

SHUTESBURY

MASSACHUSETTS



OUR TOWN

☞ This is Part One of *two* town mailings you should receive in April.
 Part Two will include the budget and warrant for Annual Town Meeting. ☞

Shutesbury to Broadband: Here we come!

Shutesbury Broadband Committee

As the snow melts and the crocuses pop up, more and more fiber optic cable is being installed throughout Shutesbury. Our mainline distribution network (along all the roads) is 75% complete, and in May we'll be ready to start bringing the fiber optic cable from the street to each home for broadband service.

Our installation policy has been set thanks to the vote at the Special Town Meeting on March 26 (304 yes to 1 no).

Thank you to everyone who came out to vote. This means that standard installation is a flat rate of \$200 for each home regardless of driveway length or whether the installation is aerial or underground. We hope this makes getting broadband affordable and accessible to most residents.

IMPORTANT: Please see the enclosed flyer in this edition for more information about signing up for broadband. If you want broadband in your home you **MUST** sign up before the **May 1 deadline**. Even if you signed up years ago for WiredWest, you must sign up now with ShutesburyNET.

If you made a \$49 deposit to WiredWest, you can request a refund. Because the money has

been held in escrow, you have to make the request individually in writing. For legal reasons it can't be done as a group request or simply transferred over to our project funds.

To get your deposit back, mail a written, signed request to:

*WiredWest
 Old Courthouse
 99 Main Street
 Northampton, MA 01060*

Include the name and service address used when your deposit was originally made. You should expect to receive your refund, with interest, within 2-3 weeks. If you want to support the advocacy work that WiredWest continues to do for broadband throughout the state, you can

alternatively request that your deposit be donated to their general funds instead of being refunded to you.



Thanks to Jayne Rubenstein and Al Werner, whose logo designs were both incorporated into the new ShutesburyNET logo.

Join the town email list!

The Town of Shutesbury maintains a mailing list for announcements from Town committees and departments, including Broadband, Highway, Police, Recycling, Library, Assessors, Fire, Cemetery, Council on Aging, Recreation, and Town Hall staff.

To sign up, go to the shutesbury.org home page and click on the "sign up for email notifications" link. This is a great way to receive official town information.

Seeking gardening help

In 2011, four intrepid gardeners hatched a wild idea to transform the Highway Department berm from a weedy patch to a lovely garden. We've now taken on the maintenance of three gardens in town (Highway Department berm, Town Hall garden, Library garden).

All three were designed to be "low" maintenance, but there's no such thing as a "no" maintenance garden. We could use your help!

Do you have a few hours a year

Gardens, continued on page 3

All are invited by the Shutesbury Select Board to a Social Hour
 to thank the Volunteers and Staff
 who are retiring after years of service to the Town and
 to meet the Candidates on the Ballot for Election.

This year's gathering will be on Sunday, April 28,
 from 2:00-3:30p.m. in Town Hall. Refreshments will be served.

Messages from the Town Clerk

Susie Mosher

townclerk@shutesbury.org

413-259-1204

Website @ www.shutesbury.org

Office hours: Monday 3:30 – 6pm

Tuesday - Friday 8:30 – 10:30am

Thursday 6 – 8pm

And other times by appointment

It's Spring, and the town of Shutesbury is hopping with activity. On Saturday, **May 4**, come meet/join your friends and neighbors at the town's **Annual Election and Town Meeting** in the Shutesbury Elementary School gym, 23 West Pelham Rd. While you are there you can attend town meeting, vote for town officials, and pick up your trash bags and an application to relicense your dog.

Accommodations can be made for attending and voting on May 4. Please contact Becky Torres, Town Administrator and ADA Coordinator, ahead of time at 413-259-1214 or at townadmin@shutesbury.org.

Town Meeting **starts** at 9am. Come early to give yourself time to check in and get a seat. The Town Meeting Warrant will be mailed to each household and will be on line at www.shutesbury.org. Come hear the discussion and **vote on the warrant articles in person** if you are a Shutesbury registered voter.

Vote for town officials at the polls that are open from 8am – 2pm. The ballot is shown below, and the candidate statements are also in this newsletter. You can meet the candidates in person at the Social Hour on

April 28 downstairs in the Town Hall from 2 – 3:30pm.

If you are going to be out of town May 4, have a physical disability, or will be absent due to a religious belief, you may **apply** for an absentee ballot. The application forms are on-line, outside the Town Clerk's office, or you can sign a request letter that includes your name, your residential address and where to mail the ballot. Mail it or send an email with your signature (townclerk@shutesbury.org). If you vote by mail, please allow plenty of time for the application and ballot to travel back and forth. You may also apply and cast an absentee ballot in the Town Clerk's office until noon on Friday, May 3.

Election results will be on the town website, posted at Town Hall, and recorded on the Town Clerk's phone @ 259-1204 on the evening of May 4.

The Recycling and Solid Waste Committee begins its new year of **trash bag distribution** at Annual Town Meeting. The schedule for subsequent distribution dates will be available at Annual Town Meeting and on the home page of the town website.

Spring is an opportune time to **license or re-license your dog** before the current license expires on June 30, 2019. Applications are available at the trash bag distribution shed, on the Town Clerk's webpage, and outside the Town Clerk's office. They will also be on the information table at Town Meeting.

So, when you arrive at the Elemen-

tary School on May 4, in any order, you can pick up trash bags, sign in for a card to vote on Town Meeting articles, cast your ballot to elect town officials, get your dog license application and visit with old and new friends.

For those who already sent back their annual census/street list form, **THANK YOU!** If you did not receive one or cannot find yours, **please contact the Town Clerk.** Non-respondents will receive a postcard in early June to confirm their residence or become inactivated voters. You can avoid this by getting your census form in now.

We cannot do it without you!

For each *Our Town* newsletter and town-wide mailing, a group of volunteers collates and folds materials. Our newsletter would not go out without the dedication of our long-time volunteer editor, **Janis Gray**, and the volunteers who show up to collate and fold!

These are the folks who helped get the Winter *Our Town* ready for mailing: **Sally Fairfield, Susan Gomborg, Dave Mosher, Susie Mosher, and Elaine Puleo.**

Many thanks to each of you!

Here's how to join us: when an issue goes to print, there will be a Town Announcement with the date/time the folding will begin. Any amount of time is welcome! The activity is easy and the conversation interesting and fun.

Best wishes for your Spring,
Linda Avis Scott

Administrative Secretary

Here are the seats on the 2019 ballot

All are for three-year terms, except where noted. * = Incumbent

Board of Health – Vote for one
Cemetery Commissioner – Vote for one

Constable – Vote for one
Library Trustee – Vote for two

Moderator – Vote for one
Municipal Light Plant Board – Vote for one
Planning Board – Vote for three

School Committee – Vote for one
Select Board – Vote for one

*Catherine Hilton, 4 Kinder Ln.
*Marilyn E. Tibbetts, 273 Pelham Hill Rd.
Janice S. Stone, 321 Montague Rd.
*Marilyn E. Tibbetts, 273 Pelham Hill Rd.
*Bradley R. Foster, 579 West Pelham Rd.
*Michele Regan-Ladd, 464 Wendell Rd.
Paul J. Lyons, 7 Old Orchard Rd.
No nominations
*Linda Feduik Rotondi, 4 Leverett Rd.
*Jeffrey R. Lacy, 7 Baker Rd.
* Robert S. Raymond, 145 Baker Rd.
No nominations
*Melissa Makepeace-O'Neil, 315 West Pelham Rd.

Write-In candidates must have a complete name and street address. Stickers with this information are accepted.

Statements from candidates for Town Election of Officers

Space in *Our Town* for campaign statements is available to all candidates, including known write-in candidates. Each is invited to submit a statement of no more than 125 words to this newsletter. Below are all statements received by this newsletter. The Town of Shutesbury does not endorse any candidate.

Cemetery Commissioner

Janice Stone
321 Montague Rd

I am running for cemetery commissioner because I love old gravestones and cemeteries. A few years ago the Cemetery Commission requested and received approval for CPA funds to "preserve, rehabilitate and restore the historic gravestones of West Cemetery". I would like to work on making this happen, and start a bigger project of mapping, inventorying and assessing the condition of the gravestones in our cemeteries. I hope you will consider voting for me.

Library Trustee

Michele Regan-Ladd
464 Wendell Rd.

I am currently the Co-Chair of the Library Trustees, with Kate Cell and was Trustee Secretary for many years. I am completing my 5th term.

My husband and I first moved to Lake Wyola when I was in graduate school. We lived there for 4 years, then returned to Shutesbury 4 years later, finally building our current home 17 years ago, where we live with our college age daughter and dog. We've lived in Shutesbury for 32 years.

In my professional life, I am currently the Preschool Coordinator for the Amherst Public Schools and was the Early Childhood Coordinator for School Union #38 for 27 years.

I first became interested in the library when my daughter was young, because we went there so frequently.



Moderator

Paul J. Lyons
7 Old Orchard Rd.

I'm running for Moderator in hopes of continuing Shutesbury's long history of having dedicated, objective facilitators of our annual democratic gatherings. Town meetings in small New England communities are one of the purest forms of democracy, and I have looked forward to attending Shutesbury's town meetings since I first moved to town in the early 1980s. Balancing the rights of residents to be heard with the need to keep meetings moving will be an important goal of mine. I also view the responsibility of the Moderator to appoint Finance Committee members to be a very important one, and I believe that as much as possible, a good FinCom should reflect the diversity of opinion in the town regarding financial matters. I appreciate your vote.

Select Board

Melissa Makepeace-O'Neil
315 West Pelham Rd.
413-256-0312

I have been lucky to call Shutesbury my home for over 40 years. I have had the opportunity to serve Shutesbury through the Select Board for the last three years and have decided to run for re-election to another term. During those three years I have had the pleasure to hear a wide range of views from the community that enrich and deepen our conversation. I have served as a Select Board member on the Personnel Board and the Emergency Management team. I've supported our Broad Band project, participated in contract negotiations, supported a cell tower and supported an electric charging station. I would like the opportunity to continue to work with town government and serve the community of Shutesbury.

At left: Shutesbury center in 1911.



Gardens, continued from page 1

to help? There are two ways you can lend a hand:

Participate in spring or fall work day

Twice a year we schedule a work session to weed, mulch and generally tidy up the three gardens.

Even if you're not a gardener, there's lots you can do. Many hands make light work.

Adopt-a-Garden

Take on the routine maintenance of one of the three gardens. There's always weeding or deadheading or edging that can be done at your convenience. Pull a few weeds when you stop by Town Hall or deadhead the day lilies when you check out a book at the Library.

We've planned two spring work sessions:

**Wednesday, May 15 at 10am and
Saturday, May 18 at 10am.**

If you'd like to offer some help, let us know by emailing either Penny at jaquespenny@gmail.com or Meryl at merylm@crocker.com

Let us know how you'd like to help: work session(s), adopt-a-garden, or both.

Help us keep Shutesbury beautiful and blooming!

*The Gardening Swat Team
Penny Jaques, Meryl Mandell,
Gail Fleischaker, Rita Farrell*

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*
Linda Avis Scott, *Town Hall Liaison*

Shutesbury is hiring!

Assistant Town Clerk

The Town of Shutesbury is seeking applicants for the position of part-time Assistant Town Clerk. The Assistant Town Clerk assists in the performance of the duties of the Town Clerk. In the absence of the Town Clerk, the Assistant Town Clerk shall perform the duties of the Town Clerk and shall have the essential duties and responsibilities of the Town Clerk, as described in MGL c. 41, sec. 19. Salary based on experience. Ten hour per week position to begin in April 2019.

Please submit as soon as possible your resume to Susie Mosher, P.O. Box 276, Shutesbury, MA 01072, in an envelope labelled – ASSISTANT TOWN CLERK. Call for job description or more info 413-259-1204.

Administrative Assessor

The Town of Shutesbury is seeking applicants for the position of Administrative Assessor. The Administrative Assessor under the oversight of the Board of Assessors, and in support of the Board's activities: provides technical assistance and information; values all properties; plans and coordinates town-wide annual tax assessments of real and personal property; sets the tax rate; prepares reports for submission to the Dept. of Revenue. The position requires state certification by the Dept. of Revenue as a MASS Accredited Assessor. Salary based on experience. Twenty hour per week benefitted position to begin in June 2019.

Please submit your resume as soon as possible to Becky Torres, P.O. Box 276, Shutesbury, MA 01072, in an envelope labelled – ADMINISTRATIVE ASSESSOR. Call for job description or more info 413-259-1214.

Volunteer Help Wanted

- ☞ **Americans with Disabilities Act Committee**
- ☞ **Appointed Constable**
- ☞ **Conservation Commission**
- ☞ **Council on Aging**
- ☞ **Cultural Council**

For more information, contact Town Administrator Becky Torres at 413-259-2014 or townadmin@shutesbury.org.

You may also want to attend a meeting or two of the committee which interests you.

Contact the Conservation Commission *BEFORE* starting your project

Thinking of your warm-weather projects? Outdoor projects of any kind may be subject to review to make sure we are protecting the wetlands of Shutesbury. Check before you dig!

Landscaping, construction, new structures or even upgrading existing structures may require action to ensure there will be no impact to wetlands nearby.

The Shutesbury Conservation Commission (Commission or ConCom) will help. ConCom wants to help property owners proceed with their projects while simultaneously protecting the valuable wetland resources that benefit all of us.

Why it Matters: Wetlands are protected throughout the state. These critical habitats are vital for a healthy, well-functioning ecosystem. Lots of woodland critters depend on the water quality and vegetation provided by wetlands. Law protects wetlands and infractions are subject to penalties.



Projects you Should Consider: New landscaping, tree removal, new structures, retrofitting and new septic systems, drainage of rainwater off your property, grading or excavation, or that new bocce court you've been dreaming of.

Who to Contact: Our knowledgeable clerk, **Linda Avis Scott**, is there to help you through the process. She can help you determine what you need to do and how to go about it. Here are ways to engage:

1. Call 413-259-3792 and leave a message, or email con-com@shutesbury.org.
2. Visit Town Hall during Linda's office hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10am to 12pm. You can also pick up a very informative tri-fold brochure at Town Hall for more details.
3. Attend one of our meetings (from March to October, on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays at 7pm and from November to February, on the 2nd Thursday). It's best to call first to get on our agenda.
4. For more information about the work of the Commission, visit our webpage at www.shutesbury.org/concom.

What Else to Know:

1. The ConCom must sign off on all Building Permit Applications whenever digging is required.
2. Near Lake Wyola, almost any proposed work must be reviewed by the Commission before work begins.
3. Don't wait till until your contractor is scheduled to contact us! It may take time to schedule a site visit by ConCom, and more time if wetlands are nearby.

We Need Volunteers! Do you love the unique natural beauty of Shutesbury? Would you like to help the town protect and nurture it? We currently have two vacancies and are actively seeking interested community members to fill them. We are a group of volunteers responsible for protecting the town's natural resources.

Through one to two monthly Thursday evening meetings and site visits all over town, the ConCom administers the Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act and the Town's General Wetlands Protection Bylaw, and manages town conservation land.

If you think this type of work might be for you, contact Linda and arrange to attend a meeting to see firsthand what the ConCom work is all about.

From the Shutesbury School Committee

The Shutesbury School Committee's overarching mission is the continuous improvement of student achievement while maintaining a responsible budget.

The Shutesbury School Committee recognizes the fiscal challenges our community faces. Superintendent **Jen Haggerty**, Director of Finance and Operations **Bruce Turner**, and Principal **Jackie Mendonsa** have worked diligently to present a budget that is as lean as possible without adversely affecting student learning, and the School Committee has thoroughly reviewed and accepted this budget.

Superintendent Haggerty has also been active in the Rural Schools Coalition, advocating for the unique needs and challenges of rural schools to the Massachusetts legislature. Our community has seen grants disappear and special education costs grow while state educational funding decreases. Such advocacy has started to have an impact, with the state publishing a report about the particular challenge of rural communities in January of 2018. A small amount of aid was granted to some local communities, but more work needs to be done.

In spite of the budgetary constraints, Shutesbury Elementary School has demonstrated academic excellence, recognized among the top 52 in the state of Massachusetts based on growth in MCAS scores. It is a school that works hard to provide equal access to all curriculum for all students, that values the arts, that incorporates technology in thoughtful ways, that encourages literacy at every opportunity, and it is a school where teachers and staff consistently strive to improve their practice and address ever changing student needs.

Our community is fortunate to have a school that excels in so many areas and continues to work to improve itself, and our school is fortunate to have a community that supports it.

Developmental screenings for 3, 4 and 5 year olds in the 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

A letter from the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)

Hello Shutesbury community!

Thank you to all who have supported the Shutesbury Elementary School PTO this year and in years past. **Your support and contributions are greatly needed and appreciated!**

Take a look at some of the ways your financial contributions to the PTO make a difference:

- *Support the SES Artist-in-Residence Program bringing artists into school to work with each grade on a week-long project*
- *Provide grants to teachers and staff to purchase items such as musical instruments, supplemental supplies, and additional classroom books*
- *Provide yearly college scholarships to two SES alumni*
- *Fund enrichment activities including field trips to the Hitchcock Center, UMASS Fine Arts Center and school-wide author visits.*

Mark your calendars for our upcoming events:

May 4 - PTO Raffle: Our annual PTO raffle will begin on May 4 at Town Meeting and will continue on May 17 at the Annual Spaghetti Dinner. Enter to win fabulous class gift baskets, dinner for two at some of the Valley's choicest restaurants, wares and classes from local artisans, and much, much more!

All proceeds go to the SES PTO to enhance the learning experiences of all of our students.

May 17 - Annual 6th Grade

Spaghetti Dinner: Come and see our school transformed into an Italian bistro and enjoy a delicious feast made and served by our very own students! Proceeds support the SES 6th Grade Student Activities Fund. Stay tuned for information on how to purchase your tickets.

If you are able to make a financial contribution, please make checks payable to SES PTO. Checks can be mailed to Shutesbury Elementary School (23 W. Pelham Rd., Shutesbury, MA 01072) or dropped in the PTO Donation Box in the school office. **We value your commitment to the school and our PTO!**

Sincerely,

Shutesbury Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization

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.

The Shutesbury Elementary School Preschool is currently enrolling children for the 2019-2020 school year. If you or anyone you know has children under the age of five, or you have questions or concerns about your child's development, please contact us for more information about the program. Contact **Grace Griecci**, Pre-k teacher, at 253-1212 ext.140 or email her at griecig@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.

Shutesbury Early Childhood Program

The Shutesbury Elementary School Community (SES) believes that opportunities for early childhood education are essential components of a good education system. Early experiences in an environment rich in hands-on materials and activities provide children various opportunities to grow emotionally, physically, socially and cognitively.

We believe that a trans-disciplinary team approach, in which all adults

School, continued on page 6

School, continued from page 5

for a child's learning, is the most effective way of teaching and we also believe that parents are the most important teachers of their children and that their involvement in their child's education is essential.

Your child must be 3 years old on or before September 1, 2019 for preschool enrollment, or 5 years old on or before September 1, 2019 for kindergarten enrollment. Please contact the school for Fall/2019 enrollment information. Call: Jessica Carlson-Belanger at the Main Office of SES, 413-259-1212 x100 carlson-belangerj@shutesburyschool.org or Grace Griecci 413-259-1212 x140 griecig@shutesburyschool.org

Programs from the Community Network for Children

SHUTESBURY – FREE WEEKLY TALES & TUNES

Come and enjoy stories, song and craft activities with your child(ren) and other families and caregivers from your community at the M.N. Spear Memorial Library. Tales & Tunes will continue on Mondays, from 9:30-11:00am and is facilitated by **Katie Tolles**. This program is intended for children 0-5 years of age and is sponsored by the M.N. Spear Memorial Library and Union #28 Community Network for Children.

SHUTESBURY – FREE WEEKLY PLAYGROUP

Come and enjoy time with your child (ren) and other families and caregivers from your community at the Shutesbury Elementary School. Shutesbury Playgroup will continue on Fridays, from 8:45-10:15am. This Playgroup is facilitated by **Joie Ciepiela** and is intended for children 0-5 years of age.

Playgroup is sponsored by the Shutesbury Elementary School and Union #28 Community Network for Children. Program not held during school closures. See CNC Website for program and event schedules, <https://sites.google.com/erving.com/cncprogram/home>

For more information please contact **Gillian Budine**, (978) 544-5157 or email budine@erving.com.

WELCOME NEW BABY FREE GIFT BAG

A special offer from the Union #28 Community Network for Children program for new babies (ages birth to 6 months) and their families in the communities of Erving, Leverett, New Salem, Shutesbury and Wendell . . .

The first days and weeks at home with a new baby are among the most joyful — and overwhelming — you'll experience as a parent.

Welcome Baby visits are a comfortable and comforting way for parents to connect with an early childhood expert and get information that you can use with your new baby and his or her siblings.

Welcome New Baby Gift Bags are free and made possible by funding from the Massachusetts Coordinated Family and Community Engagement grant serving our five communities. For more information and to schedule a visit for you and your baby, please contact budine@erving.com or call 978-544-5157.

Nextdoor Shutesbury

"Nextdoor Shutesbury" is the non-municipal website and email communication system for Shutesbury residents. This is our virtual town bulletin board, where people exchange timely info year round.

It offers two-way communication, where you can get and share information with the other 900-plus members who live here in town; and reach another 1,500 people in neighboring Nextdoor groups in surrounding towns, if you choose.

If you are a resident, work in town, or own Shutesbury property, you can join us to share and discuss news, events, items you have to sell or give away, as well as offer services or get recommendations about service providers.

This is all done through a secure website, and you can just check in there when it's convenient. You can also choose to receive email notifications of new posts, or just get a "daily digest" summary.

Get the latest info on broadband, cell towers and other town activities. Share road conditions or other helpful info to keep all of our families safe.

Type "shutesburyma nextdoor" into your browser and enter your valid address to get started. After joining, you can use your browser or an app for

your other devices to stay in touch 24/7/365. Spread the word. We are adding new members every week.

If you have problems signing up, email **Paul Vlach**, a Nextdoor "Lead," at vlach@admin.umass.edu for help.

Pult on your running shoes!

The 39th annual Lake Wyola Road Race and Walk will be held on Sunday, June 9, 2019. The race is a hilly but beautiful 4.8 mile course around the lake. Walkers will start at 10am and Runners at 10:30am. By popular request, there will be a 1.6 mile "fun run" as well.

And, of course, there will be t-shirts, lots of prizes, good food and a raffle for all participants. On-line registration is on <http://www.runreg.com>.

The race benefits the Lake Wyola Association. Please join them on June 9.



A young cormorant dries off last June after fishing in Lake Wyola. Our thanks to photographer Lynda Grybko!

Celebrate Shutesbury to return in September

Come one, come all! Celebrate Shutesbury 2019 promises to be an event you won't want to miss! **It's scheduled for Saturday, September 21, 2019 from 10am-2pm on the Town Common in Shutesbury.**

Live music and entertainment, barbeque, bounce house, bake sale, book sale, face painting, vendors . . . all individuals, boards, committees, organizations and businesses are welcome to attend and participate.

If you would like to vend or if you would like to set up a booth with an activity or information, please contact **Jessica Carlson-Belanger** at carlsonbelanger@gmail.com. If you are a musician or an entertainer and would like to participate, please contact **Karen Traub** at happydancermom@gmail.com.

Looking forward to coming together as a town and celebrating Shutesbury!

From the Recycling and Solid Waste Committee

Shutesbury Trash Bag Distribution Schedule 2019

Below is the trash bag distribution schedule for this year. Each household in Shutesbury is entitled to 50 bags if they are picked up during the two-month distribution period. After June, bags may be picked up at Town Hall during regular working hours. Only 40 bags will be available after the regular distribution period, so please make every effort to get your bags in May or June.

Saturday, May 4, 8:30 – 2 (Town Meeting)

Wednesday, May 8, 5:30 – 7 (School Shed)

Friday, May 10, 2 – 4 (School Shed)

Saturday, May 11, 9:30 – 11:30 (School Shed)

Tuesday, May 14, 5:30 – 7 (School Shed)

Saturday, May 18, 9:30 – 11:30 (School Shed)

Monday, May 20, 5:30 – 7 (School Shed)

Saturday, May 25, 9:30 – 11:30 (School Shed)

Wednesday, May 29, 5:30 – 7 (School Shed)

Saturday, June 1 (Bulky Waste Day – Highway Dept.

Garage – see below)

Thursday, June 6, 5:30 – 7 (School Shed)

Saturday, June 8, 8:30 – 11 (Lake Wyola Association Meeting)

Wednesday, June 12, 5:30 – 7 (School Shed)

Saturday, June 15, 9:30 – 11:30 (School Shed)

Tuesday, June 18, 5:30 – 7 (School Shed)

Saturday, June 22, 9:30 – 11:30 (School Shed)

Monday, June 24, 5:30 – 7 (School Shed)

Saturday, June 29, 9:30 – 11:30 (School Shed)

Bulky Waste Day coming Saturday, June 1

Bulky Waste Day is on Saturday, June 1 at the Highway Department from 10am to 2pm. You can bring everything that won't fit in trash bags **except Hazardous Waste**. The cost of disposing of trash, electronics, and other items is on our web site here: https://www.shutesbury.org/sites/default/files/files-and-images/bulky_waste_price_list_2018.pdf. Bring cash or make checks out to Town of Shutesbury.

This will be the only bulky waste day in Shutesbury, but **Shutesbury residents can use the Leverett Transfer Station (LTS) throughout the year** to dispose of bulky waste. The LTS also has a great take-it-or-leave-it facility. You need a sticker in order to use the LTS, and stickers are available from the Recycling and Solid Waste Committee during the trash bag distribution period (check the distribution schedule above).

FY 2019 stickers are \$10 and are good through June 2019. FY 2020 stickers are \$20 and are good from July 1, 2019 through June 2020. After the trash bag distribution period, stickers can be purchased at Town Hall during regular business hours. For more information about the Leverett Transfer Station, see the Shutesbury recycling site here: <https://www.shutesbury.org/recycling>

We need volunteers for bulky waste day. June 1 promises to be a very busy bulky waste day because it's the only one that will be held in town this

year. If you're interested in giving your neighbors (and the Recycling Committee) a hand unloading stuff, contact the Recycling and Solid Waste Committee Chair, **Meryl Mandell**, at merylm@crocker.com or the Recycling Coordinator, **Gary Bernhard**, at bernhard@uww.umass.edu.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection:

Save the date

Household Hazardous Waste collection will be on **Saturday, August 24** in Amherst this year, location to be announced. You must register for HHW day, so watch for more information and the registration form this summer.

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.** The company that processes these lamps won't take them if they're in any kind of packaging. **Do not tape long fluorescent lamps together.**
- **No broken bulbs, no incandescent bulbs, no LEDs.**
- 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:
 1. Ventilate the room and put tape around the area so no one will walk through the spill
 2. 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-lock 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

Rechargeable and button batteries are hazardous waste and should not be thrown out with the trash.

Recycling, continued on page 8

Recycling, continued from page 7

Here's how to recycle batteries and cell phones at Town Hall:

- Rechargeable batteries and button batteries. Place a few batteries in a baggie and place the baggie(s) in the box under the table in the copy room.
- **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.
- Put the cell phone in the cell phone box, also under table in the copy room.

You can also recycle cell phones and other electronics at Bulky Waste Day, the first Saturday in June.

Note from the Town Collector

Dear Shutesbury taxpayers,

Happy spring! Now that the warmer weather is approaching, we are approaching the end of fiscal 2019 and the Town Meeting for fiscal 2020.

My office hours are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 9am – Noon and Thursday from 8-11am. Should you need to see me and these times are inconvenient, please call and we can arrange a better time to meet.

Due to the time it takes for mail delivery, it is imperative that you PLAN ACCORDINGLY when mailing your payments. Under Mass. General Law, we do NOT use the postmark for date of payment but rather the date of actual receipt. You should mail bills at least ONE WEEK before they are due to insure that they are received before the due date.

If you use on-line banking from your bank (not the Town's system) and mail it to the lockbox in Woburn, please be aware that the bill will come to this office for processing from the lockbox because it is not accompanied by a copy of the bill. To make certain the payment is received on time, please

change the mailing address to Town Collector, PO Box 175, Shutesbury, MA 01072-0175. This will eliminate the bill going to the lockbox and being forwarded.

PLEASE make sure the memo information is correct and does not reflect information from previous payments (ie: listing real estate or excise bill numbers from previous years or an incorrect type of bill). Since your bill payment is NOT an automatic transfer into the Town's bank account, you must PLAN ACCORDINGLY when authorizing the payment. DO NOT set up the payment on the due date, it

won't get to the Town until almost a week later which will result in fees and interest.

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

Don't forget to **contact the Board of Assessors if you no longer have a vehicle on which you have received a motor vehicle excise tax bill.** All bills should be paid in full before you apply for abatement. If this is not done and the bill becomes overdue with additional fees and interest before abatement, these must be paid along with any outstanding balance due on the bill after abatement.

Payment of all types of bills MUST be received on or before the due date which is clearly marked on the bill. Please make note of these dates and make your payments accordingly. Always open all envelopes you receive from this office immediately on receipt. The bill you think is a real estate bill (and paid by your bank) may be an excise tax bill for which you are responsible.

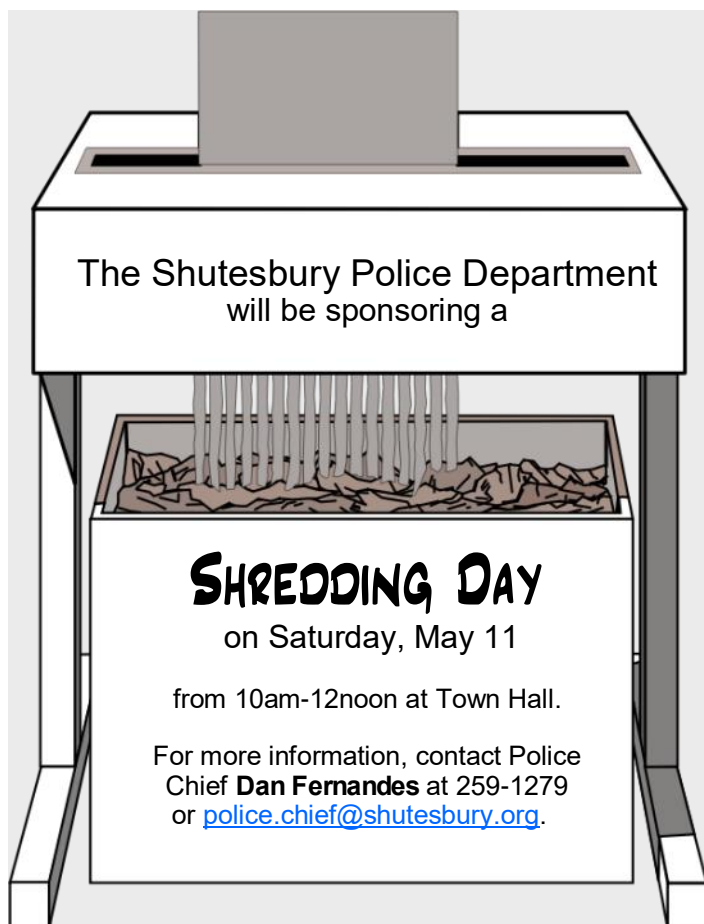
Be sure to notify this office if you change your mailing address, to avoid a delay in delivery of your mail which is returned to me for forwarding. This can take as much as two weeks, which reduces the time you have to pay the bill on time.

Should a demand bill be issued on a motor vehicle excise tax, the law provides 14 days for receipt of payment before a warrant for collection is issued to the Deputy Collector. This results in at least \$22.00 in additional fees. Upon mailing of the demand bills, payment of the original bill will NOT be accepted and checks made out in the incorrect amount WILL be returned to the sender.

Some of you have been unable to pay your bills on-line. If the bill is on warrant, it cannot be paid on-line except through the Deputy Collector's office, which can be reached during business hours at 413-527-2388.

Have a good spring.

Ellen McKay, Town Collector



The M. N. Spear Memorial Library

10 Cooleyville Road
413-259-1213; www.mnspear.org
Mary Anne Antonellis, *Director*

Open Every Day

The M.N. Spear Memorial Library is open every day. Our hours:

Monday and Wednesday: 11:00am - 1:00pm and 3:00 - 6:00pm
Tuesday and Thursday: 3:00 - 7:30pm
Friday: 3:00 - 6:00 pm
Saturday: 10:00am - 1:00pm
Sunday: 3:00 - 6:00pm

Fun facts

- 1,265 Shutesbury residents have library cards – that is almost of 70 percent of our population!
- For the last two years, our circulation was second highest in the Commonwealth for towns in our population group (under 2,000).

Save the dates for these upcoming programs!

Both are supported, in part, by a grant from the Shutesbury Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council. Additional support is provided by the Friends of the M.N. Spear Memorial Library.

Family Science Night

Thursday, May 23, 6pm, at Town Hall. Kosmic Kelly presents Sense-ational Science, a hands-on mini-lab! Trick your taste buds! Guess that smell! Feel to reveal the secret message of the day! Optical illusions!

Pop-up Playground and Ice Cream Social

Saturday, June 22, 5:30 - 7:30pm, at the Shutesbury Athletic Club. Join us our annual celebration of the beginning of summer. Everyone is welcome!

Ongoing programs

Tales and Tunes Storytime

Mondays, 9:30 - 11am, at the Library

Gentle Yoga

Wednesdays through November, 9am, at Town Hall. Free, weekly, drop-in gentle yoga class. Bring a yoga mat, block and a blanket.

Beginner Friendly Gentle Yoga

Most Wednesdays through June 26,

10:15am, at Town Hall.

This drop-in introductory yoga class will be slow and gentle. The class is geared towards those who need a very gentle, accessible yoga practice, including seniors and people with physical challenges. We'll focus on breath awareness, supported standing and seated poses using chairs, and we will avoid getting down on the floor. If you are injured or experiencing illness, check with your doctor to see if such a class would be right for you.

Free Digital Downloads!

Visit the **Digital Books and Video tab** on our website to learn more about free digital downloads.

Digital Books, Audiobooks, Magazines from Overdrive

Browse, borrow, and download eBooks, downloadable audiobooks and magazines compatible with most computers, tablets, and smart phones. Download the Libby or Overdrive App to get started.

Free Digital Video Streaming

Kanopy offers streaming access to popular, independent, and documentary films. Set up an account with an email address and enter your Shutesbury Public Library card number. Each Shutesbury library card holder is able to borrow four free films per month.

Kayaks Coming Soon

The Library loans kayaks for use on Lake Wyola. Our goal is to have the Library Kayaks available to borrow by Mother's Day weekend. Visit the **Kayak tab** on our website for more information.

If you are new to Shutesbury or new to using the kayaks, call or visit the library to learn more.



place in time, places, landmarks, or buildings to library.director@shutesbury.org by October 15, 2019.

Rules:

- Limit three entries per person.
- When submitting a photo, the entrant agrees that the photo may be used for fundraising purposes by the Friends of the M.N. Spear Memorial Library.
- Photos must be taken in Shutesbury.
- A panel will select winners to be published in our 2020 calendar.

Bottles and Cans Collection

The Friends of the Library collects redeemable bottles and cans. Please bring your donations to the Library. Those nickels really do add up!

Friends of the Library Town Meeting Café, Saturday, May 4

The Friends will be serving breakfast and lunch during Town Meeting. Funds raised during the café will be used to support the Friends' general fund, which supports library advocacy and ongoing programs and services offered by the Library, including the Summer Reading Program.

Shutesbury Apparel

Shutesbury T-shirts, long-sleeve hooded T's, and heavyweight hoodies will also be for sale during Town meeting.

LIKE us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/ShutesburyLibrary/>

Friends of the Library News

Thank you to our volunteers!

Shutesbury Photo Contest for a 2020 calendar

Submit photos of flora, fauna, our



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

Return Service Requested

PRSR
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT #305
AMHERST MA 01002

Resident
Shutesbury MA 01072

HOW TO CONTACT TOWN OFFICIALS

Go to 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	RECREATION COMMITTEE B.Z. Reily 413-687-3605
ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY Linda Avis Scott 259-6550	EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR Walter Tibbetts 259-1211	RECYCLING COORDINATOR Gary Bernhard 259-1235
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR Rebecca Torres 259-1214	FINANCE COMMITTEE George Arvanitis, Co-Chair 259-1348	REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE Stephen Sullivan 259-1626
ANIMAL INSPECTOR Nancy Long 259-1279	Eric Stocker, Co-Chair 259-1250	SHUTESBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE Lauren Thomas-Paquin 259-1602
ASSESSORS Kenneth Holmberg 259-3790	FIRE DEPARTMENT Walter Tibbetts, Chief 259-1211	UNION #28 SCHOOL SUPT. Jennifer Haggerty 413-423-3337
BOARD OF HEALTH Catherine Hilton, Clerk 259-2122	or at home 259-1286	SELECT BOARD Melissa Makepeace-O'Neil, Chair 256-0312
BUILDINGS COMMITTEE Bob Groves 259-1200	HEALTH AGENT Claudia Lucas 549-3710	Elaine Puleo 259-1979
BUILDING INSPECTOR Jim Hawkins 413-774-3167 x. 113	HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT Tim Hunting 259-1215	April Stein 259-1074
CEMETERY COMMISSION Marilyn Tibbetts 259-1976	HISTORICAL COMMISSION Leave inquiries at 259-1214	SHUTESBURY BROADBAND COMMITTEE Gayle Huntress
COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMM. Rita Farrell, Co-chair 259-1623	M.N. SPEAR MEMORIAL LIBRARY Mary Anne Antonellis, Dir. 259-1213	Asha Strazzero-Wild Broadband Mailbox 413-345-2855
Allen Hanson, Co-chair 259-1623	LIBRARY TRUSTEES Kate Cell, Co-chair 259-9129	TAX COLLECTOR Ellen McKay 259-1615
COUNCIL ON AGING Med-Ride Program 259-3796	OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE Leave inquires at 259-1214	TOWN CLERK Susie Mosher 259-1204
David Dann, Chair 259-1554	OUR TOWN NEWSLETTER Janis S. Gray 259-1584	TOWN MODERATOR Penelope Kim 259-1326
CONSERVATION COMMISSION Leave inquiries at 259-3792	PERSONNEL BOARD Anna Mundow 259-1668	TREASURER Ryan W. Mailloux 259-1801
CULTURAL COUNCIL Rory Valentine 256-0563	PLANNING BOARD Deacon Bonnar 259-1276	TREE WARDEN Leave inquiries at 259-1215
DEPT. OF VETERANS' SERVICES Timothy Niejadlik 772-1571	PLUMBING/GAS INSPECTOR John Letourneau 367-0017	WEB COMMITTEE Jamie Malcolm-Brown 413-362-9996
DOG OFFICER Nancy Long 259-1279	POLICE DEPARTMENT Daniel Fernandes, Chief 259-1279	ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS Charles J. DiMare 549-5330
ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR Maurice Gregoire 253-7505	Dispatch 413-625-8200	
POLICE, FIRE & RESCUE SQUAD 911		