

the marlboro mixer

Vol. 13 No. 1 | March • April 2016

A FREE newsletter for the town of
Marlboro, Vermont

Published by the Marlboro Alliance

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Also available by email if requested

(save paper,
save money!)

For submissions or to
receive the Mixer,
please contact
Meg McCarthy
802-275-7212
meg@megmccarthy.com

We're online, too.

See us at:
marlborovt.us

MARLBORO MUDFLING!

Join us for an evening of outrageous
all-you-can-eat desserts, raffle, and live music
to benefit the Meetinghouse Preschool

Saturday, February 27th
6:30-9:30 PM
Meeting House School, Marlboro Center

RAFFLE ITEMS INCLUDE:
*Nantucket Island Getaway
*Ski & Stay Package from The Hermitage
*Health and Wellness Services

For info & to buy raffle tickets
MeetingHouseSchool.com
802 251 0772

Adults Only
\$10 donation at door
cash bar featuring
WHETSTONE CIDERWORKS
MARLBORO, VERMONT
live music by
Swingin' Boys of Mudville

from Marlboro Cares

Senior Lunches Please join us for the next Senior Lunch, which will be held on **Friday, March 4, 2016**. Kevin Quigley, the new President of Marlboro College will speak to us about the College and his plans for the College and the community connection. Please call 258-3030 to reserve your spot by Monday, February 29th.

The following lunch will be held **Friday, April 1st**, with reservations needing to be in by Monday, March 28th. This lunch will be devoted to visiting with your neighbors, with the added bonus of a short poem performed by Augusta Bartlett. The final Senior lunch of this school year will be held **Friday, May 6th**, with reservations due in by Monday, May 2nd.

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.

The Genealogy of Happiness Marlboro Cares in conjunction with the Vermont Humanities Council is pleased to present a lecture by William Edelglass on the Genealogy of Happiness. Professor Edelglass will speak to us on the history of how we think about happiness and what makes us happy.

This lecture will be held on Wednesday, April 13, 2016 at 7 pm at the Marlboro Elementary School. Admission is free and open to all. Please call Marlboro Cares at 258-3030 for more information and/or for a ride to the lecture.

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

Submitted by Jennifer Mazur

2015-2016 Marlboro Alliance Scholarship Appeal Report

The Marlboro Alliance Scholarship Fund supports our town's students.

We sincerely thank our community for its generous response to our 10th annual appeal letter. 48 family or individual donors have given a total of \$5283, our second highest amount to date. And it is our policy to disburse the majority of the funds we raise each year.

Our scholarships help Marlboro families to meet the costs of summer programs and expenses for higher education. Our 2014-15 appeal brought in \$3360. Our 2015 grants to 22 students totaled \$4480.

We will grant this year's awards at the end of May, so there's still time to send your tax-deductible contribution to:

Marlboro Alliance
Box 165
Marlboro, VT 05344
memo: Scholarship Fund

You may donate online through PayPal at our website: www.marlboroalliance.com. Guidelines for 2016 scholarships are posted on our website now.

We're also on Facebook:
<http://www.facebook.com/MarlboroAlliance>

And you can email the MarlboroAlliance:
marlboroalliance@gmail.com

*with gratitude,
the Marlboro Alliance Scholarship Committee*

from the Select Board

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

The board requested the Vermont Agency of Transportation consider a speed limit reduction in front of Marlboro School. The Traffic Operations Engineer replied that Traffic Operations would conduct a speed study and forward recommendations to the Vermont Traffic Committee who will make a final decision. The Town will be notified of the meeting where the issue will be discussed. The Engineer, Amy Gamble, suggested the school install an on-premises sign along the frontage to make the school more conspicuous and keep the branches of trees trimmed along the frontage line of sight.

With suggested changes provided by Forrest Holzapfel, the board approved the updated zoning permit fee schedule that went into effect January 1, 2016.

The board adopted VT Alert, Vermont's emergency alert system, and designated the people who would initiate any alerts when authorized by the Emergency Management Director, Mike Andreotta.

The board hosted a special select board meeting with Clay Purvis, Connectivity Development Manager of the Vermont Department of Public Service. Also present was Sunni Eriksen, Connectivity Coordinator of the Department of Public Service, and the following legislators: Laura Sibia, Vermont State Representative, Becca Balint, Vermont State Senator, and Emily Long, Vermont State Representative.

Clay Purvis described the Department of Public Service's new division, the Division for Telecommunications and Connectivity, which has the purpose of promoting and facilitating state-wide expansion of broadband service. There is a state goal to bring statewide universal broadband access of 100/100 Mbps by the end of 2024.

Connect America is a federal program that gives money to service providers to help with difficult locations. \$50 million was awarded to FairPoint over 6 years to improve DSL access and service. However, Clay Purvis stated that DSL, as a technology, cannot provide 100/100 Mbps, and thus eventually will be insufficient.

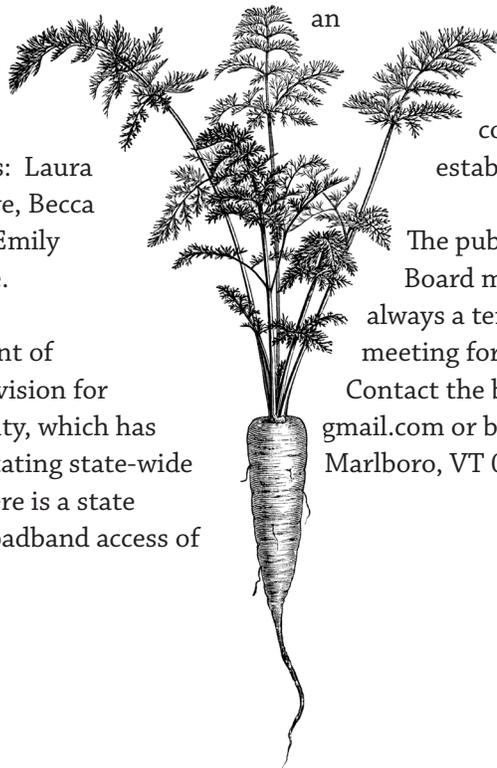
Cable connectivity was discussed. Duncan Cable serves Wilmington; Comcast serves Brattleboro. It was recommended that Marlboro be in touch with these cable companies with regards to possible cable service in Marlboro, and Clay Purvis offered to help initiate that conversation. With Cable, it is possible to reach the 100/100 Mbps in the future (with upgrades from the cable companies).

Fiber Optic was discussed; Clay Purvis stated that this technology is very fast, but is very expensive to set up, and thus a difficult option at the moment.

The Small Cell Deployment Project was discussed. This project puts small antennas on telephone poles (an example is along Rt. 9) to help with cell service coverage. 911 service is available to everyone through this service.

Clay Purvis strongly recommended that Marlboro have an active Connectivity Committee to work towards better internet connectivity in Marlboro. The select board will coordinate with community members to establish such a committee.

The public is always welcome to attend Select Board meetings and we value your input. There is always a ten minute period at the beginning of every meeting for unscheduled open public comment. Contact the board by email at marlboroselectboard@gmail.com or by post at Select Board, PO Box 518, Marlboro, VT 05344. Visit the website: marlborovt.us.



From Marlboro School

The week prior to February Vacation was a busy one for students! Two classes were wrapping up major projects – the kind of project where students show what they’ve learned not through a test, but through demonstration and performance.

Pam’s class – Hunter, Dylan, Ben, Madison, Althea, Hannah, Phoenix, Jeremiah, Zinabu, Josh, Anthony, Ritter, Senait, Willow, Belle, Camilla, Amelia, and Sarah – performed an adaptation of Julius Caesar by Shakespeare. Pam has been telling me all along that the students were in charge of the play and made all the key decisions as to how it would be produced. This is learning at its best. They made decisions as a group, listening carefully to each other, weighing the merits of ideas, and arriving at conclusions that all agreed to. They determined how hard they would work and the level of effort they would put in. They thought about their audience and what would help them understand and enjoy the play. Here are some specific examples.

The class divided into small groups, each group responsible for an act. Within these groups, they made decisions such as how realistic Caesar’s death scene would be, what could be used for sound effects like thunder, what kinds of costumes were needed, and what scenery and backgrounds would be used. Althea argued that the death scene shouldn’t be too gory because there might be small children in the audience. Willow suggested that foot stomping makes great thunder. Ben suggested doing line drawings that could be scanned and projected for the backdrop and then he, Belle, Dylan, Hannah, Sarah, Jeremiah, and Ritter produced page after page of drawings.

Earlier in the year the class made masks with the idea that they would wear them in the play as Shakespeare’s choruses often wear masks. As they got into it, they realized that it was too hard for all the actors to wear masks for the whole performance. When they decided that Mark Antony’s speech

was too long for one actor, they had three actors, Willow, Waylund, and Madison, share the speech. Here was a perfect use for the masks!

A huge decision was to memorize lines instead of reading them. Once they made this commitment they practiced and practiced and practiced. The result was that they knew their parts well and delivered them with good expression.

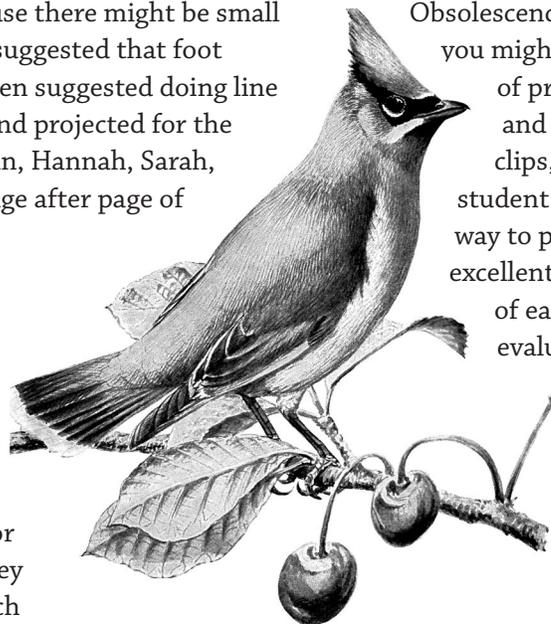
Casting for the different roles was another big decision. Each group read through their act several times, discussing its meaning, and getting a feel for who they would like to play. When there were two students who wanted the same part, they figured out a way to divide it so that both could play the role they wanted.

The students cared deeply about their work. They were engaged and passionate and justifiably proud of their final performance

Junior High I Projects (Independent Study) were similar in terms of the depth of learning that goes on. What’s different here is that now it’s up to the individual student, with encouragement and support from their teachers, to make the decision about how hard to work and what standard of excellence to aim for. This year’s projects represented a wide range of interests from Planned

Obsolescence to Body Image to Green Screens. As you might imagine this resulted in a wide range of presentations - cooking demonstration and tasting, movie, talk with slides and film clips, performance, and exhibition. Each student decided what was the most effective way to present their topic. The results were excellent. The audience completed an evaluation of each presentation and the last item on the evaluation asked the evaluator to write down something new they learned. We are all learners!

These are snapshots of Marlboro students at work. Please stop by to see more!



Fairpoint Community Forum

Thank you to everyone who attended the Community Forum on Fairpoint this past Tuesday! You really sent a message to them about how they've been serving us, and it was a message they needed to hear. Here's a recap the resolutions that came from the meeting:

At Town Meeting, the Select Board will be asking for folks to be part of a committee that, among other things, will work with the Public Service Department to improve transparency and communication with telecommunications providers for the town of Marlboro. If you're interested in serving, you can contact the Select Board at marlboroselectboard@gmail.com.

At the meeting, Fairpoint collected Community Meeting Inquiry forms from several residents who wanted to communicate (and seek resolution for) individual issues. I forwarded to Fairpoint the details and contact information from those of you who emailed me but, if you'd like a paper copy of the form to submit to directly to Fairpoint, they are available at the Town Office.

Connie Faircloth, Fairpoint's Senior Network Engineer, will act as the liaison between the town and her company. In the short term, she will receive and support resolution of the Community Meeting Inquiry forms. Moving forward, she will also be the contact for the town when initial attempts to resolve issues through normal channels at Fairpoint prove ineffective.

Fairpoint has committed to arranging credits for those customers who have been experiencing speeds that are less than what they've been paying for, but they have asked for folks to wait to petition for these until the upgrades to its network are complete. The McArthur Road branch of the network is scheduled to be complete within a couple of weeks; the South Road branch is expected to follow in a couple of months. Fairpoint will communicate with the Town Office as the new, upgraded service becomes available, in addition to reaching out directly to its customers.

If you have any questions about what was discussed at the meeting, or if you would like more information about the resolutions, please feel free to reach out to Brian Whitehouse at wayfarerbrian@gmail.com.

Town Meeting 2016

Town Meeting will be held at **9 am on Tuesday, March 1, 2016** at the Town House in the village center. There will be a break for lunch at the Marlboro Meeting House sponsored by the Marlboro Alliance. Town Report booklets are available in the Town Office entryway, the Post Office, and at Marlboro School. Or go to the town website at marlborovt.us and on the bottom of the home page find everything about Town Meeting including the Town Report!

The polls will be open in the Town Office from 10 am until 7 pm for the Presidential Preference Primary and the election of local officers. Please note that for this Preference Primary, you must declare which party ballot you will vote, either Republican or Democrat. This declaration of party is non-binding for future voting, but is the way this election is set up by the federal government.

If you would like to vote early / absentee, please fill out the Absentee Ballot Request 2016 (available on the town website or call the Town Office) and return it to the Town Clerk. You must declare which party ballot you would like to vote. Your ballot will be mailed to you, or you could stop into the office and pick one up (for yourself only). Ballots can be requested until 4 pm on February 29, 2016 and must be returned by the close of the polls at 7 pm on March 1, 2016.

Town Meeting Pot-Luck Lunch Tuesday March 1

in the Meetinghouse after
the Morning Session.

Please bring a main dish, or
salad, or bread, or dessert.
Hot beverages provided.
Hosted by the Marlboro
Alliance.

NEW! also, please contribute non-perishable food items
for the Groundworks Collaborative food shelf.



Volunteering is Fun (and Good for You!)

According to a recent study, seniors who volunteers in social programs not only maintain brain function, but their brain function and cognitive ability may actually increase. In short, becoming a volunteer can actually make a senior citizen smarter! Volunteering helps seniors stay involved in their communities. A recent article in the L.A. Times stated that seniors spend up to half their time awake watching television. This social isolation helps explain why so many seniors suffer from depression. Senior volunteers spend less time at home and more time in their communities, helping increase their social and support networks.

Becoming a retired volunteer helps seniors maintain physical health. A UCLA study suggests that productive activities may actually slow down the aging process for seniors. This study specifically suggested that volunteering seemed to generate the best results because of the positive impacts on the community and the satisfaction that provides.

RSVP is currently recruiting in the following areas:

- Meals and food delivery to seniors living at home longer
- Home visits and rides to seniors for medical, shopping, social
- Mentoring and tutoring in the schools
- Food shelf support and educational outreach on food programs

Steve Ovenden is the local RSVP volunteer coordinator for Windham County, with an office in Brattleboro. He has opportunities available throughout the region and can tailor a job to your schedule and interests. If you are interested in volunteering in your community, please contact Steve (802) 254-7515 or sovenden@svcoa.net.

Dear Marlboro Taxpayers,

don't forget to file your Homestead Declaration, to declare yourself as a full time resident of Marlboro. In addition fill out the Property Tax Adjustment Claim, to help defray the cost of the education tax portion of your property tax bill. Contact the Town Clerk with any questions, 254-2181 or marlborotownclerk@gmail.com

Additionally, the Vermont Department of Taxes wants to provide you with information about obtaining the printed 2015 Vermont Income Tax Return Booklet and individual tax forms for those taxpayers who prefer them. The Vermont Department of Taxes now has forms and instructions online at <http://tax.vermont.gov/research-and-reports/tax-forms>, which can be downloaded and printed.

If you do not have access to a computer, you may order paper copies by calling 802-828-2515 or 855-297-5600 (toll-free).

Marlboro Dog Owners

**If you have NOT licensed your dog for 2016,
you're almost LATE!**

As of Monday April 1st, LATE FEES will be applied.



Marlboro Town Services Want to list your business or skills here? Eemail meg@megmccarthy.com

Artisans

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

Lucy Gratwick Fine Handweaving 257-0181 Functional hand-woven apparel

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

Lavigne Photography: 257.6918 lavignephotography.blogspot.com

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

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

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

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

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

Jess Weitz, Photography/Web Design jessweitz.com, jessweitz72@gmail.com

Carpentry, Furniture, House Painting, Landscaping

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Food and Beverages

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

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

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

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

General Services

Alcan power equip: lawn equipment, chainsaws, generators-sales & service 348-7898

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

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

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

Jerry Lundsted, 254-6512. Earthwork, excavating

Jon May: Full Throttle Lawn Care,landscaping, excavator work + more. 829-0487 or 464-8216

Racine House Cleaning & Caretaking: Madonna & Jane Racine, 20+ years of experience. To make an appointment, call 802.257.4467.

Tim Racine Logging & Excavating: For a free estimate, call 802.257.4467.

Rob Shapiro, chipping services 254-2570

Theo's Handyman Services (802) 254-4738

Tim Whitney, 464-3216, DBA as Another Pair of Hands, property maintenance, handyman, laborer

Health and Wellness

Lady Moon Holistic Health; Megan MacArthur Littlehales; Reiki for all beings, Massage for dogs; 254-6955 mml.wellness@gmail.com

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

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

Heating, Firewood

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

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

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

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

Music & Music Repairs

Greg Burnell 257-0796 Guitar Lessons. All ages all styles. gregsbues18@yahoo.com

Russell Horton Drum lessons- private & groups, Drum-set and/or Hand Drums, Drum sales and repair, mrmmbira@gmail.com 802-254-2651

Professional Services

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

Joslyn Haineswood/Owl's Nest Registered home preschool / childcare. After school & vacation care 258-7837 or Owlsofnespreschol@gmail.com

Russell Horton: audio & small appliance repair, computer repairs & upgrades, software & operating tutoring, the.computa.buddha@gmail.com 254-2651

Malcolm Moore, 254-5015, surveygmls@gmail.com Green Mountain Land Surveying

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

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

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

MARLBORO MIXER
The Marlboro Alliance
PO Box 165
Marlboro, Vermont 05344

Next Deadline
April 15 for
the May / June Mixer

March and April Calendar

Tuesday, March 1, 9am

Town Meeting

Friday, March 4, 11:30am

Senior Lunch

at the Coffee Shop, Marlboro College

Saturday, March 5, 2pm

Marlboro Park Association Neringa

Potluck

Snow play begins at 2, dinner at 6

Friday, April 1, 11:30am

Senior Lunch

at the Coffee Shop, Marlboro College

Wednesday, April 17, 7pm

The Geneology of Happiness

at the Marlboro Elementary School

Friday, May 6, 11:30am

Senior Lunch

at the Coffee Shop, Marlboro College

