

SHUTESBURY

MASSACHUSETTS

OUR TOWN



Come feast on firefighters' flapjacks

Walter R. Tibbetts, *Fire Chief.*

The most anticipated event of the year is coming soon: the Shutesbury Firefighters Association **Pancake Breakfast!**

The breakfast will be held on Saturday, February 5. Pancakes will be served between 8:00 am and 10:30 am. Ticket prices are \$4.50 for adults, \$250 for children up to 12; children 5 and under are free.

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

The members of the Firefighters Association would like to thank all of the people who have participated in our house number sign program for the past two years. It's been a great success. Our personnel have installed several hundred signs all over Town.

In fact, the program has been working so well that with the money raised from sign sales, in conjunction with some very generous donations, the Association is purchasing a **thermal imaging camera** for the Fire Department.

This piece of equipment allows fire fighters to see through smoke to aid in a rescue of someone trapped in a fire or smoke-filled building. It also aids in finding fire hidden behind walls and in chimneys. It aids in the over-haul stages of a fire by allowing fire-fighters to find hot spots under piles

Brush burning season

is January 15 - May 1. A burning permit is good for one day only, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. For burning permits call Shelburne Control at 625-8200 early on the morning of the day you want to burn.

of debris, or even at a brush fire.

Thermal imaging cameras have been used to direct hose streams to the seat of a fire by allowing the spotter to look through the smoke and see both the fire and the hose stream. The thermal imaging camera can also

Fire Dept., continued on page 2

Green-up and get "green backs" for Shutesbury!

The Shutesbury Select Board wants you to know how you can make an investment in the future that costs only pennies per day.

The "investment" is GreenerWatts New England, a renewable energy offering from the Center for Ecological Technology (CET), a community-based nonprofit.

The investment will also financially benefit Shutesbury, especially if enough residents sign up before April.

"Future generations are counting on us to pass on clean air, clean drinking water, and safe energy solutions," CET's Peggy MacLeod explained, after giving a short presentation on clean energy funding in December to the Select Board. "Without switching utility companies," MacLeod said, "you can enroll in 'Greenup,' a renewable energy options program available to Massachusetts Electric Company residential

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Workshop on Master Plan and zoning February 7

Deacon Bonnar, *Chair, Planning Board*

After long travail, our Master Plan is completed. Its presentation of current Shutesbury realities and recommendations for future policies follow from

painstaking research, communication, and analysis.

Physical copies are available at Town Hall and the Spear Library. Photocopies of particular chapters may be requested at Town Hall.

The virtual version is at www.shutesbury.org. Comments or questions may be directed to Town Administrator **David Dann** at 259-1214 or Planning Board Chair **Deacon Bonnar** at 259-1276.

The Planning Board has adopted the Master Plan and hopes to implement its land use recommendations through a process of zoning revision.

The Planning Board has scheduled an initial public workshop led by planning consultant Joel Russell for 7:00 pm February 7 at Town Hall. (This was rescheduled from January 20.) More sessions will follow.

Needless to say, preserving and creating Shutesbury as we wish it to be is a difficult task, especially in light of our history of unplanned growth. We Shutesbury citizens now have the Master Plan to guide our understanding of the planning options and constraints before us. The Planning Board looks forward to enlightening exchanges about our town's future.

It's dark. Will you be seen?

Thomas R. Burger, *Officer, Police Department*

In our efforts to further enhance the safety and security of the residents of Shutesbury, the Shutesbury Police Department would like to express our concern over recent tragedies in neighboring communities involving pedestrians and motor vehicles.

Our department has observed an increase in pedestrian traffic over the

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Fire Dept., continued from page 1
help in locating a person lost in the woods. The uses are many and it will be a great addition to our department.

Finally, I would like to talk about winter safety.

Be sure your **wood stove and chimney** are in good condition. Make sure your stove does not have any cracks or other defects in it. Check your stove exhaust pipe. Over time and use the metal becomes rusted and weak. Look for rust, holes, or other defects.

Have your chimney cleaned regularly, and if in doubt of its condition, have it inspected by a qualified mason or chimney swift. Allow at least 36" of clearance around the stove from combustible materials, including stacked-up fire wood.

Careless disposal of ashes has been a leading cause of many area fires. Ashes removed from a stove or fireplace should be shoveled into a heavy metal bucket with a metal lid. They should be placed outside away from the house and other combustible objects (dead leaves and grass are combustible objects). The ashes insulate the hot embers and the **embers can stay hot for days** and ignite combustibles. Never place them in a paper bag or cardboard box. As a reminder, a permit must be obtained from the building inspector before installing a wood, coal, or pellet stove.

This is the season when many people use candles. While they are enjoyable and relaxing, they also can pose a danger. According to the State Fire Marshall's office, **candles have become one of the leading causes of fire deaths** in the home in the state of Massachusetts.

Burn candles inside a one foot circle of safety, an area that is free of anything that can come in contact with the candle and burn. Use a sturdy metal, glass or ceramic container.

Never leave burning candles unattended and remember to extinguish them before going to bed. Also make sure that they are used in a place that is out of reach of young children or where pets may knock them over.

Most important, make sure your **smoke detectors** work properly. Test

them every month. If your smoke detectors are battery powered, change the battery at least once a year. A good way to remember is to change them in the spring or fall when the time changes: **Change your clocks, change your battery.** Also change the battery if you hear the detector make a short "chirp" sound about once a minute. As a reminder the smoke detectors in any newly constructed house must have a battery as a back up to the 120 volt house power, and they need to be changed once a year also. Remember, **smoke detectors save lives and property.**

For more information on these and other safety tips, call the Shutesbury Fire Department at 259-1211.

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and small business customers." Greenup supports the development and generation of renewable energy from such sources as wind, solar, biomass and small hydropower.

Enrolling in Greenup will also support Shutesbury. Under "Clean Energy Choice," the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative* will **match 30% of enrollees' monthly premiums** for GreenerWatts New England. Cities and towns served by Massachusetts Electric will then receive the matching funds from every participating home and small business. Shutesbury could use these funds for a variety of renewable energy projects, such as municipal solar lighting, a solar electric system, or "green" building analysis and improvements.

The town will receive a \$50 bonus per signup if at least 3% of Shutesbury residents (15-20 households) enroll by March 31, 2005.

MacLeod also described a Department of Energy (DOE) grant that will allow smaller towns like Shutesbury to obtain greater funding. "CET is using our DOE grant to offer **\$5,000 toward a solar electric system** to four towns in western Massachusetts with the highest percentage of enrollment in CET's offering, GreenerWatts New England." GreenerWatts enrollment brochures

are available at Town Hall and at M.N. Spear Memorial Library. You can also request a brochure by calling 586-7350 or by emailing MacLeod at peggym@cetonline.org. You can enroll online at www.GreenerWattsNewEngland.com.

*The Massachusetts Technology

Collaborative (MTC) is a public agency of the Commonwealth and administrator of the Renewable Energy Trust. The MTC will provide matching funds toward a variety of renewable energy projects for municipalities through June 30, 2005. An equal match will be made to establish a fund for renewable energy projects that benefit low-income residents.

Police, continued from page 1
last year, especially in the early evening hours. It is for this reason that we would like to remind everyone that **you are the person most responsible for your safety and well being.**

When walking, running or bicycling during the dusk or evening hours, please remember that light-colored or reflective clothing should be a top priority. We have witnessed many people walking and running dressed in dark-colored clothing recently. This situation, combined with dark, winding, non-sidewalked roadways, spell a recipe for disaster. A disaster that may be avoided, if the right precautions are taken. Also, when using paved roadways, always travel in the direction of oncoming traffic. This allows for a pedestrian to see oncoming vehicles and vice versa. Remember, **see and be seen!**

We have checked several retail outlets and have found that local merchants sell "runner's vests" or other various reflective vests for prices ranging from \$9.99 to \$19.99. The difference in price will depend on the material composition and amount of reflective material used. These vests can be found at Dick's Sporting Goods, Klein's All-Sports, Wal-Mart, and other various retailers that stock sporting goods.

Further information on motor vehicle and pedestrian safety can also be found on the Internet at <http://www.nhtsa.gov>.

And as always, the members of the Shutesbury Police Department would like to wish everyone a Safe and Happy New Year!

Messages from the Town Clerk

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

Massachusetts Annual Street List forms, verifying the household census on January 1, have been mailed to each Shutesbury household. State law requires these forms be completed and returned within 10 days of receipt.

If your household did not receive a form, please call the Town Clerk's Office (259-1204) and one will be sent to you right away. Your response will keep your registered voter status current.

In the Town Clerk's office, we are already preparing for **Shutesbury's Annual Election** that will take place Saturday, May 7, 2005.

Positions on the ballot due to term expirations follow:

Board of Health - two 3-year positions
Cemetery Commission - one 3-year position
Constable - one 1-year position
Board of Library Trustees - two 3-year positions *and* one 2-year position
Planning Board - three 3-year positions
School Committee - two 3-year positions
Board of Selectmen - one 3-year position
Town Clerk - one 3-year position

More positions may open up, due to resignations. Some officials may decide not to re-run.

If becoming an elected official is of interest to you, please call 259-1204 with any preliminary questions or to request a nomination form. You need only collect 20 registered voter signatures for your name to appear on the ballot. Completed forms must be returned by Monday, March 21.

Any person wishing to run for an

elected office who misses the March 21 deadline is invited to register his/her intent to run a "write-in" campaign with the Town Clerk. Write-in candidates need a minimum of 20 votes (the number of registered voter signatures required on the nomination form) to be elected.

If you wish to vote in the May 7 election, you must be registered by Friday, April 15. You can register to vote any time in person at the Town Clerk's office, or you can call to have a mail-in voter registration form sent to you. Once one registers to vote in a Massachusetts community, one remains registered in that community, assuming that person participates regularly in the annual January 1 street list process described above, and does not move.

If you have never registered to vote in Shutesbury, if you have moved since you last registered, or if you are at all unsure of your voter registration status, please call us to confirm your status before April 15.

Qualifications for use of "absentee" ballots vary by state. This variation may have confused voters across the country during the November 2004 election. In Massachusetts, absentee ballots are available only to those who cannot come to the polls due to health concerns, religious restrictions or because they will be out of town, during polling hours on election day. (Those hours are 8:00 am – 2:00 pm for the May 7 election.)

Absentee ballots will be available in the Town Clerk's office approximately four weeks in advance of the election, through noon on Friday, May 6.

You may apply for an absentee ballot in person, or write to the Town Clerk, P.O. Box 264, Shutesbury, MA 01072 to request one. Your written request must include your residential address, the address where you want the ballot to be mailed, and your original signature. (Therefore, we cannot accept faxed requests.) If you apply for an absentee ballot in person, you can vote in person at that time.

Absentee ballots cannot be picked up for hand delivery. They can only be mailed directly to the absentee voter.

A farewell letter from David B. Ames

In October, Town Administrator David B. Ames left to serve Athol as town manager. David Dann succeeds him.

Dear Shutesbury,

I have enjoyed my five-plus years as your first full-time Town Administrator. Thank you to all who allowed me the opportunity to serve you. During those five years, we as a team have accomplished numerous tasks. We have worked together in order to identify important issues and improve the quality of life in Shutesbury while struggling to maintain the rural character that makes it the great little town it is.

As they say, "I was given an offer I couldn't refuse," and so I leave Shutesbury with mixed emotions. I will miss Shutesbury and all of the people I have worked with. I feel that I will be leaving a little of my heart and soul here. At the same time, I am excited about the new challenges that are ahead of me.

Once again, thank you for your support. The Town has a great group of employees and leaders, an unbelievable volunteer base and a genuine concern to keep people informed and up to date. It has been my pleasure to serve you!

David B. Ames
(former) Town Administrator

What's your vote: tradition or high tech?

Ruth Todrin, *Registrar*

The Board of Registrars will hold a public meeting on Monday, February 28, at 7:00 pm at Town Hall to receive input on the process of counting ballots after an election.

The current method for counting and tallying votes has been used for years, but in this age of high technology we are looking to see if the public has suggestions for improving the process. Also up for discussion is the introduction of an accessible voting machine.

Linen calendar towels give glimpse of the past

The Friends of the Shutesbury Historical Commission still have a few 2005 calendar towels available. The towel has four scenes from early Shutesbury, including the image of Leverett Road at right, printed in blue on cream linen. Towels are available for \$6 each or two for \$10.

If a calendar is not what you need, at least you could use one of these towels to dry your hands or dishes well into the future!

The proceeds go toward historical preservation projects for Shutesbury. To order, call **Joan Hanson** at 259-1623, or **Leslie Bracebridge** at 259-1973.

Time closing in on Open Space Plan

Janice Stone, *Open Space and Recreation Committee*

The Open Space and Recreation Plan for Shutesbury is due to expire soon, and we need help with the update.

The plans expire every five years, which gives the community an opportunity to reevaluate its goals for recreation and open space.

Having a current Open Space Plan allows the town to apply for Self-Help Grants from the state. Without a current Plan we could not have received \$55,544 for the South Brook Conservation Area in 2000.

No special expertise is required to be on the committee, just an interest in the future of Shutesbury's open space and recreation needs and facilities. If interested, please contact **Janice Stone** at 259-1557 or jsstone@tei.umass.edu.

Note from the Town Collector

Ellen McKay, *Tax Collector*

Dear Shutesbury taxpayers,

With the winter upon us, the third quarter of our real estate bills and the



calendar 2005 motor vehicle excise bills are rapidly approaching.

The third quarter **real estate tax** bills were mailed out the end of December and must be received by this office no later than February 1 to avoid interest. This bill will probably be a different amount than your first two quarters, as it is based on your fiscal 2005 assessment and on the new tax rate.

To calculate your total tax responsibility for the entire fiscal year, multiply your valuation on the third quarter bill by the new tax rate.

If you have any questions on the value of your property or if you wish to apply for an abatement or exemption, please contact the Board of Assessors at 259-3790.

The calendar 2005 **motor vehicle excise tax** bills on vehicles registered at the end of 2004 are usually received from the Registry of Motor Vehicles during the first quarter of the new year.

If you receive a bill on a car you have traded, or on which you have changed registrations, do *not* ignore the bill. The Board of Assessors should be contacted to obtain an application for abatement. (See next story.)

Before venturing out to pay a bill in person, please call this office at 259-1615 to check the answering machine to determine if I will be here.

Have a happy, healthy, and safe New Year.

Tax rate down, values up

Kenneth Holmberg,
Administrative Assessor

The FY05 revaluation of Shutesbury has been completed by the Assessors and new values for all real and personal property have been approved by the Department of Revenue. Our new tax rate of \$18.30 has been approved (our rate for FY04 was \$21.20).

The average value for a single family home in Shutesbury is now slightly over \$200,000, up from \$160,000 following the last revaluation. The average house tax bill is \$3678. In Massachusetts, assessed valuations are supposed to be at 100% of the market value. Revaluations are required by the state every three years to adjust valuations to the current real estate market; when market values increase, valuations will also increase.

Your property valuation is one part of the tax rate and tax bill; the other part is the levy. The levy is the amount of money which the town needs to raise to pay for services (schools, highways, police, and fire protection, etc.), less anticipated income (state aid, motor vehicle excise, etc.). The levy is governed by Proposition 2 1/2 and should not increase by more than 2 1/2 % per year plus added growth from new properties being assessed for the first time.

The levy consists of the town's Assessors, *continued on page 5*

Assessors, continued from page 4
budget for the year voted for at town meetings, plus any Proposition 2½ overrides (Shutesbury voted to approve an additional \$199,000 for FY05). The levy varies from year to year.

The levy for FY05 for Shutesbury was \$3,149,093. When this amount is divided by the total value of all real and personal property in Shutesbury (following the revaluation, this amount was \$172,081,600), divided by 1000 (because tax rates are calculated as \$/1000 dollars of valuation), we have the tax rate of \$18.30 per thousand dollars of valuation.

Abatements The only time you can apply for a real estate abatement is in the first month following the issue of the "actual" tax bill for the year. The "actual" tax bill for the year is the first bill which shows the tax rate for the year (earlier bills are "estimated", based on last year's rate and values) and is usually issued in January in "quarterly" towns.

If you feel that your property is not worth what is assessed, you must apply for an abatement during this first month. The burden of proof is on the taxpayers to show why they have been over-assessed in their opinion. When you can show errors on your property card your chances of receiving an abatement are greater, therefore it behooves you to get a copy of your property card (these are free to property owners).

Applications are available from our office in the Town Hall and online at www.shutesbury.org (under Town Offices/Assessors).

Exemptions Exemptions are reductions in taxes for persons who are elderly (70 and over), blind, or veterans. A veteran is a person who has either a service-related disability acknowledged by the Veterans Administration or has 90 days of active service, of which at least one day was wartime service; amount of exemption varies depending on disability. For those 70 years and older, the exemption amount is either \$175.00 or \$500.00, depending on your assets and income. There are no income restrictions for the \$175

exemption; however, your total assets (excluding your domicile) may not exceed \$40,000. The \$500 exemption is more restrictive, as the income limit is \$13,000 for a single person or \$15,000 for a married couple, and asset limit is \$28,000 for a single person or \$30,000 for a married couple.

Documentation is required annually and remains confidential. Exempted amounts are either deducted from the tax bill in the third and/or fourth quarters or returned to taxpayer directly. Applications are available from the assessors and must be received by assessors no later than March 31.

Personal property Typically, we send a Form of List to business owners and second home homeowners in the month of January to be returned by March 1 to our office. The Form of List is used to list taxable personal property. We will mail the FOL to businesses and to a sample of second home homeowners this year. We have excluded accounts of less than \$1500 value, which has eliminated most of the second home accounts, although we encourage people to continue reporting their personal property. The Form of List is available from our office and also online at www.shutesbury.org (under Town Offices/Assessors).

Ongoing property inspections

The assessors will continue with inspections part of the cyclical inspection program and new construction in January. If we cannot enter your property to do an inspection, we will leave a note on your door to let you know we have been at your house and try to arrange a time when we can view the interior.

Our office hours are Monday 9-2; Tuesday, 9-3; Wednesday, 12-4; and Thursday, 10-4. Other times are by appointment only

Please consider becoming a Learning Partner!

Learning Partners is a volunteer program at Shutesbury Elementary School that matches adult volunteers from the community with students at the school. The pairs meet for one-

half hour each week to read together or work on special projects or assignments. Training is provided.

Current and past Learning Partners describe the experience of volunteering at the school as being rewarding in ways they had not anticipated. You could be surprised too! If you'd like to consider becoming a Learning Partner or want more information, please call **Mary Anne Antonellis** (259-1589) or **Dina Stander** (259-9125). Thank you.

Early childhood programs available in town

Shutesbury children ages 2.9-4 years (5 years if not yet eligible for kindergarten) may be eligible for a variety of programs through a Massachusetts Dept. of Education's Community Partnerships for Children grant.

The grant provides services to child care providers within Union #28 (the school district for Shutesbury, Leverett, Erving, New Salem and Wendell) to increase the quality and accessibility of care in our communities. Families with young children in these towns may also be eligible for child care subsidies (free or reduced cost) through approved providers.

To be eligible, working families' gross incomes must meet state median income guidelines: \$58,620 for a family of two; \$72,420 for a family of three; \$86,208 for a family of four; \$99,996 for a family of five; \$113,796 for a family of six. Both parents must be working at least part time; a single parent must also be working at least part time. Foster parents, grandparents and parents with a disability are also eligible.

Licensed child care providers may be eligible for free or reduced-cost professional development trainings and workshops, a lending library, support for professional accreditation, respite care reimbursement, a subsidy program to meet the needs of families in their care, networking, and a bi-monthly newsletter for providers.

For more information, contact **Victoria Munroe**, Early Childhood Coordinator, at Shutesbury Elementary School, 259-1212.

Family Network reaches out to little ones

Since 1998, the Erving School Union #28 has been funded by a grant from the Massachusetts Department of Education/MA Family Network to provide outreach, education and support services for families with children under 4 years of age living in the towns of Shutesbury, Leverett, Erving, New Salem and Wendell.

We offer weekly story hours at the Shutesbury library and play groups at the school gym; Parent Council meetings; workshops based on assessed families needs; field trips; and frequent fun events for the entire family. We also make Home Visits with our Baby Gift Bags to families with newborns to welcome them into our program.

If you have just moved into Shutesbury, have a child under four years of age, are pregnant or have a newborn, then please call Naz Mohamed-Ahamed at 413-423-3337 or email mohamed@erving.com to be put on our mailing list.

This is a wonderful way to meet other Family Network families with young children in your and neighboring towns.



Lake Wyola Watershed Survey results are in!

Anne Monnelly, Mass. Department of Conservation and Recreation

On August 22, 2004, 29 members of the Lake Wyola Association completed two hours of training on how to survey a lake watershed.

The training was conducted by the Department of Conservation and Recreation Lakes and Ponds Program



and was part of the ongoing 319 grant to protect Lake Wyola.

Following the training, volunteers had one month to get out and survey their part of the watershed, which was divided into eight sub-watersheds. Together, these volunteers contributed over 180 hours! The group met again on September 25 to present survey results and to develop an action plan based on their findings. Here's a summary of the key issues identified:

The problems:

Road runoff at numerous locations, causing erosion and blocked culverts, ultimately resulting in siltation of the lake

Runoff from driveways that goes directly into the lake, creating siltation and shoreline erosion

Beaver dams reducing flow from Fiske Brook

Road salt from road runoff and snow piled too close to the lake

Trash noted at entrance to South Brook Conservation Area

Excessive weed growth in several coves and concern about invasive plants

What can be done?

Sign Up for a Lawn Audit! Through the grant we will offer free and voluntary lawn audits to advise property owners on plantings or other techniques to slow down and filter runoff from their property. We will offer tours at several demonstration sites to show results.

Sign Up to be a Weed Watcher! Next June we will hold a class to train volunteers to identify aquatic invasive weeds. The goal is to spot the weeds early and get them out of the lake quickly if there is an introduction.

Look for more information on how to protect Lake Wyola in upcoming newsletters and mailings!

Winter at Lake Wyola

Carol Samuels, Clerk, Lake Wyola Association

Snow drifts can prevent the mail from being delivered. Please make sure your mailboxes are shoveled out so the mail carrier's car can make deliveries to your road.

Remember to also bring trash cans and recycle bins to the top of any roads that may be too narrowed by snow for the trucks to get down.

Check out the cross country ski trails in South Brook and behind the State Park. It's a wondrous season around Lake Wyola!

The view from 1874

From Elias Nason's *A gazetteer of the state of Massachusetts*, published in Boston in 1874:

Shutesbury occupies the south-east corner of Franklin County, is 112 mile east of Boston, and has New Salem and Prescott (from the latter of which is it divided by Swift River) on the east, Pelham on the South, Amherst and Leverett on the west, and the latter and Wendell on the north. It has 614 people, 154 dwelling-houses, 150 farms, and a valuation of \$194,865. . . .

The land is rocky and uneven. The highest eminence is Morse's Hill, which overlooks Lock's Pond and Lock's Village in the north-west angle of the town. Near this place molybdenite, a sulphuret of molybdenum, is found. An immense boulder east of Lock's Pond, called "The Sentinel," bears the marks of telluric forces, and was doubtless brought from a long distance during the glacial period. It may be considered as one of the earliest settlers of the town. . . .

The town sent 18 soldiers into the late war, of whom 3 were lost.

The M. N. Spear Memorial Library

10 Cooleyville Road
259-1213

Jane Buchanan, *Director*

Hours through Memorial Day:

Monday and Wednesday
10:00 am - 12:00 pm
and 2:00 - 5:00 pm
Tuesday and Thursday,
3:00 - 7:30 pm
Sunday, 3:30 - 5:30 pm



Shutesbury Book Club

The books selected for the remainder of the 2004-2005 season are listed below.

If you're interested in joining, call the library for more information about meeting times and locations. Newcomers are always welcome!

Monday, February 28

The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down
by Anne Fadiman

Monday, March 21

Disgrace
by J. M. Coetzee

Monday, April 25

Mountains Beyond Mountains: The Quest of Dr. Paul Farmer, a Man Who Would Cure the World
by Tracy Kidder

Fragrance-Free Hours

Please observe the fragrance-free hours on Wednesday mornings from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm, and Sundays 3:30 - 4:00 pm.

Patrons who have multiple chemical sensitivities use the library during those hours and you will not be allowed in if you are wearing *any* scented products, or if your clothes or person has residue of inhalable deter-

gents, chemicals or beauty products.

The library now has an air filter which helps clean the air generally, but it won't immediately remove fragrances from your aftershave or sun-tan lotion.

Story and craft hour

Bring your kids to the library every Monday at 10:00 am for our delightful program with professional storyteller Ezzell Floranina.

Ezzell shares stories, songs and crafts with children 1-5. Funded by the School Union #28 Family Network and the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

Thanks to all who help get out the word!

Many hands made short work of three Town Hall mailings last autumn.

Helping get the Autumn 2004 edition of *Our Town* ready to mail were **Natalie Kisell, Ally Miseph, Laurie Parker, Freddie Windriver, Debra Pichanick and Julie Taylor**.

Elizabeth Alcaide turned out on October 8 to fold a special townwide mailing from the Select Board.

And on October 27, another Selectboard mailing arrived at the Post Office set to go through the

efforts of **Deacon Bonnar, William Elliott, Catherine Hilton, Penelope Kim and Mike Sepanek**.

We were thrilled to see so many new faces join our stalwart "regulars" in 2004. If you would like to be included in "folding parties" in 2005, please call **Leslie Bracebridge** at 259-1204 to be added to our list of people to call (you are under no obligation if you do). Your help will be welcome at Town Hall, in your own home, in the evening or the day.

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

Janis S. Gray, Editor
Gordon Kimball, Designer
Leslie Bracebridge, Town Hall Liaison



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HOW TO CONTACT TOWN OFFICIALS

ACCOUNTANT <i>David Kielson</i>	259-1108	ELEMENTARY SCHOOL <i>Tari Thomas</i>	259-1212	RECREATION & OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE <i>Elizabethann Lacy</i>	259-1764
ADA COMMITTEE <i>Martina Carroll</i>	259-1110	EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIR. <i>L. Mark Watkins</i>	259-1751	RECYCLING COORDINATOR <i>Paul Vlach</i>	259-1543
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR <i>David C. Dann</i>	259-1214	FINANCE COMMITTEE <i>Eric Stocker</i>	259-1478	REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE <i>Marianne Jorgensen</i>	259-1842
ANIMAL INSPECTOR <i>Denise Chiminiello</i>	259-1020	FIRE DEPARTMENT <i>Walter Tibbets, Chief or home</i>	259-1211 259-1286	ROADS COMMITTEE <i>Anne Lundberg</i>	P.O. Box 276 367-7504
ASSESSORS <i>Kenneth Holmberg</i>	259-3790	HEALTH AGENT <i>David Zarozinski</i>	549-3710	UNION 28 SCHOOL SUPT. <i>Linda Driscoll</i>	423-3337
BOARD OF HEALTH <i>William Elliott, Chair</i>	259-2122	HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT <i>Tim Hunting</i>	259-1215	SELECT BOARD <i>Becky Torres, Chair</i>	259-1618
BUILDINGS COMMITTEE <i>Tom Fields</i>	259-1970	HISTORICAL COMMISSION <i>Barbara Goodhind</i>	259-1428	<i>Ralph Armstrong</i>	259-1021
BUILDING INSPECTOR <i>Jim Hawkins</i>	772-2026	M.N. SPEAR MEMORIAL LIBRARY <i>Jane Buchanan, Director</i>	259-1213	<i>Joseph Jacobs</i>	259-1269
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