

# CHURCH & COMMUNITY NEWS

February/March 2014



## THE PASTOR'S CORNER

Along with February comes Valentine's Day. Elizabeth Barrett Browning, a famous poet, wrote a poem in which the first words are considered to be some of the most famous opening lines in English literature:

How do I love thee? Let me count the ways.  
I love thee to the depth and breadth and height my soul can reach....

If you're a husband needing a fresh idea for a romantic evening, just memorize these opening words of Elizabeth Barrett Browning's poem, take your wife out to dinner, and quote it over candlelight. She just might faint dead away! After all, this is considered the greatest love poem ever written.

Did I say greatest? Pardon me. I meant the **second** greatest. Let me suggest that you tackle the **first** one first. It's 1st Corinthians 13, which is considered to be the Bible's love hymn. John Wesley the founder of the Methodist church, regarded this as the greatest chapter in the Bible. Perhaps you know its opening words too:

Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but  
have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal.

Though these poems are vastly different, in one way they're similar. They both count the ways in which we love others. 1st Corinthians 13 speaks of love like this. "This love of which I speak, is slow to lose patience; it looks for a way of being constructive. It is not possessive: It is neither anxious to impress nor does it cherish inflated ideas of its own importance. Love has good manners and does not pursue selfish advantage. It is not touchy. It does not keep account of evil or gloat over the wickedness of other people. On the contrary, it is glad with all good men when truth prevails." (Phillips)

When you think about it, love is very energetic. If love was an object, it would probably be a pair of running shoes. It's always busy, on the go, doing things, helping others, and exhibiting maturity. Read through the list above again, but this time replace the words **it** and **love** with your name.

When the Lord says to us, "How do you love others? Let me count the ways," these are the ways that he has in mind. May God rekindle the flame of love that will cause the flame to spread and burn brightly for everyone and everything in your life.

Won't you join us please for our Sunday service at 9:00 am. We would **love** to have you!

Pastor Earl

## KEY DATES

### Late January

- 28 Selectmen Meet with Budget Comm.
- 29 Pizza Orders Due!
- 29 St. J Blood Drive
- 30 LRH Blood Drive
- 31 Last Day to File for Offices (Town & School)

### February

- 2 Super Bowl Sunday & Pizza Pick-Up
- 6 Men's Club BB Tourn.
- 7 Men's Club Tourn.
- 8 Men's Club Tourn.
- 11 Budget Hearings (Snow Date 2/18)
- 14 Valentine's Day
- 22 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Pampered Chef Party
- 24 MCS, SJA Winter Vacation Begins

### March

- 3 MCS Restarts
- 5 SJA Restarts
- 9 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Brunch
- 11 Town Meeting
- 17 St. Patrick's Day
- 30 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Brunch

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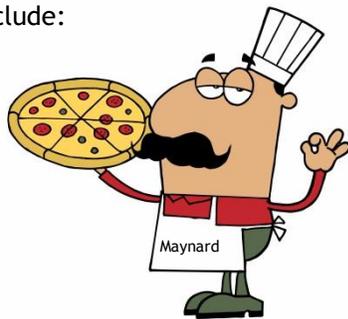
## GET YOUR PIZZA ORDERS IN!

The Monroe Community Church is taking orders for their annual Super Bowl Pizza Extravaganza. It's simple - you order, they cook, you pick up (at Town Hall) on Super Bowl Sunday (Feb. 2nd) and then just relax and enjoy the game!

Pizzas are \$8 each, with additional toppings .50. But no matter how many toppings you choose, you don't spend more than \$10 per pizza, so have fun! This is the same price as last year, and we all know there are not many things you can say that about!

Available toppings include:

Green Peppers  
Onions  
Mushrooms  
Hamburg  
Pepperoni  
Sausage  
Pineapple  
Ham



You can also order your pizza cooked or 'ready-to-cook'. You pay when you pick up your pizza (between noon and 4 at Town Hall). Cash or check, please. Checks should be made payable to Monroe Community Church.

### Here's HOW to order:

By Phone: Call Barbara Farr, 638-2612

On-Line: [www.monroetown.com/pizza-orders](http://www.monroetown.com/pizza-orders)  
(You can find this under the "Church" section.)

### Here's WHEN to order:

**Now, please!** Barb would like to have the orders in by **January 29th** to allow the church to plan for the right amount of ingredients. They would hate to run out of pepperoni, and are sure you wouldn't be happy, either!

## DOG LICENSING TIME!

Please contact Marilyn Bedell (638-2644) to get your dog(s) licensed. You'll need proof of rabies vaccine. Ryegate Small Animal Hospital is planning a rabies clinic on Thursday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, 6-7 PM, but call first just to check: 802-633-3660.

## MEN'S CLUB BASKETBALL CVL TOURNAMENT

The 63<sup>rd</sup> Monroe Men's Club CVL Basketball Tournament will be held on Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> at Town Hall. Preliminary games start at 6 pm on Thursday and Friday. The consolation game starts at 1 pm on Saturday, with the championship game starting at 4 pm. We also hear there will be a special show from Monroe School's contingent of 25 cheerleaders!

The monies raised from this tournament are used toward the Men's Club Educational Grant, which is awarded each year to a student who is attending their first year of any type of post-secondary school. In the past few years, we have awarded two (2) \$1,500 grants.

Please come out a support everyone involved in this event - the players, coaches, officials, parents, program sponsors, and the Men's Club. Come enjoy the games and the GOOD FOOD!



## 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE FUNDRAISING NOW ALMOST COMPLETE

The Monroe School 8<sup>th</sup> grade class is coming to the end of their fundraising year, and have three final fundraisers planned before their trip to Washington D.C.

First, on Saturday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, they will host a Pampered Chef fundraiser at Town Hall at 2 pm. Come treat yourself to a new kitchen gadget at the same time you benefit the kids!

Then, they wrap up with TWO Sunday Brunches - on March 9<sup>th</sup> and March 30<sup>th</sup>. Both brunches are at Town Hall from 10 am - 1 pm, and will feature soups, sandwiches, desserts, and more. The brunches are by donation, and the 8<sup>th</sup> grade thanks you for your generosity.

## SCHOOL AND TOWN TO SHARE BUDGET HEARING DATES

Forgive us for saying so, but this is one of the best bits of news we've heard in several years! This year, BOTH the school AND the town budget hearings will be held on the SAME night, in the SAME place! And they both even share the SAME 'snow date'.

You can join in on Tuesday, Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>, at 6 PM in Town Hall. The meeting starts with the school, and finishes with the town budget. Snow date is Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>, same time, same place.

Note that the Selectmen also have a hearing with the Budget Committee on January 28<sup>th</sup>, 7 PM, in the new Town Office Building.

## MONROE SCHOOL SEEKS TO IMPROVE COMMUNICATION

This comes to us from Leah Holz, Acting Principal of Monroe School:

For decades, town schools have been at the center of communities. While the focus of our public schools remains strong student outcomes, community connections are imperative. Our goal at the Monroe Consolidated School is to improve and encourage communication and engagement with our families and community members. In this case, communication and engagement are more than just buzzwords. They are certainly more than a one-time newsletter or a single Open House. Monroe Consolidated School belongs to you, the community of Monroe, and we are thrilled to have you on board as planners, decision-makers, developers, and wonderful resources.

We are excited to announce two new developments in the realm of communication! First, we will have our own Facebook page, launching on February 3<sup>rd</sup>. This page will be informational and will provide viewers with up-to-date events and goings-on at MCS. Next, we will be sending out monthly e-mail letters to the MCS community. These e-mails will highlight what's new on our website, which we welcome you to visit at [www.monroeschool77.com](http://www.monroeschool77.com)

Do you have more ideas about community engagement and communication? We'd love to hear from you! Please e-mail me at [lholtz@monroeschool77.com](mailto:lholtz@monroeschool77.com), or call me at 638-2800, ext. 28. I look forward to it!

## TOWN MEETING 2014

Voting hours are 8 AM - 7 PM on Tuesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, at Town Hall. The Annual School Meeting begins at 7:30 PM, with the Town Meeting immediately following.

## OPEN TOWN OFFICES INCLUDE SELECTMAN

Office	Term
Town Treasurer	1 Year
Supervisor of Checklist	6 Years
Selectman	3 Years
Trustee of Trust Funds (2)	1 2-Year Term; 1 3-Year Term
Library Trustee	3 Years
Sexton Village Cemetery	1 Year
Sexton North Monroe Cemetery	1 Year
Planning Board (2)	3 Years
Board of Adjustment	5 Years
Budget Committee, *4 Seats*	3 Years

All candidates for these offices must file a "declaration of candidacy" with the Town Clerk beginning Wed., January 22nd. The last day to file is Friday, January 31<sup>st</sup>. There is no fee for filing. You may file up to 5 PM on the 31<sup>st</sup>.

## SCHOOL OFFICES OPEN

In addition to voting for Town Offices on March 11<sup>th</sup>, we also vote for "School Offices". Up for election:

Office	Term
Moderator	1 Year
School District Clerk	1 Year
School District Moderator	1 Year
School Board Member, *2 Seats*	3 Years

To run, you must file a 'declaration of candidacy' with the School District Clerk (Bettie Ward, 638-2515, or e-mail [49ejward@gmail.com](mailto:49ejward@gmail.com)) between January 22nd and January 31<sup>st</sup>. There is no fee for filing. You must have been a resident of Monroe for 6 months, and be a registered voter on the checklist.



The Monroe FAST Squad has received a limited number of VIALS OF LIFE from Dartmouth Hospital. These are kits that include a sticker applied to either the patient's main door or the refrigerator door. It alerts EMT's to the presence of the Vial in the refrigerator. The vial holds a LIST of your medications (not the actual meds themselves.) This system allows EMT's to give up-to-date information about patient's prescriptions to hospital emergency personnel - especially important if the patient is unresponsive. If you would like a kit for yourself or a loved one, please call 638-3002, or fill in the form at [www.monroetown.com/vial-of-life-form](http://www.monroetown.com/vial-of-life-form) We'll get one to you as soon as possible.



**American  
Red Cross**

*Together, we can save a life*

We always hear about the need for blood, especially around and immediately after the holidays. You can help restock area blood supplies at these two upcoming drives:

Wednesday, Jan. 29<sup>th</sup> @ Moose Lodge, St. Johnsbury, Noon - 5:30 PM

Thursday, Jan. 30<sup>th</sup> @ Littleton Regional Hospital, 11 AM - 4 PM.

To make an appointment, call the Red Cross at 800-733-2767.

**NO, THIS ISN'T JUNK MAIL!**

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