

# New Marlborough 5 Village News

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Clayton • Hartsville • Mill River • New Marlborough • Southfield

## MOVING ON!

By Jane Burke



photo by Jane Burke

From left, Sierra VanDeusen, Lianna Zyszkowski, Alissa Rathbun, Anthony Lupiani, Carter Lane, Brian Dillon, Andrea Ferrara, David Packard, Eliza Ormsbee-Oates, Quinlan Pollock

To the familiar strains of Sir Edward Elgar’s “Pomp and Circumstance,” expertly rendered by the Mount Everett Wind Ensemble, forty-one Mount Everett High School seniors filed into The Shed at Tanglewood on June 1 to mark an end — and a beginning. Retiring principal Glenn Devoti reflected on how different the world is since his first such speech twenty-six years ago. Department heads presented awards to the outstanding students in each

academic area, and the chair of the School Committee presented awards to the class valedictorian and salutatorian — and noted that the two had achieved the highest grade-point averages on record at Mount Everett.

Salutatorian Jaclyn Derwitsch spoke of her experiences at Mount Everett and her hopes for the future. In her valedictory address Gwendolyn Carpenter focused on the value of Mount Everett as a strong home base — and how this small close-knit school had provided a solid start as its graduates embark on unknown futures. Emotions were high during stirring performances of the Mount Everett Chorus and the Mount Everett Wind Ensemble’s medley, the music chosen by graduating band members. Students confidently shook hands with officials as they received their diplomas and then, full of excitement, paraded out to celebrate with family and friends.

Graduation marks the meeting place between dreams and reality, and in an era of record college debt, reality often translates to affordability. Guidance counselor Kimberly Conant spent many hours with each student to explore their options. As an advocate of community colleges for those who are unsure of their career choice, she encouraged students to consider that option, and many who had been

*continued*

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*Graduates, continued*

admitted to prestigious institutions rejected them in favor of a more cost-effective community college. Two students chose to join the United States Air Force and four students opted to find employment rather than head straight to higher education.

Of the ten graduating seniors who live in New Marlborough, five have chosen Berkshire Community College: Carter Lane, Anthony Lupiani, Eliza Ormsbee-Oates, Lilianna Zyszkowski, who will focus on biological studies, and Andrea Ferrara who will begin her study of

environmental science. Brian Dillon will attend Franklin Pierce University to focus on sports media. David Packard will enroll at Springfield Technical Community College. Quinlan Pollack will continue at Mount Everett. Alissa Rathbun will go to Castleton University as a pre-Med major. Sierra VanDeusen will take a gap year to work.

Remarking on how well they had gotten to know one another over the years, they all expressed a desire to stay in touch and continue to support each other.

## ...AND MOVING UPWARD

June is the season for marking educational transitions. Though the Southern Berkshire Regional School District is small, it is big on celebrating graduations. There were five of them in June!

The elementary student and parent events began late morning on June 7 with the kindergarteners from South Egremont and Undermountain Elementary Schools participating. On the evening of June 11, there was an event for sixth graders moving up to middle school. On June 12, families of fourth graders at New Marlborough Central School had their annual early evening picnic and graduation. The sixteen children leaving their beloved school were in high spirits enjoying the spotlight.

Two high school seniors who had attended New Marlborough Central, Jaclyn Derwitsch and Brian Dillon, received scholarships from the New Marlborough Monterey Parent Teachers Association. Jaclyn was unable to attend but was recognized as one of the top two students in the Mount Everett High School Class of '19. Principal Charles Miller told the fourth-graders: "When you get to fifth grade, do not change to be the way others are. Be yourself, be an individual with your own ideas."

The Mount Everett Middle School Recognition Night on June 13 filled the auditorium at Mount Everett. The well-wishers included family members, twenty-five middle school

teachers and support staff, and school officials. Each of the fifty-seven students walked across the stage to receive an award for such accomplishments as "Most Improved in Art" and "Best Mathematics Student." New Marlborough's Caroline Haiss was one of three students recognized for achieving placement on the high honor roll in all four quarters. In welcoming them to high school, retiring principal Glenn Devoti and incoming principal Jesse Carpenter encouraged the eighth graders to hang onto their individuality. Two student ambassadors talked about their experiences in middle school. Finally, it was time to certify all the hard work of the preceding year: Each student received a diploma. □



Top, proud fourth grade teacher Tom Masters looks on as Principal Charles Miller congratulates a fourth-grade student. Left, Kristin Brazie, center, of the NMMPTA thanks retiring NMC school secretary Karen Chamberlain, far right, for her long years of service.



The fourth graders belted out a song led by Elizabeth Perry who volunteered her time to be there with them.



## BEYOND LEAVES

### *A Simplified Approach to Identifying Trees*

“Everything,” Albert Einstein was once famously quoted as saying, “should be made as simple as possible, but no simpler.” Arborist Mark Mikolas agrees. At a June 15 meeting sponsored by the New Marlborough Land Trust, Mr. Mikolas explained how this axiom can usefully be applied to the identification of trees. Most tree-identification guides are unnecessarily complex, he says. They give too much information, and they generally rely on leaf formation — not much help in the fall and winter months. Besides, just thirteen species make up fully 95 percent of all the kinds of deciduous trees growing in the Northeast — for example, of the 150 different varieties of oak worldwide, just two, the red oak and the white oak, are present in our area. We can avoid a lot of mental gymnastics, says Mr. Mikolas, by focusing on just those thirteen species.

For the following hour or so, Mr. Mikolas gave his audience clues on identifying trees by their many non-leaf characteristics, for instance, the shape of the tree, the texture of its bark, or whether its branches are opposite or alternate. To give one example, he parsed the differences between the red and the sugar maple. Photos of the two, taken in winter, showed their distinct personalities: the sugar maple’s rounded



Mark Mikolas spoke to tree enthusiasts at a Land Trust program held in the Meeting House Gallery.  
photo by Joe Poindexter

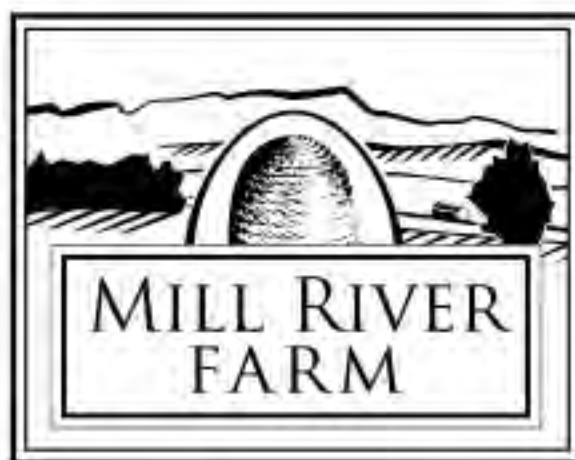
crown and regular oval shape, and the red’s unkempt, irregular branching. The scaling of the bark on a mature sugar maple is shallow and strong, whereas it is deep and easily broken on a red maple. (Those who insist on leaf identification, said Mr. Mikolas, will see a U shape between the peaks of a sugar maple leaf, a V between those of the red.)

Aspens can be distinguished from birches by the bark on the lower part of the aspen, which grays with age and develops a V-shaped scarring (suggesting to Mr. Mikolas a bird in flight). Yellow birches, characterized by

their curling bark, have another distinctive feature: the smell of wintergreen that comes forth from a scratch in the bark.

You can’t necessarily tell the age of a tree by its circumference. According to Mr. Mikolas, trees generally give energy priority first to their roots, then to producing seeds, then gaining height, and only then to girth. For those who missed the talk, all this and more is available in his book, *A Beginner’s Guide to Recognizing Trees in the Northeast*, available from Amazon. □

Joe Poindexter



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Anthony & Marjorie Consolini; Michael Skrak; and Elaine & Steve Mack.



## Town Business Is Your Business

### BOARD OF SELECTMEN



**May 20:** After approving the minutes of the May 9 and May 15 meetings, the Board reviewed two decommissioning bonds proposed for the Park Avenue Solar projects located at 540 and 646 Mill River Southfield Road. After twenty minutes of discussion, Chairman Nat Yohalem raised an objection to the proposed issuer of the bonds, Altus Power America, which also happens to be the corporate entity that owns the project. As he explained, bonds like these are typically issued by a bonding company, not a closely-held private entity like Altus, “which we’ve never heard of and have no information about.”

He said the Town would need to see a set of financials for Altus or, alternatively, have the company set up an escrow account for \$105,000, the combined amount of the two bonds, such that the Town would have access to the account in the event of a default. In the meantime, he said, Altus would be entitled to any earnings from the account during the twenty-year term of the project. Park Avenue representative Kirt Mayland said he would confer with Altus about providing financials or setting up an escrow account.

The Board agreed to establish an employee compensation committee that would compare New Marlborough job responsibilities and salaries with those of similar-sized Berkshire County towns. This initiative was an outgrowth of a two-hour meeting between Mr. Yohalem and Town Administrator Mari Enoch and members of the Highway Department, who had requested the meeting, in the aftermath of an Annual Town Meeting vote that apparently approved 5 percent salary increases for just five members of the Town Hall staff (town clerk, Board of Assessor’s clerk, administrative secretary to the Board, tax collector, and treasurer), while leaving the rest of the Town’s employees

with 3 percent cost-of-living adjustments, or COLAs. The committee will be comprised of Ms. Enoch, newly-elected selectman Richard Long, and a member of the Finance Committee to be named by that Committee.

In response to Town Treasurer Marilyn Fracasso, who immediately rose from the audience and demanded to know, “What’s happening with those five percent raises,” Mr. Yohalem replied, “Well that’s the next item on the agenda. So let’s talk about it right now.” He explained that the **Town Meeting vote was for an increase in the budget available for raises for the four of the five positions, but that it’s actually up to the selectmen — and the Board of Assessors, in the case of the Assessor’s Clerk — to determine what those raises will be.**

The voters had given the town clerk a raise of 3 percent, Mr. Yohalem explained. Any change would require two-thirds approval at a special town meeting, which according to his reading of the statute, would have to take place before the end of the current fiscal year on June 30, 2019, he said.

And with that Mr. Yohalem quickly turned to the next item on the agenda, which was the assigning of areas of responsibility for each of the selectmen, or as Mr. Yohalem put it, “where each of us becomes kind of a point person for a particular area.” These were designated as follows:

- Mr. Long: Compensation Committee; Cable Advisory Board; the human resources study, capital planning, infrastructure, and the Finance Committee.
- Ms. White: Route 57 reconstruction; Emergency Services Fund; Southern Berkshire Regional Emergency Planning Committee; the regionalization of emergency services, and the Commission on Disabilities.
- Mr. Yohalem: Schools; Citizen Advisory Committee

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for the Community Development Block Grant program; applications for road grants; solar PILOT agreements, and as Board Chairman, writing the "View from the Board" column in the *New Marlborough 5 Village News*.

The Board reviewed and approved a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the Town and the Southern Berkshire Elderly Transportation Corporation, which provides transportation for seniors and people with disabilities. The cost to the Town in FY20 will be \$5,719. As Prue Spaulding, head of the Council on Aging, reminded the Board, "It's a very worthwhile and important service [which] helps seniors maintain their independence." The van operates three to five days a week and transports users as far as Pittsfield. The MOU is effective July 1, 2019, to June 30, 2020.

Under selectmen updates, Ms. White reported that Valley Roll-Off Dumpster Services is increasing its disposal fee for recycling effective immediately to \$100 per ton from \$80.

Under administrative updates the Board agreed to recommend two reserve fund transfer requests to the Finance Committee, one for \$3,000 for the Town's tax title attorney to begin land court proceedings, the other for \$1,904 for transfer station salaries.

**June 3:** With all three members present, the Board granted CVE North America a one-year extension of its special permit to build and operate a 5 megawatt, 16.4-acre solar facility adjacent to Knight Road. The permit was originally issued in June 2018, but the company had been unable to begin construction or even secure financing due to a delay in the start of the state's Solar Massachusetts Renewable Target (SMART) program, to which CVE had applied for incentive funding. According to the Town's bylaws, special permits

lapse after a year if substantial construction or use has not taken place.

CVE finally received SMART program approval in February, and is in the process of lining up contractors, according to company representative Alex Fox, who was present for the meeting. The CVE extension is good until June 5, 2020. (The Board had granted a similar permit extension to Park Avenue Solar's 3 MW project just off Mill River Southfield Road, which was also impacted by a delay in the SMART program.)

Following approval of the minutes of the May 20 meeting, the Board accepted the Planning Board's recommendation to appoint Mill River resident Dan Doern to the vacancy created when long-time Planning Board member Jamie Mullen unexpectedly

resigned. The appointment is effective immediately and will run until Town elections next May. Mr. Doern, an architect with an urban planning background, runs his own architecture and consulting business. He's a graduate of Cornell with Master's degrees from both Columbia and Harvard.

A request from Police Chief Graham Frank to increase the hourly rate for police details — to \$45 from \$43, according to Ms. Enoch — was tabled because of the absence of Mr. Frank.

In other matters, the Board reviewed and signed employment contracts for the fire chief, highway supervisor, and town administrator, subject to written evaluations of each by a member of the Board. Action on the police chief's contract, which awaits presentation in its final form, was held.

In response to an announcement from Ms. Fleck that the new Town website was about to go live, Sandra Fusco-Walker, present at the meeting, asked for a delay, possibly to the end of the month. A volunteer working with Ms. Fleck, Kathy Chretien, and Mari Enoch on the site, Ms. Walker said there are many changes still to

*According to the Town's bylaws, special permits lapse after a year if substantial construction or use has not taken place.*



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be made. Mr. Yohalem ultimately agreed to the request but asked Ms. Fleck to determine if making all those changes would result in additional charges to the Town.

*Peter Schuyten*

**June 10:** After deciding to hold the minutes from June 3 until the next meeting, the Board, at Mr. Yohalem's direction, reviewed and voted to amend the May 15 minutes to clarify the discussion of why the Board voted to rescind its request that Building Commissioner Owen Wright pay back \$1,014.93 in what was initially thought to be an overpayment of his salary.

Moving on to other business, the Board agreed not to exercise an option to purchase a twenty-acre plot of land on Knight Road owned by the Palfini family that is being converted from Chapter 61A status to commercial use as a solar field, as the Town would have to come up with the purchase price. **The Board considered the potential benefit of a rental income stream from solar developer CVE North America, but was also concerned that the time it would take to approve the acquisition,** including a vote at a town meeting, could jeopardize the solar deal itself – and the PILOT payments the Board has already negotiated with CVE.

The Board invited Police Chief Graham Frank to the table to discuss his request that officers directing traffic around road construction and repair sites be paid \$45 an hour, a \$2 increase over the present rate and in line with what other towns are paying. Chief Frank also asked that holiday work be increased from time and a half to double the hourly rate, and that holiday overtime be paid at triple the hourly rate. The Board acceded to these increases and to a \$10 hourly rate on the rare occasion that a police cruiser is requested. Finally, it was noted that if a private company, such as National Grid, required a police detail, it would have to pay an extra administrative fee of 10 percent of the total bill.

Highway Superintendent Chuck Loring, also present at the meeting, stated that he would not be able to pay \$45 per hour for police details. According to Mr. Frank, however, the lower "town rate" being paid by the Highway Department was ruled illegal in a recent lawsuit brought in eastern Massachusetts. In response the Board approved of Mr. Loring using civilian flaggers at a lower rate and employing a police detail only when he deemed it necessary.

The Board then approved a three-year contract with Chief Frank that sets his FY20 salary at \$67,000, augmented by three percent increases in both FY21 and FY22.

**Concerned about the deterioration of Route 57 east**

**of New Marlborough village, Superintendent Loring asked for the Board's approval to install signage warning of the poor road conditions** – until that section of road could be rebuilt. This elicited a discussion of the potential liability of the Town seeming to admit the parlous condition of Route 57 but leaving it unrepaired. Nevertheless, with Mr. Loring and Mr. Yohalem agreeing that erecting warnings is the morally correct thing to

do, the Board voted to post two signs at either end of the damaged roadway. One would read, "Caution Poor Road Conditions Ahead" and the other "Reduce Speed." In closing, Mr. Loring reminded the selectmen that the town is now eligible to apply for a MassWorks grant to rebuild that stretch of Route 57. Selectman Richard Long

pointed out that, should the Town be sued by a motorist, such an application could demonstrate that it was acting in good faith to improve the condition of the road.

The Board awarded individual contracts to Joe Wilkinson Excavating and Century Aggregates for the crushed stone, sand, and soil used in road repair, depending on which company gave the lower bid — or any bid at all. Since New Marlborough and Sheffield are purchasing materials together, the contracts will have to be approved by the Sheffield Board of Selectmen.

Town Clerk Kathy Chretien requested in a letter to the Board that a Special Town Meeting be called to ratify a raise in her salary of 5 percent. Ms. Chretien has maintained that this was the intent of voters at the Annual Town Meeting in May, when, in fact, they were merely approving a 5 percent increase in the budget for the town clerk position. **Since there were no other items to bring to a special town meeting, the Board rejected the request, with Mr. Long saying he would like to proceed instead with the proposed compensation study** and that, if there is justification for a Town Clerk salary adjustment, he would like the Town to address the issue

***The Board agreed not to exercise an option to purchase a twenty-acre plot of land on Knight Road.***



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in some allowable way at that time.

In response to Tax Collector Gina Campbell's request for a change in her working hours while her children are on summer vacation, Town Administrator Mari Enoch and Selectman Yohalem negotiated the following schedule — still twenty hours per week — with Ms. Campbell: Mondays 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Wednesday 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., and Thursdays 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Ms. Campbell agreed to train the Town Clerk, who is also the assistant tax collector, on some tasks that may need to be done in her absence.

Commission on Disabilities member Tom Stalker reported that the Commission is unable to meet since some of the seven positions are currently vacant. The Board accepted Mr. Stalker's proposal to reduce the Commission size to five members and then reconfigured the terms of members so that they would expire on alternate years. It voted to appoint Marsha Pshenishny to fill a vacancy ending in June 2020, to appoint John Hotaling to a new three-year term ending in 2022, and to appoint selectman Tara White to a one-year position. The Board stated its intention to assure that at least one member of the Commission is a selectman.

Hearing no objection from the police chief or the highway superintendent, the Board voted to allow the Farmers Market to post signs on Town property during the summer months.

Before adjourning, the Board solicited updates from the Town Administrator and their fellow selectmen, as well as comments from the audience. They were as follows:

Mr. Yohalem and Mr. Long said that they would be able to attend a presentation on July 18 by Beta Engineering of its recently completed survey of all the town roads.

The town has acquired a new postage meter.

Town employees have embarked on a substantial clean-up of the Town office.

Assistant Fire Chief Bob Dvorchik assured the Board, by letter, that the KnoxBoxes, now required for any alarm system that automatically reports to the 911 Dispatch Center, are secure, saying in the letter the KnoxBox master keys "are kept in an extremely secure protocol of being locked in a reinforced steel safe, and only authorized emergency responders have access to these keys." The letter goes on to say that whenever a key is removed an electronic audit trail is generated identifying the person, date and time the key was removed and returned. Audience member Sandra Fusco Walker expressed dismay at the cost of a KnoxBox installation and asked that, in light of this cost, the

Board consider eliminating the \$25 per year fee to the Town that current alarm users have to pay.

Mr. Long reported he will be negotiating with White Engineering about the required erosion control at Umpachene Falls and will report back to the Board.

The Board deferred to the Board of Assessors a request from the assessor's clerk for a change in summer work hours.

And finally, at the bidding of Prue Spaulding, chair of the Council on Aging, the Board agreed to pay the Kilpatrick Athletic Center \$600 from the grant she obtained for a water wellness program for seniors and disabled people.

*Jackson Liscombe*

**June 17:** Mr. Yohalem introduced a letter received from Steve Bannon, School Committee chairman of the Berkshire Hills Regional School District, proposing the formation of a "Regional School District Planning Board for the purpose of either forming, or consolidating into, a regional high school district to serve grades 9-12." The letter, dated June 7, 2019, requested a written response from the Board of Selectman before July 21. A June 11 letter of response from Jane Burke, chairman of the School Committee of the Southern Berkshire Regional School District (SBRSD), advising Mr. Bannon the Committee

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would review the request, was added to the file.

In the discussion that followed, Ms. White recalled that a large group of stakeholders from various towns was convened three or four years ago to work on the consolidation issue and had gotten nowhere. She suggested any future group addressing the issue needed to be much smaller. Mr. Yohalem agreed and opined that Mr. Bannon's initiative, which relates only to the consolidation of the two high schools, doesn't go far enough. Any future effort, he said, should consider consolidation of the entire school districts, not just the high schools.

Mr. Yohalem cited the inexorable rise of fixed costs and the decline in number of students, according to forecasts, to the high 400s at SBRSD in seven to nine years, in a building designed to accommodate 1,200 students. He also pointed to New Marlborough Central School, which, he said, is in desperate need of repairs, probably in excess of \$1 million. He recommended a streamlined committee to be comprised of the SBRSD superintendent, a representative from the School Committee, and a representative of one of the District's towns. **A similar committee should be formed at Berkshire Hills, he said, and then the two committees should meet to discuss not whether to consolidate but how to consolidate.**

Mr. Yohalem suggested the Board send a letter describing this initiative to Mr. Bannon, with copies to the five towns and the SBRSD School Committee. Intent on moving ahead, Mr. Yohalem made clear that he wanted a letter sent to Berkshire Hills, with or without the approval of the other SBRSD towns, though he welcomed their comments. At the request of Mr. Long, Mr. Yohalem agreed to draft a letter for review by the Board at its June 24 meeting.

Moving on, the Board unanimously voted the following appointments to take effect July 1, 2019, to June 30, 2020: Mari Enoch as town administrator; Graham Frank as police chief and unpaid constable; and Charles Loring III as highway superintendent and fire chief. Ms. White said she would assist Ms. Enoch in contacting those who had not yet responded as to whether they wished to continue in their positions.

Mr. Yohalem, noting that overlapping vacation times might result in inadequate coverage during Town Hall office hours, asked that scheduling be arranged so that this deficiency did not occur. With this mind, the Board approved vacation requests from the tax collector — July 15 to 18 — and the the town administrator — July 8 to 12.

Following a motion from Ms. White, **the Board agreed to cut its meetings to every other week until September**

**9, as follows: July 1, July 15, July 29, August 12, and August 26.** It then consented to Mr. Long's request for confirmation that the MASSWorks grant application on which he is working be aimed at rebuilding Route 57.

Mr. Long alerted the Board to minor changes he would be writing into the contact with White Engineering regarding remediation of erosion at Umpachene Falls, for which he would be seeking the Board's approval at the June 24 meeting.

Mr. Yohalem requested that clarification of the tax collector's salary, if and when she becomes certified, also be included on the June 24 agenda. He then brought to the Board's attention a letter from Michel and Peggy Bouchard complimenting Chairman Peter Tiso for his thoughtful management of the Planning Board. He concluded the meeting with a request that each of the selectmen sign the document declining an option to purchase the land on Knight Road slated for use as a solar energy installation. Reminded by Ms. Enoch that their signatures had to be notarized, the selectmen said they would stop by to sign the paperwork when a notary is available. □

Sandra Fusco Walker

**The Board agreed to meet just twice a month during the summer until September 9.**



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## View From the Board A DIALOGUE

“It’s been quite a year” said Tara White. “First we dealt with broadband and then cannabis. I’m glad that’s over.”

“Fair enough, but just think what’s ahead” I responded. “First, we must deal with repairing Route 57. We can apply for the \$1 million grant and also see if we can get some of the money set aside by the state for culverts. Next is the Town Hall renovation. The cost estimates keep going up. We’ve got to move on with this project. Conditions here are deplorable.”

“Anything else you can think of to ruin my day?” she asked.

“The school situation” I replied. “It’s time something was done. Every year the school budget increases yet the student population gradually decreases. Yes, there are blips like this year but the forecast for the next ten years is for a severe drop. To some extent the budget increases are unavoidable. Costs go up and staff is entitled to salary increases. The only way to reduce the costs is to cut staff and that affects the quality of education.

“The obvious answer is consolidation, and probably with Berkshire Hills. It’s time to stop discussing problems and talking about whether we should consolidate and start talking about how we will consolidate and solve the problems. I think it’s time to stop forming large committees that do little more than identify the issue and start creating a small committee that makes things happen.

“Superintendent Beth Regulbuto is scheduling another roundtable meeting this month — you know, the one where a selectman and finance committee member from each of the five towns is invited to sit with her and openly share ideas. The concept has worked and has promoted a lot of good will. I’m going to suggest,

however, that the School Committee dissolve the subcommittee that has been meeting with other districts for what seems forever and thus far has only come up with obstacles. Instead, let’s have a stream-lined, three-person group consisting of a representative of the School Committee, a representative of the five towns and the District’s superintendent or business manager. This group would meet with a similar three-person group from Berkshire Hills. The agenda would be: ‘Let’s consolidate. How do we do it?’

“There are other issues we can no longer avoid: We must address vocational education. It’s sorely lacking — employers can’t fill job openings. We must address the continuation of the Egremont and New Marlborough schools. It’s time to do something and not just talk about whether we should do it.”

“I guess we’ve got a busy year ahead of us” said Tara.

“I guess we do” I replied. □

Nat Yohalem



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## THE PLANNING BOARD

**May 22:** This bimonthly meeting of the Planning Board got underway shortly after 7:00 p.m. with three members present – Eric Schaefer, Lon Combs, and Chairman Peter Tiso. To accommodate Brian Koczela of BEK Associates, who was there with a Form A (or ANR – Approval Not Required) plan for the division of property on Norfolk Road belonging to the Bosworth family, Mr. Tiso moved him up to the first order of business. Ordinarily, such plans are signed off upon by the Planning Board as soon as it is ascertained that the proposed new lots each have the required one acre and 150 feet of road frontage. In this case, however, one of the attendees in the room, Doug Newman of Hartsville, raised very strong objections to the signing of this ANR, and the discussion, heated at times, extended more than twenty minutes.

At first seated in the audience, Mr. Newman within minutes approached the table where the Planning Board members sat, and stood over them, contending that Mr. Koczela's plan should be revised to three parcels rather than two, and also that the Planning Board should not sign the plan until it was reviewed by the Board of Assessors. Mr. Schaefer, at one point, attempted to clarify the issue, saying to Mr. Newman, "Your concern is over a loss of revenue, and not planning. This is an ANR, not a supervision." Audience member Larry Burke, identifying himself as a former chairman of the Planning Board, advised that in his view the Form A had been properly executed and should be signed. Chairman Tiso brought the matter to a close by saying that he was "inclined to approve this and refer it to the assessors." The Form A was then signed by the three members of the Board.

Getting back on track with the agenda, the minutes of three previous meetings were examined, corrected, and approved. The Board then moved to a discussion of next steps on cannabis bylaws in light of the prohibition of seven out of the eight legal establishments of commercial marijuana at the Annual Town Meeting in May.


Mr. Tiso expressed his desire to move forward with the writing of cannabis bylaws, since, as he said, "the Board is already half-way there." He reported to the rest of the Board that he had checked with Zach Feury, the consultant from the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission, on whether it makes sense to present bylaws for prohibited uses. Mr. Feury's reply was that new bylaws would only be appropriate if they were to be presented alongside a proposed repeal of the prohibition of specific uses.

Lon Combs asked whether a bylaw should be crafted for medical marijuana, which is allowed by default in the state of Massachusetts. Mill River resident Barbara Marchione, who was a member of the audience, opined that such a bylaw would be a good thing to have in place, along with a bylaw for the one use – cannabis research facility – that did escape prohibition in New Marlborough. Mr. Tiso suggested that the goal of the Board should be to present bylaws for these two uses at the 2020 Annual Town Meeting. He also thought that it might be two years before any movement to reconsider, or repeal, the prohibition of certain marijuana uses might occur.

Having established the writing of those two bylaws as a first priority, the members of the Board, along with the attending audience, moved on to a discussion of other goals for the coming year. Eric Schaefer said that he looks forward to studying land-use planning for general uses, not just for cannabis, with a view to establishing limits for the size of commercial enterprises. Barbara Marchione thought that the Planning Board should look into the establishment of a "commercial park" within the township. Rebecca Schreiber of New Marlborough village suggested looking into host agreements, impact fees, and discontinuance fees for commercial businesses. There was enthusiasm in the room that these issues be the subject of more regular meetings between the Planning Board and the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Tiso brought this portion of the meeting to a conclusion by saying that he will relay the Board's interest in a wider view of land use to Zach Feury, who will be in attendance at the June 12 meeting.

Turning to the composition of the Board, which has been missing one member since James Mullen resigned earlier this year, Chairman Tiso announced that two candidates for the position – to be appointed by the Selectman until the next Town elections – were in attendance, Doug Newman of Hartsville and Daniel Doern of Mill River. Following statements by each of the candidates as to their suitability for the Board, Eric Schaefer spoke in favor of Mr. Doern, citing his strong leadership and organizational abilities as head of the Cannabis Ad Hoc Committee. Mr. Tiso followed by saying that he,


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too, was impressed by Mr. Doern, and looking forward to his contributions as a skilled organizer. At this point, Mr. Newman withdrew his name from consideration, and a motion was made and passed to forward Dan Doern's name on to the Board of Selectmen.

As the closing piece of business for the evening, Chairman Tiso called for the mandatory yearly election of officers. Lon Combs nominated Mr. Tiso to remain as chairman and Mr. Schaefer to become vice chairman. The two men agreed to serve, and, with that, the meeting was concluded at 9:05 p.m.

*Larry Burke*

**June 12:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. with newly-appointed member Dan Doern present, along with Eric Schaefer, Mark Carson, Lon Combs, and Chairman Peter Tiso. The Board appointed Mr. Tiso as representative to the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission and Lon Combs to serve as alternate.

The Board was then informed that the Palfini family had taken a portion of land out of Chapter 61A and placed it into commercial use. No action on the Board's part is necessary, as the assessor has been notified and the Board of Selectmen had declined the option to buy the land. Following up on the Bosworth Form A that had sparked strong words at the previous meeting, Mr. Tiso said that town counsel agreed with the Board's decision to sign off as they had.

The Board then turned its attention to the agenda item that consumed most of the meeting: drafting bylaws for medical marijuana treatment centers (MMTCs) and cannabis research facilities. Zach Feury of the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission brought in a draft of bylaws derived from those of other towns similar to New Marlborough, such as Windsor and Cheshire. Combing through every section of the draft, a lengthy discussion ensued, though few decisions were reached. The Board decided to remove a few sections because they did not differ from what is required by the state or because they were not pertinent to MMTCs or research facilities. Though the bylaws that the Board is considering pertain only to MMTCs and research facilities, it wants to write bylaws that would be applicable to other marijuana establishments, should the Town decide to opt back in to any of those that were prohibited at the Annual Town Meeting in May. Mr. Feury cautioned, however, against bylaws addressing uses that are currently prohibited, since that would place the Town in legal jeopardy, as evidenced by the findings of a recent Land Court case: Valley Green Grow v. Charlton.

The Board deferred to future meetings discussion of sections it did not eliminate. These include security, traffic, view-shed, water usage and runoff, annual inspections by the building inspector, hours of operation, description of activities, lot size, building size, setbacks, frontage, landscaping, lighting, zoning district, number

of businesses, abutting lots, and indoor versus outdoor cultivation. There was discussion about whether to address the specific functions allowed for MMTCs, since an MMTC can cultivate marijuana, manufacture it, and sell it. Mr. Tiso would like to write separate bylaw sections that regulate cultivation, manufacturing, and retail. Mr. Feury, unsure if this could be done, said he would check and report back.

While some board members suggested limiting the number of MMTCs and research facilities to allow, others worried that such a limitation could create an unfair monopoly. This item will continue to be discussed at future meetings.

The Board disfavors a special town meeting to vote on bylaws before the current cannabis moratorium expires on June 30 because first, the moratorium does not apply to MMTCs, and second, research facilities are rare. Mr. Feury informed the Board that there have only been three applications so far in the entire state and these have, by-and-large, been attached to universities. In the Board's opinion, an application to the Town for a cannabis research facility before the next annual town meeting, if ever, is highly unlikely.

On a final note, the Board expressed its desire to use identical language as was used for the recent solar bylaw with respect to the right of the Town to hire independent consultants to verify technical claims made by applicants.

After the cannabis bylaw discussion, Mark Carson reported to the Board that Trout Unlimited has surveyed the Konkapot River bank in Hartsville and reported that it will take six months to approve permits to remediate the erosion of the river bank next to Hartsville New Marlborough Road. The leading strategy at this stage is to leave the bank itself alone but divert water away from it, perhaps by dropping in trees in front of the bank.

Finally, Mr. Tiso reported that the Board is seeking a replacement for its secretary, who recently resigned. The meeting was adjourned at 9:11 p.m. □

*Jackson Liscombe*

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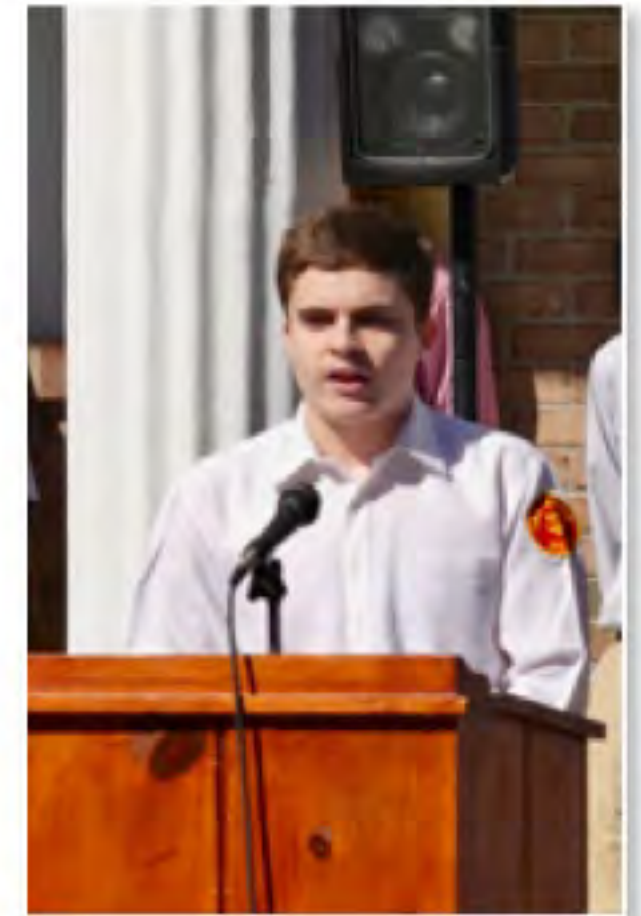
# MEMORIAL DAY 2019

**Observance and Renewal:** Arriving as ever on the last Monday in May, Memorial Day somehow always manages to be new. Indeed, it sends us back decades, even centuries, to reaffirm our allegiance with those who sacrificed to assure the nation's life and liberty. But here in New Marlborough, with a spareness of pomp and rhetoric under a brilliantly sunlit morning sky, our citizenry lined three-deep along the village byway, this Memorial Day also renewed our sense of community — and our commitment, should events call upon us, to make such sacrifices again.

Joe Poindexter / photos by Sandra Fusco Walker









## YOUR TURN

NMV5VN has established a place for our readers' stories. We encourage you to share your experiences, incidents, or thoughts through this space. Reviewing the rules: Up to 1,000 words, but short and succinct is best; no politics; points of view are welcome but civility is mandatory; editors reserve the right to accept, reject, and edit. Send your story to Joe Poindexter at [joepoindexter@earthlink.net](mailto:joepoindexter@earthlink.net).

This month, a cornucopia of first-hand accounts: a heart-warming victory, a harrowing escape, a discovery of the writer inside the salesman. Read on.

# The Enigma of the Ultra-Marathon

By John Kemp



John Kemp competing in the 2019 U.S. Nationals 50k ultra-marathon

My first memory of competitive running is going as fast as I could, until I couldn't think of anything except the pounding in my chest, the up down swish of my arms in the air, my bare feet sliding a little on the grass track. I could outrun my thoughts.

I would finish the race, gagging. Gasping for air. It felt good.

In just 400 meters, I could obliterate the entirety of my painful childhood, the years spent taking care of my mentally ill mother and feeling completely alone as a young boy, just for a minute at a time.

I was quite good. I would win a lot of races like this.

Not by competing though. I usually didn't notice the other runners, even when they would occasionally, accidentally, spike my bare feet. I ran to erase my mind, and it worked. I didn't have to worry about where the money would come from to pay for my shoes.

It was almost inevitable then, that I would run an ultra-marathon one day. An ultra-marathon, or "ultra," involves running any distance longer than the 26.2 miles of a standard marathon. If 400m could give me a minute of joy-through-pain, imagine what 100 times that distance could do?

If that sounds far, it probably is.

The "shortest" standard ultra is fifty kilometers (50k) long, or a little over 31 miles. The longest? Well, people regularly run six-day races where they might run more than 400 miles in that time!

Most of my running is done on the beautiful back roads and trails of New Marlborough. Down Brewer Branch to Umpachene Falls. Up Hayes Hill.

But I do also race.

I've run the Caumsett 50k, set in a state park on New York's Long Island, three times. It is the US National Road 50k Championships, and awards not only the top overall runners, but age-groups of every five years for both men and women too. Ten 5-kilometer laps of the park. In the cold breeze off the Long Island Sound of early March. Road ultras aren't as popular as they used to be back in the '80s, so the field isn't stacked like it used to be, but there are quite a few fast runners. It is an opportunity to test yourself at speed.

This year, I went out faster than I have before. Too fast I thought, presciently, as it turned out. For a while, it felt good though. It still feels good to run fast! Through 20 miles, I



continued to push the pace. I noticed that the lead runner in my age-group (50-54) was quite a way ahead of me. But by now, I was suffering and I had no hope of catching him.

In an ultra, you can suffer for a Very Long Time. My legs were cramping, and I felt horrible. I could suddenly barely walk, let alone run. And then the 50-54 leader dropped out! With ten miles to go, I was improbably in the lead.

For 90 more minutes, I shuffled as fast as I could, battling with my brain. Battling with my body. Give up John. Who cares about winning? You already aren't getting a personal best today, so why not just stop? My legs cramped and I winced. How could I keep going?

Somehow though, I shuffled around and around the pretty state park. Eight loops. Nine loops. Shuffled.

Until I crossed the line in 3 hours 48 minutes, winning the 50-54 age-group of the U.S. 50k Road Championships, the fourth overall "masters" (over-40) runner.

Ten loops.

Yes, I had my moment of pride at winning a U.S. Championship. But that wasn't the only reason I dragged myself round a state park for almost four hours. Yet if it wasn't all about winning, why did I keep running? Why do I keep running?

I think this is the essence of life actually. To keep going, without knowing exactly why. To just accept all of yourself in that moment. The joy of becoming, and the pain. Perhaps I'll never understand my childhood. Perhaps I'll never know anything about myself. Perhaps I'll win. Perhaps I'll lose.

Perhaps I'll just keep running. □

*John Kemp lives in Mill River*



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# The Runaway Cruise Liner

*'It looked like a ten-story building was coming at us'*

By Tom Weeks



*Joyce and Tom Weeks in Venice*

Joyce and I recently took a delightful cruise in the canals of Venice, Italy, and were still on board on the final day, June 2, awaiting a taxi, scheduled to depart for the airport at 9:00 a.m. It was 8:30, and, with our luggage offloaded and time on our hands, we wandered to the lounge area located in the front of the ship, which had picture windows affording a panoramic view of the water traffic in the Giudecca Canal, the city's main waterway.

Another couple was already there watching one of the many ocean liners that are towed through the area throughout the day. The big liners are normally towed parallel to shore in the center of the narrow deep-water channel. However, this one, despite the efforts of a large tug to pull it back toward the center, had veered out of the channel and was pointing toward the dock area. The other couple said it looked odd, especially since they saw the liner

drop an anchor — in fact, a little too odd, so they left the lounge. Joyce and I were curious to see how the liner's course was going to be corrected; these guys are professionals, we thought; surely they knew what they were doing.

After watching for another thirty seconds or so, I said to Joyce "this really doesn't look good," and started to head for the door. I turned around to see her still at the window contemplating taking a picture, with the liner looming ever larger. I shouted to her "Joyce! Run!" We ran as fast as we could (actually more of a labored fast walk these days) to the gangway at midship. By the time we arrived, the crew had been alerted and was yelling at everyone to get off.

It looked as if the cruise liner was going to hit the dock close to the exit gate, so we were

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told to run in the opposite direction. However, we soon came up against a ten-foot fence with barbed wire across the top. The liner hit the dock, which somehow remained intact, and slid along it, pushing the little river boat aside. From where we stood, it looked like a ten-story building was coming at us. All the more frightening because we were at a dead-end and could go no further. It had come down to this: if the dock failed, all of us were going to die.

The crew then began yelling at us to run toward the liner to reach the only available exit from the dock. This we did, and suddenly, miraculously it seemed, we were out of danger. The crew gathered

all passengers and crew who had made it off the boat, while coordinating by cell phone with those still on board. Unfortunately there had been no time to sound an alarm, so many on the boat were caught unawares. Eventually, everyone on the manifest was accounted for. Five people were injured: four who were knocked off their feet while on board the boat; one who had fallen face-first while running along the dock.

As a Google search for “runaway cruise ship” will attest, much of the calamity was captured on cell-phone videos. One of them, taken from the observation deck of the liner, clearly shows a crew member in dress whites standing on the gangway, practically throwing passengers onto the dock. Another video, from dock level, shows the moment when our river boat was pushed away and the gangway separated from shore. As a woman falls forward on the gangway, a crew member lunges to haul her back on the boat.

We were all lucky that day. Had the liner hit the river boat directly, it would have crushed it like a tin can; had the dock not held, many already ashore would have been crushed or thrown into the water. Joyce and I had further good fortune because our luggage was ashore and we had our passports in hand. We were among the first six to be transported to the airport. We made our flight with time to spare.

How surreal: At one moment, we were in a life-or-death scenario; in the next, we were sitting in an airplane as if nothing had happened — where our worst problems were cramped seats and lukewarm airline food. Because our flight was scheduled to land at Bradley Airport at around 11:00 p.m., we had booked a room at a nearby Holiday Inn. Next morning, while Joyce slept in, I was sitting by myself in the Inn’s cafeteria, having a quiet cup of coffee, surrounded by strangers who were also quietly starting their day. On the TV, a news channel ran a video clip of a terrible accident that had happened in Venice the day before.

And I burst into tears. □

*Joyce and Tom Weeks live in Southfield.*



*The Weeks, front and center, escaping as a cruise liner bore down on them*



# ‘Ranting’ My Way to a 330-page Book

By Scott Walker



Scott Walker and the Walkers' Bernese mountain dogs

I know of few people who enjoy writing about their work — unless they're also creative types who love to write. I'm not one of them. I'm an engineer by education, and I pursued a career in a unique aspect of manufacturing. I did this not out of love or art but out of necessity: I needed to make a living.

In 1991, I was hired to manage a Japanese machine tool company, and after a few years, a colleague suggested we include a company newsletter that would go to all employees along with their paychecks. I thought it was a good idea, provided that all of us on the management team take turns contributing newsletters, sharing the bi-weekly commitment. It took less than a year to discover that our management team didn't like writing about work any more than I did. I ended up responsible for writing the company newsletter every two weeks, no matter where I was traveling.

Those who write for a living may empathize with the deadline pressure of coming up with a fresh topic every two weeks and then executing it. Nevertheless, I stuck with it and produced about 500 newsletters averaging around 700 words each. As my career wound down and I began the road to retirement, I thought about printing them all and placing them inside a three ring binder in case any future staff would like to read them. My wife, Sandra, and others encouraged me to put a book together instead. This was how *Rantings of a Machine Tool Salesman* came to be.

I was advised a book of this nature should be no more than 130,000 words. I began to read through years of newsletters, selecting the ones I liked. As I put them together, I inserted “Looking Back” comments so readers could get a picture of what had happened later in relation to the subject, compared to my view at the time I wrote the newsletter.

I handed a rough draft of 180,000 words to my wife, and then the editors moved in. I learned that letting go to allow people to do their job works not only in senior management but also in book editing. The finished book is 138,000 words (ever notice how engineers like numbers?) and not much is about the machine tool business. It's a book about people, hobbies, travel, food, building a company, our home, and, in hindsight, my life.

Sandra and I purchased our New Marlborough property in 1997. We camped with our kids here, cleared the land and slowly built our house, finally becoming residents in this great town we call home. In *Rantings*, there are several stories about our life in New Marlborough.

Despite my early resistance — and all the hard work in between — it's satisfying to look back on this sideline to my career and discover bits and pieces that perhaps will outlive every machine tool I ever sold. The newsletter from May 15, 2013 titled “Life's Work” ends: “Your life's work is not what you do. It is not what you make. It is not what you leave. Your life's work is you.” □

Scott Walker lives in Mill River





## LAND TRUST NEWS

The Land Trust is ready for an adventurous season outdoors.

We've established a new parking area at the New Marlboro Preserve, correcting excessive mud. A stable surface has been put down and a culvert will be installed, which will manage the constant road runoff. The experience of walking the Preserve changes with every season — and varies remarkably along its 1.3-mile trail. You will be cool along the Willow Creek gorge, mildly warm along the banks of the Umpachene River, and maybe even break a sweat climbing the moderate hill returning to the parking lot area. Visit often.

We are excited to announce the installation of our new road signage at five Land Trust sites: New Marlboro Preserve, Goodnow Preserve, Lower Carroll Mill, Joffe Nature Sanctuary, and Thousand Acre Swamp. But don't just drive by. Stop and enjoy a break from your day. Also please check out the Land Trust's new website at [nmlandtrust.org](http://nmlandtrust.org). It is fresh and improved with some fun pictures. □



photo by Martha Bryan

Thanks to this trail crew, the New Marlboro Preserve loop trail is ready for your exploration.

Martha Bryan



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# AN ESSENCE MADE VISUAL

## Next Up at the Meeting House Gallery: Water Works

In the cold heart of this past winter, twenty-one artists accepted an invitation from the Meeting House Gallery Committee to respond to the theme of Water Works. As the ice and snow transformed into spring, rain, and mud, heavy clouds, and roaring streams, the artists created and prepared their work. Now, in the season of bright, billowing clouds, sparkling lakes, and the lush moisture of summer, the work is complete and ready for the (warm-hearted, we hope) judgement of the public. The opening reception will take place July 26, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Is there anything more meaningful and transformative than water? It's everywhere, from amniotic fluid to ice sculpting to tidal waves, steam engines and pickle jars, or to a single teardrop from an eyeball, damp with emotion. Are our bodies really 60 percent water? Do we also have whirlpools and waves within us?

Water sustains life and affects every living being every day. Just the thought of it brings to mind a stream of images — from the Biblical flood and ancient mariners to a future of drowning cities and submerged island cultures. Old Faithful, with nature's clockwork, blasts her steam from the deep, dark, earth, while far to the north a glacier calves another monumental shard of ancient ice into a sea, now open as a shipping lane for



"Catch a Fellow Fish." Cut paper, by Rebecca Schreiber



Brian Mikesell, as he prepares to apply a signature to his untitled suminagashi (Japanese paper marbling) work for the Water Works exhibit

photo by Ann Getsinger



"Gros Mome Reflection" by Natalie Manzino

the first time in human history.

To sit beside our own Umpachene Falls, to witness the curling, spitting, gushing flow of liquid motion over solid stone, or the flash of sparkling sunlight as a single leaf circles in an eddy, can lift a heart and change the day in a moment.

The exhibit is expected to be strong on photography and painting, along with a rich smattering of collage, pastel, drawing, and mixed media work. The artists include Lee Backer, Joe Baker, Peggy Braun, Eugene Cleary, Michael Filmus, Mark Gardner, Ann Getsinger, Joan Griswold, Arthur Hillman, Billy Kennedy, Eleanor Lord, Natalie Manzino, Holly McNeely, Brian Mikesell, Elaine Radiss, Hope Schreiber, Rebecca Schreiber, Patrick Stolfo, Connie Sussman, and Celeste Watman.

Following the opening, Water Works will be on view from July 27 to August 25. Gallery hours are Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.. □

Ann Getsinger

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## Upcoming: Events Calendar for June and July

**July 6: The Zola Boys** return to the Southfield church, 7:00 p.m., with their Bluegrass Brother harmonies

**July 12: A History of The Trustees in the Berkshires**, a First Friday (the second Friday, this month) program of the New Marlborough Historical Society; 7:30 p.m. in the Meeting House Gallery, wine and cheese to follow the program — free and open to the public

**July 13: White Elephant Collection**, for the ever-popular Elihu Burritt Day White Elephant sale, 10:00 a.m. to noon, at the barn of The Farm New Marlborough on New Marlborough Southfield Road

**July 16: Organizing Your Healthcare Data**, Deborah Phillips, MS, LDN, IFNCP, on taking charge of information about your health; free and open to the public, 4:30 to 5:50 p.m. in the Fairview Hospital Conference Room, 29 Lewis Avenue, Great Barrington; pre-register at (413) 854-9609

**July 26: Water Works**, the second show of the 2019 season, exhibiting the works of twenty-three artists; opening reception 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the New Marlborough Meeting House Gallery; on view Friday to Sunday 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. thereafter until August 25

**July 27: String Quartet (TBA)** from the Norfolk Music Festival Fellows, a rare opportunity to hear brilliant young musicians before they turn pro; 4:00 p.m. at the Southfield Church

**August 2: Witchcraft in early New England**, a New Marlborough Historical Society First Friday program, presented by former Yale history professor John Demos, 7:30 p.m. Meeting House Gallery

**August 3: White Elephant Collection**, for the Elihu Burritt Day White Elephant sale, 10:00 a.m. to noon, at the barn of The Farm New Marlborough on New Marlborough Southfield Road

**August 10: White Elephant Collection**, and the last opportunity to pay heed to your inner Marie Kondo for the Elihu White Elephant sale, 10:00 a.m. to noon, at the barn of The Farm New Marlborough on New Marlborough Southfield Road

**August 16: Book collection**, for the Elihu Burritt Day book sale, 10:00 a.m. to noon, 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. on the New Marlborough Village Green.

**August 17: Elihu Burritt Day**, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on the New Marlborough Village Green, followed by the Fire Department Annual Pig Roast, at the Firehouse in Southfield village, 5:00 p.m. until the band goes home

**August 24: The Rhythm Blues Quartet**, the opening of the 2019 season of Music & More on a swing jazz note, 4:30 p.m. at the New Marlborough Meeting House; \$25, \$20 to members of the Village Association

**August 30: New Marlborough Artists**, an invitational show open to residents of our town; opening reception, 5:00 to 6:00 p.m.; on view Saturdays and Sunday, 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. until October 6



## NEIGHBORS

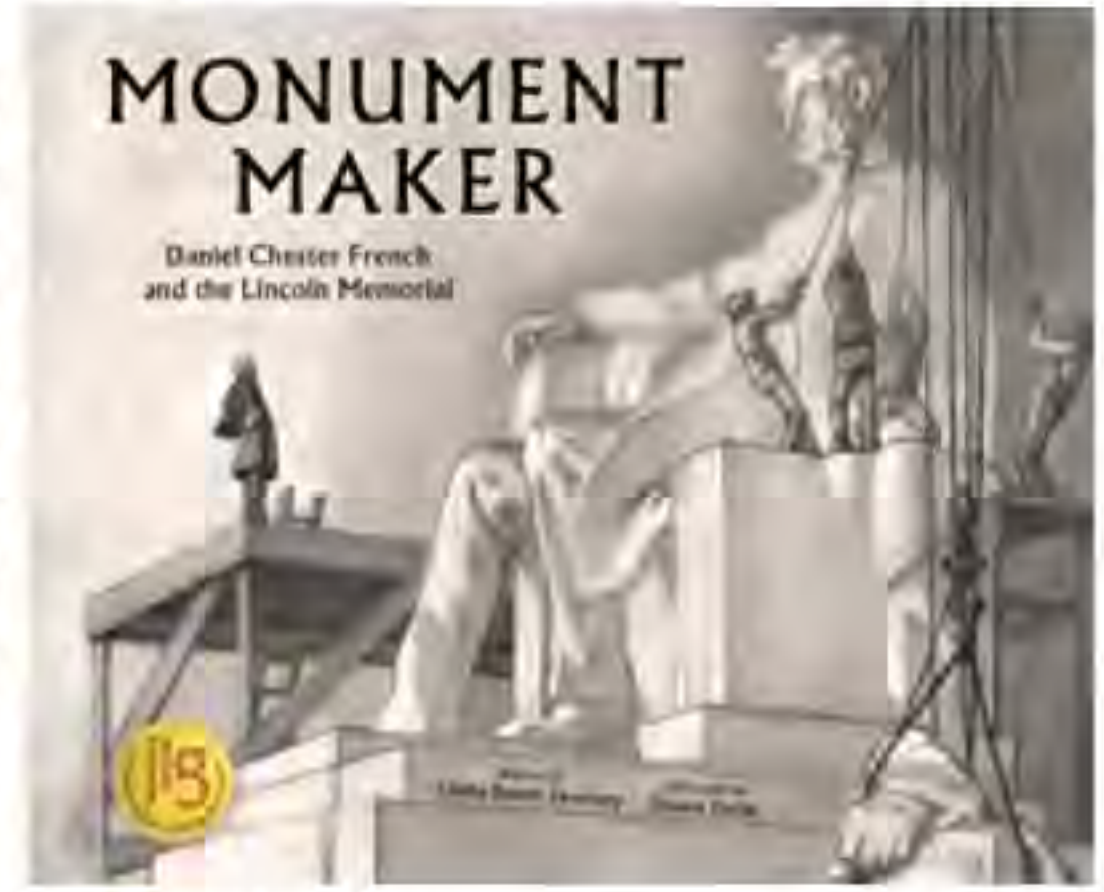


There has been an impressive number of publications by New Marlborough residents this spring. Artist **Shawn Fields** of Mill River, has created the illustrations for *Monument Maker: Daniel Chester French and the Lincoln Memorial*, by Linda Booth Sweeney. The book is appropriate for ages 9 through 14. Shawn is best known for his narrative oil paintings, and his ability to connect with children and adults through visual story-telling is impressive. The book, from Tilbury House Publishers, will be available in September.

Last month we noted the publication of Jake Levin's *Smokehouse Handbook*. An article about him appears on page 24 of this issue.

In 1999, Mill River resident **Scott Walker**, who recently retired as president of Mitsui Seiki (USA), a machine tool sales and support company, instituted a one-page newsletter to be sent with paychecks every two weeks to communicate what was going on in the company. Although the original idea was to have everyone contribute to the effort, the reality was that Scott produced most of them. His book, *Rantings of a Machine Tool Salesman*, is a selection of nearly 200 newsletters from 1999 through 2017. Topics range from technical aspects of machine tool production and sales to company activities, to observations on life and learning, all delivered in casual and often humorous style. Scott's description of the process of creating the book is on page 18 of this issue. The book is available at the Mill River General Store, The Bookstore in Lenox, and on Amazon.

Software developer **John Kemp**, also of Mill River, recently won his 50-54 age-group in the annual Caumsett Park 50k race, the U.S. National Road 50k Championships. That's more than thirty-one miles! John also placed fourth overall among the over-40 runners. Congratulations! John's account of his thoughts on running in general and during this race appear on page 14. □



Shawn Fields's book cover

compiled by Barbara Lowman: [deeuell@yahoo.com](mailto:deeuell@yahoo.com)

## OUR WILDLIFE NEIGHBORS



photo by Scottie Mills

Weasel in a downspout

There were a few out-of-the-ordinary sightings over the past month. Back on May 23, **Scottie Mills** of New Marlborough village wrote, "I watched a **weasel**, maybe fourteen inches long with a black-tipped tail, chase down a chipmunk right in front of me on the lawn in broad daylight. Then he decided to hide in the drainpipe!" She followed up a few days later with, "I saw a **doe** walking in my backyard, then standing by some bushes for quite a while, bending down occasionally. The next day she came back to the same spot in the ferns and did the same thing, so I decided to investigate. She ran off, but I knew the spot where she had been, and I discovered her **fawn**! The doe has been back several days now. I didn't know they would hide their offspring in the same spot for a few days."

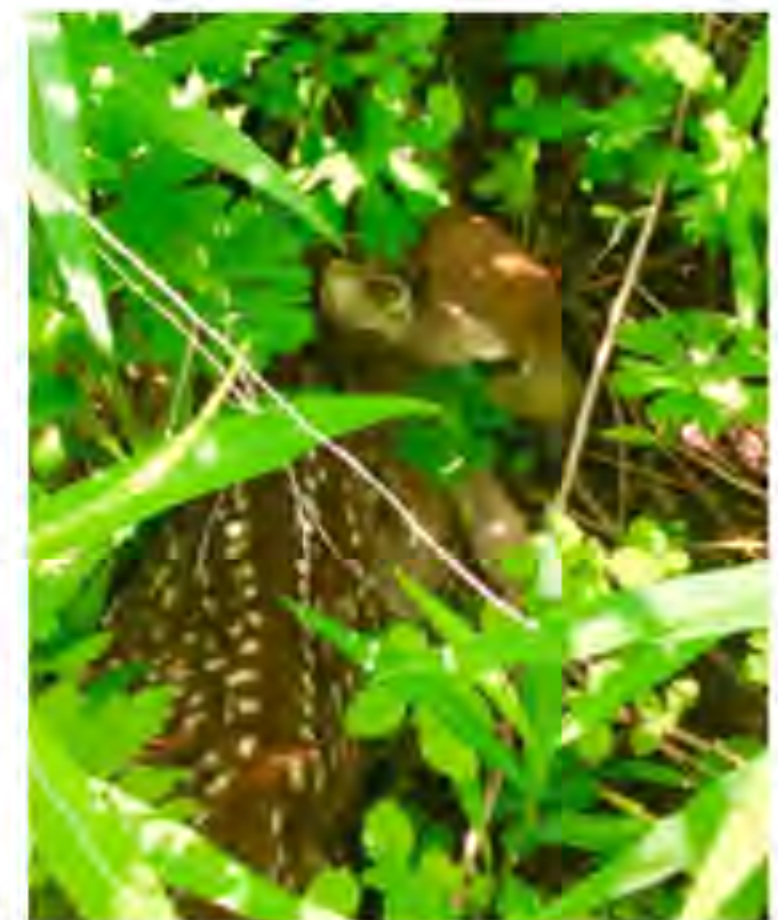


photo by Scottie Mills

A fawn in Scottie Mills's backyard

**Matthew Meyers**, who lives on Canaan Southfield Road, had camera in hand when, "on the last day of May, I came home from work tonight to find a **painted turtle** laying her eggs in our driveway. We tend to get a few painted turtles and snapping turtles doing this every year. They make the trek up the hill from the Joffe Nature Sanctuary. Hopefully, we will have photos of the babies when they hatch in a few months."

As Mathew says, this is the time of year when the lady turtles get busy. **Mike Bruns** from Camp Wa Wa Segowea in Southfield saw the familiar figure of



photo by Matthew Meyers



A painted turtle lays her eggs

a **snapping turtle** basking on a log on Harmon Pond: “He’s the camp’s unofficial mascot – “Wally” – who’s been around for a few years.” (Maybe Wally is short for Wallace, as in Wallace Simpson?) Another snapper, undoubtedly of the fairer sex, was seen at Flying Cloud over a period of several days scoping out the perfect site to deposit her brood, eventually deciding on the edge of the driveway right next to the pond.



photo by Mike Bryns

Camp Wa Wa Segowea’s honorary mascot - a snapping turtle!

**Barbara Kelly**, who lives midway between Southfield and Mill River, had an exciting moment with her family: “On Saturday, June 16, a **moose** strolled by one side of our house early last Saturday morning. My son Chris first noticed the moving shadow and quickly picked up his phone and took a picture. You can tell just how close she was. Nothing much more to detail as the visit was so brief. By the time we got out to our upper deck to try to get a better look she was gone, most likely, we believe, into the densely wooded area across the road. She made her way up to Betsy Colhoun’s house.”

photo by Betsy Colhoun



A moose in the Kelly’s back yard

**Betsy Colhoun** continued the narrative, writing, “I had a **female moose** hanging around in the field in front of my house on Saturday. She’s was very serene and stayed for fifteen minutes or so. She came pretty close to me and the house.” Betsy also got a chance to record a bit of video of the moose before it sauntered off. This is probably not the last sighting on Collins Hill of this amazing creature.

Meanwhile, down in the Clayton area, **Don Beauchamp** has been busy with bird sightings: “Lots of actively this past month, with babies hatching into the world. At the end of May, the **chestnut-sided warbler** flew off, never to be seen again, but I have seen two male **blue buntings** in different places, a **green heron** at the same pond as last month’s **American bittern**, and a **pileated woodpecker**, which I walked right by. Then there was a **garter snake**, maybe thirty inches in length, coming out of my tool shed, a **baby robin** waiting to be fed, dueling male **hummingbirds** at the feeder, one **bobolink**, more **orioles**, a pair of **house wrens** in a bluebird house, and finally, a newborn **Bambi**.”



photo by Don Beauchamp


Blue bunting

photo by Don Beauchamp



Garter snake in the tool box

Send your wildlife encounter stories to [lburke2@me.com](mailto:lburke2@me.com)



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## COMING FULL CIRCLE

### *How Jake Levin Turned a Childhood Interest into a Career*

By Sandra Fusco Walker

Jake Levin's book, *Smoke House Handbook*, is a culinary stroll round the globe of smoked foods, leading right to our own backyard in New Marlborough.

Jake's family moved here when he was a toddler, and Jake spent his childhood playing and working on neighbors' farms, where he became familiar with the art of raising and butchering animals. Then came later boyhood and an introduction to the creation of art itself at Flying Cloud Institute. This led to a passion for art and a concentration in art at Wesleyan College. That, in turn, led to a job as an art handler in New York City, with a company that was hired by museums and collectors to deliver and install artwork. The job exposed Jake to a wide variety of significant artwork, but this very immersion interfered with his own artistic creativity. As a result, he began to search for a new line of work — a search that had its roots in those early days spent on New Marlborough farms.

Then, too, food had always played a role in Jake's sense of community. "Memories of family vacations are rooted in where and what the family ate," he says. "I knew I wanted to work with food." Living in Brooklyn, an epicenter of the newly emerging fresh food movement, Jake became a regular at a local butcher shop, even when he wasn't there to purchase meats. Befriending the butcher, Jake asked how he had started his career. The butcher advised Jake if he wanted to be in the business, he should spend some time as an apprentice butcher.

Jake happened upon Fleischer's Meat in Kingston, New York, where he was studying for an MFA at Bard College, and signed on for a three-month apprenticeship in butchering. When it came time to move back to the city, he took a job at Eli's Market in Manhattan and completed his master's degree at Bard. Shortly after graduating, Jake was contacted by Jeremy Stanton, who asked if he wanted to work at the newly opened Meat Market in Great Barrington. In 2012, Jake and his wife, Silka, moved into his grandmother's house in Mill River and, a few years later, founded The Roving Butcher, which assists farmers, chefs, and homesteaders in sourcing, processing, and utilizing whole animals.

"The first thing I wanted to do after we moved into this



*Jake Levin and his smokehouse*

house was build a summer kitchen," Jake said. "We have our fire pit, a grill and a cob oven, a type of wood fired pizza oven built out of natural materials. We cook in it during the summer but also use it during the winter to cook duck and small roasts. I also wanted a smokehouse, so my brother and I designed it and then he built it. That's the genesis of the book."

Jake comes from a family of writers and the idea of writing a book was always something he had in the back of his mind. He hadn't thought about exactly what he would write, but he and Silka already had a blog at the The Roving Butcher, and he was leading workshops helping

people learn to butcher animals. "All types of people show up for the workshops; vegetarians who are starting to think they might eat meat and want to see if they are comfortable with the slaughtering, young farmers and people who are homesteading and want to process their own animals, chefs, and dudes who love grilling and making sausage, like hunters who butcher their own deer. It's an interesting crowd," Jake said. Carly Madigan, an editor, attended one of Jake's workshops and suggested he write about smoking meat, and that's how the book got started.

The book is more than just a cookbook — though he admits that just thinking about his recipe for smoked ribs (see *5 Village News*, June 2019, page 17) makes his mouth water. History and stories are woven among the recipes along with tips about the various kinds of smokers, cuts of meat, even instructions and diagrams to build your own smokehouse.

Jake is on the board of Berkshire Grown and expressed his pleasure that SNAP, a food stamp program, now allows people to purchase fresh foods at farmers markets. "It's a win-win because it gives people the chance to buy fresh foods and supports our local farmers." And another book is not out of the question, but this summer, Jake and Silka are focused on preparing for the arrival of their first child.

"I am where I am today because of where I grew up," said Jake. "Everything comes back to New Marlborough. That cliché, 'It takes a village to raise a child,' well, I am representative of that." □



## OLD HOUSES

They are crucial elements of the fabric of New Marlborough. They carry its history, they mellow its architecture, they beautify its villages. And like all originals, there will be no more of them. That is why the New Marlborough Historical Society has undertaken an inventory of all 253 houses, churches, and other structures in town built in the year 1900 or before.

The inventory, a long time coming, was started in 1975, under the direction of local historian Jim Parrish, with a grant from the Massachusetts Bicentennial Commission. Helen Liveten got involved in the project about ten years ago, and Claudette Callahan picked it up in 2018 and devoted last winter to its completion. Bulging three-ring binders, organized by village, attest to her industriousness. The aim of the inventory is to pin down the following information for each of the structures: address with a



*Claudette Callahan, inspecting an entry in the old house inventory  
photo by Joe Poindexter*

map of the location, historic name, date, style, and type of construction, major alterations, present condition, and amount of the surrounding acreage. All this plus a photo.

To fill in missing information and correct errors in the inventory, the New Marlborough Historic Commission is inviting owners to view the records of their properties at two sessions to be held at the New Marlborough Public Library July 13, 10:00 a.m. to noon, and July 26, from 5:00 to 7:00

p.m. When offering information about your house, Ms. Callahan asks that you provide the tax ID number, the number used in the inventory, associated with the property. It can be found on the Town website, [newmarlboroughma.gov](http://newmarlboroughma.gov), by clicking on Board of Assessors under the Boards & Committees heading. □

*Joe Poindexter*

## RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Summertime in the Berkshires means the BSO at Tanglewood, dance at Jacobs Pillow, Shakespeare and wonderful sculptures at The Mount, music at Naumkaeg. This is the perfect dip to take in your picnic basket. According to Tom Stalker of New Marlborough, a Stalker outing never happens without it, and his brothers still make it almost every weekend. Tom isn't so lucky; he permits himself to indulge only a few times a year — this is not a recipe for the dairy intolerant.

Note: Tom admits his clam dip can be made with low-fat cream cheese but quickly adds that life is too short for low-fat and highly recommends sticking to regular cream cheese. □

*Fiona Kerr*

### Stalker Clan Clam Dip

#### Ingredients:

- 1 can minced or chopped clams
- 1 8-oz bar of cream cheese, at room temperature
- Horseradish to taste.

#### Directions:

- Drain juice from can clams, reserve.
- Add clams to cream cheese along with a bit of horseradish.
- Mix well, adding juice from clams until mixture is thin enough to dip your favorite chips into.
- Taste and add just enough horseradish to suit you.
- Enjoy.

[nm5vn.org](http://nm5vn.org)





**Summertime, and the livin' is easy...** and at times, here in New Marlborough, graced with the glow of moonlight, the sparkle of water, and the wingbeat of the monarch butterfly, as evidenced in these photos by Erik Callahan.





## THE JOY OF READING

The annual Summer Reading Program will take place at the New Marlborough Library from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., July 8 through 11. The statewide theme this year is "Universal Stories"; New Marlborough's theme is "Space," with several workshop presenters. The group Science Tellers will address the topic of "Library Aliens." The Audubon Society's program is "Animals Tell Stories." With Sound Explorers, children will make musical instruments from recycled materials. Mary Jo Maichack will conduct a make-and-take workshop to create a "Moonscape Puppet Theater." And back by overwhelming popular demand, ImagArena will conduct a workshop to awaken creativity and imagination, using the materials of a building workshop within the

framework of a video game. All of this and more in just twenty hours!

Librarian Deb O'Brien noted that she is assisted by teenage helpers – they're too old for the program, but want to join in the fun. This is all good news. The bad news is that the program, limited by space, can take no more than fifteen children and has been fully booked since January. Staffing limitations preclude additional sessions at this time. It's a tribute to Ms. O'Brien's leadership and creativity that this program has become such a sought-after experience. So much for the myth that kids these days are spending all their time on video games and in chat rooms. □

Barbara Lowman


## ATTENTION, PET OWNERS!

For the first time in twenty years, Elihu Burritt Day (August 17) will feature a Pet Parade. Sponsored by the New Marlborough Cultural Council, the rebirth of this long-ago favorite welcomes all non-violent, leashed pets — the wider the variety, the better. Costumes are encouraged, but not necessary for pets and/or families. The Pet Parade will assemble at 10:00 a.m. in front of the New Marlborough Meeting House.

Volunteers ages nine and older (including adults) will be judges for winners in a variety of categories. They'll also assist with the animals and with registration. The Cultural Council will appreciate owners cleaning up after their animals; poop bags and water will be available.

More details will be publicized as the date approaches. Please mark the date and plan to participate in a rousing return of the Pet Parade to New Marlborough. Any questions? Call Kathy Potoski at 413-528-1728 for answers. □

Barbara Lowman



*Elihu says: Come to my party!*  
*Elihu Burritt Day*  
*is August 17*  
*10-3 on The Village Green!*



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# THE LOG

## Police Department (selected entries)

- May 1: 6:22 a.m. A wild turkey hunter, setting up decoys fifteen feet off New Marlborough Southfield Road on Land Trust property, is informed that he is trespassing and failing to abide by hunting regulations; he is asked to move on and an incident report is forwarded to environmental police.
- 11:07 p.m. An officer fires a "bean bag" round at a nuisance bear outside the Mill River General Store.
- May 4 3:15 p.m. A Hill Heights Road resident reports that strangers are on her property; then, minutes later, cancels the call when she discovers the "intruders" are a nephew and friends.
- May 6 11:27 a.m. Officer assists an Old Hitchcock Road resident who has locked herself out of her vehicle.
- May 7 5:09 p.m. A caller reports a breaking and entering at a property on Church Road in Mill River village.
- May 8 7:43 p.m. A driver, whose license was suspended for a previous operating-under-the-influence offense, is stopped on Mill River Great Barrington Road and issued a summons.
- May 9 9:26 a.m. A Rhoades and Bailey Road resident reports a call from a scammer claiming to be an employee of his bank.
- May 10 4:46 p.m. An officer assists the owner in rounding up a half dozen cows that have jumped fencing onto Hartsville New Marlborough Road.
- May 11 11:11 a.m. Stopped on Mill River Great Barrington Road, the driver of a vehicle, the registration of which has been revoked, is transported to her Sheffield residence; the vehicle is towed.
- May 12 6:30 a.m. The highway superintendent is alerted to a fallen tree blocking Canaan Southfield Road.
- May 13 3:18 p.m. National Grid is alerted to a tree on wires on Knight Road.
- May 15 4:37 p.m. A Southfield resident, stopped while driving with a suspended license, is issued a criminal summons; his vehicle is towed.
- May 16 10:49 a.m. Owner of a herd of fifteen cows reports that three are missing in the woods in Hartsville.
- 3:00 p.m. Following a Southfield village resident's concern over a stranger taking photos of her property and then returning to it twice more on foot, the Department requests extra patrols in the area.
- May 17 1:56 p.m. Assist firefighters at a house fire on Canaan Southfield Road.
- 6:43 p.m. A Clayton resident complains of motor bikers trespassing in the mile-long cornfield on Clayton Mill River Road.
- May 18 8:08 p.m. Two would-be campers in Umpachene Falls Park are told to leave.
- May 19 1:15 a.m. Driver reports a large brown cow wandering on Hartsville New Marlborough Road in the center of New Marlborough village.
- 9:20 a.m. A bull reported loose on Hartsville New Marlborough Road
- 1:37 p.m. A driver reports a vehicle speeding past her in a no-passing zone on Hartsville New Marlborough Road, stopping to pick up a passenger, then crossing a double yellow line to speed past her a second time.
- May 20 10:35 p.m. In the midst of reporting a tree down on Adsit Crosby Road, a motorist interrupts himself to say that a driver with a chain saw has just pulled up and was addressing the problem.
- 10:52 p.m. A second tree down on Adsit Crosby Road.
- May 22 9:17 a.m. A Canaan Southfield Road resident reports that his garden hose, borrowed the previous week to help fight a fire next door, has been missing ever since.
- 2:25 p.m. Assist the Sheffield Police with a fatal motor vehicle accident, truck vs motorcycle; the operator of truck arrested for operating under the influence.
- 9:49 p.m. A visitor to Umpachene Falls Park is advised that the Park is closed and asked to leave.
- May 23 8:34 a.m. A Canaan Southfield Road resident reports a scam caller, who, posing as a relative, passes along instructions for sending money to an injured family member.



May 29 9:34 a.m. Officer helps round up some twenty cows loose at the foot of Brewer Hill Road.

4:50 p.m. A Southfield resident asks for help in dealing with trespassers who have driven onto his newly planted corn field and begun target practice; officer charges the parties with multiple fire-arm law violations and seizes their firearms.

May 30 6:35 p.m. Alerted by a resident to two dirt bikers joy-riding up and down Brewer Hill Road, an officer, lights flashing, attempts to stop them but loses sight of both — one at the east end of Konkapot Road, the other, who has reversed course and almost hit the cruiser, as he sped past it up Brewer Hill.

*Graham Frank, Chief of Police*

## FIRE AND RESCUE

May 1 11:06 p.m. Cross Road to Canaan Valley Road Medical Call

May 9 2:03 p.m. Mutual Aid to Great Barrington Medical Call

May 10 12:34 p.m. Clayton Mill River Road Medical Call

May 12 2:10 p.m. Hartsville Mill River Road Fire Alarm

May 14 7:38 p.m. Mutual Aid to Monterey Cover Station

May 17 2:47 p.m. Canaan Southfield Road Structure Fire

May 19 7:39 p.m. Sisson Hill Road Medical Call

May 26 11:20 a.m. Mutual Aid to Sheffield Medical Call

May 26 7:27 p.m. Hartsville New Marlborough Road Fire Alarm

May 27 12:35 p.m. Mutual Aid to Monterey Structure Fire

May 29 12:45 p.m. Hartsville New Marlborough Road Medical Call

May 30 7:56 a.m. East Hill Road Medical Call

## FIRE COMPANY NEWS

The New Marlborough Fire Company wishes to thank Firefighter Winona Carpenter for fourteen years of dedicated service with New Marlborough Fire and Rescue. Winona who retired in June, was a Firefighter I/II certified firefighter, a driving force behind the New Marlborough Fire Company's annual Spring Dance, and a wonderful behind-the-scenes organizer who took on any and all assignments. The Fire Company wishes Winona all the best in all of her future endeavors and hope she joins us for our next Spring Dance — as a guest! □

*David Smith, President,  
New Marlborough Fire Company*



*Winona Carpenter*

  
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## JULY HAPPENINGS AT THE LIBRARY



**July 9: The Public, a Summer Movie Series offering at 7:00 p.m.** In the opening of this film, an unusually bitter Arctic blast has made its way to downtown Cincinnati and to the front doors of the public library where the action of the film takes place. At odds with library officials over how to handle the extreme weather event, some homeless patrons turn the building into a shelter for the night by staging an "Occupy" sit in. What begins as an act of civil disobedience becomes a stand-off with police and a rush-to-judgment

media constantly speculating about what's really happening. This David-versus-Goliath story tackles some of our nation's most challenging issues, homelessness and mental illness, and sets the drama inside one of the last bastions of democracy-in-action: your public library. Admission is free, but Please R.S.V.P 413-229-6668 or [newmarlborough@gmail.com](mailto:newmarlborough@gmail.com) to reserve your place.



**July 13: Meet the Author & Book Signing with Jake Levin at 1:00 p.m.** Local resident Jake Levin will be here to talk about his book, *Smoke House Handbook*. Learn about the smoke house Jake built, how he got interested in smoking and much more. Copies will be available for purchase. For more information contact the Library 413-229-6668 or [newmarlborough@gmail.com](mailto:newmarlborough@gmail.com)

**July 16 and July 30: Tech Help with KellyAnne McGuire, 5:30 pm - 7:30 p.m.**

Is technology moving faster than you can keep up? Would you like help creating an email account or learning to socialize on Facebook? The library is offering half-hour individual sessions; sign-ups are first come, first served. Beginners welcome! Bring your own device if you have one, and the specific challenges you need help with

**July 18: Cookbook Club at 6:00 p.m.** Do you love sharing conversation over a meal? Do you love trying new recipes and experimenting with new flavors? This book club is for you! Each month we will all cook from the same cookbook and bring our dishes to a potluck-style dinner at the library. It's a great way to enjoy the full range of a cookbook while only making one dish. For July we will be cooking from Dorie Greenspan's *Everyday Dorie*. The library will have copies available to check out. This is a zero-waste event, so please bring your own dishes, silverware, cups, etc. (although we will have some on hand just in case). Please RSVP to [newmarlborough@gmail.com](mailto:newmarlborough@gmail.com) with what you intend to bring.

**July 20: Book Discussion Group, 10:00 a.m.** Join us for coffee, bagels and a lively discussion of the book, *Little Fires Everywhere*, by Celeste Ng.

**August 16: Library Book Sale - Book Collection**, one collection day only, 10:00 a.m. to noon and 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., on the New Marlborough Village Green. Do not drop books at the Library or Town Hall. No textbooks, encyclopedias, magazines or moldy/damaged items.



**Summer Library Hours**  
 Mon. Wed. Sat. 10:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
 Tues. & Fri. 1:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.  
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## Town Times

**Board of Selectmen:** Every other Monday until September 9 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:** Monday 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.; Thursday 8:00 to 10:00 a.m.

**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

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., Tuesday and Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. until Labor Day

**Selectmen's Administrative Secretary:** Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

**Dog and Animal Control Officer:** John Springstube 413-232-7038

**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 \$125 at Town Hall, the Transfer Station, or by mail. Please enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Late fee of \$150 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

Joe Poindexter, issue editor; Diane Barth, designer;  
Martha Bryan, Jane Burke, Larry Burke, Jackson Liscombe,  
Barbara Lowman, David Lowman, Peter Schuyten,  
Barry Shapiro, Anne M. Sommers, Sandra Fusco-Walker  
Contributing writers and artists: Ann Getsinger, Angus Kerr,  
Jodi Rothe, Mary Richie Smith, Catherine Twing,  
Tara White, and Michele Shalaby. Index: Donna Weaver

## New Marlborough 5 Village News

appears monthly,

**also online at [www.nm5vn.org](http://www.nm5vn.org)**

The next issue will be dated August 2019.

All copy must be submitted no later than July 17.

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

PO Box 243, Southfield, MA 01259

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- ♦ **Dellea.biz Computer Services:** has provided local residents with on-site Windows computer repairs and technical support since 1996. Book appointments online at <https://dellea.biz> or call (413) 528-1141.
- ♦ **Design+Planning:** Christopher Blair; Since 1986, creative, budget-aware design. Achieve your goals for additions, alterations to an existing home or new construction. (413)528-4960. [chris@design-planning.com](mailto:chris@design-planning.com).
- ♦ **Fine Jewelry:** Designers and manufacturers; custom orders/commissions welcome; expert repairs. 45 years experience. Sachs Reisman, Inc. 25 Maple Ave., Sheffield (413)229-0050
- ♦ **One call does it all!:** Vinyl siding cleaning; pressure washing; deck refinishing; floors refinished; window washing; odd landscape jobs; all odd jobs. David Goewey, (413)229-2787
- ♦ **Susan M. Smith:** Attorney At Law; Concentrating in the areas of Estate Planning, Estate Administration, Elder Law, Real Estate and Zoning Matters. [ssmithlaw@barringtonlawoffice.com](mailto:ssmithlaw@barringtonlawoffice.com) or (413)528-4300
- ♦ **Reiner White:** General Contractor; (413)229-8450
- ♦ **Woodruff Mountain Landscaping:** Excavation and landscape contracting, all forms of stone work and masonry, and outdoor services, including lawn mowing and yard work. (413)229-2919 [woodruffmountain@aol.com](mailto:woodruffmountain@aol.com)

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