

FIRST SELECTMAN COLUMN

05/25/23 ISSUE DATE

Fingers are crossed for a nice sunny day to grace the Memorial Day Parade on Sunday, May 28. The parade kicks off at 1pm and we have an amazing procession planned with all manner of participants. As it always does, we culminate down in Veterans Field for a respectful ceremony to honor what this day truly means: paying our deepest respects to those who have died in wars serving our great country. In other words, the parade is a spectacle and its fun; but the ceremony is what Memorial Day is really all about. It's a solemn day of reflection for the tremendous loss and sacrifice of American lives as they fought for and protected our American way of life. If by chance there is rain, we will decide that morning about the parade's status. However, the ceremony on Veterans Field is rain or shine.

As part of the weekend festivities, *The Women's Soiree* at the Sherman Library is slated for this coming Friday night starting at 6:30pm. Tickets are still available. Then for the next two days, in conjunction with the Historical Society's famous "Barn Sale" across the street, the library will have its Annual Book Sale from 9am to 3pm. Both events are not only a great chance to pick up some items at reasonable costs, but the social aspect is also wonderful. As I wrote last week, I'm there as crossing guard on Saturday morning, but after I leave mid-morning you're on your own crossing Route 37 to attend both sales. Please be careful!

This Thursday is the regularly scheduled Board of Selectmen meeting. Please note that the starting time for that meeting is moved to 8pm because we don't want to conflict with the music concert at the Sherman School. We will be reviewing ongoing projects at this meeting listed on this year's "to-do" list for the "town-side" of matters.

These projects include but are not limited to repair of the Scout House; a new bridge on Old Greenwood's Extension; the Happy Acres Barn painting, repair, and electrical work; and an application to federal regulatory operations for additional dock slips down at the Town Park Beach. We will also review the progress on the proposed Senior Center with which I am pleased to announce that we now have an official building committee. This nine-person committee will take the necessary steps to ready this project for a future referendum where the citizens of Sherman can vote and decide on whether it wants a new Senior Center. On the "school-side" of matters, there is the colossal project concerning the repair and renovation of the Sherman School. Selectman Bruzinski, a member of the Sherman School building committee, will be offering a report on that at Thursday's Board of Selectmen meeting.

I had a meeting last Saturday with Al Garzi our exceptional tax assessor. This year is a property revaluation assessment year and that means homeowners will be receiving a postcard in the coming weeks explaining the process of revaluation, which we do, by state requirement, every five years. This "reval" to use the lexicon of the industry, is one wherein the evaluators take photos of the outside of the home and the grounds. They will not be going inside the home, but instead, will ask homeowners to fill out an information sheet to outline any changes inside. This evaluation will take place throughout the 2023 year and your home will be given a new value assessment for the 2024/25 year going forward. I will be writing more about this as we go ahead and you are always welcome to call my office for questions. I will answer accurately what I can, and direct you to Al Garzi and his office for questions more suitable for his office.

From the Town of Sherman, I want to wish everyone a safe and happy Memorial Day Weekend as we officially kick off summer, a season so perfectly suited for all that Sherman has to offer!



DON LOWE

TOWN OF SHERMAN