

# CHURCH & COMMUNITY NEWS

October/November 2014



## THE PASTOR'S CORNER

These past few weeks have been a very trying time for me as a pastor, as I've had many people approach me with questions about the mysteries of life. I'm not ashamed to admit that sometimes **I just don't know**. In the book of Proverbs, Solomon repeatedly wrote about the importance of seeking good counsel, saying, "Without counsel, plans go awry, but in the multitude of counselors they are established. (Proverbs 15:22)

That's so true for each of us. Sometimes we need advice regarding our career; sometimes we need marital counseling, financial advice, or legal counseling. It's critical to know the right people and to choose the best adviser. When we don't know the answers, we seek those who can help us. In this day and age it's so easy to use the internet to find answers, but how wonderful to lean on and learn from a wise man or woman!

Well I want to tell you something. You can engage the wisest Person in the universe as your counselor. According to the Bible, the entire Trinity is available to counsel us day and night. God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit are all counselors, and our mighty Counselor is omniscient.

He may not always disclose the answers to us, but we can be rest assured He has the answers, He knows the solutions, He resolves the difficulties, He keeps His promises, and His grace is always sufficient. When you don't understand why pain happens, He does. Though you can't explain why people suffer, He can. When you don't know what's next, He knows the way. There's freedom in saying, "**I don't know**, but He does." It's like a child trusting his dad in time of fear, or a daughter trusting her mother to make the best decision for her amid uncertainty.

It's not **what we know**, but **who**, and **who we know** is Jesus, our omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent Savior and Lord. In times of uncertainty, we can trust him who works all things for good and whose grace is sufficient on every occasion. That's why our wisest words may often be, "I don't know"---but I know who does! I'm not sure; but I am sure; I'm sure of Him!

Pastor Earl

### AT A GLANCE

#### OCTOBER

6-12	Fire Prevention Week
10	No School (MCS, SJA)
13	Columbus Day
17	Spaghetti Supper
25	Soccer Tournament
30	Slapstick Science
31	Halloween!

#### NOVEMBER

1	4H Craft Day
2	Clocks Go Back Church Time Change
4	Election Day
8	Craft Fair Scout Food Drive
10	Vet Day Program
11	Veteran's Day - No School (MCS)
12	Garden Club Dinner
27	No School (MCS, SJA)
28	Happy Thanksgiving!
29	No School (MCS/SJA)

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## FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

As always, the Monroe Fire Department reminds you to change your smoke detector battery when you change your clock on Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>! Their reminder fits in well with this year's Fire Prevention Week theme, "Working Smoke Detectors Save Lives!"

## CHURCH CHANGES SERVICE TIME

Clocks may go back on Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup>, but the Monroe Church service time goes forward! Beginning that Sunday, services will be at 9:30 AM, not 9 AM. Enjoy that bit of extra sleep, everyone!

## FROM THE TOWN CLERK

Please mark your calendars: State elections are being held on Tuesday, Nov. 4<sup>th</sup>, from 8 am -7 pm at Town Hall. **All absentee ballots must be applied for by Monday Nov. 3rd** and if being returned in person, must be in to the Town Clerk's office by 5 pm Monday Nov. 3rd. If returned by mail they may be received up to 5 pm on election day. This ballot contains the question about Monroe changing its polling hours from 8 am to 7 pm on State and Federal elections back to 11 am to 7 pm.

If you are not registered to vote, you may register on Sat., Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> with the Supervisors of the Checklist (in session 11 am – 11:30 am), with the Town Clerk prior to that date, or in person on Election Day. Full details on how to register (and ways to obtain an absentee ballot) are on-line at the NH Secretary of State's site, [http://sos.nh.gov/nhsos\\_content.aspx?id=26190](http://sos.nh.gov/nhsos_content.aspx?id=26190).

The Town Clerk's Office will be open regular hours on Monday Oct. 13th, Columbus Day, and on Black Friday, the day after Thanksgiving.

## AIM HIGH TOURNAMENT TURNS 4

The fourth annual "Aim High" soccer tournament will be held on Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 8 AM on the Monroe School field. Hosted by the PTF, there are seven schools and 140 kids competing! A concession stand will be open all day, with delicious hot food. Donations of food for the sale are needed, and you can also help by buying a program ad – see any member of the PTF for info.

## SCHOOL SEEKS INPUT

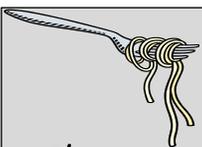
The Monroe School Board has decided that it is time to strategically plan for the future of our district. The Board believes that this planning should involve all our stakeholders – parents, staff, residents, public board representatives and students.

The strategic planning process begins with the creation of a Team who meet together to develop the district's mission, objectives and strategies. Once these strategies have been reviewed by the School Board, Action Planning Teams form around each strategy. The Action Planning Teams create the specific plan steps that help the strategies come to life.

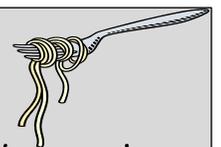
If you are a person that likes to think about the "big picture" ideas, then you may like serving on the Strategic Planning Team. If you are a person that likes to think about the detailed "nuts and bolts", then the Action Planning Teams would interest you. If you can help or would like more info, please contact Superintendent Jeannie Richards at [jrichards@monroeschool77.com](mailto:jrichards@monroeschool77.com) or at 638-2800.

## MORE SCHOOL EVENTS!

**Everyone** is welcome for "Slapstick Science" on Oct. 30<sup>th</sup> at 9 AM, and for the Veteran's Day Program on Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM.



## SPAGHETTI SUPPER BENEFIT



Please come out on Friday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, from 5 PM – 7 PM, for a spaghetti & meatball supper that benefits Monroe resident Derek Brundle. Derek is beginning cancer treatments that will keep him out of work (at Pete & Gerry's) for several months. The dinner is by donation and your generosity is much appreciated. Take-outs are available.

## MEN'S CLUB KICKS OFF MEETING YEAR, HOSTS HALLOWEEN PARTY

The Monroe Men's club meets the second Monday of each month at Town Hall from October till March. They will be sponsoring the annual Halloween party at the Town Hall on Friday, October 31 at 6:00 pm. Come and join the fun. Children wanting to enter decorated pumpkins must have them at Town Hall by 6 PM. Rules are 1) name and age should be on the back of the pumpkin; 2) pumpkins cannot be carved; 3) no sharp objects left in the pumpkins; and 4) decorating by children, not parents, please. After the costume parade and judging the 8th grade will hold their annual Haunted House, entry from the lower floor of Town Hall. *[From the editor: it's always great when Halloween falls on a non-school night, isn't it?!]*

If you are interested in joining the Men's club just come to the next meeting.

## HUNT MT 4-H NEEDS YOUR HELP

The Hunt Mtn 4-H Club hosts an annual county-wide craft jamboree on November 1<sup>st</sup> starting at 9:30 AM. This is always a fun day for ALL children, whether or not they are 4-H members. We could use your help making it a success! We'd love if you volunteered to teach a craft. Some past projects have included woodworking, scrapbooking, holiday ornaments, wreath making and painted signs. If you do not have a project idea we have some all planned that just need a person to run them. If you have craft supplies that you no longer need, we could also put those to good use. Please contact Jessica Sherman at 638-4096 if you can help.

## CALLING ALL GARDENERS!

The Garden Club will have no meeting this month as clean up of town gardens has already begun, and will continue after we have a frost.

The club is going to the 99 in Littleton Nov. 12. The members should let Barbara Farr 638-2612 know if they are going so reservations can be made. Time to be confirmed, but probably will meet at town hall at 5 pm to carpool.

They will be making wreaths for town buildings Dec. 1 at 7 pm at the town hall. There will be no meetings in Jan. or Feb., so we will start the year off in March to make the schedule for the following year and hopefully to welcome new members.



## CRAFT SHOW IN 28<sup>TH</sup> YEAR!

The "Christmas Crafts in the Country" Show will be held on Saturday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, from 10 AM-3 PM at Town Hall. This show benefits the Monroe Fast Squad, and donations for the bake sale are greatly appreciated. The Monroe School 8<sup>th</sup> Grade will prepare the Harvest Luncheon, so there will be lots of great food. We're also hearing rumors . . . shhh . . . of homemade donuts.

## Madrigal Dinner Auditions Beginning

The 2015 Madrigal Dinner will be January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, and 25<sup>th</sup> at Town Hall. The Chorus is auditioning for several speaking parts on Saturday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, at 10 AM at Wells River Church. You can reserve a time for your audition and get a script by calling Claire Mead at 989-5523, or via e-mail at [Claire.mead@alumni.duke.edu](mailto:Claire.mead@alumni.duke.edu). More Madrigal details at [www.northcountrychorus.org](http://www.northcountrychorus.org).



## BOY SCOUT FOOD DRIVE

The Scouts of Troop 209 will hold their annual food drive on Saturday, November 8<sup>th</sup>. All donations from Monroe are taken to Tri-Cap Food Bank in Woodsville, which serves our town. Please place any non-perishable items (which can include household goods such as cleaners, laundry detergent, toilet paper, or even pet food is welcome) **by your mailbox or the end of your driveway** by 8 AM. If we miss collecting your donation by 3 PM, please call 638-3002 or 638-3019, and we'll get a Boy Scout to come right over!



## AWESOME NEWS!

The Town of Monroe is now participating in Burn Permits Online. To get a permit please go to <https://nhdfweb.sovsportsnet.net>. The cost of the online permit is \$3. This system is in addition to, and not a replacement of, the paper permit that you currently get from one of the local wardens. **You are still more than welcome to get your free permit from any of our local wardens.** For more info, please call Maynard Farr, Warden, at 638-2612, or the Division of Forests & Lands at 271-2214. We've also put up a link for this new state system at [monroetown.com](http://monroetown.com) under "Live" & "General Info." *(That's so your editor doesn't lose the web address!)*

Did we miss something? Call Eileen at 638-3002 to get it in the next 'e-newsletter.' If you would like to receive your newsletter via e-mail, please send a note to [leen\\_brown@hotmail.com](mailto:leen_brown@hotmail.com). "Smoke Detector" artwork reproduced with permission from NFPA's Fire Prevention Week website, [www.firepreventionweek.org](http://www.firepreventionweek.org). ©2014 NFPA.

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**FIRE PREVENTION WEEK IS OCTOBER  
5<sup>TH</sup>-11<sup>TH</sup>! THANK YOUR FIREFIGHTERS  
TODAY!**



POSTAL PATRON  
MONROE, NH 03771