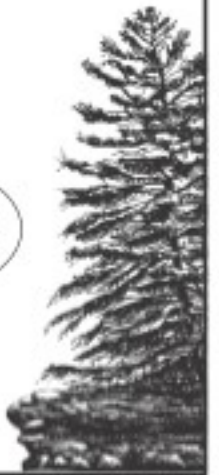




# New Marlborough 5 Village News

VOL XVI  
NO 7  
Nov 2015



Clayton • Hartsville • Mill River • New Marlborough • Southfield

## HOME BREW

### One Couple's Foray into Making Their Own Wine

By Sandra Walker

The aroma of yeast working seeps into the kitchen, reminding me I need to punch the grapes. It's fall in the Berkshires, the time of year my husband, Scott, and I make wine.

This tradition started twenty years ago, the year my dad passed away during wine time. On my father's side of the family, originally from Italy, it was a male occupation. After his funeral, while the women and children were upstairs



Scott and Sandra Walker enjoy the fruits of their labor in their wine cellar  
photo by Sandra Walker

in my aunt's kitchen putting together a feast, my uncles, male cousins, and friends spent the day in the cellar, squeezing grapes. And that was the day Scott, who is of Welsh ancestry, received the most precious of gifts: a handwritten copy of the family wine recipe. His earliest attempts were, not to put too fine a point on it, feeble. But he has spent years developing the knowledge and skills that go into a good bottle of wine, and today, he

wears the official title of "Winemaker" in our family.

We started out buying the most inexpensive grapes we could find: Sangiovese and then Ruby Cabernet. Scott and his dad, each year, worked together making a barrel of wine, about 300 bottles, in the dirt cellar of his parents' home in Torrington, Connecticut.

They bottled the final product the first few years in used Pellegrino bottles. Except for the occasional bottle spirited away by our teens, Scott and his dad's friends were the only ones who drank it. In 2007, we moved the winemaking to our home in New Marlborough.

Scott researched not only how to make our wines better by testing the chemistry and actively managing fermentation

and temperature, but also studied the effects of soils and climate on different types of grapes. We invested in equipment — a new wine press one year, a crusher/de-stemmer the next, oak barrels another — and finally, in 2009, we started to purchase better grapes: Petite Syrah, Merlot, and Cabernet Sauvignon from Suisun Valley, California; Montepulciano and Nebbiolo grapes from Italy; Malbec, Carmenere, and Cabernet Franc from South America. Working with Frank Musto of M&M Grapes in Hartford, Connecticut, we gained access to grapes from around the world, as M&M pulled hundreds of small wine makers from the East Coast together, giving us more purchasing power with grape growers.

Experience taught us that starting with good grapes is the key to pouring fine wines from the bottles that now carry our label, "WW", for Walker Wines. The outcome is enhanced if quality grapes are picked at the right time, packaged carefully in small boxes and protected from spoilage with carbon dioxide. And then it's up to the winemaker, who must remain attentive from the day the grapes arrive to the day the wine is bottled.

As we gained confidence, we gradually doubled our

*continued on page 2*

### INSIDE:

VIM Clinic to Expand.....	3
Board of Selectmen.....	4
View from the Board.....	7
Conservation Commission ....	8
Music & More .....	9
Graham Frank, Year One.....	10
Highway Dept.....	11
Land Trust News.....	11
Tax!!! (SBETC).....	12
Wildlife.....	13
The Log .....	14
NMC news.....	16
Library .....	18



output and now make two barrels a year, one in the fall, buying grapes from California or Italy, and another in the spring, with grapes from Chile or Argentina. Federal and state laws allow home production of up to 200 gallons (about 1,000 bottles) per year for two people.

This year we decided to focus on Pinot Noir, a grape originally associated with the vineyards of Burgundy but which is now grown worldwide. On the last Friday in August, we made our semi-annual trek to M&M Grapes and loaded Ruby, our Ford 250, with 1,000 pounds of Californian Pinot Noir. (The return trip in Ruby is always smoother with the weight of grapes in the back.) Arriving home before the heat of the day set in, we lugged the boxes of grapes into the cellar, ran them through the crusher/de-stemmer, and picked out stray leaves, vines, and moldy grapes. We loaded the skins and juice, called the must, into large, red food-grade plastic fermenting vats.

Scott, a natural-born engineer, tested the chemistry of the grapes, first measuring the sugar levels, called the brix, then checking the levels of acid and pH, which indicate the overall balance of the wine, and add to the flavor-string characteristics of the wine as it matures. All the numbers for these grapes were perfect for Pinot Noir, so Scott first added minimal sulfites to kill off any mold or bad yeast that might be present in the grapes. After letting the must "cold soak" for a couple of days he added a yeast variety specific to the grape varietal to start a good primary ferment, the stage of winemaking where sugar is converted to alcohol. Winemakers refer to this stage as the "party," when sugar and yeast enthusiastically dance, turning grapes into wine.

As the fermentation takes hold in the vats, it's my job, three to four times a day, to punch the skins back down into the juice. Some grapes, like the Cabernet Sauvignon we made a few years ago, are dry and hard to punch, but the Pinot Noir is a juicy grape and light punches do the job. I use two hand-held, wooden punchers, thick branches ending in four long toes that look like very large turkey feet. They easily push the skins back down into the juice, forcing more color and tannins into the wine. (The famous *I Love Lucy* clip where Lucille Ball stomps grapes with her feet is strictly for laughs.)

I also record the temperature of the cellar and of the

juice and keep notes in our journal about the "cap," the crust of skins that rise to the top between punches. I can hear the wine "talking" when I remove the cover to punch. As the temperature of the ferment rises, the party peaks and the volume of bubbling and hisses noticeably increases. The juice temperature can hit as high as the mid-80s, which is what this batch did, but once the sugar is consumed by the yeast, temperatures fall, the party ends, and it's quiet in the vats. These grapes took about a week to finish this ferment, and then it was time for the squeeze and the malolactic fermentation.



Ruby, the Ford 250, returning home with 1,000 pounds of grapes. photo by Sandra Walker

The squeeze means just that. Using a racking pump to siphon the juice from beneath the cap and deliver this "free run" juice into food grade plastic fermenting vats, we then pour the leftover skins into the wine press to squeeze out the last of the juice. The basic mechanics of a wine press haven't changed

in centuries, and ours, which is ten years old, works much the same way as the one my great-grandfather used. We even use a stone, as I'm sure he did, under the back leg of the press tilting it forward so gravity forces the squeezed juice down the spout where it is then combined with the free run juice. We remove the residue, now an almost-dry circle of skins, and take it to a compost heap. This year, turkeys made an evening visit to the compost and wobbled off after the free tasting.



Last step before bottling is to age the wine from eighteen to twenty-four months in oak barrels. photo by Sandra Walker

Malolactic fermentation, or as winemakers call it, "malo," is the next step. Not all winemakers choose to put their wine through malo, a bacteria that lowers the acidity of the wine, thereby creating what some consider a smoother, more balanced wine, with better "mouth feel." For winemakers like Scott who do malo their wines, it takes another six to twelve weeks in the fermentation barrel at

temperatures of 68 to 73 degrees for malo to occur. Although we don't have an electric blanket for our bed, we do have one to wrap around the fermenting vats in case the cellar cools too much.

When malo is complete, we rack the wine, the first racking of several over the next few years. Racking is simply pulling the wine off the debris that falls out of the wine over time — a thick, lumpy, purple liquid that sinks to the bottom of the container. Racking produces a clean wine that, once bottled, leaves little to no debris behind.

*continued*



## VIM CLINIC TO EXPAND

Volunteers in Medicine Berkshires (VIM) provides access to high quality health care for income-qualified, uninsured, and underinsured adults living in the Berkshires. The clinic in Great Barrington provides medical and dental care, mental health services, optometry, nutrition counseling, massage, and acupuncture. These services are provided by volunteer professionals.

In spite of expanded government health insurance coverage, demands for the services of VIM's free clinic have been growing. VIM's Board of Trustees is conducting a capital campaign to pay for expansion into space adjoining the current clinic at 777 Main Street, Great Barrington.

A major contribution to this campaign came from the Board of the Jane and Jack Fitzpatrick Trust, which recently awarded a grant of \$100,000 toward the expansion of VIM's clinical and administrative space. "We applaud VIM's amazing team of volunteer health professionals who provide free quality health care in the Berkshires to those who qualify," said Robert Trask, Fitzpatrick Trust Managing Trustee.

"We are extremely grateful for this vote of confidence in VIM Berkshires," said Arthur Peisner, Chair of the VIM Board of Trustees. "With the generous help of the Fitzpatrick Trust and other loyal supporters, we are getting close to our goal of \$250,000 for the renovation, which will increase our work area by more than 65 percent and allow for more efficient clinic operations."



Board Chair Arthur Peisner, Office Manager Robert Olsen, and Board Treasurer Jessie Schoonmaker in front of the current clinic in Great Barrington.

According to Jeff Bliss, VIM's Director of Development, VIM hoped to raise \$40,000 this fall to meet the goal of the capital campaign. "The generous support of local foundations such as the Fitzpatrick Trust, along with gifts from our board members and major donors, has raised 80 percent of our goal. Now we need to call on the greater community to put us over the top and ensure the viability of the clinic for years to come," said Bliss. The community has responded, and as of this writing, the funding goal has almost been reached.

Architect Martha Montgomery of Montgomery ARK of Williamstown has designed VIM's addition and Allegrone Construction of Pittsfield will build the new space. The plans have been submitted to the Town of Great Barrington; as soon as they have been approved, construction

will begin immediately. VIM hopes to occupy the new space by January 1.

New Marlborough is well represented at VIM. Arthur Peisner chairs the Board of Trustees, and Robert Olsen is the office manager. Providers of professional services include Michael Richman, Don Cook, Laura Friedman, and Leslie Marcus.

To make a donation to VIM, please call 413-325-4014, visit the website at [www.vimberkshires.org](http://www.vimberkshires.org) or mail a donation to: Volunteers in Medicine Berkshires, 777 Main Street, Suite 4, Great Barrington, MA, 01230. □

*Barbara Lowman, adapted from a press release from Jeff Bliss*

---

### Home Brew, continued

Once racked, the juice is pumped into an oak barrel housed in our wine cellar, which is kept at a steady 50 to 55 degrees year-round. Over the next eighteen to twenty-four months, Scott will check the sulfite levels in the barrels and keep them at 10 to 60 parts per million, depending on the pH of the wine. This preservative keeps the wine stable, standing by like a good soldier ready to take out any contaminant that attempts to move into the wine. The key is to steer the sulfites to the lowest level possible at bottling time. Last, because we reuse oak barrels rather than buy new ones each year, Scott adds toasted oak chips to improve the stability and soften the harsher characteristics of a young wine.

We "thief" wine from the barrel from time to time. This guilty pleasure, available to winemakers and friends, is an opportunity to witness a wine's constant changes. The

various flavors at these tastings are precursors to what we can expect in the bottle years later.

Knowing when to bottle the wine is both an art and a science, a mix of chemistry and the winemaker's nose. Once bottled, the wine is placed in our wine cellar to age a bit more — how long depends on the grape. We made a Nebbiolo from Italy in 2009 that is best aged in the bottle for seven to nine years, so it won't be ready to drink for another year or so. Then we have our 2012 Full Monty, made from Montepulciano grapes from Italy we bottled in 2014. It's perfect right now and since I'm finished writing about wine, I'm ready to drink some. Saluti! □

*For those readers wishing to investigate wine making, The Art of Making Wine by Stanley F. Anderson provides a good basic primer, covering grapes, chemistry, and equipment for the amateur winemaker.*



## Town Business Is Your Business

### BOARD OF SELECTMEN



**September 21:** With all three selectmen present, the Board approved the minutes of the September 15 meeting and then voted to **set the Town's trick-or-treating hours from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. for Halloween**, which this year falls on a Saturday. As in the past, Town Hall will be open, with selectmen and Town Hall staffers passing out candy.

Courtney Turner met with the Board to **discuss the Adams family's request to memorialize their ancestor, Sergeant Moses Adams**, a soldier from New Marlborough who fought and died in the Revolutionary War. However, Mr. Turner, who serves as the Town's soldier grave agent, told the Board he didn't think "it was quite right to just recognize one soldier from that war." He suggested instead that perhaps the Adams family might sponsor a research project to identify the names of all town residents who served, for inscription on a marker to be placed in front of the library with the other war memorials. He said there's a twenty-volume compilation of the names and war records of everyone from the state who served, *Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War*, first published in 1896, that would be useful in doing the research, and said the local American Legion post, of which he is the commander, has funds from the recent sale of its building that might be available for such a purpose. He said another resource would be Jim Parrish, an Alford resident, who he described as perhaps the foremost historian of Berkshire County. The Board expressed enthusiasm for the idea and wondered whether a local high school student might be enlisted to do some of the research.

In keeping with its goal this year to clarify the roles of all Town employees, the **Board approved a job description for the tree warden** that emphasizes the importance of safety on the job. It stipulates that in addition to being responsible for the care and maintenance of all public shade trees in parks, schoolyards, along public roads, and in town forests, the tree warden will rely on the services of the Highway Department or an outside contractor in the removal or pruning of trees, especially when they "are affecting the roadways in emergency situations."

The Board set the date of Thursday, October 22, at 7:00 p.m. for its **joint meeting with the Finance Committee to go over its goals for the 2016 fiscal year**. That date is subject to confirmation by Finance

Committee Chair Dave Herrick. Also on the agenda will be a discussion of the Town's financial policies and procedures and a presentation on the five-year road repair plan being prepared by Board Chair Michele Shalaby and Highway Superintendent Chuck Loring.

Selectman White recommended the Board send a letter to Stantec Consulting expressing the Board's **"extreme disappointment" that the Clayton Mill River Road bridge project cannot be completed until next year**. As previously reported, Stantec was so late with the engineering drawings that Highway Superintendent Loring said it was unlikely the job could be finished before winter sets in. Selectman Yohalem suggested that milestone dates for next year's work be included in the letter, including a completion date of September 30, 2016.

Town Administrator Mari Enoch said she received a legal opinion from Town Counsel Jeremia Pollard that **property disputes involving fences are a private matter**, and not a town issue, an opinion that was seconded by Building Inspector Tom Carmody. By way of explanation, she said Town Hall has been contacted twice in the past several months by homeowners asking the Town to resolve disputes with their neighbors involving fences. According to Selectman White these typically come from residents in the Lake Buel area, where the lots are small and views of the water are highly prized. The most recent came from homeowner Lillian Schmid of Underwood Road.

Reporting on last week's Southern Berkshire Regional School Committee meeting, Selectman White said the **Committee voted to rescind its earlier vote taken in July to suspend the Monterey School program**. The vote to rescind was in response to a five-page letter from the School District's legal counsel saying the original vote to suspend the program was likely in violation of the regional school agreement. Ms. White said the School Committee did not indicate what part of the agreement was at issue, but added that when someone in the room asked whether the Monterey program might be reinstated as a result, the answer she heard was, "yes, but it's unlikely." The selectmen have asked the district for a copy of the letter since it was discussed in open meeting and not in executive session, but have not yet received a response.

**September 28:** The meeting was convened at



6:00 p.m. with all three selectmen present. After the Board approved the minutes of the September 9 meeting, Town Administrator Enoch reported that **Highway Superintendent Loring has filled the full-time temporary position** authorized by the Board last week with New Marlborough resident Pete Wilson. Mr. Wilson, whose salary is \$19 an hour, is replacing Lynn Reineke-Kelsey who's been out on leave since July and is not expected back until at least November.

Ms. Enoch also reported the **Cemetery Commission has approved the suitability of an 8.4-acre parcel of land offered to the Town by the Land Trust** to expand burial space at the Lee Memorial Cemetery in Southfield. The next step is for attorneys for both sides to draw up the paperwork to convey the land to the Town.

Following up on earlier discussions about the **possibility of erecting a Revolutionary War memorial in the town**, Board Secretary Sharon Fleck said she's been trying to contact Laurie Hills, the Town's veteran agent, and possibly Berkshire County historian Jim Parrish, for help in identifying the names of New Marlborough residents who served in that war. She said she's also planning to contact veterans' organizations as well as the Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution for help with the project.

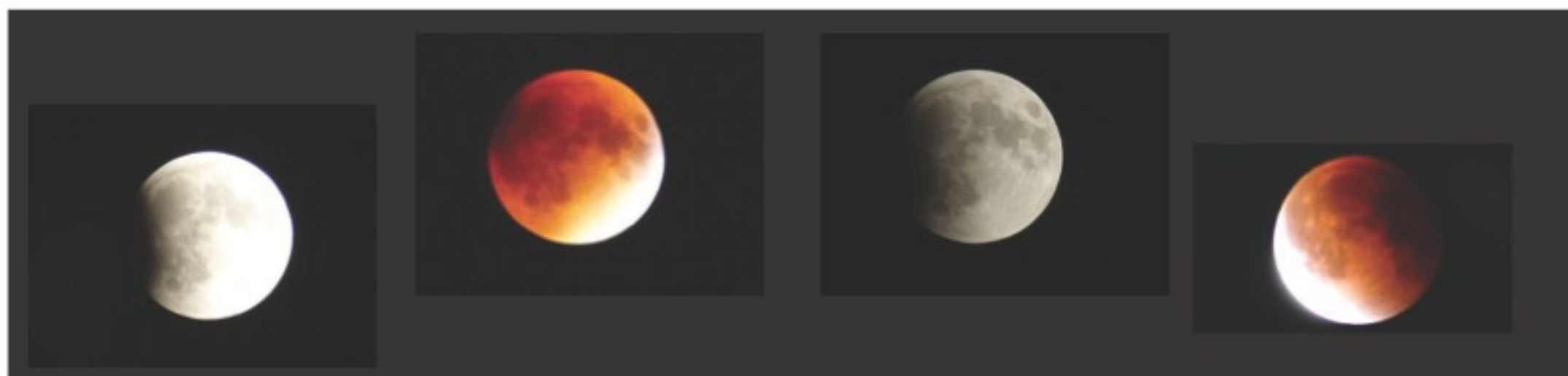
Chairman Shalaby reported that Southern Berkshire Regional School Superintendent David Hastings contacted the selectmen over the weekend to inform them that the **school assessments for the five towns making up the district were calculated incorrectly for the current fiscal year**. Three of the towns were under-assessed, New Marlborough (\$39,979), Sheffield (\$239,871) and Alford (\$1,549), while Monterey and Egremont were over-assessed a total of \$281,100. Ms. Shalaby said an emergency meeting has been called by the Finance Subcommittee of the School Committee for Wednesday evening to discuss ways of resolving the problem.

Following up on last week's discussion of the School

Committee's decision to rescind its vote suspending the Monterey educational program, Selectman Yohalem said School Superintendent David Hastings told him there's no need for further action regarding the Monterey program. As Mr. Yohalem noted, neither the Town of Monterey nor any of its citizens have complained about the decision, "so it's David's feeling at this point to just to leave it alone," Mr. Yohalem said, adding that "the program's been suspended, there are no students applying for it, and there's nothing more to do about it."

Richard Stebbins appeared before the Board with petitions signed by all six homeowners on the New Marlborough Monterey Road **asking the Town to change the name of the road back to North Road**. According to the petitions, North Road was the original name, and "in the interest of historical accuracy and preservation, we would like to return to the former name." The question before the Board, which it will refer to Town Counsel Pollard, is whether vacant land owners along the road, of which there are apparently many, according to Mr. Stebbins, need to approve the name change, or is it just the homeowners' approval that is required? Whatever the case, noted Selectman White, the name change will ultimately have to be approved by the voters at a town meeting.

**October 5:** After approving the minutes of the September 21 and September 28 meetings, the Board met with Police Chief Graham Frank to discuss his **proposal for creating a Community Police Advisory Committee**. As Chief Frank explained, one of his goals since becoming chief a year ago has been to "enhance police-community relations." To that end, he would like to form an advisory council comprising five to eight town residents to meet monthly to provide "community perspective and recommendations" on police policy and procedures regarding crime prevention, public safety, domestic violence intervention, and other community-related policing activities. He emphasized, however, that the panel, the members of which would



Sandra Walker, of Calkins Crossroad, shot these picture of a total lunar eclipse. This was a rare eclipse of a full moon, which happened on September 27-28. When the earth casts its shadow on a full moon and eclipses it, the moon takes on a red glow, giving rise to the phrase "blood moon."



be approved by him and the Board of Selectmen, would have no “power or authority to investigate, review or otherwise participate in any matters involving specific police personnel or specific police-related incidents.” They also would not review any “complaints initiated against personnel in the department,” he said. After brief discussion, the Board gave Chief Frank its approval.

Following up on last week’s news that the Southern Berkshire Regional School District had miscalculated budget assessments for all five district towns, Chairman Shalaby reported the **School Committee’s Finance Subcommittee has come up with a proposed solution that would not require New Marlborough or the other two under-assessed towns, Sheffield and Alford, to go back to their voters to request additional funding to make up the shortfall.** New Marlborough’s deficit was nearly \$40,000, while Alford’s and Sheffield’s were \$1,549 and \$239,871, respectively. Instead, school officials have come up with budget cuts for the current fiscal year totaling \$216,193 that would cover both New Marlborough’s and Alford’s deficits, while reducing Sheffield’s by almost half. Under the proposal, the remaining Sheffield deficit would be covered by the two towns that overpaid their assessments – Egremont and Monterey – for which they would receive credits against their assessments for the next two years. But, as Ms. Shalaby pointed out, “It’s really the towns that have to agree to any resolution of the problem.”

To that end Sheffield’s Board Chairman, Nadine Hawver, has invited the selectmen from all five towns to a **meeting next week at the Sheffield Town Hall to discuss their approaches to resolving the problem.** According to Selectman Yohalem, Ms. Hawver apparently believes there’s room in the current school budget for further cuts, and he agrees with her that if indeed there is money available for additional cuts, then that should be the first step in the process.

Nevertheless, the Board indicated it would be just as happy with the Finance Subcommittee’s solution, since it would make New Marlborough whole. “I see us and

Alford as having the least issue here,” said Ms. Shalaby. “So I think at this next meeting it’s important for us to just listen to Egremont, Monterey, and Sheffield to find out what their priorities are.”

There was a nearly one-hour discussion by the Board of the **latest revisions to the Town’s personnel policies.** Also present were two members of the personnel policy committee, Owen Hoberman (chair) and Sharon Fleck. This is a process that began last November when the committee was first formed, but as the Selectmen noted, the end surely is in sight. The issues discussed tonight ranged from termination criteria, compensatory time for Highway Department employees, and the accumulation of sick leave, to longevity pay, bereavement leave, and whether seasonal workers are eligible for vacation pay (they are). But rather than putting the document to bed, all agreed that it needs one more “read through” before being adopted.

Town Administrator Enoch reported on a **legislative breakfast meeting** she attended in Dalton, sponsored by the Massachusetts Municipal Association. She said much of the discussion focused on **road and bridge repairs, but also touched on Lee’s proposed home rule three-cents-a-gallon gas tax,** co-sponsored by Representative William (Smitty) Pignatelli and State Senator Ben Downing, who were also in attendance. This led to a discussion by the Board of the importance of getting the state to revise its criteria for awarding Chapter 90 local road and bridge funds to make it fairer to small, rural towns like New Marlborough which do not have gas stations, and whose citizens, rather than benefitting from the tax, would end up paying it when they fill up their tanks in neighboring towns like Lee, Sheffield and Great Barrington. As previously reported, the Selectman have already sent a letter to state officials, including Representative Pignatelli and Senator Downing, taking note of the proposed tax and pointing out that while New Marlborough has eighty-nine miles of roads and twenty-three bridges, the Chapter 90 money it receives “will never keep up with the escalating cost of roadwork and bridge repairs.” (See Board of Selectmen report in the October 2015 NM5VN.) “So unless you’re going fix the Chapter 90 allocation formula,” Board Chair Shalaby said, “don’t pass the gas tax. Don’t pass one without the other.” Currently, the formula rewards towns on the basis of their road mileage, population, and the number of people employed in the town, and while New Marlborough has plenty of road mileage, it has a small population base and very few people are employed in the town. As Selectman White said, “We need to be very clear with Smitty that they [the gas tax and the revisions to Chapter 90] need to happen hand in hand.” □

Peter Schuyten

Established  
1966



DEBORAH D. MIELKE, Broker

215 State Road, Great Barrington, MA 01230

Office: 413-528-0014 or 413-528-1871

Fax: 413-528-4809

All Berkshire Listings may be seen at our web site:

[www.corashire.com](http://www.corashire.com)



## 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. Specifics of this month's issue can be found in the Board of Selectmen reports of the September 28 and October 5 meetings.

With the imminent departure of the Speaker of the House in the United States Congress, there is much discussion about governing. It seems like a healthy process to step back and consider what it means to govern in a democracy. It's a healthy consideration on a local level, as well.

Recently, we got the news of a financial error at the school district that meant three towns had been under-assessed for their share of the school district budget and two towns were over-assessed. Essentially, the school budget we were presented at the time of Town Meeting has a different meaning for each town than we understood at the time. The current proposal of the School Committee makes the financial interests of New Marlborough seem neutralized but there are, as of this writing, remaining uncertainties about further options and the consequences.

Here are the challenges of our school district towns: There is no clearly defined process for resolving this issue. Towns may have conflicting desires for means of resolution. The School Committee and administration want to protect the budget they were given so they can best serve students. Also, being such a small school district, we have people with overlapping duties, and therefore, conflicts of interest.

In order to have true resolution, all towns will need clear, accurate, and credible understanding of current and future consequences. The process we use can ensure this if its elements are transparency and inclusiveness, while those with conflicts of interest delegate or recuse themselves. Above all, we need to honor the institution

of Town Meeting as the ultimate municipal decision-making process. There will likely be consequences (political, fiscal and/or educational) this year or next.

In May, we'll make known what those consequences are and, of course, you'll be included in the decision if you participate in Town Meeting. In the meantime, we will work toward transparent and inclusive government and look forward to your input. □

*Michele Shalaby, Chairman, Board of Selectmen*

## Reiner White & Sons, Inc.

### General Contractor

147 Mill River/Southfield Rd  
Southfield, MA 01259-0420  
Telephone 413-229-8450

MA Lic #20390

CT Lic #4485

MA HIC #137599

CT HIC #578070



### Outdoor Services

- Spring Yard Cleanup
- Lawn Mowing
- Fall Leaf Cleanup
- Winter Snowplowing & Sanding
- Edging & Mulching
- Pruning & Hedges
- Planting & Maintenance
- Brush Clearing, Chipping & Field Mowing

### Landscape Construction

- New Site Design & Renovation
- Soil Amending
- Garden Beds
- Water Drainage Solutions
- Driveway Repair
- Stone Walls & Retaining Walls of Old Design
- Edging & Mulching
- Stone Patios & Walkways
- Lawn Installations
- Hydro Seeding

Proudly serving our area for over 15 years!

Contact Tom Brazie  
413-229-2919

woodruffmountain@aol.com

SCOTT  
  
MacKENZIE  
EXCAVATING

Email: excavatorscott@aol.com  
(413) 528-2921 TEL (413) 528-3864 FAX  
381 Adsit Crosby Road  
New Marlborough, MA 01230



## CONSERVATION COMMISSION

**October 10:** Commission members Ned Wilson and John Schreiber convened the meeting.

First order of business was the continuation of the hearing for the Request for Determination (RDA) from resident Robert Beusman of 813 Canaan Southfield Road. Since last month's hearing, the Commission conferred with Mark Stinson of the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection who suggested that a Notice of Intent (NOI) was not necessary if the RDA included a plan for mitigation. The Commission approved the removal of two mature white pines which are potential threats to the house with the condition that two native trees be replanted as mitigation. The Commission agreed that the third white pine which was not an immediate threat to the house would not be removed.

Next on the agenda was a RDA for Cheryl Zagoria. The applicant did not attend the meeting.

Next, Mike Parsons of Kelly, Granger, and Parsons presented a permit for a RDA for David Ralph of 345 Old Hitchcock Road to cap an existing foundation. The New Marlborough Building Inspector, Tom Carmody, referred the applicant to the Commission because the work to

be performed is proximal to an intermittent stream. The Commission reviewed the scope of work and agreed that the work while in the buffer zone would not alter the resource. The Commission also noted that any work outside of capping the existing foundation would require further review by the Commission.

Next, Jane Taut of Hadsell Street asked the Commission what permitting was needed to proceed with a plan to add a single car garage attached to her existing house. The Commission advised Ms. Taut to seek advice from a consultant, given the nearby water resources.

Finally the mail was reviewed. The Commission received notice for additional work to the bridge on Clayton Mill River Road and was asked to review whether the work proposed would require an amendment to the original NOI filed in 2014 by the New Marlborough Highway Department. The Commission agreed that an amendment would need to be formally submitted.

After the minutes were accepted with minor edits, the meeting concluded. The next meeting was scheduled for Saturday, November 14. □

Martha Bryan

## COUNCIL ON AGING NEWS

The New Marlborough Council on Aging has been invited to the Monument Mountain Regional High School's twenty-fourth Annual Senior Citizen Fall Festival on Tuesday, November 17, at 11:00 a.m. The

concert will be followed by a delicious luncheon. However, those desiring to attend need to call Prue Spaulding (229-8407) by November 8 to make a reservation. How nice is that! □

**The Southfield Church is still seeking vendors for its 3rd Holiday Market on Saturday, December 5th, from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm in the Ladies Aid Hall.**

**If you are interested in participating or would like more information, please contact Robert Olsen as soon as possible at (413) 229-5903 or robertolsen276@verizon.net.**

[www.aquaticdesigns.com](http://www.aquaticdesigns.com)



Paul E. Moritz, Jr.

**Aquatic Designs**

Swimming Pools,

Custom Spas,

Water Features

Construction, Service, Repair

P.O. Box 717  
241 Main Street  
Sheffield, MA 01257

413-229-3533

[aquaticpaul@gmail.com](mailto:aquaticpaul@gmail.com)

# Barnbrook

Mary White  
Broker Owner

[www.BarnbrookRealty.com](http://www.BarnbrookRealty.com)

271 Main Street

Great Barrington MA 01230

(413) 528-4423

FAX (413) 528-4727

[Mary@BarnbrookRealty.com](mailto:Mary@BarnbrookRealty.com)



## MUSIC AND MORE

Music and More's annual Award-Winning Authors event on October 3 took place at the Meeting House in New Marlborough before a large, appreciative, if somewhat chilled, audience. In a departure from previous years, wherein authors read selections from their works, the format adopted by host Simon Winchester (shown on the right) was more of a guided conversation on the life journeys of the three participants, from their native countries to the United States. Mr. Winchester offered his own experiences, beginning with his British early years, to prompt his two guests into discussions of their own lives. Peter Godwin (pictured on the left) spoke of his often-harrowing experiences as the child of English settlers in Rhodesia, through the tumultuous period of transition from colony to the nation of Zimbabwe. Madhur Jaffrey (center) spoke of her growing up in India, through its move from British colony to nation, and its consequent splintering along religious lines into India and East and West Pakistan.



photo by Larry Burke

The lively discussion included an extended Q&A with audience members, a sale of all three authors' books, and a wine and cheese reception in the (heated) gallery. □

Larry Burke

...and in the "short but sweet" department:

### MAILBOX



NM5VM,  
Your October 2015 edition was your best yet.  
— Mike

### Re-Wear Consignment Boutique

190 Housatonic St. Lee, MA  
413-717-7461  
re\_wear@rocketmail.com  
www.rewearconsignment.com



contact Deidre for consignment information

### eklectikos BARTH | SWARTZ art show

*An eclectic show of paintings,  
masks, graphics, and more*

Diane Barth Samee Swartz  
Frederick Swartz

NOVEMBER 7, 2-4 pm  
Sandisfield Arts Center





## YEAR ONE

### *The First Twelve Months as Chief of Police*

By Joe Poindexter

So, how does the job differ from what he thought it would be? Graham Frank, who was appointed New Marlborough chief of police a year ago this month, nods toward a filing cabinet stacked with three binders, each four inches thick, containing rules and regulations for police departments throughout the state of Massachusetts. "There's a lot more to do than I thought there would be, staying current on changes in regulations," he says with a faint, not quite rueful smile. He has learned that running the department requires him to be desk-bound more than he would like. "I miss going out and interacting with the community," he says.

Mr. Frank recalls that Paul Harvey, who preceded Scott Farrell as police chief, was a benign presence in town. For instance, he would hand out ice-cream certificates to children wearing bicycle helmets. "The only time they see us is if we are out running radar," he says. But he has a plan to change that perception: the formation of a Community Police Advisory Committee (CPAC). The department is inviting New Marlborough residents to register their interest with Town Clerk Kathy Chretien, and Mr. Frank would like CPAC to be up and running, with as many as eight members, by early next year. He plans to have the committee meet monthly.

Its goals:

- To enhance police-community relations;
- To provide community perspective on police procedures and programs;
- To identify community needs as regards the Police Department;
- To increase public awareness of such police services as crime prevention, safety, and domestic violence intervention.

"I will be seeking ideas on how the police can better serve the community," says Mr. Frank, while he also cautions that the committee will have no executive power and no authority to review complaints against the Police Department. "There will always be people who are dead-set against you and people who are one hundred percent for you. I want to influence the people who are in the middle."

Had such a committee been in existence, the department's acquisition of a taser, to cite one example, might not have become an issue. As it happens, the taser

has yet to be fired. Just removing it from its holster — its bright yellow grip is curiously menacing — has proved to be an effective deterrent.

There are, unfortunately, a number of instances where a show of force is necessary. "You have to be prepared on every call," says Mr. Frank, noting that situations involving people who are emotionally disturbed have become more common in recent months. "If a guy is choking his girlfriend, you go in and do what you have to do," he says. But in most cases, he says, "I just try to connect, talk, and don't deny what someone is feeling."

Looking to the future, Mr. Frank hopes to move the Department from its cramped Town Hall office into permanent space when the old firehouse is renovated. Presumably, a white board in his present office will go with him. Quoting from Stephen Covey, author of *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective*

*People*, it says: "Policing is one of America's most noble professions. The actions of any officer, in an instant, can impact an individual for life, and even a community for generations." Graham Frank takes this message to heart. "I get satisfaction from this job every day," he says. □



Graham Frank

photo by Joe Poindexter

(413) 229-2544  
Free Estimates

Roofing  
Tiling  
Decks  
Porches  
Sheet Rocking  
Flooring  
Additions  
Odd Jobs

**Herbert W. Eichstedt III**  
**Jason W. Eichstedt**





## NEWS FROM THE LAND TRUST



photo by Martha Bryan

"Life is good! Cows lying down and chewing slowly; leaves falling; no sign of rain." Tom Brazie's cows grazing NM Land Trust's field in New Marlborough

## HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT UPDATE

The New Marlborough Highway Department has been working on several projects during the past few months. The plan for County Road is to have the entire project completed this year. The top coat of asphalt has been put on; then we will address the final touches to the shoulders, and finally the lines will be painted. Reclaiming and paving the lower part of Canaan Southfield Road, as well as the steep hill on the south end of Sisson Hill is expected to be done by November 1. The Highway Department is also keeping New Marlborough beautiful with the new roadside mower.

In anticipation of icy roads this winter, the salt bid has been awarded to Cargill. Magnesium chloride, treated salt that we have been using for years, will continue to be used on the Town roads. Cargill produces ClearLane®, an enhanced, anti-corrosive de-icer that is better for the environment than traditional road salt and has been proven to adhere to road surfaces better. You may notice this year that the de-icer is green. This is due to a coloring agent added during production. If you would like to learn

more about ClearLane®, visit the Cargill webpage at [www.cargill.com/products/salt/winter/clearlane/index.jsp](http://www.cargill.com/products/salt/winter/clearlane/index.jsp)

With over ninety miles of roads to maintain in New Marlborough, we ask for your patience and understanding as winter approaches. Please drive safely and use your best judgment. □

Chuck Loring

### FURNITURE WORKSHOP

Furniture Restoration  
Hand Stripping, Repair, Refinishing

Ron Brecher                      413-229-0470

35 Hartsville Mill River Road  
Mill River, MA 01244  
[ronfauvist77@gmail.com](mailto:ronfauvist77@gmail.com)

*Your Local Family Owned Propane Company for over 50 years*

**We provide friendly, prompt & reliable service for all your propane needs**



566 Mill River Great Barrington Rd.  
New Marlborough, MA

**413-229-2800**

**Low Prices**  
**Budget Plans**  
**Bulk & Cylinder**  
**Deliveries**



**Please call to join our family of satisfied customers!**



## TAXI!!

By David Lowman

Well, it's not exactly a taxi service, but it's pretty darn close. The Southern Berkshire Elderly Transportation Corporation (SBETC) provides transportation services similar to a taxicab company, but it does a lot more than that.

SBETC, true to its name, serves the Southern Berkshire towns of Alford, Egremont, Great Barrington, Monterey, New Marlborough, Otis, and Sandisfield. Its clientele is comprised of the aforementioned towns' residents who are fifty-five and older, and handicapped folks of any age who are unable to drive themselves.

SBETC is a private, not-for-profit corporation and has been in business for over thirty years. It's a small operation headed by Executive Director Dawn Valinaggi, a New Marlborough resident of many years. Its three other employees are dispatcher Rosemary Smith, and drivers Mark Errichetto and Kevin Wagner. SBETC is governed by the consortium towns' Council on Aging members, New Marlborough's member being Prudence Spaulding.

The organization has an annual budget of \$216,000 of which approximately \$73,000 comes from member towns' annual appropriations; New Marlborough's share is \$5,497. The organization has not requested an increase in town appropriations since 2002. The rest of SBETC's funding comes from grants, rider fees, contracts, donations, and fund-raising.

SBETC has three vehicles it uses to provide its service. There are two large vans equipped with lifts to accommodate the wheelchair-bound, and a mini-van for smaller runs. Its drivers are trained in disability awareness, C.P.R., defensive driving, and wheelchair securement. They are fully certified to Massachusetts Department of

Transportation standards. They are, to use Ms. Valinaggi's words, "caretakers on wheels."

There is a modest fee structure in place. For New Marlborough residents the round-trip fee is \$10.00 to the Great Barrington area. If more than one stop per trip is required, an additional charge of \$2.00 per stop would be added. SBETC has recently added service to Berkshire locations north of Great Barrington as far as Pittsfield, the round trip fee being \$15.00. It's important to note that a caregiver rides free.

SBETC describes itself as a "door-to-door service." It will escort its riders from their front door to the van. And it will help with coats, tying shoes, finding eye-glasses, and carrying in groceries. How many taxi services will do all that?

In the brochure SBETC distributes, it lists twenty-two distinct services it will provide, ranging from picking you up at your home, helping you take your pet(s) to the veterinarian, picking up prescriptions and delivering them to you, and picking up your mail, to cleaning up rider sickness and accidents, to mention but a few.

How does one get started with SBETC? Call their office at (413)528-4773. They will take your contact information and your transportation needs, explain their policies and procedures, and answer your questions.

SBETC is a partner with Fairview Hospital's emergency system, and is one of only two true door-to-door transportation services for the elderly and/or disabled in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

I asked Ms. Valinaggi what else she might tell those of our readers who have not availed themselves of this service. She said, "Use us!" □



Staff of SBETC: driver Mark Errichetto, dispatcher Rosemary Smith, Executive Director Dawn Valinaggi, and driver Kevin Wagner. photo by David Lowman

### CURTIS INSURANCE AGENCY

Serving Mass. and  
Conn.  
For 60 years

Office: 860 • 824 • 7327  
Res: 413 • 229 • 2966

**Paul Koneazny**  
Certified Insurance Counselor

49 MAIN ST. • P.O. BOX 748  
CANAN, CT 06018

### \$\$\$ BUYING GOLD \$\$\$

BULK SILVER (FLATWARE, ETC.)

DIAMOND BROKERS

APPRAISERS

Sachs Reisman, Inc.  
jewelry manufacturing

25 Maple Avenue  
Sheffield, MA 413-229-0050



## OUR WILDLIFE NEIGHBORS

**H**ope Schreiber writes: I have learned when driving in New Marlborough to leave my camera on the front seat...just in case. After visiting my brother, who lives near Questing, a few weeks ago several deer slowly crossed the road in front of me. The fawn was unabashedly curious and allowed me to lean out of the car window with my camera for quite some time. I felt gratitude. Soon the older deer gestured to the fawn and they all disappeared into the woods. That camera stays on the front seat!

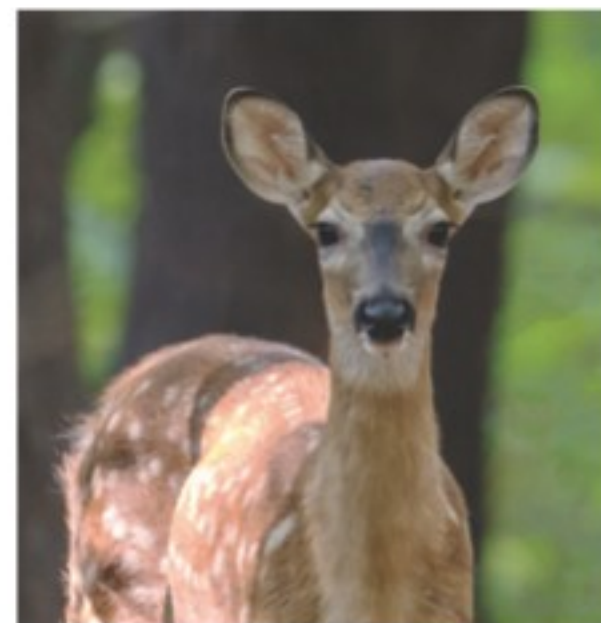


photo © Hope Schreiber

Back in September, **Richard Silverblatt** wrote in with the following: The other evening, my wife **Katherine** and I drove up our driveway in Mill River and spotted a large **skunk** scampering up the stone path leading to our house. When I directed the car lights on our visitor, it had stopped on the top step, turned its back in our direction and raised its tail. Uh oh, now what? Katherine advised that we put the car in reverse and drive around for a short while to allow our visitor to sort things out. Good thinking. When we returned, the skunk had left and without a "trace."



photo by Don Beauchamp

**Don Beauchamp**, of Clayton writes: On September 15 I was walking in our fields and spotted three monarch butterflies sampling the purple thistle flowers. Next day the farmer cut the field.

On September 22, **Don** reports: I spotted white things moving up and down a willow tree; these turned out to be three young **gray squirrels** with white tails playing. I haven't seen them since.



photo by Don Beauchamp

...Which may have something to do with the following report... **Ari Korpivaara** of Southfield writes: I love watching playful **squirrels** chasing each other around and up tree trunks. Cute little tykes. But they grow up to be teenage terrors lying in wait for me along every road. At the last second they tear across the road as close to my wheels as possible, or scoot under the car, or jump into my path, then back, then forward again – an animal kingdom extreme sport! Yesterday the winner was the squirrel sitting bolt upright in the middle of the lane, staring me down until I started to brake and then nonchalantly moving away. Their mamas and papas should take them to the woodshed or, better yet, back to squirrel school. (Sorry, no photos. I need two hands to drive.)

Back to **Don Beauchamp**, he writes succinctly, also in late September: Finally got a shot of a **hawk** just taking off.



photo by Don Beauchamp

On October 14, **Fiona Kerr**, who lives in Mill River writes: While I was out walking this morning I saw two **river otters** playing in the Konkapot along Hartsville-Mill River Rd. There were two adults. I didn't end up with any photos but on this beautiful autumn morning it was such a pleasure to watch them swimming, walking on the gravel bank and playing together.

**Robin Tost**, down Umpachene Falls way, reported in on October 16: My only excitement was the semi-annual arrival of a huge flock of **cedar waxwings** disporting themselves for a few hours of feeding frenzy in my sadly anemic cedar trees. They sweep through and pass on.

**Scottie Mills** of New Marlborough Village reports: As far as wildlife goes this past month, I have only been seeing the usual, which is always wonderful, but probably not newsworthy. I laughed out loud yesterday when I saw some large **turkeys** trying only half successfully to sit in a small bush to eat berries, also laughed when a little **fox** was trying to run away from my car at night but chose to run down the dirt road, which meant I followed him for about a half a mile... I am ever hopeful to one day catch a glimpse of a **moose**...but am still waiting.

Finally, from **Robert Twing** (via Maggie's List): Just a reminder that the archery deer hunting season starts on Monday, October 19. Be safe when walking in the woods, be safe and be seen. Hunters are not required to wear blaze orange during archery season.

Thanks to Robert for that timely reminder, and also to Hope Schreiber for the suggestion of carrying that camera around whenever you head (safely) into the out-of-doors. □ Compiled by Larry Burke, lburke2@me.com



## THE LOG

### POLICE DEPARTMENT (SELECTED ENTRIES)

- Sept. 2 2:00 p.m. Resident complains of speeders on Lumbert Cross Road
- Sept. 4 2:11 p.m. Motorist alerts Police Department to a large snapping turtle attempting to cross Route 7 in Sheffield
- Sept. 5 8:34 a.m. Brewer Hill landlord complains of verbal harassment from tenant who is being evicted
- Sept. 10 10:27 p.m. Tree down on South Sandisfield Road
- Sept. 11 9:32 a.m. In response to Lakeside Road resident, complaining that equipment at neighboring construction site is parked in his driveway and possibly damaging his septic system, officer determines that equipment is, in fact, legally parked at the site
- 2:50 p.m. Checking in with Lake Road resident, police chief confirms that lawn damaged by construction vehicle has been repaired
- Sept. 12 2:26 p.m. Bock Way property owner reports confrontation with neighbor while he was conferring with an excavation company owner and notes that the neighbor has installed a camera pointed at his property
- 11:28 p.m. Canaan Southfield Road resident reports hearing approximately ten loud "pops"
- Sept. 13 1:57 a.m. Hartsville New Marlborough Road resident reports that an intoxicated neighbor is violently punching the windshield of his mother's car
- 8:36 p.m. Passing motorist reports tree down in the vicinity of the Southfield Store on Norfolk Road
- Sept. 16 6:43 p.m. Passenger reports that the car in which she was riding struck and injured a deer on Mill River Great Barrington Road
- Sept. 17 3:48 p.m. Dispute between father and son on Lumbert Cross Road defused
- Sept. 19 8:15 p.m. Assist Sheffield police in murder/suicide at Davis Lane residence in Sheffield
- Sept. 23 5:51 p.m. Clayton Mill River Road resident reports that the mother of their child has taken the child to the home of the mother's grandmother
- Sept. 27 12:15 a.m. Vehicle accident on Hill Heights Road
- 12:09 p.m. Mill River Great Barrington Road resident reports that he has located his stolen Chevy pickup, but that the contents of the truck are missing

### FIRE AND RESCUE

#### September:

- Sept. 6 11:52 a.m. Leffingwell Road Fall from a horse
- Sept. 13 3:18 a.m. Southfield Mill River Road Fire Alarm
- Sept. 15 8:33 a.m. Norfolk Road Fire Alarm
- Sept. 15 1:30 p.m. Peter Menaker Road Fire Alarm
- Sept. 18 10:00 p.m. Brewer Hill Road Fire Alarm
- Sept. 20 8:52 a.m. Norfolk Road Medical Call
- Sept. 26 12:45 a.m. New Marlborough Hill Road MVA
- Sept. 27 2:48 a.m. East Hill Road Medical Call
- Sept. 28 2:00 p.m. Norfolk Road Fire Alarm
- Sept. 29 7:49 a.m. Canaan Southfield Road Fire Alarm

**SUSAN M. SMITH**  
Attorney At Law

32 Mahaiwe Street, Suite 3 Telephone: (413) 528-4300  
Great Barrington, MA 01230 Facsimile: (413) 528-4306  
email: ssmithlaw@barringtonlawoffice.com



WE MAKE THE GRADE

**WEBSTER**

design landscape horticulture

1719 North Main Street Sheffield, MA 01257  
413-229-8124 [websterlandscapes.com](http://websterlandscapes.com)



# An Autumn Social

(And You Are Invited!)

**New Marlborough Fire and EMS  
is hosting a wine, beer, cider, and spirit tasting  
on SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14.**

This, our second "Autumn Social," will be held at  
**the New Marlborough fire station from 5-7 p.m.**

Proceeds from the event will benefit the  
Thomas G. Crawford College Scholarship Fund.  
This fund was established to assist the children of our  
volunteer firefighters and EMTs in achieving their  
academic aspirations. These young men and women  
will hopefully follow in their parents' footsteps in  
giving service to the New Marlborough community.

*The social will feature food and beverages from*

Domaney's Liquors

Berkshire Mountain Distillers

Big Elm Brewery

Les Trois Emmes Winery

Hilltop Orchards

Bartlett's Orchard

All attendees will be eligible to win  
special prizes in the evening's raffle.  
Please join us!



Let Us Build for You

## Mill River Builders

Renovation  
All New Construction  
Contracting

413  
229-7728

Licensed & Insured HIC #109858

## LEISURE POOLS

DESIGN • CONSTRUCTION • SERVICE

Pools • Spas • Saunas

789 So. Main Street  
Great Barrington, MA 01230

Tel: {413} 528 • 1765  
Fax: {413} 528 • 3039

[www.leisurepools.net](http://www.leisurepools.net)



# NEW MARLBOROUGH CENTRAL SCHOOL NEWS

by Jane Burke with teacher reports from Jaimi-Lyn Schieb and Tom Masters

New Marlborough Central School is full to the brim this year with ninety-three children from pre-kindergarten through fourth grade. The children's enthusiasm about learning is inspired by a group of teachers who work together to make each day special. On Fridays there are projects that bring students from different classrooms together to celebrate an idea. On October 2, thirty-seven children from Mrs. Webster's and Mrs. Schieb's Early Kindergarten-1st grade classes spent the morning immersed in apples in honor of Johnny Appleseed's birthday. They moved around to different stations to make apple roll-up treats and cut apples into patterns to make prints. These activities led kids to playfully learn needed skills. For math they measured and weighed the apples, then graphed their findings. They practiced addition skills with an apple toss. Sight-reading word games were also connected to the apple fun.

Another excitement that day was the annual visit from the New Marlborough Fire Department, a tradition that is decades old. Children gathered to hear firefighter Ed Harvey advise them about the importance of "stop, drop, cover, and roll" as well as getting out quickly and safely in an emergency. The students loved going outside to check out the fire truck and learn about its many functions.

Tom Masters' class is full with twenty-three third and



fourth graders whom he describes as "great kids." As our trees display their beauty in October, science studies have been about types of trees, forest conservation, and photosynthesis. Local history is another focus. Students visited the Lower Carroll Mill site to look at what used to be a main industry in this area.

New Marlborough-Monterey PTA is sponsoring the after-school NMC Garden Club which continues to be led by the recently retired Erna Lampman. This month, club members worked with the teen volunteers from Greenagers to plant bulbs. Children also made scarecrows to put up in the garden to help keep those annoying crows away. □



Top: Making prints with carved apple pieces  
 Above: Firefighter Ed Harvey explains emergency procedures  
 Right: NMC Garden Club members made scarecrows to protect their garden

photos by Jaimi-Lyn Schieb



**Paradise Energy Solutions**  
**Ned Wilson**  
 Project Manager  
 e: [nwilson@paradiseenergysolutions.com](mailto:nwilson@paradiseenergysolutions.com)  
 a: 413-642-5730  
 c: 413-854-1453  
 627 Southhampton Road, Westfield, MA  
[www.paradiseenergysolutions.com](http://www.paradiseenergysolutions.com)

**Goewey Painting Services**  
 Impeccable References  
 Fully Insured  
 Interior / Exterior Painting  
 Pressure Washing  
 Residential & Commercial  
 Your need is our job, no matter the size.  
[goeweyservices@hotmail.com](mailto:goeweyservices@hotmail.com)  
 413-229-2732 





## THANK YOU TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS!

Virginia Consolini; Mike & Gloria Levitas; Claudette Callahan; Ann Healey; Mary Barton; John & Becky Schreiber; Peter & Abbe Steinglass; Arlyn & Owen O. Hoberman; Maureen & David Hosford; Marilyn & Elie Katzman; Cynthia Finkle; Helen Maher; Leslie Wheeler; Eileen & Edgar Koerner; Robert Fleming; Sandra & Martin Waldman; Sarah Stangle & Yan Capretz; Judy & John Ladd; Jim & Stephanie Rippe; Michael Skrak; Sheila Fitzpatrick; The Devine Family; Prudence Spaulding; Nancy Bonvillain; Richard Aloisi; John & Eva O'Brien; Joe & Darlene Wilkinson; Julia Chretien; Abby Tedesco; Hope Schreiber; Beth Teitelman & Jay Kwawer; Adele & Alex Holman; Carroll Woodward; Harvey & Judith Thompson; Louise & Nat Yohalem; Bonner McAllester; Martha Jane Root; Judith Friedlander; Colleen Flinn & Dennis McAlevy; Crozer W. Martin; Walter Agar; Chuck & Robbie Liebowitz; Arthur & Carole Nedvin; Rev. Joseph P. Bishop; The Goodnow Fund – Edward B. Goodnow; Hope Crocker; Christopher & Priscilla Morrissey; Beverly, Dan, and Bob Litchfield; John & Kathy Potoski; Eugene & Maria Cleary; Arthur & Susan Peisner; Harold & Vivian Stalker; Sy & Edi Mayerson; Egon & Joan Fromm; Barbara & Daniel Bock; Bruce & Lisa Youmans; Fern & Ismail Khan; Martin Love; Maryjo & Freddy Friedman; Diana Stiles Paruta; Edith G. Grosheim; Henry & Julie Jadow; Tom & Ellen Frazier; Norman Hankey; Ellen Dripps; Pat Scarlett; Sally Leonard; Joan Hayden; and Stephen & Maria Schumacher

## PRECISION AUTOCRAFT INC.

*Providing high-quality collision repair to the tri-state area since 1979.*

413-528-1457  
1939 NO. MAIN ST. (RT. 7).  
SHEFFIELD MA

### For Sale by Owner

I own a seventeen-acre woodlot on Dry Hill in New Marlborough that is great for hunting, camping, or timber. The property has been in my family since 1870, and was originally the woodlot for my great-grandfather's farm, the former Red Fox Music Camp. I no longer live in the area and am unable to make use of the property.

It is reasonably priced.

Marybeth Pettit (518)429-8526



## OFFICE & STUDIO SPACE HIGH-SPEED INTERNET \$325-\$395 / MO

Nestled in the bucolic setting of Southfield, MA, The Whip Shop features high-speed fiber optic internet, cell phone service, and an on-site post office. It is located just steps away from The Southfield Store cafe.

**FOR AVAILABILITY:**  
413-229-3576  
buggywhipfactory@  
gmail.com

**THE WHIP SHOP**  
SOUTHFIELD, MA | BUGGYWHIPFACTORY.COM



# NEW ACQUISITIONS AT THE LIBRARY

## Adult Fiction

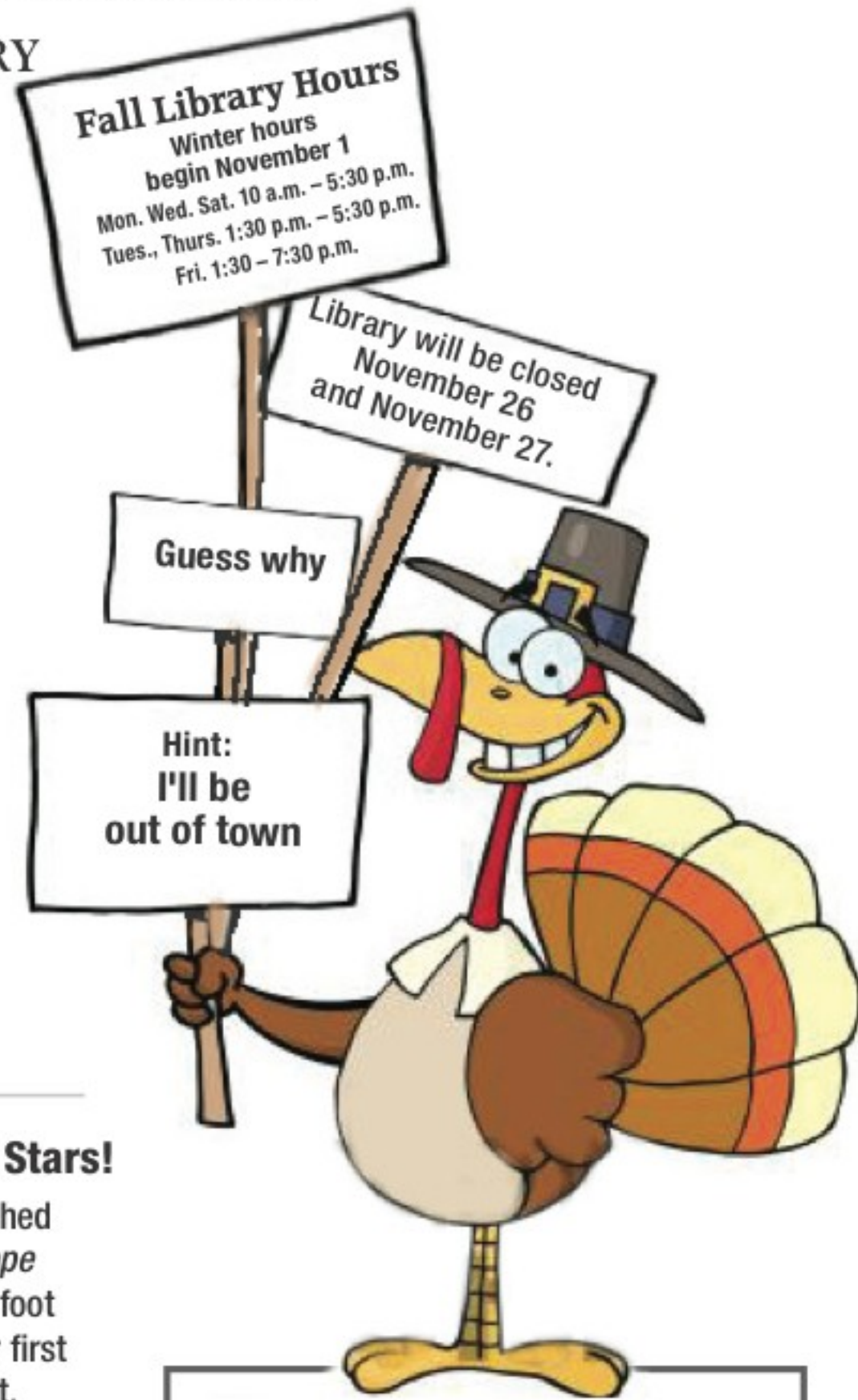
- The Secret Chord*, by Geraldine Brooks
- The Survivor: A Mitch Rapp Novel*, by Kyle Mills
- City on Fire*, by Garth Risk Hallberg
- Career of Evil*, by Robert Galbraith
- Did You Ever Have a Family*, by Bill Clegg
- Let Me Be Frank with You*, by Richard Ford

## Adult Nonfiction

- 1944: FDR and the Year that Changed History*, by Jay Wink
- The Homemade Kitchen*, by Alana Chernila

## Children's Fiction

- Beautiful Hands*, by Kathryn Otoshi
- Moletown*, by Torben Kuhlmann
- Serafina and the Black Cloak*, by Robert Beatty
- The Story of Diva and Flea*, by Mo Willems
- Auggie & Me: Three Wonder Stories*, by R.J. Palacio



photos by Deb O'Brien



### Star Wars under the Stars!

Over 100 people watched *Star Wars: A New Hope* on a twenty-four-foot foot blow-up screen for our first outdoor movie night.

This program was sponsored by the New Marlborough Library and the New Marlborough-Monterey PTA.

photos by Sheila Fitzpatrick



### FAMILY FUN: MAKE YOUR OWN SCARECROWS

Area children and their families joined the New Marlborough Library for our annual Make Your Own Scarecrows. A special "Thank You" to Haymeadow Pond Farm for, once again, donating the hay for our program.



The New Marlborough Friends of the Library will hold their annual **Pre-Thanksgiving Pie Sale** November 21 at 9:00 a.m. at the library.

A variety of pies will be available at the sale but special orders must be placed two weeks prior to sale date. All pies \$15.00. To place an order, call the library at 229-6668.



**This letter was sent to everyone on the NM5VN mailing list in mid-October. Those of you who read the paper online may not have received the letter, but your support of NM5VN will be much appreciated.**

Dear *New Marlborough 5 Village News* Reader,

Now in its sixteenth year of publication, *The New Marlborough 5 Village News* continues as it began, providing a community service in the form of a free monthly newspaper. Through our reporting on the business that comes before the Board of Selectmen and other Town boards and committees, we have sought to provide a level of information to our residents that did not previously exist, and through our feature articles, profiles, and regular columns such as Neighbors and Our Wildlife Neighbors and The Log, we have attempted to share the newsworthy items that give our town its special flavor.

Your support of this endeavor has been critical to the survival of the *New Marlborough 5 Village News* throughout these years, and continues to be so. With the cost of each issue now running close to \$1,750, and with the various overhead costs – software, computer maintenance, legal and accountancy fees and filings – the yearly budget of the NM5VN is now in the neighborhood of \$19,050.

Beyond your essential financial support, the staff of this community newspaper relies as well on your feedback and your suggestions, through letters to the editor or simply by contacting the individuals who comprise our editorial team. We also encourage those of you who enjoying writing to join us in this enterprise. The more the merrier, and the wider the coverage of our very spread-out township.

Your donation to keep the NM5VN alive is tax-deductible. Your continuing support is greatly appreciated.

Thank you,  
The NM5VN Editorial Team

## **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!

HERE IS A TAX DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTION OF \$\_\_\_\_\_ (payable to NM5VN)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_



## 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.

## PERMITS ARE DUE ON JULY 1

They are available at  
the Town Hall in Mill River  
for July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016  
FEE IS \$105, AFTER AUGUST 15, \$130

CAN BE PAID BY MAIL,  
PLEASE ENCLOSE A SELF-ADDRESSED  
STAMPED ENVELOPE

## New Marlborough Highway Department

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

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

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

## NM5VN Editorial Team

Barbara Lowman, issue editor; Diane Barth, designer;  
Martha Bryan, Jane Burke, Larry Burke, Kenzie Fields,  
David Lowman, Joe Poindexter, 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 December 2015.

All copy must be submitted no later than November 15.  
For advertising, contact Barbara Lowman, tel: 229-2369  
PO Box 243, Southfield, MA 01259  
[5villagenews@gmail.com](mailto:5villagenews@gmail.com)

## SERVICE SECTOR 11/15

- ♦ **Benchmark Real Estate:** Nancy Kalodner, Broker/Owner. Offering New Marlborough the finest professional real estate services since 1979. Call 528-9595
- ♦ **Berkshire Environmental Research Center (BERC):** Thomas Coote. Lake & pond management, wetland delineation, ecological research, rare/invasive species assessment. 413-644-4509. [tcoote@simons-rock.edu](mailto:tcoote@simons-rock.edu)
- ♦ **Campbell Falls Carpentry:** Licensed and insured contracting at [campbellfallscarpentry@gmail.com](mailto:campbellfallscarpentry@gmail.com) (413)229-6097 and (413)429-7677. Mass Contractors # 7614140, HIC# 170377
- ♦ **Corashire Realty:** Serving New Marlborough for 40 years. Let experience, knowledge, and personal attention work for you. 528-0014
- ♦ **Dellea:** Dellea.biz provides on-site Windows computer services to local residents, small businesses, town governments, and nonprofits throughout southern Berkshire County. (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).
- ♦ **DesignFirstBerkshires:** Architectural design, space planning and renovation management. 413-528-6169 or [info@designfirstberkshires.com](mailto:info@designfirstberkshires.com).
- ♦ **DimisWorks.com:** Fine art, hand-painted paper, original designs, individually created; creative gardening, too! Dana Ehninger 413-258-4837.
- ♦ **Fine Jewelry:** Designers and manufacturers; custom orders/commissions welcome; expert repairs. 45 years experience. Sachs Reisman, Inc. 25 Maple Ave., Sheffield 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
- ♦ **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)
- ♦ **Susan M. Smith:** Attorney At Law; Concentrating in the areas of Estate Planning, Estate Administration, Elder Law, Real Estate and Zoning Matters. [ssmithlaw@hughes.net](mailto:ssmithlaw@hughes.net) or 229-7080
- ♦ **Reiner White:** General Contractor; 413-229-8450
- ♦ **Woodruff Mountain Landscaping:** Excavation and landscape contracting, all forms of stone work and masonry, and outdoor services, including lawn mowing and yard work. 413-229-2919 [woodruffmountain@aol.com](mailto:woodruffmountain@aol.com)

*To list your business here, contact Barbara Lowman 229-2369.*