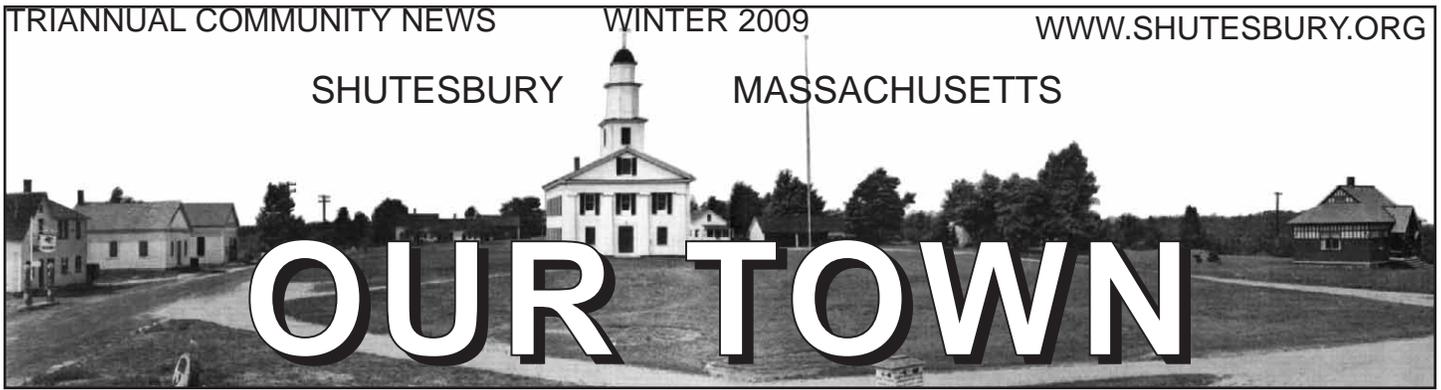


SHUTESBURY

MASSACHUSETTS



# OUR TOWN

## "It was a heck of a week"

Janis S. Gray, *Editor*

That's how Town Administrator **David Dann** described the toll of a severe ice storm the night of December 11, 2008 that left Shutesbury residents without electricity or water for days -- and, for a time, physically cut off from the rest of the world.

Soon after Fire Chief/ Emergency Management Director **Walter Tibbetts** called out his fire fighters in response to downed trees and power lines, he realized that the scope of the damage was huge -- and more than the town could handle itself.

So at 5:00am on Friday, December 12 -- in the first use of our new "reverse 911" system -- residents whose phones were still working were notified that Shutesbury was in a state of emergency.

The emergency had actually been

**Shutesbury A.C. dinner to honor storm's heroes Jan. 16!**

See the insert in this newsletter.



Photo by Janis S. Gray, December 12, 2008

declared at 4:10am, Tibbetts explains, but he didn't want the automated phone call to wake people too early. And yet, he needed to catch commuters at home before they attempted to head for work -- because with all roads impassable, there was no way for anyone to get out of town.

With 1/2" of ice on every tree, he also realized that asking the fire department and highway crews to clear the roads alone was dangerous.

"Trees react differently when coated with ice," he says. "They can shatter from a saw, fly apart -- and take your head off if you're not careful."

At Town Hall Friday morning, the fire department, highway department, town administrator and select board met to assess conditions and break down the tasks that lay ahead. (Selectman Al Springer walked to the meeting from the corner of Pelham Hill and Leonard Roads because the way was impassable by car.)

The town engaged three professional tree removal crews. The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation and the Massachusetts National Guard would also send people to Shutesbury's aid. By Friday afternoon, one passage had been cleared in and out of town: Pelham Hill Road down to Route 202, although one or the other of its two lanes were still blocked in places.

National Grid's utility crews, meanwhile, were overwhelmed by the numbers of broken power poles and lines,

Tibbetts said. Utility trucks and workers from Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, Kentucky, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia began heading for Shutesbury and other affected hilltowns.

With its generator, Town Hall became a shelter. Dann estimates  
*Continued on page 5*

## What if it's Thursday and your trash is still there?

The weather has presented many challenges for trash haulers and residents alike so far this winter season. In that it is only January, there will probably be more challenges to come. Instantly communicating changes in the pick-up schedule town wide is also a challenge. At Town Hall, we have developed the following information plan:

Check for updates on the town website homepage: [www.shutesbury.org](http://www.shutesbury.org)

Sign up to receive town email announcements by sending a request to [web@shutesbury.org](mailto:web@shutesbury.org) to have your email address added to the town subscribed announcement list.

Check the Recycling Coordinator's answering machine at 259-3796.

The Recycling Coordinator position is currently vacant. We welcome anyone who might have interest in this position to call Town Administrator David Dann at 259-1214 for more information.

**FIREFIGHTERS' PANCAKE BREAKFAST JANUARY 31**  
Come feast on flapjacks and support the Shutesbury Fire Department at its annual pancake breakfast on Saturday, January 31 at Shutesbury Elementary School.  
Pancakes will be served between 8:00am and 10:30am. Tickets at the door are \$4.50 for adults, \$2.50 for children up to age 12, and children 5 and under eat for free! This is more than a great meal -- it's a great social event in the dead of winter. We hope to see you there!

## Messages from the Town Clerk

Leslie Bracebridge, *Town Clerk*  
Joan Hanson, *Assistant Town Clerk*  
Office Hours: Monday through  
Thursday 9:00am - 1:00pm  
Call 259-1204 for special  
appointments or to leave a message.

An **Annual Street List** form, requesting the household census on January 1 of this year, was mailed to each Shutesbury household.

State law requires that these forms be completed and returned within ten days of receipt. If your household did not receive a form, or if your form is misplaced, please call the Town Clerk's office (259-1204) and one will be sent to you right away.

Returning the completed street list form keeps one's voter registration active, ensures one's continued receipt of municipal mailings, and verifies eligibility for the trash bag distribution list in May!

Shutesbury's **Annual Town Meeting and Election** will be on Saturday, May 2, 2009 at the Shutesbury Elementary School, 23 West Pelham Road. Polls will be open 8:00am - 2:00pm and the Town Meeting will begin at 9:00am.

If you are not already registered to vote, you must do so by Saturday, April 11, 2009 to be eligible to vote on May 2. You can **register to vote** anytime before the deadline in person at the Town Clerk's office or you can call to have a mail-in voter registration card sent to you. You can also call to confirm your voter registration status.

**Absentee ballots** will be available for voters who cannot come to the polls, due to health concerns, religious restrictions or because they will be out of town, between the hours of 8:00am and 2:00pm on May 2.

Absentee ballots will be available approximately four weeks in advance of the election, through noon on Friday, May 1. You (or your relative on your behalf) may apply for an absentee ballot in person, or request a ballot by writing to the Town Clerk, P.O. Box 264, Shutesbury, MA 01072.

Your request must include your residential address, the address to which you would like a ballot sent, and your signature. If you apply in person, you can choose to vote at that time or a ballot will be mailed to the location of your choice.

People sometimes ask if they can get an absentee ballot for the Town Meeting Articles. Absentee ballots are strictly for the election of officials and any ballot questions. Town Meeting questions are only voted on the floor

of Town Meeting after an open exchange of information.

**More and more documents available through this office are now also available for home access** at [www.shutesbury.org](http://www.shutesbury.org). For example, Shutesbury's September Primary and November state election and recent special town meeting results, current zoning bylaws, and meeting postings are all available on the website.

Some information changes more quickly than websites can be corrected, so always feel welcome to check in by phone or in person, anytime that you must have the most current information.

## Lost & Found

**Eyeglasses** were left at Town Hall during the December ice storm.

**A walker** was found on Wendell Road during a snow storm and delivered to Town Hall.

If you think that either of these articles might belong to you, please call Leslie at 259-1204, or David at 259-1214.

## Thanks to the Tibbetts trio!

**Robert, Walter and Marilyn Tibbetts** came to Town Hall in September to help prepare the autumn *Our Town* for delivery to your mailbox.

If you'd like to join future "folding parties," please call the Town Clerk's office at 259-1204 to be added to our list of people to call. You'll be under no obligation to participate if you do -- but we will welcome your help whenever or wherever it suits you best.

*Our Town*, published three times a year in January, April and late August or early 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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## Positions that will be on the ballot due to term expirations

|                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Board of Health</b>           | 2 three-year positions                        |
| <b>Cemetery Commission</b>       | 1 three-year position                         |
| <b>Constable</b>                 | 1 one-year position                           |
| <b>Board of Library Trustees</b> | 2 three-year positions<br>1 two-year position |
| <b>Moderator</b>                 | 1 three-year position                         |
| <b>Planning Board</b>            | 2 three-year positions                        |
| <b>School Committee</b>          | 2 three-year positions                        |
| <b>Board of Selectmen</b>        | 1 three-year position.                        |

More positions may open up due to resignations. Some officials may decide not to run again. The previous Moderator has moved away from Shutesbury and therefore will not be seeking re-election.

If becoming an elected official is of interest to you, please call with any preliminary questions, or just stop in to sign a nomination form and to pick up other necessary paperwork. You need only collect 20 signatures of registered voters for your name to appear on the May 2nd ballot. Completed nomination forms must be returned by Saturday, March 14.

Please feel welcome to call or stop in any time you have a question or have something of which the Town Clerk's office should be aware.

## News from the Town Administrator

David Dann, *Town Administrator*

New this year is the adopted **Community Preservation Act**. The Act establishes a fund financed by a 1.5% property tax surcharge and revenues from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

This new funding source can be used to address core community concerns such as to acquire and preserve open space and land for recreational use, restore and preserve historic properties and structures, and create and support affordable housing.

See Assessor's insert in this newsletter to determine if you qualify for an exemption from the surcharge.

Despite a late start and the cold winter, work is progressing to **repair the Lake Wyola Dam**. Our local legislators worked tirelessly on the town's behalf to secure a grant of \$150,000, about half of the total costs when we factor in engineering, clerk-of-the-work, and permitting costs. We hope all the stone and concrete repairs will be completed by mid January so the lake can start to refill.

A new insulated roof was installed at the main **Highway garage** along with an addition between the main garage and barn sheds to store hazardous materials.

The Leverett/Cooleyville/Prescott **Footprint Road Project** was successfully completed.

The town was very fortunate to have a very good contractor and to have such a major infrastructure completed with Federal/State funds.

My **weekly Town Administrator's Report** is now online on our web page [www.Shutesbury.org](http://www.Shutesbury.org).

I put this weekly report together for the Select Board to inform them of my weekly activities and provide them with important information on projects, and upcoming Select Board agenda items.

## Christmas tree bonfire Saturday, January 10

If this newsletter reaches you by January 10, consider disposing of your holiday tree by adding it to a community bonfire that Saturday behind the Fire Station.

This event, sponsored by the Fire Department, will begin at dusk.

And finally, how can I not comment on how well the town responded to all the difficulties during one of the **biggest winter ice storms** in our town's history?

So many folks volunteered, helped their neighbor or worked extra hours. It feels great to be part of such a caring community. Thank you all.

May 2009 bring us peace and prosperity.

## Agriculture/Forestry Commission information meeting January 28

Linda Rotondi, *Planning Board*

The Shutesbury Planning Board will be hosting a public discussion regarding the formation of a Shutesbury Agriculture and Forestry Commission on Wednesday, January 28, at 8:00pm at Town Hall.

Pete Westover, who has helped a number of towns in New England to set up their Commissions, will be leading the discussion.

Anyone involved in any aspect of farming, forestry, or animal husbandry may want to attend this meeting and/or be a member of the Commission if established.

## Note from the Town Collector

Ellen McKay, *Town Collector*

Dear Shutesbury taxpayers,

With the winter upon us, the third quarter of our real estate bills and the calendar 2009 motor vehicle excise bills are rapidly approaching.

The **third quarter real estate tax bills** were mailed out the end of December and must be received by this office no later than February 2 to

avoid interest.

This bill will probably be a different amount than your first two quarters as it is based on your fiscal 2009 assessment and on the new tax rate. It also includes the Community Preservation Act assessment that was voted into effect at the November election.

To calculate your total tax responsibility for the entire fiscal year, multiply your valuation on the third quarter bill by the new tax rate.

If you have any questions on the value of your property or if you wish to **apply for an abatement or exemption**, please contact the Board of Assessors at 259-3790.

The **calendar 2009 motor vehicle excise tax bills** on vehicles registered at the end of 2008 are usually received from the Registry of Motor Vehicles late in January. If you receive a bill on a car you have traded or on which you have changed registrations, do NOT ignore the bill. The Board of Assessors should be contacted to obtain an application for abatement. The forms are also available on the Town's website.

Our **on-line bill paying feature** allows you to pay your tax bills either directly from your checking or savings account with no fee or with a credit card for a fee based on the amount of your transaction.

To use this service, click on the Town's website and then on the announcement on the homepage.

For Real Estate and Personal Property taxes, you should enter 2009 for the year and just the bill number WITHOUT the RE or PP to enter the program. For motor vehicle payments, enter the year and bill number which is found on the top, right side of your bill.

Before venturing out to **pay a bill in person**, please call this office at 259-1615 to check the answering machine to determine if I will be here.

Have a happy, healthy, and safe New Year.

-- Ellen

## School's core is good amidst lots of change

Michael DeChiara, *Chair, Shutesbury School Committee*

Shutesbury Elementary School (SES) continues to be an anchor of solid education in a world where the winds of change are blowing.

**THE CORE:** Despite another year of tight budgets, SES has been providing high quality education and services to our town's children.

As of December there were 163 children enrolled from PreK to 6th grade with class sizes ranging from 18-23. In terms of curriculum, this year the staff is taking a comprehensive look at its English/Language Arts programming to explore how to better meet the needs of all children. The math program that was adopted several years ago is going strong with new methods being further integrated; the math program is now being used by the Amherst system which provides greater regional consistency.

Two examples may provide a more tangible sense of the richness offered at SES. In the week prior to winter vacation, the second annual Artist in Residence program occurred, a program that is quickly becoming a highly valued tradition. Since all funding for this was cut in the 2008 budget, the PTO, Shutesbury Education Foundation and bake sales on election day enabled local Shutesbury residents **Marilyn Middleton-Sylla** and **Sekou Sylla** to provide a weeklong program of African music and dance.

This kind of programming, engaging all the children (PreK to 6th) and pulling in SES' art and music specialists, reflects the school's commitment to retaining a rich educational experience despite hard financial times. The program culminated in a standing-room evening performance for parents and community.

In a more daily but equally inspiring approach, the school's newly hired food director, **Lonny Ricketts**, has reintroduced the value of making the food program consistent with the high quality of education offered. He prepares fresh food most days, including baking fresh bread daily (creatively

dealing with USDA limits on flour allocations).

**THE CHANGES:** Much is happening beyond SES that will bring change -- some hopeful, some more challenging.

At the Amherst-Pelham Region, the search for a new Superintendent is getting closer. A total of 22 candidates from 16 states applied and semi-finalists will be interviewed by the Regional School Committee by the end of January. It is possible a finalist could be chosen by March 2009.

Budgetarily, both the Amherst Region and Shutesbury Elementary will be forced to make cuts again this coming fiscal year (starting in July). The continued lack of adequate funding from the state is troubling. Increases in energy, health insurance and personnel costs mean that just maintaining the current programming requires more than the town and region can provide.

Thus the challenge once again will be how to make cuts and still maintain the integrity of our educational offerings. With each year of cuts our school system falls farther behind by putting off needed purchases and maintenance. Despite commitment and creative solutions (SES is poised to work with the town on implementing energy efficiency efforts once an audit of the building is conducted), the economic crisis makes this challenge even greater. The situation will be further aggravated if the Governor's threatened cuts (up to 10%) to education and town aid occur in mid-fiscal year (January 2009).

Finally, as one would expect, the financial challenges have led state policy makers to think about how Massachusetts organizes education. The last time this was occurred was 1993 with Education Reform. There is a strong push by the Dept. of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE, formerly the DOE) to get small school districts like Shutesbury to consolidate and regionalize. While the DESE suggests that this would save money, findings from a recent Small and Rural School Study and evidence from other states that have consolidated indicate only short-term savings at best.

While there may be benefits, there is also concern about possible loss of local accountability, community participation and curriculum flexibility.

In the face of pressure from the DESE, many towns, including Shutesbury (along with Pelham, Leverett and Amherst) are discussing whether to explore what elementary regionalization may mean. Shutesbury has been part of Union #28 (with Leverett, New Salem, Wendell and Erving) since 1902 and the Union is also actively discussing options regarding efficiency and organization.

Local legislators Stan Rosenberg and Steve Kulik have been in the lead of a Franklin County effort to explore solutions that work for Western Massachusetts and respond to legislative or DESE initiatives. There are several ways to stay informed about this emerging issue:

Franklin County Public Education Study Group website -- [www.franklin-countyeducation.info](http://www.franklin-countyeducation.info)

Shutesbury-oriented blog about education changes -- [www.sescommunity.org/blog](http://www.sescommunity.org/blog)

Franklin County Public Education Study Group email list (signup info at website above)

## Explore local opportunities for kids while they have fun

The 5th Annual Early Education and Care Expo will be held Sunday, January 11, 2009 from 1:00-4:00pm at the YMCA of Greenfield (451 Main Street, Greenfield) in the gymnasium.

Come learn about options for preschool, Head Start, family childcare, out-of-school time programs, playgroups, story hours, and other community resources in the Franklin County area.

Refreshments will be served. There will be fun activities for children.

This event is co-sponsored by the Gill-Montague, Greenfield, Pioneer, Union #28, and Union #38 Community Partnership for Children programs, and the YMCA in Greenfield.

For information contact, Emily Koester at 863-3280 or [ekoester@gmrnsd.org](mailto:ekoester@gmrnsd.org). The snow date is January 18. Listen to WHAI or WRSI for snow date information.

Find a wealth of information on our town's web site -- and sign up for news alerts!

For access to Shutesbury news and information anytime, go to [www.shutesbury.org](http://www.shutesbury.org).

The homepage will tell you what's new, including a quick link to the Town Administrator's week ending reports.

Did you forget which recycling week it is? No problem; the homepage will tell you.

Do you need to go back to this or previous issues of *Our Town*? Back issues of *Our Town* are archived at [www.shutesbury.org](http://www.shutesbury.org).

Other pages give past town committee meeting minutes, contact information for public officials, links to our legislators and other government related information.

Many pages, including the Recycling Committee's information section, have been up-dated and more will be updated soon, so visit often.

The Web Committee, which oversees the town's official website, also sends town-related email announcements to a subscribed list of recipients.

If you wish to receive those announcements, send your email address with a request to be added to the town's announcement list to [web@shutesbury.org](mailto:web@shutesbury.org).

If your committee or town department has an announcement to make, send the announcement, and when you would like it sent out, along with your name and the department which you represent to [web@shutesbury.org](mailto:web@shutesbury.org).

The goal of the Web Committee is to enhance communication between town officials and citizens. If you have suggestions for ways to improve our efforts, we welcome hearing from you.

-- Chairman **Fred Steinberg** and members **Paul Vlach**, **Willa Jarnagin** and **Leslie Bracebridge**



## Family Network reaches out to little ones

Since 1998, the Erving School Union #28 has been funded by a grant from the Massachusetts Department of Education/MA Family Network to provide outreach, education and support services for families with children under 4 years of age living in the towns of Shutesbury, Leverett, Erving, New Salem and Wendell.

We offer Parent Council meetings; workshops based on assessed families needs; field trips; and frequent fun events for the entire family. We also make Home Visits with our Baby Gift Bags to families with newborns to welcome them into our program.

If you have just moved into Shutesbury, have a child under four years of age, are pregnant or have a newborn, then please call **Naz Mohamed** at 413-423-3337 or email [mohamed@erving.com](mailto:mohamed@erving.com) to be put on our mailing list.

This is a wonderful way to meet other Family Network families with young children in your and neighboring towns.

## Who will care for the caregiver?

Franklin County Home Care offers programs and services to help elders, caregivers and person with disabilities. Many pay caregivers to provide care to family or friends.

See [www.fchcc.org](http://www.fchcc.org) or contact us at [info@fchcc.org](mailto:info@fchcc.org), 413-773-5555 or 978-544-2259.

## News from the lake

The lake area, being in a small hollow, did not receive the ice damage to the extent that our town neighbors did up the hill.

We hope everyone is recovering from that storm and we thank town officials for all their effort and determination in storm clean up.

It continues to be a heroic effort for all involved.

The Lake Wyola Association is setting its wintry sights on summer as the planning for the '09 Events Calendar will take place in January.

There are some new events in the pipeline and we are excited to add them to our traditional summer events. More details will be unveiled as the events take shape.

### **Ice Storm, continued from page 1**

that 75-100 residents visited Town Hall during the emergency to collect water, warm up, use the restroom or plug in essential medical equipment that depended on electricity.

When the regular power came back on at Town Hall (before much of the rest of Shutesbury), the range in the kitchen on the lower level was also put to use.

In an outgoing message on her office phone Monday night, Town Clerk **Leslie Bracebridge** noted that school would reopen on Tuesday. She added that Town Hall continued to serve as a shelter, where "there are lights, heat, water, tables, chairs -- .and a warm casserole in the oven!"

Meanwhile, the fire station was serving as headquarters for an army of power and telephone workers, as well as our firefighters, DPW staff, hired tree crews and town volunteers.

When they came in from the cold, they were warmed by hot meals and beverages coordinated by **Marilyn Tibbetts**.

"So many people chipped in and volunteered to donate food, time to prepare it or money to buy more," says her son Walter. "To see the whole town get together and help was really something."

By Friday, December 19 -- a full week after Shutesbury woke to find itself imprisoned in ice -- all but 20 households had their power restored. These stragglers were what the utility crews called "onesies and twosies," isolated homes set back off the road at the end of long power lines.

*Continued on page 6*



*"All changed,  
changed utterly;  
A terrible  
beauty is born."*

-- William Butler Yeats



Center top: Fire Chief Walter Tibbetts assesses the situation on Wendell Road on the morning of December 12.

Below: state Department of Conservation and Recreation workers and members of the Mass. National Guard feed downed trees into a chipper on December 14.



A welcome sight: A utility crew from West Virginia restores power using trucks sent from Indiana.



*Photos by Ken and Linda Rotondi, Janis S. Gray and Patrick Callahan*

**Ice Storm, continued from page 5**

Dann says the storm cost the town roughly \$70,000 in overtime, gasoline, shelter expenses and the expense of hiring the three private tree and debris removal firms.

Shutesbury has joined other towns affected by the storm in sending Preliminary Damage Estimate Forms to see if Massachusetts can meet the cumulative \$6.3 million threshold to qualify for a full Presidential Disaster Declaration and financial assistance.

Dann wants to extend "one big THANK YOU to hundreds of unsung heroes. Two I would like to single out

are Walter Tibbetts and Al Springer. Both put in hundreds of hours during the storm and emergency period.

"Next come all the wonderful fire fighters -- which includes Marilyn Tibbetts -- who have been extraordinary. Highway crew, Police Department, Select Board, Leslie Bracebridge, and all the wonderful folks who helped out in so many ways. We do have a truly great community that will always find ways to help our neighbors."

"We really got ahead of the other towns in the speed of our cleanup," agrees Walter Tibbetts. "The biggest thing that I can stress is that every-

thing worked so well.

"It was a good first, real test of some of the emergency planning that we've done. We had opportunities to learn from it, too -- ways to improve for next time." Tibbetts hesitates, then lets out a rueful chuckle. "If there's a next time!

"Experience is a great teacher," he concludes.

And it seems that this teacher's lessons reached more than our Emergency Management Director last month.

For as he observes, "There are a lot of proud new owners of generators in town!"

# The M. N. Spear Memorial Library

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

## Hours

Monday and Wednesday  
11:00am to 1:00pm  
3:00pm to 6:00pm.  
Tuesday and Thursday  
3:00pm to 7:30pm  
Saturday  
10:00am to 12:00pm  
Sunday  
3:30pm to 5:30pm.

## BIG change at the M.N. Spear Memorial Library in 2009

Thanks to help from many volunteers and the Western Mass Regional Library System, we are almost ready to begin circulating with C/W MARS. New barcodes have been attached to almost every item in the library (about 12,000) and we are in the process of fine-tuning the records in our new on-line catalog.

You can take a look at our catalog by visiting our website, [www.mnspear.org](http://www.mnspear.org) and clicking on the card catalog link at the top of the homepage. We expect to begin circulating with C/W MARS by **spring**.

## Many hands make light work

Getting ready to be C/W MARS mini-net members has been a tremendous amount of work and we wouldn't even be close to being ready without the help of so many wonderful volunteers.

Thanks are due to **Josie DeChiara, Steven Kalt, Rose and Nisha Dawson, Amy Nyzio, Judith Seelig, Joan Bedin-Price, Wendy Pearson and Jen Davies**. I would also like to thank **Dan Gerber**, whose Public Health students from UMass have put in many volunteer hours here at the library.

We have also received support for this project from WMRLS. Two grant-funded, professional librarians have been working on our new catalog for about 20 hours every week.



## Changes to our circulation and fine policies

All C/W MARS member libraries follow the same loan periods and fine rates. These are slightly different than our current policies. *We will not implement these changes until our conversion to C/W MARS is complete.* Until then we will follow our current policies. (Our current DVD/Video lending policy is on our website.)

### Fines

DVDs and video cassettes will accrue a \$1.00 per day fine with a maximum fine of \$5.00 per item.

All other circulating items; books, magazines, audiobooks, and CDs will accrue fines at a rate of 10 cents per day, with a \$3.00 per item maximum fine. There is no grace period.

### Loans

DVDs, video cassettes and magazines can be borrowed for seven days with one renewal for seven days.

New books can be borrowed for 14 days with one renewal for 14 days.

Most other items can be borrowed for 21 days with one renewal of 21 days.

## Other news

Thanks to the Friends of the Spear Library and the Shutesbury Cultural Council, plans are in the works for a variety of library programs in the coming months.

Our website, [www.mnspear.org](http://www.mnspear.org), is updated regularly with lots of great information.

We are planning another **Tale for Seven Towns** with the libraries in Wendell, New Salem, Montague, Greenfield, Deerfield, and Sunderland.

This year's program will run from the beginning of February until March 18.

**Local author Tyler Boudreau** will visit Shutesbury on March 4 to talk about his book, *Packing Inferno: the Unmaking of a Marine*, and his experiences in the Iraq war.

On Saturday, March 21, we will welcome the first day of spring with a family program called **Science in Motion** with **locally famous mime Robert Rivest**.

**Local author Julius Lester** will visit Shutesbury on April 29.

And plans are already in the works for the summer reading program!

# HOW TO CONTACT TOWN OFFICIALS

|   |                      |  |                      |  |                                  |
|---|----------------------|--|----------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| ACCOUNTANT<br><i>Gail Weiss</i>                                     | 259-1108             | ELEMENTARY SCHOOL<br><i>Robert Mahler, Principal</i>                   | 259-1212             | RECREATION COMMITTEE<br><i>Jen Davies</i>  | 259-1008                         |
| ADA COMMITTEE<br><i>Martina Carroll</i>                             | 259-1110             | EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR<br><i>Walter Tibbetts</i>                | 259-1211             | RECYCLING COORDINATOR<br><i>Vacant</i>   | Call 259-1214                    |
| TOWN ADMINISTRATOR<br><i>David C. Dann</i>                          | 259-1214             | FINANCE COMMITTEE<br><i>Eric Stocker</i>                               | 259-1478             | REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE<br><i>Marianne Jorgensen</i>                                     | 259-1842                         |
| ANIMAL INSPECTORS<br><i>Denise Chiminiello</i><br><i>Nancy Long</i> | 259-1020<br>259-2123 | FIRE DEPARTMENT<br><i>Walter Tibbetts, Chief</i><br><i>or home</i>     | 259-1211<br>259-1286 | ROADS COMMITTEE<br><i>Vacant</i>   | Call 259-1214                    |
| ASSESSORS<br><i>Kenneth Holmberg</i>                                | 259-3790             | HEALTH AGENT<br><i>David Zarozinski</i>                                | 549-3710             | SCHOOL COMMITTEE<br><i>Michael DeChiara</i>  | 259-1059                         |
| BOARD OF HEALTH<br><i>William Elliott, Chair</i>                    | 259-2122             | HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT<br><i>Tim Hunting</i>                               | 259-1215             | UNION 28 SCHOOL SUPT.<br><i>Joan Wickman</i>   | 423-3337                         |
| BUILDINGS COMMITTEE<br><i>Dale Houle</i>                            | 259-1696             | HISTORICAL COMMISSION<br><i>Barbara Goodhind</i>                       | 259-1428             | SELECT BOARD<br><i>Becky Torres, Chair</i><br><i>Al Springer</i><br><i>Ralph Armstrong</i> | 259-1618<br>259-1578<br>259-1021 |
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