

SHUTESBURY

MASSACHUSETTS

# OUR TOWN

## Here we go again . . .

Eric Stocker, *Chair, Shutesbury Finance Committee*

The Finance Committee has been hard at work preparing the FY07 Budget. As of this writing, our biggest problem is the Regional School Budget.

For the first time in a number of years, we have finally got an agreement with the other towns in the region that will more fairly assess our share of the Region's Budget. That's the good news.

The bad news is that partly as a result of this new formula, Amherst's and Pelham's assessments are now at levels that they are having trouble funding. We are now working on a way to ease into the new formula over a couple of years. This will potentially soften the blow to Amherst and Pelham, thereby making it possible to get a relatively skimpy Regional Budget passed.

As usual we are operating in the blind with regard to potential revenues from the Commonwealth. As recently as today (March 30), there are new rumors that leaders in the House are advocating lifting the cap on Lottery aid and releasing it to the cities and towns. You may recall that when the lottery was created, its mission was to raise money for local communities to use. We are hoping that the revenue picture will be clearer by Annual Town Meeting (ATM).

It looks right now like we will need to use between \$100-150,000 from Free Cash to balance the FY07 Budget. The budget includes \$60,000 earmarked by the Capital Planning Committee for various projects. We are fortunate to have healthy cash reserves and we think that even using

this much cash, we will remain in pretty good shape headed into next year. We will have a detailed presentation for you at the ATM.

In the opinion of the Finance Committee, most of our budget woes and those of the cities and towns around us are the result of several State Income Tax cuts over the last few years. The Commonwealth simply has not had the money to sufficiently fund mandated programs. As a result, property taxes have skyrocketed as local governments desperately try to fund their stretched budgets. We voted at our meeting on March 28 to ask the Selectboard to put an item on this year's warrant that will request that our legislators introduce legislation that will raise the State Income Tax to 6%. This is a small gesture, but we are hoping that if the town votes to pass this article we will at least send a message to Boston.

We look forward to seeing you all at the Annual Town Meeting.

## Children, youth, and young adults....

Anne Lundberg, *Chair, Shutesbury School Committee*

It is to these "citizens" in town that our committee gives attention. The current head count is about 400: 20 in our preschool, 144 in K-6th, 188 in our Regional schools, some who go to private, charter or vocational schools, and a few who are home schoolers.

These are our community's future voters and workers... whether they stay in Shutesbury or not.

Currently in our state and nation, about 25% of families have school-aged kids; yet we need the support of the other 75% of folks to educate this

next generation. In our hearts, we all know that this is our extended community's responsibility. We need 100% of adults supporting the growth and development of our children. (And I am not just speaking financially here, even though the annual budget is coming up in May at Town Meeting!) I will not speak to the specifics here, as our hard working Finance Committee will report on the \$\$ and you all read the papers and are aware of the under funding by the state and federal programs to education in particular.

## Policies and superintendents

Over ten years ago with Education Reform, the Commonwealth shifted the School Committees' job to deal with Budget, Policy, and their Superintendents. I want to catch you up-to-date in these last two areas.

You may know that our current Superintendent for Erving Union #28, Linda Driscoll, announced her retirement in January.

Under the leadership of the joint Union School Committee, a search committee was formed to screen and interview candidates and select three to present. This has been done, and during the last week of March, they visited the four schools [five towns] to meet with parents, staff, community, and administration. By the time you read this, we should have a new superintendent, who will begin work on July 1, 2006.

The SC has worked a second year on the task of revising the Policy Book for Shutesbury Elementary School (SES). If you recall, we set upon this task last year -- to read and update or remove policies that were very old (some back into the 1970s...)

*Continued on page 2*

## Messages from the Town Clerk

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

Saturday, May 6, 2006 is the date of  
Shutesbury's **Annual Town Meeting  
and Election of Officers**. The polls  
will be open at the Shutesbury  
Elementary School at 23 West  
Pelham Road from 8:00am to 2:00pm.  
The Annual Town Meeting will begin  
at the same location at 9:00am. Call  
the number above if you would like to  
check your voter registration status or  
have any other questions about the  
election or town meeting process.

**Absentee ballots** for the Election of  
Officers are available at the Town  
Clerk's Office. A voter who will be  
absent from Shutesbury, has a physi-  
cal disability that prevents him/her  
from getting to the polls, or has a reli-  
gious belief that prevents him/her from  
being present during polling hours  
may apply for an absentee ballot.  
Applications for absentee ballots can  
be official application forms or just a  
simple note that includes the voter's  
name, voting address, the address to  
which the ballot should be mailed, and  
the voter's signature. Please allow  
plenty of time for the mail to deliver  
ballots back and forth. For short  
notice absences, an absentee voter  
can vote "over the counter" at the  
Town Clerk's office through noon on  
Friday, May 6. Results of the election  
will be left on the Town Clerk's tape  
recorded message at the end of the  
day (259-1204) and will be posted at  
the Town Hall front door and also  
posted on the website [www.shutes-  
bury.org](http://www.shutes-<br/>bury.org).

There is no way to absentee vote on  
Town Meeting Warrant Articles. A  
voter must attend the meeting and lis-  
ten to the debate before voting on  
these questions. In addition to voting,  
typically there are opportunities to  
pick-up trash bags and annual town

reports, buy goods from non-profit  
community fund-raising organizations,  
and see displays describing on-going  
town initiatives. You can stop in for a  
short time or stay for the entire  
meeting. We hope you will be able to  
join us.

July is the month to **re-license your  
dog** for July 1, 2006 through June 30,  
2007. Any dog six months of age or  
older or within 30 days of having  
moved to Shutesbury must be  
licensed through the Town Clerk's  
office. We will send mail-in license  
application forms in the end-of-June  
newsletter. A form is also available at  
the [Shutesbury.org](http://Shutesbury.org) website. Check  
now, to make sure that your dog is up  
to date on its rabies vaccination, as is  
required in order to re-license. If your  
dog has moved to another town or  
died in the previous year, you can call  
to let us know, or put a note on the  
form and mail it back. By doing so,  
you will avoid a "late notice" from us.

If you have any questions about voter  
registration, elections, town meetings,  
dog licenses, or municipal govern-  
ment generally, give us a call or stop  
in. We will gladly answer your ques-  
tions or direct you to the appropriate  
person, place or thing!

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*Children, continued from page 1*  
as well as to add ones that we  
critically needed. Our policy work has  
been slow going this year and has  
added extra hours to our monthly  
meetings (3rd Wednesday of each  
month at 6:15pm at SES). This is in  
part because we have two new SC  
members this year -- **Michael  
DiChiara** joined in July, and **Matt Hart**  
in December -- and in part because of  
the lively discussion thinking about  
educational needs creates. A com-  
plete copy of the Policy Book is avail-  
able in the Parent Resource area of  
the SES library, for your reading  
pleasure!

The last piece of news is the resig-  
nation (effective June 30) of our cur-  
rent SES Principal, Tari Thomas. Tari  
has been with us for five years, pro-  
viding strong and consistent leader-  
ship, and she will be missed. Our ele-

mentary school is the hub of our  
extended community and many folks  
have asked ... How do we find a new  
principal?

The School Committee advises the  
Superintendent in this process, yet it  
is the Superintendent who makes the  
hire. Since we are amid a transition at  
this level, Linda recommended that it  
be a joint appointment between her-  
self and the new incoming Supt.

This feels very wise: Linda knows  
the school and community and Tari,  
while the new person will be the one  
working with our new principal. Again,  
a search and screening committee is  
being formed for this process: three  
SES teachers/staff, one SC member  
[Matt Hart], two parents -- via School  
Council and PTO -- and one  
Community-at-large member. For  
details and to participate or contribute,  
check with Linda [[www.union28.org](http://www.union28.org)]  
or the town  
[[www.shutesbury.org/school\\_commit-  
tee/index.htm](http://www.shutesbury.org/school_commit-<br/>tee/index.htm)]

## Thank you!

Kudos to the quartet who volunteered  
to fold a special Selectboard mailing  
on March 15: **Ted Cumberledge,  
Tom Harding, Debra Pichanik and  
Marilyn Tibbetts**.

If you would like to join future  
"mailing parties" to prepare editions of  
*Our Town* or other town publications  
for the mail, please call the Town  
Clerk's office at 259-1204 to be added  
to our list of people to call. We wel-  
come your help whenever or wherever  
it suits you best: daytime, nighttime, at  
home or at Town Hall.

*Our Town*, published four times a year, is sup-  
ported 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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# Statements from candidates for Elementary School Committee

**Daniel Greenberg, Marianne Jorgensen and Anne Lundberg** filed nomination papers in March for two 3-year positions on the School Committee for Shutesbury Elementary School. Barring unforeseen write-in votes, these are the only candidates for these positions in the 2006 Annual Town Election. Each candidate was invited to submit a statement of no more than 125 words to this newsletter.

Space in *Our Town* for campaign statements is available to all candidates for contested seats, including known write-in candidates. (For the purposes of this newsletter, a known write-in candidate is an individual who has notified the Town Clerk in writing that he or she is a write-in candidate for a particular office.)

The Town of Shutesbury does not endorse any candidate. Candidates have provided all information appearing in statements. Our Town is not responsible for proofreading or correcting these submissions.

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## Daniel Greenberg

85 Baker Road

I would be honored to serve on the SES School Committee. I have two young daughters and expect to be involved in our school for years. With a Ph.D. in Child Development and School Psychology and an Early Education Teaching Certificate, I founded Living Routes, a non-profit that partners with UMass to offer educational programs in sustainable communities and developed strong business skills such as managing our nearly \$1 million/year budget, personnel and policy decisions, and long-range planning.

If elected, my goals would be to:

- \* help implement the school's Mission Statement
- \* make the committee's work more accessible
- \* represent our community and support respectful dialogue
- \* create policies to provide continuity across staff changes

For more information, please visit [www.danielgreenberg.info](http://www.danielgreenberg.info) or contact me at [daniel@ic.org](mailto:daniel@ic.org) or 259-1199.

## Marianne Jorgensen

204 West Pelham Road

I have lived in Shutesbury since 1995 and have been a member of the Shutesbury School Committee and the Amherst Pelham Regional School Committee for the past nine years and Chair of the Regional School Committee since 2004. My motivation for this work has been the wonderful students in our community. I am committed to success in school for EVERY student and to challenging each student to the highest level of their ability.

My extensive experience will provide continuity as a new superintendent and a new principal for Shutesbury Elementary School begin in July. At the Region, my knowledge of the district's programs and budgets will be critical as we push for continued improvement of our schools with uncertain levels of state and local funding.

## Anne Lundberg

17 Ames Haven Road

For Consistency & Transition...

I ask for your vote! I want a third term!

Many know me through the community – *families, teachers, & town folks* — work I facilitated four years ago on the new SES Mission Statement. This 18-month process gave me a clear picture of the wide range of values, beliefs, and fears around education in our town. Some describe our educational community as polarized. I disagree. We have a very long continuum regarding issues in our three schools; *there are many different groups along this line*. To see only the extremes leaves out everyone in the mid-range. This does us all a disservice. Every voice is important. Conflict and disagreement are expected. I work for respect among us as problems are solved.

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## Looking for child care?

Are you a working parent of a pre-school age child and finding it difficult to pay for child care or preschool? The Union #28 Community Partnerships for Children Collaborative Child Care Program works in collaboration with the following licensed child care providers to assist eligible families in paying for quality early care and education programs:

**Family Child Care Providers** Amar Fuller, Leverett; Jill Bergmann, Erving; Melinda Labelle, Erving; Jessica Chmyzinski, New Salem; Jean Williams, Leverett; **Stephen Sullivan**, Shutesbury.

### Programs Outside of Union #28

**School System:** Amherst Montessori, Amherst; Cushman Scott Children's Center, Amherst; The Giving Tree, Gill; The YMCA, Greenfield. Other

programs are possible too. Please contact Gillian Budine, CPC Collaborative Child Care Program Coordinator for Union #28, if you would like more information about eligibility or to have your family be put on a centralized waiting list for child care services. We can also put your family on the waitlist for infant/toddler care and school age care if needed. Gillian: (413)-423-3180 or [budine@erving.com](mailto:budine@erving.com).

# Recycling & Solid Waste News

Blaire Robey, *Recycling Coordinator*

Hello from the Recycling and Solid Waste Committee!

Good News: For all of you who miss buying your bags at the Cushman Store, The Cushman Market and Café (same location, new owner) will be opening in mid to late April. They have agreed to carry Shutesbury PAY AS YOU THROW trash bags for sale; a package of 10 bags for \$20. (Bags are also available at the Leverett Coop )

## Trash Bag Distribution Days

Please note! From May 6 - July 18, your bags allotment will only be available at these times and sites:

- \* Saturday, May 6, 9:00am -Noon, Town Meeting.
- \* Wednesday, May 10, 4:00-6:00pm, Town Hall
- \* Wednesday, May 17, 4:00-6:00pm, Town Hall
- \* Monday, May 22, 6:00-7:30pm, Town Hall
- \* Saturday, May 27, 9:00am-Noon, Town Hall
- \* Saturday, June 3, Bulky Waste Day, Highway Garage
- \* Wednesday, June 14, 6:00-7:30pm, Town Hall
- \* Saturday, July 8, 9:00am-Noon, Town Hall
- \* Tuesday, July 18, 6:00-7:30pm, Town Hall

## May 6, 2006 - Annual Town Meeting

We will begin the annual trash bag allotment distribution at the school. We will be set up from 9:00am to Noon only, on that day. Except for Bulky Waste Day, all the other scheduled distributions will be downstairs in Town Hall at designated times only. Please use the back door.

Again this year, at the direction of the Select Board, annual bag allotments are only available during the distribution period at the scheduled events staffed by the RSWC volunteers. You cannot get your annual

supply from the Town Hall staff during this period.

Repeated interruptions in years past by people picking up trash bags made it very difficult for Town Hall staff to complete their regular job duties. Therefore, as we did last year, we are asking all residents to plan on stopping by one of the events listed below, to pick up their bag supply as built into the tax base. If you are interested in assisting the committee and staffing an event so we can cover more sessions, please contact the Recycling Coordinator.

## May 27 - June 2 - Roadside Swap Week

This is the week we encourage you to place your usable items which you no longer want at the roadside, with a "FREE" sign. As you clean house (or basement, or garage) in preparation for Bulky Waste Day, you can give your castoffs new life with another Shutesbury family.

## June 3, 2006 - Spring Bulky Waste Day

10:00 am - 2:00pm at the Highway Dept. yard. Note that we are starting one hour later than other years, at 10:00 am. We're trying to lighten the burden on our volunteers who work all day to set up, handle customers, then clean everything up afterwards. If you are reading this and would like to help out for awhile on June 3, please email **Blaire Robey** at [recycling@shutesbury.org](mailto:recycling@shutesbury.org) or call 259-3796. We would welcome any assistance you can offer.

\* While you're cleaning out and cleaning up, please bring used florescent bulbs and batteries to Town Hall to be recycled.

\* Please remember to buy products with post-consumer recycled content, to help "close the loop" and create market demand for our recycled materials.

## Sharing the road in Roadtown

Spring is here – and with it comes not only more walkers, joggers and cyclists on the road, but people on

horseback.

But how many motorists know what the law requires when they encounter an equestrian? Judging by the experience of members of the newly formed Roadtown Equine Club, not many!

At the club's request, Shutesbury Police Chief Thomas E. Harding offered *Our Town* a synopsis of Mass. Motor Vehicle Statute CH 90, s 14 – "Safety of Other Travelers."

"In a nutshell," he wrote, "This statute includes the regulation for operators of motor vehicles approaching a horse or other draft animal being led, driven, or ridden.

"Drivers approaching a horse are required to bring their vehicles to a complete stop until the horse has passed them, or until they are signaled to proceed by the rider. If a rider signals for the driver to proceed, the driver should then proceed with reasonable caution until they have passed the horse(s) and rider(s).

"Reasonable caution' means that the driver should pass at as great a distance as is safely possible and at a rate of speed which will not frighten the horse, i.e. very slowly."

The Roadtown Equine Club, formed this spring, is open to adults who are enthusiastic about equines – whether or not they own one! For more information, contact **Sharon Davenport** at 259-2102.

## Quilt Group Forming!

Do you enjoy quilting? There is a new group of quilters that is gathering on Sunday mornings between 9:00-12:00 to make a variety of quilts for sale and raffle by the Friends of the Spear Memorial Library.

Don't have time to meet but would like to piece at home? When we choose a design we may be able give you precut kits to sew together for us in your home.

Don't like to quilt but would like to help? Do you have any 100% cotton fabric that you hate to throw out but it's unlikely you'll use? The group is sure it can put some of this to use.

For directions, questions and information call **Bonnie Adams** at 259-1921 or email [bonnie@wa1mba.org](mailto:bonnie@wa1mba.org) .

## News from the Lake

The Lake Wyola Association is again gearing up for a fantastic summer with events for all, young and old. Please consider joining us for these fun, traditional events:

**Pancake Breakfast** - Sunday, June 10, 8:30-11:00am - \$5 adults, \$2 children. Bring Dad for Father's Day!

**Lake Wyola Road Race** - Sunday, June 25 - Call **Laurie Parker** for details, 367-2775.

**Steak Roast and Dance** - Saturday July 1, 5:00-7:00pm - \$13 for a BIG steak and fixin's. Call **Carol** for tickets, 367-0189. Dancing follows with live band for \$2.

**Water Carnival** - Tuesday, July 4, 10:00am at Kinder Beach. All kinds of races for kids and adults. Rain or shine.

**International Beer Festival** - Saturday, July 22 - Call **Tim** at 367-9971 for more details.

**Chicken Barbeque** - Saturday, August 5, 5:00-7:00pm - \$10 for a half chicken and fixin's. Call **Dave** for tickets, 367-9871. Dancing follows with live band for \$2.

**Tag, Bake and Craft Sale** - Saturday, August 28, 9:00-2:00pm. Call **Donna** at 413-785-1496 to reserve a table or donate items to the LWA sale. New this year, area crafters!

## Leveling the Dock

for Tim McBride, by Jennifer Wallace

They came at Noon with hammers and their schemes. Five big guys, each with a perfect plan for how to hoist the 16-foot dock over land and into position at the water's edge.

Having been warned by the neighbors not to touch even the smallest twig of the lake's most productive crop, they finessed the bulky dock through the ancient blueberries with a heave-ho, a nudge and wiggle, and a few good whacks on the galvanized nails.

Whether it's a relic sunk in the muck, or sturdy, like ours (donated by a neighbor who—imagine this—had an extra one), a good dock satisfies . . . A dock with a boat tied to it invites adventure. When I first saw our cottage by the lake, I knew, that if we bought it, I'd need a dock. My wish wasn't a soft one, as in, "Oh, wouldn't it be nice to have a dock," the way someone might suggest a skylight or a swing-set for the kids. Nor was it a practical concern. Our only boat was a second-hand canoe, which we can easily haul up onto shore.

No. Mine was a deep-in-the-belly, pressure-in-the-chest sort of need. I needed a dock the way a child might need a thumb-sucked blanket to fall asleep. . . . I learned to use a casting rod on a dock at a remote Kentucky lake. And later that day, when the adults were busy playing cards, I went to second base with skinny, tan boy whose name I don't recall.

From our dock's end I can get a better view of the back cove, a mysterious arm of water leading past the other cottages and onward. . . . If I lie flat on the dock's hard planks I can see that, under the lake's thin skin, the world isn't its familiar blue but olive and brown; minnows dart around and then there is the great surprise of an occasional perch. This is a deep field that we were not, apparently, meant to see entirely. But under there

is a pearly string of eggs clinging to a grass strand. It's from my dock that I can agree with Annie Dillard: the world is – in fact – planted with pennies.

Later that day—long after the sun gave way — we walked to the dock's edge, slipped from our shirts and slid into the lake's big bowl of stars. After our swim, dry and protected from the bugs by grandma's quilts, we stretched out flat and enjoyed our distance from land's end. Bats swooped for skeeters. August's Persieds shot across the sky. The dock's tough planks against our 50-year-old spines reminded us that comfort comes in odd packages. And we dozed, unroofed, under the Dipper's deep indifferent eye.

## LWA Safety Reminders

Speed limits on the lake are 30 mph during the day and 5 mph from dusk to dawn. The speed limit in both coves is always 5 mph.

All boats must travel in a counter-clockwise direction.

No jet skis. No water skiing after dusk.

Motor boats must stay 150 ft from shore and all swimming areas. Swimmers must swim within 150 ft of shore unless accompanied by a boat.

All motor boats must comply with State and Coast Guard regulations for safety equipment. All boaters must have PFDS.

All boats must have lights on after dusk.

Association beaches are for dues-paying members only. Dogs and glass are not allowed on the LWA beaches.

Children under the age of 14 must be with an adult on the beaches.

## Casting into spring

The Friends of the M.N. Spear Memorial Library presented a basic fly tying workshop on March 12, 19, 26, at the Town Hall. This free three-part series was completed by eight people and included fly tying, biology, and fly casting instruction by **Bob Sousa**.

Bob is a certified angler instructor for the International Game Fish Association, and an instructor for the Boy Scouts of America and Mass. Fish and Wildlife. The Friends appre-

ciate his enthusiastic expertise – plus the flexibility he demonstrated by holding a makeup session for some people who joined the group after the first week was completed. Thank you again, Bob.

## Preschool registration now under way

Shutesbury Elementary School offers preschool programs for children

whose families live in town. Children who are three and four years old by September 1, 2006 are eligible to attend. For registration and information, please call the Main Office at the Shutesbury Elementary School or call Naz Mohamed, the Early Childhood Coordinator at 413-259-1212 x 32.

Appointments for a visit to the preschool can be made during the month of April. Please call **Bernice Carew** at 413-259-1212 x 40 to make an appointment.

## Kindergarten open house

An Open House for the Kindergarten Program will take place May 22 for families wishing to find out more about the Kindergarten program and meet with the teachers.

The Shutesbury Elementary Kindergarten program takes place Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 8:30 – 3:00pm and on Wednesdays from 8:30 – 1:00pm. Children who will be five years old by September 1, 2006 are eligible to attend. For registration and information, please call the Main Office at the Shutesbury Elementary School or call Naz Mohamed, the Early Childhood Coordinator at 413-259-1212 x32.

Shutesbury Elementary School will be screening new children for next year's Kindergarten class in April and May. If you have a child who is eligible for Kindergarten and is not already attending Shutesbury Elementary Preschool, please call Naz Mohamed at 413-259-1212 X32 by April 30 to schedule an appointment for a screening.

## 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.

## Library "Friends" alive and growing

Thanks to the volunteers, sponsors, and town officials who have supported the Friends of the M. N. Spear Memorial Library, 2005 was our most successful year ever.

Fundraising activities included the annual chocolate sale, concessions when the Red Sox Trophy came to town and at the Annual Town Meeting, and of course, the ever-popular Egg Hunt. During the summer we raised money selling baked goods, introduced the new Spear logo coffee mugs and presented the Summer Reading Program.

The Friends of the Library held the annual book sale and raffle and sold coffee and chocolate chip cookies at Celebrate Shutesbury. In October we held a well-attended Family Games Night at the Elementary School, where we sold light supper, drinks and dessert items.

December brought the Holiday Book Sale & Signing, which was generously supported by the **World Eye Bookstore**. The snow didn't stop people from meeting fabulous local authors **Kathryn Brown, Jane Buchanan, Leslie Cerrier, and David Durham**.

Residents enjoyed shopping locally to purchase holiday gift items from Shutesbury talent **Dad Come Home, Jim Henry, Werner John, Sterling Lamet, Roger Tinknell, and Brooks Williams** – all of whom generously donated a portion of sales to the Friends, as did **Chris Warren of Print Associates** with her Lake Wyola merchandise. With some quick organizing, our Friends group was able to pull together some very nice prizes for a Winter Solstice raffle, which added nicely to this snowy weekend of activities.

While we have raised money for the Friends group, what is also very valuable is the support our library is receiving from a growing number of willing helpers. Special thanks to

**Mary Anne Antonellis, Bill and Nancy Buchanan, Jessica Buck, Jen Davies, Jen Dolan, Sally Fairfield, Lauren Holt, Pam Ososky, BZ Reilly, Dina Stander, Geri Strangman, Karen Traub** (Trustee Liaison to the Friends), **Jane Urban**, many bakers, plus all the people listed above.

Volunteers, sponsors, and town officials have greeted our ideas, food donation requests, and space requests with comments like, "that sounds like fun." It has been a pleasure to participate in these events, and we intend to hold them in updated forms during the coming year (excepting, alas, the Red Sox Trophy event).

To receive our emails of coming events, write to [bonnie@wa1mba.org](mailto:bonnie@wa1mba.org)

**Bonnie Adams**, president; **Gudrun Durham**, vice president; **Suzanne Hayden**, treasurer

## Now all we need is a book-loving barista . . .

Bonnie Adams, *Friends of the Spear Library*

Spear Memorial Library ran a contest this winter to name two new flavors of Dean's Beans coffee, which will be available for sale in the Library. We had many entries with names suggesting different properties of coffee: *Shutesbury Shake-Up* and *Wake the Bear* were on the ballot for those patrons looking for alertness; *Spearoma*, *Library Lishous Blend* and *Uniformly Decadent Brew* were submitted by patrons looking for great taste.

Other submissions reflected the purpose of selling coffee in the library: to raise funds for the Friends. Some examples of these were *Spear Friends Goal Assist*, *Shutesbooster*, and *Expanding Brew*. Many thanks to those who entered a name suggestion and to those who voted for their favorite.

**Introducing the winning names:** *Roadtown Roast*, submitted by **John Airstuck**, will be the name of our regular coffee, and *S-Curve Special*, submitted by **Clif Read**, will be our decaf.

# The M. N. Spear Memorial Library

10 Cooleyville Road  
259-1213

Jane Buchanan, *Director*

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

## The coffee is here!

The M.N. Spear Memorial Library Dean's Beans blend has been named! "Roadtown Brew" (regular) and "S Curve Special" (decaf) are now available for sale at the library. Thanks to the many delightful suggestions from friends and patrons, and to Dean's Beans for participating in this Friends of the Library fundraising project!

Thanks to the generosity of the Friends of the Library, we have added **numerous new DVD and audio book titles** to our collection. Here's a sampling of some of the titles:

## DVDs

Junebug  
Constant Gardener  
Crash  
Flightplan  
In Her Shoes  
Wallace and Gromit: Curse of the Were Rabbit  
Me and You and Everyone We Know  
North Country  
Howl's Moving Castle  
Walk the Line  
History of Violence  
Cinderella Man  
The Squid and the Whale  
Capote  
Corpse Bride

## AUDIO

For adults:  
Son of a Witch, Gregory Maguire  
Captain Alatriste, Arturo Perez-Reverte  
All the Pretty Horses, Cormac McCarthy  
In Cold Blood, Truman Capote  
Everything is Illuminated, Jonathan Safran Foer  
The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time, Mark Haddon



A Year of Magical Thinking, Joan Didion  
The Time Traveler's Wife, Audrey Niffenegger  
The Lord of the Rings (complete and unabridged), J. R. R. Tolkien

## For children:

The Chronicles of Narnia (unabridged), C.S. Lewis  
The Bartimaeus Trilogy, Book 1, Jonathan Stroud  
A Year Down Yonder, Richard Peck  
Gardening

In preparation for spring, we have a new selection of **books on gardening** in New England, including books about native trees and shrubs and wildflowers, as well as a gardening almanac. If you have a garden, or are planning to start one, come in and check them out!

## Graphic novels

We're beginning to develop a graphic novel collection for readers of all ages. From Jennifer Holm's *Babymouse* for the younger set, to Jeff Smith's *Bone* series for middle and high schools, to Art Spiegelman's adult work, *In the Shadow of No Towers* about the 9/11 attacks.

## Poetry

April is National Poetry month, but in Shutesbury and Leverett the celebration will be extended through June!  
Keep an eye out for more details about our planned Sunday afternoon poetry events, which will include a

poetry reading for all ages in Leverett on April 23, a celebration of the poetry of Billy Collins in Shutesbury on May 21, and a discussion on June 25 with a group from Franklin County that publishes the works of regional poets.

More information will come soon!

## New flag!

Take a look at our new "Open" banner next time you drive by. Made for us by Nancy Buchanan of Greenfield, it will look truly regal when we get finally get the building painted later this year!

## Bathroom plans

Could it be that the library is actually going to have a bathroom? Come to the town meeting and support the town's plans to finally make the library handicapped accessible, and to add a wheelchair-accessible composting toilet. It will make the library a place to really linger at last!

Both renovations will bring the building into compliance with ADA and health regulations, and are vital to the future of the library.

## Music stand

The Friends of the Library have voted to purchase a display case for our music cds. This case will make it easier to see what is in our collection, and also give us room for growth. Donations to the cd collection are always welcome!

# 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>Walter Tibbetts</i>	259-1211	RECYCLING COORDINATOR <i>Blaire Robey</i>	259-3796
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 Tibbetts, Chief</i>	259-1211 259-1286	ROADS COMMITTEE <i>Vacant</i>	Call 259-1214
ASSESSORS <i>Kenneth Holmberg</i>	259-3790	HEALTH AGENT <i>David Zarozinski</i>	549-3710	SCHOOL COMMITTEE <i>Anne Lundberg</i>	367-7504
BOARD OF HEALTH <i>William Elliott, Chair</i>	259-2122	HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT <i>Tim Hunting</i>	259-1215	UNION 28 SCHOOL SUPT. <i>Linda Driscoll</i>	423-3337
BUILDINGS COMMITTEE <i>Dale Houle</i>	259-1696	HISTORICAL COMMISSION <i>Barbara Goodhind</i>	259-1428	SELECT BOARD <i>Becky Torres, Chair</i>	259-1618
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
CEMETERY COMMISSION <i>Marilyn Tibbetts</i>	259-1976	LIBRARY TRUSTEES <i>David Cormier</i>	259-1572	<i>Debra Pichanick</i>	367-9550
COUNCIL ON AGING <i>Muriel Gross</i>	259-1371	OUR TOWN NEWSLETTER <i>Janis S. Gray</i>	259-1584	SHUTES.-LEV. BROADBAND COMMITTEE <i>Aron P. Goldman</i>	549-1193
CONSERVATION COMMISSION <i>Leave inquiries at</i>	259-2123	PERSONNEL BOARD <i>Penelope Kim</i>	259-1326	TAX COLLECTOR <i>Ellen McKay</i>	259-1615
CULTURAL COUNCIL <i>Renee A. Richard</i>	259-9296	PLANNING BOARD <i>Deacon Bonnar</i>	259-1276	TOWN CLERK <i>Leslie Bracebridge</i>	259-1204
DEPT. OF VETERAN'S SERVICES <i>Leo J. Parent, Jr.</i>	863-3205	PLUMBING/GAS INSPECTOR <i>John Letourneau</i>	367-0017	TREASURER <i>Gabriele Voelker</i>	259-1801
DOG OFFICER <i>Nancy Long</i>	259-2123	POLICE DEPARTMENT <i>Chief Thomas E. Harding</i>	259-1279	TREE WARDEN <i>Thomas Houston</i>	259-1508
ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR <i>Maurice Gregoire</i>	367-9988	<i>Dispatch</i>	625-8200	WEB COMMITTEE <i>Fred Steinberg</i>	259-9996
		POLICE, FIRE & RESCUE SQUAD	911	ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS <i>Charles J. DiMare</i>	548-9567



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

**May 6 Annual Town Meeting Warrant Inside!**

Resident  
Shutesbury, MA 01072

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