

SHUTESBURY

MASSACHUSETTS



OUR TOWN

Regional School District Planning Board to meet September 23

Elaine Puleo, a member representing Shutesbury

The Regional School District Planning Board (RSDPB) has been active all summer. An update on our activities since May Town Meeting is as follows. We had expected to have a three-town (Amherst, Leverett and Pelham) preK-6 regional agreement crafted by the end of the summer. This was to be brought to town forums in early fall with pending town-wide votes in the three towns in November 2013.

Shutesbury representatives remained at the table making sure the agreement was crafted in a way that would be favorable to our community if we chose to join. The question was to be brought to Shutesbury voters some time after the three-town agreement had passed.

Celebrate Shutesbury September 21

See flyer in this newsletter. An updated *Business and Resource Directory* will also be available on the common that day, and later at Town Hall and Spear Memorial Library.

Bulky Waste Day October 5

Learn more on page 3.

Historical Commission happenings

October 5, 12, 14

See pages 3 and 4.

Midway in this process, it became apparent that Amherst RSDPB members felt they could not support the preK-6 region and thus decided to reopen discussion of a preK-12 region.

New financial statements are being assessed and everyone has agreed to reopen all discussions. The next meeting of the board will take place on September 23 at 7pm the Professional Development Office at the Amherst Middle School.

The models still on the table are: preK-6, preK-12 and a hybrid model that would be preK-12 for Amherst Leverett and Pelham with Shutesbury joining at the 7-12 level. Please stay informed of our work, either coming to our meetings or getting in touch with us via email or phone.

The three Shutesbury committee members are **Becky Torres**, **Michael DeChiara** and **Elaine Puleo**.

Elementary school on solid ground for academic year

Michael DeChiara, *Chair*,
Shutesbury School Committee

Shutesbury Elementary School (SES) kicked off another year of educating and nurturing our children on August 28. SES begins the year with 155 children enrolled in grades preschool to sixth.

This school year also started with some new and some returning adults. We welcome our new principal **Maureen Ryan** to Shutesbury Elementary (SES); Maureen comes to us from Greenfield, where she was the lead administrator at an elementary school.

Bob Mahler, who left SES as the principal, now serves all of Union #28 as our Interim Superintendent.

We are fortunate to have these two individuals lead our district; they understand what it takes to educate children, care about students, and sincerely appreciate their relationship with parents and the broader Shutesbury community.

See SES, page 5

Help fight a truly knotty problem in Shutesbury

Japanese knotweed was introduced in the eastern U.S. in 1890 and established itself by the turn of the 20th century. Knotweed has been part of the Shutesbury landscape for decades, but its presence along roadways has increased as the Town has moved soils for roadwork. Knotweed tends to travel along streambeds and flourish along roadsides, which causes erosion and road surface heaving.

This summer a group of residents came to the Selectboard with their concern about knotweed spreading along Shutesbury's roadways. The amount of knotweed is increasing along town roadways.

The group has identified 25 locations, listed on page 5, that need attention. Their message is that if we work now to control this invasive species, we can get out ahead of its spread and control and possibly eliminate it.

A few years ago a small number of people in town worked hard to remove knotweed manually, pulling up as much of the root as possible, sun

See Knotweed, page 6

Messages from the Town Clerk

Leslie Bracebridge, *Town Clerk*
Office Hours: 9am –1pm Monday through Thursday
Call 259-1204 to make special appointments.

Leslie Bracebridge, *Shutesbury Town Clerk*

Many people move to Shutesbury during the summer. If you are a new resident, "Welcome!"

1. If you would like to register to vote in Shutesbury, stop in or call the Town Clerk's office. You can register in person, or a mail-in voter registration form can be sent to you.
2. If you have a dog, it must be licensed within 30 days of arrival to Shutesbury through the Town Clerk's office.
3. If you have any questions about our town or our government you are invited to call this office or take a general visit to the town at www.shutesbury.org.
4. If you would like to receive email announcements of a general municipal nature email your request including your email address to web@shutesbury.org.
5. Please see the Fire Department web page at www.shutesbury.org to edit contact information for your address for Shutesbury's emergency only announcement system.

All dogs residing in Shutesbury must be re-licensed within 30 days of July 1 each year, and should now be wearing their red medallion-shaped tags. If you forgot to re-license, you can download a mail-in licensing form and instructions from the Town Clerk's or the Dog Officer's pages at www.shutesbury.org. Alternatively, you can request a form be sent to you by calling the Town Clerk's office or just stop in at Town Hall

If you mail your form and payment in, please remember to add the \$5 late fee to the check and also please remember to enclose proof of rabies vaccination and a self-addressed

stamped envelope. The rabies vaccination form will be returned to you with your dog's new license.

If your dog loses its tag part way through the license year, just call or stop by for a \$1 replacement tag.

Mandatory provision of documents, training and receipts for all newly appointed, re-appointed, newly elected and re-elected public officials, many of whom began new terms in July:

1. All members of any public body must receive educational materials including the Open Meeting Law, MGL c. 30A, SS18-25, 940 CMR 29.00, and the Guide to the Open Meeting Law published by the Attorney General upon taking the oath of office and before entering into the performance of the office. The municipal clerk is responsible for providing educational materials to the members of all local public committees, boards and commissions. Within 2 weeks of receipt of the educational materials, the member shall certify receipt on the form provided. Both the materials and the receipt form are provided by the Massachusetts Attorney General and are available on the Attorney General's website: www.mass.gov/ago/openmeeting.
2. Upon appointment or hire and on an annual basis thereafter, the Town Clerk is required by statute to provide all municipal employees and volunteers with a copy of the Conflict of Interest Law and obtain a signed receipt. Additionally, all employees and volunteers must, complete an online ethics training and multiple choice exercise within 30 days of beginning public service and every 2 years thereafter. In Shutesbury, unless the employee/volunteer tracks his/her own timeline, new certificates will be due for everyone in December of odd numbered years. Both the summary of the Conflict of Interest Law and the exercise are available online at www.mass.gov/ethics. This information and training is to en-

sure understanding of the Massachusetts ethics code. Upon completion of the exercise, a certificate will pop up. Employees/volunteers can either copy, paste and send the receipt of the summary of the Conflict of Interest Law and the certificate of completion of the training exercise to town-clerk@shutesbury.org or print and deliver the receipt and certificate to the Town Clerk's office.

All documents referred to above are also available outside the Town Clerk's Town Hall office door or on the Town Clerk's web page at <http://shutesbury.org/townclerk>.

The Town Clerk's web page also contains **links to all committee meeting agendas**. These are further linked to the calendar page by clicking on the corresponding calendar meeting. At the bottom of the Town Clerk's page there is a section on historical maps and documents.

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 Annual Town Report is printed and available at Town Hall. Please feel welcome to pick up a copy anytime the building is open. Town department heads are in the process of writing their reports for FY 13.

Thanks to our April folders

The Spring 2013 *Our Town* was readied for mailing by **Leslie Bracebridge, David Dann, Pat Dempsey, Mare Fox, Joan Hanson, Susan Millinger, Marilyn Tibbetts, Walter Tibbetts, and Karen Traub**.

If you would like to join a future "folding party" for municipal mailings, please call Administrative Secretary Leslie Bracebridge at 259-1204.

Our Town, published three times a year in January or February, April, and August or September, is supported by tax dollars. We welcome news from Town of Shutesbury departments, boards, and committees, and from individuals and groups about local projects, activities, or special events of benefit to our community. Submissions promoting the sale of goods or services for private profit cannot be accepted.

Janis S. Gray, *Editor*
Leslie Bracebridge, *Town Hall Liaison*

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Public Health Alert: The Threat of EEE

Catherine Hilton, Clerk, Shutesbury Board of Health

You are all certainly aware by now of the elevated risk of a dangerous mosquito-borne disease, Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE), right nearby in Amherst and Belchertown. We should take precautions while we are at home in Shutesbury as well as in the surrounding towns.

EEE is a rare but deadly viral infection of the brain that can be spread to humans through the bite of an infected mosquito. There is no treatment for EEE, and the most likely outcomes are death or permanent disability.

This year there have been no reported human cases of EEE in Massachusetts; last year there were seven. In 2013 two horses in Belchertown died of the disease, and two mosquitoes in Amherst tested positive for the virus.

YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO: Limit or avoid outdoor activities in the evening. Especially after dusk, wear long pants and long sleeves, and insect repellent, preferably with DEET. The mosquito that transmits the disease breeds in hardwood swamps and becomes active at dusk.

More information is posted on the Board of Health website www.shutesbury.org/health

Ever wondered what it was like to sit at a desk in a one-room school?

On Columbus Day, **Monday, October 14**, from 1 - 3pm, Historical Commission Chairman **Barbara Goodhind** will host the annual open house of the 1842 West Schoolhouse which sits at the intersection of West Pelham and Leverett Roads.

Guests will be able to see old text books, wall maps and many other items found in our old school houses of that time.

If it's a cool day, remember to dress warmly as there was no heat and electricity back then, and none has been added since!

The Historical Commission continues to collect photos, stories and artifacts directly related to our town.

If you have something to share a story, an artifact or photo, please contact any member of the Commission. We can scan and copy while you wait or invite you to a meeting to expand on the photos with conversation.

If you have *already digitized information* that you are willing to share with the public, please send the information to townclerk@shutesbury.org.

If you have a particular question or interest about Shutesbury's history, you can email the Commission through the Town Clerk email address, or call: Chairman Barbara Goodhind, 259-1428, Secretary **Julie Taylor**, Treasurer **Marilyn Tibbetts**, and members **Leslie Bracebridge**, **Karen Czerwonka**, **Steve Puffer**, and **Joanna Hayes**.

Please see page 4 for a related story on hikes to mark the anniversary of the loss of four of Shutesbury's neighbors: the towns of Dana, Enfield, Greenwich and Prescott.

Recycling Committee to host Bulky Waste Day

Saturday October 5 is Bulky Waste Day at the Highway Department from 10:00am - 2:00pm for Shutesbury residents.

Bring items that are too large for the trash such as construction waste, mattresses, electronics, etc. etc.

We do charge enough to cover the cost of disposing of these items, so bring some cash or your check book with you.

Hint: Unloading goes a lot faster if you separate trash, metals, and electronics. **DO NOT** bring hazardous waste to Bulky Waste Day.

*(See the separate article on **Hazardous Waste Day** in Amherst September 28 on page 8..)*

All Electronics Recycled at No Cost!

The Shutesbury Recycling and Solid Waste Committee is again partnering with the Salvation Army for recycling electronics. The Army will

have a truck at Bulky Waste Day and will receive any and all electronics, including TV's and computer monitors, at no cost.

No Charge for Electronics! Textiles, Old Clothing, Leather Goods Recycled at No Cost!

The Salvation Army will also receive any and all textiles, old clothing, rags, old shoes, belts, etc. **at no cost.** Ripped, torn, threadbare, bring them all! Please make sure that all textiles, etc. are **dry and clean.** Put them in black (not yellow Shutesbury) trash bags.

Some Folks Need a Hand

Some people in town would like to bring large items to Bulky Waste Day but don't have a way of getting their stuff to the Highway Department garage. If you would like to volunteer to help your neighbors on Bulky Waste Day, or if you need help on Bulky Waste Day, contact Recycling and Solid Waste Committee Chair **Meryl Mandell** at 259-1282 or merylm@crocker.com. Meryl will try to match volunteers with those who need a hand.

We Need Bulky Waste Day Volunteers!

Please give us a hand that day if you can. We had several terrific volunteers for BWD in June, and their help made a huge difference. We really moved trash that day! Many hands make light work. If you would like to volunteer, contact **Gary Bernhard** at 259-1235 or bernhard@uww.umass.edu.

Free By the Side of the Road

The week before each Bulky Waste Day is "Free By the Side of the Road Week." If you have items that you no longer need but might be useful to others, place them on the roadside during the week beginning Saturday September 28.

NOTE: Items placed on the roadside that are NOT picked up before Bulky Waste Day must be removed at the end of the week. Put them in trash bags or bring them to Bulky Waste Day.

Hikes to commemorate Roadtown's links to lost towns of Quabbin

In this 75th remembrance year of the discontinuance on April 27, 1938 of the four towns of Dana, Enfield, Greenwich and Prescott, Mass to provide for the creation of the Quabbin Reservoir, the Friends of Quabbin Reservoir have invited neighboring towns spared discontinuance to sponsor commemorative events.

Because Shutesbury's pre-incorporation land grant name was Roadtown, it seemed fitting to the Historical Commission for our town's remembrance activities to focus on how the roads were affected by the creation of the Reservoir, specifically those running through the almost one-third of Shutesbury which is now a part of the watershed protection area. Each hike involves one to three hours of casual walking.

Weather permitting, on **Saturday, October 5** the Commission welcomes people to join us on a walk down the extension of our present Prescott Road (a road which used to lead to the town of Prescott) which lies east of Route 202 (Gate 16) to the water. We will follow the right fork off this road onto what was called "River Road" on some of the old maps, likely because of its north-south track beside the West Branch of the Swift River, until what is left of it submerges under the reservoir's water.

On **Saturday, October 12**, weather permitting, we welcome people to join us on a walk down the discontinued road (Gate 15) off Route 202, past the Briggs Sawmill site, and back to the "River Road" where it resurfaces from out of the reservoir! Corresponding photocopies and clippings will be available on both Saturdays, which will also be made available, for those unable to join us, on the newest "road" to Shutesbury: www.shutesbury.org.

On both Saturdays, we will car-pool from the Town Hall parking area at 12 noon. Hold Saturday, October 26 as a rain date if either the 5th or 12th are too rainy. Join us on one or both walks. Call 259-1204, if you can, to let us know you are joining us, for more information, or to check on any weather-related change.



A long-gone farm on the path of October 12's hike.

Note from the Town Collector

Ellen McKay, *Town Collector*

Dear Shutesbury residents:

With the fall approaching, so, too, is the mailing of the next installment of your real estate and personal property taxes. This will occur the end of September with a due date of November 1.

If you have paid both the first and second quarter amount with your first quarter payment you will not receive a bill for November. If you do not receive a second quarter bill, please check the middle portion of your first quarter bill as your total bill may be too small to cause the generation of a second quarter bill.

If you pay bills with a banking program, please be aware that there is a paper check generated that can take the bank over a week to mail so please plan ahead. *It is imperative that you verify the bill number identifier you are using as a memo.* Your bill numbers change every year for all types of taxes and your failure to correct the bill number causes difficulty in recording your payment.

Please plan ahead when you mail your payments. With the closing of the mail center in Springfield, mail now goes to Connecticut for processing and the time from mailing to delivery has increased AT LEAST a day and sometimes considerably more.

Do NOT postdate you checks! I cannot accept such checks because they cannot be processed until the

date on the check. They will be returned to you upon receipt.

"Why is the name of the previous owner still on my real estate tax bill?" is a question we are frequently asked. Under Mass. General Laws, the name of the person who owns property on January 1 of the year in which the fiscal year begins must appear on the bill. In the case of this fiscal year (2014) that date is January 1, 2013. We highlight the "in care of"

designation to make certain the bill is delivered to the new owner and not forwarded to the previous owner.

If you will be receiving your mail at a different address during the winter, please notify this office so I can redirect your bills and ensure that they will be delivered promptly.

This is also the time to verify all information on your auto registration, license, and insurance documents. Your insurance company furnishes information to the Registry of Motor Vehicles during the last quarter of the calendar year that provides the database from which your motor vehicle excise tax bills on vehicles registered on January 1 are generated. It is essential that the place of garaging and both the mailing and residential addresses are absolutely correct to insure proper and prompt delivery of your bills.

Let me remind you that any tax bill sent from this office should *not* be ignored, even if it is on property you no longer own. The Town does not get notified if you dispose of an automobile; turn in your license plates, or dispose of personal property. You must notify the Board of Assessors by completing the appropriate abatement application or Form of List.

If you move from Shutesbury, please leave a forwarding address and make certain you change your license and registration to indicate your new address and place of garaging. Any registration that lists Shutesbury as a place of garaging will result in an excise tax bill being sent from Shutesbury.

Remember, your unpaid excise

bills from any municipality *will* follow you through the data base at the Registry of Motor Vehicles and its compact with other states. Unpaid bills can result in your inability to register a vehicle or renew your driver's license and registration.

Have a good autumn.

SES, cont. from pg. 1

We will also be welcoming a number of new staff to the school this fall. Principal Ryan was hard at work this summer filling some unexpectedly vacant positions, most notably a teacher for a 5th-6th grade classroom, and the Food Service Director. She reported that the hiring process went well, and that the search committees were pleased with the results.

Joining the 5/6 team is **Andrea Hermans**, a talented and passionate teacher with years of experience working with children in the public schools in eastern Mass. Preparing tasty and nutritious meals as the Food Service Director is **Gail Beaugard**, who held this position at SES a few years ago. In October, long-time art teacher **B.Z. Reilly** will be retiring. We wish her good luck and many thanks for the creative spirit she brought to SES. We are fortunate that **EveLynn Goodhind**, a Shutesbury resident, will be taking over the art teacher position. Joining the After School Program is **Michael Wilkins**, a certified fitness trainer who is pursuing his teaching certificate for physical education. Finally and importantly, supporting our students in kindergarten and grade 3 are **Lauren Thomas-Paquin** and **Antti Kaisla**. Lauren is a certified teacher, a Shutesbury resident and mother of three SES students; Antti, who was born in Finland, is a certified art teacher.

Financially, SES ended the year in a solid position thanks to some personnel and operational savings that occurred during past school year. This allowed SES to finally re-invest in needed educational materials and supplies; these were things that had to be eliminated during the worst years of the recession when the school faced a very tight budget.

While finances continue to be challenging for the upcoming school

year, this unexpected savings and subsequent investment has allowed SES to keep our educational programming strong. After investing in the school, these savings were also shared with the town; SES was able to return approximately \$16,000 back to the town for future general use.

Last spring, following town elections, the **School Committee** added a new member and undertook its annual reorganization. For the current school year, **Michael DeChiara** will serve as Chair, **Emily Bloch** as Vice Chair. Other members include long-time member **Dan Hayes**, **Mare Fox** and newly elected **Sean Woodard-McNiff**. Contact information for the School Committee can be found on the town website. The School Committee normally meets at SES on the 3rd Thursday of each month; the public is always welcome to attend.

Following last year's tragic shooting in Newton, CT, the School Committee and administration took **two important steps to ensure our children's safety**. These steps were taken with the sad recognition that times have changed, even in Shutesbury, and that appropriate changes were necessary.

Starting last spring, in a change from the past practice, the front door of SES will be locked during the school day and visitors will be buzzed in. If you are visiting the school, please take note. The school has also continued to institute safety procedures and make meaningful and appropriate safety upgrades to the building.

These improvements could not have occurred without the expertise and financial support of town leadership. The School Committee and administration thank our town leaders and our public safety officers for their support and advice to keep our children and staff safe.

Looking forward to the next few months, the **exploration of possible regionalization or alternative configurations** regarding educational governance and organization will continue, albeit with some changes to the anticipated plans. Despite agreement in March 2013 to consider a preK-grade 6 region for Am-

herst, Pelham, Leverett and maybe Shutesbury, this option is no longer being given much consideration.

This summer a majority of the 12-member, four-town Board decided to shift their focus, stating that they did not feel this was the best model for their towns (the Shutesbury representatives were in the minority). What other models will be considered as viable and beneficial from an educational, financial, and governance perspective is not yet clear.

The three-person Shutesbury Regional School District Planning Committee comprised of **Elaine Puleo**, **Becky Torres** and **Michael DeChiara** is actively researching and discussing options that might work for our town. In order to consider new options for Shutesbury, the larger nine-person Shutesbury Education Study Committee that initiated the regionalization process two years ago may be re-convened.

As noted in *The Daily Hampshire Gazette*, the four-town Regional School District Planning Board also **voted to postpone any town votes on regionalization until spring 2014** town elections. Based on state law this would mean that any new region, if created, would start no earlier than fall 2015.

This is important for Shutesbury (and Leverett), since during this coming year, a decision and process for hiring a permanent superintendent for Union #28 will be necessary (**Bob Mahler** is currently serving as a one-year interim).

Postponement of regionalization may complicate the hiring plans and process since the future composition of Union #28 is unclear. Decisions about the superintendent are made by the five-town Union #28 Joint Supervisory Committee which has three representatives from Shutesbury; no decisions have yet been made.

As always, on behalf of our teachers and staff, the parents and guardians, and of course the children, thank you for your continued support of quality education for our children.

To find out more about the elementary school, we encourage Shutesbury residents to visit the school website at:
www.shutesburyschool.org.

Inside Town Hall Shutesbury

Becky Torres, *Town Administrator*

Fall is here. For many people Town Hall is the place to come to get trash bags. It is also a place where many volunteers gather to serve on a variety of boards and committees. The budget season is just starting. The Finance Committee has put together its calendar and is writing its budget request letter.

The Financial Team is closing the town books on fiscal 2013. The budget voted on at town meeting in May of 2013 is the base for our new town expense reports. The Town Accountant has reconciled with the Treasurer, the Town Collector with the Assessors. Now Shutesbury's Financial Team has begun putting together the tax recap. The tax recapitulation is filed with the state every year. It records our property valuations, the budget voted at town meeting and all expenditures voted from reserve funds and revolving funds. The tax rate is the variable resulting from all these factors. The levy limit (how much we tax ourselves) cannot go up more than 2.5% without an override election and a special vote of town meeting. If property valuations go up dramatically the property tax goes down even if the budget increases, and vice versa.

A major piece in closing fiscal year 2013 is certifying free cash. The free cash is certified by DOR, Massachusetts Department of Revenue, after a thorough review to determine that the town's financial transactions and votes are in order.

During the budget process the Finance Committee meets with all major departments. Departments discuss changes in demands for services, state mandated developments, growth and technology issues. The Finance Committee explains the limitations of the budget and strategizes with departments how best to meet needs, provide services to the public and plan for the future. If you would like to learn about more see the Finance Committee insert in this newsletter with a tentative list of their meeting dates with major departments.

Most towns and cities in Massa-

chusetts have a mixture of commercial and residential properties in their tax base. Shutesbury is 96.9% residential, deriving almost all of our tax revenue from homeowners. The total property valuation of the town is approximately \$220,000,000. The current tax rate is \$20.27 per thousand, giving us around \$4,400,000 for the annual municipal budget.

We receive significant state aid of about \$900,000 and raise money from excise tax on vehicles, PILOT funds from the state and other department revenues totaling \$500,000.

Our current budget is almost \$5,800,000. This pays for the operation of the elementary school, our assessment for the 7-12 grades at Amherst Pelham Regional School, our police, library, fire and highway departments. It pays for the maintenance of our seven municipal buildings, grounds, cemeteries, our fleet of 18 vehicles including a capital plan for repair and replacement. There are 10 full time municipal staff and 22 part-time on the payroll, not counting the school. The school employees number approximately 60 more part time or full time staff.

And beyond the payroll to keep the town functioning we rely on 165 appointed and elected volunteers. A few receive a small stipend ranging from \$100 per year to \$2000 for specialized responsibilities, like the dog officer. It is your friends and neighbors that keep the town running smoothly.

Governance of your small town is definitely of the people and by the people. If you would like to learn more about your hometown or do more please stop by Town Hall and talk with us.

A lot happening with COA!

Senior Lounge renovations A sub-committee of the Council on Aging (COA) has been working very hard with the Town Administrator and Building Committee to renovate the senior lounge. They have removed the old carpet, old heating unit, and all the old cabinets. They have addressed the mold issues and a new tile floor has been professionally laid. Upcoming activities include painting the walls, installing a new heating

system and furnishing the lounge. Stay tuned for our Grand Opening.

Med-Ride Program This is a new transportation program for Shutesbury seniors who need rides for medical or dental appointments in Franklin or Hampshire Counties. Volunteer drivers are matched with folks needing transportation. If you need a ride or know someone who needs transportation call our number, 259-2123. Please allow up to two weeks for us to make the necessary arrangements.

Pot Luck Luncheon Our lunches will start up again on Tuesday October 1. *They are open to all ages.* Please contact **Marilyn Tibbetts**, 259-1976, a few days before the lunch to let her know what you are bringing and how many persons in your group are coming. The monthly lunches are a fun way to meet your neighbors and the food is great.

Knotweed, cont. from page 1
drying it on black top around Town Hall and bagging it in black bags to be picked by our trash hauler. For the hand pulling method to work best, volunteers are needed to continue this effort consistently.

A local company has recommended that we spray the knotweed when it flowers (now). The estimated initial cost may be \$2000 for the first application with lower costs in the following years. There are no guarantees for total elimination.

Both the Selectboard and Finance Committee agree that public discussion needs to take place to determine the best approach to control knotweed. There are a number of recognized practices to consider:

- manual control, must be dug carefully and discarded because new plants start from fragments
- mechanical control, mow 2 times per month for 3-5 years
- cover for 5 years, plant into it after 3 years
- chemical control, foliar spray or stem injection.

While no method is known to be foolproof, these methods vary in expense and success rates. Over the winter months the Selectboard will hold an educational forum to deter-

mine a strategy, possibly testing a couple of methods. They will make sure to hear concerns from the public regarding use of chemicals and get guidance from state and local agencies to help shape the decision-making. Informational materials will be made available on the Shutesbury.org website. If costs are involved in a selected strategy, those costs will be developed into the budget or a warrant article to be voted upon at town meeting in the spring of 2014. We hope the town will have a plan in place to control knotweed for 2014.



Knotweed on west side of Town Hall (Photos by Janis Gray)

<u>Road</u>	<u>House #'s</u>	<u>Side/direction</u>
Cooleyville Rd	across from #34 down hill to #53	south
Cooleyville Rd	east of #86	north
Lakeview	from Locks Pond intersection to #30	north
Leverett Rd	Highway Dept yard	
Leverett Rd	opposite #75 spotty in area all the way to #91	south
Leverett Rd	east of #163 opposite cemetery	north
Locks Pond	in front of 387	east
Locks Pond	opposite Stebbins Rd vicinity	west
Locks Pond	south of 174 along rip rap to #159	west
Locks Pond	opposite 11 King Rd	west
Locks Pond and Lakeview	Intersection - all sides	all sides
Montague Rd	between #423 and #429	west
Montague Rd	at Brown's dam	south
Pelham Hill Rd	yard of #102 creeping towards rd	east
Pelham Hill Rd	from Baker Rd to town line	west
Pelham Hill Rd	near #404 (north of)	east
Pelham Hill Rd	near 233?	
Pratt Corner Road	S of trail with "No Horses" sign S of Leverett TL	west
Prescott Rd	east of Town Farm Rd spotty to Rte 202	north and south
Randall Rd	100 feet east of Locks Pond	south
Stowell Rd	1/4th to half way down	south
Town Hall and surrounds		
W. Pelham Rd	vicinity of #278	west
Wendell Rd	across from 462-473	east
Wendell Rd	across from 711 after 708	west

If you know of other areas along town roadways that are not on this list, please let Town Administrator Becky Torres know so they can be added to the list.

Time to preregister for Hazardous Waste Disposal Day on September 28 in Amherst

The Shutesbury Recycling and Solid Waste Committee encourages residents to bring their household hazardous wastes (HHW) to the Fort River Elementary School parking lot at 70 South East St. in Amherst between 9:00am—12:00pm

In order to participate, residents must preregister. Registration forms are available online at this site: www.amherstma.gov/recycling. The form must be submitted by September 22.

Participating residents will be responsible for paying the disposal fees on-site with cash or check.

Each household may bring up to 25 gallons or 25 pounds (whichever is greater) of material.

The disposal assessments are kind of confusing. If people bring one small bottle of insecticide, for example, they will be charged for a ½ car (\$26.20).

Thus, the RSWC suggests that neighbors pool their hazardous waste and identify one person who will submit the registration form and take the stuff to Amherst on September 28. That designated person should be familiar with what is accepted and not accepted at Hazardous Waste Day (see below) and make sure that everything submitted is acceptable.

There will be a per-can paint fee of \$3 per gallon can, \$2 per quart can, \$1 for cans smaller than one quart.

The non-paint fee will be \$26.20 ½ car, \$46.56 full car. A ½ car = less than 10 gallons or less than 10 pounds of HHW. A full car = up to 25 gallons or 25 pounds of HHW.

Fluorescent bulbs will be accepted for \$1 per bulb.

The RSWC wants Shutesbury residents to dispose of hazardous waste properly. **If you have hazardous waste and would like to dispose of it, but find that the disposal fee is a problem, contact RSWC Chair Meryl Mandell at 259-1282 or merylm@crocker.com.** We have a small amount of funding in the RSWC account that can be used to support the proper disposal of hazardous waste.

There will be a per-can paint fee of \$3 per gallon can, \$2 per quart can, \$1 for cans smaller than one quart.

The non-paint fee will be \$26.20 ½ car, \$46.56 full car. A ½ car = less than 10 gallons or less than 10 pounds of HHW. A full car = up to 25 gallons or 25 pounds of HHW. Fluorescent bulbs will be accepted for \$1 per bulb.

WHAT TO BRING

Any Substance labeled “CAUSTIC, TOXIC, CORROSIVE, POISON, FLAMMABLE, WARNING, DANGER, CAUTION” such as:

Antifreeze
Arts & Crafts Supplies
Asphalt Sealer
Automobile Batteries
Batteries: Button Or Rechargeable
Brake Fluid
Carburetor Cleaner
Chemistry Kits
Degreasers
Drain Cleaners

Engine Degreaser
Flea Powder
Fluorescent Lights
Fungicides
Furniture Polish
Gasoline
Gas Treatments
Herbicides
Insect Sprays
Kerosene
Lighter Fluid
Mercury Thermometers
Mercury Thermostats
Metal Polish
Mothballs
Muriatic Acid
No-Pest Strips
Oven Cleaners
Pesticides
Photo Chemicals
Pool Chemicals
Radiator Flusher
Refrigerants
Rodent Killers
Roofing Tar
Root Killers
Rust Proofers
Solvents
Spot Remover
Toilet Cleaners
Transmission Fluid
Upholstery Cleaner
Used Motor Oil

DO NOT BRING:

Latex Paint
Asbestos
Gas Cylinders
Radioactive Material
Empty Containers From Hazardous Products
Explosives Including Ammunition and Fireworks

Shutesbury Town Garden Maintenance: Can you help out on September 29?



The Shutesbury Highway Berm, Town Hall, and Town Library gardens look great, but could use some tender loving care.

The Garden Club Swat Team (**Meryl**

Mandell, Rita Farrell, Gail Fleischer and Penny Jaques) are planning a fall work day and would love to get some help.

There will not be a lot of heavy lifting . . . here's what we mostly envision doing:

- Weed as needed (we've kept up with a lot of it).
- Apply mulch (we will have a pile delivered prior to the work day).
- Plant a few perennials.

We plan on meeting at the Highway Berm at **9:30am on Sunday, September 29.**

We should be done by noon.

If you can join us, please reply to Meryl via email (merylm@crocker.com) or phone (259-1282).

Bring some gardening tools (e.g., shovel and/or rake, bucket, weeder, clippers, gloves if desired).

Hope you can help. Thanks.

News from the Lake Wyola Association

The summer at the Lake was busy yet pretty quiet.

- The Road Race and the Father's Day Pancake Breakfast, both held in June, were well attended.
- The Lake Wyola Association (LWA) sponsored a Boat Safety course taught by The Massachusetts Environmental Police. Thirty

people were awarded their certificates in Boating Safety.

- The July 3 Boat Parade occurred on a lovely evening.
- The July Beer Fest was a success with 15 Brewers, a wine tasting bar and 250 in attendance. There was dancing until 10pm with a live band.
- Our last event was the Ice Cream Social held on August 17.

The Lake Wyola Association continues its **efforts to prevent invasive species from getting established.**

We urge all residents to carefully clean their (or their guest's) boats before launching.

The Weed Watcher Committee has paroled the lake twice, identifying aquatic plants. So far so good.

Testing of lake water at the three LWA beaches and in the deep water has occurred monthly. The Lake continues to be a very clean and uncontaminated body of water.

There are two public web sites:

- **lakewyola.com** on which you can find the Calendar of Events, minutes of various Lake Wyola meetings, a Listing of LWA Board of Directors, etc., and
- a Lake Wyola **Facebook** page which is interactive and where folks can list rental availability and/or post requests, and comment on the use of the Lake, events, etc.

The Lake Wyola Advisory Committee (LWAC) meets at 9:30 am on the 3rd Saturday of each month. The members currently are **Bill Elliott, Becky Torres, John Gorey, Terry Smith, Mark Rivers** and **April Stein**.



The view of Mount Mineral from Lake Wyola's west shore in 1911.

Temenos Retreat Center marks 50th year

Joe and Teresina Havens, who lived on Mount Mineral to the east of Lake Wyola from 1973 to 1989, founded Temenos to provide a simpler life-style "devoted to the healing and renewal of persons, groups and the wider society."

The name Temenos is derived from the Greek word for the sacred space surrounding a temple or altar. To Carl Jung, the word signified the inner space deep within where soul-making takes place.

In the mid-1800s the mountain was the site of a popular health spa famous for its healing mineral-filled springs.

The springs still welcome visitors to the 68-acre retreat today, which offers a quiet forest setting marked by granite ledges and boulders, hiking trails, and rustic cabins free of the distractions of cell phones, radios, TVs and the Internet. Water is drawn by hand from

a well, and firewood gathered for kindling. Guests practice living simply, with care and reverence for themselves and all the other beings who share the environment.



Elizabeth M. Witham arrived in Shutesbury this summer as the new resident director of Temenos. This month, past visitors will "come home" to the mountain to rededicate its sacred spaces through songs, poems, ceremony and ritual.

For more about Temenos, visit www.temenostreatcenter.org



Left: Elizabeth M. Witham by the mineral springs at Temenos, where two frogs near her feet (and above) seemed lost in contemplation. (Photos by Janis Gray)

The M. N. Spear Memorial Library

10 Cooleyville Road
259-1213; www.mnspear.org
Mary Anne Antonellis, *Director*

Hours:

Monday and Wednesday:
11am -1pm and 3- 7:30pm
Tuesday and Thursday: 3-7:30pm
Friday: Closed
Saturday: 10am-1pm
Sunday: 3-6pm

Drip, drip, drip . . .

The M.N. Spear Memorial Library was built in 1902 and it still has the original slate roof. The south-facing roof has two leaks.

Three slate roof contractors have inspected the roof and they have all said the 111-year-old roof will need to be replaced soon.

The Shutesbury Buildings Committee has recommended replacing only the south-facing roof and replacing cracked, broken and missing slates throughout the rest of the roof now.

Bid documents are being prepared and more information about this renovation project will be available soon.

Dig into Reading!

Summer is always a fun and busy time at the library. We launched our

summer reading program just as school got out and children visited the library all summer, borrowing books, playing in our new sand box and collecting stamps on their Dig into Reading book marks.

Thirty children successfully completed our summer reading program and received awards at our end of summer celebration on August 21. Everyone who attended enjoyed our annual make-your-own-sundae bar!

We owe thanks to volunteers and local businesses who helped with our summer reading program this year.

Steve Sullivan picked up the wood from a local building supply center, **Jake Stinson** and **Josh Pyecroft** spent a Saturday morning building our new sandbox, and **Clark's Excavating** donated the sand. Local archeologists **Jaime** and **Chris Donta** led an archeological dig for children in our sandbox!

Target and BJ's Wholesale Club donated toys for the sandbox and ice cream and other supplies for our end of summer party.



New Magazines!

Thanks to the Friends of the Library, the library subscribes to 33 magazines.

Each year we make adjustments to the titles we offer. Magazines new to the library this year include:

- *Field & Stream*
- *Fitness*
- *Vegetarian Times*
- *Yes!*

The other magazines in the collection include a variety of topics including cooking, gardening, health and nutrition, home repair, and nature. Magazines can be borrowed for one week and can be renewed once.

Download free digital books to your eReader!

The library's C/W MARS membership provides access to a digital collection of eBooks, audiobooks, and videos.

The digital collection provides library patrons access to hundreds of free digital downloads for a variety of electronic reading and listening devices. Visit the digital catalog at <http://digitalcatalog.cwmars.org> to browse the collection.

You must have a library card to use this collection.

We have brochures that explain how to use the digital collection with a variety of devices. If you need help just ask!



The Library needs Friends!

The Friends of the Library support the library by providing funding for magazines and other new materials and they also fund many of our programs.

Thanks to the Friends we are able to offer story hour year round and special programs throughout the year.

The Friends raise funds through

their annual membership drive, weekly books sales Saturdays at the Shutesbury Farmers and Artisans' Market, collecting returnable bottles and cans, coffee sales, and more.

The Friends will be having their final book and bake sale of this season at Celebrate Shutesbury on Saturday, September 21. Donations of used books and DVDs and homemade

baked goods are needed.

Returnable bottles and cans can be brought to the library at any time. Volunteers are needed to help with redeeming them too.

We always have Dean's Beans coffee for sale at the library, regular and decaf, whole beans and ground, \$9 for a 12 ounce bag.

Union #28 Community Network for Children

The *Community Network for Children (CNC)* program is funded through the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care Coordinated Family and Community Engagement (CFCE) grant. The CNC supports all families with children from birth through 3rd grade in our school union.

Some programs for families include: weekly playgroups and story hours; parent/guardian workshops and events; opportunities to meet other families in our community; support in accessing child care and information regarding assistance paying for child care; information about children's development; new baby gift bags and home visits; and newsletters with current programs and events. Our local CNC council assists in the oversight of

the grant funds.

If you are interested in being on our mailing list to receive the newsletters, please call or email **Gillian Budine**, Coordinator, 978-544-5157 or Budine@erving.com.

See our newsletter here: <https://sites.google.com/site/communitynetworkforchildren/newsletters> to get more information.

You can find us on Facebook at "Community Network for Children."

Free: Cold Springs Apple Orchard Trip, Belchertown, September 17, 9:30-11am. Contact Gillian Budine or **Jessica Carlson-Belanger** to register. 978-544-5157

Free: Shutesbury Weekly Playgroup at the Shutesbury Elementary School gym on Fridays, 9:00-10:30am. Come and enjoy time with your child(ren) and other families and caregivers from your community. Playgroup is facilitated by **Colleen Chudzik**. Playgroup is intended for children 0-5 years of age and is sponsored by the Shutesbury Elementary School and Union #28 Community Network for Children. For

more information please contact Gillian Budine, 978-544-5157

Free: Shutesbury Story Hour

Come and enjoy stories, song and craft activities with your child(ren) and other families and caregivers from your community at the MN Spear Memorial Library on Mondays, 10:00-11:00am. Story hour is facilitated by **Julie Stanek**. Story hour is intended for children 0-5 years of age and is sponsored by the MN Spear Memorial Library and Union #28 Community Network for Children. For more information please contact Gillian Budine, 978-544-5157

Free: Let's Get Moving Playgroup on

Sundays at the YMCA in Greenfield, 2:15 - 3:15pm, 10/13, 10/27, 11/10, 11/24, 12/8. January through April dates will be announced in October. No registration necessary.

Ages and Stages Developmental Questionnaire

— Contact Gillian at 978-544-5157 to access this parent/guardian questionnaire regarding the development of your child.

Hospice of Franklin County Bereavement Support Group this fall

Hospice of Franklin County is offering a six-week Bereavement Support Group this fall. A General Loss – Support Group for anyone grieving the loss of a loved one will take place on Thursdays, October 10 – November 14, with a registration deadline of September 26.

The group will meet 5:30pm to 7:00pm at the office of Hospice of Franklin County at 329 Conway St, Greenfield.

A phone interview is required to register for the group. It is recommended that the death was at least three months prior to the start of the group. Membership is limited eight.

To register, please call 774-2400 and speak with Pat Gallagher, the HoFC Bereavement Coordinator.

Redeem coupon for a Welcome Baby Gift Bag!

The Union #28 Community Network for Children (CNC) would like to extend a welcome to your new baby with a free Welcome Baby Gift Bag. Your bag will contain books, health and safety items and valuable information about local services for you and your new baby.

Please call or email Gillian, CNC Coordinator, to arrange for a drop off at your home or to pick up your welcome baby gift bag at one of our local story hours or playgroups!

978-544-5157 or Budine@erving.com!



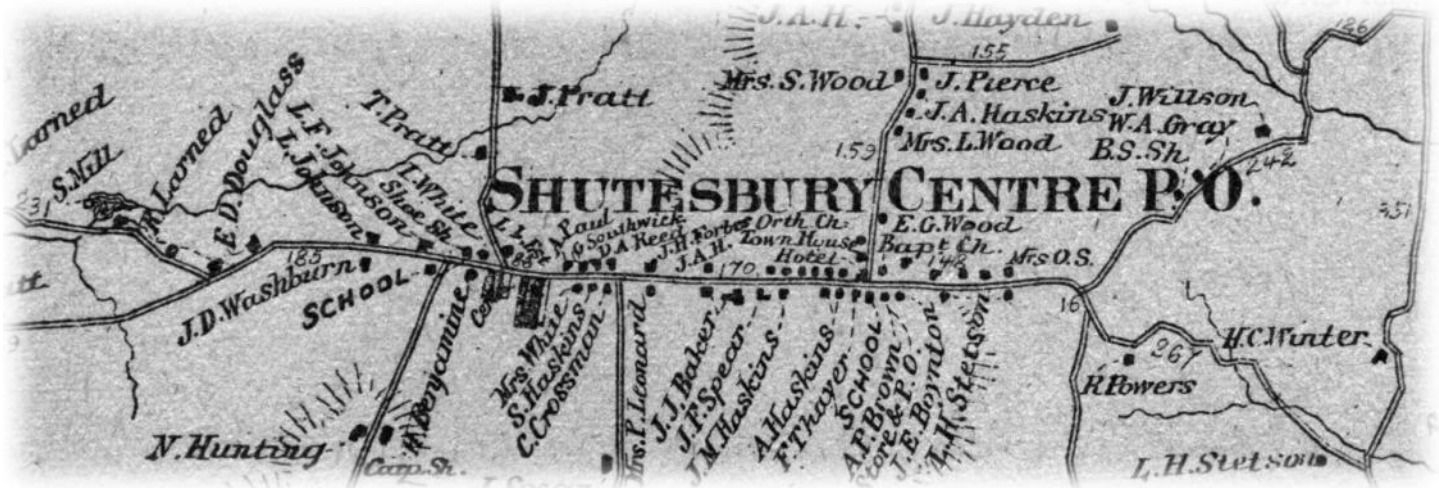


TOWN OF SHUTESBURY
 P.O. BOX 276
 SHUTESBURY MA 01072

PRSR
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID
 PERMIT #5
 SHUTESBURY MA 01072

Come Celebrate Shutesbury
 10am – 3pm on September 21!

Resident
 Shutesbury MA 01072



HOW TO CONTACT TOWN OFFICIALS

Go to www.shutesbury.org to find email addresses, or call the appropriate number below.

ACCOUNTANT Gail Weiss	259-1108	ELEMENTARY SCHOOL Maureen Ryan, Principal	259-1212	RECREATION COMMITTEE Vacant	259-1214
ADA COMMITTEE Martina Carroll	259-1110	EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR Walter Tibbetts	259-1211	RECYCLING COORDINATOR Gary Bernhard	259-1235
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR Rebecca Torres	259-1214	FINANCE COMMITTEE Lori Tuominen	259-1765	REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE Michael DeChiara, contact	259-1509
ANIMAL INSPECTORS Denise Chiminiello	259-1020	Rus Wilson	259-1820	ROADS COMMITTEE Vacant	259-1214
Nancy Long	259-2123	FIRE DEPARTMENT Walter Tibbetts, Chief	259-1211	SHUTESBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE Michael DeChiara	259-1509
ASSESSORS Kenneth Holmberg	259-3790	or at home	259-1286	UNION #28 SCHOOL SUPT. Bob Mahler	423-3337
BOARD OF HEALTH William Elliott	259-2122	HEALTH AGENT David Zarozinski	549-3710	SELECT BOARD Elaine Puleo, Chair	259-1979
Public health emergency	659-7294	HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT Tim Hunting	259-1215	Al Springer	259-1578
BUILDINGS COMMITTEE Dale Houle	259-1696	HISTORICAL COMMISSION Barbara Goodhind	259-1428	J. April Stein	259-1074
BUILDING INSPECTOR Jim Hawkins	774-3167 x. 113	M.N. SPEAR MEMORIAL LIBRARY Mary Anne Antonellis, Dir.	259-1213	SHUTESBURY-LEVERETT BROADBAND COMMITTEE	259-1696
CEMETERY COMMISSION Marilyn Tibbetts	259-1976	LIBRARY TRUSTEES Karen Traub	367-9826	Weezie Houle	259-1696
COUNCIL ON AGING Med-Ride Program	259-2123	OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE Janice Stone	259-1557	TAX COLLECTOR Ellen McKay	259-1615
Muriel Gross, Chair	259-1371	OUR TOWN NEWSLETTER Janis S. Gray	259-1584	TOWN CLERK Leslie Bracebridge	259-1204
CONSERVATION COMMISSION Leave inquiries at	259-3792	PERSONNEL BOARD J. April Stein	259-1074	TREASURER Gabriele Voelker	259-1801
CULTURAL COUNCIL Julie Stepanek, contact	387-5670	PLANNING BOARD Deacon Bonnar	259-1276	TREE WARDEN Thomas Houston	259-1508
DEPT. OF VETERAN'S SERVICES Leo J. Parent, Jr.	863-3205	PLUMBING/GAS INSPECTOR John Letourneau	367-0017	WEB COMMITTEE Fred Steinberg	259-9996
DOG OFFICER Nancy Long	345-8796	POLICE DEPARTMENT Chief Thomas E. Harding	259-1279	ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS Charles J. DiMare	549-5330
ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR Maurice Gregoire	253-7505	Dispatch	625-8200	250th ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE Janis S. Gray	259-1584
		POLICE, FIRE & RESCUE SQUAD	911	Maryélise Lamet	259-1551