



# New Marlborough 5 Village News

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Clayton • Hartsville • Mill River • New Marlborough • Southfield

## A RIVER RUNS THROUGH IT:

*John Manikowski's Creative Spirit Lives On*

by Robbi Hartt

*"Your life is basically a challenge of compromises; if you can't do one thing you learn how to adapt yourself and do other things." — John Manikowski*

This adage, as recorded in a *Berkshire Eagle* article by Grant MacMurray over a decade ago, captures not only the remarkable John Manikowski, but also his home and businesses in the heart of Mill River. Many New Marlborough residents know him for his art — acrylic paintings of Native Americans, nature sketches, watercolor birds hung on library walls, or the New Marlborough Land Trust hiking trails map on the walls of many town buildings. Others know him for his knives or culinary skills. Still others, simply for his kindness.

Born in 1942, John grew up in Breckenridge, Minnesota, where he learned to hunt and fish. After earning a B.A. from Moorhead State College in 1965, he took a teaching job at Pease Air Force Base in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, and later at a junior high school in Newton, Massachusetts. In 1972, he was awarded an MFA from Rhode Island School of Design, followed by a short stint teaching at Harvard and then an NEA position as artist-in-residence at Monument Mountain High School. He fell in love with southern Berkshire County, where he remained for forty years, until his death in 2013.

John's upbringing in the natural world and training in the arts enabled him to curate a remarkable life. His friends referred to him as a "Renaissance Man," a description that still holds among local residents today. "In



*John Manikowski, a man of many talents*

John Manikowski's world everything was connected through beauty, creativity, and usefulness," his obituary in the Wahpeton (North Dakota) Daily News stated. Hunting, fishing, drawing, painting, teaching, cooking, writing, crafting intricate knives, leading canoe trips, and eventually, running two restaurants — he pursued them all with an indelible passion. A retrospective exhibit of his life's work, in May 2013 at the New Marlborough Meeting House Gallery, aptly noted that "the range of his talent was wide and engaging."

Manikowski illustrations have been shown in galleries throughout the country and have appeared in *Fly Rod & Reel* as well as *Field & Stream*. His cookbooks, *Fish Grilled & Smoked* and *Wild Fish & Game*, ("the best things I ever did," he liked to say) contain over 150 recipes. His pen and ink drawing of Umpachene Falls has long graced the masthead of the *New Marlborough 5 Village News*, of which he was a founding member. His knives, which sold for up to \$1,500 at *Blade* magazine's annual Blade Show in Atlanta, were prized showpieces for the many people who purchased them, although he insisted that they were "made to be used."

To appreciate how John Manikowski earned his fame, the best resource is Carole Clark, who met John one summer at a craft show in Stockbridge and later became his business partner in several ventures. At the time, he was selling smoked fish

*continued*

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throughout New England. He had been a painter but, in spite of being widely known and respected, couldn't make a living from his work. Carole, an artist, was also a caterer; they decided to launch a food business together in the Berkshires. In pre-GPS days, Mill River could be hard to find. So to augment the restaurant business, they created a unique outing on the Housatonic River, complete with canoes, a meal on the banks of river, and classical music.

Their catered adventures, held Saturdays, were captured in "Best Bets" in *New York Magazine* in 1984: "Your canoe drifts around a bend in the Housatonic River and a Mozart quartet floats out across the water. Later, you sit down to an elegant riverside feast and four musicians provide counterpoint." Following lunch, guests continued on to Tanglewood for more music. "CCC [Catered Canoe Classic] really put us on the map," says Carole. She recalls meeting the editor of *Victoria* magazine on a bus ride up from New York and being told, "I want you to be in the first issue of our magazine." That introduced them to more coverage. "Soon we were in the *New York Times* and other prominent east coast newspapers," says Carole, "along with half-hour TV segments."

In 1983, what started as a take-out business with catered canoe trips evolved into an actual restaurant. "John was focused on Native Americans all of his life," says Carole. Chief John Konkapot was an important local historical figure, so when he and Carole opened their restaurant,



One of John Manikowski's several books



An untitled painting that celebrates John Manikowski's love of fishing and nature in general. photo by Joe Burke

they named it "Konkapot." (Long-time residents still refer to the house, two doors up from the Mill River General Store, by that name.) "John's house had previously been used as an inn or rooming house — there may have even been a general store at one time," Carole recalls. "When John and his wife, Helene, bought it, they both had artist's studios there. John sold his wood carvings and Helene sold her pottery at the inn." The restaurant focused on the fish, game, and wild mushrooms that John procured from local streams and woods.

Konkapot, open May through October, had a good run for seven or eight years, with David Ludtke from New York City helping as chef. The pair opened their second restaurant in Hudson in 1987 and named it "Charleston," after the 1920s dance craze, because the interior architecture was evocative of that decade. Both ran successfully until a bridge in Sheffield was closed for repairs, impeding the trip from there to Mill River. Traffic to Konkapot restaurant slowed considerably, and in 1988, the partners decided to focus their energies on Charleston. John left the restaurant business entirely in 2000, and Carole sold Charleston to its current owner, Baba Louie's, in 2006.

After closing Konkapot, John rented the storefront for a while to contractor Michael White, while he used the studio in the Mill River house to craft knives. "Over time, the house fell into disrepair and the building was deemed no longer safe," Carole explains. "Once the building was abandoned, even the Historical

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Society wouldn't take it." Without a bylaw protecting historic buildings, it was, perhaps, plain luck that the house remained standing until its restoration by new owners.

Following John's death after a long illness, Paul Marino, local historian and former program director of Northern Berkshire Community Television Corporation, paid tribute. At a memorial service at Umpachene Falls Park, one of John's favorite bodies of water, Mr. Marino noted that John left "an incredible opus of folk art, drawings, paintings, photos, knives, and writings." He read from one of John's essays celebrating the life of the river and the vibrant community that sprouted on its banks. "Nearly two and a half centu-



*Two of John Manikowski's artfully created knives — for many, collector's items.*

*photo by Joe Burke*

ries ago, this meandering stretch of water spawned over one dozen mills that lined a mere 1.3 miles of the river! Here, energy was unleashed in waterpower that still courses this limestone-rich corridor."

John Manikowski constantly adapted and reinvented himself during his forty-year love affair with Mill River, the Konkapot River, and his natural surroundings. His home, at various times an inn, an art studio, a restaurant, pulses with new blood and new intentions. Just as the Konkapot River meanders and flows — sometimes roaring, sometimes gurgling, ever changing — so, too, are the village and community called to adapt and to honor the past while heeding the call for change. □

*An Excerpt from*  
**The Konkapot: A Force of Nature**  
 by John Manikowski

I stand equidistant between the wild roar of a waterfall and, behind and below me, in harmonious contrast, the refreshing din of a gurgling stream. A fringed blue sky slips behind an orange scrim, creating a pleasantly diffused hue suitable for evening trout fishing. Here, the water pursues its lowest point, listfully wandering. The dither of chickadees diminishes beneath the tympanic rasping of crusty bullfrogs. Broadleaf skunk cabbage carpets the riverbank shielded by spindly horsetail shoots, wild grape and bittersweet vines, young beech, and red oak saplings. A short cast away, moss-gloved rocks quiver on the shoreline.

I maneuver around slate bedrock, bulldozed into place some 15,000 years ago under glacial movement. In diligent pursuit, I head upstream where I have heard rumors concerning the appetite of a notable brown trout that may be lurking under cover of a more recently submerged stone, a millstone. Quietly, I wade over to a favorite pool on the Konkapot River, the cooling waters flowing through man-made, sculpted stone monoliths of what was once the functioning Crosby & Robbins paper mill — just up from the Hayes Hill bridge.

Nearly two and a half centuries ago this meandering stretch of water spawned over one dozen mills that lined a mere 1.3 miles of the river! Here, energy was unleashed in waterpower that still courses this limestone-rich corridor. With the help of grist wheels that ground wheat into flour, cut trees into lumber, and turned pulp into paper, the village of Mill River hummed. But now, the chiseled viaducts and foundations stand camouflaged under shrubby brush and bush, idle, stone footprints — reminders of a river life long ago. The sun dips without fanfare behind the lee side of Brush Hill casting no shadow on the water; ideal fishing terms.

Downstream, I watch the current rip my fly through riffle and eddy over bricks worn smooth from centuries of immersion, the dimly visible red clay hinting at sumac's premature changeover to fall.

I am silenced by the beauty of a river still richly textured, bisecting a mill town alive with working memories. I am in awe of the river power that once generated massive stone cogwheels, methodically, patiently, sculpting its own sluiceways through bedrock, thrashing against quartzite oxbows.

A few moments later, a wary trout (the trout?) dashes up to a protective niche beneath an ancient millstone; seeking shelter, home.

I am home, too; in the belly of the Konkapot. In the belly of history.



## Town Business Is Your Business SELECT BOARD



**May 23:** The 6:00 p.m. Zoom meeting opened with a presentation by Wylie Goodman, senior planner for economic development with the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission (BRPC). Ms. Goodman said that an objective of the Commission was to assist Berkshire towns in achieving resilience — a crucial challenge in a time of the Covid pandemic, climate change, and the loss of major employers in the county. To that end **BRPC is assembling a study on the resiliency of the county and is asking each town to submit a report on how it perceives its problems and opportunities.** The responses will be confidential, said Ms. Wylie, and will be consolidated into a county-wide report.

Board Chairman Mark Carson noted that businesses were being impacted by a shortage of employees but, at the same time, workers were moving from the area for lack of job opportunities. To the latter point, Ms. Goodman said that BRPC has created an inventory of all salaried positions in the county paying \$40,000 or more. Mr. Carson promised a report from New Marlborough and thanked Ms. Goodman for her presentation.

Next up, **Hartsville resident Sarah Jackson complained that cars and trucks were passing through her village at excessive speeds, endangering pedestrians, dog walkers, bicyclists, and other drivers.** She noted that, approaching Hartsville on Hartsville New Marlborough Road from the east, the nearest speed-limit sign was 1.7 miles away.

Abigail Crine, another Hartsville resident, said that the problem was particularly acute during morning and afternoon rush hours and that some drivers not only didn't slow for pedestrians, they actually accelerated. Linda Skipper made note of the intersection with Hatchery Road, where left-hand turns onto Hartsville New Marlborough Road were particularly perilous. Doug Newman,

who lives east of the village, asked for signage "on par with that in other villages" and said that speed-limit signs that used to be in place near Hartsville are now missing. Others present at the meeting noted that the problem was not confined to Hartsville. Niki Hayes of Mill River and Alan Isaacson of Canaan Southfield Road both remarked on speeding problems near their residences.

Selectman Tara White cautioned that the Town was not authorized to post speed-limit signs and that this is the province of the state Department of Transportation (DOT). She said the Board in consultation with Highway Superintendent Chuck Loring could appeal to DOT to study the town's traffic dynamic and then implement effective speed-control measures. Selectman Daniel Alden emphasized the need for a study that was not only geographically town-wide but also considered a broad array of signage, including those addressed to littering, bicyclist safety, historical villages, hidden driveways, and directional signs. Mr. Carson promised to get back to those concerned about speeding "in a couple of weeks."

Town Administrator Mari Enoch reported that she was putting together a report listing all on-going Town projects and identifying the point person responsible for each. Ms. White, saying she had asked Ms. Enoch to develop this list, pointed out, "There is a lot on all of our plates. We need to make sure we don't miss any steps."

Discussion turned to the seeming difficulty in filling the administrative secretary position vacated by Sharon Fleck in February. Ms. Enoch reported that she had received resumes but that potential candidates then failed to turn up for interviews. Following speculation that the limit of twenty hours a week dampened the enthusiasm of some candidates, who may have wanted to draw down a thirty- or forty-hour-a-week salary, the decision was made



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to post the job at thirty hours a week. Ms. Enoch added that a faster response to resumes might produce results.

A review of the ongoing search for a human resources administrator (to be shared with Great Barrington, Monterey, Sheffield, and West Stockbridge) led Mr. Alden to re-introduce his recommendation for a name change from Board of Selectmen to Select Board — to remove a barrier for possible candidates who might be discouraged by the current gender-specific name. Chairman Carson said the matter could be put on the agenda of the next meeting.

**June 6:** The following is a summary of the actions taken at a meeting that lasted three and a half hours:

- A motion to have the Highway Department order new 25 mph speed limit and “Entering Village” signs was passed unanimously.
- A motion to establish 25 mph speed limits in New Marlborough’s five villages, with the exception of a 20 mph limit in the area around New Marlborough Central, was passed unanimously.
- An initiative originating with Animal Control Officer Cassie Keeley to have “Animal Crossing” and “Wildlife Crossing” signs installed on Town roads was kicked back to Ms. Keeley and Highway Superintendent Chuck Loring for their recommendation as to where these signs should go.
- Superintendent Loring was asked to recommend remediation of the flooding of the Town Hall parking lot, a problem exacerbated by the more intense downpours of recent years.
- Following a review of bids, the diesel fuel contract for Highway Department equipment was awarded to Dennis K. Burke; the contract for heating oil for the Library, Town Hall, and the Firehouse went to Mirabito.
- The selectmen (select persons?) voted to change, for administrative purposes, the name of the body on which they serve to Select Board, leaving “Board of

*Many trucks, added Mr. Alden, exceed the weight limit and contribute to accelerated wear and tear of town roads.*

Selectmen” in the dust of historic gender insensitivity. Legal adoption of the new name awaits its acceptance at a town meeting.

- The Board signed a request for a “Letter of Map Revision Amendment” to the Federal Emergency Management Association on behalf of the applicant Rona Easton of 136 Adsit Crosby Road. The letter requests an amendment to the floodplain map to exclude her house. Noting that, in his opinion, flooding of the nearby Konkapot River had the potential of reaching the Easton house, Selectman Alden cast the lone dissenting vote against accepting the revision.
- A contract to hire a director of human resources to be shared with four other towns — Monterey, Sheffield, West Stockbridge, and Great Barrington — was approved by Mark Carson and Tara White, with Daniel Alden, who expressed concern over potential conflict of interest, voting against the agreement.

The votes themselves consumed less than ten minutes of the marathon meeting. Most of it was devoted to articulating a need or defining the scope of a problem or identifying weaknesses in potential solutions. Exhibit A: speeding.

Sarah Jackson, one of six residents present, led off the meeting with a description of the speeding problem in her village of Hartsville. It was especially acute during morning and afternoon rush hours, she said, but at no time could pedestrians and bikers feel safe on the main thoroughfare through the village. Particular criticism was directed at truck drivers. Mr. Alden noted that he was “almost killed” entering Hartsville from the north by a large truck going in the opposite direction. (Happily, our townspeople appear to be nimble. An analysis of Police and Fire and Rescue logs as far back as 2013 reveals no incidence of either death or injury to a pedestrian or dog walker on a town road.)



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Many trucks, added Mr. Alden, exceed the weight limit and contribute to accelerated wear and tear of town roads. As for speeding, Highway Superintendent Chuck Loring, present at the meeting, cautioned against piling on truck drivers, many of whom, he said, would be subject to disciplinary action if the monitors installed in their vehicles showed them to have been speeding.

**Extended discussion was devoted to where “Entering Village” signs should be posted and where and how many speed limit signs should be installed.** There was general agreement that electronic signs indicating the speed of approaching cars were effective, but their cost is an impediment, and, as Mr. Loring pointed out, those that are solar-powered become dim on overcast days. Speed limits painted on the roadways entering villages were also praised. Their drawback, said Mr. Loring, is that they begin to fade in about a year, even less on newly surfaced roads.

With a suggestion that current signage in town be inventoried, Chairman Mark Carson turned the meeting over to Cassie Keeley, who switched the focus from the two-footed to the four-footed. Ms. Keeley expressed her admiration for the generous use of wildlife signage she had encountered on a recent trip to Costa Rica and urged that New Marlborough follow its example. Mr. Alden once again recommended that the Town develop a comprehensive signage strategy, taking into account all the purposes for which signs would be appropriate.

The meeting then moved on to Superintendent Loring’s review of road projects. **In what appears to be a win-win, Mr. Loring reported that a newly employed accelerated construction method was not only speeding up bridge replacement but reducing its cost.** The system is currently being used on the Lumbert Cross Road bridge replacement.

In a review of the so-called Inter-municipal Agreement for Shared Human Resources, Ms. White report-

**ed that the position has been accepted by one Sophia Bletsof, a human resources specialist with experience in Connecticut.** Under the five-town agreement, New Marlborough will get six hours a week from Ms. Bletsof and will be responsible for 17 percent of her compensation. Mr. Alden imagined a scenario in which Ms. Bletsof is involved in the firing of an employee in one town but then, under rules of confidentiality, is prohibited from revealing this fact to another of her towns where the employee is seeking work. Mr. Alden also opined that six hours a week was too few. “I can’t imagine how this can work,” he said in support of his lone “no” vote in signing the agreement.

**In town administrator updates, Mari Enoch reported that five retired Town employees are eligible to receive the health insurance support approved by voters at the Annual Town Meeting.** They have until July

1 to decide whether to accept it. In answer to a question from Mr. Carson, she said the Town currently has fifteen or sixteen full-time employees — those working at least twenty hours a week. Ms. Enoch said that the Board of Health had been awarded a \$10,000 grant to hire a food inspector, who will be tasked with determining whether the town’s restaurants pass muster health-wise.

Tara White asked that the Board go on record with thanks to David Hastings for organizing a splendidly successful Memorial Day ceremony. And, finally, Dan Alden bemoaned the parlous state of Umpachene Falls Park — graffiti on signs, the outside grill in disrepair, erosion of trails. His suggestion that a group be formed to tackle renovation was met with skepticism. Well-intentioned groups, he was told, had been formed, met, talked, and ...talked. His suggestion that the grill not be repaired but removed — the barbecue smoke it produces contaminates the fresh air, he said — was met with silence. Mr. Carson noted that the period this summer that the park will be closed to restore its parking area would be a good

*Tara White asked that the Board go on record with thanks to David Hastings for organizing a splendidly successful Memorial Day ceremony.*



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time to address other problems. He suggested that Mr. Alden meet with Robert Twing, chairman of the Um-pachene Falls Park Commission, to chart a strategy for renovation.

**June 13:** The 6:00 p.m. in-person meeting of the Select Board got underway with a honing of the job description for candidates seeking employment with the Fire Department, a position earlier authorized by the Board to help cover daytime calls for service. The ideal candidate, said Fire Chief Chuck Loring, who was present at the meeting, would have certification both as a firefighter and an emergency medical technician (EMT). However, said Mr. Loring, for an otherwise promising candidate who lacked, say EMT certification, the Department could offer EMT training.

Selectman Dan Alden asked whether the job description might be overly burdened with detail — not only firefighting and EMT skills but also willingness to undertake maintenance and clerical work in the Fire Department office — and thus discourage qualified applicants. **Mr. Loring, with the concurrence of Board members Mark Carson and Tara White, responded that anyone taking the job would welcome useful office work to fill the inevitable downtime in the job.** With an agreement that Mr. Loring and Maureen Krejci, head of the Town’s EMT, would conduct interviews and forward their recommendations to the Board, the job description was approved.

Chuck Loring, switching hats to highway superintendent, reported that he had received just one bid for tree removal, from John Field Tree Service, and none for highway materials. Mr. Field’s offer was 3 percent above what he is currently charging the Town, which works out to \$3,811 a day for equipment rental and a four-man crew to run it. The Board then voted to raise electrical, plumbing, and gas inspection fees to \$75 (from their current level of \$50), of which \$70 goes to the inspector, \$5 to the Town.

Fees for inspecting fire and smoke alarms and propane and oil tanks would remain at present levels.

The Board voted to appoint Christian Stovall of Stone Manor Drive to the position on the Planning Board left vacant by the resignation of Tom Sebestyen. Mr. Stovall will serve until the next Town election in May 2023. A plan to appoint a new part-time officer to the Police Department was derailed by the candidate’s withdrawal of his application. (Ms. White speculated that he had been

lured away by a richer offer from the Sheffield Police Department.) **The contract with Crocker Communications for Town Hall telephone service was renewed at \$155 a month. The contract will provide service for one host phone and eight satellite lines.**

Next up was an extended, sometimes fraught attempt to respond to a questionnaire from the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission (BRPC) intended to gauge the “resiliency” of the county’s cities and towns. The questionnaire asked the Board for one-to-ten grades of the town’s resiliency — in terms of economic, community, and personal well-being — pre-pandemic, during the pandemic, and looking to the future. Mark Carson led off by remarking that climate change and Covid created challenges made future predictions particularly difficult. Tara White distributed a memo outlining the difficulties faced by the town from the pandemic and the severe summer storms of 2021. **She went on to credit a number of programs — Hazardous Mitigation Plan, Culvert Assessment Plan, a Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan among them — in helping the town weather these uncertain times.**

Dan Alden was less sanguine about the resilience of the town but praised the fortitude of the restaurants in meeting challenges. He pointed to the arrival of high-speed internet service as a harbinger of a more robust economy. (Mr. Carson, in a lone dissent, reported that

*Mark Carson led off by remarking that climate change and Covid created challenges that made predictions of town resiliency particularly difficult.*



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his children found the lack of internet and its incessant lure to be connected to be something of a blessing.)

Town Administrator Mari Enoch asked the Board members to name their number one future priority. For Mark Carson, it is river bank remediation and dealing with the effects of climate change. Ms. White named bridge replacement, Mr. Alden, the re-opening of the Mill River Post Office. Mr. Carson and Ms. White reminded those present of the past squeeze on parking space when clientele at the Mill River General Store and the Post Office converged. "That's a good problem to have," said Mr. Alden. "There is no question that the impact of the pandemic was devastating," said Ms. Enoch. "but I saw people in this town who refused to lie down and give up. In general our people were very resilient." In the end the Board members assigned sixes and sevens to the town's resiliency going forward.

**In updates, Ms. Enoch reported that the Town would receive 540 rapid Covid tests from a federal agency and that she was awaiting a plan from the Board of Health on how to use them. A settlement in a federal opioid case awaited an amount to be paid by the second company in the case to determine how much money would be available to a Southern Berkshire collaborative of which New Marlborough is a member.**

Ms. Enoch reported that the Town was awarded \$20,000 in grant money from a Massachusetts municipal road safety program, of which \$16,000 would pay for Police Department overtime and \$4,000 for an electronic speed sign. To Mr. Alden's plea for signs in all five villages, Ms. White said additional signs were not provided for in the current fiscal budget. Finally, Mr. Alden noted that the lack of a yellow line on Brewer Hill and other town roads imperiled cyclists. The lack of a line, he said, resulted in some drivers wandering into the center of the road, especially on curves.

**June 22:** The meeting opened with Chairman Mark

Carson and Vice Chairman Tara White, presently the Board's full complement with the resignation eight days ago of Daniel Alden, in attendance. **Mr. Alden noted in a letter of resignation (see below) that he had encountered "a general level of intimidation, disorder, and miscommunication in town hall in which I cannot conscientiously participate...."** Mr. Carson said to Mr. Alden, who was present at this meeting as a resident, that he was "sorry you are getting out" and then asked for a motion to accept the resignation.

*The earliest a special election could be held to replace resigning Select Board member Dan Alden would be September 6.*

Town Administrator Mari Enoch, noting that the resignation did not require Board approval and was effective upon Mr. Alden's presentation of his resignation letter, said that the remaining Board members were not authorized to appoint an interim replacement. Mr. Alden's replacement would have to be voted upon, either at the next Annual Town Election or at a special election. Town Clerk Kathy Chretien, said Ms. Enoch, has determined that, given the need for notice and candidate signatures, the earliest a special election could be held would be September 6 (which happens also to be the Massachusetts State Primary day).

**Mr. Alden asked if the Board could be expanded from three to five members. In response, Ms. White said that a change in the size of the Board would require a bylaw.** Ms. Enoch said she would confer with Town Counsel Jeremia Pollard on the matter.

With the expectation that the Board would approve Highway Department equipment and materials contracts thwarted by the reluctance of contractors to offer bids during a period of inflationary fuel costs, Mr. Carson tabled this item on the agenda and moved on to pay rates for Town employees. Raises of 7.5 percent for Highway Department workers and the Chief of Police have already been approved, as have raises of 4.5 percent for other Town employees. Consequently, the Select Board endorsement was strictly procedural.

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Next up was a request from Graham Frank, who at this point had joined the meeting, to raise the rate for police detail work from \$45 to \$52 an hour. He also asked that he be allowed overtime pay when he took on duties outside the requirements of his salaried position. Ms. White raised the specter of a similar request from all salaried employees. After Chief Frank clarified that his request was aimed at allowing him to participate in a \$16,000 traffic safety grant recently won by the Town, the board voted that Chief Frank was eligible to take part in the traffic safety study. The grant, which includes another \$4,000 for speed limit signage, runs for a year, starting in October.

The Regional School District Planning Board, conducting a series of meetings with the eight towns that are members of the Southern Berkshire and Monument Mountain Regional School Districts to provide an update on the question of school consolidation, has asked

New Marlborough for a meeting date. The Board settled on July 14 at 6:00 p.m., via Zoom and open to all town residents.

The effort to arrest erosion of a turn in the Konkapot River where it passes through Umpachene Falls Park, delayed first by the pandemic, then by last summer's high water, continues as an active project, **Ms. White expressed the hope that a period of low water would permit repair of the river bank this summer.** The work, involving heavy equipment, will require a brief closure of the park.

Before moving on to review and acceptance of past meeting minutes, Ms. White requested that the Board put on record its appreciation of a \$2,000 gift from Tom Reddington of Colebrook, Connecticut, for repair of the drive into Palmer Cemetery in Southfield. Mr. Reddington has a relative buried there. □

Joe Poindexter

### Daniel Alden's Letter of Resignation

*Mr. Alden presented this letter to Town Clerk Kathy Chretien on June 14. He also registered two complaints with the state attorney general: a conflict-of-interest complaint against Tara White for serving on the Select Board while holding employment as town accountant, and an open-meeting complaint occasioned by Ms. White's request to confer with Mr. Alden after the adjournment of a Select Board meeting. Such a meeting, he claimed, would have comprised a Select Board quorum, while lacking the required invitation to the public to attend such a meeting.*

June 14, 2022

Notice of Resignation from New Marlborough Select Board

Dear New Marlborough Select Board and citizens of New Marlborough:

I regretfully and hereby officially submit this letter as notice of my resignation from the New Marlborough Select Board.

I ran for this position after long feeling a call to service to our community, and felt that the time was right for me to serve the town. Unfortunately, I have found my input & suggestions disrespected, substantive actions mischaracterized, witnessed public bullying and gaslighting of town officials in a public meeting, open meeting law violations, appearance of conflicts of interest, and a general level of intimidation, disorder, and miscommunication in town hall in which I cannot conscientiously participate, and from my vantage point do not see how I can effectively and harmoniously bring about any change.

When I announced my write-in campaign for the board on last minute notice, I received a lot of support from various members of the community, many of whom I have never spoken to before but found to share a lot of common ground and a mutual love for our town, yet underlying concern for the current tenor of town government.

I have learned a lot about our town in a very short period of time, and I would like to commend our town administrator Mari Enoch, highway superintendent Chuck Loring, and police chief Graham Frank for their support & guidance during my brief tenure, their willingness to share information, and their reception to input as making them exceptional public servants.

I apologize to the town for any disruption this may cause to the structure and flow of our town government but I feel I cannot ethically & conscientiously serve under the current conditions & configuration of the board.

Respectfully,  
Daniel L. Alden



## CONSERVATION COMMISSION

**May 5:** With all four members — John Schreiber, Freddy Friedman, Nanci Worthington, and Doug Hyde — present, the Commission started by addressing a Request For Determination (RDA) submitted by property owner Frederick Hooven of 232 Deerwood Park. At issue was the removal of a tree on the lakeside of his home. After a brief discussion the Commission approved the permit as submitted with the following conditions: that the stump of the tree to be removed remain in place, that a native tree of greater than ten feet in height replace the one that was being removed, and that the Commission be granted permission to inspect the new planting.

Next up was a continuation of the Notice of Intent (NOI) hearing for Leonard Golub of Rhoades and Bailey Road. Mr. Golub, together with Jackson Alberti of Foresight Land Services and Attorney Elisabeth Goodman, presented a comprehensive and revised site plan and an alternative analysis for locating a new entrance road. Mr. Golub started by giving an overview of the project and reporting that the Benton Hill Wilderness Preserve Association has been formally established.

After presenting an exhaustive analysis of possible alternative routes, Mr. Alberti argued that the existing wood road is, in fact, the most practical and cost-effective option and offers the least disruption to the existing habitat and wetland resources. He explained that most of the frontage is at a grade of 25 to 40 percent, making alternative access difficult. The road, he said, would be twelve feet wide and 272 feet long and involve appropriate storm water management. He explained that a “fjord-way” will be built to cross the intermittent stream allowing

water and amphibian passage. He also explained that the bordering vegetative wetland area will be improved with a planting of thirty native shrubs and seeded with a wetland replication seed mix. After determining that no jurisdictional areas would be disrupted for parking and that the new road would not be paved, the permit was approved.

Next Christin McDonough, a wetland scientist and agent for the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, presented an RDA for maintaining the beach on the southeast shore of York Lake. The work involves replacing the existing beach sand, soiled by geese and picnickers, with clean sand. Concluding that there would no impact to the site, the Commission gave the RDA a negative determination, meaning no further permitting is required.

Next Shannon Boomsma of White Engineering presented an NOI for Christopher White of 145 Norfolk Road. The scope of work involves removing three trees, installing a swimming pool, and replacing the existing non-compliant septic system. After requesting that the Board of Health be consulted on the location of the new septic system, the Commission approved that application. Ms. Boomsma mentioned that White Engineering has been retained by Eliot and Jane Rennert to file an NOI on their property located on New Marlborough Southfield Road. The couple had been notified of a violation due to various activities next to the riverfront.

Finally, Ms. Boomsma presented an NOI for Drs. Rong and Hoffman of 476 Rhoades and Bailey Road. At issue is the access road to a future residence on a currently

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vacant lot. Abutter Elizabeth Rosenberg pointed out that location of the alternate access route location disturbs an existing stone wall, involves removing trees, and is very close to her existing driveway. The applicant agreed to relocate the access route to the original entrance and curb cut and to revise the route of the driveway to minimize its proximity to the riverfront area. The hearing was continued to the next meeting.

**May 19:** Shannon Boomsma of White Engineering reviewed the new Rong-Hoffman driveway plan. As revised, it moves the access route to the original curb cut and away from the abutting property line. All present, including abutting property owner Elizabeth Rosenberg, agreed that the revision was acceptable, and the revised NOI was approved.

After approving a revision to the York Lake sand replacement RDA (because of a clerical error), the Commission returned to a complaint by William Hosier of Canaan Southfield Road regarding a berm created by Wilkinson Excavating. The excavator's Todd Wilkinson had been asked to remove the new berm and return mining activity to the original berm boundary. The Department of Environmental Protection has noted that the berm is in the one-hundred-year flood plain and needs to be removed. Commission member Freddy Friedman

agreed to contact Todd Wilkinson about the matter.

Finally the Commission discussed a request from the New Marlborough Building Inspector that it consider signing off on building permits. Following a thoughtful discussion, the Commission members concurred that they would prefer simply to seek better communication among the Town boards. □

Martha Bryan

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NEW MARLBOROUGH  
**MEETING HOUSE**

**August 6**  
4:30 pm **Kristin Kimball and Mark Kimball of Essex Farm**  
A discussion about the benefits of organic food and sustainable farming, new systems of distribution, and what the Kimballs and Essex Farm have in store for the future.

**August 13**  
4:30 pm **Rhythm Future Quartet**  
Gypsy Jazz with joyful abandon, rocketed into the future by incorporating multiple influences...it's downright infectious!

**August 27**  
4:30 pm **Actor John Douglas Thompson**  
Award-winning actor John Douglas Thompson discusses his incredible journey to become one of the most compelling classical stage actors of his generation.

**Sept 10**  
4:30 pm **Neave Trio - Violin, Cello, Piano**  
The group's 2019 album *Her Voice*, was named one of the best recordings of the year by both *The New York Times* and BBC. Performing works by Chaminade, Tailleferre, and Ravel.

**Sept 17**  
4:30 pm **Wael Farouk, Piano Solo**  
A program including preludes by Alexander Scriabin, Rachmaninoff's Sonata #2, opus 36, and the famous Mussorgsky *Pictures at an Exhibition*.

**Oct 1**  
4:30 pm **Simon Winchester and Alice Sedgwick Wohl**  
Discussing Alice's new book, *As it Turns Out: Thinking About Edie and Andy*, which deals with the relationship of her sister Edie and the artist Andy Warhol.

*Meeting House*  
**GALLERY**

**June 24**  
thru **July 24** **As the Crow Flies**  
**Opening Reception June 24, 5-7 p.m.**  
A juried show featuring recent works by artists working within a 30 mile radius of New Marlborough.

**July 29**  
thru **Aug 28** **Simply, the Berkshires**  
**Opening Reception July 29, 5-7 p.m.**  
Artists express their connection to the Berkshires, and celebrate and honor how the Berkshires feeds the creative spirit.

**July 30**  
1-4 pm **Young Artists Celebrate New Marlborough**  
New Marlborough artists ages 5 through 14 present a one-day outdoor show.

**Sept 2**  
thru **Oct 2** **The Annual New Marlborough Artist's Show**  
**Opening Reception September 2, 5-7 p.m.**  
After a two-year break, the annual show showcasing New Marlborough's finest fine art!

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## CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

The Select Board will be making Fiscal Year 2023 appointments for Town positions, boards, and committees at the end of June. The following boards and committees currently have openings. Interested persons are encouraged to access the town website: [www.newmarlboroughma.gov](http://www.newmarlboroughma.gov) and consult the Boards and Commissions page for more information. Questions may be directed to the specific boards through the website. Letters of Interest should be sent to the Select Board at [nmbos@newmarlboroughma.gov](mailto:nmbos@newmarlboroughma.gov). Thank you for considering this call to serve New Marlborough on one of these important committees.

**Cable Advisory Committee:** The Cable Advisory Committee provides a link among the Select Board, the Cable licensee, and the residents of New Marlborough. The Committee meets as needed. The current Chair is Steve Klein.

**Commission on Disabilities:** The Commission on Disabilities acts in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities (ADA) act and the Massachusetts Office of Disabilities to review and make recommendations on matters relating to disabilities at the local level, as well as advise the Town on compliance with state and federal laws and regulations. The Commission meets as necessary. The current Chair is Marsha Pshenishny.

**Conservation Commission:** The Conservation Commission is responsible for locally administering the Wetlands Protection Act (WPA) under MGL Chapter 131, Section 40. Commission typically meets monthly on the third Thursday of the month at 5:00 and attends site visits as necessary. Members are expected to devote additional time for research and education relating to the WPA. Current chairs are John Schreiber and Freddy Friedman.

**Finance Committee:** One member is needed to fill a vacant seat on this elected board to serve until the next Town Election at which time interested candidates will

run for election. Members must be registered to vote in New Marlborough in order to run for office. The Finance Committee reviews all town budget submissions as well as approves appropriations from the Reserve Fund and line item transfers. The Committee considers financial policies and issues relating to the financial health of the Town. Meets on Thursday evenings frequently during budget season (January through April) and as needed the remainder of the year. The current chair is Beth Reynolds.

**Highway Planning Working Group:** The Highway Planning Working Group is tasked with working with the Highway Superintendent to evaluate and plan for the future needs of the Highway Department, including maintaining a road plan and equipment schedule. The advisory group meets as necessary. The current chair is Barbara Marchione.

**Historical Commission:** The Historical Commission is tasked by the Commonwealth to advise the town on preservation of historical structures and for educating the public and disseminating information about New Marlborough's history. The Commission meets as necessary. Current chair is John Schreiber.

**Housing Development Committee:** The Housing Committee was formed to review the town's housing stock and specifically, to identify the need for elderly, accessible, and affordable housing. It seeks to support the Town's housing goals to supply housing for all of life's stages and to have a range of home prices available. The Committee meets as needed. The current chair is Elizabeth Rosenberg.

**Transfer Station Working Group:** The mission of the Transfer Station Working Group is to assess and review the current operations of the Transfer Station, address compliance issues, and recommend and implement changes to address the upcoming state mandates for solid waste disposal. The Group meets as needed. The current chair is Freddy Friedman.

**Umpachene Falls Park Commission:** The mission of the Commission is to preserve and maintain Umpachene Falls Park. The Commission meets as needed. The current chair is Robert Twing.

**Zoning Board of Appeals Member and Alternate Member:** The Board of Appeals is one of the judicial branches of local government in matters of land use regulated by New Marlborough's Protective (Zoning) Bylaws. The Board meets to hear requests for variances and zoning appeals. The current chair is Courtney Turner. □

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## PLANNING BOARD

The June 8 meeting of the Planning Board convened in person at Town Hall at 7:00 p.m. Attending members were Chair Bob Hartt, Paul Marcel, Jon James, and Jordan Archey. Also in the room was Christian Stovall, who will be taking over the position vacated by Tom Sebestyen, once the Select Board gives him the go-ahead to join.

The first order of business was an informational session with the owners of an 8.4 acre property on the west side of Lake Buel, owned by Jim Caron and Amy Richmond, who were represented by Attorney Elizabeth Goodman of the law firm Cain Hibbard & Myers. Those three individuals were also joined by Steven Mack of Foresight Land Services. Ms. Goodman presented the case for the owners, saying that their desire was to subdivide the property into four parcels, and to use the existing private road, known as Deerwood Park Road, as the access to the new lots. Their hope was that the proposed subdivision would be given an Approval Not Required (ANR) status, even though the lots do not have the required frontage on a town road, and notwithstanding the provisions on subdivision roads of the Planning Board's Rules and Regulations Governing the Subdivision of Land.


Ms. Goodman expressed the opinion that, in her reading of the Rules and Regs, the Planning Board "would need to grant a waiver, and that can be done." The waiver would be for the private road to serve as the subdivision's road, thereby giving each lot its required frontage. Paul Marcel expressed his concern that granting an ANR to this subdivision could set an unwanted precedent, and asked that the Planning Board make a site visit to get a better sense of what Mr. Caron and Ms. Richmond have in mind. Mr. Caron said that the property had been in his family's ownership for several generations, and his expectation is that the lots would be sold to other family members, although

that was not entirely certain. Mr. Hartt said that, as a starting point, a preliminary subdivision plan would be needed, and he set a date for the site visit of the following Thursday, to be conducted with Mr. Mack.

Having concluded that order of business, and having said farewell to the Deerwood Park contingent, Mr. Hartt then welcomed the Town's building inspector, Matthew Kollmer, to the table. Mr. Hartt explained that Town Administrator Mari Enoch had suggested this meeting as a step toward clarifying some of the language in the Town's bylaws. Mr. Kollmer is relatively new in his position here in New Marlborough, and admits that he is still in the process of acquainting himself with the various bylaws, but he did say that "from the enforcement perspective" he is finding certain areas to be open to interpretation, or downright confusing. He cited the bylaw on accessory apartments as an example, where it appears that an accessory dwelling can only be created in an existing part of a house, and not as an addition to the house. He recommended that the Board look at the equivalent bylaws in Great Barrington and Lenox, which he thinks are very good, or Alford's, which is also okay. He added that something as simple as a table of contents for the town's bylaws would be an improvement. Mr. Kollmer proposed that he would review all of the bylaws and be available for further discussion on ways to improve the clarity of the documents.

Following a brief check of mail and notices from neighboring towns, the Board proceeded to sign off on an ANR division of property owned by Willy Palmadessa on Canaan Southfield Road. The seventy-seven-acre lot is to be divided into two parcels, one of fifty-seven acres and the other of twenty, both with sufficient road frontage. At the conclusion of that bit of business, Bob Hartt adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m. □

*Larry Burke*



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## LAND TRUST NEWS

We want to thank the community for their commitment to preserving agricultural lands and those who contributed to our special Agricultural Preservation Restriction Project. Save the date, September 24, for a fun and festive event at the Goodnow Preserve. Details to follow in the next few weeks.

We are committed to getting the community outside and exploring our properties with our special programming. Learning about birds, trees, and edibles is just part of what we are offering. We also want you to learn how to be curious, and excited, and have a willingness to let yourself become immersed in the outdoor experience.

Our next special event: Mindful Outdoor Experience at the New Marlboro Preserve, Saturday, July 30, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. Come saunter with Stephanie Landau, a Kripalu-trained mindful outdoor guide and yoga instructor, lifelong nature adventurer, and well-being professional, as she guides you through a Kripalu Mindful Outdoor Experience to awaken your awareness and cultivate your connection to the land.

This immersive nature journey will incorporate a variety of nature connection practices that you can take home with you, including mindful movement, sensory activities, nature meditation/sit spot and nature journaling. All journaling materials will be provided. For ages twelve and up. To register for this event please email [nmlandtrust@gmail.com](mailto:nmlandtrust@gmail.com). Please bring water, a small pad to sit on and come dressed for the weather, including sturdy shoes, insect repellent, and sunscreen.

A donation of \$10 is suggested to support events such as this one.

Executive Director Silvia Eggenberger

## MAILBOX

To the Editor,

My family has been privileged to have a summer cottage on Lake Buel since 1970. As we are only seasonal residents with our primary homes in New Jersey, it is not possible for us to be as participatory as so many of you are. I wanted to write to tell you how much we appreciate the 5VN. Not only is it informative, it connects us to people in our community whom we have never met.

It saddens me that proper grammar, spoken or written, seems to have disappeared from the English language and few things make me happier than to read your newsletter, whose articles are flawless. Speaking as an English major in college and a former teacher, your writers/editors get an A+. In addition, the articles are often sprinkled with dry wit which is not lost on this reader. We continue to look forward to your future issues.

Betty and Jay Reba



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## MEMORIAL DAY 2022

*The Memorial Day commemoration in Mill River was notable for the numbers of attendees in this almost post-covid time, as well as for the fitting solemnity of the day. As “Taps” was played and the flag was raised to full-staff, the crowd stood at attention and then joined in with the chorus to sing the National Anthem.*



photos by Larry Burke



# A NEW SEASON AT THE MEETING HOUSE

*The Doors Open to In-person Events, Starting in August*

Something for everyone – classical music, jazz, drama, biography, sustainable farming – is coming to the New Marlborough Meeting House. “I am excited about the variety of our programming,” says Meeting House President Ben Harms. All programs take place on Saturdays, beginning at 4:30 p.m. (Please note that, as of this writing, masks are required of all audience members.)

**August 6:** How and why to farm sustainably — a conversation with **Mark and Kristin Kimball**, whose Essex



Farm (near Lake Champlain in northern New York) pioneered Community Service Agriculture. “These are two of the most interesting farmers America has to

offer – hopeful, engaged, funny, hard-working, and armed with a new model for feeding people that will make you stop and think,” says writer and climate change activist Bill McKibben.

The genius of Essex Farm is its dual aim of combining the principles of ecological agriculture with the demands of economic viability. “We foresee a future where farms power themselves, their communities, and the world,” say

the Kimballs. They will explain how their methods can be adopted by the farming community of the southern Berkshires.

**August 13:** The Gypsy-jazz infused syncopations of the **Rhythm Future Quartet**, a group that played to a



full Meeting House in 2019, returns with its captivating combination of traditional and contemporary music. The ensemble, according to founder Jason Anick, while dedicated to

keeping alive the spirit of Gypsy jazz, produces a wide variety of jazz idioms and even ventures into strains of classical music.

Mr. Anick is a professor of violin at the Berklee School of Music in Boston. He is joined by guitarists Olli Soikkeli and Max O'Rourke, who joined the group as an emergency fill-in at the earlier New Marlborough concert and remained with it ever since. Bass player Greg Loughman is unusual among his ilk, says Mr. Harms (who as a percussionist with the New York Metropolitan Opera has seen plenty of bassists), in that he is left-handed. Virtuosity will be everywhere on display.

**August 20:** Acclaimed actor **John Douglas Thompson** is described by *New York Times* critic Ben Brantley as



“one of the most compelling classical stage actors of his generation.” His career ranges from Broadway and Off Broadway to regional theater, film, and television. He is currently starring in the HBO Max production *The Gilded Age*.

Mr. Thompson’s roles have included playing both Louis Armstrong and Miles Davis in an award-winning one-man play, *Satchmo at the Waldorf*, a police chief in a TV series, and brilliant renderings of

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the title role in Shakespeare's *Othello* and of Shylock in *The Merchant of Venice*. Interviewer Barry Shapiro, who serves with Mr. Thompson on the board of Shakespeare & Company, will delve into the creative wellspring of this acclaimed actor.

**September 10: The Neave Trio**, noted for its interpretations of new works by contemporary composers, is



making its third appearance at the Meeting House, most recently in 2018. The trio has drawn its talent from around the world: violinist Anna Williams is American; cellist Mikhail Veselov, Russian, and pianist Eri Nakamura Japanese. So it seems entirely appropriate that its name is drawn from a fourth country.

Neave is Gaelic for "bright" or "radiant."

The program has not at this writing been disclosed, but no one will be surprised if it were to contain a piece by a woman composer. The trio's most recent album, *Her Voice*, features compositions by Amy Beach, Rebecca Clarke, and Louise Ferrenc. Neave is now in residence at the Longy School of Music at Bard College.

**September 17:** Egyptian-American pianist **Wael Farouk** is not your standard-issue classical performer,



which is one of things that attracted him to Ben Harms when he was looking for a pianist for the 2022 season. Born with what Mr. Farouk describes as "unusually small hands," a three-year-old Wael, encouraged to look past this limitation, was given a piano. At sixteen, he was the soloist in the first-

ever Egyptian performance of the ferociously difficult Rachmaninoff Piano Concerto No. 3. He moved to the United States in 2003 at age twenty-two and has been concertizing ever since. Last year, he performed all three Rachmaninoff piano concertos in a single evening.

The Russian composers clearly appeal to Mr. Farouk. His program for the Meeting House concert will feature,

in addition to Rachmaninoff, pieces by Scriabin and Mussorgsky's massive *Pictures at an Exhibition*.



**October 1:** The author interview, started two decades ago by Mike Levitas and inherited a few years back by Simon Winchester, will feature **Alice Sedgwick Wohl** and her book, *As It Turns Out/Thinking about Edie and Andy*. The Edie in the subhead is Alice's sister Edie Sedgwick. Andy, of course, is Andy Warhol, who lit up the 1960s downtown Manhattan cultural scene, put Pop art on the map, and for a time adopted Edie as his muse. Ms. Wohl writes that she had been trying to come to an understanding of her sister for some fifty years. "I want to

know," she writes, "what she had that I so totally failed to see, but that he saw and put to such effective use."

The book, written in part to Alice's brother, Bobby, who died in a motorcycle accident in 1965, traverses a fiercely complex family landscape on the way to that understanding. *As It Turns Out* will be published in mid-August and arrives, happily, with Andy Warhol's re-emergence on the cultural radar. □

Joe Poindexter

THE NEW MARLBOROUGH MEETING HOUSE GALLERY PRESENTS:



**AS THE CROW FLIES**

A Juried Show of visual artists from within a 30 mile radius of New Marlborough, MA

Through July 24

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# NEIGHBORS



**M**itchell J. Smith passed away on May 25 in Port Charlotte, Florida, at the age of seventy. He grew up in Mill River, and graduated from New Marlborough Central and Mount Everett High Schools. He also worked for some years at the Mill River General Store. His sister, Mary Barton, reported that he was adamant about having no obituaries or any other notifications about his death, but she felt that his friends here in New Marlborough should at least receive this announcement.

Jon Swan, one of the founders of the *New Marlborough 5 Village News* twenty-three years ago, recently celebrated his ninety-third birthday on June 10 in Yarmouth, Maine, where he and his wife, Marianne, moved in 2013. Jon's expertise and wisdom were crucial in helping the paper get established. He was a professional writer, poet, and editor; while some of the initial staff had some experience in these areas, most of us were amateurs, committed to bringing an avenue of communication to our far-flung town. The importance of Jon's knowledge and guidance are proved by the fact that twenty-three years later, the *NM5VN* is still publishing, enabled by consistent financial support from its readers.



Jon Swan and Koko

Marianne reports that Jon is well, and is still writing. Steadied by the use of a walker, he visits parks along the seashore where he can look for ospreys. His love of, and access to, the natural world is going strong, as is he. The current staff and our readers profoundly thank Jon and Marianne for their work and support that laid such solid groundwork for New Marlborough's first important communication tool. □

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

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## Upcoming: Events Calendar for July and August

Through July 24, "As the Crow Flies," juried show at the Meeting House Gallery, on view Fridays to Sundays

**July 2, Piano Four hands with Houry and Jacqueline Schmeizl**, the mother-daughter duo's first concert in New Marlborough, 7:00 p.m. at the Southfield Church

**July 23, *The Sisters of Mokama***, Jyoti Thottam discusses her recently published book exploring the creation of a hospital in remotest India by six nuns from Kentucky, 1:00 p.m. at the New Marlborough Town Library

**July 29, *Simply, the Berkshires***, the Meeting House Gallery, opening 5:00 p.m. July 29, on view Fridays to Sundays until August 28

**July 30, Children's Art Show**, outdoors at the Meeting House Gallery, 1:00-4:00 p.m.

**August 6: Kristin and Mark Kimball of Essex Farm**, pioneers of Community Service Agriculture, talk about sustainable farming - and their use, wherever possible, of solar- and horse-powered equipment; 4:30 p.m. at the New Marlborough Meeting House; \$25, \$20 to Meeting House members

**August 13: Rhythm Future Quartet**, violin, bass, and two guitars, merging contemporary music with Gypsy jazz; 4:30 p.m. at the New Marlborough Meeting House; \$25, \$20 to Meeting House members

**August 20: 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 27: John Douglas Thompson**, noted Shakespearean actor, discusses his incredible journey from travelling computer salesman to acclaimed actor; 4:30 p.m. at the New Marlborough Meeting House; \$25, \$20 to Meeting House members

## IT'S THE EVENT OF THE YEAR!!! THE NEW MARLBOROUGH CULTURAL COUNCIL'S ELIHU BURRITT DAY WHITE ELEPHANT SALE!!!

Members of the Cultural Council will be accepting your treasures for our August 20 sale as follows:  
Saturday, August 13, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 653 Hartsville-New Marlborough Road, a mile west of the New Marlborough Village Green, Friday, August 20, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the New Marlborough Village Green.

### WE WILL NOT ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING:

- Anything broken, torn, dirty, spotted, unusable
- Books (the Library will have its own collection and sale)
- Drapes, curtains, pillows, blinds/shades
- Furniture larger than can be put into a station wagon
- Bike or ski helmets, baby car seats
- Ice skates or roller skates/blades. Downhill or cross-country skis.
- Electronics – no computers, printers, electric powered household goods. We can't guarantee that they work!





# THE LOG

## Police Department (selected entries)

- May 5 2:50 p.m. A Southfield resident reports receiving a scam letter containing a "check," which she has destroyed.
- 2:53 p.m. A Southfield homeowner reports that a Worcester resident had opened a National Grid account with his information and was billed \$400.
- May 6 10:22 a.m. An officer investigates an illegal burn at the intersection of Konkapot and Cross Road to Canaan Valley Roads.
- 3:10 p.m. An officer assists in the removal of a dumpster blocking traffic on Adsit Crosby Road.
- 7:54 p.m. A tow is ordered for a car stopped on Hartsville New Marlborough Road with an expired registration.
- May 7 3:00 p.m. National Grid is notified after an officer reports a tree on wires on Clayton Mill River Road.
- May 9 5:06 p.m. The highway superintendent is alerted to a fallen tree blocking Canaan Southfield Road.
- May 10 7:53 p.m. An officer adjudicates a dispute at a Southfield residence.
- May 12 10:13 a.m. The Department relays a request from a Clayton resident for help with three bears that have invaded her yard to the animal control officer.
- 3:09 p.m. A caller complains of continuing trespass by an ex-partner on her Clayton property.
- 5:52 p.m. A tow is ordered for an unregistered vehicle stopped on Clayton Mill River Road, whose driver is without a license.
- May 13 6:47 p.m. A tow is ordered for a vehicle stopped on Canaan Southfield Road, operated by a driver with a suspended license.
- 7:45 p.m. A caller reports a deer injured on Hartsville New Marlborough Road.
- May 14 5:30 p.m. An officer finds an apparent suicide note anchored by a rock to a picnic table in Umpachene Falls Park.
- 5:33 p.m. An officer assists a driver who, mistakenly it turned out, thought she had locked herself out of her car on Campbell Falls Road.
- May 15 7:39 p.m. A caller expresses his suspicions of a vehicle that has driven past his Southfield residence several times.
- May 16 1:48 p.m. An officer attempts to determine whether damage to a window screen at a Southfield residence was caused by a bear or a human attempting to break and enter.
- 10:46 p.m. An officer assists in transporting an intoxicated, out-of-control Mill River resident to Fairview Hospital.
- May 17 10:00 a.m. A Southfield resident reports his suspicion that the receipt of an unsolicited purchase agreement he received from a St. Louis investment firm for land he owns is a scam.
- 11:31 a.m. A tow is ordered for a vehicle pulled over on Hartsville New Marlborough Road after giving chase for speeding.
- 9:20 p.m. A tow is ordered for a vehicle, stopped for speeding, that is unregistered.
- May 20 1:54 p.m. A solar field employee asks if anyone had reported finding a drone that had spontaneously lifted off and flown away from the installation opposite the Highway Garage where he had been working in late December.
- 2:06 p.m. A driver complains that the view while turning onto Hartsville New Marlborough Road from New Marlborough Hill Road was dangerously obscured by a paver parked at that intersection.



**Camp WA WA Segowea**  
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 Since 1929

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**413-229-9110**  
 408 Foley Hill Road Southfield, MA



May 21 4:33 p.m. Verizon notified of a low-hanging wire on Rhoades and Bailey Road.

May 22 7:09 p.m. National Grid is notified after an officer removes a tree down on Shunpike Road.

May 23 9:18 p.m. An officer assists in the arrest of an armed intruder at a Sheffield residence.

4:52 p.m. A driver reports he was forced off the road by a pick-up truck speeding past him at 90 miles an hour on Mill River Great Barrington Road.

May 24 12:45 a.m. An officer investigates a New Marlborough village property after receiving a call from the resident that he had viewed multiple illuminated flashlights in his backyard.

May 27 8:12 p.m. A driver on County Road is put under arrest for speeding and driving under the influence of alcohol.

May 28 7:00 p.. A caller reports her suspicions of a driver who stopped his car and was taking photographs of her daughter outside their Southfield home.

May 29 4:37 p.m. An officer assists a driver with a blown tire, apparently slashed by a protrusion from the concrete base of the bridge at the head of Norfolk Road in Southfield.

During the month of May, the Police Department logged 161 calls for service, investigated one incident, made twelve arrests, initiated sixty-five motor vehicle stops, and issued thirty-nine citations.

*Graham Frank, Chief of Police*

## FIRE AND RESCUE

May 5 8:18 p.m. Mill River Great Barrington Road Medical Call

May 6 6:27 p.m. Canaan Southfield Road Fire Alarm

May 8 7:53 p.m. Mutual Aid to Sheffield Medical Call

May 9 12:03 a.m. Mutual Aid to Great Barrington Medical Call

May 10 7:07 a.m. Canaan Valley Road Medical Call

May 10 9:00 a.m. Mill River Great Barrington Road Medical Call

May 13 10:16 p.m. Brewer Branch Road Medical Call

May 14 2:13 p.m. Canaan Southfield Road Medical Call

May 16 11:10 p.m. Mill River Southfield Road Medical Call

May 22 9:36 a.m. Mill River Great Barrington Road Medical Call

May 23 4:11 p.m. Underwood Road Medical Call

*Fire Company President David Smith*



**Lumbert Cross Road Progress Report:** The crew converting the failing Lumbert Cross Road bridge from a single to a two-lane crossing is employing a recently instituted accelerated construction process. Highway Superintendent Chuck Loring took the earlier photo, showing the demolition of the original bridge, at the beginning of June. Just ten days later, Mr. Loring photographed the crew as it set pre-cast supports in place. At this writing, Lumbert Cross Road was still scheduled for closure until September.

### Thank You to Our Contributors:

Walter Agar; Carol Ann Genovese; Hannah & Leonard Golub; Noreen Johnson; Alexandra Eidenschenk; Gregory Kerr; Elaine & Stephen Mack



## RECIPE OF THE MONTH

This light and refreshing fruit tart with its red, white, and blue colors is perfect for July 4th. It comes together easily and will disappear quickly. To make it gluten free, just substitute GF graham crackers. Enjoy!

Marjorie Shapiro



### Fourth of July Cream Tart

Serves 8 Time: preparation and cooking: 45 minutes

#### Crust:

9 sheets of honey graham crackers  
(about 36 individual crackers)

2 tbsp sugar

2 tbsp melted butter

4 tsp water

#### Filling:

1 cup full fat whipped cream cheese

½ tsp vanilla extract

¼ cup sugar

¼ almond extract

#### Topping:

6 cups small strawberries

1 cup blueberries

2/3 cup sugar

1 tbsp lemon juice

1 tbsp cornstarch

4 tbsp slivered almonds, lightly toasted



#### Directions for the crust:

- Preheat the oven to 350 degrees.
- Place the graham crackers in a food processor and process until just crumbly.
- Add the sugar, butter and water and pulse just until the cracker mixture is moist.
- Coat a 9" pie or removable bottom tart pan with cooking spray.
- Press the graham cracker mixture into the bottom and sides of the pan to a thickness of about ½".
- Bake until lightly browned, about 10 minutes.
- Let cool.

#### Directions for the filling:

- Combine the cream cheese, sugar, and extracts in a medium bowl.
- Stir until smooth.
- Using a rubber spatula, carefully spread the filling over the entire tart shell.

#### Directions for the topping:

- Place two cups of the strawberries in a food processor and puree.
- Combine the puree, sugar, and cornstarch in a small saucepan over medium heat and stir constantly with a whisk. Bring to a boil, reduce to low and cook for one minute. Keep stirring with the whisk during the entire process. Remove from heat and let cool.
- In a medium bowl, toss the remaining four cups of strawberries with the lemon juice.
- Bring out your artistic side by arranging the strawberries in a circular pattern taking over the entire surface of the pie.
- Carefully spoon the strawberry glaze over the strawberries.
- Sprinkle the blueberries over the pie.
- Keep any remaining glaze to use with ice cream on another day.
- Sprinkle the almonds around the perimeter of the pie.



## RINGING THE BELL ON THE FOURTH OF JULY

By Jared and Terrill McDade

In 1971 Alex and Adele Holman were looking for a weekend house in the Berkshires. Decades earlier they had fallen in love with the area and when they went house shopping that spring, the search ended on Church Road in Mill River with an unusual find – a Congregational church sitting atop a hill overlooking the village, in need of a loving hand to bring it back to life. Restoration projects had recently gotten a big boost from passage of The National Historic Preservation Act in 1966, but it was (and still is) uncommon for anyone to buy a church for domestic habitation. Not sure about the propriety of doing just that, the Holmans set about researching similar situations and ended up doing the right thing. They de-sanctified the building and converted it carefully to a residence while maintaining architectural integrity and preserving as much of the original structure and detail as possible. Bedrooms, bathrooms, a kitchen, and a dining area were created in the existing space at the back of the building, and the original Sanctuary became a great room with almost no alterations. The vestibule, too, was largely undisturbed, and the Holmans kept its most important features, the church bell in the steeple and the single bell rope secured to the wall by a bracket. In a nod to its New England heritage and surroundings, the sanctuary remains a great space – unheated – but the rest of the building has all the comforts of, well, home. Once the project was completed, the Holmans renamed the property The Steeple, and the couple had a charming and interesting Berkshires base to host guests and their extended family of children and grandchildren.

In 1963 President John Kennedy established July 4 as National Bell Ringing Day. Every Fourth of July, at 2:00 p.m., citizens are encouraged to ring bells throughout the land to honor our country's independence as a way truly to "let freedom ring." Alex Holman knew about the tradition, and decided to follow it at The Steeple.

On July 4, 1976, he invited friends, family, and neighbors to ring the bell for our country's 200th birthday. It was both a solemn and not so solemn occasion. About twenty people were gathered and excitement grew as Alex stepped forward to explain what was about to happen. To be strictly correct, he said, bells were to be rung thirteen times, once for each of the original colonies that declared our independence from England. He then carefully took the bell rope from its bracket so that it

hung straight down in the vestibule, heavy, an inch and a half thick. Everyone held their breath. He made the first pull, grasping the rope with both hands and bracing against the weight of the bell. Silence. He pulled again, harder. Silence. He pulled a third time, putting his whole body into it and far above, the bell rang out clear in the July afternoon! Two peals – one swinging up and the second swinging back. He pulled again – and – again two peals rang out. This time it was easier because the bell was in motion. He stepped back and invited someone else to try. No shortage of willing bell ringers that day! Everyone took a turn, and everyone was surprised by how much effort was involved, and how strangely moving that simple act was.



*Alex Holman, center, pulling the bell rope, as family and friends look on.*

It was a feel-good moment and one that became a tradition at The Steeple for twenty-five years. Alex was always the master of ceremonies, usually inviting small children to try first, with the help of their parents. Our children were part of one ceremony, and were surprised, alarmed, and then delighted when the power of the bell lifted them up off their feet as it swung back and forth, taking the rope with it. "I'm Quasimodo!" one shouted, his legs flailing in the air. The peals always sent a thrill through the crowd and, after the children had had their turns, the adults called out, "Me next!" and "Please, let me do it," sounding not much different from the children they followed. We never honored the thirteen peals; there were always more.

On July 4, 2001, the Holmans held their last Independence Day celebration at The Steeple and asked me, as a family friend, to start the ceremony by reading the Declaration of Independence aloud to the guests. It was an honor, and the space was very quiet when I began. No one stirred until the last line ended with those now familiar words, "...And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm Reliance on the Protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor."

For now, the bell is silent. Alex died in 2016 and at 96, Adele lives in Teaneck, New Jersey. But she and those of us who attended the annual event at The Steeple still recall the sound of the bell every Fourth of July, ringing bravely through our corner of the Berkshire hills. □

*Note: The Steeple now belongs to Ben Soto, who continues the restoration work on the residence.*



## SCHOOL NEWS: THE CLASS OF '22



New Marlborough's 2022 high school graduates Ashton Aliosi, Tyler Duquette, Rochele Worth, and Wil Worth

Forty-six Mount Everett seniors graduated — in time-honored tradition after a pandemic-driven hiatus of two years — at a ceremony in the shed at Tanglewood in Lenox. At 10:00 a.m. on June 4, a beautiful Saturday morning, High School Principal Jesse Carpenter, a former Mount Everett grad himself, brought the assembled friends, family, teachers, administrators, and School Committee members to attention for the proceedings. The crowd was eager to celebrate the accomplishments of these young men and women, who had spent more than half of their high school years working around Covid-imposed restrictions.

During an hour-long celebration, speakers remarked on the strong connection between these students and the caring community at Southern Berkshire Regional School District that has nurtured them along the way. Valedictorian Nadia Makuc encouraged her fellow classmates to go off into the world to discover new things but then to return to make positive contributions to their community here in the Berkshires. When it came time to receive their diplomas, the graduates showed signs of having to relearn the traditional congratulatory handshake as they were greeted by their principal, superintendent, and School Committee chair.

In line with the national average, 54 percent of the graduates are going on to college, 10 percent to a trade school; 4 percent plan to join the military, while 26 percent are choosing to work or take a gap year. All six of the New Marlborough graduates have clear ideas of

their next steps. Ashton Aloisi plans to join the marines; however, he has delayed signing until he receives medical clearance from injuries he sustained during a stellar career on the football team that resulted in surgeries. His ultimate goal is to join one of the two family businesses in either electrical or HVAC. His good friend Reece Mullen, who has been in the delayed entry program for the United States Marine Corps for the past year, has also chosen to join the marines for four years. He will be leaving for boot camp at Paris Island, South Carolina, in August. From there, he hopes to specialize in aviation electronics. Eventually he would like to start his own business.

During his senior year Wil Worth completed internships at Mercier Stone and the Berkshire Fish Hatchery. Wil plans to participate in an advanced manufacturing training program through the MassHire Berkshire Workforce Board to prepare for a career in manufacturing, specifically welding and plumbing. Tyler Duquette has been accepted into the STEM Academy at Berkshire Community College and looks forward to pursuing a career in Marine Biology. Vaughn Marchione, with a passion for computers, including building them, will attend Westfield State University to study computer science next year. He hopes this will open the door to future career paths in technology. Rochele Worth, an active participant in music and sports at Mount Everett, ranked third academically in her class and has earned numerous awards. This fall, she will start at Smith College, where she plans to major in biology. □



The 2022 graduating 3rd grade class of New Marlborough Central, along with staff, serenaded the proud parents and friends with a rendition of "Change Sings," by Amanda Gorman.

photo by Jane Burke



## ON THE NOVEMBER BALLOT: NEARLY THE ENTIRE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

This is a very unusual year for our school district. The Southern Berkshire Regional School District (SBRSD) School Committee has ten members - four from Sheffield, two each from Egremont and New Marlborough, one each from Alford and Monterey. Normally there are five school committee openings every two years to fill four-year terms, but this coming November, nine of the ten positions will be on the ballot. The way the voting works, voters in each of the five towns get to cast their ballots for the candidates from all five towns, so the elected members represent all of the towns, not just the one in which they reside.

In 2020, five new members were elected — one each from New Marlborough, Egremont, and Monterey, with two from Sheffield. Four of them did not finish their terms and have been replaced through appointment of the select boards until the November 2022 elections.

Both seats in New Marlborough are open this year, one for two years and the other for four. It is a critical time for

those in the community interested in the education of our children to consider contributing by serving on the School Committee. Members will be working with the superintendent on two very significant projects — the new Early College Initiative and the discussions regarding the possible merger between SBRSD and Berkshire Hills Regional School District. Any New Marlborough registered voter can get onto the ballot. Nomination papers can be obtained at the administrative offices of SBRSD by contacting Lynette Gagnon at 413-229-8778 ext. 304 or email [lgagnon@sbrsd.org](mailto:lgagnon@sbrsd.org). One can gather the thirty-nine required signatures from voters in all five towns. Candidates must submit the signed nomination papers to their town clerks no later than 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 26, 2022 for certification. Next, papers must be filed with the clerk of the regional school district no later than 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 23, 2022. Contact Jane Burke, the current School Committee chair, for further information at [jburke@sbrsd.org](mailto:jburke@sbrsd.org). □

## DESIGNING THE EARLY COLLEGE PROGRAM

On June 16, a group of about thirty community members gathered in the Mount Everett cafeteria to contribute their thoughts about the design and development of the new Early College High School at Mount Everett, a collaboration between the Southern Berkshire Regional School District (SBRSD) and Bard College at Simon's Rock. Included in the group were graduates of Mount Everett, School Committee members, SBRSD teachers, business owners, current and former SBRSD administrators, staff members from Volunteers in Medicine, Bard College at Simon's Rock administration and faculty, area education specialists, and others interested in the project. This, the first of several sessions, enabled public input into crafting the vision and goals of an exciting new program.

Superintendent Beth Regulbuto opened the session by expressing her hope that the early college offerings will help students solidify plans to go on to higher education and reduce financial burdens and barriers to doing so. The meeting was facilitated by Marcy Raymond, a specialist in early college planning, whose expertise is provided through a state grant. She explained that the purpose of the Early College Initiative grant is to create and maintain partnerships that connect Massachusetts districts and high schools with the state's colleges, in order to give students access to college completion and career success. She noted that the SBRSD project was one of five chosen for development this year and the only one to win official designation



photo by Larry Burke

A discussion of the proposed Early College High School at Mount Everett was conducted by Superintendent Regulbuto, standing at left, facilitator Marcy Raymond, center, and Simon's Rock Provost John Weinstein at right.

as an Early College High School, bringing significant financial and logistical support from the state.

Working in small groups, the attendees shared ideas about what skills students need for future success. They discussed the possible benefits to students to have earned college credits before graduating high school. Over the next several sessions a vision and series of goals will be developed. Those interested in attending can contact Dr. Regulbuto at [bregulbuto@sbrsd.org](mailto:bregulbuto@sbrsd.org). □

Jane Burke



# THE NEW MARLBOROUGH PUBLIC LIBRARY

## New Aquisitions

### Adult Fiction

*Ashton Hall*, by Lauren Belfer  
*Horse*, by Geraldine Brooks  
*Omega Factor*, by Steve Berry  
*The Overnight Guest*, by Heather Gudenkauf

### Adult Nonfiction

*Salad Freak: Recipes to Feed a Healthy Obsession*, by Jess Damuck  
*Malaysian Kitchen: 150 Recipes For Simple Home Cooking*, by Christina Arokiasamy

### Children's Fiction

*Baby Squeaks*, by Anne Hunter

### Children's Nonfiction

*The Mystery of the Monarchs: How Kids, Teachers, and Butterfly Fans Helped Fred and Norah Urquhart Track the Great Monarch Migrations*, by Barb Rosenstock



**SUMMER LIBRARY HOURS**

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



## Have You Heard About Wonderbooks?

The New Marlborough Library has just added them to the collection! What are Wonderbooks?

Every Wonderbook read-along is a children's print book with a pre-loaded audiobook player permanently bound to the inside cover. Listen to the story through the external speaker, or plug in a pair of headphones. Just like a typical audio player, there are controls for volume, playing and pausing, and fast-forwarding or rewinding content. A flashing red light lets you know when the book needs to be charged, which can be done with a standard micro USB cable. Stop in and take a look!



## Author Reading and Book Signing

Please join us on July 23 at 1:00 p.m. as Jyoti Tottham, *New York Times* editorials editor and author, as she reads from and discusses her nonfiction account of the establishment of a hospital in rural India, *Sisters of Mokama, The Pioneering Women Who Brought Hope and Healing to India*. Books will be available for purchase.

**Mark Your Calendar!**



**I'm Back  
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**Elihu Burritt Day**  
 Saturday, August 20  
 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
 On the New Marlborough Green

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## Town Times

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

## Transfer Station Hours:

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

## PERMITS ARE DUE JULY 1

and can be purchased for \$185  
 by mail or online at  
[www.newmarlborough.gov](http://www.newmarlborough.gov).

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

## Emergency calls:

**Police, Fire, Medical  
911**

## New Marlborough Highway Department

Located on Mill River-Southfield Rd.

Hours:

Monday - Friday 7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.  
 PO Box 99, Mill River, MA 01244  
 (413) 229-8165

*We welcome advertisements from businesses owned by New Marlborough residents.*

*Other businesses can be listed in the Service Sector (see back page). Questions, rates? Call Barbara Lowman: 229-2369*

## NM5VN Editorial Team

Larry Burke, issue editor; Diane Barth, designer; Martha Bryan,  
 Jane Burke, Robbi Hartt, Barbara Lowman, Steven Nester,  
 Joe Poindexter, Peter Schuyten, Barry Shapiro, Marjorie Shapiro,  
 Rachel Perera Weingest. Contributing artist: Ann Getsinger

## NM5VN Board of Directors

Roy Blount, Jr., Larry Burke, Barbara Lowman,  
 Joe Poindexter, Peter Schuyten, Barry Shapiro,  
 Nan O'Shaughnessy Smith, and Tara White

## New Marlborough 5 Village News

appears monthly,

also online at

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

The next issue will be dated August 2022.

All copy must be submitted no later than July 16.

For advertising, contact Barbara Lowman, tel: 229-2369  
 PO Box 243, Southfield, MA 01259

**[5villagenews@gmail.com](mailto:5villagenews@gmail.com)**



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## SERVICE SECTOR 7/22

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

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