

SHUTESBURY

MASSACHUSETTS



OUR TOWN

A full plate on Town Meeting's table this May 5

David Dann, *Town Administrator*

Every Town Meeting is important, but I can honestly say this year our Annual Town Meeting is in a category all its own, with some very important warrant articles. Town Employees, Boards/Committees/Commissions have worked hard to prepare budgets, give reports, and prepare presentations in order to provide the most comprehensive information possible for your consideration and vote.

There are warrant articles on roads; an article supporting the Library Trustees' effort to apply for a matching grant for the planning/design of a new, renovated or rehabilitated library; articles to borrow money for a new backhoe and to rehabilitate the Highway Garage; and

Zoning revision update

The Planning Board, at its meeting of April 11, voted not to bring to the May Annual Town Meeting the comprehensive revision of the zoning bylaw.

The drafting process, arduous and years in length, has left Shutesbury citizens too little time for an adequate review of a necessarily complex document. The April 4 hearing and other forums have made clear that the Planning Board must take the time to inform voters fully about a bylaw crafted to manage development over the long term. We look forward, now that a well-developed document is in hand, to meetings with all who are interested. We trust that Shutesbury will make an informed and thoughtful choice about its future growth.

many more articles.

You will find a copy of the proposed budget for next year and complete list of all the warrant articles in this newsletter.

Another important issue is the repair of the Lake Wyola Dam. There is a **Special Town Meeting scheduled just before our annual Town Meeting** with a warrant article relating to the repair of the Lake Wyola Dam and its funding.

The Planning Board has withdrawn its plan to present an entire new zoning bylaw with a map of the proposed zoning districts. (See "Zoning revision update") The new zoning bylaws would replace our current zoning bylaws, and include more flexible development as well as new and improved regulations by adopting many of the goals and objectives of the Master Plan.

If you do not have a copy of the bylaw revision, you can pick one up at Town Hall or go online to the town's web site, www.shutesbury.org. When it is presented, the passage of the new bylaw at a future Town Meeting will require a 2/3 vote.

Please come to the Special Town Meeting and Annual Town Meeting on Saturday, May 5. There is no truer form of democracy than Town Meeting.

If you need child care or get hungry, the PTO will be providing child care and the Friends of M.N. Spear Memorial Library will have plenty of good food.

If you have run out of garbage bags, Town Meeting also is the beginning of the garbage bag distribution cycle for the new fiscal year.

Thank you all who make our town so special. See you Saturday, May 5.

Yankee 'reserve' urged on the use of Free Cash

Eric A. Stocker, *Chair, Finance Committee*

As *Our Town* goes to press, the Finance Committee is putting the finishing touches on the FY08 Budget. Fortunately, the town has healthy financial reserves. Reluctantly, we will need to tap them again to balance the budget. At the Annual Town Meeting (ATM) we will explain in detail our proposed use of Reserve Funds. We are hopeful that at ATM this year, more so than in past years, we will have a clear picture of the amount of revenue we can expect from the Commonwealth.

We have repeatedly warned that the use of Free Cash is potentially perilous. This year the town will be able to meet its FY08 Budget obligations and remain on solid financial footing. Each year this task gets a little more difficult as we slowly use our reserves to balance the operating budget. Sooner or later, we will either need to rein in spending more than we already have, or raise more revenues. It's just that simple. At the local level both of these prospects are unappealing.

At last year's ATM, Shutesbury voted to endorse raising the State income tax back up to 6% with the proviso that the additional revenues raised go back to the cities and towns. Until the Legislature and Governor have the resolve to solve the Commonwealth's fiscal woes once and for all, the cities and towns will be forced to raise regressive real estate taxes in order to fund basic

Finance, continued on page 3

Messages from the Town Clerk

Leslie Bracebridge, *Town Clerk*
Joan Hanson, *Assistant Town Clerk*
Office Hours: Monday through
Thursday 9:00am - 1:00pm
Call 413-259-1204 for special
appointments or to leave a message.

Saturday, May 5, 2007 is the date of Shutesbury's Annual Town Meeting and Election of officers. The polls will be open at the Shutesbury Elementary School at 23 West Pelham Rd. from 8:00am to 2:00pm. Annual Town Meeting will immediately follow a 9:00am Special Town Meeting.

Friday April 13 was the last day to **register to vote** for the Annual Town Meeting and Election and April 25 for the Special Town Meeting. Once you have registered to vote in a Massachusetts town, as long as you remain at the same address and continue to fill out your annual street list form in January, your name remains on the voter registration list. Call the number above anytime if you would like to check your voter registration status.

At the polls, in addition to traditional paper ballots, Shutesbury voters will have the option of using a **fully accessible ballot marking machine**. An outcome of the federal Help America Vote Act, the AutoMARK VAT (Voter Assist Terminal) will look something like a tabletop copier with a computer screen. The office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth provided an AutoMARK VAT to every polling place in Massachusetts. No voter will be required to use the machine. Any voter may use it. The AutoMARK produces a paper ballot that then goes into the ballot box.

Many voters have expressed their joy over the years of having traditional paper ballots and a **hand crank ballot box**. We will continue that tradition as long as possible.

That said, the gears on the 1931 ballot box started skipping at the end of the November 2006 election. In the event that the old ballot box gears give up completely, we will need to consider replacement voting equipment. That could be a used ballot box

The Woodburys step down, but leave mark on history

After many years of serving on the Shutesbury Historical Commission, our friends **Richard** and **Nathalie Woodbury** have needed to resign.

The town has been so very fortunate to have their expertise and commitment to preserving Shutesbury's history. We will greatly miss their sense of history as well as their work on the Commission. They have been made honorary members of the Commission.

Shutesbury is now looking for someone interested in serving on the

Historical Commission. We usually meet on the second Wednesday of the month at 1:00pm and the discussions are always interesting and varied. Please call any member of the Historical Commission or our Town Administrator for more information.

Barbara Goodhind 259-1428

Joanna Hayes 259-1359

Leslie Bracebridge 259-1973

Joan Hanson 259-1623

Karen Czerwonka 259-1209

Steve Puffer 259-1372

David Dann, Town Administrator
259-1214

from another town or a more modern tabulating method.

Absentee ballots are available at the Town Clerk's Office for voters who will either be absent from Shutesbury, or who have a physical disability, or a religious belief that prevents them from being present during polling hours. Applications for absentee ballots must be made in writing and include the voter's name, voting address and the address to which the ballot should be mailed, and the voter's signature. Please allow plenty of time for mail delivery of an application and the ballot back and forth. A voter can also absentee vote in person at the Town Clerk's office until noon on Friday, May 4.

The only way to vote on the Town Meeting warrant questions is to be at the meeting. We hope you will be able to attend.

Key results of both the election and Town Meetings will be put on the Town Clerk's answering machine (259-1204) and posted on the front door of Town Hall immediately following Town Meeting. As soon as the first draft results are prepared, they will be sent to the town website (www.shutesbury.org.)

You can **re-license your dog** any time now for the July 1, 2007- June 30, 2008 period. We will send mail-in request forms for dog licenses in the June newsletter. A form is also available at the Shutesbury.org website.

Check now, to make sure that your

dog is up to date on its rabies vaccination, as is required in order to re-license.

Thank you, faithful folders!

Lorna Broucek, Robert and Marilyn Tibbetts, Debra Pichanick, Al Springer and Ken Hartwright turned out in January to help stuff, fold and label the last issue of *Our Town*.

In March, Marilyn and Al came back to join **Tom Harding** and **Allen Hanson** in helping Town Clerk **Leslie Bracebridge**, Assistant Town Clerk **Joan Hanson**, and Town Administrator **David Dann** send off a special Selectboard mailing.

If you'd like to join future "work parties," please call the Town Clerk at 413-259-1204 to be added to our list of people to call. We welcome your help daytime, nighttime, in your home or at Town Hall, whenever or wherever it suits you best.

Our Town, published four times a year, 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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Finance, continued from page 1

services. The consequences of this approach are grave as our schools and social services face severe cuts year after year.

We look forward to seeing you all at the Annual Town Meeting where we will discuss the budget in detail.

At a Special Town Meeting that will be held right before our Annual Town Meeting, we are also advocating the use of some of our Stabilization Account money, mostly for repair of the Lake Wyola Dam.

Note from the Town Collector

Ellen McKay, Town Collector

Dear Shutesbury taxpayers,

Happy spring! Now that the warmer weather is approaching, we are approaching the end of fiscal 2007 and the Town Meeting for fiscal 2008.

Please call my office at 259-1356 to check my office hours if you wish to pay a bill in person.

Your fourth quarter real estate taxes are due May 1. I urge you to pay these bills promptly as the next bill you will be receiving on these bills is a demand that will cost you an additional \$ 5.00 plus interest. If you need to set up a payment arrangement on your bill, please contact me as soon as possible. Although interest will accrue on any overdue portion of the bill, you will avoid the demand fee and the additional interest that would accrue should you leave the entire bill unpaid.

Don't forget to contact the Board of Assessors if you no longer have a vehicle on which you have received a motor vehicle excise tax bill. This should be done as soon as you receive the bill so the bill can be adjusted through abatement before the bill becomes due. You will need to supply the Assessors with a bill of sale and a copy of a plate return receipt from the Registry of Motor Vehicles or a copy of a new registration for the same license plate to obtain the abatement.

Have a good spring.

Statements from candidates for Moderator

Michael Baines and Kevin Hayes filed nomination papers in March for one 3-year position as Town Moderator. Barring unforeseen write-in votes, these are the only candidates for this position in the 2007 Annual Town Election.

Each candidate was invited to submit a statement of no more than 125 words to Our Town. Space for campaign statements is available to all candidates for contested seats, including known write-in candidates. For the purposes of this newsletter, a known write-in candidate is an individual who has notified the Town Clerk in writing that he or she is a write-in candidate for a particular office. The Town of Shutesbury does not endorse any candidate. Candidates have provided all information appearing in statements. Our Town is not responsible for proofreading or correcting these submissions.

Michael Baines

146 Baker Road

For years I have been interested in serving as Town Moderator for Shutesbury and therefore am excited to have my name listed on the town ballot this spring. I have facilitated hundreds of meetings for various business, fraternal and community organizations with great success guiding groups to accomplish their meeting goals. The operating rules have been as varied as the groups: consensus, parliamentary procedure, participative etc. My interest in the field of meeting facilitation was deepened when I was formally trained in the consensus process twelve years ago. Since then, I have engaged in much self study broadening my knowledge.

A vote for me will demonstrate your desire for a passionate, caring and dedicated Town Moderator who pledges to serve you well.

FY08 revaluation news

Kenneth Holmberg, Administrative Assessor

As many of you may already know, FY08 is a "reval year" and the Board of Assessors is reviewing recent sales and continuing with house inspections throughout the town.

Revaluations are required every three years in every town in Massachusetts to assure property is assessed at market value. It is important for the assessors to view the properties and assure they are described accurately in order to distribute the tax burden equitably. Consequently, the assessors will be visiting all houses to do exterior inspections. In some cases a full

Kevin Hayes

67 Cooleyville Road

My name is Kevin Hayes and I would be honored to serve as our Town Moderator.

My qualifications include: a Masters Degree in Industrial Relations with an emphasis in labor law, arbitration and mediation; many years of human resource and business management experience; and I am vice president of a local family owned business.

Beyond these qualifications, I am also a true moderate, both personally and politically. I know that I will be able to maintain an unbiased stance at the podium as moderator.

I will be able to uphold the points of law that govern town meetings and speak up when needed to preserve a forum where the guiding principals of respect and dignity are maintained.

Please vote for Kevin Hayes for Town Moderator.

inspection will be required and you will be contacted to arrange a time for the inspection. Many houses will require an interior inspection. We would appreciate your cooperation with the inspections by allowing entry to your house if and when requested. Representatives of the assessors or the assessors themselves will identify themselves and their identities can be confirmed at our office at 413-259-3790. The Department of Revenue will also be reviewing random and selected properties to assure accuracy.

Shutesbury's last revaluation was for FY05, when values increased approximately 25% over the previous three years. The Board will have Mayflower Valuation assist in the revaluation process this year.

Notes from the School Committee

Dan Hayes, *Chair, School Committee*

Hello, from the School Committee. This year, as it seems every year, the Town is faced with financial needs that are greater than its resources. The School Committee and the School Administration are very aware of this, and we have been prudent in utilizing our grant dollars and financial resources that were budgeted for the current fiscal year.

Our approach was to look at ways of reducing costs, conserving as much as possible and continuing to investigate ways of becoming more efficient.

Elementary school

One example of our efforts to be more efficient is reflected in the many changes that have been made in the lunch program. **Gail Beauregard**, the Food Service Director, has created a menu that reflects the many different flavors of the community. Salad and vegetarian choices are a staple, and menu items are prepared using fresh, wholesome and nutritious ingredients. Food preparation, portion sizes, utilization of "leftovers," efficient ordering skills, and increasing participation have increased revenues, reduced costs and plugged what had been seen as a shortfall in the past.

There are other areas where we have been able to realize a cost savings. The light bulbs in the gymnasium have been replaced with energy-efficient ones, which have an added benefit of being cooler and providing better lighting. And at the Union level, the Special Education secretarial positions in all four schools have been combined. This has reduced the cost to Shutesbury, as well as to other towns in the Union.

However, saving money was only a partial motivator for creating this shared employee position. It is expected to provide greater efficiencies and be more effective in providing quality services to our students with needs.

For next year, we have developed a budget that meets the three-percent increase that was requested from the Town. We were able to accomplish

this goal mainly due to recent staff retirements, but also with reductions from reorganized staffing patterns. We do not take our financial resources for granted, and with careful oversight, we ensure that every dollar is spent wisely.

The elementary school continues to evolve, as it recognizes the charge of the School Council, and continues to implement the goals of the School Improvement Plan. One of these goals is to integrate the fine arts into the curriculum. This is demonstrated by the variety of arts-related programs at our assemblies, and that are permeating throughout the curricula.

Some students have been writing and performing in their own plays. Other students have written and read aloud their stories and poems, while other students have demonstrated their research on ancient civilizations.

These programs are enriched by visiting artists such as Eshu Bumpus and Nikki Hu and Guy Van Duser, and are sponsored by grants and through generous donations from the PTO. The School Committee believes the arts to be important in developing the critical learning and creative skills that are essential to enhance student achievement. These experiences, along with performances from Matt Haimowitz, the U Mass Brass Quintet, and field trips, support this goal, and provide opportunities to inspire students.

We hope that inspiration will translate into an increase in participation and retention in our Instrumental Music Program, which is designed to offer instrumental music lessons at no cost to students, other than the rental cost of the instrument. Scholarships are available from the PTO for instrument rentals and the school is investigating ways of helping students find affordable ways to own or rent instruments. This year, Principal **Bob Mahler** will be actively promoting our music program.

The School Committee wants to publicly acknowledge all the teachers, staff and administration for their hard work and dedication. We especially want to recognize **Terri Wells**, who is

leaving. She has been such an asset and has served the children in our community well. We also would like to welcome **Michelle Cunningham**; she will be substituting for the remainder of the year. Their efforts and the collaboration throughout the school promote a positive environment, and add to the success of our students.

Lastly, I want to thank the community for its support for funding the intercom system. This system now gives the school the ability to communicate to everyone, in the school and on the school grounds. Recent weather-related events, including the devastating tornado that hit a high school in Alabama, remind us how important it is to communicate efficiently and effectively and to plan for emergency situations.

Regional schools

Marianne Jorgensen continues to focus on the needs of students at the regional level, and advocates for their needs, amidst huge budget reductions. These reductions will directly impact students by increasing class sizes and the number of study halls, reducing course offerings, sports programs, and physical education classes and eliminating Physical Education as a requirement at the junior and senior level in the high school.

Fees for extracurricular activities will be raised and services at nearly every level are expected to be reduced. Marianne Jorgensen (of the Amherst Regional School Committee), **Joan Wickman** (our Union 28 Superintendent) and **Jere Hockman** (the Amherst Regional Superintendent) are all a part of different organizations that are working with legislators to improve upon the way schools are funded. We all need to stay informed and work toward finding solutions to this and other funding problems.

* * * * *

We thank you for all that you do to support our schools. Your financial support, volunteerism and attendance at school-sponsored events, all contribute to a standard of excellence and enhance a love for learning.

Have half an hour a week to spare for our future?

Elizabeth Alcaide, for *Learning Partners*

Learning Partners is an important part of the volunteer program at our own Shutesbury Elementary School.

Now in its eighth year, this one-on-one mentoring/enrichment activity models several very successful programs throughout the nation, including the White-House sponsored "Read America" initiated by President Clinton, more than a decade ago.

Additional volunteers are asked to sign up soon for next fall (dads, moms, retirees, town officials and staff, college and high school students, those with flexible work schedules, adults without children at the school) to spend a half hour a week with a child - reading, listening, playing a game, puzzle or doing a creative math, writing, or artistic activity.

An early fall training will be scheduled, and every volunteer will be provided an excellent notebook of ideas/information and ongoing support. You will love this great job!

Please call **Andrea Rogers**, Learning Partner Coordinator, ASAP, at 413-259-1722, to offer your gifts to a child for the next school year, and/or for further information.

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 four years of age living in the towns of Shutesbury,

Leverett, Erving, New Salem and Wendell.

We offer weekly story hours at the Shutesbury library and play groups at the school gym; 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 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.

Caregivers workshops

"Taking Care: Refresh, Renew, Restore. A Series for Caregivers" will be offered *free* to interested caregivers by Franklin County Home Care in April, May and June in Greenfield, Charlemont and Phillipston.

A meal is included at each workshop and respite care is available.

For more information, call **Nancy Bucci** at 413-773-5555 x256 or 978-544-2259 x256 or via email, nbucci@fchcc.org.

For respite care, contact **Laurie Deskavich** at 413-773-5555 x211 or 978-544-2259 x211.

Does the Town of Shutesbury have money for YOU?

This is a list of payments made by the Town to people and organizations that have not cashed their checks. The Town would like to make sure that these people receive their money! But by Massachusetts State Law, these monies have to be turned over to the Commonwealth if they remain unclaimed. Please claim your funds by contacting the Treasurer's Office at 413-259-1801.



Amazon.com Credit	50.47	Kinder, Matt	12.53
Ascrizzi, Zena	110.49	Labich, William	70.82
Ascrizzi, Zena	23.79	Luther, Margaret	18.13
Ball, Mark	5.00	Massamont Insurance Agency	10.00
Beeler, Anthony	11.10	MIIA Property & Casualty	414.00
Bell, John	403.69	Moriarty, Raymond	321.93
Bessie Twig-Smith	70.66	Nolan-Heinemann	32.78
Buckley, Richardson	25.00	Parker, Stephanie	56.91
Castellano, Robert	5.00	Schwartz & Cassella Assoc.	9.98
Cloudmountain Com.	44.95	Shane, Michael	6.15
Collective Copies	8.60	Stander, Dina	20.25
Com of Ma	30.00	Summit Learning	31.61
Foster, Kathy	58.20	Sutton, Barbara	16.40
Fowler-Hayes, Kevin	507.00	Swan's Food Service	7.85
Franck, Barbara	54.63	Thurston, Tony	18.66
Franck, Barbara	116.00	Town of Chicopee	75.00
Jacobson, Donna	586.04	Verizon Wireless	45.90
Kalt, Ellen	9.10	Ware, Jacob	521.79



Wyola dam: 'overbuilt,' but showing age

Carol Samuels, *Lake Wyola Association*

In the spring, we fish from it. In the summer, we swim off of it. In the fall, we photograph it against the vibrant colors of Morse Hill.

It is the Lake Wyola Dam, built in 1883 of earth and stone. It holds back 125 acres of clear water that is a valuable environmental and recreational resource for Shutesbury and the surrounding communities and the Department of Conservation and Recreation.

The Lake Wyola Dam is designated by the state as a high hazard dam based on downstream development and potential loss of life and property in the downstream communities should the dam ever fail. In 2002, the State Legislature transferred responsibility and liability for all dams to the owners - in many cases these are cities and towns. Shutesbury's Dam Management Committee has been working over the past year to assure compliance with the Office of Dam Safety Regulations, and to review dam operation and maintenance guidelines. Part of that process involved the completion of a new Emergency Action Plan.

Root Engineering was hired in 2006 to assess the condition of the dam. A drawdown occurred and an inspection concluded last fall. They observed that the dam was "overbuilt for its time" but noted some shifting that might be expected in a dam that is over 120 years old. When discussing the structural condition of a dam, state regulations rate a dam's physical condition as Good, Fair, Poor, or Unsafe. Root Engineering has given our dam a rating of Fair.

Recognizing the overall positive effect the dam at Lake Wyola has on Shutesbury and the surrounding communities, the Select Board concluded that prompt and deliberate actions are necessary to improve the structural integrity of the dam. The repair of the dam has an estimated cost of \$250,000, which includes costs associated with the application process, permitting and structural repairs. The

Town is asking our state legislators, Rep. **Steve Kulick** and Sen. **Stan Rosenberg**, for assistance in securing funds for the repair of the Lake Wyola Dam. All funding options are being explored.

The town needs to be ready to do the repair work if the state is able to provide monetary assistance this year or next. However, the town would still need to come up with a share of the cost, so the Select Board will seek funding from the town at a Special Town Meeting on May 5. A warrant article will be voted on that would approve funding for the permitting costs to conduct the repair work (est. \$20,000), and earmark \$80,000 for dam repair (40% of the estimated dam repair costs). If the warrant article passes on May 5, the town can go forward with the permitting and be ready to start the dam repair if and when the state comes up with the remaining 60% of the funding.

Our predecessors created Lake Wyola in 1883 and started a mill. We have them to thank for this environmental and recreational treasure. The future generations will thank the townspeople of 2007 for making dam reparations to ensure these "Quiet Waters" of Lake Wyola are enjoyed by all in the years and decades to come.

'Heads up' on drawdown

Linda Avis Scott, *Clerk, Shutesbury Conservation Commission*

As our town prepares for the repair of the Lake Wyola Dam, it is time for shoreline property owners to prepare as well. It is unclear if the dam repair drawdown will occur this Fall or the Fall of 2008.

The Conservation Commission strongly encourages property owners considering shoreline repairs during the drawdown to begin the permit process early. All projects will require the filing of a Notice of Intent with the Commission. We will begin working with owners now to complete necessary paperwork, plan for site visits and schedule required public hearings. Once a project is approved,

an Order of Conditions that is valid for three years will be issued. Please contact us at 413-259-2123 box #2 or at concom@shutesbury.org.

Are you 55 or older and looking for work?

The Franklin/Worcester County Senior Employment Program may help!

The Senior Employment Program is a US Department of Labor Title 5-funded program administered by Catholic Charities, Diocese of Worcester, in cooperation with Senior Services America. The Senior Employment Program provides on-site training for income-qualified individuals who are 55 years or older. Seniors are assigned to local government and community nonprofit organizations. This training enables them to acquire many of the skills and confidence needed to compete in the contemporary job market, while they are actively seeking unsubsidized employment.

The seniors train up to 20 hours a week at the prevailing minimum wage (\$7.50 per hour).

If you would like further information about the Senior Employment Program, please contact **Patricia Carme** at the Franklin Hampshire Career Center, Greenfield: 1-800-457-2603, Monday through Thursday, 8:30am to 4:30pm.

Purple Heart event May 19

The Central Franklin County District Department of Veterans Services will hold a Purple Heart Ceremony on Saturday, May 19 at the Sunderland Elementary School at 11:00am.

This ceremony will honor Purple Heart recipients and/or their families from the towns of Leverett, New Salem, Shutesbury, Sunderland, Whately and Wendell.

If you or someone in your family has received a Purple Heart and lives in one of these towns or lived in one of these towns at the time they entered the service and would like to participate in this event, please contact **Leo Parent Jr.**, Director of Veterans Services or his assistant, **Jody Wallenius-Duda**, at 413-863-3205.

The M. N. Spear Memorial Library

10 Cooleyville Road
413-259-1213
Jane Buchanan, *Director*

Hours:

Monday and Wednesday
11:00am to 1:00pm
3:00pm to 6:00pm.

Tuesday and Thursday
3:00pm to 7:30pm

Sunday
3:30pm to 5:30pm.

We've got a new look!

In our never-ending search for more space to put books, we've reorganized the interior of the library and actually found several more linear feet of shelving! The space even feels roomier. Come in and check it out!

One half of the library is now mobile, so when our bathroom is installed this summer, we'll be able to move all the shelving out of the way and hold small meetings and events here.

Much thanks is due to those who made it possible, especially **Keith Shields**, who volunteered his carpentry expertise. Also, for helping move books and shelving: **Karen Traub, Frank Citino, Clif Read, Chris Buck, Sally Fairfield**, and **Jane Urban**. And to **Bonnie Adams** for helping cart away extra shelving, racks and other stuff that became obsolete in the process. A special thanks, too, to **Andy Fairfield** for providing food and potables to keep us going!

We're very pleased with how it turned out. We think you will be, too!

C/W MARS

We're still working on becoming mini-net members of C/W MARS. The new barcodes for our materials should have arrived by the time you read this.

Then we've got to get the catalog software installed and learn how to use it. That's scheduled to happen this month. So by summer you should be able to log on to the Internet and view our collection, as well as place interlibrary loans online to be delivered directly to Shutesbury. Given the price of gas these days, that's no small service!



Join Shutesbury's Clean Energy Campaign!

Sign up for New England GreenStart and you'll help Shutesbury earn MONEY to go towards greening our community.

You can find out more about earning renewable energy funds for our community, see your clean energy signup options, and enroll online at: www.GreenStart.net. Or for more information, contact the Center for Ecological Technology at (413) 586-7350 x 25 or email tomasin@cetonline.org.

When you sign up for clean energy, you take action on climate change and earn state renewable energy funding for Shutesbury.

In September 2006, a 2KW solar array was installed on Shutesbury Elementary School - a project made possible by state matching funds, and bonuses earned by Shutesbury's New England GreenStart supporters! For more info on the school's photovoltaic system go to (<http://www.soltrex.com>) and click on "explore systems" and type in Shutesbury, Massachusetts to see our system and the amount of clean energy it is producing.

To date 65 Shutesbury households

have signed up for the GreenStart program, earning \$15,759 for Shutesbury. Thank you! We used \$12,000 for the solar array at the elementary school and hope to use the monthly accumulating funds for other clean energy projects and activities.

New England GreenStart is a "Green-Up" option on your National Grid electricity bill that lets you "green" your electricity by matching 100% or 50% of your electricity usage with local, renewable energy sources - small hydro, landfill methane, wind and solar.

For a small monthly premium of about \$6 to \$12 on your regular bill, you can choose to support renewable energy sources, and generate matching funds for your community. Your monthly contributions are 60% tax-deductible if you itemize, and are 60% matched by state clean energy funds for your community.

Come to Town Hall for information or contact our Energy Committee:

Mark Tuominen, Larry Hunter, Clark Sylvester, Craig Marden, Susan Reyes, or Bruce Davidson.

Thank you for your support.

HOW TO CONTACT TOWN OFFICIALS

ACCOUNTANT <i>Gail Weiss</i>	259-1108	ELEMENTARY SCHOOL <i>Robert Mahler, Principal</i>	259-1212	RECREATION & OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE <i>Elizabethann Lacy</i>	259-1764
ADA COMMITTEE <i>Martina Carroll</i>	259-1110	EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIR. <i>Walter Tibbetts</i>	259-1211	RECYCLING COORDINATOR <i>Blaire Robey</i>	259-3796
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR <i>David C. Dann</i>	259-1214	FINANCE COMMITTEE <i>Eric Stocker</i>	259-1478	REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE <i>Marianne Jorgensen</i>	259-1842
ANIMAL INSPECTOR <i>Denise Chiminiello</i>	259-1020	FIRE DEPARTMENT <i>Walter Tibbetts, Chief</i>	259-1211 259-1286	ROADS COMMITTEE <i>Vacant</i>	Call 259-1214
ASSESSORS <i>Kenneth Holmberg</i>	259-3790	HEALTH AGENT <i>David Zarozinski</i>	549-3710	SCHOOL COMMITTEE <i>Daniel Hayes</i>	259-2102
BOARD OF HEALTH <i>William Elliott, Chair</i>	259-2122	HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT <i>Tim Hunting</i>	259-1215	UNION 28 SCHOOL SUPT. <i>Joan Wickman</i>	423-3337
BUILDINGS COMMITTEE <i>Dale Houle</i>	259-1696	HISTORICAL COMMISSION <i>Barbara Goodhind</i>	259-1428	SELECT BOARD <i>Becky Torres, Chair</i>	259-1618
BUILDING INSPECTOR <i>Jim Hawkins</i>	772-2026	M.N. SPEAR MEMORIAL LIBRARY <i>Jane Buchanan, Director</i>	259-1213	<i>Debra Pichanick</i>	367-9550
CEMETERY COMMISSION <i>Marilyn Tibbetts</i>	259-1976	LIBRARY TRUSTEES <i>David Cormier</i>	259-1572	<i>Ralph Armstrong</i>	259-1021
COUNCIL ON AGING <i>Muriel Gross</i>	259-1371	OUR TOWN NEWSLETTER <i>Janis S. Gray</i>	259-1584	SHUTES.-LEV. BROADBAND COMMITTEE <i>Rob Brooks</i>	253-0887
CONSERVATION COMMISSION <i>Leave inquiries at</i>	259-2123	PERSONNEL BOARD <i>Penelope Kim</i>	259-1326	TAX COLLECTOR <i>Ellen McKay</i>	259-1615
CULTURAL COUNCIL <i>Renee A. Richard</i>	259-9296	PLANNING BOARD <i>Deacon Bonnar</i>	259-1276	TOWN CLERK <i>Leslie Bracebridge</i>	259-1204
DEPT. OF VETERAN'S SERVICES <i>Leo J. Parent, Jr.</i>	863-3205	PLUMBING/GAS INSPECTOR <i>John Letourneau</i>	367-0017	TREASURER <i>Gabriele Voelker</i>	259-1801
DOG OFFICER <i>Nancy Long</i>	259-2123	POLICE DEPARTMENT <i>Chief Thomas E. Harding</i>	259-1279	TREE WARDEN <i>Thomas Houston</i>	259-1508
ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR <i>Maurice Gregoire</i>	367-9988	<i>Dispatch</i>	625-8200	WEB COMMITTEE <i>Fred Steinberg</i>	259-9996
		POLICE, FIRE & RESCUE SQUAD	911	ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS <i>Charles J. DiMare</i>	548-9567



TOWN OF SHUTESBURY
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**May 5th Town Meeting
Warrant and Budget Inside!**

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