

Nov/Dec 2014
Volume 11, Issue 6

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.robina@
gmail.com

We're online, too.

See us at:

marlborovt.us



Marlboro Elementary School

Annual

Wreath Sale



Place your order for holiday wreaths by Monday,
December 1st.

Wreath pick up will be at Marlboro School on December 12th from
3pm - 5pm

Alternative pick up times may be arranged if this time does not work for you.

Wreaths are made by a local craftsperson and come with a
red ribbon.

For more information call Julia
von Ranson, 254-5587 or e-mail
jkvonranson@aol.com

Return to school in an envelope marked "wreath orders."
Marlboro Elementary School, PO Box D, Marlboro, VT
05344

NAME: _____ PHONE NUMBER: _____

How many:

14 inch @ \$18.00 _____

24 inch @ \$22.00 _____

30 inch @ \$35.00 _____

Total Wreaths _____

Total \$ Enclosed _____ (checks made payable to P&F)

The Parents and Friends of MES bring you a Holiday Book Sale and Bazaar!!
Dec 12 and 13 in the Outback

In addition to the book sale, you can pick up your wreath, purchase items by local
crafters, make wrapping paper and cards, participate in a ski/skate/winter gear
swap/sale, enjoy yummy baked goods and much more.

Stay tuned to the Front Porch Forum and the school website (marlboroschool.net) for
more information.

Forest Kindergarten by Ellen Martyn

Under a rock, hundreds of ants, some with wings and some without, scurry to move their eggs out of the sudden daylight. Watching over with keen interest, kindergarten children delight in the action, asking questions, making observations and creating predictions. Moments later, two children are balancing a huge log to make a seesaw. They call to their friends to come join them. "You, get on that end!" "Oh, that didn't work. Let's get another person." "Sit here!" Eventually, the gleeful noises indicate success in making the log serve as a ride. An old tree, twisted and full of huge holes becomes a spaceship. Sticks serve as building materials, a horse, walking canes for old folks, an object to run and jump over and drum sticks for beating out rhythms on a pile of logs. Colorful autumn leaves are carefully chosen to serve as a roof for a fairy or salamander house.

Children, who may be challenged to sit through a story inside, watch a wooly bear caterpillar as it makes its slow progress from the height of a teacher's knee to over her head. Working together, they dig a root out from under the forest floor with the persistence that isn't as obvious during a math lesson. A child who requires weekly physical therapy lessons, chooses to walk back and forth on a log, practicing his balance.

Marlboro School now has a full day kindergarten program. Until lunch, the classroom looks very familiar, but after a quiet time, each afternoon, no matter the weather, children and their teachers head out to a special part of the forest for Forest Kindergarten. There, they are free to explore, create and discover on their own terms with gentle guidance from adults. They ask questions, bring their knowledge from inside out (that beetle is camouflaged!) and the outside in (What kind of mushroom is that?).

The evidence is strong that being in nature provides children with a special connection to the earth and the environment. Physical development is fostered by the activity and the brain gets the nourishment that best fuels academic growth. Immune systems get stronger, social connections grow and children develop increasingly complex imaginative play. Children learn about balance (physics) and cooperation, about life cycles and seasons as their bodies and minds develop.

As the afternoon winds down, we gather on birch stumps to record the daily happenings in our nature journal and take a photograph from the same place by the tree. Over time, we'll see how the forest changes, just as we'll see the growth and changes in each child over the course of the school year from both inside and outside the school building.

Letter to the Editor: Inequity in Marlboro

Understanding that the mandates from Montpelier have a significant impact on all Vermonters, it is still concerning that the budget passed at the annual town meeting depends on those who attend that meeting.

The town of Marlboro is made up of about 700 voters. The Town Hall, where town meeting is held, legally accommodates 120 people. Is it time to recognize and begin a discussion as to why potentially 1/7 of the town citizenry determine the economic impact on the entire community?

There are many reasons, physical, economic, personal that prevent people from attending town meeting, capped off by the fact that if even ¼ of the population wanted to have a say, they would not be able to get in the door of the meeting place.

This is an issue, not of place (time and venue), but of access. It would be more diplomatic if the budget were put on the ballot. The town needs to analyze and begin developing strategies that increase the knowledge base and expand capacity for citizenry to have a say in factors which directly impact the quality of their life in Marlboro. A few people determining that the majority dig deeply into their financial base is not a caring or equitable way for a town to sustain itself. If the town really wants to engage in "local control" stop blaming the state for its lack, and investigate more positive and structured efforts at engaging the whole community.

Linda C. Bourne

(Editor's Note: This is an opinion piece...we encourage responses to this conversation to take place via Front Porch Forum.)

NEWS FROM MARLBORO CARES by Jennifer Mazur

Senior Lunches

Senior Lunches got off to a wonderful start in October with a delicious meal, good company, and Bob Engel enlightening us on the mating habits of birds, as well as their fidelity and infidelity practices.

Please join us for the next Senior Lunch, which will be held on Friday, November 7th. Please call 258-3030 to reserve your spot by 9 am on Tuesday, November 4th. The following lunch will be held December 5th, with reservations needing to be in by Tuesday Dec 2nd by 9AM.

You are welcome to call now to reserve a place for every month in advance. However, we do ask that if you find you cannot come, please call us again at 258-3030 to let us know as soon as possible. As seating is limited, we do have waitlists, so your call would allow someone else to take your place.

Senior Lunches are held at 11:30 a.m. in the Coffee Shop at Marlboro College, still for a charge of only \$3.00. Any resident of Marlboro over the age of 60 is cordially invited to attend and enjoy a delicious meal, an interesting talk or music, and a fun time with your neighbors.

Holiday Baskets

As in years past, Marlboro Cares will be delivering some Holiday Cheer in the form of a basket of goodies to elders in town. If you are or know someone who is over 80 years old and is living alone and has never yet received a basket and would like one, please call us at 258-3030 or email Jennifer at jennifermazur2@gmail.com.

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.

Marlboro Elementary School Teacher Honored with 2014 Victor R. Swenson Humanities Educator Award

Montpelier — The Vermont Humanities Council has named Marlboro Elementary School teacher David Holzapfel as its 2014 humanities educator of the year.

VHC will honor Holzapfel with the twelfth Victor R. Swenson Humanities Educator Award on November 15 at UVM's Dudley H. Davis Center at VHC's fall conference. VHC Board Chair Major Jackson will present the award at 8:30 a.m. in the Grand Maple Ballroom.

"The Vermont Humanities Council is pleased to honor Vermont teachers in the humanities who challenge and inspire their students, who open up for them the world of ideas, and who help them know the joy of learning," said VHC Executive Director Peter Gilbert. "The influence of such teachers on their students never ends. In honoring one such teacher each year, we pay tribute to all the fine teachers in Vermont, and we honor the important work they do."

Holzapfel has taught fifth and sixth grade at Marlboro Elementary School for twenty-five years. School principal Francie Marbury cites numerous reasons for his success at teaching, including "high expectations for his students, his wry sense of humor, and his passion for the material," which together make him a teacher "students remember long after they leave Marlboro School."

Holzapfel's curriculum is based in his belief that "students need rich content to sink their teeth into," said Marbury, and that with proper support they rise to the challenge.

For more information about the award, contact the Vermont Humanities Council at info@vermonthumanities.org or 802.262.2626, or visit vermonthumanities.org.

Marlboro School Board Presents Proposal for Shared Special Education Costs in the Windham Central Supervisory Union

In response to the discussion about special education costs that was taken up at the March 2014 Marlboro Town Meeting, the Marlboro School Board recently presented a proposal for changing the way special education costs are determined by member school districts of the Windham Central Supervisory Union (WCSU.) We are sharing the proposal here to inform our community members and let you know that this proposal is being brought forward for discussion and consideration at the next full meeting of the WCSU Board. Questions about the proposal can be directed to Jen Carr, Marlboro School Board Chair, at jcarr@windhamcentralboard.org.

On Wednesday, September 24, 2014, the Marlboro School Board presented the following proposal to the WCSU Board for consideration at the next regular meeting:

WHEREAS, Vermont statute, 16 V.S.A. 261(a)(6), makes the WCSU Board responsible for providing special education services, as well as compensatory and remedial service on behalf of its member districts; and

WHEREAS, Vermont statute 16 V.S.A. 301, states that *...each school district shall pay a proportionate share of the salary and expenses of the superintendent and the expenses of the supervisory union based on the number of enrolled pupils in each member school district unless otherwise agreed upon; and*

WHEREAS, Vermont statute 16 V.S.A. 301, further elaborates that *'Enrolled pupils' shall be defined by the Commissioner by rule, including the treatment of tuition students, special education students, students enrolled in technical centers, and other particular circumstances; and*

WHEREAS, it is in the fiduciary interest of all the residents of towns represented by the WCSU Board to distribute special education costs over a wide-as-reasonably-possible catchment area; and

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of Towns and Districts to be able to levelly and predictably budget for Special Education without incurring unexpected and damaging spikes in yearly School District Budgets; and

WHEREAS, these spikes erode the regular and effective running of our schools and erode the trust of our citizens in seeing our budgeting as fair and predictable; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of all our students in general, and in particular, those students with special needs, to have a predictable, transparent, equitable and just methodology to support our Supervisory Union Board in fulfilling its obligations – legal, financial, moral and otherwise, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that in FY16 and then going forward, the WCSU Board change its methodology for assessing special education costs (including all costs for special education services, as well as compensatory and remedial services) away from a system that charges the actual costs for special education services directly back to each district, and instead use a system that would charge K-6 districts within the WCSU proportionally based on the number of students in each district, effectively spreading the risks and costs associated with students in need of special education services and stabilizing the yearly budgets of individual districts.

November General Election Voting Info



Marlboro Voters: the polling hours for the General Election on November 4th will be our customary 10 am until 7 pm at the Marlboro Town Office. If your schedule makes it difficult for you to get to the polls, I urge you to consider voting early. All you need to do is call or email me with your request for an early ballot, and you will receive it in the mail and return it by November 3rd or you can vote in the town office.

Forrest Holzapfel, Marlboro Town Clerk

254-2181,

Marlboro Alliance News

2014-15 Marlboro Alliance Scholarship Appeal

The Marlboro Alliance-Scholarship Fund supports our community's students.

In May of 2014, we awarded grants to 7 college-bound Marlboro students and 20 elementary students and 5 high school student attending summer programs.

We thank all of you whose donations to the Scholarship Fund made these awards possible. Because of the unprecedented level of requests, we now have less than usual reserved in the Scholarship Fund's 'rainy day' account. In November we'll send out our 2014 Appeal Letter.

We need our community's continued support to help our students succeed.

Complete guidelines for next years Scholarships will be posted in March 2015 on the new Marlboro Alliance, Marlboro School and Marlboro Town websites and available on paper at MES and the Town Office.

The Marlboro Alliance is a 501(c)(3) charitable non-profit corporation. All contributions to the Marlboro Alliance are fully tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. We are an all-volunteer organization. For the Scholarship Committee: Sylvia Johnson, Gussie Bartlett, Francie Marbury, Michelle Holzapfel, Chair.

Marlboro Alliance, P.O. Box 165, Marlboro, Vermont 05344 marlboroalliance@gmail.com

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

THE NEW MARLBORO ALLIANCE WEBSITE is now under construction, thanks to the talents 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

DANCING IN THE OUTBACK (AT MARLBORO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL)

THURSDAYS 7:30 STARTING OCTOBER 23RD

FIND US ON FACEBOOK ~ "DANCING IN THE OUTBACK"

Some really upstanding citizens are dancin'

To create community and to be inventin'

New ways to de-stress and express

With some groovin' & hoofin'

~ and without an agenda.

Bring yourself, bring your friends!

Bring in the changing seasons

~ as us dancing fools transcend.



Playlist provided.

By Donation \$3-\$5

Check Facebook for weather cancellations or email katetarlowmorgan@gmail.com

and ask for Facebook Group Invite. [I think that's how it is done...]

Painters, Poets, Drawers, Musicians, Dancers and Sculptors....

**come share your talents with
the Marlboro kids after school.**

**Once a week commitment,
3:15-4:45, starts Jan 5th,
stipend for your time and
supplies.**

**Contact
ewagner@marlboroschool.net**

Select Board Report

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

The work on a mud season trouble spot on MacArthur Road has been completed through a \$10,000 Better Back Roads grant. Grants are available annually and the board will continue to apply to remedy trouble spots on other roads. The grants do not involve town funds directly but do require in-kind services such as salary cost and use of town equipment and materials which are funded through the town budget.

The board welcomes Jasmine Burgess, Marlboro's new Animal Control Officer. Jasmine, also ACO in Newfane, works part time at the Windham County Humane Society. She will be available to take calls and respond to Marlboro's needs. Adam Katrik, current ACO, will be moving on and the board is grateful he has offered to help Jasmine with the transition. The board takes this opportunity to thank Adam for his almost 2 ½ years of service to the Town and to wish him all the best in his new venture.

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. The board sided with the Planning Commission and the two chairs signed a joint letter to Brian Sullivan, attorney for Verizon. The letter, in part, states the following: *In conclusion, based on the clear provisions in the Marlboro Town Plan which are designed to guide development and protect the natural resources of the Town, the Town of Marlboro requests that you reconsider the location of your proposed tower, or consider co-location, in order to eliminate the current proposal's negative impacts on Marlboro's wildlife habitat, water quality, and scenic resources.*

A 10-kilowatt system solar panel project benefitting the Town Highway Garage, the Town Office and Marlboro Elementary School was approved by the board for installation of panels by Gary MacArthur on the Town Highway Garage. Tyler Gibbons recused himself from all discussions and decisions as he is related to Gary by marriage. The total cost is \$28,500; \$12,500 would come from the State as an incentive and be paid to Gary MacArthur after completion by April 1, 2015. The total cost to the town, therefore, will be \$16,000. The group net-metering system will provide enough power to eliminate power bills for the Town Office and Town Garage and provide a small reduction in the school's electric bill. The resulting savings will pay for the system in about 6 years. The board had been approached in the past about becoming involved in much larger installations, but project developers were difficult to communicate with, so those possibilities fizzled. We are excited about this local solution that will result in a more appropriately sized system built and supported by a local contractor. The board thanks Gary for bringing the State incentive program to our attention and for all his work to get this done under a tight timeline.

The board has approached the Conservation Commission chair, Adam Gebb, to request assistance to educate the Marlboro public about controlling Japanese Knotweed. It is infesting a portion of South Road near the Historical Society and has been seen in other parts of Town. David Elliott indicated he received information at a road foreman meeting that the problem is common in many towns. It is harder for a town to control the weed than individuals. Individuals can cut it and burn it on their land but town officials would be able to do that only on town land, not on private property.

The board acknowledged, with appreciation, the two plus years of service of Francie Marbury on the Planning Commission and accepted her resignation. The board appointed Tim Segar as a new member of the Planning Commission.

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. The board recently made a change and this open comment period is now at the beginning of every meeting from 5:00 to 5:10.

Contact the board by email at marlboroselectboard@gmail.com or by post at Select Board, PO Box 518, Marlboro, VT 05344.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

NOVEMBER

4th: Election day, 10-7pm (p4)

7th: Senior Lunch @ Marlboro College (p3)

9th: Music for a Sunday Afternoon, Marlboro College, 3pm • Ragle Hall, Serkin Center

16th: Sun 4pm, Marlboro Meeting House Thanksgiving service; bring nonperishable food items for the Deerfield Valley Food Pantry

DECEMBER

5th: Senior Lunch @ Marlboro College (p3)

12th & 13th: MES Wreath, book & holiday sale (p1)

21st: Marlboro Meeting House, Sun 4pm Candle Light Service of Lessons and Carols

23rd: Music for a Sunday Afternoon, Marlboro College, 3pm • Ragle Hall, Serkin Center

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

The Poetry Studio: Creative Writing Classes for Adults Tuesday and Thursday Evenings

With Ann Gengarely, 242 Piney Brook Way (off Church Hollow Road)

Goldenrod is poking its head along the sides of country roads, and we are reminded that another season is about to arrive. A season when gardens go to rest and we are invited to "turn inward," as the poet Rainer Maria Rilke advised.

At *The Poetry Studio*, people ranging in age from late twenties to elders gather to "slow down;" to listen to that part of themselves that is forgotten in our busy lives. We write and share, remembering *who we are*, for as the Mexican poet, Octavia Paz, claimed: "if we forget poetry, we will forget ourselves."

Writing poems, stories, letters to people close to us, we create a community that is both intimate and sacred. Again and again, I have witnessed how when someone discovers what it is she *needs* to write about, that person also remembers her unique voice. Good writing usually springs from necessity: the writer has something she/ he *needs* to say, whether it's in a poem, a story, a letter.

As the days become darker, we meet in my studio and home where we find a quiet away from the buzz of the world. I offer a "prompt," and a reading of different voices that resonate with that theme. While cider brews on the stove in our kitchen, people find their "nesting places" to sit, "to turn inward ...one person on our couch, another in the plant room, another on the rug before the fire. We end with a circle in the living room where participants who want to share read, and with sacred ears, we listen and offer positive feedback.

Classes meet Tuesday evenings beginning mid-November or Thursday evenings beginning mid-January. We meet for 13 weeks with three weeks off during Christmas-New Year break. NO PRIOR EXPERIENCE IS NECESSARY. EVERYONE HAS POETRY INSIDE THEM; EVERYONE HAS A STORY TO TELL.

At present I have a few openings and welcome talking to people who are interested. Usually the best times to reach me are evenings at 257-8972 or you can contact me at agengar@sover.net.

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

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: December 15th for the January/February Mixer

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