



Egremont News

Issue 100

May, 2018

Rules & Regulations of this Newsletter:

The purpose of this newsletter is to keep residents informed of what is going on in our community. It is printed on a bi-monthly basis by the Selectmen’s Office Staff. Articles submitted by Town Boards are not edited by the Select Board or Office Administrator. Outside organizations are allowed to submit articles of no longer than one column length. These articles are to be factual and will not be printed if they contain any political format, forum, or communication. We welcome reader input and hope you enjoy reading the Newsletter. If you wish to receive this newsletter via email please contact town hall.

Town Meeting:

The Town’s Annual Town Meeting will be on May 1st, 2018 at 7pm at the Mount Everett High School. The Warrant is posted and copies are available at the Town Hall, the Library and either of the Post Offices, or from the town’s web page at www.egremont-ma.gov. The line item budget is increasing by about 2.1%.

There are two articles seeking borrowing authorization. As per the town’s bylaw these need to be secret ballots. During this break to vote there will be cookies available for snack. Please bring your own non-alcoholic drink in a non-disposable container to wash them down with.

Town Election:

The Town’s annual election will be on May 8, 2018, from 10am to 7pm at the North Egremont Fire Station. If you are able to please park at the Town Hall and walk to the station. Absentee ballots are available now through the Town Clerk’s office upon receipt of a written request.

Police Department:

The men and women of the Egremont Police Department would like to thank all of you that came out for our open house on the 21st of April.



Thankfully Mother Nature cooperated, and finally allowed all of us to come out into the sunshine, meet new friends, and reconnect with our

neighbors. The response was truly impressive, and testament to what a strong community can be and is. We would like to thank you for your support.

Reminder- Road work will begin on the 23rd of April on Route 23. Please plan ahead and leave early for your destinations if traveling through the area of Rt. 23 to the NY line. Road crews, flaggers, and Police Officers will be in the road and traffic can/will be delayed as needed. Traffic laws will be strictly enforced for the safety of those in the road. Please give them the time and space needed to complete their project and make Egremont safer.

ECO-TIP

On the bottom of most plastic containers is a triangle with a number. This indicates what kind of plastic the container is made of – it does not mean it’s recyclable. To see what *is* recyclable, go to www.springfieldmrf.org.

Planning Board:

As a result of the Egremont Special Town Meeting March 27, 2018. the Planning Board will be rewriting the Recreational Overlay District Bylaw (ROD) which was presented in Article 6 of the Warrant. The original ROD was developed by an Ad Hoc Committee and the majority of the citizens attending the meeting felt the ROD needed substantial revisions and additional oversight conditions put in place. The Planning Board has agreed to have a final version of the ROD presented to the Selectboard by October 31, 2018. The Planning Board will be asking Citizens in an upcoming Questionnaire if the town is in favor of such a bylaw.

Our Vice Chair, Helen Krancer, lost her husband Elliot last month. Elliot was a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals. We offer the entire Krancer family our sincere condolences and have made arrangements for trees

to be planted in Israel in his memory.

This month we will bid fellow Planning Board Member and Chair, Don Pulfer, good bye as he leaves the Board after 5 years of service. Don has been our Chair for the last year and we will miss his preparation, knowledge, organization and civility with which he conducted our meetings. Thank you Don. We will miss you and know you will find other fun ways to fill your Monday evenings.

ECO-TIP

Electric vehicles are a really green deal for Egremonters! Because of the town's electric aggregation agreement, our source of electricity is renewable (e.g., solar, wind) (unless you opted out). If you have an electric vehicle and a charging station, you are using absolutely no gas or oil for your car, so you are saving \$\$, too.

Fire Department:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Call #</i>
<i>/Location</i>		<i>/Type</i>
3/1/2018	1:43 AM	30
Main St		Alarm/False
3/2/2018	6:52 PM	31
Avenue		Service Call
3/3/2018	10:35 AM	32
West St. Mt. Washington		Alarm/False
3/3/2018	11:35 AM	33
Taconic Ln.		Medical
3/5/2018	5:07 AM	34
Sheffield Rd.		Medical
3/9/2018	5:41 PM	35
Jug End Rd.		Medical
3/9/2018	6:36 PM	36
Shun Toll Rd.		Alarm/Smoke
3/9/2018	7:36 PM	37
Boice Rd.		Alarm/Smoke
3/10/2018	3:32 PM	38
Lakeside Dr.		Medical alert
3/16/2018	4:36 PM	39
Hillsdale Rd.		Alarm/False
3/17/2018	8:00 PM	40
East St. Mt. Washington		Alarm/Smoke
3/18/2018	2:56 PM	41

Nicholson Rd.		Alarm/False
3/20/2018	10:02 PM	42
Egremont Plain Rd.		CO/Gas
3/23/2018	2:10 AM	43
Hillsdale Rd		Medical
3/23/2018	6:43 AM	44
Baldwin Hill E/W		MVA/No PI
3/26/2018	8:31 pm	45
Egremont Plain Rd.		Alarm/Smoke
3/28/2018	12:33 PM	46
Blunt Rd.		Medical
3/28/2018	6:26 PM	47
Baldwin Hill N/S		Alarm/Smoke
3/29/2018	11:42 AM	48
Main St.		Alarm/Smoke
3/30/2018	6:54 AM	49
Taconic Ln.		Medical
3/31/2018	4:44 PM	50
Pinecrest Hill Rd.		Medical
4/3/2018	5:16 AM	51
Blunt Rd.		Medical
4/4/2018	0:13 AM	52
Pinecrest Hill		Alarm/CO
4/7/2018	8:00PM	53
East St. Mt Washington		Medical
4/9/2018	2:02 PM	54
Lakeside Dr.		Medical/alert
4/12/2018	10:32 AM	55
Main St		Alarm/False
4/12/2018	10:35 AM	56
Farm Lane		Medical
4/15/2018	5:58 PM	57
Creamery Rd.		Medical
4/16/2018	10:25 AM	58
Boice Rd.		MVA/NoPI
4/17/2018	11:38 AM	59
Under Mountain Rd.		Alarm/False
4/19/2018	10:29 AM	60
Hillsdale Rd.		Medical
4/21/2018	12:41 PM	61
Under Mountain Rd.		Alarm/False

Egremont Free Library:**Are you interested in genealogy?**

Egremont Free Library is planning a trip to New England Historic Genealogical Society in Boston this Fall. We are planning a group trip to meet with a genealogy expert. We'll hire a van/driver and go for a day trip. The library trustees are funding the trip, but there will be a small fee per individual. More details to come. We are gauging interest in how many people would sign up for the trip. If you're interested, please contact Lesliann at the library at 528-1474 or email EGRLibrary@egremont-ma.gov.

2018 Library Passes Museums & Area**Attractions**

Below is a list of museum passes available to Egremont Free Library patrons. Please see the museum pass policy below. This summer, EFL is adding The Mount, Emily Dickenson and Franklin D. Roosevelt Library.

Museums

Norman Rockwell: Pass allows admission for up to 2 individuals for \$10 per person. Children 5 and under are free.

Berkshire Museum: Pass allows free admission for up to 2 adults and 2 children under the age of 18. Children 3 and under are always free.

The Clark Museum: Pass includes free admission for 1 adult.

Mass MoCA: Admits up to two adults for free. Children 13 and under are free.

Area Attractions

Hancock Shaker Village: Pass allows free admission for 2 adults and 2 children

Museum Pass Policies

First Come, First Served... Patron must come to the library and if the museum pass is here, they may borrow it for 48 hours. Please No calling ahead to reserve.

Patron must return museum pass in blue envelope provided within 48 hours of borrowing pass. They should put pass in envelope and place in the Book Drop Box outside library door.

Only one pass may be borrowed at a time.

FYI, Norman Rockwell changed their museum policy pass this year. The pass allows two people in at \$10 per person (admission is usually \$18 for adults; \$17 for seniors)

The Clark changed their pass to admitting ONE person for free.

ECO-TIP

Contaminating material found in the recycling bin:

Light bulb (sent to trash)

Clothes hangers (plastic sent to trash; wire sent to metal bin)

Black plastic containers (sent to trash)

Plastic bags (sent to trash)

A jar of kimchee (recyclables should be CLEAN) (sent to the compost)

WHEN IN DOUBT, THROW IT OUT (into the trash)

Sustainability Coordinator:

Just about a year ago, the town entered into an agreement with an electric aggregator to shop for electricity for Egremont residents at competitive rates through group purchasing. Over 70% of Egremont homeowners are enrolled in the program, and since the roll-out, have benefitted from electricity rates slightly lower than the offered rate from our electric utility.

But what really makes a Sustainability Coordinator's heart smile, is that not only were we able to purchase electricity at lower rates per kilowatt, we were able to do so while purchasing electricity from renewable energy sources.

Our community choice to switch from traditional "brown" power (electricity generated from the burning of some type of fossil fuel) to "green" power (coming from wind or solar) has resulted in less carbon dioxide (CO2) entering the atmosphere. How much less, you ask??? Drum roll please.....approximately 6,000,000 tons of CO2 has been avoided entering and polluting our air because of Egremont's commitment to renewable power.

Think about it. We are just a small community of approximately 1000 homes and we saved 6,000,000 tons of CO2 alone in the last nine months. Once again our community has demonstrated our wish to fight climate change, preserve air quality and support a more sustainable future.

Bravo Egremont!

ECO-TIP

If you buy meat at Big Y, choose it from the butcher's counter and you won't be taking home the Styrofoam tray.

Council on Aging:

Winter wasn't kind to us this year and as a result we had to cancel our February and March Luncheons. The sun finally shone on us for our April 4th Luncheon. We were so glad our new police chief, Erik Josephson was able to join us and meet some of our seniors. We hope to have him join us at future luncheons. We spent a great hour pencil drawing portraits led by local artist Eunice Agar. Eunice is a very patient and knowledgeable instructor. Some of us discovered some hidden talents.



On April 8th we celebrated "An Hour of Music" with three wonderful musicians. John Cheek, international opera singer and Egremont resident, Michael Riley, NY bass baritone singer, and Robert Kopelson, international pianist and vocal coach presented a wonderful mix of musical genres. Lucky us to be able to have these talented musicians perform for us in such an intimate setting. Looking ahead to our May 2nd Luncheon, Bob Climo, from GB Bagel Co., will again do a cooking demonstration. Be sure and sign up early as this is a very popular program.

On June 6th we will have our final luncheon of the season at French Park (our Luncheons will resume on the first Wednesday in October). Liz Keen from Indian Line Farm will share some gardening tips with us. Prior to lunch (and to work up our appetites) we will do the annual one mile walk around the park

You can sign up for these luncheons by calling the Town Hall at 528-0182, x 10. Be sure and let us know if you have any special dietary needs or restrictions.

As always, we are extremely thankful to the Egremont Village Inn and the Keene family for allowing us to hold our events at the Inn.

The Fitness Classes, taught by Elaine Ireland, continue on Thursdays and Fridays from 10:30 – 11:30 at the South Egremont Congregation Church. Sessions are six weeks and a new session just started April 19 and continues on April 26, May 3, 10, 17, and 24. Fridays are April 20, 27, May 4, 11, 18, 25. There will be one more session after this starting on May 31 and June 1. The cost is \$48.00 for the six classes. Elaine provides individual attention to participants and will tailor exercises to your needs. So give it a try and limber up for summer!

Our CPR classes, taught by David Katzenstein from the Egremont Fire Department were informative and helpful to those who attended. David will hold another class in June and hopes to include First-aid instruction. The cost will be \$10.00. Dates and more information will be announced shortly.

Liz Jaffe as again offered to teach an iPad/Phone class this summer. Dates and times will be announced shortly. If you have specific topics you would like Liz to cover you can email your request to coa@egremont-ma.gov and we will pass the info on to Liz. Don't forget if you need a ride to a medical appointment or to do other errands you can call Southern Berkshire Elderly Transportation at 528-4773. They operate Monday thru Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The cost from Egremont is \$10.00 or \$15.00 if you go to Pittsfield. As the weather gets warmer more of us will be out walking on our beautiful roads. Don't forget to wear your "BE SEEN, BE SAFE" vest. They can't be picked up at the Town Hall, Police department, or at our monthly Luncheons.

The Western MA Food Bank occurs the first Tuesday of each month from 12:00 – 1:00 at the CHP Buildings on Stockbridge road in Great Barrington. You are only required to state the number of people in your household and provide your zip code. A variety of fresh and packaged foods are available.

The Otis Council on Aging has some great bus trips planned... Aqua Turf (May 21), Fingerlakes Region (June 20-22), Newport Playhouse (July 30), Boston harbor and Lighthouse Cruise (August 28), Cranberry & Foliage Trip (Sept. 18), and Octoberfest 2018 at Krucker's (Oct. 16). If you are interested you can contact the Otis COA at 413-269-0100 x107 for more information and pricing.

Included here is a checklist of important safety updates to help keep seniors safe at home:

- *update your list of medications, vitamins, and supplements

- *safely dispose of expired medications
- *install grab bars (if needed) or make sure existing ones are sturdy and well attached
- *replace bath mats with non-skid low profile mats
- *install a raised toilet seat or safety frame (if needed)
- *make sure tub or shower floor is non-slip
- *add automatic nightlights
- *prominently post emergency contact information on the fridge and near the telephone
- *place frequently used items within easy reach
- *put away appliances are rarely used to remove clutter
- *use automatic night lights to light the way to the bathroom
- *check that bedside lights are easy to turn off and on
- *make sure the phone and/or medical alert device is easy to reach from the bed
- *clear hallways and main floors of dangerous clutter
- *secure all electrical cords at the edges of the rooms
- *make sure lighting is bright, that there are off/on switches at every doorway
- *check smoke and carbon monoxide alarms to be sure they are working properly
- *make sure fire extinguishers are fully charged and easily accessible
- *check that furniture is steady-no wobbling or sliding chairs
- *check that flooring is smooth and free of tripping hazards
- *make sure house numbers are clearly visible from the street, day and night
- *check that walkways are clear, free of tripping hazards, and have handrails as needed

Please contact your COA if you need more information on services available to seniors or assistance of any kind. We would love to hear from you. 528-0182 x24

ECO-TIP

Wash in Cold Water. About 90% of the energy used for a load of laundry goes to heat the water. Some stains demand hot water, as do bed linens (to kill dust

mites). Also, consider switching to a liquid laundry detergent. Powdered detergents loosen more microfibers – the plastic fibers resulting from the downcycling of plastic into fleece and other synthetic fabrics – which can then enter our waterways.

Technology Committee:

Charter cable TV licensing process continues.

In early March the Town submitted our own version of the cable TV license agreement to Charter, developed in consultation with our Special Telecommunications Counsel. Recall from our February update that the Technology Committee decided to follow this strategy as a more proactive way of moving the process along, rather than waiting any longer for a response from Charter.

In a joint meeting on March 28, the Board of Selectmen and the Technology Committee, together with our Special Telecommunications Counsel, met with Charter to go over our preferred version of the license agreement. Charter stated that they would review our agreement in detail, consider our additional provisions that go beyond what they had originally proposed, and get back to us with their final response. The Town is presently awaiting their response.

On April 24, Town officials and residents met with Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito and representatives from the Massachusetts Broadband Institute (MBI). This was the event that had originally been scheduled for March 9 as part of a series of meetings between state officials and western Massachusetts towns to update the Governor's Office on the status of broadband network efforts that are being funded (in part) by the Commonwealth.



Fiber Connect continues their Phase 2 build out.

FC continues to add subscribers in Egremont; their coverage area now includes more than 50% of Town residents, and they expect to exceed 70% by summer. FC has held a series of information sessions to help subscribers understand how to get the most out of their service.

Historical Commission:

The Academy building, home to both the Historical Commission and the Library, welcome you to another Spring. We are open the first Saturday morning of every month at 10am and encourage you now that the weather is changing, to come take a walking brochure; stroll around our Historic Districts and meet our wonderful old buildings - each with a history, and a few ghost stories to share.

The Commission has two new members, Steve Piersanti and Abigail Rogers-McKee, as we say good-bye to Margaret Cherin who leaves us to join the Chesterwood staff. Margaret has made several valuable contributions to our town's historic record and we thank her and will miss her. Susan Bachelder, Elliott Snyder, Rebecca Turner and Bill Wood still serve and we are looking for another to join us. The mission is simple - protect and promote the pride we all take in the Town we live in. Anyone interested can contact any member or Mary Brazie at Town Hall.

In the meantime, work continues on the MACRIS update. We are now moving into our third round of properties and the Commonwealth has been very pleased with the results. And we are always on the lookout for Egremont memorabilia. This year we were able to acquire an Egremont Ledger, available for viewing in the Archives.

We are working to coordinate a meeting with our new Fire Chief and the Library to develop a comprehensive emergency preparedness plan for the building and its occupants. This plan will give assistance to the fire department instructing them where the most valuable items are being held, and how they are being held, to make their security a priority. A plan also makes us more attractive in grant applications for a wide variety of projects. More to follow on this initiative.

Conservation Commission:

It's Spring, at last, we hope. And along with Spring comes projects, many of them involving various types of construction: All types, from simple sheds to houses. And along with 99% of construction comes land disturbance. And land disturbance is the key.

No matter if the land is flat, there's always the

best practice of making sure you're not innocently doing something that runs afoul of the State's Wetlands Protect Act (WPA), especially, in this case, of erosion and sediment issues.

Basically, it's always best to advise the Conservation Commission of any building activity. Why? Because a simple project, not immediately involving a wetland, may, as a result of construction activity. Building on a hill that drains toward a wetland? Have construction vehicles that may leave the site without cleaning tires and thus depositing sediment where it can be carried into a wetlands area? Better check it out.

The easiest and least expensive approach is to contact the Conservation Commission so that we can make a (free) site visit. Most often we can determine if any measures are required, and if so, suggest erosion control approaches that will minimize sediment control. With sediment control, one gets into expensive remedial measures, some of which must remain in place for years. As the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions (MACC) notes "sediment is the largest single nonpoint source pollutant and the primary factor in the deterioration of surface water quality in the United States". Some effects of excess sediment include slope failures, decreased culvert capacity, reduced soil fertility and wildlife habitat degradation.

For most people erosion control measures are relatively simple: sodding, applications of mulch & compost, rolled erosion control products (sometimes referred to as fiber rolls) and "bioengineering"—essentially using appropriate native plantings to stabilize the soil.

And, it's important that all participants in your project—especially outside contractors and their employees—know of and comply with any applicable restrictions.

Questions? Contact us anytime at concom@egremont-ma.gov.

Water Department:

Annual spring flushing will take place over the next two weeks. During the flushing you may experience a discoloration of the water in your home or business. We recommend you run the tap for five or ten minutes, preferably from the tub spout, and it will clear up. The water is safe to drink.

The Service Sentinel Program provided by New England Service Company is a maintenance plan that

covers the water service line as well as the meter valve for repairs and replacement. Both of these items are the responsibility of the customer to maintain. This optional maintenance program is available to all of the Department's customers to protect themselves against a costly repair. If you choose to be a paid subscriber to this program, if there is a leak or break you can simply call us and NESC will make the needed repair or replacement.

Please let the Department know if you are going to be filling your pool! The recorder at the water plant shows an increase but we cannot tell if it is a leak or pool use or irrigation. A quick call will help us with our reporting to DEP. Thank you!

Did you know that a dripping faucet can waste 20 gallons of water a day! A leaky toilet can waste 200 gallons a day. These leaks waste your water and your money.

Toilet Leaks are hard to detect. They are usually caused by a bad main valve, flapper valve seat, a bad flush valve, an improperly positioned float arm, or a defective overflow tube. Test your toilets by dropping a few drops of food coloring into the tank. DO NOT FLUSH! Wait for 15 to 20 minutes. If color appears in the bowl, then you have a leak and repairs need to be made.

Faucet Leaks are easy to find. If it drips, or worse, continues running after you shut it off, it needs to be fixed. If the dripping water is warm, it is costing you extra money! Water dripping or running from the shower head when the shower is turned firmly off, it is usually caused by bad washers or seats which need replacing. Also, check for leaks from the tub faucet when the shower is turned on. This leak will defeat the purpose of a low-flow shower head because the water you save with the low-flow device is lost from the tub faucet. If you have any questions about the flushing program, or the water department in general, please contact the Egremont Water Department at 413-528-0182 extension 17.

Board of Assessors:

Please request a **Change of Address Form** when you want to officially change your address. These forms can be found at the Assessors' Office and on the Town's website. Thank you for keeping us current so correspondence may be sent to the correct

address.

Property Inspections: The Board of Assessors, with our professional assessor consultant, will be doing an external inspection of many properties in Egremont in the coming months. A representative from our office will be visiting your property, taking pictures, and if necessary taking measurements.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact the Assessors' office at 528-0182, Ext. 14. Our Town Hall office hours are Tuesday and Thursday 9:00 AM to 12:00 or email us at assessors@egremont-ma.gov.

Egremont Garden Club:

PLANT, BAKE, BOUTIQUE SALE - MAY 26

Spring is here and it's time to plant. To help you on your way, come to the Egremont Garden Club's Annual Plant, Bake, and Boutique sale on Saturday, May 26, in front of the First Congregational Church in South Egremont. A variety of perennials, annuals and herbs will be available at low cost from 9:00 A.M. To 2:00 P.M. The majority of the plants come from members' own gardens and so are sure to flourish in yours. Herbs of all kinds are also locally grown and the annuals are ready to go in the ground. Then after your hard work gardening, why not treat yourself to home baked cookies, brownies, breakfast breads, pies or a beautifully decorated cake. The club will also hold a boutique tag sale featuring straw hats for your gardening work, slightly used purses and a variety of items for your home. All proceeds from the sale go the Garden Club's work in supporting scholarships, Egremont holiday decorations, gardening activities in local schools and providing flowers in our local public gardens. We hope to see you there.

Southern Berkshire Regional School District:

Safety, Security & Wellness:

As promised, one goal we have been working on is a commitment to review, revise, and enhance our practices and protocols around ensuring a safe learning environment which includes the physical plant, social and emotional supports, and wellness of the whole child. Our School Resource Officer (SRO) has begun her work in the District, she was introduced to families at the Coffee with the SRO and Friends, and she is heading to several trainings this spring! I am interested in creating a District Safety Team to address the significant undertakings from above that will be made up of administrators, teachers,

support staff, and our community partners. We are hoping to use grant funding for a Safety Summit which will provide professional development for staff, students and the community safety personnel, with the hopes of hosting an informational forum for families too. I will continue to share our progress on this goal as it will remain our highest priority.

School Resource Officer

I am pleased to share that the School Committee approved the appointment of Officer Tricia Zucco as a part-time School Resource Officer for the District beginning February 1. The new position was funded in part by a grant that Police Chief Eric Munson of Sheffield had available, and the District matched those funds. The goal is to provide increased resources dedicated to the safety and wellbeing of students and staff. Officer Zucco will be leading classes for students on safety, security, decision making, substance abuse awareness and other topics, content that will be delivered in an age-appropriate way. She hopes to build relationships with students and staff through her work in the classroom, before and after school and at games and other school events. Research indicates that when students feel safe and secure, and when children can identify with at least one adult in the school, their achievement and educational experience improves. Officer Zucco hopes to be that person for some of our students. Chief Munson and Officer Zucco will continue to support the District with our safety drills, physical plant security, updates to our safety protocols, and trainings. Zucco has been working in the New Marlborough Central School as the nurse during the middle of the day, and plans to continue that work.

Budget:

The School Committee adopted the FY19 Budget on March 15, 2018. The \$16,690,011 represents a 1.98% or \$323,298 increase including the debt service. The goal was to develop a budget that was level service with the flexibility to allocate resources based on program and student needs while sustaining the commitment to educational excellence. Our recommendation is based on working to ensure that SBRSD is operating as efficiently and effectively as possible, and proactively creating a culture of continuous improvement. My hope is that the budget is approved by the member towns at the annual town meetings. The

SBRSD budget documents can be found at www.sbrsd.org/budget or from the school website (go to “Budget” under “District”).

Superintendent’s Entry Plan

At the last School Committee meeting, I presented a report containing a summary of my observations, findings, and themes from all the information I have gathered in the last eight months in the District. This data provides the administrative team with a foundation for developing a strategic plan to ensure our students are prepared for their futures, whether that is college readiness or alternative pathways to a career. The Strategic Plan will be vetted and approved by the School Committee, and will contain action steps with measurable goals. The development of the plan will take place over the next several months and most likely be completed prior to the start of the next school year. The Entry Plan Report can be found at <http://www.sbrsd.org/superintendent/superintendents-entry-plan>. I want to thank all of you, our school community, for sharing traditions, history, information, and for the continued support ~SBRSD continues to be better because of it!

Good News :

As you know, we have incredibly talented students! There are many wonderful activities showcasing our students happening in the District. Please check out the district activity calendar at www.sbrsd.org/calendar and I hope to see you there!

Middle School Task Force

The Middle School Task Force (MSTF) is underway! The MSTF includes district and building administrators, members of the District Leadership Team, faculty and staff, parents/guardians, School Committee and community members. Why are we looking at reconfiguring the middle school of Southern Berkshire Regional School District? Data from many sources: School Committee members, staff, community feedback, surveys, meetings, performance data, changes in the standards, enrollment trends, and other data—all point toward taking an opportunity to focus on the middle-school environment and to consider whether or not the 6th grade would be better served there or in an elementary model.

The charge for the task force is to review the current middle school program, and to examine and propose a reconfigured middle level program that includes grade 6, in an opportunity to continue to improve the

educational experience for students. There will be many opportunities for input and feedback throughout the process. Decisions, including the timing of grade transitions and the implementation of new programs, will be made with the students' needs and their best interests in mind as the first priority. Information will be posted to the www.sbrsd.org website on the District Tab under Middle School Task Force.

In addition, if you have any questions, suggestions or concerns, please use the link <http://www.sbrsd.org/middle-school-task-force.html> to submit anonymously to the MSTF for review and consideration.

As always, please feel free to reach out to me with any questions or concerns.

Friends of Prospect Lake (FoPL):

FoPL has signed a contract with SOLitude Lake Mgt for the 2018 season. Professionals from SOL will survey the lake twice over the summer, their boat circling the lake slowly in search of signs of weed growth. Based on these surveys, we will treat the lake as required. We look forward to a good summer (since we seem to have skipped spring!) Here's wishing everybody the full enjoyment of Egremont's aquatic jewel.

A cautionary note: please remember to wash your boat – canoe, kayak, rowboat, paddle boat/board – wash it thoroughly with a powerful disinfectant like bleach or Lysol before you put it in the lake. We don't want to host the hitchhiking little critters that might come from another water body. *A BOVE ALL, ENJOY THE LAKE!*

Eagle Fund:

Eagle Fund & Janet's Fund Award Over \$50,000 in Grants to Support Innovative Educational Experiences in SBRSD Community

Sheffield, MA – The Eagle Fund, created in 1998 to make possible exceptional and innovative educational opportunities for Southern Berkshire Regional School District students beyond the district's core curriculum, has awarded \$51,688.12 in grants to the SBRSD community, in partnership with our sister endowment, Janet's Fund, both under aegis of Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation.

The fund received more than 20 applications and awarded grants to students, teachers and community members in support of new and ongoing projects which will engage students in educational experiences about climate change, solar energy, ecology, fine arts, health, multiculturalism and robotics, among others. The projects funded will enrich and complement the SBRSD curriculum and are exceptional for such a small school district.

The Eagle Fund is an endowment that is primarily funded through an annual student-led phoneathon each November. The 2017 phoneathon raised more than \$6,500. Supporters include residents and businesses in the five towns that make up the Southern Berkshire Regional School District – Alford, Egremont, Monterey, New Marlborough and Sheffield – as well as from nearby towns that also send students to the district. Please visit berkshiretaconic.org (search using the keyword 'Eagle') for more information and how to contribute to the Fund.

Contact: Melissa Zdziarski, Eagle Fund Board Chair, mzdzarski@gmail.com, (413)229-3557

Meeting schedule:

Meeting regularly. Subject to change. Please see postings of meetings at Town Hall and the Post Offices for more detail. This is not official.

Archives Room - First Saturday 9-noon
or by appointment

Assessors - Tuesdays & Thursdays 9am to 12noon & by appointment

Council on Aging - Third Tuesday of each month at 12noon. Other times as needed.

Board of Health - Monday–Thursday 7am to 12noon.

Meetings - Thursdays as posted 10am

Board of Selectmen - Meetings every other Monday evenings 7pm. Office weekdays 7am to 3pm.

Building Inspector - Tuesday 12:30pm to 3:30pm. Other times and inspections by appointment

Conservation Commission - Second and Fourth Thursdays 7:00pm

Finance Committee - January through April. Other times as needed.

Library - Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 2-6pm & Saturday 9-12noon 413-528-1474

Planning Board - Please check web page for meeting dates.

School Committee: Second & Fourth Thursdays 6pm
Mt. Everett High School Library

Tax Collector: Monday - Friday 7:00am to 3:00pm

Town Clerk - Mon-Thurs 1pm to 3pm
or by appointment

Transfer Station - Tuesday & Thursday 8am to 1pm,
Saturday 8am to 3pm, Sunday 12noon to 4pm

Water Department - Office Clerk weekdays 7am-3pm

Meetings second Thursday 3:00pm at Town Hall

Zoning Board of Appeals - as needed

*To reach a board member or to leave a message
please call the Town Hall 528-0182.*

Business listings:

In an effort to promote local small businesses, the following businesses/services located in, or near, Egremont have agreed to be listed here. If we missed asking you and you wish to be included, please send your information to the Town Hall.

Support local businesses:

Prospect Lake Park and Campground -
camping, swimming

413-528-4158 prospectlk@aol.com

www.prospectlakepark.com

Egremont residents receive a discount to access the beach.

The Inn at Sweet Water Farm - B&B

1 Prospect Lake Road

413-528-2882

www.innsweetwater.com

John Andrews' Restaurant - Restaurant

413-528-3469

Swiss Hutte Country Inn and Restaurant-
Restaurant & Lodging

413-528-6200

www.swisshutte.com

Robin's Chair Caning - Chair caning and repairs.

Robin Walther

116 Egremont Plain Road

413-528-2537

robinschaircaning@gmail.com

Red Barn Antiques - Antique lighting & fine metal
polishing

413-528-3230

41 Main Antiques Gallery - Vintage and modern furniture,
antiques, collectibles, architectural and decorative objects.

413-528-0112

www.41mainantiques.com

Blue Rider Stables - Therapeutic Horseback Riding
Lessons, summer programs

www.bluerider.org

413-528-5299

Green River Arabians & Pintos -

Horse Boarding, lessons, judging, farm programs

413-528-2367 arabpinto13@yahoo.com

Indian Line Farm - Community Supported Agriculture
(CSA) & Farmers Markets

413-528-8301

www.indianlinefarm.com

Ivory Pond Farm -

Llamas, Yarn and Woolens. Dancing Crane Rug Hooking
Studio. Hooked rugs, lessons and supplies.

Tom & Liz Marino

413-528-9465

www.lizmarinorughooking.com

Llamama@wildblue.net

Turner Farms Maple Syrup - Phillips Road,
open 7am to 7pm 7 days a week.

Syrup and Honey

413-528-5710

Skip DelVaglio - Old Drone Apiary at Frog Cottage
(Local Honey)

1257 Sheffield - Egremont Road

413 528-2308

Frog Cottage Goodies: Phyllis & Cynthia

Pies, cakes, cookies, fudge, fruitcakes, cheesecakes

1257 Sheffield/Egremont Road

Great Barrington MA 01230

413-528-2308

Elfi Six Shiatsu/Acutonics®, Bodywork
413-644-9979
www.CosmicResonance.com

Zorn Family Chiropractic-Chiropractor
44 Main Street, South Egremont
413-528-9654
healingspiritdc@yahoo.com

Zorn Core Fitness -
Personal, Couples & Group Training
Cardio Room - \$25 @ month Free 1 month cardio
for Egremont residents zornari@gmail.com
46 Main Street, South Egremont
413-528-1594 www.zorncorefitness.com

Yoga at Zorn Core Fitness, with Karin Beebe
Ashtanga Yoga & Gentle/Hatha Yoga
46 Main Street, South Egremont
413-528-0828
kbyoga@gmail.com

Amelia's Holistic Facial Rejuvenation
Combined with Reiki Level II
A licensed Aesthetician..

"Look and feel as though you just enjoyed a two-
week
vacation...without the jet lag. 518.320.8314
AmeliasHolisticFacials@gmail.com

Old Egremont Country Store - groceries, beer, wine,
liquor, newspapers, lottery, & much more
413-528-4796

Blueberry Lane Home Design - Interior decorating
413-528-9633

Closet Collection - clothing & household
consignment shop
413-528-6236

Berkshire Veneer Company - wholesale/retail
wood veneer sales
413-644-9696

Steve Agar - driving services
Ride to the airport, train, etc
413-717-1607

Lord St. Pierre - General Contractor
Home renovations, maintenance and monitoring
413-522-3671
llstpierre@yahoo.com

“Jack of All Trades”-Handyman Services
Jack Buckley
413-528-1982
413-446-1982

James Olmsted - Outdoor Services & Caretaking Field
Mowing
413-528-0102 413-717-2443

Bonnie Wells: general housekeeping, maintenance to
construction clean-up, ironing, polishing, organizing,
window washing with free screen cleaning.
413-854-7417 bonbonz75@yahoo.com

Catamount Ski Area - Skiing & ropes course
413-528-1262
www.catamountski.com

Peter Goldberg, Realtor
Residential, Commercial, Land
Stone House Realty
35 Railroad Street, Great Barrington
413-281-6384m 413-528-4211o

Anita Schilling - Real Estate Listing & Sales
William Pitt Sotheby's
413-528-4192 or 413-626-1920
anitaschilling@gmail.com

Kenver Ltd - Winter Sports Equipment, Apparel &
Accessories
39 Main Street
413-528-2330 www.kenverltd.com

Maple Leaf Art Gallery - Joan Mentzinger
154 Hillsdale Road, Route 23

Cyber Knight - Matthew Wall
PC repairs - Networking - Internet
413-854-8660

Matthew.wall@yahoo.com

Dellea.biz Computer Services - Arthur Dellea
<http://www.dellea.biz>
413-528-1141

Berkshire Wildlife Solutions - Resolving conflicts
with nature. Eric F. Ives
Mass Problem Animal Control Agent
Consultation/Inspection, Capture, removal and
exclusionary work.
413-528-9813 413-250-5094

Brookside Quiltworks - Catherine Kane - fabric shop
and quilt gallery. 2 Sheffield Road, Egremont
413-528-0445 www.brooksidequiltworks.com

Maple Shade Enterprises: Quilts and Sewing, much
more
Sue Delmolino Ives
413-644-0229 susandelmolino@yahoo.com

Stitched by JessaLu - Jessica Meyer
Handmade bags for your "Stuff"!
www.stitchedbyjesselu.com

Berkshire Sewn - Mary Gifford
berkshiresewn@gmail.com
413-528-3040

Gregory Cherin Photography, South Egremont 1-917-
991-0553 info@gregorycherin.com
www.gregorycherin.com

Berkshire Band Instrument Co. - Kevin S. Wheeler
185 Route 71, Egremont MA 01230
413-528-4955

Berkshire South Regional Community Center
15 Crissey Road, Great Barrington MA
413-528-2810 www.berkshiresouth.org
Non-profit community organization serving 17 towns
throughout the Southern Berkshires. Providing a
variety of educational, recreational and cultural
programs for all ages - from early childhood to senior

citizens - and partners with several local organizations.

Gogel & Gogel - Law Firm
Business law & litigation
40 Main Street
413-528-2698 www.gogel-gogel.com

House To House Hauling & Recycling
413-528-0943
Trash hauling services and roll-off containers services.

Jana Laiz: Local Author www.crowfliespress.com
413-528-0943 www.janalaiz.com

Aston Magna Music Festival
Saturday evenings at the new Saint James Place in Great
Barrington, mid-June to mid-July.
www.astonmagna.org
Susan Obel, Executive Director

Town of Egremont
Box 368
South Egremont MA 01258
413-528-0182
www.egremont-ma.gov
tegrement@egremont-ma.gov

*Printed, on recycled paper, by the Selectmen's Office
Staff as submitted by Town Departments.*

*"The Town of Egremont is an equal opportunity provider
and employer."*