members attend or complete college.

The Early College program can accommodate every student in college credit-bearing courses. In order to remove as many barriers to entry as possible, the model is designed to allow for the least amount of disruption to current schedules or after-school activities. After lunch, Mount Everett will transform into the Early College academy for eleventh and twelfth grade students taking Early College courses running from 1:12 to 2:45 p.m. Each course will meet twice weekly allowing a student to take two courses per semester with the Friday time block devoted to participation in the College Experiential Learning. There will be one classroom dedicated to the college course work and another for students to use for out-of-class assignments. Transportation to the Great Barrington campus of BCSR will be provided so students also have access to courses offered there. Courses will be taught by BCSR professors. Selected teachers from Mount Everett will be trained to lead college-level courses to allow for expansion of student participation. The

program's goal is to have at least 80 percent of students make the choice to take tuition-free, credit-bearing Early College courses after they complete the required units of study in ninth and tenth grade. Overall, it is possible to earn thirty college credits for free while in high school.

The program design incorporates inclusion of early career exploration and is grounded in employability skills and labor market information. This approach means all students will develop work-force skills, whether they plan to continue their education after graduation or are seeking immediate employment in career areas. Academic courses will be offered that enhance the existing career pathways. Research has already shown that graduates of Early College programs have a higher rate of college degree completion in four or six years, are more successful in financing their education, and are better prepared for careers than those who followed the traditional high school pathway. □

Jane Burke

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MackENZIE
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- The Maid*, by Nita Prose
- Ocean State*, by Stewart O’Nan
- The Candy House*, by Jennifer Egan
- The Good Left Undone*, by Adriana Trigiani

Adult Nonfiction

- The Betrayal of Anne Frank: A Cold Case Investigation*, by Rosemary Sullivan
- That Noodle Life*, by Mike Le and Stephanie Le
- Sisters of Mokama: The Pioneering Women Who Brought Hope and Healing to India*, by Jyoti Thottam

Adult Audiobook Fiction

- Girl In Ice*, by Erica Ferencik

Children’s Fiction

- Big and Small and In-Between*, by Carter Higgins
- Apollo’s Mystic Message*, by Stella Tarakson
- Unplugged*, by Gordon Korman

LIBRARY HOURS



Mon. Wed. Sat. 10:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Tues. / Fri.. 1:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Thurs. 1:30 – 5:30 p.m.
229-6668



THE BIG BUNNY AT THE LIBRARY

Free STEAM Saturday Workshop

Thanks to the New Marlborough Cultural Council and Deb O’Brien at the library, children ages 7 – 11 can attend a **free workshop on May 21** at the New Marlborough Library from 10:00 a.m. to noon.

Jane Burke will be leading a number of projects that require science to make art. There will be chemistry, physics, biology, and some math involved. And lots of fun. Limited enrollment, so contact Jane at janesburke@gmail.com to reserve a space.

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Town Times

Board of Selectmen: Every Monday at 6:00 p.m.
Town Administrator: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Planning Board: Second and fourth Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.
Board of Health: First Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.
Conservation Commission: Last Saturday of the month at 9:00 a.m.
Board of Assessors: Monday through Thursday, 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Fire Department training: Every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. at the fire station
Building Inspector: By appointment only; call 413-229-0277
First Responders: Meeting/training: First and third Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. at the fire station
Cultural Council: Second Thursday at 4:15 p.m. at the library
Post Office: Mill River (413) 229-8582 — if and when it re-opens:
 Window hours: Monday - Friday 11:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
 Saturday 9:00 - 11:30 a.m.
Southfield (413) 229-8476
 Window hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
 Saturday 9:00 - 12:00 p.m.
Town Treasurer: Monday & Tuesday 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Tax Collector: Monday 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Tues. and Thurs. 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Selectmen's Administrative Secretary: Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Dog and Animal Control Officer: Cassie Keeley, (413) 429-7603
Town Clerk: 229-8278; 7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. weekdays; Saturday by appointment
Town Hall: 229-8116
Police: Business office: 229-8161
Library: 229-6668

Transfer Station Hours:

Wednesday: 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
 Saturday: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
 Sunday: 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

PERMITS ARE DUE JULY 1

and can be purchased for \$185
 by mail or online at
www.newmarlborough.gov.

Please enclose a self-addressed,
 stamped envelope. No admittance
 without a permit after August 15

Emergency calls:

**Police, Fire, Medical
 911**

New Marlborough Highway Department

Located on Mill River-Southfield Rd.

Hours:

Monday - Friday 7:00 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, Robbi Hartt, Steven Nester,
 Joe Poindexter, Peter Schuyten, Barry Shapiro, Marjorie Shapiro,
 Rachel Perera Weingeist. Contributing artist: Ann Getsinger

NM5VN Board of Directors

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 Joe Poindexter, Peter Schuyten, Barry Shapiro,
 Nan O'Shaughnessy Smith, and Tara White

New Marlborough 5 Village News

appears monthly,

also online at
www.nm5vn.org

The next issue will be dated June 2022.

All copy must be submitted no later than May 17.
 For advertising, contact Barbara Lowman, tel: 229-2369
 PO Box 243, Southfield, MA 01259

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- ◆ **Reiner White & Sons, Inc:** A family-run general contractor business serving the MA and CT area since 1988 - new construction, additions, remodeling, and more. Licensed and insured. Call (413) 229-8450 for free consultation.

To list your business here, contact Barbara Lowman (413)229-2369