September is “Report Troubles to Verizon” month
Becky Torres, Town Administrator

Our goal this month is to report each and every Verizon line trouble in the Town of Shutesbury. This needs to be done in parallel, with residents reporting both to VERIZON and to TOWN OF SHUTESBURY.

Call Verizon at: 866-745-3741 or go ONLINE at the link below:
http://www22.verizon.com/ResidentialHelp/

Then choose Telephone and follow the prompts.

To report Internet trouble from the same link, go to CONTACT US then LIVESTREAM or EMAIL. (For EMAIL you must first select OTHER not INTERNET.) From EMAIL go to SUPPORT, then TECHNICAL SUPPORT and describe your trouble. If it is historical information, call or email. If you email select OTHER.

The NEXT STEP is IMPORTANT!

Once you have received your trouble ticket number please take a minute to fill in this quick survey at:
http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/9ZK2SJW

The purpose of this is to IDENTIFY areas of town that have chronic or intermittent trouble. Verizon told us they need the "intelligence" to pinpoint chronic problem area. We were told that our TROUBLE REPORT rate is NOT HIGH. We believe the reason for this is:

a. We can't call in when our telephones are down
b. We can't go to the Verizon website when our DSL service is down, and
c. IT HAPPENS SO OFTEN WE ARE SICK OF DEALING WITH IT. It feels futile. We think someone else will spend an hour on the phone so eventually it will get fixed.

So, this month PLEASE TAKE THE TIME to CALL, and REPORT. Historical data counts as well. If your Internet service was down yesterday and you were too busy to report it get online TODAY.

Even when your system is back up and running, we need you to log the OUTAGE. Take notes of dates, time, trouble description. Is your Internet service INTERMITTENT? Track it and report it. Are your PHONE LINES buzzing? Is there static on the line? Report it. Thanks so much for your help.

NOTE: VERIZON CHARGES HOURLY RATES TO REPAIR IN-HOUSE PROBLEMS! Make sure the problems you report are TELEPHONE LINE problems. If you plug a phone into the outside jack and you still have the problem it is a LINE trouble.

Celebrate Shutesbury September 25th!
The annual town festival, Celebrate Shutesbury, will held on Saturday, September 25 from 10:00am to 3:00pm on the town common.

We are looking forward to a beautiful day with activities for the young and not so young!

This year's festivities will once again include Shutesbury Celebrates, recognition of a town resident who has contributed to making Shutesbury the wonderful place that it is.

This year we will be honoring Muriel Gross and we hope you can join us at noon for a brief ceremony to thank Muriel for her many years of service to our community.

We are also looking forward to the return of the baseball throw (see page 4), the bounce castle, the slide, belly dancing, live music, alpacas, and food supplied by the Shutesbury Athletic Club.

Celebrate, continued on page 4

Special Town Meeting planned for October
The Selectboard is reviewing a number of articles to bring forward to residents at a Special Fall Town meeting. The anticipated date is October 12, 2010, at 7:00pm at Town Hall.

Free cash is only available at a Special Fall Town Meeting if it is certified by the state beforehand. The fall town meeting date is dependent on certification.

The issues to be addressed at this Special Fall Town Meeting are currently:

1. Entertain the adoption of the Stretch Building Code, a more energy-efficient alternative to the base energy code that municipalities may volunteer to adopt.
2. Request additional funding of the gasoline clean up at the Shutesbury Fire Station. (Related story on page 5.)
3. Request additional funding for 2 expense lines, Ambulance Service increase from $23,700 to $24,400, $700; Retirement increase from $136,841 to $141,749, $4,908.
4. Rescind Capital Request article for $37,500 from May 1, 2010, because it was funded through the budget, and additional money is not needed.
5. Request additional educational funds up to $50,000.
6. Consider transferring funds to the stabilization account for capital projects.
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.

Many people move to Shutesbury in the summer. If you are a new resident, “Welcome!” Please feel free to call if you have any questions about town government. You can learn specifics through this office or at www.shutesbury.org. If you have a dog, it must be licensed with the Town Clerk’s office, within 30 days of arrival to Shutesbury.

All dogs should now be wearing their gold dog-house shaped tags. Dogs must be re-licensed within 30 days of July 1st each year. If you forgot to re-license, you can download a mail-in licensing form and instructions from www.shutesbury.org or you may have a re-licensing form sent to you by calling the Town Clerk’s office, or stop in at the Town Hall. Fines are imposed on owners of dogs picked up with an expired license or with no license at all; lost dogs can be quickly identified if they are wearing their proper tags.

If your dog loses its tag part way through the licensing year, just call us. We will replace it for $1.

Wednesday, August 25 was the last day to register to vote or to change party enrollment in time for the September 14 state primary.

Wednesday, October 13 is the last day to do so for the November 2 state election.

Both events will take place at the Shutesbury Town Hall at 1 Cooleyville Road, for all registered voters of Shutesbury. Polls will be open from 7:00am to 8:00pm.

If you missed the registration date for the primary, please consider registering ahead of the October 13 deadline for the November 2 election. Mail-in voter registration cards are available in the bulletin board outside of Town Hall, in the Town Hall hallway by the Town Clerk’s office door or through any Massachusetts Town Clerk’s office. For any elections questions, including voter registration status, call the Town Clerk’s office (259-1204) anytime.

In a primary you can only vote for members of the party in which you are enrolled. Registered voters who remain un-enrolled in any political party may vote the party ballot of their choice on primary day.

Absentee ballots for both elections are available approximately four weeks before the elections through 12 noon the day before the election. Written requests for absentee ballots must include your street address and your signature. Alternatively, you may come to the Town Clerk’s office and fill out an application to vote “over the counter” or to have a ballot mailed to the address of your choice.

If you “Celebrate Shutesbury” on September 25, please stop in to the 1829 Town Hall to enjoy a bit of our government’s past.

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 fully paid the first half bill 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.

“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 (2011) that date is January 1, 2010. 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 database 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.
Trash Talk: Results of the Recycling Survey
Gary Bernhard, Recycling Coordinator

During trash bag distribution this year, the Recycling and Solid Waste Committee asked people to fill out a short survey when they picked up their bags.

The survey asked for an estimated percentage of recyclables in household waste streams, the number of trash bags used on a weekly basis, the reasons people had needed more than 50 bags last year, and whether or not people composted.

We also asked if people were interested in workshops on recycling or composting and volunteering to help the Committee on Bulky Waste Day or participate in a roadside clean-up.

We received 409 completed surveys, about half the households in town, and the results demonstrate that, overall, Shutesbury is doing a fantastic job of recycling and composting.

Thirty-eight percent of respondents said that they recycled more than 50% of their household waste. Another 31.5% recycled 40%-50%. Only 3% recycled less than 20% of household waste.

In keeping with these figures, 75% of respondents used one or less than one trash bag per week. That’s a remarkable achievement for our town.

And another remarkable achievement: 71% of respondents compost organic waste. The reasons people gave for needing more than 50 trash bags last year were mostly the ones you’d expect: large families, cat litter, disposal diapers (sometimes all three), and big clean-out projects.

Only four people said it was more convenient to throw everything in the trash. My favorite reason was “uncooperative teenagers.”

We also saw a lot of interest in a composting workshop (88 people), and 24 people were interested in a home recycling system workshop. We’ve applied for a technical assistance grant to get some expert help in setting these up, and we hope to offer them in the fall.

Thirty-one people said they were interested in helping the Recycling Committee on Bulky Waste Day (I’ll be getting in touch with you folks. Bulky Waste day is Saturday October 2. We could really move trash with a bunch of new volunteers).

Sixty-two people said they would participate in a roadside clean-up, so we’ll be setting one up soon.

In the comment section of the survey many people thanked the Recycling Committee for the work they do (thank YOU). Here are some of the other comments:

What a hassle for bags!

Should have 1 bag per week

The recycling truck is the root cause of roadside clean up needs. They MUST do better.

Duseau should pick up recyclables instead of dumping

Change weight limit, allow heavier bags. Have mercy on cat owners! Thanks.

Well, not everyone is happy with the bag distribution system, and many would probably like to receive 52 bags instead of 50. But what a mess breaking up those ten-packs of bags!

We need to have another conversation with Duseau Trucking. We have called the “blow-out” (of recyclables from the truck) to their attention several times, but the truck design itself seems to be the problem.

As for cat owners, let me recommend organic cat litter than can be composted. I don’t think we can ask those Duseau guys to lift more than 35 pounds when they’re hefting perhaps 1,000 trash bags in Shutesbury on Wednesdays.

Shutesbury should be very proud of the recycling it is doing. Sure I’d like to see us get to 50% recycling of the entire town’s waste stream (last year it was about 40%), but we have come a long way. This year marks the 10th anniversary of Shutesbury’s unique pay-as-you-throw program. I can’t believe I’ve been handing out trash bags for ten years, but I guess it’s true.

The system isn’t completely convenient (though curbside pick-up is a lot easier than a transfer station), not everybody is recycling as they might, and the town still spends a lot of money getting rid of its trash. But, my goodness folks, this survey shows that Shutesbury residents care about the environment and are making an effort to do something.

Congratulations, neighbors!

Many thanks for devoted helpers and deft hands!

On April 22, Sue Gomberg, Susan Millinger, Marilyn and Bob Tibbetts helped town officials prepare the 875 copies of the Spring Our Town newsletter for delivery to the Post Office.

On June 30, Susan Millinger and Marilyn returned to help with a special selectboard mailing, this time joined by Penelope Kim and Walter Tibbetts.

If you would like to join one of the lively Our Town “folding parties” in the future, please call the Town Clerk’s office at 259-1204 to be added to the list of people to call.

Our Town also appreciates the town’s Web Committee for posting each issue of the newsletter at www.shutesbury.org.

Our Town, published three times a year in January, 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

PRINTED ON RECYCLED STOCK 30% POST CONSUMER WASTE
Historical Commission to host autumn hike, open house at one-room school

The Historical Commission will conduct a hike heading north on New Boston Road from the Cooleyville Road end gate on Saturday, October 2, car-pooling from Town Hall at 2:00pm with an anticipated return by 4:00pm. Rain-date will be Sunday, October 3, same time.

Expect to see an interesting foundation. You can call ahead for more information at 259-1204 or just join us that day at 2:00pm. If the weather is doubtful, there will be a message at 259-1204 confirming the status of the hike.

Historical Commission Chairman Barbara Goodhind will host the annual open house of the 1842 West Schoolhouse at the intersection of West Pelham and Leverett Roads on Columbus Day, Monday, October 11, from 1:00 to 3:00pm.

Guests will be able to see old text books, wall maps and many other items found in the old school houses. 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 copy while you wait or invite you to a meeting.

If you have a particular question or interest about Shutesbury’s history please call: Chairman Barbara Goodhind, 259-1428, Secretary Julie Taylor, Treasurer Marilyn Tibbetts, and members Leslie Bracebridge, Karen Czerwonka, Steve Puffer and Joanna Hayes.

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State Rep. Stephen Kulik to hold September office hours in Shutesbury

Shutesbury’s representative from the First Franklin District, Stephen Kulik, will be available at Town Hall to meet with residents on Wednesday, September 29, from 9:15 - 10:30 a.m.

Celebrate, continued from page 1

The police and fire departments will join us with their equipment and the library will be having a book sale — so come and support your local library! The 250th Anniversary Steering Committee will have the latest information on 2011, as well as commemorative tee-shirts and caps.

And for those who can’t resist a tag sale, please bring your stuff up to the town common to sell. Please contact Rita Farrell for more information about the tag sale, rita@verizon.net.

The Shutesbury Education Foundation supports educational activities in town for all age groups and is supported by contributions from individuals who live in our community.

And for those who can’t resist a tag sale, please bring your stuff up to the town common to sell. Please contact Rita Farrell for more information about the tag sale, rita@verizon.net.

We always welcome contributions, which can be sent to SEF at our P.O. Box 672, Shutesbury. If you or your group is interested in financial support for an activity or program in town please contact us at the above address.

We look forward to seeing you on September 25!

How Fast Can You Pitch a Baseball?

Break Your Age Group Record at Celebrate Shutesbury!

Records are waiting to be broken! The radar gun is ready for you. Look carefully at the table at right; find your age and gender, and your goal is set. If your age does not appear on the list, that means there is no current record — just show up and throw and you will be the instant champion!

The current overall record is 73 mph, set by a 30-year-old man; the overall female record is 47, set by a 48-year-old woman. All we need is a Tommy or Derek Osborne or a Kevin Ziomek to show up and that record will be history.

Test your arm. Set a new record. See you at the pitching booth!

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**Town seeks to honor even more who served the flag**

As the Memorial Day Committee is rebuilding the WWII Veterans Honor Roll, it is also adding the names of other town residents who lived in Shutesbury when they joined the military. To qualify one must have served during these dates:

- **Korean Service** 28-Jul-1954 - 25 Sep-1954
- **Vietnam I** 1-Feb-1955 - 4-Aug-1964: 180 days of regular active duty service and a last discharge or release under honorable conditions
- **Vietnam II** 5-Aug-1964 - 7 May-1975: 90 days of active duty service, one (1) day of which is during "wartime" and a last discharge or release under honorable conditions.

If you know of anyone, please contact Leo J. Parent, Department of Veteran Services, Central Franklin County District, 413-863-3205 or leop@crocker.com, or Al Springer, 413-259-1578. They will compare the names received to the ones on file.

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**Playgroups and story hours have started for fall**

Programs by the Union #28 Community Network for Children are intended for children 0-5 years of age.

Come and enjoy time with your child(ren) and other families and caregivers from your community! See below for more about the playgroups and story hours in our school union:

- **ERVING PLAYGROUP**
  
  Location: Erving Elementary School, 28 Northfield Road
  
  Wednesdays, 10:00-11:30am

- **SHUTESBURY PLAYGROUP**
  
  Location: Shutesbury Elementary School, 23 West Pelham Road, Shutesbury
  
  Fridays, 9:00-10:30am

- **WENDELL PLAYGROUP**
  
  Location: Wendell Free Library, 2 Lockes Village Road, Wendell
  
  Wednesdays, 10:00-11:30am

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**Update on fire station gasoline cleanup**

Becky Torres, Town Administrator

We have turned a corner on this project. The air at the top of the hill smells much fresher now and there is a cleaner feeling under foot when you walk down Leverett Rd. or around the fire station.

The ground beneath is now relieved of 3034 tons of contaminated soil. We are very grateful to DEP for authorizing the doubling of the disposal contract from 1500 tons to 3000 tons. We were able to complete the excavation from the road to the southern edge of the parking lot. On the last day of digging, Thursday, 8/19, we dug only clean soil, with no readings over 100 on the PID (photo ionization detector). At one of the worst spots the alarm went off on the PID. We got a reading of over 1800. The soil was truly hot, worthy of removal and disposal. Some compared the site to Hades, because of the smell, the hot soil, and the occasional splash of flames.

We cheered success on the last day. We dug to clean soil in many cells. It was never a situation where we could get to 0 contamination. The experts say we may well have achieved 90% removal. The situation is greatly improved but there is more to do. We will be testing the area that was grassy before the plastic and piles were spread on them. And then we will replant grass seed there. The hay bales will stay at the perimeter. The road will be repaved.

Eva Tor, Deputy Regional Director of the Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup, was out on the last day to view the work. She asked about next steps and our consultant, Jim Okun, showed her the fire station rescue bay and shared some ideas of how we can attack the problem.

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**Union #28 Community Network for Children**

The Community Network for Children (CNC) is a program that is funded by a grant from the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care. The CNC supports all families with children from birth through kindergarten and the early education and care and school age providers that care for them 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, new baby gift bags and home visits, and newsletters with current programs and events.

If you are interested in being on our mailing list to receive monthly newsletters of events and workshops, please call or email Gillian Budine, Coordinator, (978) 544-5157. You can also access information at website: http://sites.google.com/site/communitynetworkforchildren/

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**Redeem coupon for a Welcome Baby Gift Bag!**

We 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!
Less than four months until our town’s big birthday party begins!

Here is a glimpse of just some of 2011’s year of festivities.

Until then, see you at Celebrate Shutesbury on September 25 — when new tee shirts and hats will be available!

Presentations on local history
We expect to offer several talks during 2011 year by scholars of local history, including:

- Leonard Richards on Shays’s Rebellion

- JR Greene on the lost towns of the Quabbin, and what life in them was like before the reservoir drowned them and scattered their residents — many of them to Shutesbury.

- An evening for our town’s residents to share remembrances of living and going to school in Shutesbury is also being planned.

A colorful June parade
Individuals young and old, town departments, clubs and groups planning other events in 2011 are invited to march, skate, pedal, pet-walk, ride, dance, play musical instruments, wave from floats — you name it — in a short parade on the afternoon of Saturday, June 11.

- Join the fun by contacting Dagen Julty at DagenJulty@yahoo.com or 259-1808.

A town-wide BBQ
The Shutesbury Athletic Club on Wendell Road will be the site of a celebratory cookout following the June 11 parade.

People from the Past
Ever want to live in an earlier time period? Ever wonder what the earlier residents of Shutesbury were like? Like to imagine yourself living someone else’s life for a while? Enjoy role-playing?

- If you answered yes to any of those questions, then the Historical Reenactment Working Group wants YOU!

Volunteers are needed to participate in one or more of a series of events being planned as part of the celebration of Shutesbury’s 250th birthday in 2011.

- There will be activities for a variety of talents and interests. Some of the events will require the characters to talk about their lives, while others will involve little if any speech.

- Would you also be interested in helping plan the events and identify the people to be reenacted? Or would you be willing to volunteer some hours to make costumes?

- Contact one of the members of the group: Bill and Karen Czerwonka, Janis Gray, Ezzell Floranina, Melinda LeLacheur, Susan Millinger (milling@roanoke.edu) or Karen Traub.

- See us at Celebrate Shutesbury for information about individuals we may reenact. Meet a Massachusetts man who enlisted in the Confederate Army, and hear his story!

Shutesbury in photos, “then” and “now”
If you have a photo or photos that might be included in an exhibit, contact Maili Page at 367-0381 or at smalliidaho@yahoo.com.

Musical performances
If you’d like to see your band or solo act on the stage, please contact coordinator Savanna Ouellette at psavan-na@gmail.com or at 259-1357.

Fire Station, continued from page 5
contaminated soil that lies 5 to 12 feet beneath it. We will meet with DEP again.

- I want to give special thanks to all those involved and to all the neighbors. The work disrupted schedules, starting at 6:00am, went a full week beyond the original time line and became a dominant activity. Thanks to DEP officials Tony Kurpaska, and Ben Fish, who were pulled out of their Springfield office to Shutesbury to assist and advise. Between them they were there every day of the project and pitched in a helping hand on some messy tasks as well, thank you.

- Clark Excavating was gracious to lend us their excavator, but then due to vacation schedules, they also lent us two top operators, Dennis Clark and Tom Beckwith. Kevin Carey delivered load after load of beautiful Shutesbury fill. Thank you, Bill Clark, for accommodating the Shutesbury project at the height of your busy season, we truly appreciate it. O’Reilly, Talbot and Okun had planned on spending some time here but instead we needed them here for every minute we were digging. They directed the digging in consultation with DEP officials and selected all the samples. They scrambled and covered our needs for three weeks. Thanks to Val Tillinghast, Joel Harris, and Jim Okun.

- Our highway crew was asked to do everything! And when they ran short on man power our Fire Chief Walter Tibbetts and Selectman Al Springer jumped in and did whatever needed done. I feel very fortunate to work in a town that knows how to pull together. It took significant planning to make this happen. Tim Hunting, our highway superintendent, arranged for equipment and materials to be on hand, coordinated truckloads of fill and gravel with help from Bill Clark and his staff. The first on site each morning, Bob Spaulding, loaded most of the 3000 tons of contaminated soil into the 30 ton dumpster trucks that rumbled up and over the hill, in and out, unfortunately waking some from vacation sleep. John Field ran back and forth bringing in truckloads of clean fill and gravel. All 3000 tons that was shipped out had to be brought in as well.

- Thank you Tim, Bob and John for all your work and attention to detail. And thanks to our police department for covering details while we were in the road.
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.

Weezie Houle maintains our website. Thank you! Thank you!

New Magazines
The magazines in our collection are paid for by the Friends of the M.N. Spear Memorial Library. We currently have subscriptions to 34 magazines covering a variety of topics including cooking, gardening, fitness, home improvement, politics and yoga. Each spring we review our current collection and make changes based on circulation rates and patron recommendations.

We have added seven new magazines to the collection over the summer. New magazines are; Bon Apetit, Hobby Farm Home, Money, National Geographic, Real Simple (recently donated by a patron), Sports Illustrated, and Whole Living.

Due to space limitations we can only keep the latest three to six months of most magazines, but we do have several years of Consumer Reports on file.

Magazines can also be ordered through the C/W MARS online catalog.

Museum Passes
We have the following museum passes available for Spear Library patrons to borrow.

* Brattleboro Museum and Art Center — admits all members of one household
* Magic Wings Butterfly Conservatory — admits two people, Shutesbury residents only
* MASS MOCA — admits two adults and two children

* Massachusetts State Parks Pass — admits one car to a day use area
* Mystic Aquarium — discount pass
* Norman Rockwell Museum — admits four people

Most of these passes are funded by the Friends of the Library!

C/W MARS News Download Audiobooks, eBooks & more!

Included in this newsletter is a bookmark that describes the digital collection available through C/W MARS. Audiobooks, eBooks and videos can be downloaded to your computer, and then can be transferred to devices such as iPod or Sony Reader.

This growing collection of downloadable materials is free to anyone with a C/W MARS library card. To browse the digital collection, visit http://digitalbooks.cwmars.org.

Our C/W MARS membership allows Spear Library patrons to search the online catalogs of all member libraries.

Clicking the Card Catalog tab on our website, www.mnspear.org, brings you right to our catalog. If you don’t find what you are looking for there, use the drop down arrow to search other local library catalogs or all Western MA Libraries. Click on the request tab to order items to be delivered to the Spear Library. You will need to enter your library card number and password to request items. We are happy to search the online catalog and place holds for all of our patrons. Just ask!

In Fiscal Year 2010, our first full year as C/W MARS members, Spear Library patrons ordered 3,648 items from other libraries. During the same time period, we loaned 6,407 of our items to patrons at other libraries.

Statistics
Each summer we are required to complete the State Aid to Public Libraries Annual Report Information Survey. This report contains information about our collection, circulation and programs. The reports from libraries across the state are entered into a database and we can use this data to see how we compare.

In Fiscal Year 2009, our circulation was the eighth highest for towns in our population group (under 2,000). While our library is one of the busiest, we are also one of the smallest. In fact there are only 12 libraries in the state that are smaller.

Our current collection includes 8,265 books, 593 audiobooks, and 2,131 DVDs and Video cassettes. In Fiscal Year 2010 we loaned 12,921 books, 1,032 magazines, 2,308 audiobooks, 10,383 DVDs and Videos and 35 miscellaneous items for a total of 26,679 items borrowed from our little library in a 12-month period.
HOW TO CONTACT TOWN OFFICIALS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACCOUNTANT</td>
<td>Gail Weiss</td>
<td>259-1108</td>
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<tr>
<td>ADA COMMITTEE</td>
<td>Martina Carroll</td>
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<td>TOWN ADMINISTRATOR</td>
<td>Rebecca Torres</td>
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<td>ANIMAL INSPECTORS</td>
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<td>ASSESSORS</td>
<td>Kenneth Holmberg</td>
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<td>BOARD OF HEALTH</td>
<td>William Elliott</td>
<td>259-2122</td>
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<tr>
<td>BUILDINGS COMMITTEE</td>
<td>Dale Houle</td>
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<td>Jim Hawkins</td>
<td>772-2026</td>
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<tr>
<td>CEMETERY COMMISSION</td>
<td>Marilyn Tibbetts</td>
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<tr>
<td>COUNCIL ON AGING</td>
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<td>CONSERVATION COMMISSION</td>
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<tr>
<td>CULTURAL COUNCIL</td>
<td>Renee A. Richard</td>
<td>259-9296</td>
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<tr>
<td>DEPT. OF VETERAN'S SERVICES</td>
<td>Leo J. Parent, Jr.</td>
<td>863-3205</td>
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<tr>
<td>DOG OFFICER</td>
<td>Nancy Long</td>
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<tr>
<td>ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR</td>
<td>Maurice Gregoire</td>
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<td>ELEMENTARY SCHOOL</td>
<td>Robert Mahler, Principal</td>
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<td>EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR</td>
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<td>Patrick J. Callahan</td>
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<td>LIBRARY TRUSTEES</td>
<td>Karen Traub</td>
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<td>OUR TOWN NEWSLETTER</td>
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<td>Maryélise Lamet</td>
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POLICE, FIRE & RESCUE SQUAD 911