

FIRST SELECTMAN COLUMN

01/19/2023 ISSUE DATE

January, post-holiday season, is sometimes a tough time for our Sherman businesses. I encourage you to patronize our businesses as much as possible during these winter months. It's a lot easier to pick up some groceries, a bottle of wine, some roasted ground coffee, a haircut, breakfast, lunch, or dinner, a gift for someone special, candles, crystals, and other necessities right here in Sherman rather than burning up gasoline to shop somewhere else. Shop local when you can!

Please keep the date Saturday, Feb. 11 open on your morning calendars. The Sherman PTO is sponsoring a pancake breakfast at the JCC from 9am to 11am. Proceeds from this event go towards funding trips to competitions for the Middle School Band. The event also features a performance by the band which will be competing later in the year at Six Flags in Massachusetts. The Middle School Band, by the way, is an extremely impressive bunch of young musicians who under the direction of Chris Carlone make some hot toe-tappin' jazz.

Just a reminder that there is a Town Meeting on Saturday, January 21 at 10am in Mallory Town Hall. (Usually our Town Meetings are in Charter Hall, but there is a blood drive happening there. If you can, donate some blood!) The Warning for this meeting is on the Sherman town website. Following that, at 11am, is a tour and presentation in the Sherman School pertaining to the proposed repairs for that building. This is a great opportunity to ask questions and see for yourself the capital issues facing us in that building. Members of the Sherman School Building Committee along with school administration staff will be leading the tour and presentation.

We are fortunate here in Sherman to have so many open places to hike, which is a great way to knock off a few holiday pounds and to experience the nature that abounds us. Deer Pond Farm off of Wakeman Hill Road offers amazing trails as do the several hiking trails maintained by the Northwest Connecticut Land Conservancy (formerly Naromi) and Great Hollow Nature Preserve. Even several of our bucolic town roads offer splendid walking adventures with plenty of nature to see and vistas to marvel at.

I write this column on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, a man who rose above violence and hate to conquer violence and hate with patience, reason, and love. There are lessons in his work applicable to the political and social times we live in now; however, there are also lessons in his work applicable for personal growth too. It's easy to get angry and to strongly dislike a situation or a person who you feel has done you wrong. But it is also possible -- and sometimes easier -- to meet that situation or person with understanding and patience. Today is a good day to reflect on what that might mean for us.



DON LOWE

TOWN OF SHERMAN