

# FIRST SELECTMAN COLUMN

05/18/23 ISSUE DATE

An article a few weeks back in a prominent local paper about our Sherman School regionalizing seems to still resonate with people. I would like to try to put it to bed. It seems everywhere I go in New Milford or New Fairfield, and, of course, in Sherman someone stops me and asks me “when is the regionalization going to happen?” Folks, it’s not. There are no plans for such a plan. Instead, the Sherman School will continue on in the good way that it always has continued on – and eventually (hopefully) in a school building that is repaired and made whole again from its current infrastructure issues. The Sherman School Building Committee is working hard to put together and present that building plan to the Town and in the coming weeks it will be revealed. But nobody is bussing first graders or other-graders to another Town.

As I always am this time of year, I’m excited for our Memorial Day Parade and ceremony. This year our keynote speaker will be Bob Accosta. Bob, a military veteran, has not only been our Fire Chief (three times!) but has offered his ample talents in many ways to the Town and we are grateful that he accepted this honor to speak. Our Grand Marshal this year is Fran Frattini who has lived in Sherman for more than 50 years and served faithfully on our Parks and Rec Commission for 39 years – 36 as chairperson! Fran is a great lady and we look forward to honoring her. This Memorial Day Ceremony will also feature free hotdogs thanks to the Scouts, the IGA, and two generous anonymous donors. Expect the cannon blast at the end, and we are thrilled to be adding an aircraft fly-over.

If you’re reading this column on Thursday, there is still time – 24 hours – for your high school senior and also your young adult who is pursuing a military career (2 different applicants) to apply for the Walter B. Wriston Merit Scholarship. This is sponsored by our Sherman Veterans Association. Completed applications are due on May 19. Information on the scholarships and the applications are available at the Sherman School. This scholarship is for \$1000. Another scholarship that is available to a high school senior and also to an individual currently pursuing higher education is the Gloria Thorne Scholarship. Named after a magnificent Sherman citizen who did so many amazing things for Sherman, this scholarship is also for \$1000. Applications are available by calling the Sherman Historical Society at 860 354 3083.

The Historical Society’s barn sale is coming up on Memorial Day Weekend. There is still time this Saturday morning, May 20, from 9:30 to 12:30 to drop off items for that event. The Barn Sale is a big deal and people come from all over the tristate area to poke around through the goodies. I expect to be the crossing guard on the opening morning and will be offering all comers safe passage across the often bustling Route 37. I’ll be the guy in the bright clothes with the harried expression on his face. Almost all drivers slow down when they see people crossing or when someone (me) gestures for them stop. A few, however, well, they learned to drive in a different school I guess... In any case, I hope to live through it.



DON LOWE

TOWN OF SHERMAN