

SHUTESBURY

MASSACHUSETTS



# OUR TOWN

## Update on the town fire station's gasoline tank leak

Becky Torres, *Town Administrator*

Shutesbury went out to bid in early December 2009 for a Licensed Site Professional to work on Phase II and Phase III of the Fire Station Gasoline Tank Cleanup.

During the process we asked Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Springfield, questions about our situation.

I mentioned seeing a blue sheen on the wetland near the fire station. They asked me to take a sample of the water. It smelled of gasoline. A DEP agent came out the next day, took new samples and sent them to the lab later that day.

They confirmed an outbreak of gasoline into the wetland next to the fire station. **Fire Chief Walter Tibbetts** and **Selectman Al Springer** placed absorbent pads and booms

## Bring your appetites!

Walter R. Tibbetts, *Fire Chief*

One of the most anticipated events of the year (so far) is coming soon. What is this event, you might ask?

Well, it's the Shutesbury Firefighters Association Pancake Breakfast, on Saturday, January 30. Pancakes will be served between 8:00am and 10:30am. Ticket prices are \$4.50 for adults, \$2.50 for children up to 12; children 5 and under are free. Tickets are available at the door or in advance by contacting **Marilyn Tibbetts** at 259-1976.

Not only is it a great meal but it's also a wonderful social event. Hope to see you there.

throughout the effected areas of the wetland. The materials are being monitored, replaced and appropriately stored for disposal.

The water test results, in addition to a historical review of the situation, **prompted DEP to prioritize our case** and search for a way to assist us. They found American Recovery and Reinvestment Act stimulus money available for emergency work through the Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) fund program, subject to cost recovery.

State Senator Stan Rosenberg's office gave us confidence that DEP is sensitive to cost issues, our big concern, and they do a good job when they are involved in a project. The Selectboard decided to move ahead and the DEP LUST fund application for this project was accepted.

The Selectboard and Chief Tibbetts met with representatives from the Springfield and Boston DEP office January 14. It became clear in our discussion that \$75,000 in LUST funds are not sufficient for this project. DEP is searching for more funds to help us with the costs of the assessment phase and beyond.

Because LUST funds are subject to cost recovery, the town will have to pay all or some of the money back, immediately or over time. The terms will be determined at the end of the project.

DEP will work with the town to determine the best method for cleanup. We learned in this last meeting that DEP wants us to work with a Licensed State Professional (LSP) who will represent us in outlining scope of work for the project, and

**Leak, continued on page 3**

Which slogan would you choose for Shutesbury's 250th anniversary year?

Janis Gray, *Co-Chair, 250th Anniversary Committee*

We were delighted to receive 71 slogans in response to our call for submissions last fall. We enjoyed the creativity and humor they represent -- including those we dare not use!

You can see all 71 submissions at [www.shutesbury.org/250th/](http://www.shutesbury.org/250th/)

Now we need your help to winnow down the following list of finalists from eight to one. Send a note with your favorite to 250th

**Slogan, continued on page 6**

## Wishing the best for Selectman Eric Stocker

Becky Torres, *Town Administrator*

**Eric Stocker**, our long-time Finance Committee Chair and, most recently, Selectman, resigned from the Selectboard in December.

Eric is recovering from a mild stroke. I am very happy to report that he is now at home and on his feet, his strength is growing. Caring words and actions have resounded through the community. Eric, we all wish you the best.

Eric approached his position as Selectman as he does everything, at 300 per cent. This year he brought keen reasoning and problem-solving skills to the Selectboard. As Finance Committee chairman, he has been a key figure leading the community through the budgeting process amidst economic swings for the last 10 years.

**Stocker, 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 259-1204 for special  
appointments or to leave a message.

Please complete and **return your local street list/census form** mailed to each household on December 30. If your household did not receive the annual street list mailing, please call the Town Clerk's office.

The street listing process conducted in accordance with Massachusetts statutes in all of the Commonwealth's cities and towns maintains your voter registration status and a legal record of your Shutesbury residency.

The information is also used in Shutesbury to verify eligibility for trash bags and timely delivery of informational mailings.

Please also **complete your federal census form** which you should receive in March. Census information is important for federal dollars to come to our state and for our state to maintain full representation of our people.

**Thank you for voting** in the January 19 special senatorial election. Results for Shutesbury follow:

**Brown - 158**  
**Coakley - 771**  
**Kennedy - 5**  
**Other - 1**

Remember to vote in the Wednesday, March 3, 2010 **special Select Board election**. Polls will be open from 12 noon to 6:00pm at the Shutesbury Town Hall, at 1 Cooleyville Road.

If you will not be able to get to the polls during those hours, please call the Town Clerk's office or write a note to the Town Clerk, P.O. Box 264 Shutesbury, 01072 to have an absentee ballot sent to you. Or, you can stop in anytime and vote right then and there.

## Positions that will be on the May 1 ballot

due to term expirations:

Board of Health	1 three-year position
Cemetery Commission	1 three-year position
Constable position	1 one-year
Board of Library Trustees	2 three-year positions
	1 one-year position (due to a resignation)
Moderator	1 three-year position
Planning Board	2 three-year positions
School Committee	1 three-year position
Board of Selectmen	1 three-year position.

More positions may open up due to resignations. Some officials may decide not to run again.

If becoming an elected official is of interest to you, please call the Town Clerk's office 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 1 ballot. Completed nomination forms must be returned by Saturday, March 13, 2010.

**Shutesbury's annual town meeting and election** will occur on Saturday May 1 at the Shutesbury Elementary School.

Those seeking to run for public office must submit nomination papers to the town clerk's office by Saturday, March 13. Please call the Town Clerk (259-1204) if you may be thinking of running for office or if you have any questions concerning the election process.

If you are not already registered to vote, you must **register to vote by Saturday, April 10, 2010** to be eligible to vote on May 1. 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 or 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 1.

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.

## Thank you!

In September 2009, **Allan Hanson, Lora Broucek, Bill Elliott, Debra Pichanick** and **Marilyn Tibbetts** stepped forward to help town officials prepare the 875 copies of the fall *Our Town* newsletter for delivery to the Post Office.

If you would like to join one of 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.

We also want to thank the town's Web Committee for posting each issue of the newsletter (in PDF format) at [www.shutesbury.org](http://www.shutesbury.org).

## Statements from candidates for contested office

There is a contested race for town office on the March 3, 2010 ballot. 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.

### Debra Pichanick

80 Lakeview Road

*Our Town* did not receive a statement from this candidate.

### Weekly playgroup, story hour continue in 2010!

A free weekly **playgroup at the Shutesbury Elementary School** is being held from 9:00-10:30am on Fridays. Come and enjoy time with your child(ren) and other families and caregivers from your community. This playgroup is intended for children 0-5 years of age.

The Shutesbury **story hour at the M.N. Spear Library** is held on Mondays from 11:00am -12:00pm and is intended for children 0-5 years of age and their parents/caregivers. Enjoy listening to stories, singing songs, and taking part in a fun craft/art activity!

Both programs are sponsored by Union #28 Community Network for Children. For more information please contact Gillian Budine, (413) 423-3180, email [budine@erving.com](mailto:budine@erving.com), or visit <http://sites.google.com/site/communitynetworkforchildren/>

### Volunteers wanted

to help persons with disabilities in our area live more independently. **NO HANDS ON CARE REQUIRED!**

Help people manage their personal care assistant. Contact Franklin County Home Care 413-773-5555 or 978-544-2259 or [info@fchcc.org](mailto:info@fchcc.org).

Read more at [www.fchcc.org](http://www.fchcc.org)

### J. April Stein

34 Montague Road

I have lived in Shutesbury for 24 years with my husband and two children. I have been active in town government for 12 years, serving on the Finance Committee, Hiring, Personnel Board, ZBA, and several Hiring Committees for police personnel.

My experience in town government includes helping write the Personnel by-laws, working to create budgets that balance the complex needs of the town, and assisting in ensuring the implementation of the zoning by-laws. My professional work, directing a clinical outpatient program for individuals with intellectual disabilities, has honed my skills in building consensus, among other things. I understand how to manage a program with fiscal responsibility, particularly during the current financial crisis. I am qualified to be a selectman and look forward to the challenge.

### Reminder from the Web Committee

You can get town news via email! The mail is used only for official town announcements and messages from town committees, so your inbox won't be flooded.

There are usually only two or three a week, including the Town Administrator's Weekly Report and the bimonthly Police Logs.

To sign up, just send an email to "[web@shutesbury.org](mailto:web@shutesbury.org)" asking to be put on the mailing list.

### *Leak, continued from page 1*

evaluating long- and short-term cost. While DEP will hire an LSP to implement the scope of work, it will be our LSP who will sign off on the project.

Shutesbury is also responsible for submitting an IRA, Immediate Response Action. The IRA completion deadline is coming up so we had to move quickly to secure an LSP to complete this report. On January 19 the Selectboard voted to contract with Jim Okun of O'Reilly, Talbot and Okun, to be our LSP for the Immediate Action Response as well as to consult on the scope of services and other tasks beyond implementation work that DEP will handle.

At the next meeting with DEP and our LSP we will decide what will be done. We are hopeful DEP's search for additional funds is successful, and I am confident that there is a strong team in place to address the gasoline spill, a great concern to us all.

### *Stocker, continued from page 1*

We will all have to work extra hard without him.

He is a pillar in the community, bringing humanity to economics, as well as wit and good humor to financial circumstances (keeping us from falling asleep at Town Meeting).

He has assisted us in understanding the direct relationship between our taxes and local governance, the services they provide, education, recycling, plowing, safety and protection of property.

We will miss his insight and guidance this year through this especially difficult budget process.

*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*



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## A request for help

Walter R. Tibbetts, *Fire Chief*

Many of you may not realize this, but the number of members on the Shutesbury Fire Department has been on the decrease. The change in the town's demographics, work and family responsibilities, and other time commitments have drastically reduced the number of people that apply to the Fire Department.

At the same time, State and Federal mandates, training requirements, increase in incident volume, as well as the previously mentioned reasons, are putting more pressure on those that are here presently doing the job. The big problem is that there are not enough of us. **WE NEED HELP.**

If you are over the age of 18 with a high school diploma or equivalent, and a valid Massachusetts driver's license, you are eligible.

Other requirements are:

\*You must obtain certifications for First responder and Health Care Provider Level CPR. (This training will be provided by the department.) EMT and Semi-Automatic External Defibrillator certification is desirable.

\* Have the ability to do prolonged and arduous work under hazardous, adverse emergency conditions.

\* Have the ability to react quickly and calmly in an emergency.

\* Have the aptitude for mechanical work.

\* Have the ability to work as a member of a team and to understand and follow oral and written instructions

quickly in a crisis situation.

I will be the first to tell you, being a member of the Shutesbury Fire Department is a bit of a challenge. Fire fighters are committed to being as available as possible, but it is also understood that work, travel, and home and other commitments may prevent them from responding. Training is conducted every Thursday night from 7:00 -10:30pm. There is other training available from the Massachusetts Fire Academy, Meadowood County Area training facility, as well as the Tri-State recruit training course.

While the job is challenging, it is also rewarding. Some of the benefits of being a member are:

\* The experience of being of service to the members of your community.

\* Valuable training in how to handle and respond to emergencies.

\* Being part of a skilled, well trained, close-knit team.

It takes a certain kind of person to fill these boots. Are you one of them?

This is your department. Your neighbors need you. We need you. Please join us.

For more information call the Shutesbury Fire Department at 259-1211 or the Chief at home at 259-1286, or stop by the Fire Station on Thursday night. You may also stop by the Fire Station, Monday thru Thursday, during the day.

Thank you all so much for the support you have given us in the past. I and all the members of the Department appreciate it. Hope to see you here.

## Brush burning in 2010: What everyone should know

Walter R. Tibbetts, *Fire Chief*

A new high-tech twist has come to an old low tech activity: **Brush burning permits are now available on-line.**

The Franklin County Fire Chiefs Association has contracted with an individual to create an on-line brush burning permit web site. This site was up and running as of the start of brush burning season, January 15, and will run through May1.

The on-line permits are available from 7:30 am to 1:00pm on any day that burning will be allowed. If burning is not being allowed on any particular day, the website will inform you of this and not allow you to obtain a permit.

The web site is  
[www.fcburnpermits.com](http://www.fcburnpermits.com)

You will first come to a welcoming page that describes the brush burning rules and regulations. To get a permit, click on the "click here to apply for a permit" line.

You will see two lists, one of the towns that are allowing burning that day, and one for those that are not.

Click on your town, "Shutesbury," and fill out the form. When you submit the form a record of the permit will go into the system and a copy of the permit will be e-mailed to you at your e-mail address. Print this permit out and sign it. It should be kept with you while you are conducting your burning.

**For those of you without a computer or Internet access, do not worry!** You can still call Shelburne Control at 625-8200 to get your burning permit, just as you have been doing for the last several years.

They will in turn enter the information into the system. They will be doing this at least for this year's burning season.

Next year may be in question. Shelburne Control is run by the Massachusetts State Police, and they as well as the rest of the state are facing budgetary cuts. We were told

***Burning, continued on page 5***

### Democratic Town Caucus Saturday, February 13

10:00am, Town Hall Lower Level

Democrats registered as of 12.31.09 may elect two Delegates (one male, one female) and three Alternates to go to the Democratic State Convention June 5 and 6 at the Worcester Civic Center.

The convention will endorse state-wide candidates and honor our beloved late Senator Edward Kennedy.

The caucus is run by the Democratic Town Committee.

Jonathan G. Tuttle, Chairman

**Burning, continued from page 4** earlier in the year that the State Police were not going to allow dispatchers at Shelburne Control to issue burning permits. It represented a lot of over-time pay as additional dispatchers are required to handle the high volume of calls and record keeping when the season is in full swing. This was the main reason for creating the on-line permit application web-site.

Now that we have covered how to get a permit, let's talk **regulations and safety**. The season runs from January 15 through May 1. The hours for burning are from 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

Fires are to be located at least 75 feet from any building, and are to be attended at all times by a person 18 years or older. Permits are good for one day, so you must get a permit for each day that you want to burn.

As a reminder, once we lose the snow cover, and the surface fuels dry out, there is a high risk of the fire getting out of control and spreading. If this happens, don't delay, **call 911 immediately**.

Keep in mind that in these conditions there is a strong possibility of burning being shut down. So don't wait till the last minute to burn your brush, or you might be out of luck. Also remember that this is for the burning of brush only. The burning of grass, leaves, stumps, building materials and trash etc. is prohibited.

Please use care in **starting your fires**. Use a small amount of paper and kindling to start the fire if possible. Using flammable liquids should be avoided because of the risk of personal injury. If you feel you must use an accelerant, use small amounts of kerosene. Never use gasoline to start the fire.

## Staying safe in winter

Walter R. Tibbetts, *Fire Chief*

### Be safe on the ice

With the lakes and ponds frozen over, now is a good time to talk about ice safety. There are many factors that affect the strength of ice, so it is hard

to set any hard and fast rules about how thick it should be to be considered safe.

Areas that have **moving water or strong currents will have considerably thinner ice**.

Objects located below the surface such as **stumps and rocks can affect the strength**.

Also, the structure of the ice greatly affects the strength. **Clear or black ice is the strongest. Snow or frazzle ice is the weakest**. One inch of clear ice can be as strong as six to eight inches of frazzle ice.

**Snow and contaminates** on the surface can also greatly effect the strength.

One generally agreed-on formula for determining strength in clear, solid lake ice is  $P = (50) T^2$ , where  $P =$  the load-bearing capacity of the ice in pounds, and  $T =$  the ice thickness in inches. Example: If the ice is 8 inches thick,  $50 \times (8 \times 8) = 3200$  lbs. This is the maximum short term load in motion.

#### Maximum Load Table

Ice thickness	Maximum Load
2 inches	One person
4 inches	One person fishing or a small group walking
5 inches	A snowmobile
8 inches	A car
10-12 inches	A light truck

**Remember this is for clear, solid lake ice**; all factors that weaken the ice must be factored in for safety. Use caution especially early and late in the season. If you see standing water on top of the ice, it is a good indication that the ice may not be safe.

**If you see someone fall through the ice**, act quickly. Call 911 immediately. Give the dispatcher as much information as you can as to the location, number of people involved, best access for rescue personnel, etc. **Do not go out on the ice.**

Many times would-be rescuers become victims themselves. Remember someone already fell through. This holds true for pets also. If the ice would not support a 45-50

pound dog, it will not support a full-grown person. Call 911. The Shutesbury Fire Department has special equipment and training to safely deal with these situations.

### Be safe while staying warm

Finally, I would like to talk about heating safety. Be sure your wood stove and chimney are in good condition.

Make sure your stove does not have any cracks or other defects in it.

Check your stove exhaust pipe. Over time and use the metal becomes rusted and weak. Look for rust, holes, or other defects.

Have your chimney cleaned regularly and if in doubt of its condition, have it inspected by a qualified mason or chimney swift. A cracked or damaged chimney could allow smoke, carbon monoxide and other gasses to enter your house and allow creosote to build up between the high temperature liner and the structure of the chimney.

In the event of a chimney fire, this creosote will burn also and transmit intense heat to surrounding materials. This usually results in a "structure fire."

Allow at least 36" of clearance around the stove from combustible materials, including stacked-up fire wood. This holds true for the area around the cleanout door for your chimney. The cleanout door is relatively thin cast iron and conducts heat very well. If you place combustible materials near or against the door, they can ignite if hot embers or burning creosote drops down from the chimney. We have seen this many times, with disastrous results.

**Careless disposal of ashes has been a leading cause of many area fires**. Ashes removed from a stove or fireplace should be shoveled into a heavy metal bucket with a metal lid. They should be placed outside away from the house and other combustible objects (dead leaves and grass are combustible objects).

The ashes insulate the hot embers and **the embers can stay hot for days and ignite combustibles**. Never place them in a paper bag or cardboard box.

**Safety, continued on page 6**

### **Safety, continued from page 5**

As a reminder, a permit must be obtained from the building inspector before installing a wood, coal, or pellet stove, or building or repairing a chimney.

With the cold weather and with rising fuel costs, some people may be using more **portable space heaters**. A few safety tips should be remembered. When buying a space heater look for one that has been tested and approved by a recognized testing company.

Keep the heater at least 36" from drapes, furniture and other flammable materials. Seventy percent (70%) of fires caused by portable space heaters were from combustible materials such as bedding, rubbish or furniture too close to the heater. Place it on a level surface in an area where it will not get bumped into or knocked over.

If you have to use an extension cord, make sure it is a heavy duty cord rated at least as high as the amperage rating on the heater itself. Fifteen percent (15%) of fires from portable heaters were caused by overloaded extension cords. Also, you should not leave the unit running while unattended, or while you are sleeping.

Please have a safe winter and spring.

Sincerely, Walter R. Tibbetts

### **Slogan, continued from page 1**

Anniversary Committee, P.O. Box 264, Shutesbury, MA, drop it off in our mail box at Town Hall, or email us at 250th@shutesbury.org Our top eight (some clearly variations on a theme):

*Shutesbury: Rising above the rest for 250 years*

*Shutesbury: Rising above the valley for 250 years*

*Shutesbury: Always 10 degrees cooler*

*Shutesbury: Calm Waters and Deep Woods*

*Shutesbury: A well-kept secret for 250 years*

*Shutesbury: It's all downhill from here!*

*Shutesbury: Many Minds Make It Work*

*Shutesbury: At the top of the hill for 250 years*

**Meanwhile, we have received only one submission in response to our call for logos!** We're hoping that seeing our slogan finalists might spark an idea for an image in your head! If so, we'd love to receive a drawing reproducible in black and white via email or snail mail or in our box at Town Hall.

### **Flu clinics worth a shot in Shutesbury**

The Shutesbury Board of Health H1N1 Flu Clinic on January 9 was open to everyone older than 6 months. It provided vaccinations to approximately 160 people, primarily over 50 years old who had not been eligible for vaccination at earlier clinics. Those had been limited to priority groups, including children, designated by the federal Center for Disease Control, which provided the free vaccine.

Earlier clinics were at the elementary school for children and other priority persons, at the Amherst Regional Middle School for those children, at the elementary school for priority persons, and at the elementary school to provide the second dose for children under 10. In addition, vaccinations were provided for public safety personnel at the fire station. A total of approximately 400 vaccinations have been given.

Trained volunteers at the Jan. 9 clinic included **Bill Elliott, Edith Hunsberger, Leslie Bracebridge, Joan Hanson, Al Springer, David Dann, Sandy Olken, Ken Rotondi, Elaine Puleo, Bob McCormick, Marilyn Tibbetts, Allan Hanson, Walter Tibbetts, Alan Calhoun, MD, Bert Fernandez, MD, Nurse & Vaccine Manager Arleen Read, and Nurse Vaccinators Chris Footit, Cathy Burbank and Maude Low.**

### **It's not easy being green, but worth the effort**

Gary Bernhard, *Recycling Coordinator*

I know, I know. You've just taken a new tube of toothpaste out of its box in the bathroom. The paper recycling bin is in the kitchen or on the porch or

in the garage, and it's so much easier to just toss the box into the bathroom wastebasket. Newspapers are one thing, but a toothpaste box? You've put some cheese in a Ziplock bag, and when the cheese is gone it's so much easier to just throw the bag away than to wash it out and let it dry so you can use it again.

My dearly departed mother was a wonderful person, but she was at best a mediocre recycler. When we visited her in Kalamazoo, Michigan I would always be fishing something out of the trash, saying, "Mom, this is recyclable."

And she would say, "Oh, I know, but it's just too much trouble." She was born in 1920, before anyone was concerned about the environment, and although she knew that recycling and reusing were good things, she had a hard time changing habits that had been formed over a lifetime. Don't we all.

Although we do a comparatively good job recycling in Shutesbury, we can do a lot better. And we must do better. Here are just a few statistics from the Clean Air Council (for more statistics, visit [www.cleanair.org/Waste/wasteFacts.html](http://www.cleanair.org/Waste/wasteFacts.html)):

"In the U.S., 4.39 pounds of trash per day and up to 56 tons of trash per year are created by the average person

"Every year we fill enough garbage trucks to form a line that would stretch from the earth, halfway to the moon

"Each year, Americans trash enough office paper to build a 12-foot wall from Los Angeles to New York City

"Every year, Americans make enough plastic film to shrink-wrap the state of Texas."

We simply can't continue to generate this much waste. There aren't enough landfills or incinerators or compactors to keep up (anybody see the movie "Wall-E"?). No, it's not easy being green, but is there really another choice?

If we want our children and grandchildren to have an environment worth living in we have to make the effort. So, let's take that toothpaste box to the recycling bin and get two or three uses out of that Ziplock bag. Our descendants will thank us.

# The M. N. Spear Memorial Library

10 Cooleyville Road  
259-1213; [www.mnspear.org](http://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.

*Happy New Year!*

## C/W MARS

One of the many benefits of C/W MARS membership is the automatic email notices that patrons receive when items are due, overdue and when books on hold arrive at our library. Emailed notices save paper and lots of time.

If you have access to email and are not receiving email notices from the library, let us enter your email address into the system. These email notices are one of the benefits of C/W MARS membership that Spear Library Patrons most enjoy.

## Library Facility Needs

### Assessment Committee News

This is an exciting time for our library and for the Town of Shutesbury. In December a site was selected for a new library. Lot 032 is a 20+ acre parcel of land on Leverett Road, across from the Highway Department. This site was selected after many months of thorough research into the possible sites for a new library.

Our architects, Matt Oudens and Conrad Ello, are working on designing a library building based on the specifications which are clearly outlined in our Library Building Program.

Our Library Facility Needs Assessment Committee meetings are open to the public and public participation is welcome.

The Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners plans to announce a Construction Grant



Round next summer. The Board of Library Trustees will be requesting permission to apply for a Construction Grant at Town Meeting on Saturday, May 1. There is much work to do in our efforts to create a new library for Shutesbury.

If you are interested in helping in any way please let us know.

## Electronic Databases

Included in this newsletter is a brochure that describes electronic databases that are available to all Spear Library cardholders. Library patrons have access to thousands of free, well-researched newspaper, magazine and journal articles through these online resources. If you need assistance using these online resources, just ask!

## Thanks to our VOLUNTEERS!

Stuffing envelopes, making flyers, shelving books, processing new materials, checking in the delivery bins, maintaining the website, helping at programs, leading workshops, and filling book holds are some of the many ways that volunteers help at the library every week.

**Nisha and Rose Dawson, Janis Gray, Suzanne Hayden, Natalia Jacobs, Susan Millinger, Molly Moss, Wendy Pearson and Virginia Worthington** are all volunteers who help on a weekly basis.

Wendy, Molly, Susan and Suzanne helped Friends Executive Board Members **John Valentine, Weezie Houle** and **Paul Jacobs** prepare the Friends annual mailing! **Margaret Simmons** and **Jane Urban** are leading the children's writing workshop later this winter, **David Anthony Durham** participated in the Barnes and Noble Book Fair and Weezie Houle maintains our website. Thank you! Thank you!

## Friends

The Friends of the Library sent a mailing to every home in Shutesbury earlier this month. It included a list of all upcoming library programs. This winter we will have three free craft workshops supported by the Friends and in part by grants from the Shutesbury Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

The Friends also provide monthly movie nights which are held in the basement of Town Hall. **Rob Bowen**, Friends Co-President, makes movie night possible!

Information about library programs can always be found on our website, [www.mnspear.org](http://www.mnspear.org).

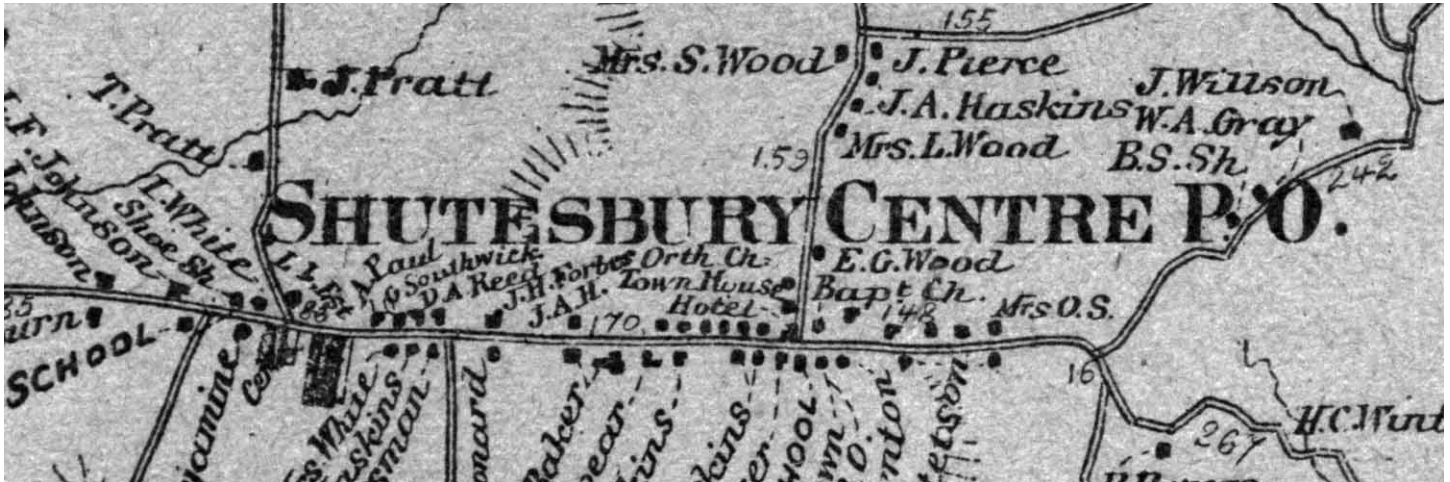
Included in this newsletter is a membership card. Your membership and support of the Friends are vital to the success of the Friends and the Library. Thank you!



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## HOW TO CONTACT TOWN OFFICIALS

ACCOUNTANT <i>Gail Weiss</i>	259-1108	ELEMENTARY SCHOOL <i>Robert Mahler, Principal</i>	259-1212	RECREATION COMMITTEE <i>Vacant</i>	Call 259-1214
ADA COMMITTEE <i>Martina Carroll</i>	259-1110	EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR <i>Walter Tibbetts</i>	259-1211	RECYCLING COORDINATOR <i>Gary Bernhard</i>	259-1235
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR <i>Rebecca Torres</i>	259-1214	FINANCE COMMITTEE <i>Patrick J. Callahan</i>	259-1584	REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE <i>Kristen Luschen</i>	256-3303
ANIMAL INSPECTORS <i>Denise Chiminiello</i>	259-1020	FIRE DEPARTMENT <i>Walter Tibbetts, Chief</i>	259-1211	ROADS COMMITTEE <i>Vacant</i>	Call 259-1214
<i>Nancy Long</i>	259-2123	<i>or home</i>	259-1286	SCHOOL COMMITTEE <i>Michael DeChiara</i>	259-1059
ASSESSORS <i>Kenneth Holmberg</i>	259-3790	HEALTH AGENT <i>David Zarozinski</i>	549-3710	UNION 28 SCHOOL SUPT. <i>Joan Wickman</i>	423-3337
BOARD OF HEALTH <i>William Elliott</i>	259-2122	HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT <i>Tim Hunting</i>	259-1215	SELECT BOARD <i>Elaine Puleo, Chair</i>	259-1979
<i>Public health</i>		HISTORICAL COMMISSION <i>Barbara Goodhind</i>	259-1428	<i>Al Springer</i>	259-1578
<i>emergency</i>	413 659-7294	M.N. SPEAR MEMORIAL LIBRARY <i>Mary Anne Antonellis, Dir.</i>	259-1213	<i>To be filled March 3</i>	
BUILDINGS COMMITTEE <i>Dale Houle</i>	259-1696	LIBRARY TRUSTEES <i>Karen Traub</i>	367-9826	SHUTES.-LEV. BROADBAND COMM. <i>Weezie Houle</i>	259-1696
BUILDING INSPECTOR <i>Jim Hawkins</i>	772-2026	OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE <i>Janice Stone</i>	259-1557	TAX COLLECTOR <i>Ellen McKay</i>	259-1615
CEMETERY COMMISSION <i>Marilyn Tibbetts</i>	259-1976	OUR TOWN NEWSLETTER <i>Janis S. Gray</i>	259-1584	TOWN CLERK <i>Leslie Bracebridge</i>	259-1204
COUNCIL ON AGING <i>Muriel Gross</i>	259-1371	PERSONNEL BOARD <i>Margaret Manson</i>	413-230-3038	TREASURER <i>Gabriele Voelker</i>	259-1801
CONSERVATION COMMISSION <i>Leave inquiries at</i>	259-3792	PLANNING BOARD <i>Deacon Bonnar</i>	259-1276	TREE WARDEN <i>Thomas Houston</i>	259-1508
CULTURAL COUNCIL <i>Renee A. Richard</i>	259-9296	PLUMBING/GAS INSPECTOR <i>John Letourneau</i>	367-0017	WEB COMMITTEE <i>Fred Steinberg</i>	259-9996
DEPT. OF VETERAN'S SERVICES <i>Leo J. Parent, Jr.</i>	863-3205	POLICE DEPARTMENT <i>Chief Thomas E. Harding</i>	259-1279	ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS <i>Charles J. DiMare</i>	549-5330
DOG OFFICER <i>Nancy Long</i>	259-1279	<i>Dispatch</i>	625-8200	250th ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE <i>Janis S. Gray</i>	259-1584
ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR <i>Maurice Gregoire</i>	367-9988			<i>Maryélise Lamet</i>	259-1551

**POLICE, FIRE & RESCUE SQUAD 911**