

THE SANDISFIELD TIMES



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Volume VIII Number 6

September 2017

New Boston Considered for National Register

NO HOMEOWNER OBLIGATIONS

By Ron Bernard

New Boston has been accepted for consideration as the town's first National Register Historic District.

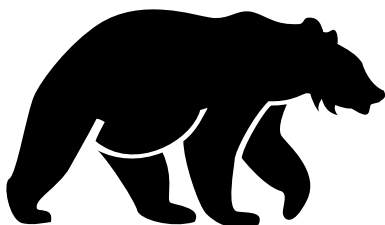
In 2013, the town's historical commission was reestablished in part to promote the need for and benefits of preservation. But the primary mission of these commissions is to facilitate applications for historic properties and sections for listings on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The commission initiated an update of Sandisfield's inventory of architectural assets, the first step and a requirement of the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) before nominations can be considered. The survey was completed and filed with the State in 2015.

With the consideration of New Boston as a historic district, that effort is bearing fruit. New Boston was the original settlement in Sandisfield, established by the Daniel Brown family in the early 1750s.

MHC recently retained Ms. Bonnie Parsons, Historical Architectural Consultant, to prepare a formal nomination. Ms. Parsons understands Sandisfield's history and architecture because she prepared the official town inventory or survey. She is also an expert about the NRHP process, having submitted successful nominations for districts and individual properties in the state over the past 40 years.

Cont'd p.8

Better Bear Advice, p. 18



Select Board Member Resigns

ALICE BOYD MOVES TO BOSTON

By Brigitte Ruthman

Unexpectedly, the town's three member Board of Selectmen is now a two-member board.

Alice Boyd, who handily won her bid for a three-year term last fall on a pledge to dig in and straighten out the town's sloppy fiscal affairs, resigned as of September 1.

The board's two other members, Chair John Skrip and newly elected Mark Newman, have decided to forge ahead without a special election to replace Boyd. Skrip said, "A special election would be an unnecessary expense at this time. All our projects are just about set to go, based on earlier board votes. We think we can manage, at least for the time being, until the regular election next May."

He said, "We are losing a good person, but family does come first."

Boyd, who recently sold her home on South Sandisfield Road but still owns property here, has moved to Boston to be closer to her elderly parents. Both have health issues and although she had hoped to move them to Sandisfield, she said the proximity to doctors made her move wiser. (See Letter from Alice, page 7.)

Her resignation is guided by Massachusetts law, which requires residency and not just taxpayer status.

"I have been asked and considered leasing an address in Sandisfield so I can continue

to serve, however I have been advised that if successfully challenged, this would put every vote and decision made during that time in jeopardy," said Boyd, a career grant writer who moved here from Cape Cod with her husband a few years ago.

She said, "The most appropriate course for the town is for me to step aside." She has attended the last few select board meetings via telephone conference calls and Skype.

Initially elected in May 2015 to fill a one-year vacancy, Boyd served as Board chairman until this May. She has spent

hundreds of hours tackling critical issues in town, including broadband negotiations with Frontier Communications and the Massachusetts Broadband Institute and legal opposition to Kinder Morgan's controversial natural gas pipeline project, which is under construction. During her tenure the Town's bylaws were changed to allow the Town to appoint rather than elect a town treasurer and tax collector. The Town is currently undergoing its first full state audit in several years.

Boyd leaves the residential town of about 900 residents with few businesses struggling to meet more than \$3 million worth of annual expenses that have risen 62 percent over the past 10 years. Although the Town currently seems in a good financial situation with surpluses in "free cash" and stabilization funds, heavy expenses are looming.

***No special election
to replace third
Selectman.
For now.***

INSIDE

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Times Index of Past Issues Now Available

The Times is pleased to announce a new service for readers – an on-line searchable index of all issues starting with April 2010, the inaugural issue.

Thanks to Jerry Herman, Times Board director and a founder, more than 1,300 articles in 81 issues to date have been and indexed by title and author. Jerry worked painstakingly on the project for several years.

To locate an issue of interest in a given year simply go to our web site, www.sandisfieldtimes.org and click on LIBRARY .

To find the list of articles click on the link, "PDF Index of Articles."

To search the Index, press CTRL+F which will open a search box. Then enter a search term. 



Fireworks

Braced on thick roots, sunflowers not picked with weeds in the vegetable garden have now claimed it. Their 15-foot canopy beams in shades of yellow and mahogany, framed by petals called rays. Their seeds feed sweetly singing birds that return the favor by keeping company through the winter. It is the grand finale to the fireworks of summer's glory, the best for last.

– Brigitte Ruthman

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TOWN NEWS

By Bill Price

Town Administrator

At an afternoon Select Board meeting August 21, the board conducted interviews with three candidates for full-time Town Administrator. While, as John Skrip said, “all three could do the job,” an offer has been made to one of the candidates. The decision will be too late for this issue of *The Times*. Interim Administrator Rick White, who has been serving the town since the resignation of the former administrator in July, will help the new administrator get up to speed regarding town issues.

Gordon Chapman Dies


The police log for July listed an “unattended death” on July 25 on Lower West Street, meaning a death unattended by medical personnel. *The Times* learned near press time that the individual who died was Gordon Chapman, who had lived on Lower West for several years. *The Times* knew Gordon through his letters to the editor. In one, Jan-Feb 2016, he berated the paper for listing acronyms without explaining what they meant; he was right. Gordon was a veteran of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Kathy Jacobs wrote in an email that Gordon, who had been an architect,

had been ill for some time. “I worked with Gordon on the Strategic Planning Committee. He drew detailed preliminary drawings for a new town hall complex. He donated his time and skill to do this.” *The Times* has not located a local obituary.

Cemetery Clean-up

The Cemetery Committee has called for a clean-up day on Saturday, September 23, at 9:00 a.m. at the South Sandisfield Cemetery on Rt. 183 between Sage and South Sandisfield Roads. Volunteers are needed for pruning and general clean-up. Last year volunteers cleaned brush and unnecessary trees from the New Boston Cemetery on Rt. 57. If time permits, the crew will head south to the much smaller Roberts Road Cemetery and clean up there, too.

Woodworking School Proposed

Kevin Kiwack of Sears Road presented his proposal for a Traditional Woodworking and Handcraft School at the August 28 Select Board meeting. The proposal was enthusiastically accepted by the board and now moves into a three-week public appeal period before its final approval. The plan was outlined in Simon Winchester’s “Moreover” column last month. *The Times* will include more details about Kevin’s plans in the October issue. 

Dick Gregory

If you were lucky enough to know him,
All decked out in smiles and invincible jokes,
You would know that he ran deep,
Even deeper than the white water of
resistance.

He was more than brave
In the salad years
When he laughed at hatred,
Mocked our tears.

He can’t be gone, our funny, loving ...
Gandhi’s musketeer.

Val Coleman
West New Boston



The Bridge and the Roads

BRIDGE BIDS LOWER; ROAD “RECLAMATION” TO START

By Seth Kershner

The search for contractors willing to take on the repair of Rugg Bridge is over. In 2015, Sandisfield was the recipient of a \$997,000 MassWorks grant to fund repairs to the Route 57 span. Following the return of a high set of bids earlier this summer, the Town put the project out to bid again.

With some of the specs changed, bids came in considerably lower than the previous rounds, though still higher than the bridge estimate. The low bid was for \$1,236,000 from J.H. Maxymillian, Inc., Pittsfield. Maxymillian’s bid during the earlier round, which was also the low bid, was \$1,869,697. At press time, the Select Board was determining the most efficient way to make up the difference between the bid and the grant.

The bridge must be repaired and the bills paid by June 30, 2018 or the town could lose the MassWorks grant. The bridge is likely to be demolished this year, but not completed until next spring, resulting in months of detour along narrow River

Road. Selectman Mark Newman said, “We have to get the financing lined up before we start.”

And the Roads ...

Meanwhile, “reclamation” of Town Hill Road and West Street will be in full swing by early September. Reclamation – which involves digging up the existing asphalt, re-grading and finally resurfacing the road – will be carried out by Sunderland-based All States Asphalt. As this issue of *The Times* goes to press, a similar contract for work on South Sandisfield Road had not yet been awarded.

Rough sledding on West Street has long bothered town residents, who rely on the road for travel into Monterey, Tyringham, Lee, and points further north.


When the DPW’s planned projects were first announced at a Select Board meeting in April, locals greeted the long-awaited news with a sense of humor. On the Facebook page Connect Sandisfield, a West

Street resident wrote in response: “Bike riding just won’t be the same without our 120 treacherous pothole obstacles, but I can live with that!”

Highway Superintendent O’Brien explained that West Street’s sorry state is due to relatively high traffic volume, poor drainage, and neglect.

Although most roads in Sandisfield are patched and repaired on an annual basis, full reclamation is a rare event. O’Brien said that only six out of roughly 40 miles of blacktop roads in town have been resurfaced in the past 25 years. (The most recent reclamation was of New Hartford Road in 2015).

According to O’Brien, the current plan is to resurface all the main secondary roads before tackling a far larger project: the town’s eight-mile-long portion of Route 57. That main road has not been resurfaced since 1984 and is showing significant wear and tear in certain sections.

“You can only spend so much money,” O’Brien said, “because you only get so much from the state per year.” He added that Sandisfield would most likely need to seek additional funding from grants or other sources for reclamation of Route 57. 

FROM YOUR SELECT BOARD CHAIR

By John Skrip

I hope you are all having a nice summer. At least we have enough water this year. A little more sun would be nice.

Our new temporary administrator, Rick White, is doing a great job. In short, Rick has identified six areas where budget shortfalls have been identified, i.e. funding for technology maintenance. These shortfalls will result in a needed transfer of funds from one account to another. There is no net financial impact in taking this action.

We have had several contractors looking at Rugg Bridge and this round of bids is more in line with the engineer's estimate, though still above it.

We expect the resurfacing of a portion of West Street and Town Hill Road to begin late August or early September. Hopefully, it will have started by the time you read this article.

The request-for-proposal advertisement for the remainder of West Street and South Sandisfield Road has been filed. We will open those bids in late August. More on this next issue.

Here are a few more updates:

The town administrator has reviewed applications we've received from individuals interested in the Town Administrator position recently left vacant. Rick has narrowed the field and the Select Board has conducted interviews and a decision will be reached shortly as interviews have gone well. Candidates are well suited to our town and have good qualifications and work experience.

In reference to the Master Plan, I am receiving calls from taxpayers with suggestions for areas of interest to reduce spending and areas to increase revenue. All of

these suggestions will require town voting and possibly by-law changes. I will present these suggestions at an open meeting of the Select Board for initial reactions.

Members of the Select Board are asking residents on the sub-committees to step forward and chair those committees. We feel it would be a good experience for residents and will make it easier for townspeople to contact the committees with ideas. The Master Plan committees are: Transportation, Economic Development, Housing, Land Use, Natural Resources, Open Space, and Services.

I am meeting with and have had conference calls with certain solar companies. I will convey all information received at an open Select Board meeting and will write an article with general information after gathering some additional data. I feel an obligation to at least listen to these companies.

We are still waiting for a decision on our grant applications for a handicap accessible van for Sandisfield, through the Mass-DOT Community Grants Program and our Mass-DOT grant application for funds to improve wayfaring signs, speed signs, road postings, intersection refinement, etc.

We are still in contract negotiations with the members of DPW, Teamsters Local 404. We are awaiting a decision by the union or a request for further discussion.

As usual, I enjoy the calls I get from taxpayers and residents and will follow up on each call and e-mail as promptly as possible. Please feel free to contact me or any board member with your suggestions and support. Contact information: Phone: 413-258-4788 or johnskripjr@gmail.com.

Annual Medical Waste Disposal

It is time to clean out those medicine cabinets and drawers that contain old, outdated medications. Used syringes or outdated sharps will also be collected.

The Sandisfield Fire Department will host the Annual Medical Waste Disposal drop-off on Saturday, September 16, from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at Fire House #2 on Rt. 57.

All sharps must be in a sealed container. A coffee can will do; all medicine must also be in a sealed bag or container.

If you need medical waste picked up, please call John Skrip at 413-258-4788 and he will arrange a pick-up for you. The Select Board thanks the fire department for sponsoring this public service.

Free Playgroup

By Nina Carr

Fall is on its way, and with it a change in lifestyle and schedule for many of us.

I hope that young families in the Sandisfield/Otis area will include the Free Playgroup at the Otis Town Hall in their plans.

The playgroup is open to children up to age five and their caregivers. The main focus is introducing children to each other in a supportive and safe atmosphere. We will explore some simple craft projects, sing songs, read books, and laugh a lot.

The group meets on Tuesdays from 9:30-11:30 in the gym at the Otis Town Hall. Please come by and check us out.



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Broadband

AGREEMENTS REACHED ON TIMING, COST

By *Selectman John Skrip, with Jeff Bye, Broadband Committee Chairman*

Following a successful final negotiation between our three-town coalition of Sandisfield, Tolland, and New Marlborough, Governor Baker's appointee Peter Larkin, and MBI Interim Executive Director Ed Donnelly, an agreement has been reached with Frontier Communications for the procurement of broadband internet service for the towns via a state-of-the-art fiber optic network.

Frontier Communications will string fiber (or in some cases trench fiber) throughout the three-town region beginning in Spring 2018. The Commonwealth will provide all funding directly to Frontier, and the Town will not pay for any construction or installation costs, estimated to be approximately \$4 million for Sandisfield. There will be a small installation cost to homeowners with driveways over 500 feet.

Once the fiber is strung and the network is active, Frontier will provide each participating home or business with basic internet service. The cost of this will be billed through your tax bill or a special assessment at \$35 per month per premises for 15 years, which will pay for Frontier's basic internet service. This is less than the cost of DSL service. The billing details are being worked out with the Commonwealth. No home or business will receive a bill directly from Frontier for basic Internet service.

Remember that the town is contracting for internet service, not for design and construction of a network. Frontier will own and operate the network, not the town. Frontier does not want to bill each premise individually each month for the basic service, rather will send one bill to the town. The

town will collect what it needs to pay the monthly bill and will have the option to make quarterly payments.


A very important point is that the town is not paying Frontier to construct the network. The town's Municipal Light Plan is contracting with Frontier for internet service. For any service Frontier has to offer above and beyond the basic internet service, Frontier will directly bill the subscriber for the additional service(s).

The basic level of internet service to be provided to each home and business will be approximately 4 times faster than Verizon DSL. Frontier will offer higher-speed broadband internet service (up to 1 gigabit per second download service) to all homes and businesses that would like to upgrade from the basic level. For any tier of internet service above the basic level, Frontier will directly bill the subscriber monthly for the amount that is above the \$35 per month.

Homeowners will also have the opportunity to purchase telephone service and a full lineup of cable television from Frontier.

Frontier will waive their usual \$149 hookup fee for residents who choose to activate the basic service within 90 days of the service becoming available.

Final contract terms are now being approved by the three participating towns. The monthly rates for all services that will be offered to subscribers will be tied to and consistent with the best rates Frontier offers in neighboring states. Frontier has reaffirmed that they will install a new "state of the art" broadband technology with the newest equipment available.

The Town of Sandisfield appreciates the hard work and long hours of negotiations put in by the Broadband Committee and all others who participated in this endeavor. 



Will the \$35 per month apply to the Sandisfield portion of Otis Woodlands? Yes, if the OWL community installs conduit for the fiber-optic cable throughout the community. Frontier will run fiber to every home and business (premise) within the town boundary as long as they can be reached via utility poles or underground conduit. The \$35 per month assessment will apply to each Sandisfield premise in the OWL that Frontier can reach via conduit. If conduit is not installed, the \$35 assessment will not apply to the Sandisfield premises in the OWL.

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Arts Center Wants Your Ideas

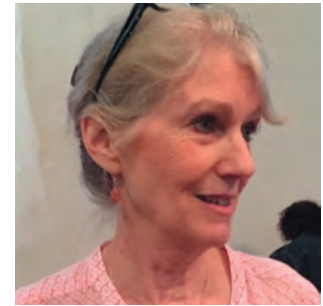
By Rosanne Skrip, Vice- President

We are so happy to see more of our Sandisfield town residents at the Art Center this season.

As you all know the building has a bit of history here in our town: first a Baptist Church, then a Synagogue, and now an Arts Center. If you haven't been inside recently let me take you on a bit of a tour. The downstairs space serves as a Gallery for displays of art work, pottery and sculpture. It also serves as a gathering place pre-show for munchies and mingling and transforms into lecture space, movie night theater space and most recently a small Cabaret space for Berkshire's own Bobby Sweet.

Upstairs, accessed by stairs or our new lift, serves as our main stage area. This space has hosted our Annual Spring Dinner and Auction and the stage is transformed regularly with performers from far and near offering talent ranging from Family Cabaret to jazz and our own Sandisfield Players who have entertained us several times already this season.

A small group is getting ready for the program planning for the 2018 season. Let me know what you would like to hear or see at the Arts Center and we will try to accommodate the requests. Email me at jandrskrip@yahoo.com with your comments and requests. 🇺🇸



Lorraine German presented her forthcoming book, *Soil and Shul in the Berkshires: The Untold Story of Sandisfield's Jewish Farm Colony*, to a full house at the Arts Center on August 27. The book will be published in 2018. For information email info@sandisfieldartscenter.org or write to Jewish History Book Publication, PO Box 31, Sandisfield, MA 01255.

Photo: Michelle Arnot

A Call for Some Nice Flat Stones

By Marcella Smith



The site of the old Montville school, (built c. 1840, closed 1950, demolished, 1962) will once again serve the community, this time as a pleasant garden/picnic area. The schoolhouse stood near what is now the Sandisfield Arts Center on land recently transferred to the Center by the Town.

The foundation outline of the former 2-story Greek Revival-style building has survived. This "ghost" will provide a natural frame for a small stone wall to enclose the area.

Chuck Nelson very kindly volunteered the use of his front-end loader and an operator to move the large stones in the beginning of the project. That work allowed the basic dimensions to be set, and now our stone masons, Ben Luxon and Ron Bernard, need your help.

Finishing the wall requires flat stones called "toppers." Ideally stones for the top layer would be 1 or 2 inches thick in various dimensions up to a foot or more. There are stones aplenty from the site for the base, but not enough for the top course. So our masons are appealing to the public for help.

Look around your property. Maybe some nice stones lie here and there, serving no particular purpose right now, that would help make our little wall and new public space more attractive and inviting. In this way you too can contribute to a historical commemoration project and help create something beautiful with lasting use and value for our community.

Drop your stones off at the work site beside the Arts Center on Hammertown Road, at Rt. 57. More about the concept and plans for the space will be reported next year. Meanwhile ideas from the public are welcome. Work on the wall will resume in early October and will be finished before the snow flies.

For questions about the wall, contact Ron at ronbernard@aol.com. Submit ideas for the garden space to me at marcex2@mac.com. 🇺🇸

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Faith, Family, Community, Self

A LETTER FROM ALICE BOYD

With the change in my personal circumstances and my need to be closer to family I made the transition this month to spending the majority of my time back east. As many of you know I've been making the 7-hour round trip regularly, often returning to Sandisfield for a day (or sometimes for a few hours) before heading back again. At this time in my life my family must be my priority.

My plan to lease a "legal address" in town and continue on the Select Board was dashed when Town Counsel stated that I would no longer be eligible to serve. In fact I would be perpetuating a fraud. I will not put the town in jeopardy by risking such a move.

I am stepping down from my position as Selectman with great regret. Your Board has determined that we can wait until next May to fill the vacant position, and I have volunteered to continue working on critical issues as a non-resident taxpayer. We have interviewed Town Administrator applicants and made an offer to an experienced candidate. Our work on broadband continues as I now support Jeff Bye, Broadband Committee Chairman. The bridge reconstruction will move forward although we'll need to borrow funds to cover the gap between the \$997K grant and the actual construction costs. Our financial situation is improving with staff committing extra hours to bring the tax collection functions into compliance while certifying cash. Our audit is virtually complete, and our staff has impressed me with their continued commitment to developing as a team while expanding their skills. Additional revenues have been secured through logging town-owned land and money has been saved by restructuring departments. We now have a fully functional website, are compliant with our e-mails, and have an improved and less costly phone system.

The past few years may have been bumpy on occasion but I leave my role as a Selectmen with the confidence that our town staff has grown and that we're much closer to long-term stability.

As a young person I was taught that priorities in life fall easily into a hierarchy: Faith, Family, Community, Self. This has been an important guide throughout my life. I have come to love our community and so many wonderful friends and neighbors.

I did not anticipate the magnitude of the loss I would feel leaving my Sandisfield home and so many of you. I will be back often and look forward to spending more time in Sandisfield in the future.

I thank you all for your support as I prioritize family and look forward to supporting our town as we move forward. 🇺🇸



Red-Tailed Hawk

One morning this summer a red-tailed hawk watched for prey along Cold Spring Road.

Photo: Cindy Ragusa

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September 16 Jay Ungar and Molly Mason

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September 23 Kyra Xuerong Zhao

Top prize winner of The Five Town International Piano Competition, The Mannes Concerto Competition, and The Seattle International Piano Competition, Internationally renowned pianist Kyra Xuerong Zhao returns to Music & More, performing Ligeti, Debussy, and Beethoven.

October 7 Award-Winning Authors *Don't Wait: Do Tell Me.*
Simon Winchester in Conversation with Guest Roy Blount, Jr.

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New Boston Considered for National Register

Cont'd from p.1

As a defined section, New Boston appears well-suited to meet the criteria established by law and administered by the U.S. Department of the Interior (National Park Service), the ultimate approval authority. These include: 1) association with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of history; 2) association with lives of persons significant in our past; 3) embodiment of distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, and 4) likelihood of yielding information significant in history or prehistory.

No Homeowner Restrictions or Obligations

Invariably residents ask about possible restrictions or obligations associated with a NRHP listing, either for an individual property or as part of a group of historic properties within a defined section. This is because of confusion about what constitutes an “historic district.”

Two types of historic districts exist.

New Boston is being considered as an NRHP district, a *strictly honorary* designation. Property owners in NRHP districts are not obligated to do anything. Their properties are not subject to restrictions of any kind, inside or outside. There is no cost to property owners as part of an NRHP district nomination.

The other type of district is a *local historic district*, in which a commission is empowered to approve appropriate exterior modifications to historic structures according to a town’s bylaws. There are no local historic districts in Sandisfield, and none, including New Boston, are being considered.

Benefits to Designation

Inclusion on the National Register is prestigious, fosters community pride, and enables opportunities such as attracting tourists. According to surveys, property values within historic districts tend to hold up better over time.

There is also a specific benefit to NRHP listings which provides for extra oversight and protections in case of federal or state-funded construction, often involving new or expanded roads or bridges. A current example is the c.1785 Josiah Hulet House on Cold Spring Road which is in close vicinity of the federally approved gas pipeline project. Because this house was already designated as eligible for the Register in the new official survey, the company was required to employ important additional protection.

Sandisfield is proud of its three National Register listings: The New Boston Inn, The Montville Baptist Church (now home of the Arts Center), and the Philomen Sage House in South Sandisfield. The official survey includes



New Boston village, circa 1905. Image taken from the New Boston Inn looking east to the former New Boston store (today Murray) and the old Twining place (Hoekstra). The Old Stone House is on the right (Levine). Also visible, straddling the Farmington River, are the former Ladies Aid Society building and the Norton house, both defunct.

Photo: DeMars image courtesy of Great Barrington Historical Society.

about 15 more properties eligible for individual listing on the Register. Some 70 others are eligible as part of other potential honorary districts, for example, West New Boston or Montville sections. Eventually there could be a number of honorary national historic districts in Sandisfield depending on proximity or sizeable clusters of eligible properties.

But first things first.

New Boston includes at least a dozen designated historic properties. Besides detailed historical research and architectural narratives, the MHC must approve boundaries in this district which include the Village proper and a stretch along Sandisfield Road as it approaches the cemetery at West New Boston.

Ms. Parsons told the Times that her work should be completed this month. She also explained that based on experience and work volume at the Massachusetts Historical Commission the MHC review might not be completed until 2019. The process includes a public information meeting in the town conducted by MHC staff. Once all that has happened, the nomination will be submitted by the MHC to the National Park Service for final approval. 🇺🇸



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Farmington River Regional School PTA

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL

By Wendy Berman

The PTA officers have been enjoying the summer in anticipation of a busy fall.

We hope to have artwork from Jarrett Krosoczka's author visit permanently added to the halls by the time students return.

We're also finalizing plans for our fall fundraiser, 50 percent of profits benefit the classroom teachers (to be used this school year) and the remaining benefits go to the classes as they save for their 6th grade trip.

Our Scholastic Book Fair is scheduled for early November – stay tuned for more info.

Calendar for the First Days of School:

- August 30. First day of school
- September 4. Labor Day. No school.
- September 11. School Committee meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- September 14. Back-to-School Night. 6:00 p.m.
- October 9. Columbus Day. No school.

For entire school year calendar, visit our website at: <http://frrsd.org/pta/pta-calendar>.

Summer is a great time to collect Box Tops!

This is by far the simplest way for us to raise money and anybody can participate. Each Box Top is worth 10¢ and it really does add up. We use these funds to help support our activities and programs for students throughout the year. During the 2016-2017 school year, we earned \$867 – that's free money for us.

You may help by clipping Box Tops you see from products like cereal, canned soup, food storage, frozen foods, household cleaning and paper products, and either send them in with a student, or just mail to the PTA c/o Farmington River Elementary School, P.O. Box 679, Otis, MA 01253.

Note: Be sure to check expiration dates, and throw away any Box Tops that have expired. For a list of products, visit www.boxtops4education.com.

Breakfast and Lunch at FRRS

FROM THE FARMINGTON RIVER REGIONAL SCHOOL

Because children need healthy meals to learn, our school offers healthy meals every school day. Breakfast costs \$1.30; lunch \$2.50.

Your children may qualify for free or reduced-price meals. Reduced price is \$.30 cents for breakfast and \$.40 cents for lunch. A packet available at the school includes an application for free or reduced-price meal benefits and detailed instructions. Below are some common questions and answers to help you with the application process.

Who can receive free or reduced-price meals?

- All children in households receiving benefits from MA SNAP or MA TANF are eligible for free meals.
- Foster children that are under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court are eligible for free meals.
- Children participating in their school's Head Start program are eligible for free meals.
- Children who meet the definition of homeless, runaway, or migrant are eligible for free meals.
- Children may receive free or reduced-price meals if your household's income is within the limits of the Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines. See chart below:

FEDERAL ELIGIBILITY INCOME CHART For School Year 2016 - 2017			
Household Size	Yearly	Monthly	Weekly
1	\$21,978	\$1,832	\$423
2	\$29,637	\$2,470	\$570
3	\$37,296	\$3,108	\$718
4	\$44,955	\$3,747	\$865
5	\$52,614	\$4,385	\$1,012
6	\$60,273	\$5,023	\$1,160
7	\$67,951	\$5,663	\$1,307
8	\$75,647	\$6,304	\$1,455
Each add'l person	+ \$7,696	+ \$642	+ \$148

For more information please contact Teresa DellaGiustina, Assistant to the Superintendent, at 413-269-4466, or tdellagiustina@frrsd.org.



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Elderly and Disabled Need Help

FULL- AND PART-TIME JOBS AVAILABLE

By Susan Galik

This is a cry for help from dozens of individuals of Sandisfield. And from all of South County, from Lenox south to the Connecticut border.

Seniors and the disabled are having a hard time finding help. State funding is available to pay for the help, but it takes weeks or even months to find someone to provide it.

The need for help is out of control. I do not believe there is a lack of workers. I believe, instead, that the problem between needing help and finding someone to help is misinformation – or lack of information.

I'm not an expert. But, as one of those needing help, I have information to share. Hopefully, this will help.

WHO CAN BE A HELPER?

The need is for Home Health Aids (HHA), Certified Nurses Assistants (CNA), and Personal Care Assistants (PCA). It is not difficult to qualify as an HHA or a PCA.

- Stay-at-home moms whose kids are in school during the day. Some of you have a few hours available and could use extra cash.
- Students. 16 or older with a driver's license. High school students could work an hour or two after school. College students could work around their classes.
- Empty nesters and retirees. You thought you had so many projects, but now you are bored out of your mind.
- Currently employed CNA's and nurses needing a little extra cash. You could put in a few hours before or after your shift.

WHO NEEDS THE HELP AND WHAT DO THEY NEED?

First, please throw out visions of crippled and crumpled individuals. We are not that bad. We simply can't move as well as we need to and it hurts. Using myself as an example, I need someone to vacuum the carpets and to wash the pots and pans. Laundry. I need someone to help cut up veggies and stir things on the stove that need continuous stirring. Change the bed once a week. Things most people do automatically, we elderly and disabled find to be very painful.

What most of you fear is needing to lift me in and out of bed or the tub. Nope. I can do that myself and so can most of those needing help. One gentleman told me (about bathing) that he does the front and his aide does his back. Because of severe arthritis, I can't always grip the scrubber handle to do my back. At times I can't wash my hair because my shoulders freeze up and won't allow my arms to raise that high. I've also fallen out of the tub and so I'd want someone within calling distance. This is the worst of what you may need to do as a helper.



WHO PAYS AND HOW MUCH?

Two state agencies help those who have neither relatives nor friends who can help care for them and who can't afford to pay for private care. The patient's doctor needs to make a referral to start getting help.

One agency is Elder Service, which works only with clients 60 years of age and older. The other agency is AdLib, which works with elderly and handicapped clients.

At Elder Service (413-499-0524), anyone seeking to become a helper signs on with a company that contracts with Elder Service. The salary is \$11-12 or so an hour, and helpers are assigned to a client from one hour a week and up.

I'm aware of one company that contracts with Elder Service. Mountain Home at 137 North Street, Suite 202, Pittsfield, MA 01201. You will need to visit there and interview in order to apply. Bonnie is expecting your call at 413-464-7524.

When you sign up as a helper, you will be assigned a set schedule. Therefore, it is vital that you provide them with only the time that you are positive you are available. Do not say you may be available – because you will probably be called to work those hours.

Elder Service rules do not allow you to touch a client's medication. At most you can remind someone to take it. There is no window washing or work of that sort. You cannot take your elder client shopping. You can shop for them – one of the greatest needs of the elderly – but you cannot share a car together.

The other agency, AdLib (413-442-7047) provides helpers for the elderly and handicapped. AdLib usually assigns 20 hours a week and up, with a salary of \$14.56 an hour, with an increase to \$15 next July. Most helpers work in the 40-hour-per-week range.

I'm an AdLib client. The big difference with AdLib is that I'm the boss. I hire you. I ask you to do what I need you to do. And we work out the times you come to work. Some patients are very flexible. The problem here is knowing who needs you and who needs work.


I MAY REGRET THIS

I'm going to put myself out there as a go-between for AdLib. I may live to regret this, but here is what I offer.

For AdLib – either patient or helper – please contact me, Susan Galik, at 258-4113. For a client, give me your name, phone number, and what you need. For potential helpers, please give me your name, phone number, and hours you would be available.

At no time will I share the AdLib patient's name or information. But I will call and give them a helper's phone number. Remember, AdLibs are the boss. It is up to them to hire the helper.

I have an answering machine, but please call only between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m.

I can help. And you can help. Sign up and start working. 

Out on a Limb: an op-ed

Subject should be interesting to most of us and have a strong link to Sandisfield, written by and for Town residents. The Times does not accept Out on a Limb contributions submitted anonymously, but if the author identifies him or herself to the editor and asks not to be named in the article we may agree to withhold the author's name on a case-by-case basis.

Send to Editor, Sandisfield Times, P.O. Box 584, Sandisfield, MA 01255 or by email to editor@sandisfieldtimes.org.

Old Friends, Francis and Willard

By Bill Price

Francis Deming (left), 83, and Willard Platt, 88, two Sandisfield old-timers, thoroughly enjoyed themselves for about an hour in mid-August, relating stories and memories of The Old Red Shop while standing on the foundation stones of the former factory. About 20 people attended the event that was sponsored by the Historical Society.

Ann Wald, Society president, said, "We were honored to listen to Francis and Willard reminisce. Our thanks to John Kuzmech for arranging this very informative event. These gentlemen are a wealth of knowledge about Sandisfield."

The two men, friends since childhood, stood on the surviving foundation stones of the one-time three-story factory and remembered growing up near the building and, as kids, working in it for Francis' father. Now owned by John Kuzmech, the site of the former factory is on the right of Roosterville Road just before the Clark Road bridge. Stone foundation walls remain and a few iron implements lay scattered in a deep basement. Willard lives in the family home across a new one-lane bridge across the Farmington River. Francis lives in Tolland.

The factory, a two-story building with an attic and a basement, was in operation for more than a century. During its last decades as a working factory it was owned by Francis' father and grandfather.

As young boys, both Francis and Willard worked at the building, doing, as Willard said, "Any job that needed doing." That included working the planing equipment which was dangerous even for grown workers. "There were no child labor laws then," said Willard.



"No OSHA," said Francis. "But we were lucky. We never got hurt on the machinery."

At the time Sandisfield's largest building, the factory was originally water-powered. The factory turned out school desks and other wooden items. Willard said one year the shop "turned out 6,000 chairs. That's a lot of chairs for a small factory with not many employees."

After the building was declared dangerous in the 1960s, it was burned by the fire department.



DeMars image courtesy of Great Barrington Historical Society

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Sandisfield Historical Society



Bernard Drew to Speak

By Ann Wald, President

On Sunday, September 10, we will host an open house between 2:00 and 4:00 p.m. at the Society building on Rt. 183 at South Sandisfield Road.

Our speaker that day will be Bernard Drew. Mr. Drew will speak at 2:30. A senior associate editor of the Lakeville Journal and columnist for the Berkshire Eagle, Mr. Drew writes Berkshire local history and popular literature reference books.



Image: National Archives

His talk will be about "General Jeffery Amherst and the 1758 war road through Sandisfield and the Berkshires." Amherst's Pioneer brigade widened old Indian paths so troops could march through to the Champlain valley during the Seven Years War. Nearly two decades later, Colonel Knox took advantage of Amherst's widened road to haul cannons to Boston along what became known as the Knox Trail. Remnants of the road survive in Otis State Forest and elsewhere in Sandisfield. ♡

Council on Aging



Nina Carr is the new co-chair of COA, working with Linda Riiska.

COA has begun a newsletter that will be available quarterly. Copies will be available to members and at the library and post office. The newsletter is funded in part by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Elder Affairs.

- **Luncheon every Wednesday** at noon at the Town Hall Annex basement. If you need a ride, call any member or 258-4816.
- **QiGong** continues on Mondays at 11 a.m. in the Old Town Hall.
- September 6, Wednesday, **COA business meeting**, 10 a.m., basement, Town Hall Annex
- September 20, Wednesday, **games/cards/pizza**. Noon, basement, Town Hall Annex.
- September 27, Wednesday, **Flu Clinic**. 10 a.m.-noon.
- Also September 27, **Blood Pressure Clinic**. 11 a.m.-noon. Stay for lunch.

Tools Available:

- Books for loan include a set of Zane Grey westerns and large-print *Reader's Digest* Condensed Books
- Medical equipment available for loan: wheelchairs, walkers, etc.
- Paper shredder available Wednesdays.
- Community computer for your use.
- A few Farmers' Market coupons available. Call 258-4816 for eligibility information.
- Volunteer transportation is available on Tuesdays. Advance notice appreciated. 258-4816 for information. ♡

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*The August 11 protest resulted in ten more arrests.
Photo: Ben Hillman, The Berkshire Edge*

The Pipeline in August

By Ron Bernard

Pipeline installation (lowering and tie-ins) was completed, including road crossings of Cold Spring and Hammertown Roads and certain relatively difficult sections such as stream crossings. The pipeline company was to blast across South Beech Plain Road, which is built on granite ledge. They crossed through wetlands near Cold Spring Road.


The removal of the valve station at Town Hill Road was completed, to be reinstalled off of Beech Plain Road.

The company was required to take a number of corrective actions concerning mitigation of wetlands and conducted “dewatering” and “potholing” following backfilling and regrading along the right-of-way. A vernal pool was compromised and had to be reseeded.

Ten protesters were arrested August 11. This time they came early, before workers arrived, and on a work day rather than on a weekend. They blocked an access point off Cold Spring Road and South Beech Plain Road at Cold Spring, causing state police to prevent all access to Cold Spring Road and a detour of 20 or more miles for anyone heading that way.

Apparently attitudes have shifted between jail

authorities and arrested protesters. In the past, the booking process at Pittsfield court took a few hours and was almost cordial. This time arrested protesters complained they were initially not allowed to make phone calls and their stay in custody lasted all day. One arrestee said, “The police kept turning their backs to us and ignoring us.” Eventually the protesters, charged with disorderly conduct and disturbing the peace, were released on their personal recognizance.

Most homeowners along the pipeline now just want the job finished and the pipeline corridor returned to a long, green open space through the woods. 

WAIT'LL NEXT MONTH



Police Blotter, Fire/EMS statistics for July will be included in the next issue of the Times, along with the August stats.

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The Steak Roast, 2017

Saturday, August 12, with rain predicted, turned out to be warm and sunny and a nice day, after all. And it was busy, with the tag sale fundraiser for the Jewish Book Project in the morning and later Willard Platt and Francis Deming reminiscing about the Old Red Shop, Roosterville. The day didn't end until the Harm's Way band closed their instruments at the end of the annual Volunteer Fireman's Steak Roast.

By 6 p.m., the line for checking in at the dinner reached all the way across the parking lot in front of Firehouse #2. Fire Chief Ralph Morrison reported sales of about 350 tickets, a few more than 2016, but he said more ticket holders came to dinner this year. He was glad to see them all.

Ralph extends a hearty "thank you" to everyone who bought tickets and "thanks for their patience in line. And thanks to everyone who donated raffle prizes and to all those who bought so many chances." It takes about 20 volunteer firemen and EMS people to put on the event, and Ralph gives his crew credit for a job well done. "Again," he added.



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The Librarian's Corner

By Terry Spohnholz

Library hours: Monday/Tuesday, 9 a.m.-12:30; Wednesday, 2-5 p.m.; Thursday, 5-7 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m.-noon.

Yesterday as I meandered my way to the library, I saw the first leaves float gently to the ground – a nod to the passing of summer. So time to stockpile the wood, the hot chocolate, and thicker tomes for reading. I favor Charles Dickens and Mark Twain in the winter, with a bit of Kipling for seasoning.

Here at the Library we celebrated a rousing end of summer with a Treasure Hunt (including an ice cream social). Special congratulations to our Summer Reader Maties – Henry and Julia Salvano, Grayson Holland, Kaleb Wbhans, Haley and Harlin Kohler, Joshua Poirot, Emma Pachulski, Aedan Cannamela, Hadley and Ava Smigel, and Olivia and Ethan Lemon, all who read mightily and often. Three Cheers!

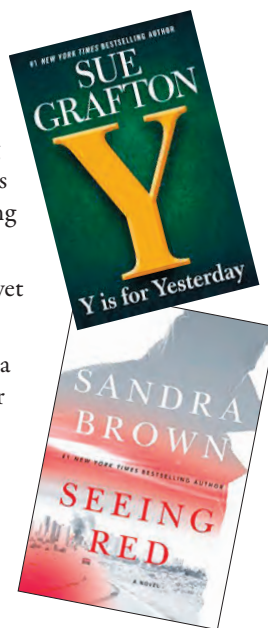
New Books

Charlatans by Robin Cook. An explosive thriller from a bestselling author and master of the medical thriller.

Y is for Yesterday by Sue Grafton. PI Kinsey Millhone may be running scared from serial killer Ned Lowe, who nearly strangled her in the previous volume of this alphabet mystery series, but fear won't stop her from searching for a potential blackmailer.

Seeing Red by Sandra Brown. The queen of epic plot twists is back with yet another bold, highly addictive, fast-paced, in-your-face thriller.

Sulfer Springs by William Kent Krueger. Cork O'Connor's search for a missing man in the Arizona desert puts him at the center of a violent power struggle along the Mexican border that might cost Cork everything and everyone he holds most dear.



Kid Craft at the Library

Lynn Rubenstein as always will orchestrate fun and creative projects with the kids this fall. Highly inventive and absolutely entertaining. Come join her in the Library/Community Center. Check with the Library for details and dates. 258-4966

Storytime

Saturdays at 9:30 the library hosts story hour. Happy reading in the Children's Corner of the Library (I actually like the area the best, myself, okay I am a big kid) with light snacks and juice. 🍷



There are many little ways to enlarge your child's world. Love of books is the best of all.

– Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis

Improve the Air You Breathe

In an effort to improve air quality, the American Lung Association is issuing grants to individuals with high-polluting, inefficient wood stoves. Vouchers will be awarded to change over a non-EPA stove to a new EPA-certified wood, pellet, or gas stove. For more information, call or email Roger Kohler at the Board of Health. 413-258-0080 or rkohler.sandisfield@gmail.com.

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SAT SEPT 23 4:00 PM \$10
 A Story of Fascism
 presented by VAL COLEMAN

SAT OCT 7 8:00 PM \$20
 Saskia Laroo &
 Warren Byrd
 International JAZZ ENSEMBLE

These programs are supported in part by a grant from the Sandisfield Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

OUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS

Roberta Myers and husband, Bob Evans, now of Monterey, California, visited Sandisfield last month to see old friends and to conclude the sale of Roberta's former residence on Cold Spring Road.

Pictured here are, from left, Roberta Myers, new owners Marianne Nadel, Dr. Eric Nadel, son Henry Nadel, and Bob Evans.

It was great to see Roberta and Bob. And a warm welcome to the Nadels, who reside full-time in the Boston area. Asked what drew them to Sandisfield, Marianne said in an email, "The farmhouse itself, the rolling hills and wonderful forests and ponds to explore. We look forward to being a part of the community over many years to come." 🍷



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Tag Sale Benefit



Photo: Lorraine German

In spite of predictions for rain, the weather cooperated as more than a dozen vendors set up at a tag sale on the grounds of the New Boston Inn on Saturday, August 12, to benefit the Jewish History Book Project. Business was steady all day as customers found new treasures to take home.

The committee would like to thank Barbara Colorio of the New Boston Inn for the use of her facility and all those who donated items for the White Elephant Table, the proceeds of which will go towards the publication of the book. ♡



Photo: Bill Price

A Nice Sight on Town Hill Road

Needing to fence in two miniature donkeys, Coco and Moon, Bill O'Brien didn't think he'd like the looks of an electric fence. The countryside along Town Hill Road near Cronk Road is wooded and pretty rustic – a split-rail fence seemed the right idea. Bill has a lot of wooded acres up there, with plenty of beech trees for the poles and hemlock for the rails.

He cut enough of each, measured them, split the rails, cut holes in the beech for the rails to fit into, and trimmed them all. Then, with the help of his wife, Elaine, he dug post holes through rocky ground deep enough to withstand the frost and after a lot of hard work assembled 330 feet of fence. Bill said that assembling the fence was the easy part.

And, something about donkeys. Bill started out with just one donkey, Coco, but it turned out that donkeys are social animals and get depressed if left alone for a length of time. When Lynn Rubenstein who lives further up Town Hill Road on Mountain Home Lane learned that Bill and Elaine needed a second donkey, she asked if she could buy one and board it with Coco and split maintenance bills. She'd always wanted "to own a donkey," she said, but had no place to keep one. So a partnership was born and Moon, short for Moonshine, came to live with Coco.

Now the two donkeys hang out together inside the big corral and passers-by on Town Hill Road enjoy the look of a brand-new, old-fashioned split-rail fence. ♡

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Letters to the Editor

Better Bear Advice

You had some dangerous info about black bears in the August issue, to bang pans, spray water, yell loudly.

Yes, they usually spook the first time you bang a pot. By the third time, they realize it's just a pot and ignore you. Any such noise-making or attempts at harassment should be done from safely inside a house, maybe through a window or a door that can quickly be closed.

While blackies are usually shy of humans, there are exceptions: mothers with cubs, young wandering testosterone-packed males, and exceptionally hungry bears, not to mention sick or rabid bears.

Black bears have attacked adults. Don't send your readers out to tickle the bear unless you have plenty of extra readers to spare.

*Phil Blampied
Rumford, Maine*

Editor's Note: The advice from our reader from Maine is correct. Several bears, one with a cub, showed up at Snow Farm over the last couple months. On Town Hill Road last month the Rubensteins and their grandchildren banged pans and the bear didn't run. Many bears have been around this summer, seemingly more than usual. Be careful out there.



On West Street, a bear comes to visit. Photo: Julie Stefandl

Learning the Cello

As an older person in town, I enjoy finding new interests. It keeps the brain sharp! So I have decided to add another journey to my life. I would like very much to study the cello with the goal of learning to play it. It's such a beautiful instrument with amazing sound.

I'm wondering if anyone else would like to join me. Let's get together and explore the possibilities. Give me a call and let's get exploring. My phone is 413-258-4930.

*Anita Carr
Sandisfield*

A SilverBrook Co-Op?

We purchased property at Sandisfield in 2015 and have subscribed to The Times since. We have learned a lot from the publication and appreciate all of the hard work that goes into it.

Thank you for doing a terrific job of keeping those of us who are not full-time residents up to speed and connected to the community. We are in the process of building our small home and transitioning to Sandisfield within the next two years.

I recall in a prior issue there was mention about reviving the SilverBrook Cafe into a general store or community co-op.

Do you know if anyone has considered approaching the building owner, who I assume may be a bank, to see if they would be willing to sell the building at a loss? Perhaps if a nonprofit community trust were to be formed and able to raise funds to get something in motion we can recognize a sustainable, locally supported solution.

Something similar was done in Vermont with the Barnard Community Trust, in partnership with a preservation trust from the state. While it was a lot of work, it happened and is possible.

I'm curious if you know what serious investigation has gone into reopening and if so who can I chat with about it. It would be amazing to make a comeback and not close the doors again.

*Rochea Monteleone
Dodd Road*

**119 South Main Road
Otis, Massachusetts 01253**

413-269-6874
Lynn

Now Hear This!

Edited by Laura Rogers-Castro. Please send notices for Now Hear This! to editor@sandisfieldtimes.org.

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

In the Gallery: Setsuko Winchester Opening Reception on Saturday, September 2, at 2:00 p.m. at the Sandisfield Arts Center at 5 Hammertown Road. Lecture by the artist at 3:00 p.m. The show will be on display September 2-30. For more information, visit www.sandisfieldartscenter.org.

Crafts for Kids with Lynn on Saturday, September 9, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Sandisfield Library, lower level. This craft day, led by Lynn Rubenstein, will feature Grandparent's Day gifts. Story time at 9:30 upstairs, prior to crafting.

Evening of Song with Music by Cole Porter Arts Center Benefit on Saturday, September 9, at 8:00 p.m. at the Sandisfield Arts Center at 5 Hammertown Road. This special evening includes an intermission with prosecco and a resplendent dessert table. Online tickets are recommended to ensure a seat (www.sandisfieldartscenter.org). \$50.

Church Service on Sunday, September 10, at 10:00 a.m. at the New Boston Congregational Church, Route 57. All are welcome.

Sandisfield Historical Society Open House on Sunday, September 10, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Old Meeting House on Route 183. Scheduled speaker (at 2:30) is Bernard Drew who will discuss General Jeffery Amherst and the 1758 War Road through Sandisfield and the Berkshires. For more information, call Ann Wald, 413-258-4415.

Medical Waste Disposal on Saturday, September 16, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Firehouse #2 on Route 57. All sharps must be in a sealed container (such as a coffee can) and medicine must also be in a sealed bag or container. If a pick-up is needed, please call John Skrip, 413-258-4788. Thanks to the Sandisfield Fire Department for sponsoring this public service.

Tales from a Trip to Antarctica on Saturday, September 16, at 4:00 p.m. presented by photographer Peter Baiamonte at the Sandisfield Arts Center at 5 Hammertown Road. \$10.

American Legion Turkey Roll on Friday, September 22 from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. at the American Legion Pavilion at Hamilton Grove, Route 8. An annual fundraiser and all are welcome. Games and raffles. Free admission. Non-alcoholic beverages and light fare food will be sold. BYOB.

Cemetery Clean-Up on Saturday, September 23 at 9:00 a.m. at the South Sandisfield Cemetery on Sandy Brook Turnpike, Route 183. Volunteers needed for pruning and general clean-up. If time

permits, the crew will then head south to the Roberts Road Cemetery.

Touch a Truck! on Saturday, September 23 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the Community Center, Sandisfield Library lower level. Meet your first responders including firemen, EMS, and police. Free!

A Story of Fascism on Saturday, September 23, at 4:00 p.m. presented by Val Coleman at the Sandisfield Arts Center at 5 Hammertown Road. \$10.

SEPTEMBER EVENTS IN SURROUNDING TOWNS

Otis Cultural Council 10th Annual Arts Festival on Saturday, September 2, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Farmington River Elementary School in Otis. Free admission. Artists, craftspeople, music entertainment by Sandy & Sandy. Visit www.townofotisma.com/culturalcouncil for more information.

Dramatic staged reading of "Mortal Friends" by Sandisfield playwright Steven Otfinski on Friday, September 15 at 7:30 at Ventfort Hall, 104 Walker St., Lenox. The story of two American literary titans, Nathaniel Hawthorne and Herman Melville, who first met on Monument Mountain in the Berkshires in 1850. Tickets \$35. Call 413-637-3206 for reservations.

Feisty Fall Feast hosted by Tolland Council on Aging on Friday, September 22, at 6:00 p.m. at the Public Safety Complex on Rt. 57. Roast beef and mashed potatoes. Entertainment by Roger Tincknell. Donation requested: seniors and adults, \$10; children, \$5. Please bring a non-perishable

food item for our Community Food Pantry which serves Tolland. Seating is limited to 60, so please call 413-258-4794, ext. 129, for reservations.

Annual Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser on Saturday, September 30, 5:00-7:00 p.m. at Otis Town Hall, hosted by Izzy and Linda Nolau. Linda's brother, Bruce "Boo" Haggarty, underwent a double lung transplant in 2015 due to cystic fibrosis. Seniors, \$8; adults, \$10; under 12, \$5. Proceeds to be donated to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

SAVE THE DATE

1st Annual Fall Harvest Bazaar on Saturday, October 21, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. at the Community Center, Sandisfield Library lower level. Fundraiser for the Community Center.

Halloween Monster Bash on Saturday, October 28, time to be determined, at the Community Center, Sandisfield Library lower level.

Orchid Blossom Healing Arts

Lauren Paul, Dipl. Ac
413-258-4296

Acupuncture and Shiatsu

Berkshire Pottery Tour

September 23 & 24 10am - 5pm



A self-guided driving tour of 6 Berkshire County pottery studios
www.berkshirepotterytour.com

THE SANDISFIELD TIMES



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P.O. Box 584

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*The Times is grateful to readers
who have donated this month.*

Adam Urban



The Sandisfield Times is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization staffed by volunteers from the Sandisfield community and funded by individual and business sponsors. Its mission is to connect the community through reliable, regular, and relevant information. The paper is published 11 times each year, with a joint January-February issue and monthly issues thereafter.

Donations of any amount are needed to ensure the continuation of this newspaper. Please send checks to: The Sandisfield Times, P.O. Box 584, Sandisfield, MA 01255 or donate online at our website: www.sandisfieldtimes.org.

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Farmington River Diner, Otis Poultry Farm, Otis Woodlands (May-September), and the Laundromat. Locations in Monterey include the Library, the Store, and the Roadside Cafe. Available also at the Southfield Store in New Marlborough. Back issues are available for purchase.

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