

CHURCH & COMMUNITY NEWS

June/July 2015



PASTOR'S LETTER

By the time that you receive and read this newsletter, Memorial Day will have come and gone. But I wanted to take time out in this column to pay tribute to the men and woman in our military forces who defend our country around the clock. It's the soldier who gives us the right to print a newsletter like this, and the freedom to be able to receive and read it. Soldiers also give us the right to assemble in a church of our choice, and to worship freely.

Some of us might think of Memorial Day as a day that marks the beginning of summer, a day in which we fire up our grills and head out to our favorite swimming hole, lake or beach. But Memorial Day is much more than that. It first began after the Civil War to honor the soldiers who had died in that war. Originally it was known as "Decoration Day." But today, Memorial Day is a day in which we honor all of the Americans who have died in military service. So if you didn't get the chance over the holiday, please show your respect and patriotism by taking a moment or two to reflect on the brave sacrifices of those who have given their lives for this country of ours.

Here are just a few quotes that I've assembled that not only honor our American heroes, but also offer us some values that make this country worth fighting for:

"Patriotism consists not only in waving the flag, but in striving that our country shall be righteous as well as strong." -- *James Bryce*

"Memorial Day isn't just about honoring veterans, its honoring those who lost their lives. Veterans had the fortune of coming home. For us, that's a reminder of when we come home we still have a responsibility to serve. It's a continuation of service that honors our country and those who fell defending it." --*Pete Hegseth*

"The willingness of America's veterans to sacrifice for our country, has earned them our lasting gratitude." --*Jeff Miller*

"I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country." --*Nathan Hale*

"These fallen heroes represent the character of a nation who fought many battles to keep our country free from threats of terror." --*Michael N. Castle*

"It is the soldier, not the minister who gives us the freedom of religion. It is the soldier, not the reporter who gives us freedom of the press. It is the soldier, not the poet who has given us the freedom of speech. It is the soldier, not the lawyer, who has given us the right to a fair trial. It is the soldier, not the politician who has given us the right to vote. It is the soldier, not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to protest. It is the soldier who salutes the flag, who serves beneath the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, who allows the protester to burn the flag." --*Charles M. Province*

May you all have a summer that's filled with joy and fond memories, and may God Bless America and the soldiers that defend her.

Pastor Earl

KEY DATES

June

6	Town Yard Sales
8	Emergency Plan Meeting
9	Preschool Last Day MCS Amazing Race
12	MCS Graduation Town Clerk Closed
15	MCS Last Day
21	Father's Day
22-25	Swim Lessons
29-7/2	Swim Lessons

July

4	Independence Day
13-17	Vacation Bible School
18	Big Trash Day
22-26	North Haverhill Fair

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DO YOU NEED A (NEW) SMOKE DETECTOR?

The Scouts of Troop 209 have been working with the New Hampshire Red Cross on their "Emergency Preparedness" Merit Badge, and in mid-May, they distributed 400 flyers in Littleton about the Red Cross Smoke Detector Project. This is a program where the Red Cross comes to your home, free of charge, and installs a 10-year smoke detector (the kind you don't need to change batteries in twice a year - hurray!). Not everyone is eligible (for example, if you already have plenty of "newish" (<10 years old) and working smoke detectors, you probably will not get chosen. But if your smoke detectors are over 10 years old, or not working properly, you may luck out with a free one PLUS installation. Even if you don't need one, please check on an elderly neighbor, and consider applying on their behalf. To apply, visit www.redcross.org/nhvt/smoke-alarm-installation, or call 603-225-6697.

END OF AN ERA

Gardens without the infusion of young, healthy plants do not flourish. At its meeting on April 22nd, the Monroe Garden Club voted to disband after agreeing to perform one last spring clean-up and mulching which was accomplished on May 8th. While individuals will continue to maintain the town hall planters, community members are encouraged to help keep the park and municipal building entrance gardens looking tidy.



From the Editor: I'm sure I speak for everyone in town when I say "THANK YOU!" to all current and past members of the Garden Club, for helping to keep Monroe beautiful for so many years. We will miss you and your work. – Eileen Brown

HELP IS STILL NEEDED WITH THIS!



The Town of Monroe's Emergency Management Plan was written in 1994. This plan is in need of being updated and I am still looking for people to serve on this committee. The planning committee should include, but not be limited to, such community members as the fire chief, EMS, Highway Dept., Water Dept., Selectmen, Health Officer, property owners, relevant businesses or

organizations. It should also include representatives from relative Federal and State organizations (i.e., State Police, Fish and Game, forests and lands, dam operators, public Utilities, NH DOT).

The first meeting to update this plan will be on **June 8th** at the Monroe Emergency Services building at **6 pm**. If you would like to serve on this committee to update the Emergency Management Plan for The Town of Monroe, please contact me.

--Maynard Farr, Emergency Management Director
Phone 638-2612; e-mail mfarr30@roadrunner.com



YEP, IT'S YARD SALE TIME!

TOWN WIDE YARD SALES are Saturday, **June 6th** from **9-2**. Some people are really serious about cleaning out and will be open longer hours and on Sunday too! Check out the listings that will be finalized a few days before the sales – you can see them on Facebook, or call Jessica at the Library at 638-4736. Not signed up yet? It's not too late - call Jessica and she'll get you on the list. As in the past, donations for advertising are greatly appreciated. If you have an advertising suggestion (online, radio, print) please let her know.



MCS WRAP UP THE SCHOOL YEAR WITH FUN

Tell me – who among us doesn't remember the feeling of absolute freedom on that last day of school? You knew the whole summer stretched out before you, and you just couldn't wait to run around barefoot, stay up late, run through a sprinkler, and just *play*. That starts for our kids this year on June 9th (last day of Preschool), June 12th (8th Grade graduation), and June 15th (everyone else). The school is also hosting an "Amazing Race" expedition night on June 9th, at 6 pm – all community members are welcome. Meanwhile, congratulations to all our graduating 8th graders AND seniors!

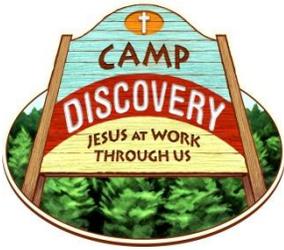


SUMMER FUN

Let no child be bored! Between swimming lessons, vacation bible school, the Library's summer "Make-a-Thon", and the North Haverhill Fair, we're not sure how *anyone* could be bored. (We're sure a child somewhere will correct us, however!)

SWIMMING LESSONS

If your child will be 3 years old by June 15th, and has not yet graduated from 8th grade, join in Monroe's annual free swimming lessons. Registration forms should be returned no later than JUNE 5th! You can pick one up in person at the school, the library, or download it from monroetown.com/live. A bus schedule is included with the registration form. Thank you, Judy Martin, for running this program again.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: CAMP DISCOVERY

What we know so far? The dates for the annual VBS program are July 13th – 17th, and the theme sounds fun: Camp Discovery. Beyond that, you need to get in touch with Pastor Earl for more details. You can phone him at 787-2218, or e-mail him at earldianebrock@gmail.com.

SUMMER "MAKE-A-THON"

Come to the library and create! Maybe you'll do some lego construction, upcycle thrift store clothes, photoshop a favorite photo or make a masterpiece with our art/craft supplies? Details will be finalized by the end of school. Call the Library at 638-4736 for more info.

NORTH HAVERHILL FAIR CELEBRATES 71 YEARS YOUNG

Amazing! 71 years and going strong. The dates for this year's fair are July 22nd – July 26th, and you can get the full schedule, prices, maps, etc. on-line at www.nohaverhillfair.com. Don't forget to check out the 4-H Displays while you're there!

LOOK FOR THE SUMMERTIME MARCHING BAND ON THE FOURTH!

Monroe's "Summertime Marching Band" had a great outing in the Lisbon Lilac Parade (video was up on the Monroe Facebook page as well as on the Summertime Marching Band page). Don't forget to look for them in Woodsville's Fourth of July Parade and cheer them on! They are keeping a great musical tradition alive here in Monroe – kudos to Mary Choate and the band.

ARE YOU EVEN REMOTELY ORGANIZED?

The Monroe School has asked us to include this ad for an "Athletic Coordinator":

**Monroe School District
Monroe, NH
ATHLETIC COORDINATOR
2015-2016**

The Coordinator works for the school to organize both Fall and Winter sports programs: Soccer in Fall, Basketball and Cheerleading in Winter.

Duties include: Hiring of all coaches and referees; scheduling of games; equipment management; coach training; parent information sessions; budget development. Work begins in August.

Interested applicants should submit letter of interest, resume and application to:

Leah Holz, Principal
Monroe School District
P.O. Box 130, Monroe, NH 03771.

Applications can be obtained by calling (603) 638-2800 or online at www.monroeschool77.com/jobs-careers

Background check including fingerprinting required upon employment.

Deadline: June 20, 2015
E.O.E.

FROM THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE:

The office will be closed on **Friday June 12th** so that I can attend a Regional Town Clerk's meeting. This is where I learn a lot of the rules and law changes.

I am also in the process of training a new Deputy Clerk. Susan Price started training with me the first of May and as soon as she can be certified she will be working in the office on a fairly regular basis. For those of you who do not know her, Susan has lived in Monroe for over 25 years. She and her husband Rick have raised four children in Monroe and now enjoy being grand-parents. Stop in and say HI to her. -- Marilyn

AND! NEXT BIG TRASH DAY IS JULY 18th, 9 AM TO 3 PM. After that, there's only one more chance to clean out your stuff, and that's on September 19th.

AND STILL MORE THINGS TO DO

We were joking when we said in the "summer" section that we don't know how any child could be bored. We do vaguely remember having children who complained, "there's nothing to do!" So just in case you have some too, here are some other area programs you may want to check out for the summer:

St. J Rec

Info on programs like track & field, robotics, and forensics camps. Find them at stjrec.com

Littleton Parks & Rec

Their programs include field trips to area attractions. Find them at littletonparksandrec.com

Haverhill Rec

Includes info on British soccer camp programs in August. They're at haverhill-nh.com, then look under Departments, Boards, and you'll find the Rec Commission.

Would you like to stay up-to-date on news and events BEFORE the next August/September newsletter? Sign up for bi-monthly e-news at www.monroetown.com. Your e-mail address is ONLY used for the newsletter, and you can always unsubscribe if you find them too boring!

NO, THIS ISN'T JUNK MAIL! PLEASE READ ME!

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