THE NEWSletter

The Newsy Little Paper That Supplements Other Media

Volume 32 Number 1 January 2023

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Eileen W. Mooney, editor/publisher

Vacancies on Selectboard, Two Other Boards

Nomination Papers Available

FEBRUARY 1 is the last day to submit citizens' petitions to the town clerk. It's also the first day nomination papers will be available in the clerk's Town Hall office.

Deadline to return the papers is **March 17**. They are the only way to get on the printed ballot for the **May 9** annual town elections.

After three terms, selectman Ed Abrahams is not seeking re-election.

"I've loved it, best job I've ever had, but nine years is enough," he told THE NEWS-letter.

Also not seeking re-election are library trustees Chris Tucci and Margaret Heilbrun. Tom Blauvelt, appointed to the Housing Authority Board of Commissioners last year to fill a vacancy, will not run. Phil Orenstein, also appointed to fill a vacancy on that board, will seek re-election.

Other elected officials whose terms end with the May 9 town elections said they either will or probably will seek another term on their board. They are:

Moderator Michael Wise; Planning Board members Jonathan Hankin and Malcolm Fick; Board of Health, Ruby Chang; Zoning Board of Appeals, Mr. Wise and Ron Majdalany; and Finance Committee, Anne O'Dwyer.

ZBA Member Terms Back To Five Years

ZBA members will have five-year terms, the number required in the Town Code's "Section 245-2 Membership; terms of office of the Town Code: The Zoning Board of Appeals shall consist of five members elected by the voters ..."

A former employee in the town clerk's office apparently gave the term as three years when preparing that year's ballot about 12 years ago.

In This Issue:

- -Questions About Proposed Hotel in Former School
- -Berkshire Hills, Southern Berkshire Reps. California-Bound
- -Should Cottage Street Bridge Be Pedestrian-Only?

Have an Opinion On a Big If?

<u>IF</u> the eight towns in the Berkshire Hills and Southern Berkshire regional school districts vote to form a combined district, what should it be called?

Some members of the 8-Town Regional School District Planning Board wanted to name it the "Southern Berkshire Hills Regional School."

That motion failed by one vote, though, with some members saying the public should be consulted.

So, public, what do you think of that name? Have one you prefer?

Send your thoughts to thenewsltr@gmail.com by Feb. 10.

While you're thinking, this issue has reports about the Planning Board and the proposed merger.



If your face is green or blue or red, please see page 2 about the status of your subscription.

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THE NEWSletter

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THE LAWYER for 10 Housatonic residents has sent Housatonic Water Works a demand letter seeking a "reasonable settlement" for "injuries, harms and damages" and "emotional distress" from paying for "undrinkable water."

If HWW does not respond with "a reasonable settlement" within 30 days, a law suit will be filed, Michael O'Neill of the Boston law firm of McGregor Legere & Stevens wrote HWW president Fred Mercer and his son, company treasurer

"If suit is filed against you under G.L. c. 93A and your conduct is found to be unfair and deceptive, the plaintiffs will be awarded their actual damages and automatically awarded reasonable attorneys' fees," plus "up to three times" actual damages if a court determines a refusal to grant relief "was made in bad faith," the letter continues.

The 10 residents are members of Housatonic Clean Water Alliance. THE NEWSletter sent the demand letter to its email letter; any subscriber who has not received it and wants it should notify thenewsltr@gmail.com.

PAGE 5 of this NEWSletter has my column about development of 79 Bridge St., site of the former Searles School. I also filed a Public Records request for any special permit for the property after the one issued in 2019. After the column was printed, town clerk Jennifer Messina emailed me a letter with the following statement:

"We have done a diligent search of relevant records but cannot locate a document with a statement regarding demolition of all but two walls."

In other words, the revised special permit of 2019 remains in effect, with its requirement that "The main school building will be preserved and renovated to contain most of the 88 hotel rooms ..."

AT ITS JAN. 27 MEEETING, the 8-Town Regional School District Planning Board's finance subcommittee reached no decision on a recommendation to the full board of what to assess towns for operations and capital of a merged school district. That includes how to pay for a new high school, proposed for the Monument Mountain Regional High School campus in Great Barrington and attended by all grades 9-12 students in a new district, and whether to include Southern Berkshire's existing debt of \$344,750 a year until 2032. That debt is for \$3,6 million borrowed in fiscal year 2017 for roof and boiler repairs at Mount Everett Regional School.

Finance subcommittee member Charles Ketchen of Alford moved that a proposed payment split of 90-10, with present Berkshire Hills towns paying more, go to 85-15 for Southern Berkshire's towns after that district's debt is paid in 2032. The motion, suggested by Don Coburn of Monterey, who is not a subcommittee member, failed with only Mr. Ketchen voting for it. Voting "no" were the other subcommittee members -- Tom Berkel of Egremont, chairman Nadine Hawyer of Sheffield, Michael Canales and Patrick White of Stockbridge and Marie Ryan of West Stockbridge.

Project manager Jake Eberwein noted that Southern Berkshire has a viable high school now. Mr. Canales said it also has two older elementary schools in New Marlborough and Egremont that could need future capital costs. He noted that one proposed payment method would have Sheffield paying less than West Stockbridge, even though it would have more students.

One cost formula is needed that covers all schools in a merged district, Mr. Canales said. Board member Kim Alcantara of Monterey agreed.

The finance subcommittee's next meeting will be **Feb. 10** at 9 a.m. via Zoom.

GREAT BARRINGTON PLANNING BOARD members on Jan. 26 unanimously approved a special permit to convert 148 Maple Ave. from a former nursing home to 30 apartments, conditional on having agreed-upon plans for landscaping, signage and lighting when the board considers site plan approval for the project.

Members also agreed to recommend that the Selectboard issue a special permit for the Great Barrington airport. That vote was 4-0 as member Jonathan Hankin recused himself as he is an abutter. He spoke in favor of the application from the audience.

The board, on a 5-0 vote, agreed to release three building lots for sale at **Barrington Brook**, one less than requested. The board still has a covenant on five undeveloped lots.

Members also agreed to request that the Selectboard put five proposed zoning bylaw changes on the warrant for this year's town meeting. If the selectmen agree, the Planning Board will schedule a public hearing. Zoning bylaw changes require approval by two-thirds of the voters at a town meeting.

Continued to the next agenda, Feb. 9, is discussion of a bylaw affecting development on Stockbridge Road. These are "extremely traumatic changes" that require graphic renderings to show voters, and they can't be done in time for town meeting, board chairman Brandee Nelson said. Pedro Pachano, who proposed the changes, which would enable fourstory apartment buildings, disagreed. A "big box" store could build there now, he said, and the board needs to "take a stand and provide housing. Chris Rembold, assistant town manager and director of planning and development, suggested a moratorium.

-EWM

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SUBSCRIBERS CAN SIGN UP to receive information listed below, including meeting minutes and obituaries when THE NEWSletter receives them.

This is part of your NEWSletter subscription. There's no added cost.

-ÎBerkshire, BEAT, Berkshire Community Land Trust, Chamber of Commerce, CHP, Clinton Church Restoration/W.E.B. Du Bois Center for Freedom and Democracy, Cultural District, District Attorney;

-Dewey Hall, Great Barrington Historical Society, Mahaiwe Theater, Mel King Institute, RSYP, Claire Teague Senior Center, Train Campaign, Volunteers in Medicine.

Feel free to suggest more.

Everyone gets information about town libraries and the Attorney General's Division of Open Government. That's because the libraries serve all ages and the Division oversees the Open Meeting Law, which helps ensure government transparency.

Meetings and More in February

MORE BOARDS ARE MEETING in person, often with a Zoom component.

Meeting agendas tell how to attend. THE NEWSletter sends agendas to its email list.

Records of some meetings are on Community Television for the Southern Berkshires, **ctsbtv.org**, and the Selectboard's website page, **townofgb.org**. You can watch on your computer or on Spectrum cable channels 1301 (public), 1302 (education) and 1303 (government).

Meetings are also saved on YouTube.

Other websites are Berkshire Hills Regional School District at **bhrsd.org**. The town, its police and fire departments and BHRSD have Facebook pages.

February

- -Board of Health meets Feb. 2, 6:30 p.m. -8-Town Regional School District Plan-
- -8-10wn Regional School District Planning Board meets Feb. 8, 5:30 p.m.
- -Board of Library Trustees meets Feb. 9, 5:30 p.m.
 - -Board of Health meets Feb. 9, 6:30 p.m.
 - -Planning Board meets Feb. 9, 6 p.m.

-Berkshire Hills Regional School Committee meets Feb. 9, 6 p.m., with budget presentation scheduled.

-Selectboard meets Feb. 13, 6 p.m.

-Valentine's Day is Feb. 14!

-Berkshire Hills Regional School Committee meets Feb. 16, 6 p.m., with scheduled public hearing on proposed school budget.

-Town Offices are closed Feb. 20 for Presidents' Day.

-Parks Commission meets Feb. 21, 5:15 p.m.

-Affordable Housing Trust Fund board meets Feb. 21, 6:30 p.m.

-Finance Committee meets Feb. 21, 6:30 p.m.

-8-Town Regional School District Planning Board meets Feb. 22, 5:30 p.m.

-Conservation Commission meets Feb. 22, 6:30 p.m.

-Planning Board meets Feb. 23, 6 p.m.

-Selectboard meets Feb. 27, 6 p.m.

-Great Barrington proposed budget presented Feb. 28, 6 p.m.

Information About Libraries, Senior Center, Recycling

MASON LIBRARY on Main Street, Great Barrington, is open Mondays through Fridays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., with children and youth hours from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturdays are open 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Its telephone number is **528-2403**.

Ramsdell Library on Main Street, Housatonic, is open Mondays 1 to 6 curbside and inside Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 1 to 6 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sundays, 1 to 4 p.m.

Ramsdell also has a loaning Library of Things, including visual reality goggles, a sewing machine and a staple gun.

Its phone number is 274-3738.

The libraries' website at **gblibraries.org/ events/** lists programs for all ages and has registration links.

Books, CDs and DVDs can be ordered by calling Mason or emailing mason-

ramsdell@gmail.com bark.cwmars.org.

Wifi is available on both libraries' lawns and Mason's parking lot.

The New York Times, Boston Globe, Washington Post and THE NEWSletter can be read free online. Anyone with a library card can sign up for a Boston Public Library card.

* * *

THE CLAIRE TEAGUE SENIOR CENTER at 917 South Main St. offers activities, lunches and help with technology, driver license renewals and more.

It provides transportation for elderly and disabled people who call it at **528-1881** at least 48 hours in advance.

Its website at **greatbarringtonsen-iors.org** shows activities and resources.

Staff is available Mondays through Fridays to answer calls, offer SHINE counseling and, with a suggested donation, ready-togo meals. Big Y donations are available Mondays and Wednesdays.

THE NEWSletter sends "Grapevine," the center's monthly newsletter, to subscribers who have requested it.

* * *

THE RECYCLING CENTER on Stockbridge Road, across from Monument Mountain Regional High School, is open Fridays, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Saturdays, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.; and Sundays, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

It is part of the town's Department of Public Works, available at **528-0867** and **townofgb.org/public-works.**

Fees have increased; they are on the town website, **townofgb.org**.

How To Subscribe To THE NEWSletter

READERS: If you're a senior or have a family and your budget is increasingly tight, send what you can to subscribe.

THE NEWSletter can make this offer only because some subscribers generously send extra when they renew,

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Twelve issues (one year) are \$35 for the print version within the 012 zip code or \$30 for the emailed one anywhere.

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Checks go to THE NEWSletter at Post Office Box 567, Housatonic 01236.

Both the written and emailed versions include free emails — agendas, news updates, forwarded material — sent between issues. Your name and email address are kept confidential unless you're an elected or appointed public official.

You can forward all emails to as many people as you want. Having THE NEWS-letter send those emails between issues is \$5 a year for each added name.

Questions? Please email me at thenewsltr@gmail.com.

And a suggestion: THE NEWSletter makes a great gift for new neighbors.

-Eileen W. Mooney

per off Page 3 THE NEWSletter Volume 32 Number 1 January 2023

Hearings on School Budget, Airport; and HWW

BERKSHIRE HILLS' PROPOSED BUDGET, which goes before voters at annual town meetings in May, will be officially presented to the school committee Feb. 9.

A **public hearing** on the budget is scheduled for **Feb. 16**. Both meetings start at 6 and will be available on Zoom.

As now drafted, and without knowing all state funding, the proposed operating budget would be 5.57% higher than the present fiscal year, or \$1,766,589.

The proposed capital budget is down 9.6%, and is the final payment of \$1,716,875 to build the elementary and middle schools.

Anyone who wants a copy of the budget could call or email Doreen Twiss, superintendent Peter Dillon's administrative secretary, at 298-4017 ext. 719 or doreen.twiss@bhrsd.org.

Also, anyone who wants the budgetsummary slides presented to the school committee could notify Ms. Twiss or THE NEWSletter at 274-6100 or thenewsltr@gmail.com.

* * *

PLANS FOR A 30-unit housing development on seven-plus acres off North Plain Road are headed to the Planning Board, possibly at the Feb. 9 meeting.

Central Berkshire Habitat is developing the site. The Affordable Housing Trust Fund board had acquired the land.

An earlier proposal was for 19 houses. When plans were presented to the Planning Board on Sept. 8, however, member Jonathan Hankin questioned why more houses were not planned. Forty to 60 units could go there, he said, as THE NEWSletter reported in Volume 31, Number 10.

Board chairman Brandee Nelson said duplexes would enable more density.

After the Planning Board meeting, Trust Fund board chairman Fred Clark told board's members that Habitat was increasing units to 30.

Habitat will sell the units to buyers meeting specified qualifications.

THE AIRPORT — formally known as Berkshire Aviation Enterprises Inc. — is requesting a special permit to operate at its present location, 70 Egremont Plain

The Selectboard is scheduled to open the hearing on the request Feb. 27 at 6 n.m.

The airport began operating in 1931, before Great Barrington adopted zoning. Thus, it has been able to operate as a nonconforming use in a two-acre residential zone. However, without a special permit, it can't alter that use, such as replacing a

READERS: To avoid the appearance of conflict of interest, I do not report on the Great Barrington Housing Authority or send its minutes as I am an elected member of its board. -EWM

building.

Both the airport and opponents of a special permit have websites: **save-the-gbr-airport.mailchimpsites.com** and **GBAirportFacts.com**.

In its application, the airport said it has about 92.5 acres, with about 1,140 feet of frontage on Egremont Plain Road and about 1,971 feet on Seekonk Cross Road.

It is within the water quality protection overlay district. There would be no enlargement or alteration of existing uses that do not conform to that district, the application states.

It also states that the "Applicant does not propose any new construction or other expansion of the current nonconforming use"

Special Permit Conditions Proposed

Proposed conditions on a special permit are:

-No continuous takeoffs and landings after 8 p.m. during fall, winter and spring.

-No continuous takeoffs and landings after 7 p.m. in the summer except in "unusual circumstances, such as a new student solo flight."

-No "unnecessary aircraft 'run-ups' before 8 a.m."

-No continuous student takeoffs and landings before 9 a.m. Sundays.

-No helicopter flight school will operate at the property.

-"With respect to 'Blackhawk' helicopters, the Airport shall use its best efforts to work with the United States Army to limited training activity at the Airport (the Airport has no control over current training activity)."

-No glider aircraft activity, "except in extraordinary circumstances."

-No jet aircraft "greater than 6,000 pounds ramp weight shall use the Airport, except in the event of an emergency."

-Parking will only be allowed in airport parking lots.

Appeal In Land Court

Meanwhile, the state's Land Court, part of its Trial Court, is considering an appeal that residents Holly Hamer, Marc Fasteau and Anne Fredericks filed last May.

The appeal is of a Zoning Board of Appeals decision upholding building inspector/zoning enforcement officer Ed May's opinion that they were not correct that the airport's operations violate town bylaws and should be reduced back to its opening and that a new office building may not replace an existing house.

* * *

AFTER WEEKS OF NOT giving permission for consultants hired by the town to go on its property, **Housatonic Water Works** has requested names of the people who would do this, town manager Mark Pruhenski told the Selectboard Jan. 23.

The town has hired Raftelis Financial Consultants of Latham, N.Y., to "complete an appraisal of the water utility system" owned by Housatonic Water Works "which the Town is considering purchasing through negotiated sale or eminent domain, if necessary." (boldface added)

That's according to an Oct. 23 letter Raftelis vice president wrote Joe Aberdale, Department of Public Works superintendent. Fee is \$34,000, according to the letter, which describes the work.

With access to HWW facilities apparently allowed, the consultants expect to provide a report by mid-February, Mr. Pruhenski said.

DEP: HWW HAA5 Violations

Reproduced in this NEWSletter are Dec. 20, 2022, and Jan. 11 letters to HWW from the state Department of Environmental Protection regarding haloacetic acids, or HAA5, a possible cancer-causing agent.

During the Selectboard's Jan. 23 meeting, selectman Eric Gabriel asked that the town write DEP asking what steps can be taken about water quality.

(NEWS cont. on page 4)



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STR, Tree Committee, Library Trustees

He doesn't feel any real action has been taken, Mr. Gabriel said.

Mr. Pruhenski said he will draft a letter to be considered at the board's next meeting, **Feb. 6** at 6 p.m.

* * *

SHORT-TERM RENTALS will be on the **town meeting warrant** again. A citizens' petition wants a long-term tenant to be able to do short-term rentals if the property's owner allows this.

As now written, no long-term tenant may use those premises for short-term rentals.

This year's meeting will be **May 1** at 6 p.m. at Monument Mountain Regional High School.

Voters adopted a short-term rental bylaw at last June's annual meeting. It was to go into effect Jan. 1 but has been delayed as software is installed.

Meanwhile, town manager Mark Pruhenski said short-term rental property owners will be notified when they need to register.

Registration fee is \$200, the selectmen agreed Jan. 9. That vote was 3-1, with

Garfield Reed abstaining and Leigh Davis favoring \$250.

Maureen Meier, who uses her house for short term rentals, said she was shocked by the fee, which she feels is punitive.

The Attorney-General's office approved the bylaw in a Dec. 19 letter to the town.

THE TREE COMMITTEE at its Jan. 11 meeting discussed observing **Arbor Day**, **April 28**, with other town organizations and by planting trees.

Mason Library and Friends of the Great Barrington Libraries could have events and feature books on trees, Gary Frenkel's draft minutes state.

"Great Barrington Land Conservancy, Agricultural Commission, local conservation charities, nurseries, arborists have all participated in the past," the minutes note.

New plantings might be made at Town Hall and both Mason and Ramsdale libraries. Report on Tree Plantings, Removals

The Dec. 21 minutes note that nine trees were planted at Alice Bubriski Park in

Housatonic. Although the project was expected to cost \$12,000, actual cost was \$3,400 as bare root trees were planted.

Funds came from the Parks Commission's budget.

Dewey Park has space for trees, Gary Frenkel's minutes note. They also report:

-Long-term planning should be an agenda item in every Tree Committee meeting.

-A Norway maple and a sugar maple in poor structural condition were removed from Everett Street.

Committee members Mr. Frenkel, vice chairperson, chairperson Julie Anidjar, Mary Stephen and Mike Peretti, who is also the tree warden, discussed a planting budget with town Department of Public Works superintendent Joe Aberdale.

Vacancies on Tree Committee

The committee has three vacancies.

Here's what it does, according to its website at **townofgb.org**.:

-Review the existing public tree inventory.

-Develop, in conjunction with the Tree Warden, the DPW Superintendent, and the Parks Commission, a tree maintenance program for public trees.

-Recommend modification to the existing tree inventory.

-Develop, in conjunction with the tree warden, DPW superintendent and Parks Commission, an acceptable species list for town plantings.

-Apply for and maintain Tree City USA designation.

-Recommend appropriate by-laws dealing with the health, preservation, and protection of public trees.

-Generate an annual report on the activities and the condition of town trees.

* * *

LIBRARY TRUSTEES have voted to return a collection of local indigenous artifacts to the **Stockbridge-Munsee Band of Mohican Indians.**

The Oct. 13 vote to do this was unanimous, with chairman Patrick Hollenbeck, Carol McGlinchey, Lauren Clark, Ruby Chang and Margaret Heilbrun voting in favor. Chris Tucci was absent.

Library director Samara Klein noted that the collection was donated by Charles J. Taylor, author of Great Barrington's first history, originally published in 1882.

In the libraries' December newsletter, she wrote:

"In order to comply with the 1990 Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), the library has begun the process of returning the artifacts to the Stockbridge-Munsee and other indigenous nations.

"Several boxes of artifacts are currently being assessed by the Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal Historic Preservation Manager to safeguard any ceremonial or burial items.

(NEWS cont. on page 5)

Town Clerk's Corner

By Town Clerk Jennifer Messina And Asst. Town Clerk Katherine Couch Happy New Year, everyone!

It is a busy time of the year in the clerk's office. We are processing the returned annual street census forms. We mailed the forms out to 3,500 addresses in Great Barrington and Housatonic.

If you did not receive the form; it could be that you moved to a new address in town OR closed/ opened a post office box. The addresses that we use are obtained from the State Voter Registration database so it is important that you notify this office with any changes to your voter registration.

Didn't get a census form or misplaced your form?

Please call the office and we will mail or email you another form, or go to www.townofgb.org and enter "census form" in the search bar. You will be able to print the form. Please fill it out and return it to the office in person or by mail to: Town Clerk, 334 Main Street, Great Barrington, MA 01230

What happens if I do not return my census?

Failure to respond for two consecutive state elections (4 years) shall result in removal from the active voting list and may

result in removal from the voter registration rolls, per Massachusetts Law.

Dog License RenewalsAll dogs over the age of 6 months must be registered.
All dog license renewals must be done before March

31st to avoid incurring a late fee.

Please fill out the form and return it with the appropriate fee, a **self-addressed stamped envelope**, and the current rabies certificate if your dog's rabies vaccination expired during 2022. If you stop by our office, we will process your dog's license during your visit.

DBA (Doing Business As) Renewals

Massachusetts requires any person or business entity who is conducting business under an alias (i.e. any other name than their own), including corporations, to file a business certificate in the community where their business is principally headquartered.

The certificate fee is \$40 and is good for (4) four years.

Important Upcoming Dates

Wednesday, Feb. 1, 8:30 am: Nomination papers for elected positions will be available.

Wednesday, Feb. 1, 4 p.m. Annual Town Meeting Citizen Petitions are due.

Friday, March 17, 5 p.m.: Last day to obtain nomination papers for elected positions.

Tuesday, March 21, 5 p.m.: Last day to submit nomination papers for elected positions.

You can reach us at (413) 528-1619, press 2 then 1. If we don't answer **PLEASE** leave a message we **WILL** call you back.

The office is open daily from 8:30 am – 4 p.m. We close for lunch from 1 p.m. to 1:30 pm.

Wishing you the Happiest of New Years, Jenn and Kathy

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Hello, Folks ...

Questions About Proposed Hotel

HOW MUCH of the Searles School building will be used in 79 Bridge Street Realty's proposed 88-room Berkshire Hotel?

That's an important question because a condition in the revised special permit issued Dec. 11, 2019, states:

"The existing main building shall be preserved"

Under General Findings, the special permit again notes:

"The main school building will be preserved and renovated to contain most of the 88 hotel rooms, a front porch and a portecochere as depicted on the Plans."

Another condition requires that "Deteriorated historic features shall be repaired rather than replaced."

The special permit notes that the site also includes an annex and gymnasium, which will be removed, with a new structure "built in the place of the former gymnasium and reattached becoming a part of the new main building."

What If School Building Isn't Kept?

If the present building is not preserved, the Berkshire Hotel can't have 88 rooms. It may only have 45, as allowed in Zoning Bylaw Zoning Bylaws, Section 7.10.2 Room Limits.

'Demolish a Portion' of Building

However, in its application to the Planning Board for site plan approval, property owner and hotel developer 79 Bridge Street Realty (Vijay and Chrystal Mahida) stated:

"The project proposes to demolish a portion of the existing vacant Searles School building and construct an 88-room hotel, called The Berkshire, in its place."

That "in its place" is puzzling. Plus, the plan above, reproduced from the application to the Planning Board, seems to show a new building.

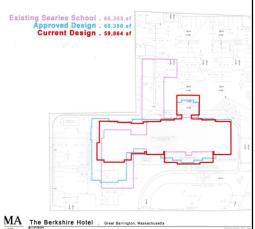
The Planning Board approved the site plan on Dec. 12. However, that approval does not affect the revised special permit.

I didn't "attend" all of the Planning Board's site plan approval discussion on Zoom (my cat disconnected me) and the minutes don't specify what will be removed.

However, I thought I heard that "all but two walls" of the building would be replaced. Seeking clarification, I emailed Chris Rembold, assistant town manager and director of planning and development, who works with the Planning Board; Planning Board members Malcolm Fick, Pedro Pachano, Jeremy Higa, Jonathan Hankin, and chairman Brandee Nelson; and Selectboard chairman Steve Bannon.

Mr. Fick, who is also chairman of the Historical Commission, wrote that the "proposal was revised to retain a brick facade. This was what was accepted."

Except no one has provided information that the Selectboard received such a proposal, held a public hearing on it, and approved keeping façade-only.



I also emailed my question to Kate McCormick, 79 Bridge Street Realty's attorney. She has not replied. During the special permit hearing, however, in 2019, she said, according to the minutes, that her client is "committed to the hotel and the restoration of the old school building."

The record of proceedings for the revised special permit states that a resident "expressed concerns about the back wall being torn down -- the building won't be intact ..."

Attorney McCormick, the record continues, responded that the back wall will come down "because the annex is being removed and there will be hole that needs to be structurally fixed ..."

'Loophole' Cited in First Application

When the application was first presented, Ms. McCormick said the section of the Zoning Bylaws allowing more hotel rooms in a historic building had a loophole that enabled Searles to be razed and 95 guest rooms built

But the loophole was never explained and neither town counsel nor a lawyer hired by concerned citizens (including me) could find it. The application was then revised to use not demolish -- the Searles building.

This Could Affect All Special Permits

What happens at 79 Bridge St. doesn't affect just the former school property. It sets a precedent for special permits.

If more of the building is demolished than specified in the 2019 special permit, will someone be able to claim that a special permit for, say, recreational pot sales can be stretched to allow on-site sampling?

If the Selectboard issues a special permit to the airport, can a future owner claim that this enables additional runways?

Construction Documents Will Tell

Planning Board chairman Brandee Nelson has noted that construction documents have not been submitted.

Let's hope that they show conformity with the 2019 special permit and that this column did not need to be written.

-Eileen W. Mooney

News, continued

"It is our hope that, under the guidance of the Stockbridge-Munsee and other underrepresented local groups, we will be able to expand our local history offerings in a sensitive, contextualized manner,"

More about the collection is on the Internet, including at **find-**

ingaids.library.umass.edu.

Mason Library now features an exhibit of David Bowie's favorite books. Juliana Harris of the library's staff prepared the exhibit.

THE HOUSATONIC IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE has two new members.

Ben Elliott attended Berkshire Hills Regional School District schools before graduating from Bard College at Simon's Rock in 2005.

After graduating with honors from Columbia College Chicago in 2008, he returned to the Berkshires and was a producer and technical director for Castle Hill Theatre Company, New Stage Performing Arts, and Upstairs Live at the Triplex.

He moved to New York in 2012 and was a copywriter for General Assembly, The Gap, and The North Face.

Mr. Elliott resides on Pleasant Street with his wife, Cecilia, and daughter Ava.

He told THE NEWSletter that he hopes to use his time on the HIC to find ways to promote and revitalize Housatonic while keeping it affordable and accessible for all.

Scott Shortt wrote that he is a "serial entrepreneur, having started a graphics and internet company at 17 and sold it at 25 with 12 employees.

(NEWS continues on page 6)

Real Estate To Buy or Sell?

Tom Doyle

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Real Estate 283 Main St., Great Barrington THE NEWSletter Volume 32 Number 1 January 2023

HIC, Parks Commission, CPC Recommendations

"Since selling the Kemble Inn in February 2022, I have been working with a Lenox real estate developer to renovate one of his buildings and create this into a year-round event space.

Mr. Shortt wrote he was on a team that converted the air base in his home town, North Bay Ontario, into a not-for-profit entity, marketed the property to aerospace companies all over the world, and partnered with the local college for educational programs to ensure a qualified workforce, "resulting in nearly 800 jobs in a community of 52,000 people."

Why Be on HIC?

Mr. Shortt wrote:

"I have lived on Fairview Road in Housatonic, and wish to be on the committee because I think Housatonic has a small community feel that I grew up with, and I think it needs a shot in the arm to get all of the former mills ideally repurposed and vi-

What's Purpose of HIC?

Purpose of the HIC, according to its website, is "to foster the social and cultural wellbeing of Housatonic.

"The committee will research, understand, evaluate and advocate local issues, challenges and opportunities encountered by those who live, work and do business in Housatonic. They will review and make recommendations about policies, procedures, services and activities of departments and agencies of the Town of Great Barrington as they affect residents of Housatonic."

The committee is planning a free event for families June 10 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the park next to the former Housatonic School.

PARKS COMMISSIONERS plan to schedule public meetings so residents can tell what they want at the Grove Street and Dewey parks.

The comments will affect Tighe and Bond's design of the parks and the commission's budget for the coming fiscal year that starts June 1.

Commissioners also want to talk with residents using East Rock Trail on Quarry Street about what might be needed there.

Little League Officials at Meeting

Representatives of Little League, including chairman Joe Tonetti, attended the commission's Jan. 17 meeting to discuss use of ball fields at Olympian Meadows.

Commission chairman Karen Smith said she wants a written statement from Little League about how it will maintain the fields, if it again uses them. A bond might be required, she said.

She will not again go through what has happened in the past two years with lack of maintenance, she stated, adding that parents must be more involved.

Commission member Steve Bannon said he was excited that Little League officials were at the meeting and communicating. Other members agreed.

The commission had written Little League that it might not be able to use the fields again because fields were not maintained.

On a 5-1 vote, commissioners agreed Railroad Street Youth Project may use Memorial Field for its annual culinary arts dinner May 21.

Paul Gibbons was the no vote. He had questioned why alcohol was needed at the dinner when the intent was to raise money for a youth group.

Youth are not involved in the dinner, and money is crucial, answered Tiffany Riva of RSYP.

This is not unusual and no cash bar will be available, Ms. Smith noted. Tom Norton said the intent is to simulate a restaurant

The dinner also will be held on town land on which alcohol is not allowed, Mr. Gibbons stated.

"It's not a perfect world," Ms. Smith told him. She, Mr. Bannon, Mr. Norton, Bill Meier and Julie Anidjar voted to allow the use.

They agreed with Eric Gabriel that they favor basketball nights for anyone who wants to play at the Housatonic Community Center.

The commission's next meeting will be Feb. 21 at 5:15 p.m.

The Community Preservation Committee recommends town-meeting voters grant a total of \$1,177,400 for projects -- less than the original request of \$1.7 million.

NEWSletter note: Following is the list of applicants and recommended grants but a report of the discussions will wait until the issue before town meeting. People have told me they'd rather have the information then, before they vote on the amounts. When it's provided earlier, they forget what it said, they have explained.

Applications are on the CPC's page on the town website, townofgb.org.

Open Space Recommendations

Recommended in the category of open space are the Conservation Commission's McAllister Wildlife Refuge, \$19,500, and Berkshire Natural Resources Council, Three Mile Hill Trail, \$40,000.

Historic Recommendations

In the historic category, recommendations are First Congregational Church, manse restoration, \$\$225,000; town Department of Public Works, preserve Brown mausoleum, \$20,000 if proof is provided that the town - not a private entity - owns the mausoleum and it may be used for bodies not related to the Brown family;

Also, BAB Capital 77 LLC for The Cove building, \$50,000 (\$48,500 of the requested \$250,000 was listed for a sprinkler system); and Ian Rasch, \$150,000 for windows at 322 Main St.

Housing Recommendations

For housing, recommended grants are for Construct for a feasibility study, \$150,000; town Affordable Housing Trust Fund for affordable housing projects, \$265,000, less than the requested \$340,000; Ian Rasch, \$128,700 for two affordable one-bedroom units for 10 years at 80% area median income at 322 Main St., less than the requested \$250,000; and Ian Rasch, \$128,700 for two affordable one-bedroom units for 10 years at 80% AMI at 343 Main St., less than the requested \$250,000.

Community Preservation Commission members are Jim Mercer, Patricia Sharpe, Rich Geiler, Kate Van Olst, Martha Fick, Tom Blauvelt, Leigh Davis, Jeremy Higa, and chairman Karen Smith.

A PROPOSED TAX EXEMPTION for owners of year-round housing rented to lowincome people — 80 percent of the annual median income — will be presented to the Selectboard Feb. 13.

The Selectboard-Planning Board Housing Subcommittee will request that selectmen put the proposal on the May 1 annual town

Subcommittee chairman and selectman Leigh Davis prepared the draft, discussed at the subcommittee's Jan. 24 meeting.

"Property owners who provide affordable housing are exempt from paying property tax on the portion of their property being rented at or below the affordable rates to income-eligible households," the draft states.

Provincetown and Wellesley use the exemption, Ms. Davis told other members, Malcolm Fick and Jeremy Higa. Garfield Reed was absent.

Members will again discuss the proposal at their next meeting, Feb. 8 at 5:30 p.m.

The proposal is available from Ms. Davis at ldavis@townofgb.org.

Also Proposed at Trust Fund Meeting

During the Affordable Housing Trust Fund board meeting Jan. 17, member Bill Cooke suggested that board consider this.

Another view expressed during the housing subcommittee meeting was also said during the Trust Fund board meeting.

Mr. Higa told the housing subcommittee that scattering affordable housing is better than having developments.

Having all affordable housing in big projects is a mistake, chairman Fred Clark stated at the Trust Fund meeting.

"I totally agree," member Krysia Kurzyca

More information about the Trust Fund board is elsewhere in this NEWSletter.

Also at the Trust Fund board's Jan. 17 meeting were members Garfield Reed, John Katz, Ananda Timpane, and Joseph Method.

At their next meeting, scheduled for Feb. 21 at 6:30 p.m., they plan to focus on accessory dwelling units as a way to provide affordable housing.

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Should New Cottage Street Bridge Be Pedestrian Only?

The bridge between Main Street and Cottage Street is closed and scheduled for replacement. But a NEWSletter reader suggested that with two bridges already in town, this one isn't needed.

Instead, he proposed replacing it with a covered bridge for pedestrians.

So THE NEWSletter asked readers what you think. And the result: Eleven folks like the pedestrian-bridge only idea; 10 dislike it.

Following are some comments. Because this is an unofficial survey, being anonymous is fine.

Here are the comments:

I think it's a good idea! Fewer cars merging onto Route 7 after the red bridge where's it's more dangerous, too. Good pedestrian walkway and bike path. We have so many roads and bridges to maintain already.

I think that's a great idea. Great for tourism and saves a trip to Sheffield. Then again, does the town have money for it?

Here we go again!!!! One person wants another change not needed in this town. The Cottage Street bridge being closed is a major inconvenience. This suggestion is as bad as a few transplants wanting the airport closed.

I'm remembering the meeting at the Senior Center discussing the Cottage Street Bridge. Many of the homeowners were upset when they said it would be 5 years until it was repaired. I'm thinking a survey of the homeowners affected might be a good plan. Are we looking for a page in Yankee Magazine competing or with Sheffield?

Multiple thoughts:

A covered walking bridge would be nice for the people in that neighborhood being able to walk, like they can now, to down-

A covered bridge could become another tourist attraction for Great Barrington and the rest of the southern Berkshires.

The stop light there could be removed.

Maybe a smallish parking lot to could be built, on the Main Street side, to help businesses on that end of town.

Could the River Walk path then continue up as far as the DPW as part of the walking bridge project?

-Robert Hungate

Here are three reasons I personally am not attracted to the idea of a covered bridge for pedestrians:

- 1. The only pedestrians who use it now are the folks who live on the east side of the river, myself being one of those. Not sure why anyone else would choose to use it.
- 2. The closing of the Cottage St. bridge has put a lot of pressure on drivers to use



Cottage Street Bridge seen from Main Street

Photo by Tim Eustis

Hillside Ave. and East Street as a short cut into and out of town, which has been a real issue for those of us who live on the east

3. A reopened third bridge will serve as a safety hatch of sorts. Should something happen in the future to disrupt the use of one of the other two bridges that connect the east side to town, it would create a real hardship for those of us who rely on bridges to get into and out of town, should we be reduced to only one.

-Yvonne Forman

I live on Cottage Street, and I love the idea of keeping the bridge for pedestrians and bikers only.

I feel it would help to expand Main Street to the north end of town and link it to the too-rarely-used green space of Stanley Park. There could be a plaque about the Housatonic River. It could even be the first stop on the River Walk.

It might help bring more business to that part of town (the Flying Church, currently vacant storefronts, etc) and create a more cohesive town center.

Since the bridge closed, there has been really vibrant pedestrian usage, linking the neighborhoods on the east side of Main Street with town by foot -- and also people walking loops around town.

Currently, it is well known that people cut around the Main Street traffic by using East Street -- often at way-too-fast speeds.

When Covid hit, and our town got crowded with out-of-towners, they would also speed down Cottage Street, because their map apps would still tell them it was a short cut, then they would do a U-turn, finding the bridge closed. (I say out-of-towners, because most people from this area know that the bridge is not really a short cut unless you live in this neighborhood.)

If people try to use Cottage Street Bridge as a short-cut, I think it will if anything interrupt and hurt the flow of traffic on Main Street, and our neighborhood will be a snarl of impatient, speeding vehicles, threatening the safety of the increasing number of small children and other pedestrians in this neighborhood.

-Emily DeVoti

I pretty much agree with my mom with this; I believe that the bridge should closed for cars and er motorized vehicles, but there is one thing that I'm wondering about.

Why does it have to be covered? In my opinion, making the bridge covered would only increase expenses. (I mean, it's not like I'm going to be paying for it or anything, I just think that it might be a waste of money.)

But don't get me wrong, I TOTALLY agree with the idea of making the bridge for pedestrians and bikers only.

I'm 10 years old, and my friends and I like to bike on the street, and that's only possible because of the closed bridge (and no thru-traffic).

Also, with the bridge opened, there was way more traffic.

-Fionn DeVoti Roland

My husband and I think it's a great idea. Perhaps the town can sell the lots on each end while leaving a pedestrian path.

-Angela Lomato

Sorry! That idea sucks. No one has ever considered the inconvenience of those of us who live in the area. For emergency vehicles. To go to Walgreens now, you have to go to State Road, make a left if you can, or go to Bridge Street and down Main. More traffic and more pollution.

Love it and maybe south side would have

flower boxes on it.

(BRIDGE continues on page 8)

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Continued: What Kind of Bridge Should There Be?

What on earth would be the point of a covered pedestrian bridge there? It has remained a pedestrian bridge, with sidewalks on each side, throughout the closure to cars. So this person proposes spending huge amounts of money for what? And paid for by whom?

The state, which has awarded a forthcoming \$5 million grant to repair the existing structure, will not be interested in underwriting a covered wooden bridge.

The point of a covered bridge was to protect its wooden structure from the elements. The Cottage Street bridge is not wooden. So on top of everything else, covering the bridge there would either serve no historical or practical purpose or would require fully ripping out the existing bridge structure in the name of historical accuracy. And for what? Why are you even polling about this?

I think it's ridiculous; who's going to be walking across this expensive relic?

-Ron Majdalany

I would just like to say that I think the Cottage Street bridge should be for traffic once again. I can see where a pedestriancovered bridge would be lovely to look at and walkers could get to downtown Great Barrington, the way we do now.

The problem is the amount of traffic the town has, worse in the summers for sure and on the weekends especially. Going to East Street from Route 7 and then to downtown gives some cars another way to get to downtown and might reduce the backup of traffic on Route 7 as it approaches the bridge where you can either go left into town or leave town under the bypass.

-Laura O'Shaughnessy

I think they should restore the bridge for autos and pedestrians and take some pressure off Bridge Street.

-Anne Fredericks

It's a car bridge. Rebuild it. Please.

-Tim Eustis

The Cottage Street bridge should be replaced for two reasons.

First, when southbound traffic gets backed up on State Road, people use East, Gilmore and Hillside as "shortcuts," which they aren't. Then at least some of that traffic could re-enter Main Street from Cottage Street and not all be sent over the southern end of East Street. It's dangerous enough now to walk the sidewalks of East Street., which is a residential street. Just one misstep and pedestrians can easily be hit by a car.

The sidewalk on Cottage Street has a buffer of grass between it and the traffic on the street

Second, those of us who live on East Street might once again be able to get more easily to the Great Barrington Post Office or anything else on the west side of Main Street. As it is now, I go up Railroad Street and begin at about the Triplex to look for a parking spot to get to the Post Office, Salisbury Bank, the "Flying Church" or Cumberland Farms, for instance.

Some time ago a concerted effort was made to slow traffic down on the west side of town.

The east side of town is the blue collar side. There are many working families there. I hope that the people who want to eliminate the Cottage Street bridge and make East Street traffic worse take that into consideration.

* * *

Yes! We live on Cottage and have so enjoyed the pedestrian-, bike-, kid- and dog-friendly street that this has become these past few years. We would be overjoyed if this were to become a permanent situation.

Prior to the bridge closing, an astounding number of cars sped through the neighborhood in an attempt to shave off a quarter mile of Route 7. Semi-trucks would barrel down the road, too, maybe to avoid the turn at the (now) red bridge. We'd love to continue seeing more people and fewer cars in the neighborhood!

While we're having the discussion, can we at least take down the metal barrier fences?

* * *

I think the Bridge Street and Main Street bridges may need serious repairs again some day and so might have to close. It might be important to have a third vehicular bridge open by then to take the overflow traffic.

A pedestrian bridge at Cottage Street is a nice idea but the long-term, foreseeable need for a third vehicular bridge outweighs it, IMHO.

-Geof Purcell

-GC011 u

Though I live on the east side of Great Barrington, I believe that the millions of dollars might be better spent in some other way than strengthening and repainting yet another auto bridge.

If we were to make it a pedestrian's covered bridge, akin to the covered bridges that once pockmarked New England, it might become a highlight of the town. I'm imagining something reminiscent of the covered bridge in Sheffield.

Not that we need more tourists, of course, but if done right it could beautify the town with one more beautiful element.

In addition, in that area of town, when it rains there are few places to duck under to stay dry. A covered bridge could double as a gazebo in inclement weather.

-Robert K.C. Forman

Making the Cottage Street bridge pedestrian/bicycle access only makes sense, but it does not need to be covered.

I haven't seen recent cost estimates for a new vehicle bridge like we had before, as opposed to one that does not need to bear the weight of trucks and cars ... just people.

What are the benefits to traffic flow that would recommend re-constructing a vehicle bridge? It seems there would need to be a new directional light system at the intersection with Main Street. And what have we missed the last few years without a bridge for vehicles?

THE NEWSletter is a great gift for neighbors and other friends!

Overnight Parking Ban Is Now in Effect

The town's ban on overnight on-street parking is in effect from 1 to 6 a.m. through March 31.

Violators will be ticketed and vehicles that block Department of Public Works snow plows will be towed at the owner's expense.

Overnight parking — not for 24 hours — is permitted in many parking lots in the downtown area, including at the Town Hall, top of Railroad Street, Castle Street and Mason Library.

In Housatonic, residents may park at the former Housatonic School.





Down Payment Assistance!

Would you like to buy a house in Great Barrington, but don't have a down payment? The Affordable Housing Trust Fund can help. Income qualified households (up to 100% of Area Median Income) can get an interest free loan of 10% of the purchase price — up to \$25,000! The loan does not need to be repaid until the house is sold or transferred.

Visit www.gbhousing.org for details.

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Going To Workshops in California

BHRSD, SBRSD Share Learning

REPRESENTATIVES OF the Berkshire Hills and Southern Berkshire regional school districts will participate in a virtual and inperson in what's called an "Innovative Schools Learning Excursion."

The program, featuring Vista Unified School and Mission Vista High School in Vista, Calif., has virtual workshops Feb. 1 and 9 and on-site sessions March 14 and 15, with a dinner on March 13.

The trip is funded by a Next Generation Learning Challenges grant of \$6,000, provided through the TIDES Foundation.

Why Are They Going?

After meeting last October, Berkshire Hills and Southern Berkshire participants agreed that their charge is to learn:

- "1. How might we work together as two districts sparked by things we learn on this visit?
- "2. How can BHRSD and SBRSD develop educational visions that address the common needs of both districts' shifting landscapes and that enables them to work together collaboratively in a way that supports one another's approach to learning?
- "3. What types of expanded high school programming and approaches from VUSD/ MVHS might inform our own approaches and practices?
- "4. What components of Mission Vista High School's approach to learning would work well for the two districts?"

Who Is Going From Each District?

Participating from Berkshire Hills are, all from Monument Mountain Regional High School, four students; Keith Wright, assistant principal for CVTE (Career Vocational, Technical Education); Neel Webber, art teacher; Valri Ivy, chemistry teacher; district superintendent Peter Dillon; and a person to be named later.

Southern Berkshire is sending two students; Julie Dolan, director of curriculum, instruction and professional development; Sandi Hubbard, director of student services; Lindy Marcel, Early College and internship coordinator; and superintendent Beth Regulbuto.

'Areas of Commonality'

In the application, the districts note that "While our districts have different approaches to education in some areas, we also have areas of commonality.

"Both districts are committed to offering rigorous learning opportunities for students, having a strong professional culture for teachers, engaging families and the community, and addressing the social and emotional needs of students."

Vista Unified's Goal

Next Generation Learning Challenges quotes Vista Unified School District:

"Our ambitious goal is to transform educa-

tion into a personal learning path that flexibly

adapts to the strengths, interest, and values of each student. We call this project our moonshot because it will require everyone in the organization (students, parents, teachers and support staff) to completely shift their mindset from a traditional one-size-fits-all style of learning to a dynamic, personalized approach that places students in the driver's seat as stewards of their own learning."

The district's website is at vistausd.org.

Both Berkshire Hills and Southern Berkshire have introduced new approaches to education.

SBRSD: College Courses for All

According to an April 2022 news release from Bard College at Simon's Rock, the Great Barrington early college received an early college full school impact planning grant of \$150,000 from the state Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

"The grant will support a three-year pilot program for Simon's Rock to partner with Southern Berkshire Regional School District (SBRSD) to develop a shared immersive whole-school model Early College program beginning in fall 2022," the release explains.

It continues in part:

"As a pilot program, Simon's Rock began partnering with SBRSD in the fall of 2019 in providing students at MERHS with the opportunity to take Early College courses and earn credits towards their associate degrees while still enrolled in public education.

"The program took a one-year hiatus due to COVID-19, but returned in the summer of 2021. The reciprocal nature of the program provided the opportunity for Mount Everett students to participate in their courses on campus at Simon's Rock during the summer with Simon's Rock professors teaching courses on Mount Everett's campus in the fall.

The release concludes:

"The full program, designated by the Massachusetts Early College Initiative, aims to involve every Mount Everett student in college preparatory work and will allow students to complete up to a full year's worth of college courses (up to 31 credits) while still in high school.

"Students will be engaged as early as eighth grade to explore their interests, develop an academic plan that includes early college, and connect that plan to their career aspirations."

Point Is To Give Students Confidence

Jane Burke of New Marlborough said the point of everyone trying a college course is to give students confidence that they can do it if they choose instead of "I'm not smart enough."

"It is a totally different world," said Ms. Burke. She was chairman of the Southern Berkshire Regional School Committee but did not seek re-election when her term ended last May.

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Bill Vogt Named To BHRSC

BILL VOGT HAS BEEN NAMED as Stockbridge's third representative on the Berkshire Hills Regional School Commit-

Stockbridge selectmen Jamie Minacci, Ernest Cardillo and chairman Patrick White chose him at their Jan. 12 meeting. The other two Stockbridge school representatives - Jason St. Peter, who was re-elected Nov. 8, and Corey Sprague - voted for Sarah Walker Tonetti.

The position had been vacant since the Nov. 8 elections when no one was on the printed ballot to succeed Sean Stephen, who did not seek re-election. No write-in candidate accepted the position.

Mr. Vogt's Background

In his application letter, Mr. Vogt wrote that he has lived full-time in Stockbridge for 20 years. He has been chairman of the town's Planning Board and now is on its Finance Committee.

He also is chairman of the Hancock Shaker Village board and has spent "many years on the boards of Camphill Village in Copake, N.Y., and Camphill Ghent, in Ghent, N.Y., not-for-profit organizations serving persons with developmental disabilities in non-institutional settings."

After Mr. Vogt graduated Georgetown University in 1968 with a degree in government, he was in the Army for four years as an intelligence officer. He was stationed in Seoul, South Korea, for 13 months and left with the rank of captain, he wrote.

He then worked in corporate finance for J.P. Morgan Chase & Co. in New York, Tokyo, Hong Kong and Lagos.

'Intrigued' by Proposed Merger

"Although my children are grown and never attended schools here, I have always been interested in general trends in education. Of course on the Finance Committee I have reviewed the school district budgets and Stockbridge's support of both operating and capital requests.

Mr. Vogt continued:

"I am intrigued by the work going on relating to the merger and would welcome the opportunity to help in any way I can."

He attended the 8-Town Regional School District Planning Board meeting Jan. 18.

Mrs. Tonetti's Application

Mrs. Tonetti wrote that she and her husband have lived in Stockbridge for 13 years. Their two children attend W.E.B. Du Bois Regional Middle School.

I am eager to represent our town's students and families in maintaining the high standards of our district as well as all of those residents justifiably mindful of controlling expenses and getting value for their tax dollars," she wrote, concluding:

"I love this town and would be honored to serve if chosen."

THE NEWSletter is a great gift!

www.GBAirportFacts.com

GB Committee to Protect Our Neighborhoods, Clean Water and Fair Taxation

There is a great deal of confusion regarding the fight against further expansion of the Great Barrington airport. Our zoning enforcement request, and subsequent appeal to Land Court simply asks the town to enforce Great Barrington's existing zoning bylaws. Barrington Aviation Enterprise's application for a Special Permit would, if granted, void the protections these bylaws provide to Great Barrington residents. In opposing this application, we seek to protect our most important resources: safe water, safe air, safe crops, and safe homes.

Do you know where your drinking water comes from?

Our single-source aquifer that provides the drinking water for all Great Barrington's public and private wells is located beneath the airport property. We have no back-up source of clean water. In 2003, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) published an assessment of the Great Barrington drinking water that stated: "the airport is of the greatest concern in the Great Barrington Fire District Zone II, with a high potential for leaks of hazardous materials."

The airport has expanded flights, maintenance and use of hazardous chemicals in spite of this warning from the DEP. All the chemicals used in the maintenance, repair and flying of small aircraft are toxic/hazardous. Lead exhaust from small planes is the largest source of lead poisoning in America. The flight school planes at the airport cannot and do not run on unleaded fuel, even if it is for sale! Regular use of these aviation chemicals and the leaded fuel the airport still uses is a direct threat to our water supply, our health, our agriculture, and the health of our wildlife. Housatonic knows what it means to have compromised water. Great Barrington residents need to pay attention to their water supply, too!

Do you pay sales and excise taxes to the town of Great Barrington? The airport doesn't.

Chapter 64H of the Massachusetts General Laws exempts from taxation the sale, operation, and maintenance of airplanes and airport operations. Even with a Special Permit, any further expansion of the airport will not generate any more tax revenue for Great Barrington. The owners, the mechanics, most of the instructors are not Great Barrington residents: They don't vote here, pay taxes here, or drink our water. The owners make unsubstantiated claims that the town benefits financially from people who "fly into town for lunch." Go to www.FlightAware.com where you can see that most planes flying into and out of the airport are owned by BAE, the flight school, or BAE owners. BAE has applied for and received state DOT funding for improvements. Why are our tax dollars being spent on a private business? Especially a business whose profits are not spent in Great Barrington? We have been subsidizing BAE's owners with our state taxes and our high Great Barrington real estate taxes. Do we want to allow this non-tax paying business to expand and depress surrounding real estate values and Great Barrington tax revenue?

Are you aware of the many crashes and near misses at the airport? We have not yet heard the result of the FAA investigation of the August incident in which a flight school plane's engine failed and it was forced to ditch in a corn field adjacent to the airport. Troublingly, www.FlightAware.com shows that this same plane had circled tightly over our neighborhood houses multiple times that day, and every day in the previous week. The FAA is still investigating the September 18, 2022, student flight crash into the APR-protected corn field on the other side of Seekonk Crossroad. Two crashes in 6 weeks, one plane completely destroyed, plus other crashes the airport denied during the last Special Permit hearings but were clearly reported in the Lakeville Journal and the Berkshire Eagle, and the Great Barrington police who keep crash records.

(continued on next page)

Paid ad Paid ad Paid ad

The Airport's runway is exceptionally short, with no margin for error. Pilots and FAA safety employees have stated that this is a uniquely difficult airport at which to land, even for seasoned pilots, let alone the many student pilots. The airport says there has been just one incident, but there have been multiple landing near-misses with cars which have been reported to the FAA and the local police. See our website for videos and photos of a few. The teaching planes are many decades old, in some instances too old to bring up to modern safety standards. Airport operations are a life-threatening hazard to Great Barrington residents and flight school students.

Zoning: A special permit for BAE would mean that the town is creating a new, larger commercial/industrial site right in the middle of a currently protected Great Barrington neighborhood.

The R-4 zoning in the airport neighborhood is for farming, open space, large parcels. It does not permit gas stations, maintenance operations or any commercial or industrial development. The owners knew this when they received the property. A Special Permit would allow unlimited expansion of operations on the airport's 90 acres, turning the site into a major industrial development. If the Selectboard breaks precedent by overriding the protective zoning in this neighborhood, the same thing could happen in other neighborhoods in Great Barrington. When zoning was enacted and bylaws were written, the airfield was not given permission to change or expand in any way. This property was zoned this way because an airport does not belong in a residential neighborhood, above the aquifer and on the banks of the Green River. The Selectboard should honor the forward -thinking protections established by their predecessors. If this special permit is allowed, no neighborhood in Great Barrington will be safe from outside interest that want to exploit open land and the taxpayers.

Did you sign a petition to 'Save the Airport'?

The airport's website states that the Land Court Judge told the airport to apply for a special permit.

This is patently and demonstrably false. This is an attempt to put pressure on the Selectboard.

The airport's petition and website state that neighbors are trying to shut down the airport—false.

Our request to the building inspector, appeal to the ZBA and to the Land Court have all been published in the local press. We are trying to reverse the expansion that has already taken place in violation of the zoning code and to prevent further expansion, not to shut it down. Shouldn't the owners have to comply with the same requirements that other businesses in Great Barrington do?

Why is the airport asking people to sign a petition that is filled with these and other falsehoods? Is this how we do business in Great Barrington? Mislead the public? Pressure our elected officials with misinformation?

We need to think about the future. We ask Great Barrington voters to learn the facts, take a stand for the taxpayers and residents of Great Barrington. We want to protect our water, our open space, our neighborhoods and our wildlife. We ask the Selectboard to vote NO on the airport's application for a Special Permit.

For the full story, go to:

www.GBAirportFacts.com

GB Committee to Protect Our Neighborhoods, Clean Water and Fair Taxation

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8-Town Planning Board News: Merger Vote in Fall

A PROPOSED DISTRICT AGREE-MENT probably will not be ready for a vote this spring so voting on a merged school district is now expected to be at special town meetings in the fall.

Lucy Prashker, chairman of the 8-Town Regional School District Planning Board, which is studying a proposed merger between the Southern Berkshire and Berkshire Hills regional school committees, suggested Jan. 18 that those special town meetings be in August or September.

Steve Bannon, chairman of both the Berkshire Hills Regional School Committee and the Great Barrington Selectboard, said August should be avoided because people are away. He noted that he did not think the

vote should be at regular town meetings, which have many other warrant items.

Andy Potter, a West Stockbridge selectman and former Berkshire Hills school committee member, and others agreed.

The vote must be at a town meeting, regular or special. A ballot vote is not allowed, the Planning Board's lawyer has said.

The Planning Board's **finance subcommittee** is considering what to recommend for operational and capital assessments for the eight towns in a merged district.

Members want more information from consultant Matt Abrahams.

Their considerations include whether capital should include existing debt for Southern Berkshire and a 90%-10% or 80%-20% payment split for a proposed new high

school that all students in grades 9-12 would attend.

Berkshire Hills would pay either 90% or 80% of the amount.

A Berkshire Hills building committee is considering what to recommend to voters in its three towns. Size of a school has not been determined.

District Agreements Made So Far

So far, the 8-Town Planning Board members have agreed that a merged district's new transition and elected school committees should have 11 members, with one for each town except Great Barrington, the largest town, which would have three members, and Sheffield, the second largest, which would have two.

Board members unanimously agreed Jan. 18 that each town's selectmen and the town's present school committee members would appoint an 11-member transition committee.

That committee would have the same authority as the committee to be elected.

The Planning Board also agreed that elected members must live in the town they would present but would be elected by all district voters. Berkshire Hills and Southern Berkshire now follow that process.

In the merged district's first election — expected in November 2024 — the two members with the highest votes in Great Barrington would have four-year terms and the third would have a two-year term.

In Sheffield, the member with the higher vote would have a four-year term; the other's term would be two years.

The three members with the highest votes in all other towns would have four-year terms. The rest would have two-year terms.

At the new district's second election, in November 2028, all elected members would have four-year terms.

Not agreed on is what a new district should be called. A related item is on page 1.

An updated draft agreement was sent to 8-Town Planning Board members before its Jan. 18 meeting and is available from THE NEWSletter.

Report on Third Youth Forum

During the board's Dec. 14 session, former member and Southern Berkshire Community Health Coalition director Laura Rodriguez and Deisy Escobar, health coalition youth co-chairman, presented reports of the third forum for students from the two districts.

Eight students — five from Monument Mountain and three from Mount Everett — attended.

They are concerned about losing their small campuses and programs and they want a culinary program with internships, more diversity and more courses.

Seven of the eight favored a merger.

Of the 40 students at the three forums, two attended all three and two attended two, Ms. Rodriguez told THE NEWSletter.

BHRSC News, from page 9

BHRSD: 'Proficiency-Based'

Berkshire Hills is introducing heterogenous — or "proficiency-based" — grouping, starting in 2021 with Monument Mountain Regional High School's grade 9, whether students were in standardized, college preparatory, honors or advanced placement.

Southern Berkshire does not have such grouping, its superintendent, Beth Regulbuto, told THE NEWSletter.

A slide show presentation of the proficiency-based approach is in the packet for the school committee's Oct. 20, 2022, meeting on the district's website, **bhrsd.org.** Packets are under "school committee."

In its successful application for a \$300,000 Barr Foundation grant, Berkshire Hills wrote, in part:

'Substantially Different School'

"In five years Monument Mountain Regional High School (MMRHS) will be a substantially different school than the MMRHS of today. MMRHS will have a clearly articulated, agreed upon, essential mission and vision with institutional norms for academic excellence grounded in Portrait of a Graduate (PoG) and an overarching culture that values equity of outcomes and provides support for student growth and their social and emotional development."

'Take Multiple Years To Implement' Also:

"Our full shift to proficiencies will take multiple years to implement. Our grading system will shift from feedback centered on points, averages and credit accumulation to one centered on feedback on skill development and student growth. ... Fundamental to this shift will be equity and the belief that each student has the ability to succeed."

THE NEWSletter asked Berkshire Hills superintendent Peter Dillon and school committee chairman Steve Bannon to discuss whether in a merged district, the transition for Southern Berkshire students and teachers "might be, at best, difficult?"

Mr. Bannon did not respond but Mr. Dillon said he would prefer that the 8-Town Planning Board's educational visioning subcommittee and its consultants consider that question.

More information about the Planning Board and its study of a merger is elsewhere in this issue.

MASC Honors Doreen Twiss

Ms. Twiss is the Massachusetts Association of School Committees' Administrative Assistant of the Year for 2022.

Mr. Dillon and school committee chairman Steve Bannon nominated her. Andrea Wadsworth of Lee, MASC's president, presented her with the award at the school committee's Dec. 15 meeting. (Editorial comment: She's terrific to work with.)

Ms. Twiss has been with the district for 37 years.

District Hires Consulting Firm

Stryker Munley Group, with offices in several cities, will be paid \$17,500 to review the school district's communications and develop a plan, Mr. Dillon said.

At the building committee's Jan. 19 meeting, he said company representatives will meet with district residents.

During that meeting, Mr. Dillon said the committee can prepare factual documents that an outreach committee, not yet appointed, can use to explain why a new or renovated high school is needed.

Although the committee was appointed to consider "new" or "renovated," presentations by the 8-Town Regional School District Planning Board state that both districts' students in grades 9-12 would attend a new high school on the Monument Mountain Regional High School campus.

Berkshire Hills staff, including Mr. Dillon and director of operations Steven Soule, are working with the Massachusetts School Building Authority for an application for funding.

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Police Reports for Two Months

Reproduced in this issue is a page from the Great Barrington Police Department's report of 2022.

Great Barrington police can be reached by calling 911 for an emergency or 528-0306. The department's website is greatbarrington-police.com and its Facebook page is www.facebook.com/GBPDMA/

Police at 911 handle ambulance dispatch. The police station is at 465 South Main St.

Police officers now wear cameras to help document investigations and incidents.

The department participates in the state Disability Indicator Program. Individuals with safety, communication or other needs are encouraged to download a form at mass.gov/doc/disability-indicator-form.

The following reports are summaries, not complete accounts of what happened.

Report for November

TWENTY-THREE COLLISIONS were reported in November, including two involving three cars and 16, two cars.

Vehicles— including a motorcycle — also hit deer on North Plain Road three times and Stockbridge Road, once. A car hit a bear on South Main Street.

A driver hit a pedestrian in a crosswalk. Another hit a crosswalk sign.

A juvenile was arrested for negligent operation of a motor vehicle. Someone else was issued a summons for having a suspended license.

A tree limb fell on a car.

Where Radar Was Used

Police used radar a total of 10 times on Stockbridge Road. That included twice each at Fountain Pond and Old Stockbridge Road.

They also used radar six times on Park Street; four times, Monterey Road; three each, Main and South Main streets and Egremont Plain, Monument Valley, State and North Plain roads.

Also, twice each, Division Street and Van Deusenville and West Sheffield roads and once each, Maple Avenue, Seekonk Cross Road and East Street.

Other Police Actions, Reports

Police stopped 30 vehicles, resulting in 28 citations/warnings.

Three people were found drinking alcohol at Old Maid's in Housatonic. One who was 20 was arrested for being a minor in possession of alcohol.

Someone else was arrested for driving under the influence and a marked lanes violation at the South Main Street traffic circle.

A local motel reported that people took a key from its drop box and two females and three males used the room.

Someone was issued a summons for shop-lifting.

Pills and nicotine products were confiscated at Monument Mountain Regional High School.

Juveniles were reported breaking into the former Searles School building on Bridge Street.

Archer, the police comfort dog, paid a visit, according to the police report.

A wallet was reported stolen from a vehicle.

An unresponsive man with blood on his chest was found in Elmwood Cemetery. The medical examiner was notified. Police Chief Paul Storti told THE NEWSletter on Jan. 4 that cause of death had not yet been determined but homicide is not suspected.

Among other activities, police also provided two gallons of gas for a car that ran out. They arrested someone on a court-issued warrant and someone else for drug possession.

Bears, Porcupine, Cows and a Bird

A bear brought garbage from one house on Pothul Drive to another residence.

A young porcupine was eating clover near a school bus drive on Bentley Avenue. Police "attempted to move along but was eating and didn't want to be bothered. Kept kids away while getting off the bus," the report states.

Two cows were reported near North Plain Road.

Police helped remove a bird from a South Egremont Road garage.

Report for December

FIFTY-FOUR COLLISIONS were reported in December, including 10 involving two cars.

A tree fell on a vehicle on Stockbridge Road, sending the driver to the hospital.

A pedestrian reported being struck with a vehicle's side view mirror.

A truck hit the underpass on St. James, tearing the roof off the truck and hospitalizing the driver.

Vehicles hit deer once each on Stockbridge and Monument Valley roads and twice each on Egremont Road and Main Street.

A coyote was hit at Fountain Pond.

Police opened 18 cars with keys locked in them. (THE NEWSletter doesn't usually report lockouts but this seemed an unusually high number.)

Where Radar Was Used

Police used radar 46 times, including seven times on Main Street; six times each on State and Stockbridge roads and South Main Street; five times, Monument Valley Road; four, Division Street;

Want to meet Archer, the police comfort dog? You can arrange a meeting by calling the police station at 528-0306.



Also, three each,

Monterey Road and Park Street; twice, Van-Deusenville Road; and once each, East and Front streets and North Plain and Egremont Plain roads.

They stopped a total of 28 vehicles, resulting in 19 citations/warnings issued.

Comfort dog Archer was used twice.

Units staged at Simon's Rock after a gun threat was reported. The college used extra patrols, someone's guns were taken and a notrespass order was issued. No incident was reported.

A woman was taken into protective custody after a disturbance at the Mahaiwe.

A caller reported that she was told her grandson was in an accident and needed \$800. No money was sent.

Another caller reported that someone claiming to be Arlo Guthrie wanted to be wired \$1,000 for a "meet and greet." No money was sent.

However, someone else reported she sent \$1,000 for rapper Keith Sweat.

CVS reported that a counterfeit \$20 bill was passed at its store.

A man was arrested for rape.

A shoplifter took a coat from a local store. The coat was recovered.

A domestic involving a mother with a knife was reported.

Three men were issued summons for graffiti at the fairgrounds. Someone else was summoned for shoplifting at two local stores.

Two people called asking why Housatonic roads were not clear after three days of no snow.

Cows and Vultures

Cows were reported on Seekonk Road, North Plain Road and Hurlburt Road.

Six vultures were observed in a tree on Church Street.

Fire Reports for Two Months

The Fire Department is at 528-0788 o r, in an emergency, 911. Its website is www.townofgb.org/fire-department and its Facebook page is www.facebook.com/gbfiredept/

Fire stations are on State Road, Great Barrington, and Front Street, Housatonic.

Calls in November

GREAT BARRINGTON FIREFIGHT-ERS went to a total of 92 calls during November, including in a garage on North Plain Road and a brush fire on Christian Hill Road.

The "tiny fire" in a garage was started by improper disposal of oily rags, Fire Chief Charles Burger said. The brush fire was small, accidentally started by disposal of hot ashes, he explained.

Firefighters also helped search for a man reported to be missing. He was found at a local motel.

Someone on Deer Trail Road forgot to open the chimney damper when lighting a fireplace, which "quickly put low levels of smoke and CO in the residence," Chief Burger said.

They helped EMS 51 times, including at six accidents, and responded 25 times to alarms for hazardous-materials release with no hazmat and carbon monoxide or fire alarms activated because of malfunction or unintentionally.

(FIRE REPORTS cont. on next page)

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Recent Real Estate Transactions

The Southern Berkshire Registry of Deeds is in the Great Barrington Town Hall and open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays. Documents are online at www.masslandrecords.com.

Following are recent transactions of \$35,000 or more in Great Barrington (including Housatonic), Egremont, Monterey, Alford & West Stockbridge.

-Marie Lanier to Susan M. Moor, trustee, Susan Monacelli Moor Trust, 1 Abbey Hill Drive, Great Barrington, \$530,000.

-CCRD Global LLC to Sarah M. DeFalco & Peter E. Steiner, 58 Main St., Egremont, \$85,000.

-Bruce H. Bernstein & Lita N. Moses to Michael D. Grohman & Donna G. Grohman, 20 Blunt Road, Egremont, \$1.2 million.

-John A. Chetta & Randy Mones to Christopher Gannon & Theodora Gannon, 15 Norwalk Acres Road, Monterey, \$245,000.

-Linda C. Bertucci to Susan Drumm Scionti, 219 Oak St., Great Barrington, \$100,000.

-Jo L. Newnham trustee, Jo L. Newnham Revocable Trust Agreement, & Dennis M. Newnham to John F. Baughman & Caroline A. Baughman, 73 Hurlburt Road, Great Barrington, \$1.9 million.

-Fortune Fountain LLC & America Loam Capital LLC to James R. Burke & Sandra Charvat Burke, 23 Lake Ave., Great Barrington, \$550,000.

-Mark Maslowski, Neil Maslowski & estate of Ann B. Bristol to Maggies Place MA LLC, 7 Main St., West Stockbridge, \$325,000

-Patricia Anne Igoe to John Delmolino, 16 Lewis Ave., Great Barrington, \$405,000.

Fire Reports continued Calls in December

Firefighters rescued an out-of-towner tying to drive from Lee to Monterey. GPS "tried taking them on an exciting route in the snow and ice and they got stuck" on Mount Wilcox Road, Chief Burger explained.

"We were able to drive to them and give them a ride to the house they were renting. Their car was towed out the next day," he reported.

Firefighters also helped EMS 63 times in December, including once at an accident.

A restaurant had very low CO levels when the chef forgot to turn on the kitchen exhaust hood.

They extinguished a fire in a clothes dryer at a hair salon at the Stockbridge Road shopping center.

A contractor putting down a roof used a hot torch, saw a puff of smoke from under a window sill and was concerned about a fire. A thermal imaging camera monitored the area and no fire was found, Chief Burger said

Firefighters also responded to 30 alarms for hazardous-materials release with no hazmat and carbon monoxide or fire alarms activated because of malfunction or unintentionally.

-Jonathan Hirsch to Andre Aurelein De-Saint & Andre Molly Dest, 140 Castle Hill Ave., Great Barrington, \$265,000.

-Hugh Anders Gyllenhaal Jr. & Beverly M. Gyllenhaal, trustees, Hugh Anders Gyllenhaal Jr. Revocable Trust Agreement & Beverly M. Gyllenhaal Revocable Trust Agreement to Jenny J. Scott & Michelle L. Laramee-Jenny, lot H, Austerlitz Road, West Stockbridge, \$275,000.

-Charles A. Burger II to Sarah Hagedorn, 4 Meadow Lane, Great Barrington, \$460,000.

-Jeanette R. Tenney to Heather Hicks, 7 State Line Road, West Stockbridge, \$447,000.

-Deborah Scher, Gordon Lafer & Diana Lafer to Robert Leighton & Vivian Leighton, 82 North Egremont Road, Alford, \$1.8 million. -Rebecca Wood Campetti, trustee, Wood Family Nominee Trust & Carolyn Wood to Lucia Lin, 24 West Alford Road, West Stockbridge, \$1.3 million.

-35 Main Street LLC to 35 Main Street WS LLC, 35 Main Street, West Stockbridge, \$415,000.

-Daniel R. Gray III & Susan E. Gray to Christopher P. Dodge, 126 State Line Road, West Stockbridge, \$136,000.

-Abraham Shoupe Hunrichs & Madeleine Ann Elling to Adam M. Esbensen & Linda R. Campos, 11 Iron Ore Road, West Stockbridge, \$345,000.

-Rockwell Development Inc. to Wende Crowley Revocable Trust, Wende Crowley, trustee, 1 Lovers Lane, Great Barrington, \$549,900.

(REAL ESTATE cont. on next page)

Building Permits for Two Months

Building Commissioner Ed May issues permits and inspects projects. He is also Great Barrington's zoning enforcement officer.

His Town Hall office is open weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. The telephone number is 528-3206. Mr. May's email is **emay@townofgb.org**.

Inspectors; What Needs Permit

Other inspectors are gas, Robert Gennari at 274-0267; plumbing, Robert Krupski, 229-8019; and electrical, Theodore Piontek, 274-6605.

Permits are needed for siding, roofs, signs, foundations, fences, and temporary structures; to demolish structures; and to install chimney linings, alarm systems;

Also, new windows, wood stoves, insulation, sprinkler system, photovoltaics;

Also, tents, pools, hot tubs, spas, alarms, sprinklers, sheds, solar installations, and home occupations.

Building Permits in November

Fifty-six building permits were issued in November with fees paid of \$21,162 and estimated construction costs of \$3,335,859.

Following are permits during November with estimated building costs of \$35,000 or more and contractor if not the homeowner:

-Hunt Slonem, remove & replace balustrade at 389 Main St. (aka Searles Castle), Jeffrey Cantarella contractor, \$114,718 estimated value.

-Quarry Street Management, repair, remodel, addition & new deck & roof at 22 Quarry St., Michael Harr, \$386.090.

-GBMAM1, upgrade & renovate 256 Stockbridge Road, John Mercer, \$823,000.

-Simon's Rock, repairs at 84 Pond Cottage, Alford Road, Jason Maronde, \$75,000.

-Powerhouse Square LLC, new retail space in existing space at 34 Bridge St., A.J. Schnopp Jr., \$93,000.

-Juliet Bergan Emery, install 28 solar panels on roof at 211 East St., Phil Smith, \$41,000.

-48 State Road LLC, partial demolition & reconstruct 48 State Road, Heritage Homes, \$900,000.

-Jeffrey Hollar, remodel 3 White Birch Road, \$365,000.

-Steven Miller, install inground pool at 326 Long Pond Road, \$101,500.

-Dennis & Judy Marub, new house at 678 Stockbridge Road, Geoffrey Simpson, \$908,600.

-Kenneth Sold, remodel 4 bathrooms at 4 Muddy Brook Circle, Joseph Roth, \$152,000.

Building Permits in December

Forty building permits were issued in December with fees paid of \$21,281 and estimated construction costs of \$3,025,902.

Following are permits during December with estimated building costs of \$35,000 or more and contractor if not the homeowner:

-Gregory & Caren Decter, new pool house at 200 Castle Hill Ave., Brian Madeville, \$135,000.

-Community Health Programs, alter 440 & 444 Stockbridge Road, including 5 temporary dental stations, Eric Taylor, \$41,700.

-148 Maple Avenue LLC, selective demolition for preconstruction analysis at 148 Maple Ave., \$100,000.

-Lin Bing Wang, replace roof at 101 Cottage St., Alyssa Dowding, \$38,000.

-Michael Maguire, add bathroom to third floor at 115 Hollenbeck Ave., James Waldman, \$47,653.

-Thomas & Carmen Brown, replace 24 windows at 210 South St. North, Jaime Morin, \$63,974.

-Steven Pedigo & Brian Bitner, renovate 263 Park St. North & replace windows, back porch and back door, Berkshire Home Pros, \$407,000.

-Inky Fiingers LLP, replace kitchen & bathrooms & renovate 610 Main St., Anthony Barnaba, \$115,000.

-343 Main Street LLC, reconfigure 343 Main St. for 13 apartments & 2 commercial spaces, Alander Construction, \$1.925 million.

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NOTE: THE NEWSletter lacks the space to include all survivors.

Grace Warren Arzt

Grace Arzt, 99, of Lee died Jan. 4 at Berkshire Medical Center.

She was a secretary for the Southern Berkshire Regional School for 28 years.

Mrs. Arzt leaves two daughters, Sharon Lade of Country Club Hills, Ill., and Susan Warren of Fort Lauderdale, Fla.; and a grandson, Timothy Lade of Matteson, Ill.

Finnerty & Stevens Funeral Home is handling arrangements, to include a private family graveside service in the spring.

Thomas Rudolph Biller

Thomas Rudolph Biller, 70, of Great Barrington died Dec. 18.

He was a starter on the football and gymnastic teams at the three high schools he attended in Orinda, Calif., Barrington, R.I., and Greenwich, Conn., and had played drums in a high school garage band.

After high school, he was a chef at several restaurants in Greenwich and at Greenwich Hospital.

He moved to Great Barrington in his 20s and was a chef at Williamsville Inn. He also competed in the Cove Lanes' Mary Pratt Senior Bowling League.

Mr. Biller leaves his mother, Rosanna Biller of Manhattan Beach; and his sisters, Jennifer Biller of San Francisco and Annamarie Collier of Manhattan Beach.

He was predeceased by his father, Rudolph Lois Biller.

Finnerty & Stevens Funeral Home handled arrangements.

Dorothy Jean Capasse

Dorothy Jean Capasse, 90, of Sheffield died Jan. 8 at Kimball Farms in Lenox.

She had headed the laundry department at Great Barrington Healthcare for 37 years.

Recent Obituaries

Mrs. Capasse leaves two sons, Martin J. Capasse III of Alamogordo, N.M., and William F. Capasse of Ashley Falls; two daughters, Dorothy Banach of Sheffield and Patricia Whitbeck of Sheffield; a sister, Mary Leigh Shaw of Sydney Mines, Nova Scotia; six grandchildren; and six greatgrandchildren.

Her husband, Martin Joseph Capasse II, died in 1988. She was also predeceased by her daughter, Carol Bednarik; a son-in-law, Joe Banach; a granddaughter, Kelly Bednarik; four brothers, Charles, Michael, Paul and Gerrard MacDonald; and two sisters, Charlotte Crawford and Stella MacDonald.

Birches-Roy Funeral Home handled arrangements.

Memorial donations are suggested to the Claire Teague Senior Center through the funeral home.

Patricia Ann Carlotto

Patricia "Patsy" Ann Carlotto, 79, of Housatonic died Jan. 20 at Berkshire Medical Center.

The former Patricia Koldys, she graduated in 1961 from the former Searles High School.

She was a payroll secretary at the former Rising Paper Mill and at her brother's bakery for many years.

Mrs. Carlotto leaves her husband of 51 years, Peter; her son, Peter; her daughter, Lisa M. Carlotto; and her sister, Maureen Brazie.

She was predeceased by her brother, Benjamin Koldys Jr.

Birches-Roy Funeral Home handled arrangements.

Memorial donations are suggested to the Lupus Foundation New England.

Adair Jean Dellea

Adair Jean Dellea, 74, of Alford died Dec. 24.

In 2007, she had a brain bleed that confined her to a wheelchair.

Mrs. Dellea leaves her husband, Bruce; her son Arthur; and three grandchildren.

She was predeceased by her son, Andrew Dellea; her sister, Carol Damm; and her parents, Arthur Martel and Elizabeth Hall.

Finnerty & Stevens Funeral Home is handling arrangements, which will include a Celebration of Life.

Memorial donations are suggested to the Alford Fire Department or Southern Berkshire Ambulance Squad through the funeral home.

Lester Andrew Ettlinger

Lester Andrew Ettlinger, 83, of Great Barrington, died Dec. 5 at home.

Mr. Ettlinger earned a bachelor's degree in engineering, master's degrees in math and physics and a doctorate in physics from the University of Michigan.

He then taught physics at Johns Hopkins University and did experiments at Stanford Accelerator, Fermi Lab and other locations.

He was an environmental consultant with Akman Consulting and then with Mitre Corporation. He worked on problems such as the disposal of high-level radioactive nuclear waste and of World War I poison gases for the American government.

He ended his career as director of safety standards at the federal Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board.

(OBITUARIES cont. on page 14)

Real Estate Transactions continued

-Louis D. Davis & Leslye R. Heilig to Richard King & Alison Nadia Brunner, 32 Benton Ave., Great Barrington, \$875,000.

-Windflower Acres LLC to Construct Inc., 684 South Egremont Road, Great Barrington, \$1.425 million.

-Sonia D. Premi to Paul J. Wetzel & Rebecca J. Finch, 32 High St., West Stockbridge, \$580,000.

-Peter S. Vallianos, trustee, Lakelot Realty Trust, to Douglas B. Neu & Julia B. Neu, property on Bidwell Road, Monterey, \$140,000.

-Peter S. Vallianos, trustee, Lakelot Realty Trust, to Amy Silberstein & James Cohen, property on Bidwell Road, Monterey, \$140,000.

-A. Ruth Littlechild Trust-2018, Ruth Littlechild & John W. Littlechild, trustees, to Kenneth A. Rosen & Lisa A. Rosen, 26 & 30 East Road, Alford, \$8 million.

-Alphonso Kimche & Joan Kimche to Phyllis Stein, 0 Crooked Hill Road, Alford, \$225,000.

-Myrna Heller Randolph & Jeffrey L. Heller, trustees, Alan D. Randolph 2001 Revocable Trust to 146 Hupi Road LLC, 146 Hupi Road, Monterey, \$675,000.

-John A. Byrka & Joseph S. Byrka, trustees, Byrka Family Realty Trust, to Seth Evans & Anna Louise Haley, 211 Pine St. North, Great Barrington, \$320,000.

-Christopher E. Ryan to Sheila Estelle Bandyopadhyay, unit 4, 12 Manville St., Great Barrington, \$316,000.

-Kornelia Krzyzanowska to Nancy Jean Hancock & Jill Irene Patterson, trustees, Birgit I. Patterson Irrevocable Trust Dated Dec. 22, 2017, 27 Blue Hill Road, Great Barrington, \$317,000.

-Damien Flores to James Hendrick, unit 4B, 281 Main St., Great Barrington, \$385,000.

-Miriam Rose Shapiro to Karin Schaefer, 190 Egremont Plain Road, Egremont, \$250,000.

-Richard M. Barbieri, Georgia R. Barbieri & Georgia R. Douillet to Mario Deris & Laurie Deris, 139 North Plain Road, Great Barrington, \$375,000.

-Sondra Klein, trustee, Lawrence B. Klein Trust, to John White, trustee, 67 Fairview Realty Trust, 67 Fairview Road, Monterey, \$1,582,500.

-Michel R. Gill & Jayne Atkinson-Gill to Jeffrey A. Diamond & Sheryl D. Ginis, unit 2, 80 Taconic Ave., Great Barrington, \$550,000.

-Lenox Landings Barrington Brook Holdings LLC to Gary Katz & Leslye Katz, 15 Thrushwood Lane, Great Barrington, \$963,511.68.

-JM Millard LLC to Jody S. Canavan & Mark J. Canavan, 42 Millard Road, Egremont, \$990,000.

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Mr. Ettlinger leaves his wife of 37 years, the former Michele Gilligan; his son, Dr. Paul Ettlinger, and daughter, Lisa Ungar, both of Baltimore; his stepson, Dr. Peter R. Steenland III of Asheville, N.C.; two grandsons and two stepgrandsons; his sister, Judy Brown; and his first wife, Anita Fishbein.

Birches-Roy Funeral Home handled arrangements.

Memorial donations are suggested to HospiceCare in the Berkshire or HIAS through the funeral home.

Louis J. Gardella

Louis J. Gardella, 89 of Great Barrington died Jan. 11 at Berkshire Medical Center.

He graduated in 1951 from the former Searles High School and then served in the Army during the Korean War.

For 31 years, he was a letter carrier for the Great Barrington Post Office, retiring in July 1994.

He also played on the Alford Pitch League for more than 40 years.

Mr. Gardella leaves his wife of 60 years, the former Marjory A. Riiska; his son, Michael; his daughter, Katrina Hans; and his brother, Richard.

He was predeceased by his brother Charles in 1998 and by his sister. Norma Palmer.

Birches-Roy Funeral Home is handling arrangements, which will include a Celebration of Life at a later time.

Memorial donations are suggested to the Great Barrington Police Department through the funeral home.

Gretchen Hoeltzel

Gretchen Hoeltzel, 56, of West Stockbridge died Dec. 13 at Berkshire Medical Center.

She grew up in Indiana and Westport, Conn., and graduated with honors from the University of Massachusetts.

She and her husband, Alan Champney, owned and operated L'Alouette Bistro in Harwichport.

Ms. Hoeltzel leaves her husband of 28 years, Alan; her mother, Mary Ball Hoeltzel of Stockbridge; and her brother, Lloyd Hoeltzel of Secaucus, N.J.

Finnerty-Stevens Funeral Home is handling arrangements, to include a Celebration of Life in April on Cape Cod.

Memorial donations are suggested to the Berkshire Humane Society through the funeral home.

Nikki Goode Katz

Nikki Goode Katz, 83, of Egremont died Dec. 21.

She had been a teacher and managed a service for women in abusive relationships.

She had been on the Mahopac, N.Y., school board and was honored for creating a fundraiser for the school's budget.

She also went to law school.

Mrs. Katz leaves her twin sister, Ruth Davis; three children, Alissa Whiteman, Jeff Katz and Mike Katz; and 12 grandchildren.

She was predeceased by her husband, Fred Katz.

Birches-Roy Funeral Home handled arrangements.

Obituaries, Continued

Memorial donations are suggested to the Lewy Body Dementia Association or Hebrew Senior Life.

Thomas Frank Keefner

Thomas Frank Keefner, 87, of Great Barrington died Dec. 21 at home.

He served in the Army during the Korean War. For many years, he was a mechanic and foreman at Lee Lime, then Cemex, before retiring in 2000.

Mr. Keefner was predeceased by his wife, the former Patricia Newman; two sisters and six brothers.

He leaves his three daughters, Joeann Gagnon, Connie Weiland and Beverly Keefner; 10 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; and five great-great-grandchildren.

Birches-Roy Funeral Home handled arrangements, which included services with Military Honors.

Brenda Lee Kelly

Brenda Lee Kelly, 54, of Pittsfield died Dec. 21 at Berkshire Medical Center.

She had attended Mount Everett High School.

Ms. Kelly leaves her life partner, Warren Phillip Pond; her mother, Laurie Farnum Flynn; her stepfather, Tom Flynn; her children's father, Steven Phillips; her children, Ryan Phillips, Tony Phillips and Shi-Anne Phillips; her brother, Nicholas Trierweiler; her stepfather, John Trierweiler; and a grandson.

Finnerty & Stevens Funeral Home is handling arrangements, which will include a Celebration of Life.

Memorial donations are suggested to Laurie Flynn at Post Office Box 235, Housatonic 01236.

Joseph W. Merola

Joseph W. Merola, 66, of Sheffield died Dec. 3 at Berkshire Medical Center.

He graduated from Mount Everett Regional High School and Roger Williams College. He worked at 20 Railroad St. and Sheffield Pottery.

Mr. Merola leaves his former wife, Elizabeth O'Donnell of Ashley Falls; his daughter, Michelle Merola of Holyoke; a son, Joseph Merola of Great Barrington; a brother, John Merola of Hudson, N.Y.; and two sisters, Iris Peppe of Pittsfield and Suzanne Wool of Great Barrington.

He was predeceased by his sister, Annette Ferron, and brother, Jeff Merola.

Birches-Roy Funeral Home handled arrangements.

Memorial donations are suggested to the Peoples Pantry in Great Barrington through the funeral home.

THE NEWSletter is a great gift!

Judith A. Race

Judith A. Race, 78, of Great Barrington died Dec. 29 at home.

The former Judith Besancon, she attended local schools and for many years was a bookkeeper for Smith Watson.

She leaves two sons, Kenneth and Joseph, both of Ashley Falls; four grandchildren; and her sister-in-law, Rosemary Besancon of Housatonic.

She was predeceased by her sister, Nancy Collins, and brother, William Besancon.

Birches-Roy Funeral Home handled arrangements.

Adrienne Curtiss Vaughn

Adrienne Curtiss Vaughn, 76, of Georgia died Dec. 17.

She graduated in 1964 from the former Searles High School and then from nursing school in Pittsfield.

She was a career nurse.

Mrs. Vaughn leaves her brother, William Curtiss of Egremont; her daughter, Mercedes Lazzaro of Georgia; a grandson; two grand-daughters; and a great-granddaughter.

She was predeceased by her son, Larry T.

Birches-Roy Funeral Home handled arrangements.

Ramona Veretto

Ramona Veretto, 90, formerly of New Marlborough and Stockbridge, died Dec. 29 at Fairview Hospital.

She graduated in 1950 from the former New Marlborough High School and lived in New Marlborough until moving to Stockbridge in 2007.

For the past seven years, she had lived at Fairview Commons.

Ms. Veretto leaves her sister, Winnie Veretto of Great Barrington.

Birches-Roy Funeral Home handled arrangements.

Roy 'Bud' Wilkinson

Roy "Bud" Wilkinson, 86, of Southfield died Dec. 28.

He graduated in 1954 from the former New Marlborough High School. He was a mason and carpenter at Gilligan Brothers before starting his own construction company, Wilkinson General Contracting.

After he retired, he worked with his wife in their antiques business, restoring furniture, stoves and collectible items.

Mr. Wilkinson leaves his wife of 65 years, the former Carolyn Woodbeck; six children, Scott, Wayne and Nancy Wilkinson, Janet Bouteillier, Lisa Schneyer, and Carol Ustico; 14 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and his brother, Joseph Wilkinson.

He was predeceased by his brother, Richard Wilkinson, and half-brother, William Wilkinson Jr.

Birches-Roy Funeral Home handled arrangements.

Memorial donations are suggested to New Marlborough Fire and Rescue, Friends of Moe or St. Jude's Children's Hospital through the funeral home. In the last issue, THE NEWSletter reported that a resident, supported by school committee members, sought information about what groups do in Berkshire Hills Regional School District schools. At the Dec. 15 meeting, superintendent Peter Dillon provided the information below and on the next page. "MB" is Muddy Brook Regional Elementary School; "DB" is Du Bois Regional Middle School and "MM" on the next page is Monument Mountain Regional Middle School.

BHRSD Parent/Family Engagement

District	MB	DB
School Committee	parent advisory council	Family Crew
		2nd Wednesday Monthly 6:30 Zoom
Sub-Committees	PTA	Family-Community Crew
Policy		Monthly as scheduled
Building and Grounds	Student Led Conferences	Coffee with the Clinicians
Finance	PTA Events	First Thursday of each Month at 8:30 arr
Superintendent's Eval and Advisory	Parent Volunteers in classroom	Project Connection Showcase
Co-Curriculars ad hoc	EL parent nights	Last week of each PC session, evening
	Community Connections Parent Present Family Advisory Council	
	Parent Participation at Butternut	First Thursday of each Month at 3 pm
Famly Liaison (w/ VIM)		

Famly Liaison (w/ VIM)

MSBA Building Committee

MSBA Outreach (in process)

Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC)

second Thursday of every month, 4:00p - 5:00p, in Stockbridge

English Language Learner Parent Advisory Council (ELLPAC)

Portrait of a Graduate Community Conversations

Additional communication

parent nights, newsletters /Parent Square, Family Forums. etc.

MM

Parent Advisory Council

Last Thursday of the month 6:00-7:30 in the MM library Chapter 74 General Advisory Committee
2x a year - February and May - dates TBD

Chapter 74 Program Advisory Committee

Athletic Booster Clubs

Shakespeare Booster Club

Musical Booster Club

8 Town RSB CVTE Advisory Committee 8 Town RSB Academic Advisory Committee THE NEWSletter Volume 32 Number 1 January 2023

Below is a page from the 2022 report of the Great Barrington Police Department. More information is on the department's website, *greatbarrington police.com*.

Page: 2
Records Analysis Report
01/01/2022 - 12/31/2022

01/03/2023

Case Activity Statistics

Total Offenses Committed: Total Felonies: 106 126 Total Crime Related Incidents: Total Non Crime Related Incidents: 110 39 Total Arrests (On View): Total Arrests (Based on Incident/Warrants): Total Summons Arrests: Total Arrests (Unspecified Type): Total Arrests: 193 Total P/C's: 22 Total Juvenile Arrests: Total Juveniles Handled (Arrests): Total Juveniles Referred (Arrests): Total Hearings: Total Summons: Total Open Warrants: 2 Total Open Default Warrants: Total Orders:

	Occurrence(s)	Percentage
Orders Involving Alchohol	0	0.0
Orders Involving Drugs	0	0.0
Orders Involving Illness	0	0.0
Orders Involving Children	0	0.0
Crime Incidents Involving Domestic Violence	6	4.8
Crime Incidents Involving Gang Activity	0	0.0
Crime Incidents Involving Alcohol	4	3.2
Crime Incidents Involving Drugs	1	. 0.8
Crime Incidents Involving Computers	0	0.0
Crime Incidents Involving Alcohol and Drugs	0	0.0
Arrests Involving Domestic Violence	18	9.3
Arrests Involving Gang Activity	0	0.0
Arrests Involving Alcohol	35	18.1
Arrests Involving Drugs	9	4.7
Arrests Involving Computers	1	0.5
Arrests Involving Alcohol and Drugs	0	0.0



Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Department of Environmental Protection

Western Regional Office • 436 Dwight Street, Springfield MA 01103 • 413-784-1100

Charles D. Baker Governor

Karyn E. Polito Lieutenant Governor Bethany A. Card Secretary

Martin Suuberg Commissioner

SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL Mr. James Mercer, Treasurer Housatonic Water Works 80 Maple Ave Ste 1 Great Barrington, MA 01230

December 20, 2022

Re:

Great Barrington-DWP Housatonic Water Works PWS ID#: 1113003 ENF # 00013199 Response

Dear Mr. Mercer,

The Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) is in receipt of document titled "Evaluation of Reducing Water Age by Lowering Storage Tank Water Level, as a Short-Term Means to Reducing DBPs for Housatonic Water Works Company". The document was dated November 14, 2022, and it was prepared in response to Condition 8.A presented in ACO 00013199 by Robert F. Ferrari, PE of Northeast Water Solutions Inc. The Condition 8.A states, "Within 45-days of the effective date of this Consent Order, Respondent shall provide the results of an evaluation of reducing water age by lowering the levels within its water storage tank as a short-term means of reducing disinfection byproducts".

The evaluation of the November 14, 2022 document concluded: 'Based on the evaluation, lowering the water level in the 1.1-MG storage tank further than the current practice can decrease water age, however, it will adversely impact the water pressure for certain areas in the distribution system especially during fire flow conditions". MassDEP concurs with the above referenced evaluations and the study done by Housatonic Water Works. However, MassDEP requires HWWC to continue to work on an evaluation of the causes of HAA5 MCL violations and the treatment alternatives to prevent future HAA5 MCL violations in the water distribution system.

If you have any questions, please contact Hem Pokharel at 617-455-7957 or email at Hem.Pokharel@Mass.Gov.

Respectfully, Den die Dohary

Deirdre Doherty

Drinking Water/Municipal Services Chief Western Regional Office

DWP, Boston

Hem Pokharel (eCopy); Doug Paine (eCopy) Bob Ferrari, Northeast Water Solutions Inc. (eCopy)

BWR\WS\LT2 & DBP Rules\WQ_Data\1113003-2022-12-20-ENF-Resp-Housatonic WWC DEP WERO - WS\2020-2022PWSCorr\G-L\1113003\1113003-2022-12-20-ENF-Resp-Housatonic WWC



Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Department of Environmental Protection

Western Regional Office • 436 Dwight Street, Springfield MA 01103 • 413-784-1100

Maura T. Healey

Kimberley Driscoll Lieutenant Governor

Gary Moran **Acting Commissioner**

SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Mr. James Mercer, Treasurer Housatonic Water Works 80 Maple Ave Ste 1 Great Barrington, MA 01230 Re:

January 11, 2023

Great Barrington-DWP Housatonic Water Works PWS ID#: 1113003

Water Quality- Disinfection By-Products

Dear Mr. Mercer,

The Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) is in receipt of Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) and Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) results for water samples collected at a location in Housatonic Water Works. The 4th quarter sample was collected on November 10, 2022, and the results were received by MassDEP from Housatonic Water Works on December 20, 2021, via email. Housatonic Water Works Company's (HWWC) OEL calculation for HAA5 was based on the fourth quarter DBP samples collected by Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP on November 10, 2022) at the 314 North Plain Road, on the same day and at the same time along with HWWC's sampling. The use of MassDEP's DBP sample at 314 North Plain Road was warranted because HWWC was not able to provide HAA5 laboratory sample results for the fourth quarter of 2022 (the testing lab reported the bottle broke while in the lab's possession).

The results show that the 4th quarter 2022 Operational Evaluation Level (OEL) for HAA5 (60 µg/L) was exceeded at a location. The OEL exceedance sampling location for HAA5 is (10004) 314 North Plain Rd. with 70 µg/L for the fourth quarter.

While the exceedance of the OEL is not a Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) violation, it does require that the Housatonic Water Works evaluate the possible cause(s) of the exceedance and take the necessary corrective action(s) to try and avoid a future MCL exceedance. However, Housatonic Water Works has also exceeded HAA LRAA at the (10004) 314 North Plain Rd with 66 µg/L for the fourth quarter. The MCL exceedances and other violations will be addressed in a separate correspondence.

In accordance with the Stage 2 Disinfection By-Products Rule (310 CMR 22.07F(13)), Housatonic Water Works must complete and submit the attached "Operational Evaluation Reporting Form" by March 15, 2023. The link to EPA's Operational Evaluation Guidance Manual is emailed to the

Housatonic Water Works. The full document is available at http://www.epa.gov/dwreginfo/stage-1-and-stage-2-compliance-help-community-water-system-owners-and-operators or http://nepis.epa.gov/Exe/ZyPDF.cgi?Dockey=P1002YDW.txt.

If you have any questions, please contact Hem Pokharel at 617-455-7957 or email at Hem.Pokharel@Mass.Gov.

Respectfully, Dendudohay

Deirdre Doherty

Drinking Water/Municipal Services Chief Western Regional Office

Attachments:

Operational Evaluation Reporting Form, Sample Collection & Distribution System Evaluation Guidance.

cc: (w/o Attachments): DWP, Boston Great Barrington Board of Health (eCopy)

Hem Pokharel (eCopy); Doug Paine (eCopy)

W:\BWR\WS\LT2 & DBP Rules\WQ_Data\1113003 - 2023-01-11-Q4 DBP OEL- Housatonic Water Works
DEP WERO - WS\2023-2025PWSCorr\G-L\1113003\1113003 - 2023-01-11-Q4 DBP OEL- Housatonic Water Works

The results show that the 4° quarter 2022 Operational Evaluation Level (CEL) for HAA5 (60 µg/L) was exceeded at a lucution. The OLL exceedance sampling location for FLAA5 is (10004) 314 North Plain Rel. with ${}^{\circ}$ U µg/L for the fourth quarter.

While the exceedance of the Orll is not a Mayir Jun Consuminant Level (MOL) violation, it does require that the Housatome Water Works evaluate the possible cause(s) of the exceedance and take the necessary conserve action(s) to try and avoid a fourte MCL exceedance. However, Housatonic Water Works has also exceeded HAN LRAA at the (10004) 314 North Plain Rd with 66 µg/L for the fourth quarter. The MCL exceedances and other violations will be addressed in a separate correspondence.

t accordance with the Sage 2 Disarcetion By-Products Rate (310 CMR 22.07F(13)), Houseomic later Works most complete and submit the attached "Operational Evaluation Reporting Form" b latch 15, 2023. The link to EPA's Operational Evaluation Guidance Manuel is enabled to the

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