

CHURCH & COMMUNITY NEWS

August/September 2014



PASTOR'S LETTER

Have you read a good book lately? The traditional printed page may be on the way out, but one thing is for certain; People still love to read. According to the Pew research center seventy-five percent of Americans read at least one book last year. A similar study done by the Huffington Post found that 25% of us read between one and five books last year, 15% read 6-10 books, 20% 11-50, and 8% read more than 50 books!

Which books are the most popular? 23% of the readers mentioned science fiction and fantasy. 16% went for murder or mystery novels, 14% favored romance, and another 14% pursued non-fiction.

I like to read when I can find the time and I enjoy many types of books, provided that they aren't morally questionable or harmful to my mind. But only one book expands both my mind and soul whenever I pick it up---the Good Book.

Have you read the Good Book recently? Whatever you're looking for, you'll find it in the Bible. It contains every type of writing, covers every conceivable subject. All scripture was written by a fallible person like you or me, but inspired by an infallible God; and so the writings themselves are perfect. Every word is true and every verse is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, so that the people of God may be mature, complete, wise, fulfilled, and thoroughly equipped for every good work. (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

If you like biography, the Bible is a treasure trove. You can read about Saul, and David, Joseph and Solomon. The Gospels present a fourfold life of Christ, and if it's history that you like, the Old Testament covers about fourteen hundred years, and the New Testament about a hundred years.

If you like romance, read Song of Solomon, Ruth, or the book of Hosea. If it's mystery that you like, consider how many murders were recorded in the Bible starting with Cain and Able. In fact, the entire story of scripture is based on the most notorious murder in history. And, if you like how-to books, remember that the bible is the greatest self-improvement book ever written.

I just wanted to remind you that the Good Book is a **Great Read**, and if you've forgotten about the best literature ever composed, then I hope that this article will encourage you to pick up God's Word every day and read it. Have a Blessed Summer!

Pastor Earl

KEY DATES

August

5	PTF Kick-Off Mtg
23	Block Party
25	New Student Orientation, SJA
26	Back to School, SJA
27	Back to School, Monroe
27	Garden Club Dinner

September

1	Labor Day
2	Supervisors of Checklist
9	Primary Elections
13	Lord's Acre Auction
20	Last Big Trash Day for 2014
25-28	Harvest Festival

Early October

4	Town Garden Clean-Up
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GARDEN CLUB NEWS

The Garden Club will be meeting at Aimee Spisak's on Aug 27 at 6:00 pm for their annual pot luck dinner. Anyone interested in joining the club, this would be a fun first get-together to attend. *[Note from the editor: anytime dinner is involved is a good time to join pretty much anything!]*

On October 4th, we will be cleaning up town gardens and can always use help doing that. The starting time is usually 9 am and we meet in the village park. For more info, please call Barbara Farr at 638-2612.

BECOME AN EMT!

The Monroe FAST Squad needs more members, so we are pleased to share the news of two new EMT courses starting up right in our area. Both classes run September – December, both on Tuesday and Thursday nights. Lyndon State College's class adds one Saturday per month, and costs \$606 plus textbook (around \$100) – also providing 3 college credits. Weeks Medical Training Center based on the Littleton-side of Whitefield adds an occasional Sunday, and costs \$995 including textbook. In either case, EMT's who complete training and all testing and licensing requirements, join and participate on the FAST Squad as a volunteer are eligible to have their tuition refunded. For full details, visit www.monroetown.com/fast-squad-reference.html or call Maynard Farr, FAST Squad Chief, 638-2612, or Eileen Brown, Training Officer, 638-3002.

FROM THE TOWN OFFICES . . .

- ✓ The Selectmen would like to remind everyone that leaves, grass and branches do not belong in the weekly trash.
- ✓ The Town Clerk's Office will be closed on September 1st for Labor Day.
- ✓ Supervisors of the Checklist will meet on Sept. 2nd from 7 – 7:30 pm at the Town Office Building.

BLOCK PARTY TIME!



Your neighbors on Main Street would like to invite you to the (almost) annual Monroe Block Party on Saturday, August 23rd, beginning at 5:00 p.m. at 28 and 36 Main Street. Hamburgers, hot dogs, and a vegetarian option will be served, and soft drinks will be provided. Please bring a side or a dessert to share, your favorite adult beverage, and a chair. Hope to see you there! Parking is available next door at the Town Hall or up the street at the Post Office.

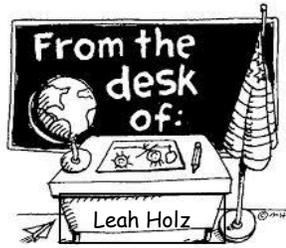
LORD'S ACRE AUCTION

This year's Lord's Acre Auction is on Saturday, September 13th, 9 AM until sold out (come hungry for the fresh donuts, hot dogs, and chicken BBQ!)

A friendly reminder, **please do not donate used electronic equipment such as televisions or computers, and make sure items you donate are in good condition.** Each year, volunteers end up hauling many broken or soiled items to the last Big Trash Day – so please, if it's not something you would buy, do not leave it for the auction! (There is one remaining Big Trash Day on 9/20.) If you need help dropping off an item, or if it is something that should not be exposed to the elements (i.e., furniture), please call Winston at 638-2331.

VOTING DAY INFO

Marilyn Bedell has asked us to remind everyone that Primary Day is September 9th, and polls will be open from 8 am – 7 pm at the Town Hall. For info on who is running for our geographic area, you can check out monroetown.com/who-are-our-representatives.html



Everyone has been hard at work making the school beautiful and ready for students to return. The band shell has a new coat of paint, the driveway is being paved with some new parking spots added, and the roofers will begin their work soon.

Miss Holz is collecting all of the postcards she's receiving in the mail. If your child wants the chance to be Principal for the Day, keep reading and send those postcards to school! *(For those who do not know, every time a child reads a book, they send Miss Holz a postcard – she is collecting them and there will be a drawing at the beginning of the new school year.)*

Also, a reminder – there will be a community ground breaking for the outdoor classroom and community garden! We are looking for interested community members, school staff and MCS families who would like to be part of our Outdoor Stewards Program. Tasks include assisting with the garden, general maintenance, or working with classrooms on outdoor research. We are also looking for donations of gently used garden tools that could be used by students, staff and stewards. Please contact Laura Tobin at MCS for more info via e-mail at ltobin@monroeschool77.com or 638-2800 ext. 27.

Sports permission slips will be going home the very first week of school, with practices beginning as soon as possible. Also, the Monroe School Board is looking for a Board Member for an 8-month position to fill recently departed member Raegan Colburn's spot. You can apply by submitting a letter of interest to Superintendent Dr. Jeannie Richards at P.O. Box 130, Monroe, NH 03771. The school board will review letters at their meeting on August 11th.

We look forward to seeing everyone's bright smiles on August 27th, the first day of school!

PTF News

The PTF will hold their first meeting of the 2014-15 school year on Tuesday, August 5th, at 6:30 pm in the school. Everyone is welcome to help us plan a year of fun. You do not need to have a child in the school to join the PTF – the "F" stands for FRIENDS.

There will be another ice cream social to celebrate the start of the school year, and we will have those details ready after our first meeting.

While you are at the meeting, be sure to check out the new soccer kickboard at the school. (This is the large blue "Monroe Mustangs" wall at the back of the field.) Sponsored by the PTF, it was painted by Ken Kimball with the help of a few students. It looks great!

WANT TO STAY WARM THIS WINTER?

Many of us remember struggling to find wood pellets last winter, or hearing of neighbors who had run out of oil after the winter just hung on . . . and on . . .

Mitch and Jan Ziemba recently found a heating fuel co-op that serves our area for oil and propane and wanted to pass along the website for anyone who is interested: thefuelclub.com

Others have also had good luck in the past with a different co-op, Our Town Energy Alliance, at otchoice.com. However, they seem to have limited suppliers for our area, especially if you are a propane user. The good news is that they have added a **discount pellet program** through Blue Seal Feeds – you can get info about that here: otchoice.com/specialOffers/woodpellets.htm

Wishing everyone a cozy – and short – winter!

HARVEST FESTIVAL NEWS

This year's dates are Friday – September 26th – Saturday – September 27th – and Sunday – September 28th. The theme for this year's parade is Wild West – yee haw, pardners!

We'll have all the details out in a dedicated Harvest Festival newsletter closer to the date. In the meantime, volunteers are always needed – please give Cindy Frazer a call if you can help out.

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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