



# New Marlborough 5 Village News

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Clayton • Hartsville • Mill River • New Marlborough • Southfield

## THE TICK ASSAULT *A Primer on How to Fight Back*

By Barry R. Shapiro

They have us outnumbered, and all of us know someone, including perhaps ourselves, who has fallen victim to *Ixodes scapularis*, as the black-legged or deer tick is formally known. That's not much of a surprise since Massachusetts has one of the highest tick infestations in the country, with more Lyme disease here than in most other states. We trail, according to one recent Centers for Disease Control and Prevention study, only Vermont (worst in the nation on a per-capita basis), Connecticut, Maine, and New Hampshire. And what a nasty menace the tick is. It requires blood to survive. It cannot fly or jump but somehow gets onto its various hosts, including us, where it can wander around for days, even weeks before it decides to take a bite. Surprisingly, it is not an insect but, like spiders and scorpions, an arachnid.



Talk to anyone, and they'll tell you how they try to avoid ticks.

"I stay out of the bushes, which means that I lose a lot of golf balls," said Owen Hoberman.

"I wear insect-repellant clothing and spray myself with a mixture of rosemary, lemon oil, eucalyptus, and other natural oils," said Elise Richman.

"I tuck my pants into my socks and wear light clothing," said Joan Elmer.

"I want to pour concrete over our entire property," said Marjorie Shapiro.

Short of that decidedly radical remedy, here are other ways to take on and win the fight against this silent invader:

### Modify your landscape.

Ticks love the woods where they can find the deer, mice, and chipmunks that are their preferred hosts, along with the high humidity, which they need for survival. On lawns, over 80 percent of ticks are found within nine feet of the lawn edge (the so called "ecotone" area), particularly where the lawn abuts woods. Ticks are also found on ornamental plantings, including ground cover such as pachysandra, and old, unfitted stonewalls common in our area. Fewer ticks are typically found where the lawn is sunny, manicured and removed from the areas that harbor ticks.

To reduce tick infestation on your property, create a defined, manicured border (at least three feet is recommended) with wood chips, mulch or gravel. Remove leaf litter at the lawn edge. Keep the grass mowed and clear of thatch. Move play sets away from the woods and toward the center of the lawn where it's dry and sunny. Move bird feeders (they attract mice) away from your home. Explore the installation of wildflower meadows and herb gardens, since few ticks are typically found there. If you have woodland trails, consider widening them. Remove lower branches from trees and shrubs to allow more sunlight to penetrate.

An interesting study makes the mouse, the chipmunk, and other small animals, and not the tick, the villain. This study indicates that newly hatched ticks are pathogen free, meaning that they don't carry Lyme disease. Only when they feed on their so-called "reservoir" hosts do the ticks develop the Lyme disease spirochetes, indicating that it is these animals that transmit the disease to the tick, which gets all the bad press.

### Exclude tick-carrying wildlife.

Deer carry ticks and it makes sense to exclude them from outdoor living areas through fencing and reduction of the deer herd during hunting season. Plant landscaping that deer do not like to browse (while deer will eat almost anything, some plants are highly

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susceptible to deer browse and should be avoided). Plant the most deer resistant-landscaping along the edge of the property and consider the use of deer repellent. Some 90 percent of adult ticks feed on deer, and deer are known to transport engorged female ticks to residential areas.

Smaller animals cannot be fenced out, of course, but you can take steps to reduce their incursion. Clean up stonewalls near your home, which may shelter mice and chipmunks. The latter seem to be everywhere this year and are the second most important rodent in the transmission of Lyme disease. Don't store your woodpile near the house.

#### Chemical or other spray controls

There are a variety of pesticides, called acaricides, that kill ticks. For those who resist the use of pesticides because of the negative impact they can have on our bee population and the environment generally, there are some "all natural" alternatives to be considered.

For those contemplating chemical use, note that both liquid and granular formulations have been reported as effective against the tick. The spray must be sufficient in volume and pressure for thorough penetration and coverage of the treated area. Wooded areas which abut the living area should be sprayed as well. Bifenthrin, carbaryl, cyfluthrin and pyrethrin are among the acaricides recommended for tick treatment. Some are restricted to use by licensed applicators only.

Mid-May to early June is the optimal time to control the deer ticks, which are then in their nymphal stage. One or two treatments should suffice for the summer; another treatment in the fall (typically mid-October) may be used to attack the adult tick.

One relatively environmentally friendly approach is to restrict spraying to the perimeter of the property where most people come into contact with ticks. Certain acaricides, moreover, do not leach into the soil, penetrating only to a depth of four centimeters, where they are degraded by soil

microorganisms. Some homeowners have reported success with an all natural spray utilizing essential oils (such as cedar, spearmint and peppermint), which can also treat mosquito infestations, although multiple applications are required over the summer. There are a number of applicators in Berkshire County — look for them online or in local advertising media — offering these options.

#### Tick Management Systems.

One approach, still in its infancy and so far not typically showing any meaningful tick reduction, involves treatment of mice and chipmunks with a chemical (fipronil) that has been shown to reduce the tick population in some studies. Essentially, the mouse or chipmunk enters a rodent bait box and is exposed to the chemical. Available only through licensed applicators, this technique appears best suited to suburban areas where the boxes can be placed every thirty to sixty feet, near the wooded areas that are mouse nesting sites.

#### Other Common-Sense Precautions.

In addition to the approaches outlined above, consider the following strategies:

Avoid areas where ticks are typically found.

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## *There is a New Farmers' Market in town at GEDNEY FARM*

**When:** Every Friday, all season, rain or shine, between 5:00 and 7:00 p.m.

**Where:** Gedney Farm, adjacent to the newly built Argentine and Wood-Fired Oven!  
Stop by and do some shopping and then enjoy some light fare by the grill.

**What:** Vegetables and herbs from New Marlborough's own USDA Certified Organic farm, **Berkshire Bounty Farm**, and eggs from **The Farm** in New Marlborough. Grass-fed beef and pasture-raised pork meats from **Howling Flats Farm**, and delicious baked goods from the **Flour Bin Girls** and Gedney's own kitchen. Stock up for the weekend at Gedney Farm.



**You can't get more local than this!**



## Ode to New Marlborough's Land-Clearing Goats, Buddy, Brooklyn, Remington and Sparkles

Bite by bite our goats advance  
Through the bad invasive plants,  
Sharp goat teeth serve tough goat throats —  
You go, goats!

No ifs, ands or butts —  
Our goats got guts!

All hail our civic-minded nannies,  
Dining down in nooks and crannies.  
Mares eat oats and does eat oats?  
We got goats!

Ain't no room for fears or doubts,  
Poison ivy's on the outs!

And when our goats have cleared, as planned,  
Our tangleweedy plot of land,  
I think we ought to tell our goats,  
“We get you, goats!”

I vote we throw a bash to show 'em:  
    Toast our goats with anecdotes;  
    Present our goats with winter coats;  
Write our goats a better poem;  
Unveil roadside signs that mark  
“Budbrookremisparkle Park.”

— Roy Blount Jr.



photo by Larry Burke

*ticks, continued*

If possible, walk in the center of wooded trails.

Wear light colored, protective clothing, tuck your pants into your socks and don't wear sandals or open-toed shoes.

Consider careful use of repellants with DEET or permethrin or an all-natural alternative.

If you have been in tick-infested areas, take a shower and do a full (that means full) body check.

Examine your pets regularly.

If you suspect ticks in your clothing, give it a full hour on high heat in the dryer, since ticks can survive a cycle of washing.

Remember that ticks can reappear during winter thaws.

And, if after all this, you find you are hosting a tick, prompt removal is the most effective method of

preventing infection. Remove with a fine-tipped tweezers or one of the tick removal tools such as Original Tick Kit or Pick Tick. Do this as close to the skin as possible and pull straight up (don't twist since this can cause “mouth parts” to break off in your skin). Don't try to smother the tick with petroleum jelly — it doesn't work. Clean the bite area with alcohol, iodine, or soap and water. Then preserve the tick in a baggie for analysis and start on an antibiotic in case the tick tests positive. If you have pills left over from your last bite, make sure they haven't outlived their “use-by” date.

The cautions and remedies may seem a nuisance, but they are not nearly as troublesome as the disease itself. □

## Town Business Is Your Business



### BOARD OF SELECTMEN

**June 22:** The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. with all three selectmen in attendance.

The Board immediately went into executive session for two issues. The first was discussion of an employee complaint; no decision was made as a result of the discussion. The second was discussion and a decision regarding litigation strategy in a legal matter affecting the Town.

The open meeting resumed at 6:15 p.m. Minutes of the June 1, June 8, and June 15 meetings were approved with minor changes.

Contracts for the police chief, fire chief, and highway superintendent for the coming year (FY16) were unanimously approved.

The Board reviewed the status of the upcoming FY16 appointments of Town officials and boards. Vacancies exist for the solid waste coordinator and a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals, but otherwise all appointments are ready to be made at the June 29 meeting. In addition, the Board discussed progress in developing backup plans for key Town offices. Specifically, an assistant town clerk and assistant treasurer are needed to carry out necessary tasks in the absence of the regular officials, and anyone interested in these positions will be considered.

The post of tax collector has been offered to Gina Campbell. The Board asked incoming Town Administrator Anne Marie (Mari) Enoch to write a letter to Ms. Campbell specifying the terms of employment: four days per week, five hours per day at \$16 per hour, starting the week of July 6.

Highway Superintendent Chuck Loring was notified that the backstop on New Marlborough Central School's playground is in bad shape and somewhat dangerous. Although townspeople use the playground when school is not in session, it is not a Town park. The School

Committee will be asked whether it wants to repair it, replace it, or take it down. The Board deemed it not a Town responsibility.

Board Chairman Michele Shalaby announced that BSC, the Boston engineering firm that worked with the Town on the Foley bridge project, will consult on the engineering aspects of the \$1 million grant proposal for the Clayton Mill River Road bridge. The Town was granted an extension of the deadline because the grant application form had changed, but the time pressure is definitely a factor.

Ms. Shalaby discussed a Massachusetts Broadband Institute (MBI) grant program that is currently being offered to participating towns, \$5,000 grants for professional help in a marketing study. The application is lengthy and complex, with a July 7 deadline, making it impossible for the Town to apply. Tim Newman had asked whether WiredWest could apply on behalf of the Town. Selectman Nat Yohalem was opposed to this arrangement, since the Town may need to consider other broadband options beyond WiredWest. He suggested that MBI be called to ask whether they would grant a deadline extension; if so, he felt the Town should submit an application. The MBI grant application will be an agenda item for the June 29 meeting. Other broadband options and the possibility of a Special Town Meeting for WiredWest will be on the agenda for July 20.

Prudence Spaulding, chairman of the Council on Aging, enthusiastically announced that the Southern Berkshire Elderly Transportation Corporation will now be able to take New Marlborough seniors to Lenox and Pittsfield and currently is coming out to New Marlborough five days per week.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

*Barbara Lowman*

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**June 24:** Present at the 10:00 a.m. meeting, devoted entirely to a discussion of Town debt, were Clark Rowell of Unibank, who is bond consultant to the Town, Treasurer Peter Gay, Prudence Spaulding and Mark Carson of the Finance Committee, Tim Newman, the Town's delegate to WiredWest, outgoing Interim Administrative Assistant Joe Kellogg, incoming Town Administrator Mari Enoch, Administrative Secretary Sharon Fleck, and all three selectmen. The focus of the meeting was an analysis of debt service options and how much debt the Town could carry without degrading its bond rating.

In response to an opening discussion on the possibility of rolling a proposed 20-year \$550,000 bond to purchase a new fire truck into a larger bond to finance cabling the town for fiber-optic broadband, Mr. Rowell pointed out that the borrowing for broadband may not be tax-exempt. This would give it a higher effective interest rate than that for the fire truck. The added debt service, he said, would wipe out any savings from eliminating an opinion from bond counsel. The state Department of Revenue requires such an opinion for any borrowing of \$500,000 or more. The Board agreed that, to take advantage of current low interest rates, the Town should pursue a ten-year bond for the fire truck, payable in equal installments.

The discussion moved to the challenge of a potential \$3.4 million bond to pay for installing fiber-optic cable throughout New Marlborough. **Mr. Rowell led off by saying, "For a small community, you're pretty strong... I don't think an AA rating is unrealistic, and a double A would give you very nice access to the bond market."**

Mr. Kellogg asked about the possibility of investing a portion of the borrowing until it was drawn down to pay for the project. Mr. Rowell advised that an investment of this kind would create a problem "unless you know you have a tax-exempt borrowing."

Michele Shalaby, taking note of the fact that through the auction of tax-delinquent properties, the Town had augmented its reserve account to \$900,000, asked how the Town should use its reserve. Mr. Rowell said, "I like your reserve," and pointed out that it was comfortably above the benchmark of 10 percent of the annual budget. By that rule of thumb, with a budget of about \$5 million, New Marlborough should maintain a reserve of at least \$500,000.

Tim Newman, who is considering raising funds privately to help defray the initial costs of debt service, asked if the borrowing itself could be reduced by the amount raised. Mr. Rowell said it would be preferable to put such funds in a trust account to be used as the trust saw fit. Expressing his hope that New Marlborough would join the cooperative this fall so as to be part of the initial build-out of the cable network, Mr. Newman said he needed to be clear with prospective donors about what the money would be used for. Nat Yohalem said

that the Board is still gathering information on costs and is keeping an open mind on who should operate an internet service once a fiber-optic cable is in place.

In response to the concern expressed by Mark Carson of the Finance Committee that the Town faced significant costs in road and bridge repair, Mr. Rowell said, "That doesn't particularly worry me. You have to issue a of lot debt before it would begin to impact the Town's bond rating. You're small, but you're a pretty solid community," he said.


The Board agreed to appoint Mr. Rowell as finance advisor to shepherd the Town through the process of obtaining a bond rating. He warned the Board and the finance staff that, in preparation for a visit from bond-rating agencies Standard & Poor's and Moody's, "I'm going to drive you crazy."

*Joe Poindexter*

**June 29:** The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. with all three selectmen in attendance. Minutes of the June 19 meeting were approved. Minutes of the meetings on June 22 and 24 will be held until the July 11 meeting.

Josh Irwin, co-owner of Cantina 229, asked whether he needs a one-day beer and wine license for the town block party taking place on his property on July 26, since the vendors will not be selling the tasting portions on

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offer. Administrative Secretary Sharon Fleck said she had called the Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission (ABCC), and a permit is needed. The ABCC and the selectmen cautioned Mr. Irwin about the need to monitor to prevent underage or excessive drinking. Mr. Irwin replied that Police Chief Graham Frank will be in attendance and that the vendors are experienced in handling these situations; he also suggested that they could have color-coded wristbands to identify those under the legal age. The Board approved his request.

The next item was the performance evaluation of Highway Superintendent Chuck Loring. All the selectmen were highly complimentary and supportive of the job he is doing, even in the face of limited resources. Chairman Michele Shalaby inquired about his goals for the coming year. **Mr. Loring responded that he wanted to continue building up the dirt roads and improving the drainage, measures, he noted, that have reduced the need for frequent grading where they have been employed.** He said that paved roads, focusing on the stretches of greatest need, need to be fixed gradually, since a total rebuilding is far beyond the Town's budget capabilities.

Selectman Nat Yohalem requested, for capital planning purposes, a list of equipment that will need to be purchased over the next several years, as well as a list of anticipated major road repairs. He noted that Mr. Loring has built an effective highway team, whose members, unlike those "in most highway departments," work well together. Mr. Loring and the Board then discussed the need to monitor the wage rates in surrounding towns so that New Marlborough remains competitive. The Board suggested that Mr. Loring may need to delegate more activities and establish a weekend on-call rotation, so that he is not on call around the clock.

Bids for used equipment items had been opened. A bid of \$350 for the F350 truck was accepted. A bid of \$1,500 for the no-longer-used roll-off container at the transfer station was also accepted. There were no bids on the large International truck, but Freddy Friedman, who was in the audience, expressed an interest in using it as a

farm vehicle. The Board asked Mr. Loring to contact Formel Motor Company to see whether they might want to buy it for scrap metal and compare that with Mr. Friedman's offer.

**The Board approved the agreement between Sheffield and New Marlborough for the purchase and joint maintenance of a side-road mower.**

Appointments of Town officers and boards for FY16 were made. See roster, page 8.

Planning grants for \$5,000 from the Massachusetts Broadband Institute are available. The grant application is considerably shorter and less complex than originally thought, so the Board will submit an application. The planning grants are for consulting services in the areas of telecommunications, financial strategies, and bond counseling. The Board authorized the submission of the grant proposal.

Information about the Community Compact program, designed to promote the interests of cities and towns throughout state government, had been received from Governor Baker's office. But it still left unclear the benefits, responsibilities, and possible drawbacks of participating. So the Board decided to contact Ryan Chamberlain, the director of the governor's western office for clarification.

**June 29 was the last meeting for Interim Administrative Assistant Joe Kellogg, and the Board was unanimous in thanking him for his efforts in getting through a tough budget season, and for teaching them a lot from his extensive experience in town government.** For his part, Mr. Kellogg praised the board members for their diligence, teamwork, and mutual respect.

Mr. Yohalem noted a meeting of the Broadband Ad Hoc Committee is scheduled for July 6 at 11:00 a.m. This will be a working session, but must be a posted public meeting.

Ms. Shalaby asked her colleagues for suggested topics for the next selectmen's column in the *5 Village News*. She also suggested two future agenda items: goals for the coming year at the July 11 meeting and, starting with the July 20 meeting, discussion of fixing an end point for a

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vote on the broadband issue.

Mr. Yohalem attended a Shared Services Committee meeting along with representatives of Sheffield and Tyringham. All three towns, he reported, favored a joint purchase of a paving machine with a roller, which costs around \$200,000. There are seven towns on the committee; if all were supportive, the cost would be around \$30,000 per town, and the time and money saved from interminable pothole-filling would be substantial.

**July 11:** With Tara White and Nat Yohalem present at this Saturday meeting, the Board took up proposed changes in the Town's personnel policy. Those changes had not been incorporated with the main policy so that they might be compared, but will be ready for the next meeting, July 20. Members of the Personnel Policy Committee will be present in case questions arise.

The setting of the selectmen's goals for FY16 was also deferred to the July 20 meeting so that all three selectmen could participate.

The lone bid received for the inch-and-a-half top-coating of County Road for \$142,155 was rejected. Bidder DelSignore had priced blacktop at about 10 percent more than the Town paid recently for work on the Clayton Mill River Road. The Board authorized Highway Superintendent Chuck Loring to rebid the project.

Town Administrator Mari Enoch informed the Board that Town Counsel Jeremia Pollard has written to Elm Knoll Farm, informing them that the Town plans to mow the area where the Town has a right of way adjacent to the Clayton Mill River Road. **Resident John Hotaling suggested that the police cruiser follow the mower. Mr. Yohalem noted that the police should be alerted to the mowing date in case any problems should arise.**

Ms. Enoch also said that Ed Harvey asked her to notify the selectmen of a firemen's muster slated for Sunday, August 2. It will commence at 11:00 a.m. with a vehicle parade from the firehouse in Southfield to the grounds of New Marlborough Central School in Mill River. There will be food and raffle tickets for sale and contests by teams of visiting firemen of traditional firefighting skills.

An attorney for Tom Adams corresponded with the Board about placing a marker for Mr. Adams's relative, Sergeant Moses Adams, who lost his life during the Revolutionary War, in front of the library with the other monuments. The selectmen suggested that the library trustees, the New Marlborough Historical Society, and Courtney Turner, the Town's soldier grave agent, should review the suggested plans and coordinate their response.

The proposed contribution by John Sisson of a 350-pound mill wheel from his family's former mill was discussed. The selectmen requested that someone, probably from the Historical Society, come to discuss with them the placement of this imposing artifact.

Ms. Enoch said that the issue of the deteriorating backstop on New Marlborough Central School's

grounds had been referred to the school district, since its repair was not a Town responsibility.

The Board accepted the resignation of Myron Jaffe, chairman of the Zoning Board of Appeals, which had been pending for a year. Ms. Enoch indicated that a letter of thanks had already been sent.

Ms. White said that Prudence Spaulding reported that thirteen people had contributed more than 800 hours as a part of the Senior Work-off Program — including three seniors who worked more hours than they could be paid for. Mrs. Spaulding also reported that a bill that will tie the rate of compensation to the minimum wage will go before the joint committee on revenue of the state legislature on July 21.

Mr. Yohalem reported that the Town has made a joint proposal with Sandisfield to the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (DOT) that the state should take over the maintenance of Route 57. He also said that BSC, an engineering firm that has worked with the Town in the past, has offered to help, at no cost to the Town, with the \$1-million DOT grant application the Town is preparing for the Clayton Mill River Road. The deadline is September 4, and the award will be announced in late October or early November. Work could begin next summer. Noting that shared services increases the chances of getting a grant, Mr. Yohalem said that the towns of North Canaan and Sheffield will be asked to write letters of support for the Clayton Mill River Road application.

## New Marlborough Artists Show

**AUGUST 29 TO SEPTEMBER 27  
OPENING AUGUST 28  
5 TO 7PM**

**GALLERY DAYS: SATURDAY & SUNDAY  
11AM TO 4PM**

### Participating Artists:




**Jennifer Ellwood  
Holly McNeely  
Brian Mikesell  
Hope Schreiber  
Walter Simons  
James Singelis  
Timothy Sleeper**



**Abbe Stahl Steinglass**

**At The New Marlborough Meeting House Gallery  
On RT 57, New Marlborough, MA**

SPONSORED BY THE  
NEW MARLBOROUGH VILLAGE ASSOCIATION 

Residents Elaine and Steve Mack of Umpachene Falls Road expressed their concern about people making their way up the river on private land, beyond the boundary of Umpachene Falls Park. Recently two children, ages six and eight, with no adult present, had been climbing along the rocky river bank by the Macks' house. Last year the Macks had to call the police because teenagers were tossing firecrackers from the river into the woods. In addition to the danger, they were also concerned about possible liability. The selectmen thought that since

their land is posted, such unauthorized visitors would be trespassers and liability would probably not be an issue – but they advised the Macks to check with their insurance company. The selectmen also requested that the Umpachene Park Commission convene a meeting and invite the Macks to discuss the issue. Signage at the park, they said, could be improved to clearly indicate the park boundaries and discourage trespassing on private land.

The meeting adjourned at 10:42 a.m. □

Barbara Lowman

## 2016 New Marlborough Town Appointments

Board of Registrars	Katherine M. Chretien Michelle Dawson Bette Ann Stalker Alicia Brazie	Alternate Wiring Inspector Emergency Mgmt. Director Deputy Emer. Mgmt. Dir. Cultural Council (Members appointed for 3-year terms; no new appointments needed for FY16)	Michael Leining Edward Harvey Michael Britton
Conservation Commission	Ned Wilson Freddy Friedman John Schreiber Vacant Vacant	Maureen Hosford, Co-Chair Tom Weeks, Treasurer Cam Adams Mary Richie Smith Ned MacDowell Anne Sommers Assistant Town Clerk Historical Commission	Louise Yohalem, Co-Chair Nan Smith, Secretary Trisha Killeen Alan Lombardi Margie Shapiro Kathy Potoski Sharon Fleck John Sisson Claudette Callahan Helen Liveten
Board of Appeals	Jack Bellinger B. Daniel Litchfield Helen Liveten Sharon Fleck	Right-to-Know Officer	Board of Selectmen Larry Burke, Asst.
Town Administrator	Anne Marie Enoch	Lake Buel Restoration Preservation District Representative	Christopher Hassett
Chief Procurement Officer	Anne Marie Enoch	Council on Aging	Prudence Spaulding, Chair Marsha Harvey Joan Hotaling Merrie Abolafia Bob Abolafia
Animal Control Officer	John Springstube	Director of Senior Services	Prudence Spaulding
Animal Inspector	Prudence Spaulding	Umpachene Park Commission	Edgar Zukauskas Tom Billard Robert Twing Vacant Vacant
Sanitary Inspector	Scott McFarland	Solid Waste Coordinator	Freddy Friedman
Board of Health Agent	Scott McFarland	Technology Committee	Tim Newman Joyce Hackett
Accounting Officer	Tara B. White	Highway Superintendent	Charles Loring III
Tax Collector	Gina Campbell	Broadband Ad Hoc Committee	Nat Yohalem Ira Yohalem
Assistant Tax Collector	Katherine M. Chretien	Town Administrator Consultant	Anne Marie Enoch Joe Kellogg
Town Treasurer	Peter M. Gay		
Assistant Town Treasurer	Katherine M. Chretien		
Field Driver/Fence Viewer	Prudence Spaulding		
Moth Superintendent	Lawrence H. Davis, Jr.		
Burial/Soldier Grave Agent	Courtney K. Turner		
Town Counsel	Jeremia Pollard, Esq.		
Gas Inspector	Robert Krupski		
Assistant Gas Inspector	Donald Hopkins		
Pound Keeper	John Springstube		
Plumbing Inspector	Robert Krupski		
Assistant Plumbing Inspector	Donald Hopkins		
Veterans Agent	Laurie Hils		
Police Chief	Graham Frank		
Fire Chief	Charles Loring III		
Building Inspector	Thomas Carmody		
Wiring Inspector	Richard Aliosi		



## THE VIEW FROM THE BOARD

A monthly column from the chairman of the Board of Selectmen on concerns and issues the Board would like to share with the town.

Precedent is a strong indicator of expectation. As we consider decisions we must make at the selectmen's table, we pay heed to precedent, but we don't want to be chained to it. There are times when we see the wisdom of a past decision. But there are also times when we recognize that what we have done in the past doesn't fit our current situation. Then we concur with American Red Cross founder Clara Barton, who said that defying precedent is a means of "improving the past." Our challenge is to diverge from a precedent only when we believe it will result in an improvement over business as usual. And when we do, we will put a premium on communicating the reasons for our decisions with the citizens of our town.

Our foremost opportunity for communication is the Town Meeting: The Board of Selectmen, Finance Committee, and citizens make proposals and our citizen legislative body deliberates and decides. In between Town Meetings, however, the Board of Selectmen continues to make policy and managerial decisions. Through coverage of our meetings by the 5 Village News, posted meeting minutes, and this column, we hope to keep everyone informed of our reasoning. Of course, we're frequently available for individual conversation as well.

We on the Board believe our most critical role is the evaluation of the effect our decisions will have on the long-term well-being of the town. With that in mind, we intend to focus on strategic planning and to delegate executive actions to other Town officers. In realigning the time commitment and role of the selectmen, we are thinking not of ourselves but of those who might consider serving as selectmen in the future. During this recent time of much transition in Town Hall, we have been willing and able to put in extra time and take on

projects and duties that are not traditionally part of a selectman's role. But we don't want this workload to become a precedent for future selectmen and for the position to become too onerous for qualified candidates to pursue. These should remain citizen positions, ones that can be filled by citizens who typically have time commitments to work and family.

As we clarify and manage the role of selectmen, we also will be redefining the roles of other Town officials. We hope that creating opportunities for delegation will encourage more citizens to participate in our Town government. Though we have just begun a new fiscal year and have already made annual appointments, there are always positions to fill. If you're not already involved, please consider joining a board or committee. We will be happy to talk to you about the possibilities.

Finally, if you've never been to a Town Meeting, be sure to go to the next one. All New Marlborough residents are invited to share their views, and all registered voters are members of our legislative body! If you don't typically attend, please consider breaking that precedent. □

Michele Shalaby, Chairman, Board of Selectmen

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## THE PRESERVATIONIST

### *Elihu Burritt Honoree David Hosford*

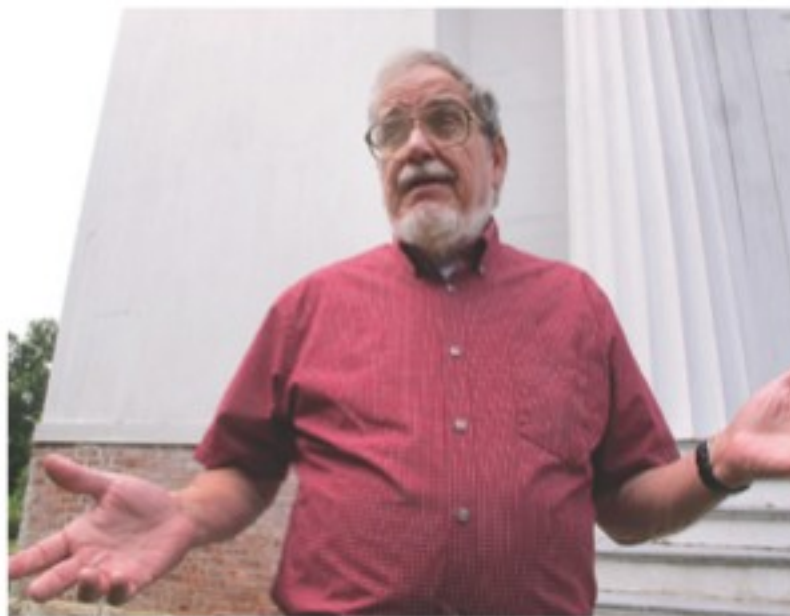
by Mary Richie Smith

David Hosford, this year's recipient of the Burritt Award, is a historian whose profession has guided and delighted his multi-dimensional mind. He sees the present in the past and the past in the present. And he has played a very large role in preserving and restoring the beautiful New Marlborough Meeting House, which is now as central to our village life as it must have been in its original purpose as a house of worship.

But it has not always been so. When David and his wife Maureen first saw the Meeting House (they began visiting New Marlborough in 1991 and moved here full time in 2005), the one-time Congregational Church, built in 1834, looked almost derelict. Then fellow resident Ed Stevenson invited the couple to a fund-raising event held by the New Marlborough Village Association, which had purchased the building. "They turned us upside down and shook money out," says Mr. Hosford. More significantly, this taste of involvement led to a long and profoundly effective involvement with the fate of the structure, with Mr. Hosford serving as president and board member of the Village Association.

And the Meeting House, as we all know, is no longer dilapidated. With the success of Mr. Hosford's \$150,000 capital campaign, repairs were undertaken and the building brought up to code. A performance stage was erected, and the lighting was improved, so that those of us attending concerts there can now actually read our programs.

To augment the capital campaign, Mr. Hosford obtained a \$45,000 grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Fund, an aspect of the Massachusetts Cultural Council.



This fund had to be matched; people generously donated the needed amount. "There was an incredible community response," he says. "That is the single largest thing I feel good about." But other improvements over the years, creation of the gallery, and yet another round of pending repairs "are reminders," he says, "that historic buildings are always needy and a continuing concern for the

Village Association and its presidents."

Having made sure of the preservation of the building, Mr. Hosford became interested in learning who had designed it. He dug into the parish records, leather-bound books (one for the Meeting House and one for the Southfield Church) both started in 1794 and now fully digitized thanks to matching grants from the New Marlborough Cultural Council and the New Marlborough Historical Society, and came up with the name of an architect, Henry Sykes. But what was known about him? He researched the Library of Congress, the print room of the New York Metropolitan Museum of Art, Yale's Sterling Library, as well as local records. Gradually, he learned that Sykes's plans were drawn up when he was only twenty-five or twenty-six years old and that he was hired on the basis of a church he had designed in his hometown of Suffolk, Connecticut, but never actually traveled to New Marlborough. A member of the Wheeler family, among the original Colonial settlers in town, heard about him (he had several significant buildings in the area to his credit, including a hotel in Springfield and three academic buildings for Amherst College) and paid him \$25 for a copy of the plans to the Suffolk church.

Mr. Hosford has published his research in a scholarly

photo by Joe Poindeexter

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review and has given illustrated talks at the Springfield Museum and to several local historical societies. Digitized copies of both sets of parish records are in the New Marlborough Library, the Pittsfield Atheneum, and the Congregational Library (affiliated with Yale) in Boston. So much additional historical material should be digitized, he urges: the records of the one-time Baptist Church in Southfield, for instance, and material held by the New Marlborough Historical Society and by private individuals.

Mr. Hosford, a professor of medieval and Tudor-Stuart England history at Rutgers University, before being appointed dean of the Arts and Sciences Faculty, is still very much the historian. Since retiring he has kept his hand in as a teacher, offering courses in English history to interested seniors through the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute based at Berkshire Community College. He also serves as vice president of the New Marlborough Land Trust, where he chairs the trails committee and has helped with mapping for their trail guide. He is a member of the Historical Society board of directors, and he has helped raise funds for the Emergency Medical Services.

And history comes alive under his touch! This summer on Sundays at the Great Barrington Congregational Church he can be heard playing its historic 1883 pipe organ, with its 3,954 pipes, the largest surviving example of a legendary Roosevelt organ.

Where there is a David Hosford in our midst, the creations of the past need not — must not — become past.

### The First Ten Years: Burritt Day Honorees

- 2005 Joseph Bishop
- 2006 Marsha Harvey
- 2007 Harold Lewin
- 2008 John Sisson
- 2009 David E. Herrick
- 2010 Alan V. Lombardi
- 2011 Debora M. O'Brien
- 2012 Prudence Spaulding
- 2013 Larry & Jane Burke
- 2014 Herbert Abelow & John B. Ormsbee

## NEWS FROM THE LAND TRUST



The Goat Project, which began in early June, is an innovative — and 100 percent organic — approach to the control of invasive plants. Four goats were fenced in on the Crosby Mill site, a holding of the New Marlborough Land Trust on the Konkapot River in Mill River village, and invited to

chow down on any vegetation within reach. That they did. Intended to remain through August, the goats were sent home July 25 when they somehow escaped from the enclosure. “They cleared a lot of underbrush, and we’re continuing to assess their work,” says Land Trust President Ian Devine. “It was a fun way to tackle a serious problem, and the community was really supportive.” Plans for future clearing of the mill site are under discussion.



Photo by Marsha Bryan

□ Karisa King communes with a Land Trust volunteer

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## POCKET LAMPS — PRE-ENERGIZER BUNNY

They are as ingenious as they are small, both characteristics being essential to their function. Perhaps the only thing ungainly about them is what they are called: portable 19th century lighting devices — with self-contained match holders. They were the stars of a fascinating presentation by Ed Klausmeyer at the July 10 First Fridays program, sponsored by the New Marlborough Historical Society. Mr. Klausmeyer, a resident of Hartsville and an expert on early, pre-electric lamps, has assembled a world-class collection of pocket lamps, many of which he brought to the New Marlborough Meeting House Gallery for his talk.

“Many were French and English with incredible designs and decorations,” says John Schreiber, vice president of the Historical Society, who introduced Mr. Klausmeyer. “The technology was often clever, with, for example,



Ed Klausmeyer displays one of his ingenious portable lighting devices.

photo by John Schreiber

writing kits containing inkwell and candle to illuminate late-night writing.” During a wine-pour following the talk, those attending the program were treated to an up-close-and-personal inspection of these innovative precursors of the flashlight.

At the next First Fridays program, August 7 at 7:30 p.m. at the Meeting House, Mike White will delve into the fascinating geography of New Marlborough’s first roads.

*Footnote:* The Historical Society has been authorized by the Board of Selectmen to install a millstone, originally from the Keyes gristmill and donated to the Society by John Sisson, at the front of the Town Hall, conditioned

on the Board’s approval of an installation method. □

Joe Poindexter



## ‘SAVING’ BOBBY LITCHFIELD

On June 28, County Dispatch received a “cell phone call” from a hiker who said he was lost and couldn’t move because of an injury to his ankle. The fact that this was a search and rescue drill didn’t lessen the challenge for eight members of the New Marlborough Fire & Rescue squad, who were charged with finding the hiker and bringing him to safety.

From the description of his location, the squad zeroed in on an area in the vicinity of the Lower Carroll Mill Trail, and, in just half an hour, emerged from the woods carrying the “patient” (aka Bobby Litchfield) on a

rescue stretcher.

After the drill, the team took time to discuss what they had done well and what they would like to improve. Emergency Management Director Ed Harvey plans future “rescues” in which Fire & Rescue will collaborate with law enforcement. “The drill was a good opportunity to learn about the volume of resources required to safely and effectively rescue an injured party from the remote areas of town,” said Mr. Harvey. “I hope in the future to expand a drill like this one to include our mutual aid partners and state resources.” □



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## RETURN OF THE NATIVE

### *The Land Trust Is Planting Elm Trees in the Five Villages*

Once there were 77 million elms gracing the forests and village greens of North America. Then around 1930, a shipment of logs arrived in the U.S. hosting an Asian fungus that proved deadly to the American elm. Dutch Elm Disease (Dutch only because it was first discovered in Holland) has destroyed 90 percent of the continent's American elms. The fungus is carried by the elm bark beetle, whose eggs are deposited in the crotches of elm twigs, causing a slow but inexorable die-off of leaves. Many of the survivors are in the West — Winnipeg is said to have 200,000 — but those in New England towns were decimated.

According to Jim Koneazny of Peerless Tree, the New Marlborough Village Green once had fifty-two elms, one for every week in the year. He recalls that his father and two uncles would prune them every winter. Then, starting in the 1950s, the stand began to die off. Today there are a handful of elms left in all of New Marlborough, the most stately, saved, perhaps, because of its distance from diseased trees, being the elm with the beautifully rounded crown at the far end of the Southfield bridge.

Hal Crine of Mill River calls it “the last elm standing.”



*The Southfield elm, top, and a recent planting on County Road, above.*  
photos by, top: Ari Korpivaara, bottom: Joe Poindexter

But no more. Six years ago, the New Marlborough Land Trust decided it was time to bring the elm back to town. Encouraged by the development of disease-resistant strains, the Land Trust planted two dozen so-called Princeton elms, distributing them in all five villages. “We were looking at the incredible photographs of elm trees on Main Street in Mill River,” says Land Trust Executive Director Martha Bryan, “and saw the plantings as a way of restoring our landscape.”

Whether the Princeton elm is truly disease resistant is yet to be proved. According to Tom Zetterstrom, a North Canaan photographer and founder of Elm Watch, an elm restoration organization, the jury is still out. “We planted 150 Princeton elms in the early 2000s, and I am disappointed with the results,” he says, noting that a number have died.

Under the watchful eye of the Elm Tree Maintenance Committee, however, the New Marlborough trees are so far thriving. According to Owen Hoberman, co-chair of the committee, a couple of trees have been lost — they grow quickly and are prone to storm damage — “but so far they are doing pretty well.” □

*Joe Poindexter*

## SUMMER LUNCHEON FOR SENIORS

New Marlborough Seniors are invited to a luncheon at the Southfield Church Hall at noon on Friday, August 7. Sponsored by the New Marlborough Council on Aging, it will be an opportunity for folks to catch up on each others' grandchildren and all the latest gossip.

Marsha Harvey will present a talk on Lyme disease and what to do if you discover that a tick has taken up residence on your body. Prue Spaulding, New Marlborough's animal inspector, will have a few words of wisdom on the possibility of rabies carried by bats and other local critters.

The luncheon is free, but Prue would like a head count and asks that you reserve with her at (413) 229-8407.

### LANES AND CARRIAGEWAYS NEW MARLBOROUGH'S EARLIEST ROADS

*A First Fridays Talk by Mike White*

7:30 P.M., AUGUST 7  
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**August 8** *Tatiana Dimitriadis, violin; Jonathan Bass, piano*  
**The Boston Duo:** An exciting program of sonatas by Beethoven, Martinu, Brahms, and Faure.

**August 22** *Dane Johansen, cello; Victor Stanislavsky, piano*  
Beethoven's Sonata No. 3 in A Major (1808), Elliott Carter's Sonata for Cello and Piano (1948) and Edvard Grieg's Sonata for Cello and Piano in A minor, Op. 36 (1882).

**August 29** *Frank Kelley, tenor; Joshua Rifkin, piano*  
Die schöne Müllerin (Op. 25, D. 795), a song cycle by Franz Schubert based on poems by Wilhelm Müller. Considered one of Schubert's most important cycles and one of the pinnacles of Lied, it is also the earliest extended song cycle to be widely performed and recorded.

**September 5** *Karen Akers, voice; Don Rebic, piano*  
An evening of gems from the French and American songbooks, including selections from her album of French Classics, *Under Paris Skies*, and other classics, such as Shenandoah and Surabaya Johnny.

**September 12** *Carol Wincenc, flute; Cynthia Phelps, viola; Nancy Allen, Harp; Les Amies:* Les Amies will be playing works of Ibert, Bax, J. S. Bach, Ravel, Debienne, Fauré and Debussy.

**September 19** *Harold Lewin Memorial Concert:*  
**Musicians of Aston Magna**

An all-Bach program including Trio Sonata in G Major (J.S.Bach), Sonata for violin and continuo in E Minor (J.S.Bach), "Sanguineus und Melancholicus" (Sonata in E Minor by C.P.E Bach), and Suite in B minor for Flute and strings (J.S. Bach).

**September 26** *Lydian Quartet Daniel Stepner and Judith Eissenberg, violin; Mark Berger, viola; Joshua Gordon, cello*  
Classical and contemporary quartets featuring Mendelssohn's Quartet in E Flat, Op. 12; Quartet No. 5 by Philip Glass, and Quartet in C Minor, Op. 51, No. 1 by Johannes Brahms.

**October 3** **Award-Winning Authors: Why America?**  
with host Simon Winchester

*Madhur Jaffrey (from India), Peter Godwin (from Zimbabwe) and 2015 Carnegie Fellow Masha Gessen (from Russia)* discuss the reasons they have chosen to settle and write thousands of miles from their homeland, in the United States.

Receptions with the artists after the performances  
Art Gallery shows through Sept. 28th

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## LOCAL TALENT HANGS TOGETHER

### At This Year's New Marlborough Artists Show

By Pam Stebbins

The New Marlborough Artists Show, an annual event that showcases the artistic talent in the New Marlborough community, is the final offering of the 2015 Meeting House Gallery season. This year's artists include Jennifer Ellwood, Holly McNeely, Brian Mikesell, Hope Schreiber, Walter Simons, Jim Singelis, Timothy Sleeper, and Abbe Stahl Steinglass. The show will open on Friday, August 28, with a reception with the artists in the Meeting House Gallery from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Jennifer Ellwood, a welcome new addition to the New Marlborough art community, is showing her paintings for the first time in the gallery. Jennifer grew up in Pittsburgh and moved to Boston to attend Tufts University and study painting at Boston's School of the Museum of Fine Arts. Her paintings are held in public as well as private collections. She and her husband Steven Cooper, both practicing psychoanalysts in Cambridge, Massachusetts, welcome the peace and beauty of the Berkshires on weekends.

Jennifer started her art career as a still life and landscape painter. Her shift to abstract paintings reflects an interest in geometry and a focus on structure and composition rather than content: Large canvases have an architectural look imposed on fields of color. Her more recent work combines a sense of calm disturbed by an element that challenges the reading of the painting.

Jim Singelis, a long-time resident of New Marlborough, began his professional career designing scenery for theatre



Jennifer Ellwood's "Glasses and Books" combines her interest in geometrical design with the realism of a still life.

and film and as a photographer. After twenty years as a set designer, he reinvented himself as a computer programmer and moved from New York City to New Marlborough, where he set up a home office. Recently, Jim returned to an early interest in drawing and painting. For the past five years, he has focused on representations of the human face. He calls it his obsession!

Although Jim has had little fine arts education, he received some on-the-job arts training in the design phase of his career and credits

a night school class at ISI83 Art School with giving him basic skills in drawing and painting. He says that he approaches a new painting without pre-conceived ideas. Often using himself as the model, his first decision regards medium: pencil or brush. From then on, it's an exploration. He enjoys seeing what emerges on his easel and following lines and images in whatever direction they take him. He likes to experiment with color. He is a harsh critic of his work and puts a project aside if he is not satisfied with it. He may go back to a canvas with a fresh eye or simply start again and paint over it.

Jim shares a studio in Hartsville with his wife, Linda Skipper, a member of the Berkshire Pottery Tour.

The Meeting House Gallery is located on Route 57 on the New Marlborough Village Green. Sponsored by the New Marlborough Village Association, the gallery show will be open Saturdays and Sundays from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. from August 29 through September 27. □



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## NEIGHBORS



New Marlborough residents were shocked and saddened by the news that **Maia Stanton**, the fourteen-year-old daughter of **Jeremy Stanton**, of Southfield, tragically drowned while snorkeling with her father off the coast of Narragansett, Rhode Island, on July 15.

"We are all heartbroken over the tragic loss of our beloved Maia," said **Emily Newman Stanton**. "At the same time we want to express our profound gratitude for the incredible outpouring of love and support from the community. It has been a source of great comfort."

In addition to her father, Emily, and **Nina** and **Lucca** (age four), Maia leaves behind her mother, Erin Lore, older brother Kyle, grandmother Cathy, as well as other members of the extended Stanton family in Great Barrington. A fund has been established to help Erin and Kyle through this terribly difficult transition. Donations can be made through: Maia's Memorial Fund: <http://www.youcaring.com/erin-lore-395407>



Stanton family photo

Maia Stanton

**Danielle Guidi**, of Southfield, left on July 7 to spend three weeks in Rome, studying the history of Catholic social teaching. The program is run through Anna Maria College, in Paxton, Massachusetts, where Danielle will be a junior, studying nursing. "I'm just thrilled!" says Danielle. "This is something I've wanted to do ever since I was a little girl."

In 1976, in honor of our nation's bicentennial, Congress resolved that all bells should be rung at 2:00 p.m. on every July 4, for four minutes. In 1978, the year that **Alex and Adele Holman** moved into The Steeple in Mill River, that resolution was observed on July 4 by a party of family and friends ringing the bell. That tradition has been carried out every year since then. This year eighteen people gathered to ring the bell; in some years, as many as forty to fifty people have participated. The cast-iron bell weighs in at 1,200 pounds and was cast at the Troy Iron Works in 1870; its double-clapper sound reverberates through the village when the bell is rung.

**Stephaine Chretien**, daughter of Town Clerk Kathy Chretien of Mill River, has been named to the dean's list for the second quarter at Elms College in Chicopee, Massachusetts, where she will be a junior in the fall. She is studying early childhood education with the goal of becoming an elementary school teacher.

**Karisa King**, of Clayton Mill River Road, is serving as a summer intern for the New Marlborough Land Trust through Marist College in Poughkeepsie, New York. She proposed this internship in conjunction with Land Trust Executive Director **Martha Bryan**. The

primary focus of her work is academic: using documents from the Town's assessors' office, she is compiling and digitizing information on the use of conservation restrictions and other land use programs in New Marlborough. The goal is to organize the information so that the Land Trust can use it to promote conserved land, and to demonstrate the advantages for the Town. Karisa plans to produce a report assessing the economic and environmental benefits of land conservation, and their effects on the Town's tax base.

Karisa will be a senior at Marist College in the fall, majoring in economics, business, and environmental policy. Her immediate career goal is in a combination of these fields, such as the emerging field of environmental investments. And though the focus of her internship is fairly dry, there are side benefits like communing with friendly goats at the Goat Project on Hayes Hill Road. □



Holman family photo

Alex Holman, left, supervises bell ringers.

photo by Maureen Krejci



Danielle Guidi

photo by Kathy Chretien



Stephaine Chretien



photo by Barbara Lowman

Karisa King



## OUR WILDLIFE NEIGHBORS

On July 8, **Jon Swan** writes: Perhaps we should give the Our Wildlife Neighbors column a sabbatical. I have noticed a rather sharp fall-off in contributions, which suggests a falling off of interest in reporting sightings unless they are exotic or dramatic. Porcupines and flocks of turkeys and other wildlife neighbors are deemed not worthy of notice, and perhaps more sightings are exchanged these days among friends via Maggie's List or Facebook than are submitted to the wider community of *5 Village News* readers.

In any event, for this columnist, working at a distance, filling up a column with wildlife sightings has become an exercise in extracting hens' teeth, and, as you know, hens lost their teeth some eighty million years ago.

Since the column made its debut in these pages, I have greatly enjoyed reading what contributors have written about their encounters with wildlife, and the pleasure was all the greater following our move to Yarmouth, Maine. It gave me a chance to keep in touch with the bird and animal life of the neighborhood in which Marianne and I lived for forty years. I salute the wonderful wildlife of New Marlborough and all those people who contributed to the column.

Still, the critters in town keep crossing paths with humans, oblivious to the threat that they may not turn up in the pages of the *5 Village News*. At any rate, readers do keep sending us pictures, a few of which we publish here while we search for someone new to extract hens' teeth and keep Jon's much-loved column in print.

"Here is a **turkey in flight** after being flushed by junior birddog Lionel the Labrador," writes **Larry Burke** of South Sandisfield Road. "No animals were injured in the making of this picture."



photo by Larry Burke

"I am amazed at the variety of life around here and am glad to have the time and a camera to capture some of these moments," writes **Sandra Walker** of New Marlborough Village. "I was taking photos of my husband flying his birthday present last weekend and heard an unusual bird sound. When I looked up in the trees, I saw the **hawk**, a **broad winged**, according to my Google search, watching the drone and screeching at it. Perhaps he was telling it to go away? The **butterfly** — it might be a **Question Mark** — caught my eye this morning as it checked out the lilies."



photo by Sandra Walker

"I also had **two bears** visit in May. They appeared to be two males just hanging out."

"I sat down for fifteen minutes today and got the following photos," writes **Don Beauchamp**, of Clayton.

"A **hummingbird moth**, called a **Hugh Christy**, and a **downy woodpecker** waiting to jump on my hummingbird feeder." □

photo by Sandra Walker

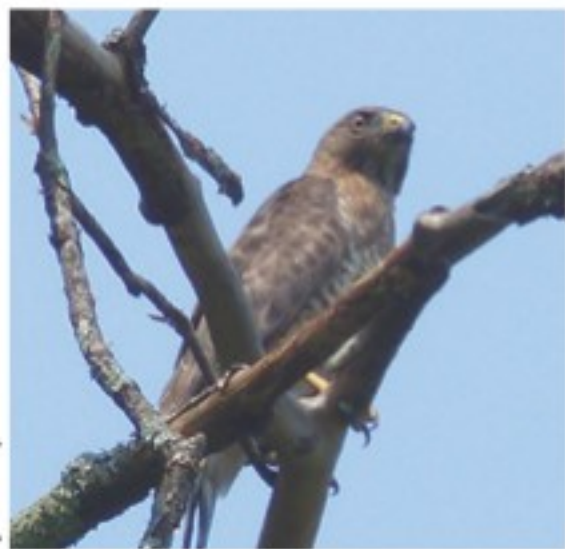


photo by Sandra Walker



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## UPCOMING: *Events Calendar July and August*

**Through August 23: Idols and Icons, Paintings and Sculpture**, an invitational show presented by the New Marlborough Village Association at the Meeting House Gallery; 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Friday, Saturday, and Sunday until August 23.

**August 7: New Marlborough's First Roads**, a Historical Society First Fridays program presented by Mike White, 7:30 p.m. at the Meeting House Gallery. Free and open to the public

**August 8: The Boston Duo**, the 2015 Music & More season gets underway with a program by Jonathan Bass, piano, and Tatiana Dimitriades, violin, playing the music of Beethoven, Martinu, Brahms, and Fauré; followed by a reception in the Meeting House Gallery; \$24, \$20 for members of the Village Association, at the Meeting House on the New Marlborough Village Green

**August 15: Elihu Burritt Day and Fire Department Pig Roast**, New Marlborough Village Green, starting at 10:00 a.m., then on to the Firehouse in Southfield at 5:00 p.m. and beyond for the barbecue, the corn, and the music

**August 22: Headstone restoration**, at the New Marlborough Village Cemetery, 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., followed by a picnic lunch for all volunteers; sponsored by the New Marlborough Historical Society

**August 22: Dane Johansen, cello, Victor Stanislavsky, piano**, in a program of cello sonatas by Beethoven, Elliott Carter, and Greig; 4:30 p.m. at the Meeting House, followed by a reception in the Gallery; \$25, \$20 for members of the Village Association

**August 27: New Marlborough Artists**, an invitational show of paintings and sculpture, opening at the Meeting House Gallery with a reception 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.; works will be on display 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays until October 4

**August 29: Frank Kelley, tenor; Joshua Rifkin, piano** perform Franz Schubert's Die Schöne Müllerin, a song cycle based on poems by Wilhelm Müller; \$24, \$20 for members of the Village Association, at the Meeting House

**September 5: Karen Akers Sings!** a Music & More benefit performance from the French and English songbook; 4:30 p.m. at the Meeting House; tickets \$50, \$40 to members of the Village Association

**September 12: Les Amies**, with flutist Carol Wincenc, flute, Nancy Allen, harp, and Cynthia Phelps, viola, performing works of Ibert, Bax, J. S. Bach, Ravel, Devienne, Fauré, and Debussy; 4:30 p.m. at the Meeting House; tickets \$25, \$20 to members of the Village Association

**September 19: Aston Magna plays Bach** (J.S. and C.P.E.) 4:30 p.m. at the Meeting House, \$25, \$20 to members of the Village Association

**September 26: Lydian String Quartet**, with music by Mendelssohn, Glass, and Brahms; 4:30 p.m. at the Meeting House, \$25, \$20 to members of the Village Association

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## BLOSSOMS IN B&W

The camera has the ability to peel away layers of an image to bring out a particular strength. In the examples on this page, flowering plants, for all their brilliant color, reveal one dimension of their beauty best in black and white: their texture. These were found in the exquisite gardens of Jeanine Coyne on East Hill Road. Of course, they look good in color, too. □

— Erik Callahan

<https://erikmichaelcallahan.wordpress.com/photography/>



*Astilbe*



*Fern*



*Cimicifuga Racemosa*



*Hemero Callis*



*Hydrangea*

## THE LOG

### POLICE DEPARTMENT (SELECTED ENTRIES)

- |         |            |  |         |            |  |
|---------|------------|--|---------|------------|--|
| June 2  | 12:06 p.m. | Investigate two donkeys loose on Alum Hill Road property   |         |            | as a suspect under warrant for arrest in Great Barrington; see June 25 log entry), is advised to vacate the area   |
| June 3  | 8:47 a.m.  | Cows loose on Brewer Branch Road   |         |            |  |
| June 4  | 5:57 p.m.  | Officer returns wallet found on Campbell Falls Road to owner   | June 23 | 9:40 a.m.  | Tree blocking South Sandisfield Road   |
| June 5  | 8:15 p.m.  | Driver reports hitting a deer on Route 183 near the Sandisfield town line  |         | 4:39 p.m.  | Brewer Hill Road resident advises department that he will be staking out his chicken pen and that any gun shots heard from his property will be the result of attempts to dispatch the critter that has been killing his chickens    |
| June 6  | 1:52 p.m.  | Residents of New Marlborough Monterey Road, using neighbor's phone, report that the phone line to their house had been cut   |         | 5:52 p.m.  | WiredWest street sign removed from Town property on Mill River Great Barrington Road   |
|         | 9:40 p.m.  | Following a motor vehicle stop on Mill River Great Barrington Road, driver, for whom there is an outstanding warrant, is arrested and delivered to the Sheffield Police Department   | June 24 | 10:19 p.m. | Driver and passenger parked on South Sandisfield Road explain that they are waiting to view the Northern Lights  |
| June 7  | 2:00 p.m.  | Owner of three dogs loose near the New Marlborough Public Library advised to take them home  | June 25 | 8:30 a.m.  | Mill River Southfield Road resident reports that a trailer was left in his driveway in the middle of the night; trailer owner promises to remove it  |
| June 8  | 6:46 p.m.  | Fifteen-year-old boy biking on South Sandisfield Road reported missing   |         | 3:00 p.m.  | Great Barrington police advise that a man for whom it has an arrest warrant may be staying with his girlfriend in New Marlborough; caller advises caution, since the suspect has a history of violence and is known to carry a knife |
| June 10 | 4:21 p.m.  | Southfield postmaster reports harassing notes asking that she park her car at the rear of the post office  | June 27 | 7:05 p.m.  | In a property-line dispute, an Underwood Road resident complains that a neighbor has cemented fence posts on his property  |
| June 11 | 4:49 p.m.  | Tree hung up on phone lines and partly blocking Route 57 near Sandisfield town line  | June 28 | 12:26 p.m. | Tree down on Hartsville Mill River Road  |
| June 12 | 1:38 p.m.  | Hartsville New Marlborough Road resident reports a sofa dumped on her property   | June 30 | 7:40 a.m.  | Two horses loose on River Road   |
|         | 2:14 p.m.  | Driver of a Verizon van blocking the southbound lane, with no warning signs, on a blind curve of Mill River Great Barrington Road advised that such blockage requires a detail officer and that unattended vehicles would be towed |         |            |  |
| June 20 | 10:48 a.m. | Investigation of a burglar alarm at Norfolk Road residence reveals that dogs at the premises probably opened the door  |         |            |  |
| June 20 | 1:19 p.m.  | Canaan Southfield Road and Lumbert Cross Road residents report a gray pick-up truck parked at side of road for twenty minutes; driver, claiming he is waiting for a passenger (later identified                                    |         |            |  |

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## The 22nd Annual Pig Roast and Block Dance will take place on Saturday, August 15

...at the fire station on Norfolk Road in Southfield. Dinner is served from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m., followed by dancing to live music by Cornerstone, and drawing of the Company's annual Grand Raffle, featuring more than fifty prizes from local businesses. Tickets for the event, \$20 each and \$7.50 for children, are available at the Mill River General Store and from any Fire Company member. Call 229-0291 for more information.

## FIRE AND RESCUE

June 6		Canaan Southfield Road Medical Call	June 23	8:05 p.m.	Corser Hill Road Fire Alarm
June 8	4:55 a.m.	Lumbert Cross Road Medical Call	June 26	7:23 a.m.	Norfolk Road Medical Call
June 10	8:30 p.m.	Brewer Hill Road Fire Alarm	June 26	7:33 p.m.	Canaan Valley Road Fire Alarm
June 17	10:28 p.m.	Brewer Hill Road Medical Call			
June 23	12:29 p.m.	Hartsville New Marlborough Road Fire Alarm			



## MAILBOX

To the Fire Departments in Tolland, Sandisfield, and New Marlborough:

On May 23, my son Lucas Holda and I were at a family picnic in Sandisfield, Massachusetts, celebrating Hunter Sarcia's sixteenth birthday. Around 7:30 p.m., it was still light, a friend offered to take his two children (ages eight and ten) and my son (then eight years old) out for a quick ride "around the loop" on the John Deere Gator. This friend had not been drinking and was familiar with the woods, so I said sure, what could go wrong? I figured they would be back in less than ten minutes and threw a burger on the grill for Lucas to eat when he came back.

It was just before 8:00 p.m. when I started to get worried, as the sun was starting to set and they had not come back yet. Carlos Sarcia, the owner of the property, suggested the Gator probably just broke down and went out on his quad to find them on the trail. He searched all of the main trails and did not find them. When he came back at around 9:00 to find they had not returned, we knew something was wrong. It was now pitch dark; there are thousands of acres of woods they could be lost in; and they had been gone for an hour and a half. Carlos and Hunter both got on their quads and continued to search further. We called 911. Sandisfield volunteers responded immediately. Firemen with radios were on the back of Carlos's and Hunter's quads searching further into the woods,

Tolland and New Marlborough were called to assist in the search and rescue. They arrived quickly with off-road vehicles to help search other areas of woods. Finally at about 11:45 p.m., we heard on the radio that voice contact had been made; the Firemen continued on foot to find them stuck in the woods. It was after 1:00 a.m. by the time they were all out of the woods. They were a little shaken up but they were all OK!

I am so grateful to the volunteer fire departments in the Towns of Sandisfield, New Marlborough, and Tolland. One of the Tolland Firemen said that last year they had fundraised to purchase their off-road vehicles and that this was the first time they were used. I cannot express how pleased I am that their inaugural search and rescue found everyone safe and sound. I hope all their rescues have such a happy ending.

To show our gratitude I was planning on sending a donation to each of the fire departments immediately after it happened; however, when my son heard me say I was going to do this, he asked that we wait until after his birthday, so that he could help raise more money to send. He asked everyone in lieu of gifts to please bring a donation to the fire departments. The Malanca, Sarcia, Palmer, Ortman, Ley, Napoleone, and Passini/Dimock families donated a total of \$460, which has been divided evenly among the three departments.



From the bottom of my heart, I want to thank you for volunteering your time and for safely rescuing my eight-year-old son who was lost in the woods. This is a perfect example of how accidents and mistakes can happen anytime or anyplace. Your dedication and courage help prevent these accidents from becoming tragedies.

Thank you,  
Rista Malanca  
Lucas's very thankful mother

Lucas Holda

# HOOPS, POOCHES, EVEN BOOKS

## The Library's Summer Reading Club Had it All

The New Marlborough Library just concluded its 2015 Summer Reading Club, which this year was titled, "Every hero has a story!" Our four-day program ran Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., with nineteen children attending. Some of our activities included a two-hour interactive hula-hoop program and performance with Pinto Bella Hoops; Sciencetellers, an epic, laughter-filled journey that proves "super" heroes do exist; a visit from author April Jones Prince and a "behind-the-scenes" look at bookmaking — each child received a signed copy of Ms. Prince's book, *Twenty-One Elephants and Still Standing*.

Ms. Prince's program was supported in part by a grant from the New Marlborough Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council. We also had a visit from Pam Bock, head puppy trainer with Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation. Ms. Bock and six-month old "Usher" demonstrated some of the tasks a puppy needs to learn in order to serve a new, visually impaired owner. We all had a great time!

The Summer Reading Club is made possible through generous contributions from the community. □

Deb O'Brien



photos by Deb O'Brien

Summer Reading Club participants were roundly entertained with Pinto Bella Hoops, during an interactive hula-hoop program and performance, and learned the do's and don'ts from Pam Bock and Usher of training dogs to assist the visually impaired.

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## THANK YOU TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS!

Howard & Virginia Sheldon; Debra Bricker Balken; Anonymous;  
 Janet Brown; and Katherine & Richard L. Silverblatt, Owen & Aryn Hoberman

# Contributions are needed to continue the paper!

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

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

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

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

**Emergency calls: Police, Fire, and Medical: 911**

## Transfer Station hours:

Wednesday: 10 a.m.- 2 p.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m.- 4 p.m.

Sunday: 10 a.m.- 2 p.m.

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

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

## NM5VN Editorial Team

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

## New Marlborough 5 Village News

appears monthly,

also online at our new website! [www.NM5VN.org](http://www.NM5VN.org)

The next issue will be dated September 2015.

All copy must be submitted no later than August 15.

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

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- ◆ **Project Bee** meets on the last Saturday of every month from 10:30 until noon at the New Marlborough Library in Mill River. See [www.projectbeeline.org](http://www.projectbeeline.org) or Project Bee on Facebook.
- ◆ **James Edelman:** General Contractor, Real Estate Sales. Best Results. Construction License #090773. Home Improvement Registration #152035. Real Estate Sales License #9086247. 413-528-0006 or [cljvedelman@aol.com](mailto:cljvedelman@aol.com)
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