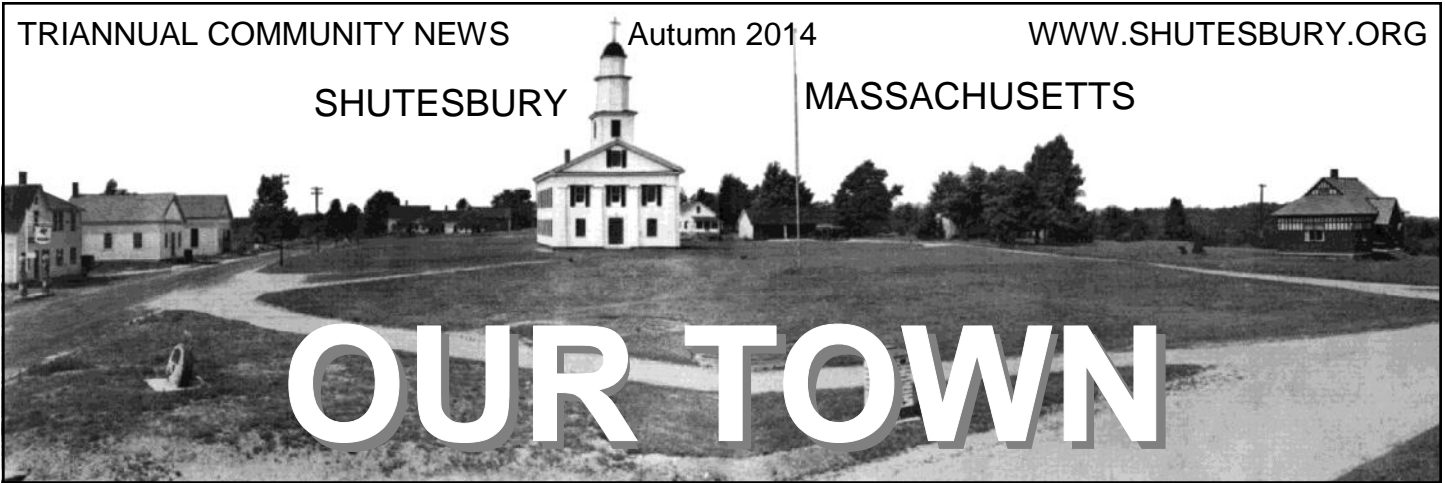


SHUTESBURY

MASSACHUSETTS



# OUR TOWN

## End-of-summer updates from your Select Board

By Elaine Puleo, April Stein and Mike Vinskey, *Shutesbury Select Board*

In July, the Select Board welcomed our newly elected official, **Mike Vinskey**, to the team. Additionally, several other residents have agreed to fill vacancies on various committees and boards.

Unfortunately, there are still numerous **openings on many committees**. If anyone is interested in a volunteer position, please contact the Town Clerk's office for elected positions and the Town Administrator's office for appointed positions. Lists of both such positions can be found on the Town Clerk's link on [www.shutesbury.org](http://www.shutesbury.org).

The Shutesbury Dog Officer is working with the Police Department to establish a **new dog complaint policy**. (See related article on page 3.) A recent issue relating to dog ownership that came before the Select Board makes us want to highlight the need for all dog owners to ensure their pets are properly vaccinated and registered with the Town Clerk, as well as on a leash or under voice command at all times.

If you are a pet owner, take a moment to think about the interaction between your dog and your community. We understand that people are very loyal to their pets. We are most concerned when dogs are out alone

and unrestrained. A dog's reaction to strangers can be very different when it is alone than when it is within the realm of its owner. Please be considerate of all people who walk, bike or live near your home.

Another dog issue concerns noise. Leaving a dog unattended and outside most often ends in a noise complaint. Dogs are social animals. When left alone for an extended period of time they get anxious and often bark nonstop. If you have to leave a pet alone, please keep it within your home to reduce the amount of neighborhood annoyance.

We have **completed drilling four monitor wells** as part of the Water Resources Committee's program to study water quantity in town. The four wells are spread out on a line from the Shutesbury Athletic Club to a property near Baker Road.

We are looking forward to having data that will help us understand  
**See Select Board update, continued on page 3**

## News from Shutesbury Elementary School

By Jackie Mendonsa, *Principal*

Dear Shutesbury Community,

As the new principal at Shutesbury Elementary School (SES), I wanted to extend a heart-felt "hello" as well as my sincere thanks to those in the community who have been so warm and inviting since I began my work at the school on July 1.

I have spent the summer becoming acquainted with the school, teachers, community members and

families. I am honored to be the principal of such a unique school within a special community.

I come to Shutesbury as a former classroom teacher, interventionist, teacher coach, assistant principal and principal within the Springfield Public Schools. I am an avid arts enthusiast and advocate and even perform in theater myself! My family and I live in the valley and my two children attend school in Northampton.

I have had the pleasure of hiring some new SES staff members this summer. **Lauren Thomas-Paquin** is the year-long interim 5/6 teacher. Lauren is a community member,

**See School, continued on page 4**

## Bargains galore and fun at Celebrate Shutesbury Saturday, September 20

Please join us on the Town Common Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 3pm for Celebrate Shutesbury.

This year's gathering will kick off with Shutesbury's own homegrown parade/climate march and there will be live music, a bounce castle, beach blanket bingo, kids' games and dress-up brought to us by Historic Deerfield, the library's mega book sale, a town-wide tag sale, and Shutesbury t-shirts, buy one get two free sale!

The Shutesbury AC will be providing a light breakfast and lunch and the Fire and Police Departments will showcase their equipment and skilled staff. For more information about the day including tag sale information please contact Rita Farrell, [ritafarrell@verizon.net](mailto:ritafarrell@verizon.net).

Bulky Waste Day is  
October 4!  
See story on page 6.

## Messages from the Town Clerk

Leslie Bracebridge, *Town Clerk*

Office Hours: 9am –1pm Monday through Thursday; call 413-259-1204 for special appointments.

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

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

**All dogs residing in Shutesbury must be re-licensed within 30 days of July 1 each year**, and should now be wearing their silver fire hydrant-shaped tags. If you forgot to re-license, you can download a mail-in licensing form and instructions from the Town Clerk’s or the Dog Officer’s pages at [www.shutesbury.org](http://www.shutesbury.org).

Alternatively you can request a licensing form be sent to you by calling the Town Clerk’s office, or just stop in at Town Hall. If you mail your form and payment in, please remember to add the \$5 late fee to the check and also please remember to enclose proof of rabies vaccination and a self-addressed stamped envelope. The rabies vaccination form will

be returned to you with your dog’s new license. If your dog loses its tag part way through the license year, just call or stop by for a \$1 replacement tag.

**Wednesday, October 15 is the last day to register to vote for the November 4 State Election.** The election will take place at the Shutesbury Town Hall at 1 Cooleyville Road for all registered voters of Shutesbury. Polls will be open from 7am to 8pm. Results will be posted at [www.shutesbury.org](http://www.shutesbury.org) as soon as they are available.

Please consider registering ahead of the October 15 deadline for the November 4 election. See instructions for new residents above. The 2014 primary election is behind us, but for future primaries, it may help to know that 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.

If you would like to check your voter registration status you are welcome to call or email the Shutesbury Town Clerk. Also, the Secretary of the Commonwealth now offers a program where people can research their voter registration status themselves: [www.sec.state.ma.us/VoterRegistrationSearch/MyVoterRegStatus.aspx](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/VoterRegistrationSearch/MyVoterRegStatus.aspx). If that is too long to remember, go to the Town Clerk’s web page to find the link. The Secretary of the Commonwealth’s site offers a lot of interesting information about elections. Enjoy your visit there!

**Absentee ballots are available approximately four weeks before through 12 noon on the day before an election.** Electronic requests, either faxed or emailed should contain a signature. If you don’t have a scanner or fax machine, you might be able to write out a request, sign it, take a photo of it and email the photo to [townclerk@shutesbury.org](mailto:townclerk@shutesbury.org).

Written requests for absentee ballots must include your residential street address and your signature. You may also come directly to the Town Clerk’s office and fill out an application to either vote “over the

counter,” or to have a ballot mailed to the address of your choice.

**If you are a municipal employee, or an elected or appointed official, please see the enclosed insert for instructions to get sworn in, to receive Open Meeting Law materials and to receive ethics training.**

The information is also posted at the Town Clerk’s webpage. There are comprehensive lists of elected and appointed municipal officials on the Town Clerk’s webpage as well as posted at town hall.

Thank you for your interest in our municipal government. I look forward to helping you to find any information which you seek.

## We’re fans of our folders!

The Spring 2014 edition of *Our Town* reached your mailbox in April thanks to the efforts of volunteers **Marilyn Tibbetts, Susan Millinger, Elaine Puleo, Mare Fox, Leslie Nazar, David Dann, Sandy Olken and Becky Torres**. They rolled up their sleeves to join Administrative Secretary **Leslie Bracebridge** in stuffing, folding, sealing and labeling the newsletter.

**Susan and Marilyn** returned in June to join still more volunteers in helping to send out a special Select Board mailing: **Catherine Youngen, Merka Fletcher and Dylan Korpita**.

If you would like to join a “folding party” for any future newsletters or other municipal mailings, please contact Leslie Bracebridge at 413-259-1204 to be added to her list of folks to call. You are under no obligation to participate if you do — but we will welcome your help whenever and wherever it suits you best.

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

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



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## NOTICE TO THE VOTERS OF SHUTESBURY

As required by Massachusetts General Law Chapter 40, Section 32 notice is hereby given that the Town of Shutesbury General Bylaw: Watercraft and Persons Using Lake Wyola was amended, and a new bylaw: Littering and Dumping created at the May 3, 2014 Annual Town Meeting. Both town meeting actions were approved by the office of Massachusetts Attorney General Martha Coakley on July 24, 2014. This announcement and copies of the amendment and the new bylaw are posted at the Locks Pond bulletin board, the Shutesbury Town Hall, the Shutesbury Post Office, the M.N. Spear Library, the Shutesbury Elementary School and the Cushman Pratt Corner Roads bulletin board, and are available for review or purchase at the Shutesbury Town Clerk's office. Both bylaws, now in full effect are also available online at [www.shutesbury.org](http://www.shutesbury.org)

### Making a complaint about a dog

Shutesbury has a Dog Officer to address residents' complaints of loose dogs, barking dogs, dangerous/threatening dogs, or dog bites. The Dog Officer is a part-time position and reports to the Town Administrator and Select Board. The Dog Officer also works closely with the Police Department to address and track complaints related to dog issues.

**If an immediate response is required**, residents should use the following procedure:

Because the Dog Officer is a part-time position, any resident wishing to make a timely report or complaint should first attempt to contact the Shutesbury Police Department – 413-259-1279 – and speak with the officer on duty. If an officer is not available to



answer the department phone, residents may contact the County Dispatch Center – 413-625-8200 – and ask to speak with the officer on duty.

The officer on duty will return your call as soon as he or she is able and address your concern or complaint.

In most cases, the officer will respond to or address the complaint and then forward the information to the Dog Officer, who will follow up with the reporting party as needed, and determine if a report or fine is warranted. The information is forwarded to

the Town Administrator and the Select Board.

Information or complaints for the Dog Officer may be left on the Dog Officer's voice mailbox – 413-345-8796. A more timely response to a complaint would come from the police department, and we encourage you to use them as your first point of contact.

Dog owners should be aware of their responsibilities under the Town's bylaw regarding the control and behavior of their dog as well as applicable State laws. Questions may be addressed to the Police Department at any time by contacting the officer on duty at the numbers listed above.

Thank you –

Police Chief Tom Harding  
Dog Officer Nancy Long  
Selectboard Chair Elaine Puleo

### Select Board update, continued from page 1

water availability in town and hope to have regular reports from the committee on their progress.

Shutesbury is now enrolled in the U.S. General Services Administration **surplus equipment acquisition program**. Our Fire Chief was the driving force to completing the application and having it approved. Shutesbury now has access to surplus government equipment that will allow us to acquire needed equipment at a greatly reduced cost.

We will soon be running **a test on the eradication of knotweed** on a section of Pelham Hill Road that is away from any homes. The test will be conducted by a professional contractor who will administer an appropriate herbicide to curtail this very invasive plant. We will monitor this test (approximately ½ mile stretch) to determine if the

treatment can successfully help limit the spread of this invasive.

Our Highway Department has been busy with their usual summer road maintenance programs. **A section of Lakeview Road is in the process of being repaved** after completion of culvert repair work in that area.

Our Highway Superintendent has also provided a great service while assisting the Water Resources Committee with preparations for the drilling of the monitor wells.

Another department that regularly goes above and beyond is our Police Department. They have been **instrumental in apprehending suspects** from the recent multiple house break-ins as well as tracking down the driver of a vehicle involved in a hit and run incident that caused thousands of dollars of damage.

As we head into Fall, two school issues will be more and more in the news. The regionalization plan is near-

ing completion and will be presented at town forums in the next few months.

This, along with the results of a study on how to equitably share the expenses of our current 7-12 regional school system between Amherst, Pelham, Leverett, and Shutesbury will also be presented to the town. These events will be posted on the town website at [www.Shutesbury.org](http://www.Shutesbury.org). Please make an effort to attend these important meetings.

The Select Board is here to serve you. If you have any concerns or suggestions on how Shutesbury can be improved please contact any of the Select Board members. You can find our email addresses at [http://shutesbury.org/select\\_board](http://shutesbury.org/select_board). (Note the underline mark between select and board: select\_board.)

Elaine, April, Mike

## Developmental screenings offered for children ages 3, 4 and 5 in our community

In Shutesbury, developmental screening is available through the school as a first step in a process intended to find children in need of special services and to plan for meeting those needs. Screening focuses on a child's growth in a number of areas, such as large and small muscle control, speech/language development and concept development. This activity takes about 20 minutes and consists of a number of games that children typically enjoy playing. The screening gives an indication of whether or not a child's skills are developing within the typical range.

If you have any questions or concerns or anyone you know has children under the age of five, or if you have questions or concerns about your child's development, please contact us for more information about the program. Call Grace Griecci, Pre-K teacher, at 413-259-1212 X140 or email her at [grieccig@shutesburyschool.org](mailto:grieccig@shutesburyschool.org)

*This service is available to all families in town, including those with a child not already enrolled in the school's preschool program.*

### School, continued from page 1

parent and former para-educator within SES. She comes to the position with years of teaching experience within the classroom.

**Parmatma Khalsa** has joined SES as a para-educator within the 5/6 team as well. Parmatma recently graduated from Mount Holyoke with a Masters in Education. He had a year-long student teaching experience at Leverett Elementary and has much experience working with children in various capacities.

**Christine Sirard** will be our new music teacher. Christine has a wonderful musical background. She is a vocalist and has had experience teaching elementary school music, as well as running her own music business for young children and their families.

I am greatly looking forward to the

possibilities and adventures at SES. I would love to hear from the community regarding any questions, thoughts or ideas that arise. I can always be reached by phone (413) 259-1212 or by email at [mendon-saj@shutesburyschool.org](mailto:mendon-saj@shutesburyschool.org).

Sincerely,  
Jackie Mendonsa, Principal

## NOTE FROM THE TOWN COLLECTOR

Ellen McKay, *Town Collector*

Dear Shutesbury residents:

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

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

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

Please plan ahead when you mail your payments as it may take as much as a week for mail to arrive in Shutesbury as the post office now sorts mail in Connecticut.

Do NOT postdate your checks! I cannot accept such checks because they cannot be processed until the date on the check. They will be returned to you upon receipt.

"Why is the name of the previous owner still on my real estate tax bill?" is a question we are frequently asked. Under Mass. General Laws, the name of the person who owns property on January 1 of the year in which the fiscal year begins must appear on the bill. In the case of this fiscal year (2015) that date is

January 1, 2014. 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 when you will be leaving** so I can redirect your bills and ensure that they will be delivered promptly. Please make sure I have your alternate address.

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.

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

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

Have a good autumn.

Ellen McKay  
Town Collector

## 1842 West School open house and history hike to be offered in October

The Historical Commission will again offer two popular history programs this fall:

1. **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 13, from 1 to 3pm. 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!

2. On Saturday, October 18, the Commission will sponsor a hike to the Davis family homestead area with foundation, barn and paddock areas, the well and one family headstone still visible. (See photo above of the homestead, which once stood off Montague Road.)

J. Hubbard Davis was a Shutesbury Selectman in 1859 and 1860. He and his fellow Selectmen, William A. Gray and D. Nevell Hamilton, built Shutesbury's first records storage vault. Still in use, this vault may also be seen at the 1829 Town Hall during Celebrate Shutesbury. From the Davis Homestead, we will continue on through the Paul C. Jones working forest area to "the boiling springs." We will leave the Town Hall parking area at 12 noon. (The rain date will be Saturday, October 25 at 12 noon; call 259-1204 for more information or to check on any weather-related change.)

## Old Hearse House reveals its past

The Historical Commission is watching the progress of the West Cemetery Hearse House renovations with great interest.

On the very first day of work, Contractor Jesse Brown pointed out that the siding boards, which had been protected by more recent white clapboards, showed the lines of the up and down blade of a water-



powered sawmill. The lines vary in frequency across the boards, due to the ease of cutting through clear wood and where the blade had cut through a knot.

Jesse further pointed out that the boards were likely hand-planed due to tear damage to the clear wood seen near the knots. There were no other nail holes on the plates under the siding boards, suggesting to Jesse that the boards uncovered when the clapboards were removed

were the original siding boards.

We also now have a good sense of what was meant by "red" when the building was built in 1840.

Many square cut nails were saved when the siding was removed.

The report of the 1840 Hearse House Planning Committee is safely stored in our town's vault and will be available at the 1829 Town Hall during Celebrate Shutesbury. Please feel welcome to stop in during Celebrate Shutesbury to see that report and many other interesting documents and artifacts concerning Shutesbury's history.

### **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 we welcome you to speak at a meeting.

If you have a particular question or interest about Shutesbury's history, or would like to be on a list to help with preservation projects, please call: Chairman **Leslie Bracebridge** (259-1204), **Barbara Goodhind**, **Julie Taylor**, **Marilyn Tibbetts**, **Karen Czerwonka**, **Steve Puffer**, or **Joanna Hayes**.



*Classic post and beam construction at the West Cemetery Hearse House.*

## From the Recycling Committee



### Shutesbury Bulky Waste Day is Saturday, October 4!

Saturday October 4 is Bulky Waste Day (BWD) at the Highway Department from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for Shutesbury residents. Bring items that are too large for the trash such as construction waste, mattresses, electronics, etc., etc. We do charge enough to cover the cost of disposing of these items, so bring some cash or your check book with you. Hint: Unloading goes a lot faster if you separate trash, metals, and electronics. **DO NOT** bring hazardous waste to Bulky Waste Day.

We have begun charging again this year for old TVs and computer monitors (CRTs) at the rate of \$10 each. The Salvation Army no longer picks up electronics without charge. Electronics can be recycled at Best Buy in Hadley. The Salvation Army will also **Not** be picking up textiles at Shutesbury Bulky Waste Day. Textiles, old clothing, and leather goods can be dropped off at recycling bins in the Valley or taken to the Salvation Army Thrift Store on Rt. 9. Please make sure that all textiles are dry and clean.

#### **We Need Bulky Waste Day Volunteers!**

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

#### **Free by the Side of the Road**

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

**NOTE: Items placed on the roadside that are NOT picked up before Bulky Waste Day must be removed at the end of the week. Put them in trash bags or bring them to Bulky Waste Day. In May 2014 Annual Town Meeting passed a "Littering and Dumping Bylaw" that addresses items left by the side of the road longer than two weeks. The text of the bylaw is on the Town website, here: <http://www.shutesbury.org/bylaws>**

Dispose of your household hazardous waste safely!

### **Household Hazardous Waste Collection**

Sunday, September 28, 2014 from 9am to 12pm

Amherst Transfer Station & Recycling Center, 740 Belchertown Rd, Amherst

**Registration deadline: September 23, 2014**

#### **Online Pre-Registration Form:**

<http://www.amherstma.gov/FormCenter/Solid-Waste-and-Recycling-13/Household-Hazardous-Waste-Preregistratio-107>

***Shutesbury residents who don't have computer access to register online can call Gary Bernhard at 259-1235 to obtain a paper registration form.***

Please read the following information carefully.

Participation is limited...to ensure an appointment time please register early.

Shutesbury residents are responsible for waste disposal costs at \$20 (for up to three gallons/pounds), \$30 (for quantities between 3.1 & 10 gal/lbs), or \$50 (for quantities between 10.1 & 25 gal/lbs). Quantity is based on container size, not residual amount.

Motor oil, car batteries & rechargeable batteries are accepted free of charge.

Small businesses & institutions may participate via advance arrangement only.

Fluorescent bulbs will be accepted at \$1/bulb. Home Depot & Lowes will accept a limited number free of charge.

Only cash & checks will be accepted (no credit cards).

We encourage those with small quantities of material to partner with friends, family & neighbors to reduce traffic at the event.

Latex/acrylic paints WILL NOT be accepted.

***Continued top of page 7***

## What to bring to Household Hazardous Waste Collection:

Any substance labeled:

**CAUSTIC, TOXIC, CORROSIVE, POISON, FLAMMABLE, WARNING, DANGER, CAUTION**

For more information please call 413-259-3049

ANTIFREEZE  
ARTS & CRAFTS SUPPLIES  
ASPHALT SEALER  
AUTOMOBILE BATTERIES  
BATTERIES: BUTTON or RECHARGEABLE  
BRAKE FLUID  
CARBURETOR CLEANER  
CHEMISTRY KITS  
DEGREASERS

DRAIN CLEANERS  
ENGINE DEGREASER  
FLEA POWDER  
FLUORESCENT LIGHTS  
FUNGICIDES  
FURNITURE POLISH  
GASOLINE  
GAS TREATMENTS  
HERBICIDES  
INSECT SPRAYS  
KEROSENE  
LIGHTER FLUID  
MERCURY THERMOMETERS  
MERCURY THERMOSTATS  
METAL POLISH  
MOTHBALLS  
MURIATIC ACID  
"NO-PEST" STRIPS  
OVEN CLEANERS  
PESTICIDES  
PHOTO CHEMICALS  
POOL CHEMICALS  
RADIATOR FLUSHER  
REFRIGERANTS

RODENT KILLERS  
ROOFING TAR  
ROOT KILLERS  
RUST PROOFERS  
SOLVENTS  
SPOT REMOVER  
TOILET CLEANERS  
TRANSMISSION FLUID  
UPHOLSTERY CLEANER  
USED MOTOR OIL

## Do not bring:

LATEX PAINT & WATER-BASED PAINT PRODUCTS  
ASBESTOS  
GAS CYLINDERS  
RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL  
EMPTY CONTAINERS FROM HAZARDOUS PRODUCTS  
EXPLOSIVES, INCLUDING AMMUNITION AND FIREWORKS

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## Recycling at Town Hall

### Mercury-Bearing Waste

Mercury is toxic for human beings, but we continue to use it in many different ways—in fluorescent lights, thermostats, some electrical switches. So, what do we do with mercury-bearing waste? Shutesbury residents can drop mercury-bearing items off at Town Hall for recycling. When the containers at Town Hall fill up, we put the nasty stuff in the Universal Waste Shed out back. Once a year a company that processes mercury-bearing waste (by binding the mercury to inert material) picks up the waste and takes it off for processing. The Town has to pay for this service, of course, and **you can save Shutesbury money by recycling your fluorescent bulbs at Lowes, Home Depot, or Whole Foods in Hadley.** Here's how to recycle mercury-bearing waste at Town Hall:

- Fluorescent lamps of all kinds. **Please, no packaging, bubble wrap, cardboard, etc. Do not tape long fluorescent lamps together. No broken bulbs, no incandescent bulbs.**
- Thermostats, thermometers barometers. **Again, no packaging, please. No broken thermometers or thermostats.**
- Elemental mercury. If you break a thermometer or have some other kind of mercury spill here's what to do:
  - Ventilate the room and put tape around the area so no one will walk through the spill
  - Get some disposable gloves then use a note card or other stiff cardboard to push the mercury globules together
  - Place the mercury in a Zip-loc bag along with the card and the disposable gloves, place the bag in a glass jar with a tight lid, label the jar "elemental mercury," and bring it to Town Hall.

### Batteries and Cell Phones

Some batteries are hazardous waste and should not be thrown out with the trash. Cell phones are also classified as hazardous waste because of the lead, copper, nickel, and antimony in them. There are a number of mail-back programs that are free for recycling batteries, cell phones and other items. A list of these programs is at this web site: <http://earth911.com/recycling/mail-back-programs-recycling-from-home/#>. **Again, you can save the Town money if you participate in one of these program.** Here's how to recycle batteries and cell phones at Town Hall:

- Rechargeable batteries and button batteries. Place each battery separately in a baggie and place the baggie(s) in the box under the table in the copy room. They need to be in separate baggies so that they don't touch one another. Truck loads of apparently "dead" batteries have ignited, causing serious fires.
- **Do not bring items with rechargeable batteries in them (such as electric toothbrushes, beard trimmers, etc.) to Town Hall.** Take the rechargeable batteries out of these items (hitting them with a hammer does the trick) first, then bring the batteries to Town Hall.
- **Do not bring non-rechargeable (alkaline) batteries to Town Hall.** They are not hazardous waste and can be thrown out with the trash.
- Cell phones. Take the batteries out, put the batteries in baggies and then in the battery box. Put the cell phone in the cell phone box, also under table in the copy room.

## New Shutesbury Broadband Committee is up and running

This spring, residents of Shutesbury helped re-establish the Broadband Committee. The purpose of the Broadband Committee is to study, recommend and support broadband development initiatives that will bring fiber to the home in Shutesbury in the most cost effective, equitable, minimum risk, high quality and expedient manner.

If you'd like to join the Committee or attend meetings, or just stay informed about its progress, visit <http://www.shutesbury.org/broadband> and sign up for our email newsletter, or check the bulletin board in Town Hall for meeting announcements.

Committee members include: **Asha Strazzero-Wild, Gayle Huntress, Craig Martin, Eric Stocker, Frank Citino, Graeme Sephton, Michael Friedman, Ayres Hall, Becky Torres, Tim Boudreau and Steve Schmidt.**

## Nextdoor Shutesbury – An easy way to communicate with other Shutesbury residents By Paul Vlach, a Nextdoor Shutesbury “Lead”

As of July 2014, 286 residents have joined the community-based website, “Nextdoor Shutesbury.”

Only our residents can access the site, where people have been sharing info such as community events, ser-

vice provider recommendations, missing and found pets, weather and travel conditions, things for sale or to give away, and a host of other topics.

To join Nextdoor Shutesbury, you must register with your real name and Shutesbury address. You can then choose to offer more info about yourself, or just restrict your profile to only show your name and road name to the rest of us. Outsiders cannot see member info or any postings on this closed group.

You may choose to post and view exchanges only through the website; or to receive daily, or immediate, emails about any new activity.

There is no flood of emails, if you join, and neither your email address nor other info is given to anyone, so you won't get spam from joining up.

As a member, you can contact other neighbors through a private message email; post to the entire group; or to specific neighborhoods or special interest subgroups within town, as those are created.

You can also chose to include the adjacent High Point neighborhood of Amherst, which has 384 members, but they won't see your full info, and only see posting where they choose to include our group.

This alternative to the official Town website and email announcement systems allows you to share info directly with others throughout town. The Town system is rightly restricted to official business postings, with no two-way exchanges. If you are not cur-

rently signed up for that list, we urge you to do so, by completing the form found here: <http://shutesbury.org/announcement-list>

To join your neighbors already enjoying Nextdoor Shutesbury, visit: <https://shutesburyma.nextdoor.com/join>

## Franklin County Home Care Corporation (FCHCC) launches new website

FCHCC unveiled a newly redesigned website on July 22, the 40th anniversary of its incorporation.

Still located at [www.fchcc.org](http://www.fchcc.org), the new site features a more modern design that combines easy-to-use navigation with the same great resource information you're used to receiving from FCHCC. To let it know what you think of the new website, FCHCC invites you to send feedback to [info@fchcc.org](mailto:info@fchcc.org) or call 413-773-5555 or 978-544-2259. This website has been designed with you in mind, and your feedback is always appreciated.

## New county program seeks volunteers; training set for October 29

Volunteer for "Rides for Health," a new Franklin County Homecare Corporation (FCHCC) program that will put you in the driver's seat to offer door-

**See Rides, continued on page 9**

## Union #28 Community Network for Children

The *Community Network for Children (CNC)* program is funded through the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care Coordinated Family and Community Engagement (CFCE) grant.

The CNC supports all families with children from birth through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade in our school union.

Some programs for families include: weekly playgroups and story hours; parent/guardian workshops and events; opportunities to meet other families in our community; support in accessing child care and information regarding assistance paying for child care; information about children's development; new baby gift bags and

home visits; and newsletters with current programs and events. Our local CNC council assists in the oversight of the grant funds.

If you are interested in being on our mailing list to receive the newsletters, please call or email **Gillian Budine**,

Coordinator, 978-544-5157 or [Budine@erving.com](mailto:Budine@erving.com).

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

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

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

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

978-544-5157 or [Budine@erving.com](mailto:Budine@erving.com)!



Rides, *continued from*  
page 8

through-door assisted transportation to local elders and persons with disabilities who are FCHCC State Home Care clients.

Attend a half-day of training in Turners Falls on October 29, 1-5pm; light refreshments will be provided. For application materials and more information, contact Trevor Boeding, Program Director, at 413-773-5555 x2241 or 978-544-2259 x2241 or [tboeding@fchcc.org](mailto:tboeding@fchcc.org) by October 22. Read more at [www.fchcc.org](http://www.fchcc.org).

Start Here:  
Information &  
Caregiver  
Resource Center

The Information & Caregiver Resource Center (ICRC) at Franklin County Home Care Corporation tailors individual answers to your individual questions and needs concerning elders, caregivers, and persons with disabilities. Contact FCHCC at 413-773-5555 or 978-544-2259 and [info@fchcc.org](mailto:info@fchcc.org). Read more at [www.fchcc.org](http://www.fchcc.org).

Drivers wanted for  
Meals on Wheels

Make a difference in your own community as a volunteer Meals on Wheels driver. Deliver noontime meals and visit with homebound elders; receive a small stipend and mileage reimbursement. Call Franklin County Home Care Corporation at 413-773-5555 or email [info@fchcc.org](mailto:info@fchcc.org). Read more at [www.fchcc.org](http://www.fchcc.org).

‘Together We’re Ready’  
encourages residents to  
plan for emergencies

The Mohawk Area Public Health Coalition joins the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) in promot-

# Energy Savings for Seniors



Lower your fuel bill. Lower your electric bill.

This energy event will share information with persons age 60+ and their family and/or caregivers about the home energy benefits they qualify for that will help them save money and obtain rebates for energy efficient appliances. One-on-one assistance will be available!

- ▶ **North Quabbin Towns:**  
Thursday, September 18, 10 am  
Athol Senior Center  
82 Freedom Street, Athol, MA
- ▶ **Franklin County Towns:**  
Wednesday, September 24, 10 am  
Great Falls Discovery Center  
2 Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA

Both locations are accessible and have nearby parking. The event is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

Registration is appreciated. Contact Gretchen Smith at [gsmith@fchcc.org](mailto:gsmith@fchcc.org) or 413-773-5555 Ext 2258 or 978-544-2259 Ext 2258. Brought to you by the Benefits Counseling program at Franklin County Home Care.



[info@fchcc.org](mailto:info@fchcc.org)  
[www.fchcc.org](http://www.fchcc.org)  
413.773.5555 978.544.2259

## Agencies Represented

- Athol COA and Senior Center
- Center for EcoTechnology
- Community Action of Franklin, Hampshire, and North Quabbin Regions
- Franklin County Home Care Corporation
- Montachusett Opportunity Council
- National Grid
- New England Farm Workers' Council
- North Quabbin Energy
- Western Massachusetts Electric Company



ing emergency preparedness as part of the “Together We’re Ready – Massachusetts Prepared” campaign during September, which is National Preparedness Month.

The statewide campaign will encourage Bay State residents, families and communities to make plans and prepare for public health and medical emergencies, threats and disasters. The campaign features print materials, web resources and social media components developed by the DPH Office of Preparedness and Emergency Management, in partnership with state and local agencies.

Check out the “Together We’re Ready – Massachusetts Prepared” web page at [www.mass.gov/dph/ready](http://www.mass.gov/dph/ready) where you can find more information about individual and family preparedness, volunteer opportunities, emergency planning for the whole community and tips for flu prevention. You can join the conversation at #readyma.

For more information on the Coalition and what it does to prepare Shutesbury for public health emergencies, visit its page on the Franklin Regional Council of Governments’ web-site, <http://frcog.org/boards-committees/maphco>.

# The M. N. Spear Memorial Library

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

## The library will have new hours beginning September 15!

In response to community feedback, we are adding Friday public service hours, effective the week of September 15. We have adjusted the weekly schedule to accommodate public service hours seven days a week! Monday and Wednesday: The changes from our current schedule are in **bold**.

### Current hours:

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

### Hours as of September 15:

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

## Kayaks at the Library

In the spring we learned about a unique grant opportunity to help develop an outdoor public space as a community destination – a place where people might visit to enjoy being outdoors in the company of friends and neighbors. This Outside the Box Grant, a project of OCLC, Redbox, and the Project for Public Spaces, challenged libraries to develop a proposal for developing an unused or under-used outdoor space in their communities into a destination.

I have always loved the conservation area on Lake Wyola where the old town beach is (Randall Road). We have had a couple of library programs there over the years, the most recent being a canoe and kayak adventure day, facilitated by Adventure In/ Adventure Out with funding from the Shutesbury Cultural Council.

The idea I developed, with input from the Conservation Commission, the Trustees and Friends of the Library, is to create a kayak loan program. The kayaks will be stored on a rack at Lake Wyola. Keys, life vests, paddles, will be stored at the library.

Any Shutesbury resident with a valid library card, in good standing, can borrow a kayak to be used on Lake Wyola. There are a few other details such as age restrictions, documents that must be read and signed, loan policies, etc. But the idea is really pretty simple: Come to the library, borrow a key, life vest and paddle, then

make your way to the Lake and go for a paddle.

Lots of people have been helping to get this program up and running.

**David Ulen** picked up the donated wood from **Lowe's of Hadley**, **David**



*Our first kayaker — B. Z. Reily!*

**Holmes** built and installed the storage rack at the lake, **Sean McNiff**, **Sharon** and **Oliver Waldman** have all reviewed legal documents, **Becky Torres**, **Chris** and **Nevin Bonak** have helped transport the kayaks, **Becca Wheeler** was in charge of labeling the kayaks, life vests and paddles, **James McNaughton** and **Ben Delosier** of Adventure In/Adventure Out have answered dozens of questions.

As I write this, we are planning a kick-off event on Saturday, September 13

## STEAM Rollin'

The M.N. Spear Memorial Library has also been awarded a provisional grant from the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, in collaboration with the public libraries in Erving, Leverett and Wendell.

This Full STEAM Ahead grant is intended to help libraries develop science, technology, engineering, art and math programming for preschoolers. Each of the four public libraries will offer a series of programs for three- to six-year-old children as well as develop hands-on activity stations in the libraries for children in this age group. In Shutesbury, these programs will be facilitated by the Hitchcock Center and they will take place monthly on Wednesday afternoons from 1:30 – 2:30pm. The first program, scheduled for October 8, is Seeds Are Everywhere! Please call the library, 259-1213 to register.

## Make the most of your library network

The M.N. Spear Memorial Library is a member of an automated resource sharing network. The network, called C/W MARS, provides Shutesbury residents easy access to the combined collections of 145 libraries, nearly nine million items, in Central and Western Massachusetts.

Use these handy tips to access your library account online and start requesting items.

### How to log into your C/W MARS account

- Go to [www.mnspear.org](http://www.mnspear.org) and click on the Card Catalog tab.
- Click Log into My Account.
- Enter your barcode (14 digit number on your library card) or your username.
- Enter your password.
- Click log in.

If you don't know your password, click the *forgot your password* link. Request a password reset by entering your barcode or username. Click submit. An email with further instructions will be sent to the email address listed in your account.

### How to manage your account?

Once you have accessed your account you can use the **Account Preferences and Search Preferences tabs** to manage your account.

From the Account Preferences tab patrons can review their **personal information**, and update their username, password, and email address. The user name default setting is the patron's barcode but patrons may choose to change their user name to suit their preference.

Patrons may also customize their search preferences by clicking the **Search Preferences Tab**.

In search preferences, patrons can choose a preferred **search location** or library. The default setting for Shutesbury residents is Shutesbury but patrons can choose to always search all C/W MARS libraries or any other C/W MARS library. Patrons can also choose a preferred **hold pick-up location**.

Search Preferences is also where patrons can choose to save their



check out or holds history, by checking the boxes next to **Keep history of checked out items** or **Keep history of holds**. If a patron chooses to keep a *check out or holds history* it is only visible to the patron. The Library staff does not have access to these records.

### How to place a Hold

Once you have logged into your account, you are ready to search the online catalog and place holds, or request items.

- Search the catalog by entering your search terms and clicking Search.
- Find the item you want on the list.
- Click Place Hold
- Confirm your pick-up location.
- Click submit.

A message will appear stating that your hold was successfully placed.

We are happy to help you log in to your account, set a password, set preferences, search the catalog or place holds. Please do not hesitate to ask. Call the library, 259-1213 or stop in.

### New Items at the Library

A new feature in our online catalog, provided by C/W MARS, is a New Titles at the Library function. This feature allows patrons to browse items added to a library's collection in the last 14 days.

This information can be accessed in two ways. From the home page of our website, [mnspear.org](http://mnspear.org), click on the **New Items at the Library** tab. All items added to our collection, in the last 14 days will be listed. This information can also be accessed from the catalog, click on the **See New Titles at Your Library** link on the top left side of the page. You'll be directed to a page with all C/W MARS libraries listed alphabetically. Click any one of them to see what is new.

### Stay Logged In

When logging into the catalog, patrons have the option of choosing to stay logged in.

Clicking the **Stay Logged In** box just after you've entered your username or barcode and PIN keeps a user logged in for two weeks. Some users' privacy settings might override the **Stay Logged In** feature.



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

PRSR  
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Return Service Requested

**OUR TOWN**

*Celebrate Shutesbury  
 Returns September 20!*

Resident  
 Shutesbury MA 01072

### HOW TO CONTACT TOWN OFFICIALS

Go to [www.shutesbury.org](http://www.shutesbury.org) to find email addresses, or call the appropriate number below.

ACCOUNTANT Gail Weiss 259-1108	ELEMENTARY SCHOOL Jackie Mendonsa, Principal 259-1212	POLICE DEPARTMENT Chief Thomas E. Harding 259-1279 Dispatch 413-625-8200
ADA COMMITTEE Town Administrator 259-1214	EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR Walter Tibbetts 259-1211	RECYCLING COORDINATOR Gary Bernhard 259-1235
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR Rebecca Torres 259-1214	FINANCE COMMITTEE Rus Wilson 259-1820	REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE Stephen Sullivan 259-1626
ANIMAL INSPECTORS Denise Chiminiello 259-1020 Nancy Long 345-8796	FIRE DEPARTMENT Walter Tibbetts, Chief 259-1211 or at home 259-1286	SHUTESBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE Sean Woodard-McNiff 978-660-7983
ASSESSORS Kenneth Holmberg 259-3790	HEALTH AGENT David Zarozinski 549-3710	UNION #28 SCHOOL SUPT. Robert Mahler 423-3337
BOARD OF HEALTH Catherine Hilton, Clerk 259-2122	HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT Tim Hunting 259-1215	SELECT BOARD Elaine Puleo, Chair 259-1979 Mike Vinskey 253-4260 J. April Stein 259-1074
BUILDINGS COMMITTEE Dale Houle 259-1696	HISTORICAL COMMISSION Leslie Bracebridge 259-1204	SHUTESBURY BROADBAND COMMITTEE Gayle Huntress 259-1905 Asha Strazzero-Wild 413-478-8368
BUILDING INSPECTOR Jim Hawkins 413-774-3167 x. 113	M.N. SPEAR MEMORIAL LIBRARY Mary Anne Antonellis, Dir. 259-1213	TAX COLLECTOR Ellen McKay 259-1615
CEMETERY COMMISSION Marilyn Tibbetts 259-1976	LIBRARY TRUSTEES Michele Sedor, Interim Chair 259-1213	TOWN CLERK Leslie Bracebridge 259-1204
COUNCIL ON AGING Med-Ride Program 259-2123 Marilyn Tibbetts, Chair 259-1976	OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE Janice Stone 259-1557	TREASURER Gabriele Voelker 259-1801
CONSERVATION COMMISSION Leave inquiries at 259-3792	OUR TOWN NEWSLETTER Janis S. Gray 259-1584	TREE WARDEN Thomas Houston 259-1508
CULTURAL COUNCIL Julie Stepanek, contact 387-5670	PERSONNEL BOARD J. April Stein 259-1074	WEB COMMITTEE Fred Steinberg 259-9996
DEPT. OF VETERAN'S SERVICES Leo J. Parent, Jr. 863-3205	PLANNING BOARD Deacon Bonnar 259-1276	ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS Charles J. DiMare 549-5330
DOG OFFICER Nancy Long 345-8796	PLUMBING/GAS INSPECTOR John Letourneau 367-0017	250th ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE Janis S. Gray 259-1584 Maryélise Lamet 259-1551
ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR Maurice Gregoire 253-7505		

**POLICE, FIRE & RESCUE SQUAD 911**