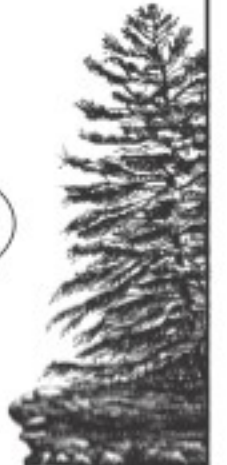




New Marlborough 5 Village News

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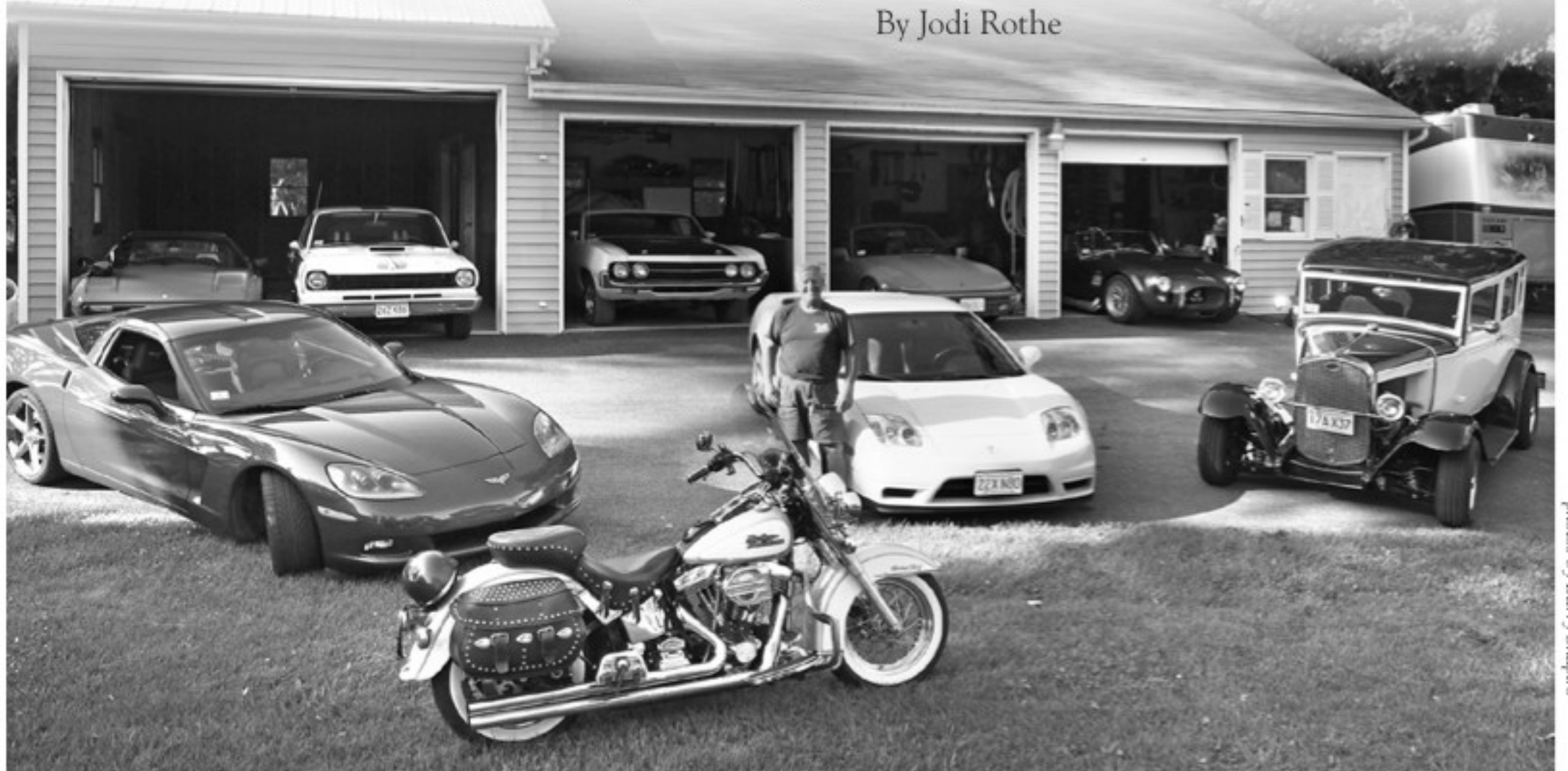
Clayton • Hartsville • Mill River • New Marlborough • Southfield



A 'BUCKET LIST' OF BEAUTIES

Behind Greg Goewey's Garage Doors, a Stunning Stable of Cars

By Jodi Rothe



photos by Barry Shapiro

Greg Goewey surrounded by his "bucket list," from left to right, back to front: '80 Ferrari, '69 AMC Hurst Scrambler, 1970 Torino Cobra 429, 1982 Porsche 911 Slantnose, 1966 Cobra 427, 2013 Corvette (the "beater"), 2002 Acura NSX, 1931 Ford Model A Street Rod, 1999 Heritage Softail Harley Davidson.

Who in town fills a five-car garage and still needs space elsewhere to accommodate his wheels? And whose "beater car" (car speak for an everyday vehicle) is a blazing red Corvette? Hint: the license plate reads GREG. Yes, it's Greg Goewey, whose passion for automobiles, combined with well-honed bargaining skills, has led to perhaps

the most impressive accumulation of automotive horsepower in Berkshire County.

A Berkshire native who started out in Great Barrington – "a great place to grow up and go to school," he says – Greg has made his home in Mill River since 1978. He attended Searles High School and has high praise for his experience there, but a key element of his education came from his father. "After the food and rent came cars," he says, noting that his family always had the best car in the neighborhood, whether it was a Ford, Dodge, or Chevy.

Greg's first auto gave little indication of where he was headed car-wise. It was a VW van, a strictly practical vehicle. His young son, Dave, rode in a playpen in the back.

Asked how he went from a utilitarian van to owning an amazing car collection, Greg points to a knack for business that surfaced while still in high school. He and a buddy came up with a plan that turned out to be surprisingly profitable. They

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Greg Goewey's garage in Mill River. He also rents space in Hartsville.

would put on school dances, hire the band, bring in the refreshments, and pocket the door fee.

After one such event, he brought home \$600 in cash. His father, who worked in construction, happened to be sitting at the kitchen table, counting his take-home pay. Greg remembers offering to lend his Dad \$300, and his father "went ballistic," chasing him up and down Castle Street, "yelling that I should go to jail," says Greg. His father couldn't believe he'd made that much money from putting on a school dance. It almost seemed as if Greg could pull money from thin air. "I could walk down the street and make money," he says.

And then there is Greg's acumen at the pool table. He started shooting pool at the Cove Bowling Lanes in Great Barrington. Today, he and a team of regulars go to Las Vegas to compete in national competitions for fun — and profit.

But a more conventional business consumes the larger part of Greg's daily life. His industrial cleaning business

gets him up at 4:00 a.m. most mornings to handle such jobs as the Butternut Lodge and Ski Shop during the winter. Because cleaning didn't take up his whole day, he added a lawn care business.

Taking a page out of his business practice, Greg is pragmatic when it comes to buying cars. Like many collectors, the fun for him is in the chase, but he isn't an emotional bidder. He decides up front how much he'll pay for a car, or what vehicle he'll trade for it, and if that isn't enough, he walks away.

Early on, he established a "bucket list" of acquisitions, at the top of which was an early "street rod," a souped-up production car. Instead of the more common two-door model, he wanted a four-door hot rod. He found it in Lake George and had twenty-four hours, on a Sunday, to scabble together the cash. With the help of a few friends, he became the proud owner of a beautifully restored 1931 Model A Ford.

His second acquisition was an Acura NSX, his dream

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Greg Goewey aboard his bargain Harley Davidson.

car, which he describes as the finest handling sports car in the world, “a Japanese Ferrari” with a limited production run of only 7,500 cars. He made the deal through an eBay auction and flew to Houston to pick up the car. While driving it back, he was pulled over for speeding. The car wasn’t even registered yet, and a rookie cop wanted to take him to jail. Fortunately, the young cop’s seasoned partner had a cooler head, and Greg was allowed to continue his victory lap, as he calls it, back to Mill River. (Greg says he has never raced his cars, although he confesses to drag racing on the Sheffield flats and Monument Valley Road while in high school.)

Car number three on the bucket list was a Ferrari – and not just any Ferrari. He wanted the exact same car Tom Selleck drove in the TV series, *Magnum P.I.*, a red Targa-topped 308 GTS. He found it in Springfield. He likes people to think it’s the same car that Selleck drove – and perhaps it is, since the show used a new one each season, and the “old” one (same year and model) was auctioned off after filming.

His next eBay find was a Torino Cobra Jet 429, a rare car, again found in Houston and owned by a physician there. Greg likes to speak directly to the owner of the car, whenever possible, rather than work through an outside appraiser. “You don’t want the body of a Cobra without the original engine,” he says. “Some appraisers aren’t savvy enough to know whether the engine is the original and forget to look for the original casting number on the engine block. This can diminish a car’s value by \$15,000 or more,” he explains.

Car number five was found in one of Greg’s favorite places – the Southwest. He loves the landscape and temperatures of the desert, so it was an added plus to fly to Scottsdale, Arizona, to pick up a red slant-nose, wide-body Porsche 911. This was followed by a purchase from racecar driver Richard Petty’s collection, a 1969 AMC Hurst Scrambler. Next, a car not on Greg’s “A” list, was a two-seater Shelby replica of the Ford Cobra. An original,

says Greg, would cost around a half million dollars.

Finally, Greg caught sight of a long-sought after Softail Harley Davidson motorcycle. One in mint condition came up on eBay for \$10,000 with thirty minutes left to bid. Greg bid \$10,100 and didn’t hear anything back, so assumed it wasn’t going to be his bike. Somehow, the sale fell through, because later he saw precisely the same bike reappear on eBay for “\$9,000 or best offer.” Greg contacted the seller by phone and went to see the bike, a 1999 Heritage Softail in light blue. Negotiating shrewdly, Greg feigned reservations over the color (most Harley owners prefer black) and knocked down the price by \$2,000. In fact, he loves the color, and he says that the bike is “perfect.”

Although Greg has completed his bucket list, there is one car that he says “is off the charts ridiculous” to want. It’s a Saleen S7, an American specialty car with 750 horsepower capable of speeds up to 237 mph, whose price off the production line in the mid-2000s was \$580,000. “You have to understand my alter ego is cars, and this means horsepower,” he says. “It’s true of most car guys. They won’t use the horsepower, but they want to know they’ve got it.”

Throughout all of his eBay explorations, Greg has remained loyal to his beater car, the Corvette, the most recent in a series that he has bought, fixed up, and traded over the last two decades. It has 430 horsepower, and (take note, owners of hybrids and recalls) gets 25 mpg in the Berkshires, 29 on the highway, and has hardly required any repairs.

Greg takes his entire collection to the car show in Great Barrington each year. The event, the first Thursday in August, is a like a big block party and high school reunion for Greg. He enlists the aid of local New Marlborough residents to drive the cars to the show.

“Nothing has ever been done by design. It’s a natural flow,” says Greg. “I never thought I’d be in the cleaning business, but it’s how I could make money.” He also says he’ll never leave Mill River. He’s in a happy relationship, has the car collection of his dreams, and just enough garages to keep all his favorites looking beautiful. □

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TROUBLED BRIDGES OVER WATER

By Barry R. Shapiro

With many bridges in town closed or reduced to one lane, one could be forgiven for thinking that by some cosmic twist of fate Chris Christie had been elected to the Board of Selectmen. Here's a rundown on the progress, or lack thereof, being made on the town's bridges and culverts:

Foley Hill Bridge: Happily, this closed bridge is under construction and all repairs should be completed by the end of August. The cost of the repairs, approximately \$500,000, has been borne entirely by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation. (The smaller bridges in town, twenty feet or less, are the Town's responsibility; the larger ones default to the state.)

Hadsell Street Bridge: Closed since July 2011, this bridge is on the state's priority list and work should be completed by June 30, 2015, the cost of which — approximately \$2.25 million — will be paid by MassDOT. Engineering work has been completed. The Town may be responsible for some road work adjacent to the bridge, but the necessity for and cost of such work has yet to be determined.

Clayton Mill River Culvert: The road over this culvert is down to one lane, but progress is being made. Engineering work has begun, and repair work should commence after the Foley Hill bridge reopens in late summer and be completed by year end, if not sooner. The \$180,000 cost of repair is being funded out of the Town's Free Cash, as approved at this year's Annual Town Meeting.

Campbell Falls Road Bridge: The state had ordered the closing of this bridge but agreed that the Town could keep it open if it was reduced to one lane and certain repairs made. These conditions have been met. Funding to repair the bridge and reopen it to two way traffic awaits state approval. Given the fact that the bridge is not on a high volume road, such approval may be years in coming.

Norfolk Road Bridge: This heavily used bridge connecting Southfield to the rest of town has been reduced to one lane since April 2012. Repairs are the state's responsibility, and it is unclear at this point when such repairs will be made, so the current pattern of numerous stop signs and driver courtesy to allow one vehicle to pass at a time is not going to change any time soon.

According to Tara White, chairman of the Board of Selectmen, the Board's goal is to continue looking for grants that may be available to help the town repair those bridges and culverts that do not qualify for state or federal funding and to work with MassDOT on repairs of bridges and culverts to reduce further closings wherever possible. Selectman Nat Yohalem noted that many of the town's bridges were replaced in the 1930's and have a useful life of about seventy-five years, which means, you guessed it, that bridge closings and repairs are problems that will be on the Town agenda for some time to come. □

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HEADSTONE CLEANING DAYS

Join the Historical Society July 12 and September 13

There would seem to be no more permanent record of town history than the headstones in our eleven cemeteries. But even these durable markers are prey to the inexorable forces of nature: wind, rain, and, especially, lichen. Last August, the New Marlborough Historical Society began to renovate head- and footstones in the New Marlborough Village cemetery. The process continues this year with a second visit from cemetery conservators Fannen and Lehner, starting on August 18,

the Monday after Elihu Burritt Day.

Meanwhile the exacting work needs our help. The Historical Society is organizing two mornings of headstone cleaning: July 12 and September 13, 10:00 a.m. to noon, followed by a picnic lunch. Learn a special craft; brighten a stone; help preserve history.

Meet at 10:00 a.m. at the New Marlborough Village cemetery, Hillingdon Road, just off the New Marlborough Branch Road. □

NEEDED: CEMETERY LAND

As reported in the June issue, New Marlborough is running out of cemetery plots. So the Board of Selectmen has issued an appeal to residents to donate land to expand the town's cemetery space. A minimum of two acres is required, and the land should be dry and

relatively flat. According to the Board, the value of the donated land, as long as it exceeds \$5,000, should be tax deductible. Potential donors should contact Board Administrative Assistant Mike Skorput at 229-2118. □

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Town Business Is Your Business

BOARD OF SELECTMEN



June 2: With Tara White and Michele Shalaby present (Nat Yohalem was traveling), the minutes of the May 19 meeting were approved. The Board then reconvened the ongoing special permit hearing for David and Heather Ralph, who are seeking permission to build a house on Old Hitchcock Road. By one count, this is the fifth time the Ralphs have had to appear before the Board on the matter. Earlier, questions were raised about the lack of access to the property by emergency services vehicles, which has since been resolved. Also at issue was the potability of water on the property. Although the Ralphs furnished the Board with a laboratory report back in March indicating the water is drinkable, it wasn't until last week that the Board of Health acted upon it, sending its approval on to the Board of Selectmen. **And with that in hand, by roll call vote the Board granted the Ralphs their special permit, but made it contingent upon submission of a well log and pump test results within three months, as specified by the Board of Health's Scott McFarland.**

Board Administrative Assistant Mike Skorput reported that land donations made to the Town for the purpose of expanding its cemetery space should be tax deductible, as long as the value of the land exceeds \$5,000 and the donor submits an IRS Form 8283. That's the opinion of tax accountant Tom Scanlon, whom Mr. Skorput consulted on the matter. As previously reported, there's a shortage of cemetery plots in town and Cemetery Commissioner Jim Palmer suggested appealing to residents to donate land for this purpose. But the question was raised as to whether those donations would be tax deductible.

Chairman White announced that state Senator Ben Downing and Representative William "Smitty" Pignatelli had accepted the Board's invitation and will attend its July 14 meeting to discuss "regionalization,"

or the sharing of equipment and services with nearby towns. As reported last month, the Board sent letters to the two legislators requesting such a meeting, saying it would like to learn more about the regionalization idea as a way of making more effective use of the money it receives from the state.

Administrative Assistant Skorput reported that the water supply line at the Highway Department garage, which was frozen last winter, is working again, but said it is still the Highway Department's intention to run a new line at a sufficient depth to prevent freezing in the future. As previously reported, the selectmen received a letter in March from the Board of Health raising concerns about possible bacteria in the drinking water at the garage, after a workaround was put in place to provide employees with drinkable water after the water line froze.

The Board informally adopted the state's recycling procurement policy and will officially sign off on it at next week's meeting, as part of the town's effort to secure a state grant to pay for the purchase of a new compactor for the transfer station. According to Board Secretary Sharon Flack, the grant application, due June 11, requires the Town to certify its commitment to purchasing products made of recycled material whenever possible.

The Board tentatively approved a request from the Fire Department's Ed Harvey to use New Marlborough Central School's playground June 29 to host a "fire fighter's muster and family fun day." According to Mr. Harvey's email, the event, sponsored by the New England Muster Association, will feature displays of fire fighting skills involving teams from area fire companies. The Board made its approval contingent upon checking with both the school and the Little League to make sure nothing else is scheduled for the playground that day.

June 10: To accommodate a heavy agenda, tonight's meeting was convened an hour early at 5:00 p.m. All three selectmen were present. The first order of new business was an update from Police Chief Scott Farrell on the state of the department, including his own plans to step down as chief. Noting that two of the department's part-time officers, Jesse Novolo and Ed Deming, were basically no longer available for duty, Chief Farrell reviewed with the Board three possible candidates for the vacancies. He explained that two of the candidates, Housatonic's David Triano and local resident Matthew Wright, would not be available for duty until they completed their police academy training in February. But he said the third, Dan

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Hamill of Sheffield, who is already working as a part-time officer for the Sheffield and Otis Police Departments, is available right away. So the Board, in a unanimous vote, approved Officer Hamill's hiring effective immediately.

Of his own plans, Chief Farrell said he would likely be stepping down in September around the start of the school year – he's a science teacher at Monument Valley Regional Middle School – but indicated he would likely be staying on with the department in a part-time role. As he has noted in the past, he is recommending Officer Graham Frank to succeed him as chief and has been working with Officer Frank on the transition, which he said is going well. Officer Frank joined the department as a part-timer in 2009 and became the town's first full-time officer in 2011.

The Board asked Chief Farrell about tasers and whether the department has plans to add them to its arsenal, to which the chief said yes, adding that he included them in the department's five-year plan. He said most of the police departments in the county are starting to adopt them, "so it's going to be a piece of equipment we're expected to have when we go on back-up calls to another town, or someone does back-up with us." He said the all-in cost of a taser, including holster and training, is about \$1,000. The Board indicated it would be willing to approve the purchase of two of them subject to getting an actual quote and that the money could come out of the Police Rental budget, which currently has surplus of \$9,000.

Finally, there was a discussion with Chief Farrell about the potential damage being caused to Town roads by the farming operations of Elm Knoll Farm of East Canaan. Elm Knoll owns a large tract of land bounded by Clayton Mill River Road and Alum Hill Road and, according to Chief Farrell, consistently plants its corn within a foot or two of the edge of the road. And while the chief said there doesn't appear to be any surface damage to the road as yet, he is concerned that tilling so close to the edge will soften the soil there so that heavy trucks going by will eventually cause the road edge to weaken and collapse. This has been an ongoing issue between the Town and Elm Knoll Farm for a number of years now, with very little cooperation or even response from Elm Knoll's owner, Dave Jacquier. So the Board decided to turn the matter over to Town Counsel Jeremia Pollard for appropriate legal action.

Next up was Doug Plachcinski, a transportation planner with Berkshire Regional Planning Commission (BRPC), who summarized the results of a BRPC report commissioned by the Board on the state of the Town's roads. Noting that New Marlborough has eighty-four miles of Town-maintained roads, the most of any town in the county, Mr. Plachcinski prefaced his remarks by saying, "Your roads are in pretty good shape, for as many roads as there are here." He said he's been doing "pavement-rating surveys" for a long time, and explained

his methodology, which is to drive all the roads in town – what he called a "windshield survey" – rate them on a 1 to 10 scale and then get together with the highway superintendent, in this case Chuck Loring, to put together rough budget estimates on what it would cost to fix the ones in disrepair.

He said his results show that of the forty-two miles of Town-maintained paved roads, nine are in excellent condition and only need routine maintenance on a five-year cycle; another nineteen miles need "surface treatments" such as chip sealing or milling and resurfacing, but that "the remaining fourteen miles are in need of fairly major attention" and would require "partial full-depth reconstruction or significant grading and reshaping." **He said the reconstruction of County Road, which he estimated would cost in excess of \$265,000, should be the town's top priority, which surprised no one at the meeting.** He then went on to cite four other roads as needing major work. They are New Marlborough Southfield Road from Route 57 to the Southfield bridge (\$250,000); Clayton Mill River Road from the library to Konkapot Road (\$690,000); Mill River Great Barrington Road from the Great Barrington line to County Road (\$250,000); and finally Canaan Southfield Road from Cross to Canaan Valley Road down to the Connecticut line (\$225,000). The total for all five comes to \$1,680,000, which Mr. Plachcinski suggested could be done over a five-year period using the Chapter 90 funds it received from the state. He was quick to emphasize that his numbers are little more than budget placeholders, "and not solid estimates of detailed costs."

On a more positive note, the report goes on to say that "the majority of the Town's gravel roads are in good to excellent condition." And he concluded his presentation by putting in a good word for Superintendent Loring, saying: "The big thing is you guys have got a lot of roads, but you've also got Chuck, and Chuck's doing a great job taking care of them."

Following Mr. Plachcinski's presentation, Superintendent Loring gave the Board his priority list for road



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repairs this year using Chapter 90 funds plus money from the state's Pothole and Winter Recovery Program. Of the \$472,000 in Chapter 90 money that's available to the Town he would use \$335,000 to fix County Road, which he said would involve extensive drainage work and resurfacing, \$105,000 for drainage work and resurfacing of Sisson Hill Road, and \$51,000 from the pothole fund for repairs to Mill River Great Barrington Road. At Chairman White's urging, he also agreed to do some repair work on Norfolk Road.

Mr. Loring also provided an update on the construction work on the Canaan Southfield Road bridge at Foley Hill: The contractor had just finished pouring concrete for the deck, which will take several weeks to cure. Nevertheless, the work is on schedule and should be completed in plenty of time to meet the August 31 deadline.

June 16: With all three selectmen present, Chairman White announced that the joint meeting with the Finance Committee scheduled for tonight has been postponed until June 30. The purpose of that meeting was to transfer money from Town departments that are coming in under budget to departments that are expected to be over budget for the current fiscal year. She said the reason for the postponement was that some of the department heads had failed to provide the Board with budget and spending information.

The Board approved a memorandum of understanding between the Town and the South Egremont-based private animal shelter A Place for Us to provide boarding facilities for stray dogs picked up in New Marlborough. For a fee of \$20 per day per dog, the shelter will feed and care for the animals placed in its custody. The terms of the agreement are in effect for one year.

The Board approved a motion to establish a capital planning committee. As previously noted, it will report to the Board and the Finance Committee and comprise five members: one each from the Board of Selectmen and the Finance Committee, and three town residents with

financial backgrounds. Strongly supported by Selectman Shalaby, the committee is charged with delivering an annual capital financing plan with a ten-year horizon by November 1, just ahead of the start of the town's annual budgeting process.

The purpose of the plan, according to the charging document written by Ms. Shalaby, is to contain increases in the Town's property tax rate while still providing for the "infrastructure and equipment necessary to deliver needed town services." In discussing the committee's role, Ms. Shalaby emphasized that "this is a committee that's making recommendations," not a policy-making body, but that hopefully it will provide guidance to the Board on "expense control." Ms. Shalaby will represent the Board on the committee, while Dave Herrick will represent the Finance Committee. So far, according to Ms. Shalaby, two residents have come forward saying they'd like to serve. They are Edward (Ned) Odegaard, a retired investment banker with extensive financial experience, and Dr. John Schreiber.

Board Administrative Assistant Mike Skorput said he has created a title and job descriptions for the interns the Board will be applying for from Berkshire Community College (BCC). As previously reported, BCC has created a work-study program in which college students would receive credit for working at local town halls. The interns in New Marlborough will be called administrative clerks and initially at least will work with the Planning Board and various Town Hall departments, doing research, compiling reports, ordering supplies, and directing queries to the appropriate Town departments. The deadline for submitting the job descriptions to BCC was today, and the interns will start work in September.

Chairman White reported that the Town is slated to receive approximately \$5,000 from the school district, which represents its share of a \$23,000 surplus in the district's budget from the 2013 fiscal year.

Reporting on last week's meeting of the Southern Berkshire Regional School District School Committee, Chairman White said the Committee voted to hold

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open meetings with all five towns in the district to collect community sentiment regarding the possible closing of the outlying schools in Monterey, Egremont and New Marlborough. The meetings will be chaired by School Superintendent David Hastings, who will compile and present the results to the School Committee.

What isn't clear, according to Ms. White, is what, if anything, the School Committee intends to do with the information that's collected. The meetings will be held at Undermountain Elementary School on the Sheffield campus, with the first one scheduled for July 10. □

Peter Schuyten

LONG-RANGE PLANNING

A Committee Forms to Spread Out the Costs

At its meeting on June 16, the Board of Selectmen established a new committee to assess the capital needs of New Marlborough for the next ten years. The parameters of its activity are set forth in the charge to the Capital Planning Committee.

The Committee will determine the method and pace of financing New Marlborough's capital needs in the coming years. The purpose of the plan is to control annual changes in the property tax rate while still maintaining and improving the infrastructure and equipment necessary to deliver needed Town services. Working from the Committee's recommendations, the Board of Selectmen and the Finance Committee will adopt policies to enact the plan; this should lead to better control of Town expenses.

The Committee is charged with presenting a capital finance plan to the Board and the Finance Committee by November 1, 2014. This will include the anticipated capital purchases to be presented for approval at future Annual Town Meetings, along with the projected year, amount, and method of financing for those purchases. It will also recommend policies on the use and maintenance of Free Cash and the Stabilization Fund, and on the proportion of allocation to capital and operating expenses in the Town budget. Further, it will recommend procedures for the annual review of the plan.

Appointed to the Committee on June 16 were Michele Shalaby from the Board of Selectmen, David Herrick from the Finance Committee, and Ned Odegaard, a citizen with expertise in finance. John Schreiber,

another citizen, was appointed on June 23. There is one citizen vacancy remaining; interested parties should contact Ms. Shalaby at 229-9050. The Committee's term begins July 1, and it will get to work immediately, even if the vacancy has not been filled. The plan and its associated policies will be presented by the Committee at the Annual Town Meeting in May, 2015.

Selectman Shalaby emphasized that the plan is just that: a plan, and is not cast in concrete. It can be changed as circumstances change over the years. An annual review of the plan is mandated as part of the Committee's charge, and in any event, all capital expenditures must be approved at an Annual Town Meeting. The major advantage is the establishment of procedures for town-wide long-range financial planning, which should increase the stability of Town finances. □

Barbara Lowman

SUSAN M. SMITH Attorney At Law

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CONSERVATION COMMISSION

May 29: The meeting convened with three commission members present: John Weinstein, Freddie Friedman, and John Schreiber.

First on the agenda was a Request For Determination (RDA) presented by Phil Ferrari of 46 Lakeside Drive, accompanied by Attorney Dennis Downing. Mr. Downing explained the proposed repair of an existing concrete wall and the installation of a seasonal dock. The dock was designed to minimize disturbance at the shoreline so the construction would involve resting one end of the dock on top of the concrete wall and the installation of eight new posts. After some discussion, the commission agreed that the work would not "alter, fill, or dredge" the resource area. The permit was given a negative determination (meaning the work proposed was permissible).

With no other business scheduled, the discussion

moved to new business. It was noted that commission member Ned Wilson gave Chuck Loring, New Marlborough Highway Superintendent, an emergency permit to repair a culvert and replace some driveway gravel at 97 Hayes Hill Road. A letter from Frank Potash of 143 Brewer Hill Road asked whether taking down some trees near a stream would require permitting with the commission. The members agreed to recommend that Mr. Potash file an RDA.

Lastly the mail was reviewed. Several workshops and local events were noted. The Commission received verification that the Notice of Intent for Chris Morrissey of 88 Hillside Ave. had been recorded. The Commission agreed to forward a grant opportunity for disaster mitigation to the Board of Selectmen.

Finally, last month's minutes were read and accepted.

The next meeting was scheduled for June 28 at 10:00 a.m.

Martha Bryan

Out of the Past

A FREED SLAVE IN NEW MARLBOROUGH

According to a note accompanying this historic photo, taken around 1905, Henry Dwight Sisson built this cabin for Fred Williams, a freed slave he had brought from Louisiana in 1863, on his return to New Marlborough from Civil War duty. It was located just upstream of the bridge over the Konkapot River west of Mill River on the Mill River Great Barrington Road — and across the river from the Sisson grist mill. The Williams family stayed only a few years, leaving, according to local lore, because they could not get used to the bitter cold of New England winters. □



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HELP FROM ON HIGH

The Village Association's Capital Campaign Gets a Boost

The New Marlborough Village Association has been awarded a grant of \$60,000 by the Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Fund. The grant will be matched by funds raised for the Village Association's 175th Anniversary Capital Campaign, which was announced last month. This award will help to pay for repairs and renovations to the historic Meeting House.

This is the second time in five years that the Village Association has been the recipient of a Cultural Facilities Fund grant. The last award paid for new lighting and a sound system, as well as stage and ceiling repairs. The grantors were particularly impressed that maintenance of the Meeting House is accomplished by an all-volunteer organization. The current grant will pay for new front steps, roof leak repairs, improvements to the gallery, and

painting inside and out.

The Cultural Facilities Fund is administered by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, which also funds the local New Marlborough Cultural Council. Governor Deval Patrick increased the amount available in this round of grant funds from 5 million in 2013 to 15 million. The Village Association is in good company. Among other Berkshire County recipients were Tanglewood, Barrington Stage, Shakespeare and Company, Jacob's Pillow, and the Clark Museum.

For further information on the current restoration project, visit the Village Association at www.newmarlborough.org, on Facebook at New Marlborough Village Association, or by phone at 413-229-7924. □

Louise Yohalem

MAGGIE'S LIST

From Plumbers to Snakes and Everything in Between

Maggie's List has been sharing intelligence Monday, among other things, plumbers, carpenters, landscapers, appliance dealers, baby-sitting help, phone outages, and how to kill poison ivy. But nothing lit up New Marlborough's community bulletin board like the sighting last month of a large black snake swimming in York Lake. The post created the longest thread the list had seen since it began six years ago. Once readers were assured that the only venomous snake in South County is the very shy timber rattler, the conversation turned to another beast of the wild: the black bear. Somewhere around the fifteenth post in this thread, veterinarian Emily Newman put the matter of the animal life in our midst into perspective. "The risk of a black bear attack on a human is negligible," she wrote. "Personally I love seeing the bears (and fox, and fishers, and bobcats). I feel so



lucky that we live in a part of the world that shows us that we share the planet with species other than our own, and that my children can see that too!"

The popularity and the sense of community it engenders have been growing in Maggie's List ever since it was started by Debra Herman in April 2008 — she named it for her beloved Icelandic sheepdog. "There are now 307 email addresses subscribed to the list," writes Ms. Herman. "There have been 1,808 topics discussed. There have been 109 posts so far this month. May had 93. It is hard for me to figure out the all-time high but I am guessing this month has it." If you would like to tune in to future such colloquies, email Debra Herman at debra@dtrain.com — she continues as the list administrator — and ask to be included. □

Joe Poindexter

Photo by Laura Endicott

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CULTURAL COUNCIL EVENTS

WHITE ELEPHANT COLLECTION: There are three Saturdays remaining for collecting items for the large white elephant sale at Elihu Burritt Day: **July 12, August 2, and August 9, from 10:00 a.m. until noon.** The location this year is at the front of the Whip Shop, on Norfolk Road in Southfield. This is a great opportunity to clear your closets/workshop/cellar/kitchen of unneeded and no-longer-wanted items that have been accumulating over the years, and donate them to support grants in the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences here in New Marlborough.

Please do not bring large or obsolete electronics, clothing, books, or furniture, but virtually everything else is most welcome. There will also be a silent auction for items that have greater value, are unique, or have special appeal.

GARDEN TOUR: The sixth annual Garden Tour will be held on Saturday, July 19, from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Four New Marlborough gardens have been selected to provide a broad variety of plantings and settings, including sustainable farming, a greenhouse with both flora and fauna, two heirloom pear trees, native plants, and a vivid display of colors and textures.

Tickets are available at the Mill River General Store at a cost of \$10 per person. The ticket includes a description of each garden and a map showing its location. Tickets are also available by mail. Send a check for the required number of tickets to the New Marlborough Cultural Council, P.O. Box 206, Mill River, MA, 01244 and the tickets will be mailed to you. Tickets will also be available at each of the gardens on the day of the tour, July 19.

The Garden Tour is a rain-or-shine event. While most gardens remain beautiful in a light rain, the Council hopes that its luck with good weather will hold for a sixth year.

ELIHU BURRITT DAY: New Marlborough's town fair, Elihu Burritt Day, will take place on Saturday, August 16, providing a day and evening of casual community celebration sponsored by the New Marlborough Cultural Council and the New Marlborough Fire Department.

During the day, from 10:00 until 3:00, the fair will be on the Village Green in New Marlborough. A variety of activities will be available all day: hayrides, the Seventh Annual Classic Car Show, antiques appraisals, a petting zoo, face-painting, and demonstrations of equipment by the Fire Department and First Responders. There will be a variety of offerings on sale at arts and crafts tables, plus the library's annual Book and Bake Sale and the Cultural Council's Silent Auction and White Elephant Sale. The annual 5K race and Fun Run over a bucolic course will start at 10:00, with trophies to be awarded to the winners at noon.

Following those awards will be the tenth Annual Elihu Burritt Award for community service, honoring a person who has made outstanding contributions to New Marlborough over the years.

Activities for children will also be happening throughout the day. Roger the Jester will perform at 11:00, and at 1:00, Henry the Juggler will be demonstrating his skills and teaching them to the audience as well. From noon until 2:00 p.m. will be kids' crafts with Arlyn Hoberman and Joyce Sachs.

A variety of food will be available, from morning coffee and baked goods through lunch offerings including hot dogs, hamburgers, sandwiches, and Jean Pollock's legendary paella.

In the evening, the scene will shift to the firehouse in Southfield, where the New Marlborough Fire Department will host its Twenty-first Annual Pig Roast. Dinner will be served from 5:00 until 7:00 p.m., including roast pork or turkey, corn, potato, and dessert. Music by Cornerstone will begin at 7:00, and music and dancing will continue until 9:00. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$7.50 for children, available at the Mill River General Store and at the door.

This annual celebration provides the opportunity for the full cross-section of town residents to visit with friends and neighbors, and enjoy a variety of activities – as well as the good food! □

Barbara Lowman

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New Marlborough Cultural Council
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MEMORIAL DAY, 2014



The New Marlborough morning seemed preternaturally bright, as if to assure that every deed of valor and courage of the men and women who have served the nation over the centuries would be well illuminated. The ceremony, with parades, a marching band, the choral renditions of "America the Beautiful" and "The Battle Hymn of the Republic," the address (this one John Schreiber's riveting account of one medic's D-Day landing), and the high, heart-rending sound of Taps, was both familiar and profound — an always necessary reminder of the sacrifices that have been made to keep the nation safe. □

Joe Poindexter/photos by Al Lenardson



Neighbors



Belinda Twing, of Hartsville, reports that her daughter, **Catherine**, who has completed her freshman year at Castleton State College in Castleton, Vermont, achieved a 4.0 grade-point average this semester, and consequently is on the President's List.



Tess Hardcastle

Tess Hardcastle, daughter of **Silvia Eggenberger** and **Nick Hardcastle** of Mill River, is returning to Massachusetts this summer. After graduating from Kenyon College in Gambier, Ohio, in 2010, she taught English for four years at Athens Academy in Athens, Georgia. This summer she will be teaching English at the Taft School in Watertown, Connecticut. At the end of summer she will move on to her new post, teaching English at the Northfield

Mount Hermon School near Northfield, Massachusetts.

Welcome to **Alexander Jack Blackwell**, who was born on June 5 to **Klea Simakis** and **Neil Blackwell** of Mill River. Everyone is doing well, and Alexander has already ventured out of the house with his parents.

Steve Schumacher reports a happy incident at their summer home on Lake Buel: His granddaughter, **Julia Russo**, was fishing on Lake Buel on Sunday, May 18, with her father and grandfather. After trolling, they decided to start casting, and gave the first pole to Julia. On her second cast, she caught a five-and-a-half-pound large-mouth black bass. And Julia is just eight years old! She also caught three rainbow trout, while "Pa and Daddy" didn't catch anything. Julia has a promising future on Lake Buel. □



Catherine Twing



Klea and Alexander



Angler Julia Russo

Compiled by Barbara Lowman: deeuell@yahoo.com

MAILBOX



To the Editor,

In reading the report of the Board of Selectman's meeting on April 28 in the *5 Village News*, I noted Cemetery Commissioner Jim Palmer's comments regarding the shortage of cemetery plots in New Marlborough.

It is my understanding that some individuals own as many as eight separate 10- by 20-foot plots in our cemeteries. There was a time when one plot this size was needed to bury twelve people. However, with cremation, a 10- by 20-foot plot will now fit thirty people. Possibly, some of these plot holders would like to offer their unused plots back to the Town for others to purchase.

I spoke to Tami Palmer of the Cemetery Commission about the problem. She said that she would be happy to transfer some of these excess plots to families that need them. The Town would pay back the owners what they paid for them, and those that want them would pay the Town's current price.

Think about it, plot owners. How many plots do you really need?

Respectfully submitted,
Richard Stebbins

OUR WILDLIFE NEIGHBORS

On May 21, **Don Beauchamp**, of Clayton, writes: The **bluebird** box was a flurry of activity. After the bluebirds left, the **tree swallows** checked it out and then the house sparrows tried to claim it. Then the **house wrens** took it over and stuffed it with twigs. Yesterday, I cleaned it out, and today the bluebirds are back building a nest. The male sat by while the female did all the work, bringing the nesting material into the box. I saw my first butterfly today.

On May 23, Don adds: I didn't see any sign of the bluebirds yesterday. They must have been worn out from nest building. But this morning I put out a little saucer with dried meal worms in it to see if they would eat them. Both parents showed up. And a male **indigo bunting** came to the feeder and stayed long enough for me to take a photo of him. So I will have to look for a female.



photo by Don Beauchamp

And here's a photo of a very shy bird — an **ovenbird**. It has a moth in its beak, but that's not easy to see. [The Cornell Ornithology Lab explains the origin of the bird's odd name: "Its nest, a leaf-covered dome resembling an old-fashioned outdoor oven, gives the ovenbird its name."]

On May 27, **Ellen Sweet**, of Southfield, writes: Three **American mergansers** were frolicking on our stretch of the Umpachene in Southfield on May 19. A large black-and-white male swooped down to the river, followed by a smaller, gray female, and they alternated floating downriver and then flying back up, diving for tidbits along the way. Then a larger gray joined them, but the male attacked her, and she flew up into the branches of a tall maple on our

hillside. After awhile, she swooped down, but was rebuffed again and then stayed away from the other two. I guess this particular male didn't care for polygamy.

Then, on May 25 and May 26, I had two encounters with **fawns**. You can call this part of my story "Bambini." On May 25, I was taking my usual morning run on the Southfield New Marlborough Road when a doe ran out of the woods, followed by a tiny fawn. I stood still, and so did they, watching me. Eventually the doe ran back into the woods, and the fawn ran in the opposite direction, turned around, returned, and then stopped and started walking slowly toward me. It stopped in the middle of the road, just a few feet away, but I didn't dare touch it for fear it would be rejected by its mother. Eventually a car approached and the fawn turned and ran into the woods, but in the opposite direction from where its mother had gone. I waited but neither deer appeared. I do hope they reunited.



photo by Ellen Sweet

The next day, we heard a commotion on our hillside near the river and saw a doe chasing a big orange cat (domestic? feral?). We looked through the brush and realized that she was protecting a very tiny fawn. Eventually the doe and fawn reconnected and the doe led the way across the river, the fawn slipping on the rocks but making it to the other side.

On June 1, nine-year-old **Evelyn Kerr**, of New Marlborough village, writes: My family and I were going for a splash in Konkapot creek when I noticed something floating in the water next to me. It was a dead **fawn**! I yelled at my Dad, who found it stuck on a rock. He said it had probably drowned while drinking, so he put it in the forest.

On June 3, **Don Beauchamp** writes: This **turkey** sat still long enough in a tree for me to take a picture of it. The **whippoorwill** has been singing in the valley these nights — very loud one night, quiet the next.

On June 8, **Robin Tost**, of Mill River, writes: I've had a glorious pair of **Baltimore orioles** consistently at the suet feeder about two inches from my window. They ignore the orange I put out for them, but the catbirds love it!

On June 8, **Tara White**, of Southfield, asked if she had seen the **whooping cranes** often seen in the meadow at the intersection of Southfield Branch Road and Norfolk Road, writes: I did see the cranes this spring and have had lots of **ducks (redheads, mallards, and wood ducks)**. A pair of **Canada geese** spent early spring with Lily [Tara's white horse], but have now gone off. Just last week a small deer wandered into Lily's field and didn't seem too afraid when I snapped a picture.

And on June 11, Tara adds: This **snapping turtle** was at the end of my driveway this morning, laying eggs in the sand on the side of the road. □



photo by Tara White

Compiled by Jon Swan, joncswan@gmail.com



photo by Don Beauchamp

THE LOG

POLICE DEPARTMENT

May 6	10:38 a.m.	Firearm registration	May 17	1:26 p.m.	Tree down on Mill River Great Barrington Road
	5:17 p.m.	Domestic disturbance, Mill River	May 20	11:09 a.m.	Report of break-in on Lake Buel Road
	5:19 p.m.	Unattended outdoor fire, Southfield		12:35 p.m.	Report of identify theft, New Marlborough Village
May 8	2:42 p.m.	Theft of \$250 from car left overnight on Hayes Hill Road, Mill River		1:53 p.m.	Report of possible scam by so-called "undercover" agent, New Marlborough
May 9	12:58 p.m.	Report of vandalism to property on Mill River Great Barrington Road	May 25	10:10 p.m.	Report of stranger asking directions to an unknown residence, Southfield
May 10	12:27 p.m.	Unattended outdoor fire, Mill River Great Barrington Road	May 30	3:48 p.m.	Firearm registration
May 11	2:43 p.m.	Unattended outdoor fire, Mill River Great Barrington Road		3:49 p.m.	Caller requests department to run radar to mitigate speeding near his home in New Marlborough village
May 14	3:13 p.m.	Responded to a report of a wounded deer on Mill River Great Barrington Road	(During the month, the Police Department issued thirty-nine motor vehicle citations.)		
May 16	11:12 a.m.	Tree down on power lines, blocking Sisson Hill Road			
	11:56 a.m.	Medical call on Norfolk Road			
	12:32 p.m.	Assisted driver who had locked himself out of his car, Hartsville			

FIRE AND RESCUE

May 3	12:24 p.m.	Church Road Medical Call
May 9	8:43 p.m.	Brewer Hill Road Medical Call
May 11	2:30 p.m.	Mill River Great Barrington Road Brush Fire
May 12	7:42 p.m.	Mutual Aid to Monterey Stand-By during Structure Fire
May 16	12:00 p.m.	New Marlborough Hartsville Road Medical Call
May 23	9:45 a.m.	Stone Manor Drive Fire Alarm
May 23		Cagney Hill Road Medical Call
May 27		Mill River Great Barrington Road Medical Call
May 30	8:25 p.m.	Mutual Aid to West Stockbridge Structure Fire

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THE MANY PASSAGEWAYS TO ART

The Meeting House Gallery Shows 'Portals'

By Pam Stebbins

The Meeting House Gallery is opening its doors — to doors. Metaphorical, psychological, even realistic, doors, or “Portals” as the show is called, will be on view starting with an opening reception Friday, July 25, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. The art work displayed in this show moves between literal images to the depiction of internalized and abstracted passages. Twenty-nine artists have been invited to share their interpretation of this theme in mixed media, including fabric, photography, painting, and organic matter usually found out-of-doors.

Mill River resident Elizabeth Torsay-Wilson, one of the participating artists, works primarily in oil. Although she began drawing and painting as a child, her formal training did not begin until she started drawing lessons as a teenager with Nellie Fink. She has since developed a unique style of painting, which she characterizes as “classical realism” and has become known for her portraits of animals and people. She has been active in several local arts groups (including the Meeting House Gallery Committee) and has won several awards in regional art leagues.

Elizabeth’s “Portal” is an acrylic version of a secret garden. Combining her love of color with her appreciation of the natural beauty of the Berkshires, her painting shows an entryway into a walled garden of flowers. She wants to give the viewer a sense of moving through a dark passage into a light and lovely place.

Also showing is Ruben Kier, a.k.a. Star Doctor, an astrophotographer who specializes in sky imagining. Ruben’s focus on astronomy began to gel in his teens. It was during the peak of the space program, and his enthusiasm may have been further fueled by his reading of the science fiction novels by Isaac Asimov. He began formal study of astronomy with Carl Sagan in 1974. Though he moved on to a career in medicine and became a radiologist, he never abandoned his hobby.

About fifteen years ago, Ruben began to dabble with photography of the night sky, and that is where his vocation and avocation merged. As the digital revolution accelerated, he realized that medical imaging technology could be adapted to photographing the sky. The weather, clear skies, and dark nights without light pollution lured him to New Marlborough, where he built an observatory and began to experiment with celestial photography.

To create one of his photographs for the show, Ruben took a picture of a natural sandstone arch and combined



One of Ruben Kier's celestial photographs

it with a spectacular view of the Orion Nebula — a painstaking process that required twenty hours in all to complete. But there are no shortcuts, and most of his astrophotography takes a similar amount of time. He hopes viewers will look at his work and be inspired to explore the wider world around us — camera in hand.

The show also includes works by Diane Barth, Teresa Bills, Margaret Buchte, Diana Felber, Shawn Fields, Robert Forte, Nancy Goldberger, Joan Griswold, Pamela Read Hardcastle, Pat Hogan, Richard Kimball, Cheryl Ann Luft, Natalie Manzion, Holly McNeely, Brian Mikesell, Elaine Radiss, Peggy Reeves, Julie Shapiro, Honey Sharp, Larry Silk, Walter Simons,

Abbe Stahl Steinglass, Lucinda Tavernise, Joe Wheaton, Barbara Winters, Terry Wise, and Andrew Zdziarski.

The Meeting House Gallery, sponsored by the New Marlborough Village Association, is located on Route 57 on the New Marlborough Village Green. Following the opening, the show will be on view between 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Friday, Saturday, and Sunday until August 7. □

New Marlborough

Garden  *Tour*

Saturday, July 19

10 am – 4 pm

\$10 per person

Purchase tickets at the **Mill River General Store** or send a check for the required number of tickets to the New Marlborough Cultural Council, P.O. Box 206, Mill River, MA 01244 to have tickets mailed directly to you.

Sponsored by the New Marlborough Cultural Council

MUSIC & MORE

From Beethoven to Bolcom and Karen Akers, Too

By Barry R. Shapiro

Harold Lewin, has done it again. Impresario of Music & More, now in its twenty-third year, the indefatigable Mr. Lewin — with literary help from *New York Times* editor Mitchel Levitas — has assembled a series of concerts and events that will burnish New Marlborough's reputation in Berkshire County's galaxy of summertime culture.

Starting Saturday, August 9, and continuing through Saturday, September 27, the New Marlborough Meeting House will be resounding with performances by world-class and outstanding local performers. And, again this year, the programs will span the cultural horizon from the counterpoint of the Baroque period, to gems of the Classical period, to dance, literature, and the incomparable chansons of Karen Akers. And, of course, it's right here in town with reasonably priced tickets, free parking, and a delightful wine-and-cheese reception with the artists after every performance.

"I'm very excited about the extraordinary performers who will be coming to our stage this summer," says Mr. Lewin. "Some of these concerts are almost certain to sell out and they all will provide an exciting afternoon."

Here is a brief description of the lineup:

August 9: The Boston duo, pianist Jonathan Bass,

and violinist Tatiana Dimitriades, will play sonatas by Beethoven, Schumann, and Prokofiev.

August 23: Pianist Doris Stevens and dancers from Berkshire Pulse (choreographed by Tom Masters) collaborate in performances of music by Satie, Brahms, Bolcom, and Rzewsky.

August 30: Monteverdi, Marais, Rameau, and J. S. Bach will be surveyed by Musicians of Aston Magna, with a pre-concert talk to introduce the works.

September 6: Flutist Carol Wincenc joins the Escher String Quartet in works by Haydn, Mozart, Devienne, Debussy, and a quintet by Yuko Uebayashi composed for Ms. Wincenc.

September 13: Karen Akers returns to New Marlborough.

September 20: The Lydian Quartet will play Schubert, Ravel, and Shostakovich and discuss the works in a pre-concert talk.

September 27: Award Winning Authors Paul Auster and Roy Blount, Jr., return twenty years after they inaugurated this event in 1994. Siri Hustvedt, who also appeared in 1994 but will be on a book tour, will be represented by documentary filmmaker Ellen Weisbrod.

"I hope that people will continue to support this great

continued on page 19



**music
and
more** 14

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**Saturdays at 4:30 pm
August-September**
At the historic Meeting House
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Aug 9 Tatiana Dimitriades, violin; Jonathan Bass, piano
Sonatas for violin and piano by Prokofiev (Op. 94a in D major),
Schumann (Op. 105 in A minor), and Beethoven (Op. 47 in A major,
"Kreutzer").

Aug 23 From Satie to Gershwin: Music, Dance, and the
Spoken Word
Dancers from Berkshire Pulse; Choreography by Tom Masters
Pianist Doris Stevenson; Narration by actor Nancy Morrison
Erik Satie's humorous Sports et Divertissements for piano, narrator, and
dancers. Also Brahms, Gershwin, William Bolcom and Frederic Rzewsky.

Aug 30 Baroque Gems with musicians from Aston Magna
Free Pre-Concert Talk at 3:30pm
Laura Jeppesen, viola da gamba; Frank Kelley, tenor;
Catherine Liddell, theorbo; Daniel Stepner, baroque violin
Music from Monteverdi through Bach.

Sept 6 Carol Wincenc, Flute; Escher String Quartet
*Grammy-nominated Carol Wincenc plays with Escher, "one of
the finest quartets of their generation" (The Guardian)*
Mozart, Haydn, Debussy, and Yuko Uebayashi's Misericordia.

Sept 13 Time Flies!
Karen Akers / American Songbook
Don Rebic, piano
One of America's premiere concert and cabaret stars. Post-concert
gala wine tasting hosted by Domaney's of Great Barrington.

Sept 20 Lydian String Quartet
Free Pre-Concert Talk at 3:30pm
*Daniel Stepner and Judith Eissenberg, violin; Mark Berger,
viola; Joshua Gordon, cello*
Franz Schubert: Quartet No. 13 in A minor, Op. 29, D. 804,
"Rosamunde"; Maurice Ravel: Quartet in F major; Dmitri
Shostakovich: Quartet No. 8 in C minor, Op. 110.

Sept 27 Award-Winning Authors ~ 20th Anniversary!
Host: Mitchel Levitas of The New York Times
Roy Blount Jr., Paul Auster, Siri Hustvedt,
Filmmaker Ellen Weissbrod
Award-winning authors discuss their careers and current work.
Book-signing at the reception.

Receptions with the artists after the performances • Art Gallery Shows through Sept. 28

FOR TICKETS & INFORMATION: www.newmarlborough.org (413) 229-2785

local tradition, come out, and enjoy the series; there's something for everyone," says Mr. Lewin. "If people haven't been with us before, they should please join us. If they haven't been to a classical music concert, why not try something new?"

Concerts begin at 4:30 p.m. Tickets are available prior to the concert or by calling 413 229-2785. A fuller description of the season is available at www.newmarlborough.org. □

UPCOMING: *Events Calendar July and August*

July 11: The Art of Flying Cloud: A Thirtieth Anniversary Retrospective show, featuring the work of former students and staff, opens 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Meeting House Gallery and continues for the following two weekends. All are welcome.

July 12: Headstone Cleaning Day: Join the New Marlborough Historical Society in a morning of headstone restoration, New Marlborough Village Cemetery, Hillingdon Road, just off Branch Road, 10:00 a.m. to noon; picnic lunch to follow. All welcome.

July 19: Garden Tour: The Cultural Council's annual presentation of notable New Marlborough gardens, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Tickets (\$10), giving locations, are available at the Mill River General Store.

July 26: Portals: Doorways, actual and metaphorical, through the eyes of painters, sculptors and other area artists opens to a Friday evening reception, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the Meeting House Gallery. On view thereafter 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Friday to Sunday until August 24.

August 9: The Boston Duo: The season's first Music & More concert features works by Prokofiev, Schumann, and Beethoven; 4:30 p.m. at the New Marlborough Meeting House; \$25, \$20 for members of the Village Association. A reception follows in the Meeting House Gallery.

August 16: Elihu Burritt Day and the Fire Company's Annual Pig Roast: The fun begins at 10:00 a.m. at the New Marlborough Village Green and continues at 5:00 p.m. with all you can eat at the firehouse in Southfield.

August 23: From Satie to Gershwin: A program of music, dance, and the spoken word dramatizes the works of Satie, Brahms, Bolcom, Rzewsky, and Gershwin; with dancers from Berkshire Pulse; 4:30 p.m. at the New Marlborough Meeting House; \$25, \$20 for members of the Village Association.

August 30: A Baroque Sampler: Monteverdi, Marais, Rameau, and Johann Sebastian Bach, performed by members of Aston Magna, 4:30 p.m. at the New Marlborough Meeting House; \$25, \$20 for members of the Village Association. A pre-concert talk begins at 3:30 p.m., and a reception in the Meeting House Gallery will follow the concert.

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ONWARD AND UPWARD

Mount Everett Seniors Graduate in Style

By Catherine Twing

Hundreds of family and friends packed into the Tanglewood concert shed on a sunny June 7, as fifty Mount Everett students were transformed into Mount Everett alumni. The national anthem was sung by Hartsville resident, and graduate, Kyle Carson.

Following Kyle's performance, and a few welcoming remarks from Principal Glenn Devoti, class salutatorian and former New Marlborough Central student, Andrew Krom, took the podium to thank his family, friends, and teachers.

The Mount Everett Choir, under the direction of Chris Clark, sang "Already Home" by Andrew Lloyd Weber, and the Wind Ensemble, under the direction of Courtney English, performed "Gandolf" from the Lord of the Rings Symphony by Johan De Meij. Danielle Goewey, took the opportunity as class valedictorian to put forward ten important lessons — one of which was to always talk on the pretend telephone when handed one



Kyle Carson and Erica Sullivan

by a toddler.

Superintendent David Hastings reminded the graduates how special the Southern Berkshire Regional School District is. He informed them that once they enter the real world, they will realize that their experiences were unique, because they were fortunate students in a caring community, rich with opportunities.

New Marlborough residents in the graduating class include Kyle Carson of Hartsville, Brandon Eichstedt of Mill River, Brittney Lane of Mill River, Erica Sullivan of Clayton, and Sabrina VanDeusen of Clayton. □



Andrew Krom, left, Brittany Lane, center, Kyle Carson, right



photos by Catherine Twing



Transfer station permits, valid until June 30, 2015, are now available. Cost is \$100, increasing to \$125 after August 15. They may be obtained at Town Hall or at the transfer station.

DENNIS J. DOWNING
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FLYING CLOUD AT THIRTY

And Looking to the Future

by Joe Poindexter

In late May kindergarteners from New Marlborough Central visited Flying Cloud Institute in New Marlborough village for a class on rocks, sand, and clay. Following a morning of hiking to a glacial erratic, sifting gravel, and making his own clay, a young student piped up and said, "Oh, I wish I could stay here forever."

No one has yet achieved that record of attendance at Flying Cloud, but children in New Marlborough and surrounding towns often return year after year to the Edenic hilltop property that Jane and Larry Burke have turned into a center for teaching art, science, and math. The two- and three-week summer programs accept students from ages five to eighteen. Some, imbued with the idea that science and math can be enlivened through the medium of art, return to Flying Cloud as teachers. And now, as the institute celebrates its thirtieth anniversary, it has begun to peer beyond the energy and innovation of its founders to seek longevity for itself.

Flying Cloud, too, grew out of a merger of art and science. The property was a 1982 gift to the Burkes from Jane's father, David Schwarz, a biochemist, who was, as it turned out, following in the footsteps of the original builder. In 1771, Asa Harmon received the house as a wedding gift from his parents, who lived in New Marlborough village. The Harmon family and heirs held on to it for 159 years, when it was purchased by a New Yorker and then by a tennis coach named Harry Rittgers. Mr. Rittgers built two courts and turned the residence into a full-service inn. It was he who, viewing the house as it crested the horizon, thought it looked like a clipper ship and named it Flying Cloud.

The inn continued under Mr. Schwarz, who turned the operation over to his daughter and son-in-law in 1980. It took Jane, the chef, and Larry, the manager, just six months to discover they were not suited to inn-keeping. With Mr. Schwarz they established a non-profit environmental center that was open for two years. In 1984, Jane applied for a grant for a summer program in dance and pottery from a predecessor of the New Marlborough Cultural Council. "I got the grant, and Flying Cloud Institute was born," says Jane. The earliest students included Fran and Jim Stevens's daughters, Jennifer and Betsy; Pam and Nick Hardcastle's son, Asa, and Andrew Harms, son of Ben Harms and Lucy Bardo.

The program started with six kids and just kept growing, until ten years ago, when the Burkes capped

attendance at fifty. While it demonstrated the symbiotic relationship between art and science for young people, it recruited from a rich pool of talent among adults in the community. Artist Susie Hardcastle, who was interested in the intersection of art and anatomy, taught for twenty-two years at Flying Cloud. Others on the faculty



Jane Burke

have included painter Ann Getsinger, songwriter Dory Previn, percussionist Ben Harms, and cellist Lucy Bardo. Cynthia Atwood taught sculpture; Sanjiban "built totem poles," says Jane. Two years ago filmmaker Douglas Trumbull presented a session on special effects in movies.

Flying Cloud finds inventive ways to show how art and science interrelate. Potters, for example, learn about the composition of the glazes they use; photographers the chemistry of solutions for developing film. Artists will be exposed to the physiology of how the eye perceives color. Robotics are integrated with ballet. In the past two years, students have written and performed rock operas on the themes of light and energy. This year they will tackle time, a concept of a graduate of the program, Lindy Marcel of Mill River. "We get into complex projects," says Jane. "We think kids are more sophisticated than they are given credit for."

Starting in 1990, Flying Cloud began reaching out to surrounding schools and now conducts so-called SMArt (Science Meets Art) units at New Marlborough Central, the Mount Everett schools, and in the Berkshire Hills and Lee school districts. "This gives students in the public schools some of the same opportunities to think out of the box as those at the summer program," says Jane. Flying Cloud also conducts special, girls-only programs in science, technology, engineering, and math in Pittsfield, Great Barrington, Lee, and Sheffield. In addition to the 850 kids who have attended programs at Flying Cloud's hilltop home, the institute, by Jane's estimate, has reached some 3,500 school students.

How to keep all of this going beyond the founders, a classic problem among innovative enterprises, is the challenge facing the institute's nine-member board. Just now, however, Flying Cloud is focused on a celebration of its first thirty years with a gala opening to its Thirtieth Anniversary Retrospective art show, featuring the work of former students and staff, July 11, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Meeting House Gallery. The public is enthusiastically invited to attend. □

NEW ACQUISITIONS AT THE LIBRARY

Adult Fiction

The Smoke at Dawn, by Jeff Shaara
Mr. Mercedes, by Stephen King
Midnight in Europe, by Alan Furst
The Last Kind Words Saloon, by Larry McMurtry
Sniper's Honor, by Stephen Hunter

Children's Fiction

The Fault in Our Stars, by John Green
It's an Orange Aardvark!, by Michael Hall
The Hero's Guide to Being an Outlaw, by Christopher Healy
Big Nate in the Zone, by Lincoln Peirce
Three Bears in a Boat, by David Soman

SUMMER LIBRARY HOURS

Mon. - Wed. - Sat.:

10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Tues. & Fri.:

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

Thurs. 1:30 - 5:30 p.m.



So Many Great Things To Do!

Story Hour/Playgroup

The summer schedule for the library's Wednesday morning Story hour/Playgroup will be July 2, 16, 23, 30 and August 6, 13. Story hour/Playgroups are sponsored by Family Network of Community Health Programs. The program runs from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. Our playgroup leader is Sally DiCarlo. There is never a fee and everyone is welcome.

Book Discussion Group June 28th at 10:00 a.m.

Join us for coffee, bagels, and a lively discussion of *The House Girl*, by Tara Conklin.

Summer Movie Night at the Library

On July 12 at 7:00 p.m., the New Marlborough Friends of the Library and the New Marlborough Monterey PTA are cosponsoring *The Lego Movie*. This movie is rated PG. Refreshments will be served.

Book Collection Dates for our Annual Elihu Burritt Book Sale

We will be collecting books at the Town Hall in Mill River July 12, 19, and 26 from 10:00 a.m. to noon. These are the only collection times. Please do not leave books at the library or Town Hall at any other time. Please, no magazines, text books, encyclopedias or damaged and moldy items.

Computer Classes for Seniors

The library will host a series of four computer classes for seniors July 12, 19, 26, and August 2 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Space is limited. If interested, please contact the library to pre-register. Funding for this program was provided by a grant through the New Marlborough Cultural Council.

Let's Get Ready For Kindergarten!

Join us for a Pop-Up Kindergarten Class! On August 4, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., we will have circle time, story, craft, and more. This program is funded by a Coordinated Family and Community Engagement Grant that is provided by the Department of Early Education and Care.

Family Passes

The library has family passes for free admission to the following local area attractions: Mission House & Indian Museum, Naumkeag House & Gardens, The Ashley House & Bartholomew's Cobble, The Folly at Field Farm, Berkshire Museum, Hancock Shaker Village, MASS MOCA, Chesterwood, Ventfort Hall, Norman Rockwell Museum, Mass Parks Pass, and Clark Art Institute.

Contributions are needed to continue the paper!

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

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

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

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- * **Board of Selectmen:** Every Monday at 6:00 p.m.
- * **Planning Board:** First and third Wednesday at 7 p.m.
- * **Board of Health:** First Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.
- * **Conservation Commission:** Last 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.

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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

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

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For advertising, contact Barbara Lowman, tel: 229-2369

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- ◆ **Benchmark Real Estate:** Nancy Kalodner, Broker/Owner. Offering New Marlborough the finest professional real estate services since 1979. Call 528-9595
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- ◆ **Design+Planning:** Christopher Blair; Since 1986, creative, budget aware design. Achieve your goals for additions, alterations to an existing home or new construction. 413- 528-4960. christopher.f.blair@verizon.net.
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- ◆ **Eileen Fitzgibbons:** Experienced massage therapist with advanced training and 6 years' experience at Mepal Spa wishes to continue work in New Marlborough. www.efwellness@gmail.com, 860-309-7775
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- ◆ **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.