

Sept/October 2014
Volume 11, Issue 5

The Marlboro Mixer

A FREE newsletter for the town of Marlboro, Vermont.

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**A FREE newsletter
for the town of
Marlboro**

Also available
by email if requested
(save paper, save
money!)

For submissions or to
receive the Mixer,
please contact Robin
MacArthur at:

PO Box 472
Marlboro, VT
05344

802-258-2648

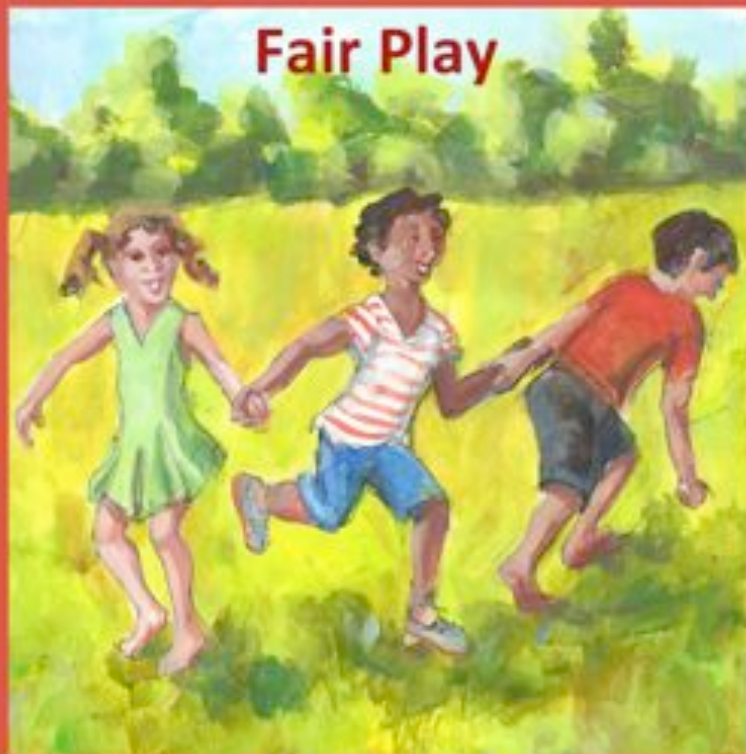
macarthur.robin@
gmail.com

We're online, too.

See us at:

marlborovt.us

The 32nd Annual Marlboro Fair Saturday, September 13, 2014



**The Muster Field
Ames Hill Rd, Marlboro
Follow Signs**

10:00-4:00

\$5.00

**Live Music
Games for All
Breakfast 8:30-11:00**

**King Arthur
Baking Contest
Lunch 12:00-3:00**

**Fair entry guidelines available at Marlboro Town Office,
Battleboro Food Coop and Marlboro web site**

NEWS FROM MARLBORO CARES by Jennifer Mazur

Flu Shot Clinic

Once again, Marlboro Cares in conjunction with the VT-NH Visiting Nurses Association is holding a Flu Shot Clinic on Saturday, October 18, 2014. The Clinic will be held from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Marlboro Elementary School. Anyone aged 18 and older, who does not have a cold or flu, is welcome to come get their flu shots. Medicare will be billed directly by the VNA, so there will be no cost to Seniors on Medicare. The cost will remain at \$25 for all others, but no one will be turned away for lack of funds.

Please call for an appointment to make the flow easier and so we know how many people to expect. Walk-ins are also welcome. For more information and/or for a ride, please call Marlboro Cares at 258-3030.

Senior Lunches

We are happy to announce the schedule of Senior Lunches for the 2014-15 school year. As always, the lunches will be held at 11:30 a.m. in the Coffee Shop at Marlboro College for a charge of \$3.00. Any resident of Marlboro over the age of 60 is cordially invited to attend.

The first Senior Lunch of the season will be held Friday, October 3rd. The always popular and erudite Bob Engel will be the speaker. For this lunch and for all the following ones, please make your reservation by 9 a.m. of the Tuesday before the lunch by calling 258-3030. For the first lunch, please call by 9 a.m. on September 30th.

The following lunches will be held on: November 7th (call by 9 am Nov. 4); December 5th (call by 9 am Dec 2nd); February 6th; March 6th; April 3rd; and May 1st. Also, as the lunches are extremely popular and seating is limited due to the College's regulations, we sometimes have a waiting list. Therefore, if you sign up and find you cannot attend, please call 258-3030 to let us know. Someone else may be happy to take your place.

Continued Services

For rides, errands, referrals, or other non-emergency assistance, please call Marlboro Cares at 258-3030. Someone will return your call within 24 hours.

Plan Ahead and Rest in Peace Part II: Green Burials

Marlboro Cares is pleased to announce the second in its series on Plan Ahead and Rest in Peace: Green Burials, which will be presented by Randy Garner on October 22, 2014 at 7:00 pm. Randy will discuss what is currently possible in the state of Vermont for Green Burial options, as well as the State guidelines for doing this that currently exist. We shall also learn the status of current legislative attempts to allow the formation of "natural burial sites" in Vermont. Marlboro follows the State guidelines and regulations.

Randy Garner has been a Funeral Director/Embalmer for 40 years. He is a contributing author to the "American Funeral Director" magazine and is actively involved in legislation regarding Green Burial efforts in Vermont.

The workshop will be free of charge and will be held at the Marlboro School in Marlboro Vermont. Refreshments will be served.

For more information and/or for a ride, please call Marlboro Cares at 258-3030

Select Board Report by Marcia Hamilton

The Select Board meets at 5:00 PM every second and fourth Thursday at the Town Office, unless otherwise warned.

The board signed contracts for two Better Back Roads grants, one for \$4,000 for a road trouble spot inventory and one for \$10,000 for a trouble spot on MacArthur Road. These are state grants and do not involve local funding. The requirements for the first \$4,000 grant in 2013 were satisfied for a road trouble spot inventory with a final report, Gravel Road Evaluation, Phase I, prepared and submitted by Stephens & Associates.

The board held a joint information meeting with the Planning Commission for public discussion of a proposed Verizon telecommunication tower to be located on Center Mountain. No action has been taken. However, the Planning Commission and Select Board expect to make comments to the Public Service Board.

In accordance with the amended Open Meeting Law, the board designated two public posting places and the Town Website for agendas and minutes of regular and special meetings. Physical posting places are on the bulletin boards outside and inside the Town Office.

The Open Meeting Law applies to all municipal boards, committees and commissions. Towns with websites must now (1) post meeting agendas within 48 hours of a regularly held meeting, and; (2) Within 24 hours of a special meeting; and (3) Post minutes within five days of the meeting.

Any violations of the law leave the town open to potential litigation and fines imposed on individuals and the town. It behooves all town officials to become familiar with the Open Meeting Law. Information can be found on the town website at <http://marlborovt.us>. Pieter van Loon, Mike Andreotta and Marcia Hamilton recently attended the Vermont League of Cities and Towns sponsored Open Meeting Law Workshop hosted by the Town of Readsboro.

The board discussed the use of metal detectors and decided not to allow them on town owned land.

Windham County Sheriff's Department patrol cars are more visible on Ames Hill Road in an attempt to create awareness of the 35 mph speed limit. There are 20 children that live within two miles on Ames Hill Road who would love to walk along the road or ride bicycles. However, the speed at which cars travel makes such recreation hazardous. Please drive with care on Marlboro roads.

There is still a vacancy for Animal Control Officer. The board is asking interested candidates to submit a letter of interest and resume by email to marlboroselectboard@gmail.com or by mail to Marlboro Select Board, PO Box 518, Marlboro, VT 05344.

The public is always welcome to attend Select Board meetings and we value your input. There is always a ten-minute period for unscheduled open public comment generally from 5:20 to 5:30. You may contact the select board by email at marlboroselectboard@gmail.com or by post at Select Board, PO Box 518, Marlboro, VT 05344.

Whetstone Ledges Farm

will be open until late October.

Greens, root vegetables, squash, pumpkins, maple syrup,
fall raspberries, preserves
& local, organic meat from Bonvue Farm.

MacArthur Road, www.whetstoneledgesfarm.com
Gail MacArthur 257-7328

Marlboro Alliance News by Michelle Holzapfel**THE SUMMER SALE REPORT**

Recycling, socializing and big bargains. Our main fundraiser, the Summer Sale, made a whopping \$5,293. Here's the breakdown: Treasures: \$3,114 (\$545 from the silent auction), Clothing: \$1,657, Bake Sale: \$522. That's close to \$1,000 more than we made last year and is our best year to date.

HUGE THANKS TO: The indefatigable Pam Burke and everyone who helped with set-up, screening and display, and the valiant people who helped with sales and the 'silent auction.' Kudos to Polli-Jo Moryl and the fine folks who donated baked goods and staffed the Bake Sale, which adds so much pleasure to the day. Thanks to all who helped spread the word, in all media, with promos, signs and posters. Hats off to Dave Elliott and the Town of Marlboro for the electronic sign and the use of the Town House and grounds for Treasures. And decades of thanks to the Meetinghouse for use of the Church and grounds for Clothing and Bake Sales. We are deeply grateful to the intrepid clean-up crew who showed up on Sunday afternoon and dealt with the leftovers, especially Gary MacArthur and his truck. Of course, there would be no Sale without the generous contributions of treasures and clothing. And we thank the multitudes whose purchases and contributions benefit the Alliance and support its programs. Thanks to you all.

And a **HUGE THANKS TO THE MARLBORO MUSIC FESTIVAL!**

The Alliance is immensely grateful for the awe-inspiring donation from the Marlboro Music Festival's annual Town Benefit Concert. These funds will enable us to continue consistent support of our Member Organizations, Committees and Events, which you can find out more about on the...

NEW MARLBORO ALLIANCE WEBSITE, which is now under construction, thanks to the talents and expertise of Jess Weitz and many contributors. It will keep you informed about our history, current activities, coming events, minutes and reports, and links to other community organizations. You'll find ways to get involved in programs and projects, post comments and photos, and even contribute to specific Funds and Member organizations. There's still a lot to add but it is coming together!

www.marlboroalliance.com

STAY IN TOUCH: marlboroalliance@gmail.com

<http://www.facebook.com/MarlboroAlliance>

WE'LL SEE YOU AT THE FAIR! Enjoy delicious local roasted corn and support the Alliance. And please visit the Alliance's table in the Community Tent.

SHARE a RIDE?

Marlboro Cares is encouraging people in town to share a ride to concerts, plays, etc., through The Front Porch Forum. One could post a note that he/she will be driving to the event and could stop at MES at a certain time to pick up passengers. Anyone interested in a ride could call or email the driver to confirm.

If you are attending events, please consider asking a friend or neighbor who may have difficulty driving, especially at night.

SWEETIES UPDATE/SUMMARY

As many in town know, the Marlboro Alliance and the Marlboro General Store have been working collaboratively to purchase the former Sweeties property and re-open a store in that space. Unfortunately, that project has been unsuccessful. Since the project was so long, we believe it might be helpful to provide this project overview.

Sweeties Property Purchase Overview Marlboro Alliance and Marlboro Cooperative

With such a protracted and complicated project we feel it's helpful to provide this overview.

Fall 2012 – Sweeties store closed. A dedicated and concerned group of town residents began planning how to reopen. This group eventually became "MCSWG", the Marlboro Community Store Working Group.

Winter 2012 into Spring 2013 - MCSWG partnered with the Marlboro Alliance. MCSWG continued to focus on reopening a store while the Marlboro Alliance focused on purchasing the building. Members of MCSWG donated funds to the Alliance to initiate the project.

April 2013 – The Marlboro Alliance was negotiating a purchase and sale contract with the former owner of the Sweeties property. Before that contract could be completed, one of the previous owner's lenders foreclosed on the property. This put the property in the court system and little could be done until the foreclosure process was complete. The MCSWG group formed the Marlboro Cooperative, a non-profit cooperative incorporated with the State of Vermont, with the goal of leasing a part of the Sweetie's property and operating the Marlboro General Store. The Finance Committee of the Co-op used the previous owner of Sweeties' Profit and Loss Statements to analyze the financial viability of a Store.

December 2013 – The Sweeties property was put up for foreclosure sale. As is often the case, the lender that foreclosed was the winning bidder and new owner of the property. The Marlboro Alliance immediately initiated contract negotiations with this new owner. The Alliance and the owner of Sweeties completed contract negotiations and entered into a purchase and sale agreement.

January – April 2014 - Several teams of dedicated volunteers were at work in several areas. A fundraising team was meeting with donors to solicit funds for both the Alliance to purchase the building and the Store to provide initial startup costs. This team raised over \$200,000 toward a goal of \$400,000 in just a few short weeks! A grants team was researching, writing and submitting grants. To their great credit, one early submission was successful! The Cooperative adopted Bylaws and worked on a business model for the General Store. Another team was working with inspectors to carefully inspect and test the complicated gasoline equipment and tanks at the property. Several individuals worked on multiple teams and, as you may imagine, everyone did a tremendous amount of work.

April 2014 – May 2014 – Based on findings from the inspections, the legal team attempted to engage the owner in negotiations on a couple of issues. First was to extend our contract until at least August and also to resolve the physical issues found in the inspections. We decided to be selective with our fundraising efforts until we knew what the result of the negotiations over the needed repairs would be. Also during this time the Cooperative was researching gas suppliers since the former gas supplier had backed out of their promise to supply gas to the Co-op. As it turned out, the Co-op was unable to find any regional gas supplier to supply gas to the new store under a reasonable contract.

Friday June 13 @ 4:10 pm – Our lawyer called to give us the bad news that the current owner would not extend the contract until August. Instead he offered to extend it for only 4 weeks and we would need to deposit another \$10,000 in escrow if we wanted that option. There was no reply at all to the issues that were found during the inspections. We had just a few days to reply.

Monday June 16 - The Cooperative met to discuss the findings of a Finance Subcommittee looking at the feasibility of operating a Store in Marlboro without gas. The numbers did not look encouraging so the Co-op voted to take a rest from the Sweetie's project but to continue to look at ways the dreams of the community could be realized.

At this point, the situation for the Alliance was:

- 1) We were still quite short of our fundraising goals
- 2) Our major tenant, the Store, had been forced to back out of renting space at the property
- 3) There were major known repairs that would be needed to be made to the property with the potential of having to pull out the underground gas tanks if they weren't being used to sell gas. These repairs would add significantly to the cost of this project for the Alliance since the current owner was unwilling to negotiate.

Tuesday June 17 – Given the above situation, the Alliance declined the offer to extend the purchase contract for one short month and thereby terminated the purchase contract.

Vermont Performance Lab Upcoming Events

Vermont Performance Lab

No Hero Vermont created by Alex Ketley

No Hero Vermont is choreographer Alex Ketley's exploration of what social dance and concert dance means to Vermonters. Join us for this informal film screening that captures surprisingly profound and moving exchanges between Ketley and Vermonters through discussions and dances performed for people in their living rooms, social halls, and outdoors.

Thursday, September 11 @7pm

@ The Bellows Falls Opera House, 7 The Square, Bellows Falls, VT

Tickets: \$5 Reservations: Call 802-257-3361 or visit www.vermontperformancelab.org/events

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Co-presented by Sandglass Theater and Vermont Performance Lab

Cry You One created by ArtSpot Productions and Mondo Bizarro

Part song, part story, part procession, this 2.5 hour outdoor performance is a powerful musical and theatrical journey about the affects of one of our country's worst environmental disasters, Hurricane Katrina, and its relevance to Vermont's stories of Hurricane Irene. Please note that performances are rain or shine - come prepared for the Vermont wilderness with sturdy shoes, rain gear, warm clothes, bug spray, and a water bottle!

Outdoor Performances: Saturday, September 20 + Sunday, September 21 @2pm

starting @ The Broad Brook Grange, Guilford Center Road, Guilford, VT

Tickets: \$15-\$18 Reservations: Call 802-387-4051 or visit www.sandglasstheater.org

Indoor Performance: Friday, September 19 @7pm

@ The Evening Star Grange, Dummerston, VT

Tickets: \$15 Reservations: Call 802-387-4051 or visit www.sandglasstheater.org

+

Hosted by Sandglass Theater

"My Louisiana Love" and Gumbo Supper

Home cooked Gumbo, live Cajun music and the feature documentary, "My Louisiana Love." A young women's quest to find a place in her Native American community as it reels from decades of environmental degradation, "My Louisiana Love" is a modern story of love, loss, and resilience in Southeast Louisiana. Come for supper or movie or both!

Sunday, September 14 @5:30pm

@ Next Stage Arts, Putney, VT

Reservations: Call 802-387-4051 or visit www.sandglasstheater.org

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

SEPTEMBER

13thMarlboro Fair!!

OCTOBER

3rdSenior Lunch at Marlboro College, 11:30 am (p2)

18thFlu shot clinic @ MES, 9:30-11:30 am (p2)

22ndGreen Burials, Marlboro Cares, 7PM (p2)

Municipal Meetings:

(unless posted otherwise)

Select Board: 2nd & 4th Thursdays at 5pm

School Board: 1st Monday at 6pm

Board of Listers: Wednesdays at 7pm

Planning Commission: 2nd Tuesday at 5pm

Town Auditors: 3rd Monday at 3:30pm

Development Review Board: 3rd Tues at 7pm

Fire Company: 2nd & 4th Wednesday at 7pm

Marlboro Energy Committee: 3rd Thurs at 7:00pm , MES

Conservation Commission: 1st Monday at 7:00

Marlboro Town Services Want to list your business or skills here? Call or email

Lance C. Shader, 464-5676, Attorney at Law

Malcolm Moore, 254-5664, surveygmls@gmail.com
Green Mountain Land Surveying

Boat building, repair, maintenance & woodwork for the home.
jmark@sover.net, 254-6955

Mountain Meadow Farm: 348-7344
Organic Beef; Composted manure

Kevin Hamilton: 257-5666
Softwood shavings; maple syrup; cordwood

Russell Horton 254-2651, Drum repair and lessons

Applewoods Studio and Gallery, 254-2908
Turned vessels and wood furniture

Wylie Carlisle 579-8311
Landscaping and lawn services

Rob Shapiro, chipping services 254-2570

Absolute Computer Solutions, 413-388-8041 (in Marlboro)

Jerry Lundsted 254-6512. Earthwork, excavating

Whetstone Ledges Farm 257-7328
Maple syrup, seasonal produce, berries

Green Power, 2063 Route 9, Small engine sales and repair

John May: lawn care, landscaping, excavator work and more. 579-8890

Marlboro Town Services Want to list your business or skills here? Call or email

Lucy Gratwick Fine Hand-weaving 257-0181
Functional hand-woven apparel

Donald Sherefkin, AIA 254-9736. Architectural Services, sherefkin@gmail.com

Yoga & YogaDance 254-7724 <kel@sover.net>
Kripalu Instructors Casey Deane & Kelly Salasin.

Nat Waring Woodworking 257-4100, custom
furniture, built-in cabinets, corian countertops

Brian McNeice—Bonvue Farm. Pastured poultry & 100% grass-fed beef. 258-2296

Greg Burnell 257-0796 Guitar Lessons. All ages all styles.
gregsblues18@yahoo.com

Walt's Chain Saw Carvings, Walter F. Ridel, 1947 Auger Hole Rd. 348-7162

Theo's Handyman Services (802) 254-4738

Custom hardwood frames & more, Bob Kreitzer
464-5992 whoframedbob@myfairpoint.net

Alcan power equip---lawn equipment, chainsaws,generators-sales &service
[348-7898](tel:348-7898)

Dave Matt: firewood, hay, maple syrup 464-9788

Brent Seabrook - Carpentry: Design, Build, Restore, Refinish. 464-5169

A&J Heating LLC, Aaron Diamondstone 254-2246. solar hot water and all
heating systems

Green Mtn. Floral Arts; weddings & special events. Carie Kowalski, 380-2832

David Johnson, lawn mowing & odd jobs. 464-5891

Skunk's Tree Service 802.598.4434.

The Poetry Studio- 257-8972
Poetry classes for young people and adults

Whetstone CiderWorks, Artisan Hard Cider
whetstoneciderworks@gmail.com, 254-5306

Kate Tarlow Morgan 257 0855 or katetarlowmorgan@gmail.com
Editorial Skills, Stretch Coach/Prevention

Gary MacArthur, 257-7026, Solar PV & hot water systems,
gwmaca@gmail.com

Refilling Your Well Counseling, Robin White 802-254-2246
www.refillingyourwell.com

Jorge Romo, Renovation, New Construction, Painting, Roofing,
Drywall, Tile 251-0214

Malcolm Wright, The Turnpike Road Pottery.
theturnpikeroad.com, 254-2168

Sunrise House Painting and Landscaping. 257-7184
SunrisePaintersVT.com

Allen Warner - 464-2099 Painting, Small Carpentry, Pressure
Washing, Lawn Mowing & small snow removal

Ames Hill Storage, LLC Heated winter storage. 802-254-2501

Lavigne Photography: 257.6918
lavignephotography.blogspot.com

Pork, seasonal produce, firewood, 258-0409 or
Rob@RamblingBrookFarmVermont.com

Adirondack Chairs, Picnic Tables, Trellises, etc., made to order.
Fred Bisbee, 464-0297

Photography, Pet Portaiture & Animal REIKI
860-716-1049, rebeccawhitney8@yahoo.com.

Meg McCarthy Design 275-7212, graphic design, web design in
Wordpress and Joomla

NEXT DEADLINE: October 15th for the November/December Mixer

**MARLBORO MIXER
C/O ROBIN MACARTHUR
PO BOX 472
MARLBORO, VT 05344**