

News Items DEADLINE

The 18th By 6 pm Next Month



45/10

Current Postal Patron
Box Holder/Rural Route

"PRSRT STD"

U.S. Postage

PAID

Permit No. 8

Mt. Holly, VT 05758

Mount Holly Chit Chat



December 2019

Church Listing on back page "Who's Got It Locally?"

Mt. Holly Community Asso – Contact Penny Coldwell at 259-2760

Mt. Holly Museum – Open Sat & Sun 2 – 4 pm www.mounthollyvtmuseum.org

Town Library: Sat 9-1 Sun 2-4 Mon 10am-6pm Tue 9am-1pm Wed 2-6, P.O. Box 93, Belmont, VT 05730 Call 259-3707

Town Office Hours: Mon. to Thurs. 8:30 am – 4:00 pm Closed Fri. & Holidays Phone & Fax 259-2391

Town Treasurer's Office Hours: Mon 8:30 am – 12:00 pm Wed 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm and by Appointment 802-259-2391

Town Lister Hours: Tuesdays 10:00 am – 2:00 pm and by Appointment 802-259-2391

Town Garage: 259-3179

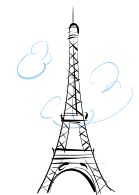
Burn Permits: Call Fire Warden ~ Jim Seward 786-3408 or 259-2211

TRANSFER SITE: Sat. 8 am – 2 pm & Sun. 9 am – 12 pm

Sun	1 st		Deer Season Ends ~ Rosa Parks Bus Boycott 1955	
	2 nd	Snow Flyer Meeting, Steve Forrest's Home on Greendale Rd.		6:30 pm
	3 rd	Mt. Holly Community Association Meeting, Library		7:00 pm
	5 th	Fire Dept. Business Meeting, Belmont Fire Station	AFL-CIO Founded 1955	7:00 pm
Sat	7 th		Deer Bow & Arrow, Muzzleloader Season Begins ~ Pearl Harbor Day 1941	
Sun	8 th		Soviet Union Dissolved 1991	
	9 th	Rescue Squad Meeting, Rescue Squad Building		7:00 pm
	10 th	Mt. Holly PTSA Meeting, MH School		4:30 pm
		Community Guild Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont		9:00 am
		Select Board Meeting, Town Office		6:00 pm
		Mason Meeting, Mt. Moriah Lodge #96, E. Wallingford		8:00 pm
	11 th	LMHUUS Meeting, Ludlow Elementary School	Anniversary of UNICEF Founding 1946	6:00 pm
		Fire Dept. Ladies Auxiliary Meeting, Belmont Fire Station		7:00 pm
		ODD Fellows Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont		7:00 pm
	12 th	MH School Holiday Concert , MH School Gym, Snow Date Dec 19 th	Full Cold Moon	6:00 pm
		Fire Dept. Drill, Fire Station		7:00 pm
	13 th		US National Guard Founded 1636	
Sun	15 th		Deer Bow & Arrow, Muzzleloader Season Ends ~ Alexandre Eiffel 1832	
	16 th	Mount Holly Planning Commission, Town Office	Ludwig van Beethoven 1770	7:00 pm
			Boston Tea Party 1773 ~ Battle of The Bulge Began 1944	
	17 th	Fire Dept. Work Night, Fire Stations	Operation Just Cause 1989	7:00 pm
			Wright Brothers' 1st Powered Flight Kitty Hawk, NC 1903	
	18 th	Mt. Holly Town Library Meeting, Library, Belmont	13 Amendment Abolishes Slavery 1865	6:30 pm
	19 th	Fire Dept. Drill, Fire Station	Crow Season Ends	7:00 pm
Sat	21 st		Winter Solstice ~ Landing of The May Flower 1620	
Sun	22 nd		Chanukah	
	23 rd	Rescue Squad Meeting, Rescue Squad Building		7:00 pm
	24 th	Community Guild Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont	USAF Began Strikes of Laos 1964	9:00 am
			Kit Carson 1809	
	25 th		Christmas	
	26 th	Fire Dept. Work Night, Fire Stations	Boxing Day ~ Kwanzaa	7:00 pm
	27 th		George Cayley Father of Aerodynamics 1773 ~ Louis Pasteur 1822	
	31 st	Gray Squirrel, Ruffed Grouse, Raccoon, Fisher, Mink, Skunk, Red & Gray Fox, Coyote, Opossum & Weasel Season Ends		
		Official End of WWII 1946 ~ The Republic of Panama Assumes Control of Panama Canal 1999 ~ New Years Eve		

Emergency Services

Mount Holly Fire Dept.	259-2700	or	911	Poison Control	(802) 658-3456
Mount Holly Fire Warden – Jim Seward	786-3408		259-2211	American Red Cross	802-773-9159
Mount Holly Rescue Squad	775-3133	or	911	Game Warden – Tim Carey	802-773-9101
Mount Holly Constable Paul Faenza			C 802-353-8347	Health Officer - Tim Bickford	779-6429
Animal Control For Mt. Holly			C 802-353-8347	Vermont State Police	773-9101



Merry Christmas

Send **ARTICLES** to: **Diana Garrow**, 3379 Shunpike Rd., Mt. Holly, VT 05758 **Phone** 259-2314 or **E-Mail** to chitchat@vermontel.net Check out **Mt. Holly Web Site** www.mounthollyvt.org

"The views and opinions expressed in the enclosed articles are solely those of their authors and are not necessarily those of the Chit Chat, its staff, or its board of directors. The authors are solely responsibility for the content of their articles."

Donation Thank Yous: Barbara Hawkins Fairbanks * Derk Beardmore * Alisen & Rick Weintraub * Trip & Deb Pearce (Harry's Café) * Janet & Paul Warren * James Maiden Jr. * Robert & Lynne Herbst * Pat & Andy Salner * Jill Tofferi (Fletcher Memorial library) * Abe Leber * Pat LaBella * Mary & Jeff Smith (Smith Maple Crest Farm) * George Wood * Linda & Lenny Crispinelli * Linda & Bill McGrath * Betsey McGee & Mark Pecker * Dennis Devereux * Sue Engle & Catherin Wakefield * Mt. Holly Community Guild * Liz Flint * Town of Mount Holly * Barbara & Steve Hazelton * Charlie Conroy (Custom Builders of Belmont) *



December Birthdays: 2nd -Richard H. Dawley (94th) 2019 3rd - Archie Bussino (1942) 4th -Shawn Palmer 5th -Mary Beth Jacobs 6th -Nikita Abrae Howard 8th -Zachary Taylor * Heather Graham (1999) 9th -Carol Skarzynski 10th -Madeline Veysey 16th -Heather Jacobs * Erin Devereux 16th -Shane Pearson 18th -Alec McCallum 19th - Lia Wortman * Jon Lombardi * Ryan Graf * Sarah Devereux * Fay Freeman 22nd -Leslie Colm 1960. 23rd -Kateri Collins 24th -Christopher Colm * Joshua R. Wasilewski 25th - Annette Lynch 27th -Richard Lee 30th -John Ely * Jennifer Bussino Graham (1981) 31st - A.J. Labozzo



December Anniversaries: 11th -Joe & Donna McDonald 43 yrs. (1976)

Please help me out as I don't always know your situation in life as to deaths, births or divorce. It is not intentional if they still remain and I do not mean to offend anyone. Please contact me to let me know.

If you would like to add or remove yours or a family members birthday and or anniversary from the list please send the information to me at the above address or e-mail me at chitchat@vermontel.net or call me at 802-259-2314.

Local Post Office Hours

Mount Holly		802-259-2796
Window	Mon – Fri	8:00 am – 10:00 am
	&	2:45 pm – 4:45 pm
	Sat	7:30 am – 10:30 am
Lobby Hours:	Mon – Fri	8:00 am – 4:45 pm
Belmont		802-259-2790
Window	Mon – Fri	7:30 am – 9:30 am
	&	2:45 pm – 4:45 pm
	Sat	8:00 am – 10:45 am
Lobby Hours:	Mon – Fri	7:30 am – 4:45 pm
East Wallingford		802-259-2829
Window	Mon – Fri	7:00 am – 11:00 am
	Sat	7:00 am – 10:00 am
Lobby Hours:	Mon – Fri	7:00 am – 4:45 pm
Cuttingsville/Shrewsbury		802-492-3585
Window Hours	Mon – Fri	7:30 am – 10:30 am
	&	11:30 am – 2:30 pm
	Sat	8:00 am – 11:00 am
Lobby Hours	Mon – Fri	7:30 am – 5:00 pm
	Sat	7:30 am – 11:00 am
Ludlow		802-228-7436
Post Master: Dawn Howlett		
Lobby Hours:	Mon – Fri	6:30 am – 5:30 pm
	Sat	6:30 am – 11:00 am
Window Hours:	Mon – Fri	8:30 am – 5:00 pm
	Sat	8:30 am – 10:30 am



Mount Holly Chit Chat, Inc.

PUBLISHER: Mount Holly Chit Chat, Inc., a Non Profit Vermont Corporation; Federal 501 (c) (3) tax-exempt statuses

BOARD of DIRECTORS:

PRESIDENT: Susan Crawford **V. PRESIDENT:** Dennis Devereux

SECRETARY: Terri Isidro **TREASURER:** Diana Garrow

DIRECTORS: Heather Garrow, Christine Pratt, David Venter

MANAGING EDITOR: Diana Garrow

ASSISTANT to the EDITOR: Heather Garrow

SUBMISSIONS: Deadline is 22nd By 6:00 pm of each month for the following month. Send to chitchat@vermontel.net or **mail** to Mount Holly Chit Chat, 3379 Shunpike Rd., Mount Holly, VT 05758 **Phone** 802-259-2314. E-mail or mail articles on TVN news, events, and issues; op-eds and essays; poems, jokes, recipes, nature observations, reviews, obituaries, remembrances. Include name, address, and phone number. Anonymous articles will not be accepted. Mailed copies should be camera-ready, i.e., ready to be scanned into the paper. Contact the editor for further information. Contact the editor for inclusion in the coming month's announcements of birthdays, weddings, anniversaries, graduations, retirements, and other milestones.

PHOTOS: Color photos of events are welcome as they look great on the Chit Chat web edition

LETTERS to the EDITOR: email; 300 word limit; include name, address, and phone number. Letters are subject to editing for reasons of space and clarity. Requests for anonymity will be considered by the Editor.

DISCLAIMER: The views and opinions expressed in the enclosed articles are solely those of their authors and are not necessarily those of the Chit Chat, its staff, or its board of directors. The authors are solely responsible for the content of their articles.

ADVERTISEMENTS: Camera ready. Contact editor with questions, or to assist with ad creation (cost \$15).

RATES: Back Page: \$25 Per Listing for one year

	1 Mo.	3 Mo.	6 Mo.	9 Mo.	12 Mo.
Business Card:	\$15	\$40	\$75	\$115	\$150
Quarter Page:	\$30	\$80	\$150	\$225	\$300
Third Page:	\$45	\$125	\$225	\$350	\$450
Half Page:	\$75	\$200	\$375	\$550	\$750
Full Page:	\$125	\$325	\$625	\$1025	\$1250

FREE ADVERTISING: Only Community and Non-Profit (501 c3) tax-exempt organizations may qualify for free advertising in the Mount Holly Chit Chat, subject to approval by the Board of Directors. Articles submitted for print which promote the sale of goods or services for financial gain will be charged the Chit Chat's set rate for advertisements.

CIRCULATION: The Mount Holly Chit Chat is delivered to every residence in Mount Holly and mailed to out-of-Town property owners as well as other folks with Mount Holly ties.

INTERNET: Each month's edition is published on the Mount Holly Town website: www.mounthollyvt.org

MEMBERSHIP IN CORPORATION: Open to all who live, work, or own property in Mount Holly and who make an annual donation of any amount.

The Annual Membership meeting is held on the second Monday in September in the Mount Holly Town Office at 6 p.m. The meeting includes the annual report and election of the Board of Directors

ORGANIZATION SUPPORT: The Mount Holly Chit Chat has been published each month since 1974 and has been supported solely by donations until 2006 when readership was expanded as a public service to all who reside, vote, or own property in Mount Holly. The Chit Chat is supported by donations, advertisements, and appropriation from the Town.



Frank J. LaBella

Frank J. LaBella, 77, died Oct. 23, 2019, at his home. He was born Oct. 4, 1942, in Brooklyn, New York, the son of Baldassare and Vincenza (Corvo) LaBella.

Frank was a butcher in Brooklyn and later opened his own shop in New Hyde Park, NY.

He enjoyed Hunting and Fishing and was an avid fan of the New England Patriots.

His love for his faithful companion Boomer was only second to the love for his family.

Survivors include his wife, Patricia (Mazzei) LaBella, of Mount Holly; four children Frank LaBella, of Mastic, NY, his spouse Phyllis and their children, Madeleine, Juliana, and Damien, his daughter, Elise Denver, of Indiana, PA, her spouse Mathew and their children, Mathew, Elizabeth and Sarah, his daughter Tricia Shevlin of Center Moriches, NY, her children, Jessica, Rebecca and her granddaughter Harper and his daughter, Melanie Bachmeier, of Shirley, NY her spouse Mark and their children, Mark and Michael, and a brother, Charles LaBella, of Shirley, NY.

The funeral service was held at 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 26, at the Village Baptist Church in Belmont, VT. Memorial contributions may be made to Rutland County Humane Society, Stevens Road, Pittsford, VT 05763.



Frederick Nelson Cook

Frederick Nelson Cook, 90, of Montpelier, died peacefully on Nov. 7, 2019, after a short illness. Fred was born on Aug. 24, 1929, to Edward J. and Helen (Foster) Cook. He spent his youth in Cuttingsville and Mount Holly, and graduated from Rutland High School in 1947. From 1950-1954 Fred served in the U.S. Navy. He was a 1959 graduate of the University of Vermont. He was elected a state representative for the Town of Shrewsbury and was appointed by the Vermont Board of Historic Sites in 1959, where he spent three-and-a-half years overseeing programs at several Vermont Historic Sites. In 1960, Fred married

Barrie Brundage and together, they had three sons Christopher, Daniel and Richard. Fred spent most of his working career as the executive director of the Vermont Petroleum Institute, then as a lobbyist on behalf of the National Federation of Independent Business/Vermont. He also worked on the campaigns of Barbara Snelling for lieutenant governor and State Senator Susan Sweetser for U.S. Representative. After successful cancer treatment in 1996, Fred retired from active lobbying. He then established what became the Central Vermont Prostate Cancer Support Group, affiliated with the American Cancer Society's Man to Man program. He often remarked that outside of raising his three boys, his most rewarding initiative in his life was working with the cancer survivors who attended the monthly Man to Man meetings. The American Cancer Society recognized his efforts in 1999 and again in 2007, for dedicated service to the Man to Man program. Fred proudly served his community in various capacities throughout his long life. He was a member and former vestryman of Christ Church in Montpelier, the Montpelier Board of Adjustment and the Montpelier City Republican Committee. He served as chair of the City Hall Plaza War Memorial Committee and was master of ceremonies for its dedication. He spent many years as a Montpelier justice of the peace, in which capacity his sons were fortunate to have him officiate at their weddings. A member of Rotary International with 50 years of perfect attendance, Fred was president of the Montpelier Rotary Club in 1980-81 and district governor of Rotary District 7850 in 1987-88. He was an elected representative to the Rotary International Council on Legislation, a multiple Paul Harris Fellow recipient and a regular contributor to the Rotary Foundation. He hosted visiting members of Rotary's Group Study Exchange Teams from Australia, India, Pakistan, Mexico, Brazil and Norway, coordinating several of the group's visits to central Vermont. Fred's hobbies included studying Vermont history and politics, photography and motorsports. He spent many years as member and past president of the Vermont Auto Enthusiasts club and enjoyed planning for and working at various car shows in Vermont, notably in Stowe, Shelburne and St. Albans. He enjoyed driving his 1961 Triumph TR3A to these events. Fred worked to establish a VAE scholarship, given annually to deserving students in the automotive technology program at Vermont Technical College, which was subsequently named in his honor. Most people knew Fred as someone who loved to connect with people. Fred had taken thousands of pictures of friends, colleagues and family over the years, and he was always happy to share them and the stories that go with them, with everyone. He was especially proud of his sons and grandchildren, and loved to go to their school events, read and tell stories to the young ones, and go on bike rides. Fred was very close to his niece, Carole Hass, and her family. Fred was predeceased by his sister, Edith; his brothers George and wife Laicita, and Edward and wife Irene. He is survived by his sons Chris and wife Carmen, of Orleans, Dan and wife Becky, of Hinesburg, and Rick and partner Beth Diederich, of Worcester; and by his grandchildren Christopher Cook and wife Jill, Ethan and Owen Cook, and Shayla and Isaiah Kippen. Friends may call at Guare and Sons Funeral Home in Montpelier on Wednesday, Nov. 13, from 5-7 p.m. A memorial service will be held at Christ Church in Montpelier on Thursday, Nov. 14, at 10 a.m. Donations may be made to the Fred N. Cook VAE Scholarship at Vermont Technical College; or McClure Miller Respite House in Colchester.

Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Mass Schedule & Services

St. Patrick's in Wallingford

4:00 pm Christmas Eve

9:00 am Christmas Day

&

Christ The King in Rutland

6:00 pm ~ Midnight pm Christmas Eve

7:30 am -10:30 am Christmas Day

&

Immaculate Heart of Mary in Rutland

4:00 pm & 8:00 pm Christmas Eve

8:00 am Christmas Day

*Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
in Ludlow*

5:00 pm Christmas Eve

9:00 am Christmas Day

&

Holy Name of Mary in Proctorsville

7:00 pm Christmas Eve Only

&

Belmont Village Baptist Church

7:00 pm Christmas Eve Service

With Blacklight Chalk Drawing



Remember This Photo From Last Month's Chit Chat

What a surprise to find an old picture of my house in the Chit Chat!! The house is at the crest of the hill going south on Maple Hill Road before the road splits onto the Straight Road. I have lived here since 1990, the year I was pregnant with my daughter Nettie. She was born a few months after we purchased the property. A friend of mine commented that I do "nesting" in a real big way! Doug and I purchased the house from a couple of gals we met at the gym who were talking about a poor pitiful place, where nobody had lived for nearly 5 years and which nobody wanted because it needed so much work. The greatest value in the

place was a beautiful old rose bush planted near the corner of the porch in the center of the published picture. We looked it over and it certainly presented some challenges with foundation collapsing, no central heat, plumbing which depended on a gravity fed stream of water coming off the hill behind the house where there was a hand dug well. In the main room of the house was an old gas fueled heater that was the only source of heat and throughout the house was evidence of every possible way attempts were made to keep the house warm in the winter, cardboard on the ceilings, plastic on some of the windows, "carpets" on the wide pine floorboards which were fashioned out of linoleum. On the largest wall of the great room was a wall size paper picture/mural of the ocean and palm trees, certainly placed there to offer some illusion in the colder months of warmer places! We got real busy, stayed busy throughout the years and raised our daughters in what I always thought was an ideal setting. The girls might tell you something different. Wow, what some people will do to have a nice piece of property in the country!

Historically I do not have a real clear history of the house, and what I know I have learned from Ray Dana whose family once lived here, Hazel Devereux who was the first person to welcome us to the community and bits and pieces from others who have crossed our paths throughout the years. It was the main farmhouse for a large working farm as is evidenced by foundations of barns and outbuildings, remnants of farm equipment, stone walls which no doubt acted as fencing to contain and

Flander's Excavating & Firewood

Complete Site Work Start To Finish

All Aspects of Excavating:

Roads ~ Clearing Lots ~ Septic Systems ~ Ponds

Fully Insured – Call Steve @ 802-259-2147

Firewood – Cut, Split & Delivered

Join Bone Builders

Monday & Thursday Mornings
9:00 am

Mt. Holly Community Room
Under the Library

For Weights and more information
Call Judy Nevin 259-2443

corral livestock and large stone lined "wells" which may have either supported resources coming in or waste going out of the homestead. We were also given a heads-up regarding the former farmers' milk check which may at some future time be found somewhere in the stone wall. We never found such check, nor have any of us had the time to do the necessary digging to find the treasure. So many other adventures were to be had.

In the late 80's the tract of property was purchased by someone from Massachusetts, presumably as an investment, was subdivided into lots and eventually sold to at least 3 others who have built homes and become my

neighbors. People have referred to this house as being the "Howland Farm," although there is a Howland Farm Road off of Rt 155 and I have heard that the family moved here to be closer to the greater goings-on in Belmont!

I am sure that one could get a much more accurate history of this house from those who have made such studies but for me I wanted to share my joys in seeing a picture of my house, being here in the country, raising my family here, the daily return here after my days at work, and forever making home improvements to stay warm in winter, be a steward of the land in summer and, now that my daughters' rooms are done I can now welcome my grandchildren home in Belmont. Thank you for the picture.

Carolyn Prescott

Beardmore Excavating

(802) 342-3507

Robert Beardmore, Jr. P.O. Box 101
beardmoreexc@gmail.com Belmont, Vermont 05730





The photo of the house in the last issue is located at the top of the hill south of Belmont Village and now owned by Carolyn Prescott. The east side of the Jackson Gore property abutted the original Ludlow line and became part of the new Town of Mount Holly in 1792. The General Assembly granted Abraham Jackson, Junior, and others the right to sell lots in the Gore. It is likely that a section of the house dates to around 1800. Maple Hill Road that passes in front of the house was the County Road that continued onto what is now the Straight Road and into Weston. The original Lot 68 would have been at least 105 acres and after several parcels were sold off and a piece of Lot 59 from across the road was added by Ethan A. Priest after 1838 the house and farm contained 157 acres.

Some of the land southwest of this area was sold to Ichabod Shaw, and most of Lot 68 was purchased by Snow Randall. The sale to Randall in 1808 may have been one of last pieces of property sold by Jackson before he relocated to western New York. The property passed to Snow's son, Isaac, until it was sold to E. A. Priest by Isaac's widow. Priest and his sons farmed several parcels including the south end of Straight Road and the land he and his brother Daniel purchased near the Weston line from Daniel Jaquith before 1820. With a growing family the house was likely enlarged by Priest to its present size. The last three of the 10 children would have been born in the house. Our family history mentions that Ethan's mother Eunice Warner Priest died in 1856 at the age of 93 when she fell down the cellar stairs.

Ethan's wife was Hannah Dawley, and sons Darius, E. Allen, and Charles Wesley Priest served in Co. I of the Second Vermont Volunteer Regiment in the Civil War. Ethan died in 1883 shortly after his son Ethan Allen returned with his family from Kansas to care for him.

The younger Ethan Allen was known as Allen. He lived in the house until his death in 1893. When the estate was settled the following year by S. M. Dickerman all the property and farming equipment was purchased by Wallace Dana. He farmed it until his death in 1926, and his oldest son Tom farmed the property until he died in 1938. The property then went to his sister Mildred and her husband Will Standish. After Will died in 1948, Mildred sold it to Clyde and Catherine Howland in 1949 who farmed it for many years. Some of the land was obtained by the Howland's children, and the other lots were sold off when the Catherine Howland estate was settled and further subdivided after 1987. Photo's Left is the Ethan Allen Priest Family 1888 and right is Ethan Allen Priest Civil War Veteran on a hay rake 1887. Dennis Devereux



What can you tell us about this picture? Please send email to chitchat@vermontel.net and let us know what you know or write to Mt. Holly Chit Chat, 3379 Shunpike Rd., Mt. Holly, VT 05758. Next month we will have another photo to share with you and then share what we know about this picture. To see all these pictures plus more visit the Mount Holly Historical Museum open Sat & Sun 2 – 4 pm also visit our web site www.mounthollyvtmuseum.org



20th
Annual Silent Auction
Fletcher Memorial Library — Ludlow, VT

Auction Hours—During Regular Library Hours
December 2—Dec 13th
(Bids End @ 6PM)

Join Us for the last minute frenzy, refreshments,
Magic @ 4:30—5PM &
Live Music by Sammy Blanchette 5-6PM

Please Join Us! All Donations are Tax Deductible
Questions Call the library @ 802-228-8921

FLETCHER MEMORIAL LIBRARY SILENT AUCTION

Fletcher Memorial Library invites you to join us for our 20th Holiday Silent Auction Dec. 2-13th. Come in and be ready to bid! Auction items include a scrumptious gift wrapped box of goodies, beautiful photography, and autographed Tomie dePaola books.

It's not too late to bring in your donation. We are still accepting items and are looking for new merchandise, gift certificates, antique items, and, of course, cash. Our auction proceeds go towards enhancing library services for our patrons so as to offer them the best library experience possible. We are a 501(c)(3) organization and not a Ludlow Municipal Department. Your donation is tax-deductible.

Dec. 13th is the last day of our auction and it's going to be a fun time. There will be plenty of last minute bidding, plus music by Sammy Blanchette. And, of course, Santa will stop by to visit. Come

and get in the spirit with us! Enjoy some Christmas treats and a glass of punch. We hope to see you there!



FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS SILENT AUCTION

The Mount Holly Community Historical Museum's annual Festival of Lights fundraiser will take place Sunday, December 8th from 5:00-7:00 pm at the Odd Fellows Hall in Belmont. Wreaths decorated by Local

Artists, Restaurant and Area Business Gift Certificates, Special Donations of Artwork, Crafts and Gift Baskets are some of the items featured in the Silent Auction. For adults, this popular event includes Wine Basket Raffles and Door Prizes. Wines, punch, cheeses and hors d'oeuvres will be served. The admission charge is waived in honor of your attending. Please join us for an evening of fellowship and fun to support our Museum's Projects and Activities.

Mount Holly Community Association Membership Drive 2019 ~ 2020

Please join to support...Music on the Green-Mount Holly Day-
 Garden Tour-Square Dance-Cabaret-Photo Contest-Cider Days-
 Roast Beef Supper-Christmas in Mount Holly-
 New Year's Eve at Star Lake-Spring Mud Fling

And the maintenance of our historic Community Center Building
 Please join today!!

(Brochures will be mailed in June and will also be available
 in the library, the General Store, and the post offices.)

Senior Stars Luncheon at Harry's Café


The Senior Stars Luncheon will be at Harry's Cafe on December 12th at noon...in other words 12/12 at 12.

If you have a reservation but find that you will not be able to attend, please call Carol Ballou at 259 2333 as soon as possible. There is a short waiting list so I should be able to fill your place with another person. If you call by the preceding Monday, December 9th, you will not be charged the \$5.00 for the cost of the meal. If cancelling after the 9th, you won't be charged if I can fill your spot.

Anyone on the waiting list for December who does not get to attend that luncheon is automatically placed at the beginning of the January list. If you are interested in the January luncheon and are not attending the one in December, now is the time to make your reservation by calling 259 2333.

For those attending the December luncheon, if you wish to also come in January, you will need to pay for that luncheon in advance so bring the money with you on 12/12.

Looking forward to a delicious meal and good company! Many thanks to Trip and Deb for making these luncheons possible!


Custom Builders of Belmont Inc.
 P.O Box 171
 Belmont, VT 05730

Charlie Conroy
 cjconroy@vermontel.net

30+ Years Experience

The Mount Holly Community Association says "Thank You!" to all of the people who submitted photos to this year's Mount Holly Photo & Calendar Competition.

**Aislynn Kelley • Alexa Thomson • Alexandra Yuster
Betsy Robeson • Bonnie Koenig • Carol DeVine • Chris Kelley
Craig Tomkinson • Christina Thomson • Della Thompson
Elizabeth Chase • Emily Clifford Jackson • Gerald Rogell
Jacqueline Powell • Janis L. Brown • Jeffrey Chase
Jill Gates-Paz • Joe Hammond Kevin Thomson • Leah Knoll
Macy Karlowicz • Marcy Tanger • Matteo Anderson
Matthias Weiter • Oliver Thomson • Patrick DeVine
Patrick M. Rose • Randy Paz • Rebecca Zelis • Susan Presson**

We really want to put your name on this list next year!



secretary know by contacting him at 802-259-9400, by email at: sseward@vermontel.net. or mail it to: 4280 Sugar Hill Rd, East Wallingford, VT 05742 Fraternally, Earl Miller, WM & Buster Seward Sec'y

Brandon Jenkins
Owner

(802) 952-9722

Mount Holly, Vermont

brandon@jenkinsbuild.com

**The Chit Chat Deadline for the
January issue is Wednesday
December 18th By 6:00 pm**

November 2019 Trestleboard Mt. Moriah Lodge
Next meeting Tuesday 12/10th 8PM
PGM G.Harvey Blackmer passed away on November 5th.

PGM Blackmer was born on November 20, 1927 and was our Grand Master in 1995-1996. Military honors and burial rites were held at 9:00 am Tuesday, Nov. 12th at the Vermont Veterans Memorial Cemetery Chapel in Randolph Center. Masonic Rites and Celebration of Life at the Stockbridge Common Meeting House will be announced at a later date. There are no calling hours. Online condolences may be left at: www.dayfunerals.com. Arrangements are by the Day Funeral Home in Randolph.

Word has been received from the Gonet family that Bro. Louis Gonet passed away on August 28th of natural causes. No other information has been made available.

Please keep your dues monies coming in and, if you disagree with the amounts you are said to owe... let the

WINNERS OF THE 2019 MOUNT HOLLY PHOTO JUDGING*

Grand Prize: "Frozen Dawn" by Patrick M. Rose
1st Runner Up: "Sunset Fire & Ice" by Christina Thomson
2nd Runner Up: "Lake Ninevah Outflow" by Gerald Rogell
3rd Runner Up: "Early Morning Light- Winter" by Carol DeVine

Ages 5-12 Group:
1st Place: "Retired 1820's Barn on Winter Morn" by Matteo Anderson
2nd Place: "Show Me Your Salamander Face" by Alexa Thomson
3rd Place: "Monarchs Love Lunch" by Oliver Thomson

Ages 13-19 Group:
1st Place: "Fall Beauty" by Aislynn Kelley
(No 2nd or 3rd place awards were given in this category.)

Adult Group:
1st Place: "Bird Dog in Retirement" by Leah Knoll
2nd Place: "Pines in the Mist" by Patrick DeVine
3rd Place: "Serene Village" by Breege Tomkinson



**And a big thank you to our 2019 Judges:
Diana Garrow, Stephanie Stouffer, and Fra DeVine**

***The winners of the calendar portion of the event, selected by public balloting during Cider Days weekend, will be announced in January.**

Mount Holly Snow Flyers

The Snow flyers have held several trail work days in preparation for the upcoming season. We'd like to "Thank" all those who have helped out to date. We still have a couple bridges and a trail reroute to complete before the trails open on the December 15th - that is depending on the weather & snow. We're keeping our fingers crossed for another good season like last year. We've had some snow & cool weather to date - just needs to keep it up.



Early Bird TMA's are available at the Poulin's residence on Hortonville Rd., the Belmont Store, Pro-cycle, Central Vermont Motorcycles and online through the VAST website. You can save some \$\$ by purchasing an Early Bird TMA versus the Regular Season.

Once again this year we will be presenting the "Best Small Town New Year's Eve Fireworks" over Star Lake. This is our 28th year holding these Fire Works - all made possible by everyone who supports the club's raffle items at Cider Days. Come enjoy the show & have a cup of Hot Cider.

The Snow Flyer's would like to "Wish everyone a Safe Joyous Holiday Season". See you on the "Trails." Mount Holly Snow Flyers, www.mounthollysnowflyers.org



Christmas in Mount Holly

At the
Library & Community Center
In the Belmont crossroads

Festivities begin at 4:00 pm on
Saturday, December 14th

Please join us for
Caroling, a Reading of the
Night Before Christmas, and a
Visit from Santa!



Please bring a treat to share at
The Party afterward
Beverages will be provided



be served in the Community Room after all of the festivities. Please bring some finger food to share; all beverages will be provided. We hope to see you all, young and young at heart, on December 14th!

Ring in the New Year at the best fireworks display in the Okemo Valley...**New Year's Eve at Star Lake!** Once again the Mount Holly Snow Flyers will provide the most extensive and elaborate fireworks show in the region on New Year's Eve, Tuesday, December 31st. Festivities begin at 8:00 pm with a bonfire by the lake and mulled wine and hot cocoa provided by the Mount Holly Community Association. There is no better way to welcome in the New Year than in the company of family and friends on the shore of Star Lake in Belmont. Even if the air is frigid, the bonfire and the camaraderie of hundreds of people will keep you warm throughout the evening...please join us!

It's time to renew your **MHCA Membership for 2019 - 2020**, if you have not already done so! All of the events sponsored by the Community Association (such as those described above) would not be possible without the participation of *everyone* in the community through your annual membership. It is our largest source of revenue to support all of the activities throughout the year, as well as the maintenance of our beautiful, historic building. Whether you join at the individual level of \$20, or the benefactor level at \$250, your participation is crucial to the vitality of *your* Community Association! A reminder was recently sent out, but if you have misplaced your form,

you can pick one up at the library or at the General Store, or contact Kathy Stone, our membership chair, at 259-2254. Forgotten whether you've joined or not?! You can get that information from Kathy Stone as well. Please join today!!

The Mount Holly Photo Calendar is now on sale at the General Store and the library. Be sure to pick up the calendars you need for holiday presents as soon as possible. We sell out of the calendars every year and there is a limited quantity left right now! This

is yet another way that you can support the MHCA...we are sincerely grateful for all you do!

The Board of Directors of the Mount Holly Community Association wishes to extend its warmest best wishes to all during this season of light and celebration whether it be Christmas, Hannukah, or Kwanzaa...happy holidays to everyone!



Mount Holly Community Association

Many congratulations to the Mount Holly School PTSA for another fabulous **Halloween Celebration** for the children of Mount Holly! The parents, who took over the reins for this event from the MHCA, outdid themselves this year. There were well over 100 people who flocked to the village of Belmont and the children (close to 100 of them!) were thrilled to trick-or-treat throughout the village, join in a costume parade on the Green, and grab a hay ride through town, compliments of Kevin and Patti Plew of Plew Farm. Ghosts and goblins, princes and witches, super heroes and wizards were all visitors to Belmont for a very special celebration. Prizes were awarded for the scariest, the best individual, and the best family costume...so hard to choose with so many uniquely creative costumes on display! Many thanks to everyone who coordinated this amazing evening and special thanks to all of the Belmont residents who opened their homes to the trick-or-treaters!

Upcoming: even though the Halloween Party is just behind us, plans are being made for **Christmas in Mount Holly** to be held on Saturday, December 14th at 4:00 pm in the Library & Community Center building. There will be Caroling for all led by Kevin Hollebeek and the traditional reading of *The Night Before Christmas* by Barbara Palotta. Most important of all, a visit from who else... Santa Claus! Refreshments will

Don't forget...

Fireworks Tuesday night, December 31st

At Star Lake

beginning at 9:00 pm

**Compliments of the
Mount Holly Snow Flyers**

**Hot cocoa served at 8:00 pm
compliments of the
Mount Holly Community Association**

**All are welcome...be sure to join us
around the Bon Fire!**

Happy New Year!!!!!!!



Robert Beardmore, Jr.
Office: (802) 975-0369
Fax: (802) 975-0413
masterplumbingheating@gmail.com

P.O. Box 354
126 Main Street, Unit D
Ludlow, Vermont 05149

**DON'T RISK BEING WITHOUT
A 2020 MOUNT HOLLY CALENDAR
FOR THE HOLIDAYS!**

Here is where you can get yours:

**Belmont Store
Mount Holly Library
Mount Holly Town Offices**

"Oops, I dropped my pacifier."

All proceeds help Support the many activities of the
Mount Holly Community Association
Questions? Call: 802- 259-3947 or email to: mthollyphotos@gmail.com

The Church's Stuff-A-Bus Campaign

Our parishes participated in our community's overall effort to seek food donations for the annual Stuff-A-Bus campaign. This year, our parishes gathered 4,150 pounds of food, up from 3,400 pounds last year. A great achievement! Additionally, nearly \$3,000 in cash was donated that will be given in total to our local agencies whose primary focus is to alleviate poverty in our area. This collection of food over two weekends was a holy moment for us. Every can of soup, box of pasta or rice, and dollar given represents another meal on the plate of a poor family living right here in Rutland. Jesus taught us to feed the hungry, and I am pleased that our parishes took his command to heart for this

campaign. The love and care of our community of faith was palpable as I stood in the sanctuary with the bags of food all around the altar. Blessed food. Blessed lives. Blessed Eucharist. Thank you so much for your generosity to our annual food campaign. I am so pleased that this level of giving is now part of the culture of our parishes.

I hope to see everyone this weekend for Sunday Mass and God bless you! Peace to you and your loved ones, Fr. Bernie



December 23rd
By Patricia L. Cisco



Today, December 23rd, another Christmas nears.
I try to keep tradition up while holding back my tears.

I know I have been blessed for all the many years
of love and joy and family and times we had to share.

The presents wrapped, the tree is lit, the wreath upon
the door,
but pondering all the Christmases past and tears begin
to fall.

This Christmas will be different,
for some very special loved ones have received God's final call.

Then I dry my tears and say a special prayer.
Dear God, my gift to you is that soul I loved so dear.

I thank you for their life and love
I was so blessed to share.

Now all that I can ask of you is to keep them in your care!
I also want to offer you my each and every tear.

Now I promise to make Christmas joy for those I still have here
and put a smile upon their face while we have time to share.
Amen



BIG EYES BAKERY

**126 Main Street, Ludlow
(802) 228-2400**

Visit our Facebook Page @Ludlowbakery
Pies, Cakes, Quiche, Breads, & Desserts
Special orders are welcome including
Gluten Free products
www.bigeyesbakery.com

The Day Before Christmas ~ Anon

We have been helping with the cake,
And licking out the pan,
And wrapping up our packages,
As neatly as we can.
We have hung our stockings up,
Beside the open grate.
And now there's nothing more to do,
Except
To
Wait.

You can help.



Become a donor.

Your donation will make a difference in a rider's life.

Please fill out the form below and mail to:

Reinbow Riding Center
PO Box 395
Shrewsbury, VT 05738

Or make your donation online at:
reinbowridingcenter.org

I would like to make a difference.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$2,500 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$5,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$_____ |

Sponsor a Rider.

Your sponsorship will make a difference in a rider's life by providing access to the magic that happens at RRC.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$400 | 8-week session |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$800 | Two 8-week sessions |

Donor Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

email _____

Phone _____

Check # _____ Cash _____

Pay by PayPal _____

**The RRC Board, staff, volunteers and riders
thank you for your support!**

802-236-2483

more on our waiting list. We expanded our school programs to include four school districts, and more are asking to join in. We served seven of our surrounding communities and provided a program for military families. 60% of the lessons we provided this year were paid for by funds we had raised. (FYI -- A lesson session for one rider (eight lessons over eight weeks) cost \$400 or \$50 per lesson, but doesn't completely cover the cost to Reinbow Riding for that lesson.)

Finding funding is an ever-challenging endeavor and occupies a great deal of our winter planning. After all, lessons may have stopped for the season, but those sweet horses that make our program go, still have to eat, have their feet trimmed and be gently cared for. And so we spend the winter seeking out and applying for grants, asking corporations and charitable organizations for support and working on our summer fundraiser—Summer Palooza—that each year our communities have helped to make a huge success. Thank You!

In this season of holiday cheer and giving, we ask you to keep us in your thoughts and to all we wish Happy Holidays and Good Health as we count down the days toward that warmer season.

For information about RRC check out our website: reinbowridingcenter.org Reinbow Riding Center, P.O. Box 395, Shrewsbury, VT 05738 Reinbow Riding Center is a 501(c)(3) non-profit and all donations are tax deductible.

Reinbow Riding Center

Dear Friends,

"There is something about the outside of a horse that is good for the inside of a man" – Winston Churchill

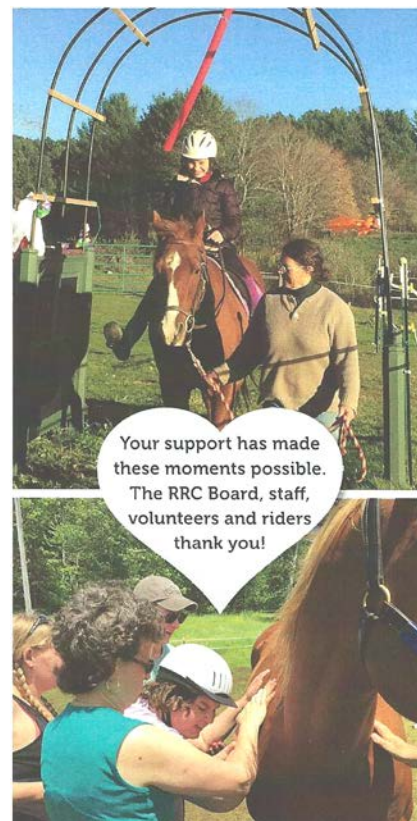
We live and breathe this timeless quote every day our barn doors open at Reinbow Therapeutic Riding Center. Our participant list has grown by 52% this year alone – serving over seven communities, 4 school districts and military families. The need however does not stop there with three more schools hoping to be added to our list in 2020. Our dedicated staff, board members and volunteers drive this program and while we would love to rest on our laurels, that's not how mountains get moved.

With the generosity of our community, we reached many of the goals we set for the program last winter-increasing participants and awareness of the program. Our value was further defined by the new students with new challenges that could not be taken on by regular barns. Our challenge is to make participants laugh where sadness was the norm, provide a safe environment where independence can be fostered and gain mobility in the body where it was otherwise lost.

Which all brings us back to the above quote. Horses motivate, they inspire and if you ask the kids, they listen. The burden we take on is that they cost, but with the results we have seen over the past season we hope you will agree that the program you support is validated by continued growth and success. Without your generosity we simply could not exist. Our budget is tight but by applying our endless creativity we apply your contribution in thoughtful ways that allow us to grow our mission within your community. In an era where screen time dominates our children's lives, know that your contribution gets them off the couch and into the saddle of endless empowerment and joy. Thank you Lynn McDermott, Board President.

All Tucked in for the Winter, But Now the Work Begins

As winter closes in on us and the horses get a well-deserved break, the folks at Reinbow Riding Center move from long days outdoors providing lessons to our riders to long days inside coming up with as many ways as we can to make next year's program even better. In order to do this we try each year to develop new and innovative ways to make sure we can offer our programs to anyone that may benefit regardless of their ability to pay. This year our participant list grew 52% and there are



Your support has made these moments possible.
The RRC Board, staff, volunteers and riders thank you!

Visit us on
Facebook



➤ Pasture Raised ➤
PLEW FARM
Mt Holly, Vermont

**Farm Stand
Hours:**
Open 7 days
12pm-6pm
802-259-2250

1966 Healdville Road, Mount Holly

www.plewfarm.com

Pasture raised Chicken, Eggs
Pork, Grass Fed & Finished Beef
Maple Syrup, Maple Cream & Candy
*Dedicated to providing a local alternative
to commercially produced factory food*



Are you crafty?

The Mount Holly School Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) is now accepting applications for the 2019 Student Shopping Fair!

The Shopping Fair will be held on **Friday, December 13th from 9 a.m.-11 a.m.**

The Pre-K through 6th grade classes at Mount Holly will be invited to shop for their loved ones!

We are looking for vendors to create homemade items to sell for between \$1 and \$5, with an emphasis on \$1 and \$2 items. Please consider participating as a vendor, and pass the word along to all of your crafty friends!

Spaces are \$20, all proceeds go to the MHSPTSA

Applications are available through Morgan at morganskiathitis@gmail.com



Mount Holly Town News

The following Minutes of the Select Board and the Planning Commission are "DRAFT" until approved at their next meeting. NOTE: Most Select Board and Planning Commission meetings are covered by Okemo Valley TV. The videos can be viewed at their website, www.okemovalley.tv. Computers with internet access are available at the Town Library.

Mount Holly Select Board Meeting – November 12, 2019 ~ Minutes

Regular Select Board meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:00 pm in the Town Office. Items to be included on the Agenda are due by Noon the Wednesday before the meeting.

Present: Select Board: Mark Turco (chair), Ron Tarbell, Jennifer Matthews

Town Officials: Carol Garrow-Woolley, Russ Garrow, David Johnson, Jon McCann, Lori Norton

Members of the Public: Paul Barton, Dennis Devereux, Annette Lynch, Gary Norton

To Contact Mt. Holly Town Road Crew, call the Town Garage at 259-3179

1. **Call to Order** by Chair Mark Turco at 6:00 pm.
2. All stood for the **Pledge of Allegiance**.
3. There were no **changes and/or additions** to the agenda.
4. **Approval of October 8, 2019 Minutes and Special Meeting**

Minutes on October 15th & 29th – Ron Tarbell made a motion to approve all sets of minutes, seconded by Mark Turco, unanimously approved.

5. Reports

a. **Highways** – No update given as Clinton Woolley was unable to be present at the meeting.

b. **Treasurer: Monthly Income & Expense Report** - David Johnson noted the following items: the PILOT Payment from the State has been received and the amount continues to decrease; the State Aid for Highways and Current Use payments have been received and both were more than budgeted; Solid Waste Income from label sales is only \$12 less than last year but on track to exceed budgeted amount; Solid Waste disposal is at 108 tons so far this year compared with 94 tons last year.

c. **Rutland Regional Planning Commission Report** – Jon McCann had no report from the RRPC meeting due to a Special Select Board meeting on that same date.

d. **Rutland Region Transportation Council Report** – Clinton Woolley was not present to report.

6. Old Business

a. **Public Utilities Commission Update re: Phone Back-Up Battery Power Issues** - Jennifer Matthews reported that the fourth and final PUC Workshop was held on October 21st. She and representatives from the group of small towns made their case again for 24-hour batteries installed and replaced at telecom providers' expense, free technical assistance, and more information more readily available on back-up batteries for the customer. The Hearing Officer prepares a Report for the VT Legislature by December 15th, pulling from workshop comments and filed documents and comments on the PUC case site. Some final comments urged the PUC to expand its investigation to the telecommunications grid as a whole, looking at power, cell, internet and landline service and outages. Ms. Matthews noted that a power outage in the Connecticut River Valley coincided with the date of the final filings. One public comment submitted stated that with three to five days without power and people cut off from the ability to reach any emergency services, 'someone could die.' The chair, Mark Turco, called the work on this issue "beneficial."

b. **Other**- There were no additional items.

7. New Business

a. **Tree Cutting & Removal at Cemeteries** – Dennis Devereux reported on the status of trees in the cemeteries maintained by the Town. He said there are about ten trees in need of quick attention. Two cemeteries, Old Mechanicsville

and Carlton, are in need of immediate tree cutting and removal. Some tree work will be needed later in the Mount Holly and Green Cemeteries. The Hortonville Cemetery has a growth of young trees that could be removed to provide

TOWN OF MOUNT HOLLY

A PERMIT IS REQUIRED FOR OUTDOOR BURNING

BURN PERMITS

May be obtained from
THE MOUNT HOLLY FIRE WARDEN

Jim Seward

Pager: 786-3408

Home: 259-2211

Leave a phone number where Jim can call you back.
Do not burn until you have spoken to him.

SAFETY FIRST ALWAYS

Mount Holly Animal Control Officer

The Mount Holly Animal Control Officer is Constable Paul Faenza. He handles all calls concerning domesticated and farm animals, including Animal Cruelty concerns. For more information or to make a report please call (802) 353-8347 or email pfaenza47@yahoo.com

space for new graves. Mr. Devereux said that once this round of tree cutting and removal was completed, there should be no further work needed for the next five to ten years. He noted that volunteer work would be needed in a number of places to right gravestones that have fallen over. He said that he would approach Raymond Tarbell to assist in inventorying the tree work to be done so a cost estimate can be submitted to the Town for inclusion in the budget for next year. The Select Board agreed with the plan.

b. **Grand List Certifications** – David Johnson said that all 2018 appeals of property values have been resolved and none are pending from 2019. The Grand List Certifications could now be signed and the members of the Select Board did so.

c. **BCBS & HRA Insurance Renewals** – No changes are necessary so all will be renewed as is.

d. **Mount Holly Planning Commission Appointments**

i) **One Full Term to November 2022** - One letter of interest was received, opened and read by the Select Board. Ron Tarbell made the motion to appoint Peter Berger to another three-year term, seconded by Jennifer Matthews, passed unanimously.

ii) **One Vacancy to November 2020** - No letters of interest were received, so the vacancy will be re-posted around town and in the *Chit Chat*.

e. **Other** – There were no additional items.

8. **Announcements/Other Business** – Jennifer Matthews announced that Gwynn Zakov, a Municipal Policy Advocate from the VT League of Cities & Towns, will attend the December 10th Select Board meeting to discuss the current bills in the VT House and Senate regarding the retail sale of marijuana. She will discuss the potential impacts on towns from the sale, manufacture and processing of marijuana, and what options are available to towns to address those impacts.

9. **Review & Sign Orders** – Reviewed and signed.

10. **Executive Session: Title 1 V.S.A. S 313(a)(3)** was not needed.

Meeting adjourned at 6:28 pm with a motion made by Ron Tarbell, seconded by Jennifer Matthews, passed unanimously. Respectfully submitted: Jennifer Matthews

Mount Holly Listers Hours

The Listers are at the Mount Holly Town Office most Tuesdays 10:00am-2:00 pm or by appointment. Please call 802-259-2391 for any questions.

Mount Holly Town Office

Will be **CLOSED** the following dates:

Wednesday December 25th, 2019 For Christmas

Thursday December 26th, 2019

Wednesday January 1st, 2020 For New Year's Day

Thursday January 2, 2020

Monday January 20th, 2020 for Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Mount Holly Special Select Board Meeting - October 29, 2019 ~ Minutes

Present: Select Board: Mark Turco (chair), Ron Tarbell, Jennifer Matthews

Town Officials: Dan Connor, Jon McCann, Brigid Sullivan

Members of Public: Paul Barton, Nancy Connor, James Corven, Barbara Hazelton, Steve Hazelton, Annette Lynch, Kevin Plew, Sandra Predom, Don Richardson, Peter Smith, Monique Szechenyi, Ray Tarbell, Ken Weinstein

1. **Call to Order** by chair Mark Turco at 7:00 p.m.

2. All stood for the **Pledge of Allegiance**.

3. **Review Designs of Proposed Cell Tower** – Sandra Predom rose to give a presentation, stating that she and several neighbors would prefer a design like that of the Richmond cell tower. She read a letter from Brett Wright stating that they had looked at a number of cell towers around the State and preferred the tapered pine design with branch density coming down to just below the canopy of surrounding trees. Mr. Wright wrote that he considered this to be a win-win situation for the town with improved cell service provided by a tower disguised as a pine so as to not detract from the scenic views. Ms. Predom showed several simulations of the tower, first as a monopole and then disguised as a pine tree from several locations in town: Fenn Road, Stewart Road North, VT Route 103 at Summit & Old Turnpike Roads, and from Hortonville Road.

Peter Smith, Brigid Sullivan, Dan and Nancy Connor, Ken Weinstein all spoke and/or stated they were in favor of the tower as a pine. Jon McCann read a letter in support of the

PLANNING COMMISSION VACANCY

Interested?

Please send a Letter of Interest to the
Mount Holly Select Board by
December 10th @ Noon.

Term runs until November 2020.

design as a pine. Sandra Predom reiterated the desire to ask AT&T to disguise the tower as a pine, like the one in Richmond, with branches to the canopy.

Discussion ensued on the pine design, its evolution, branch density, branches to the canopy, eventual deconstruction.

4. Finalize Town Recommendation on Proposed AT&T/FirstNet Cell Tower Project – Mark Turco stated that the Select Board had received a number of emails, many from those in attendance at the meeting, and had heard from residents with various recommendations on the design of the cell tower. Ron Tarbell recused himself from the vote. Jennifer Matthews made a motion to welcome the project into Mount Holly given the importance of cell service in the 21st century with this project as a first step in bringing that service to town and as a building block from which to expand. She noted that there were numerous opinions on the design of the tower but that those who would see the tower from their windows and dooryards overwhelmingly supported the design of the tower as a pine. As such, she continued that the Select Board should recommend to AT&T to disguise the tower as a tapered pine tree with branches coming down to the natural canopy of the trees. Mr. Turco seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously. Steve Hazelton asked about some of the specifics mentioned in the meeting. Mr. Turco responded that those would be included in the Select Board's recommendation both to AT&T and the Public Utilities Commission (see attached).

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 pm. Respectfully submitted: Jennifer Matthews Minutes Approved: 11.12.2019

Mount Holly Select Board's Recommendation on Proposed AT&T/FirstNet Telecommunications Project

The Mount Holly Select Board recommends the proposed AT&T/FirstNet Telecommunications Project to be located at 581 Stewart Road South subject to the following conditions:

- the monopole to be in the shape of a tapered pine tree with the branches becoming longer in length as they extend down the trunk to the natural canopy of surrounding trees
- the monopine to preferably have 2.5 to 3 branches per foot
- a whip antenna to be included for use by local first responders

With these conditions, we look forward to welcoming this project to the Town of Mount Holly along with the services it will provide both first responders and residents alike.

'Small Business Saturday'

A small collective of artisans gathering in Belmont, VT. Saturday November 30, 2019 9am-5pm

Located in the Library's Community Center next to the Belmont General Store.

One of a kind work, large and small. We hope you will join us!





RVTC Leaders Speak to Ludlow Rotary

The recent meeting of the Ludlow Rotary Club (LRC) featured leaders of the River Valley Technical Center (RVTC), located in Springfield, as they discussed the role and objectives of that school.

Both Scott Farr, the Superintendent/Director of RVTC and Dave Culver, its Cooperative Education Coordinator, explained how the school has created a wide variety of technical subjects aimed at helping its students select a career path or enhancing their educational background.

They noted that the school, which services a number of Windsor County high schools as well as one in New Hampshire, is dedicated to ensuring that attending students gain an in-depth view of selected technical career opportunities so they may opt for those they find rewarding.

Pictured above are Barbara Lemire, LRC Rotarian; Mark Huntley, LRC President; and Scott Farr, RVTC.

The LRC meets weekly at DJ's Restaurant and other select locations on

Tuesday for lunch. It always welcomes interested persons to its meetings. For additional information, contact an LRC Rotarian.
By Ralph Pace

Woods, Wildlife and Warblers A Thank You

Thank you to everyone who attended our 2019 Woods, Wildlife and Warblers partner meeting last week! We had a great afternoon discussing our previous and future goals, and how you can become a part of that future. I've attached an outline of what was discussed at the meeting for reference.

If you did not have a chance to attend but are interested in being involved, please reach out! As we continue to restructure WWW, your input and suggestions are critically important. We can only continue to grow and impact Vermont with the help of our partners.

Thank you again, we are incredibly excited to work with you and see where the future takes us! All my best, Rachel Fallon & the WWW team, **Woods, Wildlife & Warblers** | info@vtwoodsandwildlife.org

"Paleoindians at Jackson Gore" Wins 1st Place

Local Archaeology Documentary Earns Regional "Nor'easter" Award

"Paleoindians at Jackson Gore", the short (20-minute) documentary produced in collaboration between community access station Okemo Valley TV, the State Archaeologist, and UVM's Consulting Archaeology Program, received a 1st place "Nor'easter" award for Historical Documentary from the northeast regional chapter of the [Alliance for Community Media](#), a national advocacy and membership organization representing community access TV stations.. The film documents the 2007 excavation of Jackson Gore and what was learned about the paleoindians. Okemo Valley TV Production Coordinator Eric Chatterjee was in attendance to receive the regional Nor'easter award at a ceremony held in Portland, ME on Oct. 31st (in photo on left, with festival organizer Jim Palmer).

Chatterjee noted that this project was the digital equivalent of an archaeological project in its own right. While the excavation itself studied humans who traveled through the area 12,000+ years ago, completing the documentary required piecing together footage that was recorded in 2007 with new footage from 2018, to form a narrative for the story. A phone call from State archaeologist Jess Robinson spurred Okemo Valley TV staff into action, to find a way to create something out of the old footage. Executive Director Patrick Cody explained "(Robinson) called last year asking if we still had footage that I and some volunteers shot during the excavation at Jackson Gore (in 2007). Thankfully, we did", adding that it had not been made into anything. Cody offered to help Robinson create a short documentary, using the existing footage and adding to it. "The findings at Jackson Gore are really important in the overall mix of (how we teach about the period)", said Robinson.

Cody affirmed that "this project is exemplary of the kind of collaboration on which we thrive, with numerous local, regional, & State partners. We may have overseen the process, but it only came to fruition because of the collaboration". He credited contributions from State of VT Division of Historic Preservation, UVM Consulting Archaeology Program, Okemo Mountain Resort, Ralph Cameron / Sky Shots LLC, Cavendish Historical Society / Margo Caulfield, Mount Holly Community Historical Museum / Dennis Devereux, Sydney Miele, & Emma Vastola. Moreover, Cody encourages others who have an idea of their own for a documentary, other film project, or TV show, to contact the station.

"Paleoindians at Jackson Gore" is available for viewing on Okemo Valley TV's website at okemovalley.tv/videos, and is periodically shown on the station's cable TV channels (Comcast channels 8 & 10 in Ludlow, Plymouth, & Cavendish; Comcast channels 20 & 21 in Mt. Holly; and on VTel system-wide, on channels 166 & 167). Patrick Cody, Executive Director (802) 228-8808; pcody@okemovalley.tv



Chrome & Craft Festival Winners Announced

Plus Cruise-In at Benson's Chevrolet Winners too!

Okemo Valley, VT: The Annual Chrome & Craft Festival was co-sponsored by the *Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce* and the Fletcher Farm School for the Arts & Crafts in Ludlow. Trophies were awarded to the top three vehicles in each class: "1989 & older" and "1990 & newer". New this year there was also a trophy for a young vehicle owner (*under 30*) and the winning motorcycle. Winners were selected by both participant and spectator judging. In addition, also new this year, there was an award for the greatest car club participation.

For the Chrome & Craft Car Show, the **2019 "Best in Show" winner** was a **1934 Ford Coupe** owned by **Jim Keith** of Londonderry, VT.

Other winners were the top three in the **"1989 & older"** category:

- **Brad & Laurie Canty** (N. Clarendon, VT) - '69 Chevy Nova
- **Albert Frye Sr.** (Ludlow, VT) - '35 Packard
- **Peter Young** (Orwell, VT) - 1957 Ford Club Victoria

For the **"1990 & newer"** class category, the top three winners were:

- **Curt & Shirley Fabische** (Gaylordsville CT) - 2004 Chevy Corvette
- **Joe & Maria Montaruli** (Irvington NY) - 2017 Ford Mustang
- **David Reiss** (Andover VT) - 2012 Subaru Forester

Other award winners include:

- **"Young Participant Award"** (*vehicle owner under 30*): **David Reiss** (Andover VT) - 2012 Subaru Forester
- **"Best Motorcycle"**: **Chris Mauro** (Manchester VT) - 1955 Fratelli Ferrari Motorcycle
- **"Best Truck"**: **Nancy & Gary Jones** (N. Clarendon) - 1936 Ford Dump Truck
- **"Car Club Participation"**: **RAVE** (*Rutland Area Vehicle Enthusiasts*)

Benson's Chevrolet in Ludlow, was the title sponsor of the festival and hosted the **4th Annual Cruise-In** the evening beforehand. They also awarded trophies for best Antique Car or Truck. For the first time ever there was a tie! Fortunately one was a car and the other was a truck! Brad & Laurie Canty of North Clarendon, VT won for their 1969 Chevy Nova. Nancy & Gary Jones also of North Clarendon, VT won for their 1936 Ford Dump Truck.



Other festival event sponsors were: **Graham & Graham CPAs**, **HB Energy Solutions**, **Imery's Performance Materials**, **Leader Distributing-Pepsi Brattleboro** and **Vermont T's**. Thank you also to our media sponsors: the **Vermont Journal**, **Rutland Herald**, the **Mountain Times**, **Okemo Valley TV** and **WDVT Rock 94.5 FM**. We very much appreciated all those who contributed items for the car show participants goodie bags including: **Okemo Mountain Resort**, **The Vermont Country Store**, **Big Eyes Bakery**, **Servpro of Windham & Windsor Counties**, **Hemmings**, **Kevin Zaloudek**, **Lou Beauchain** and **Clayton Rockwell**.

Aroma Catering provided breakfast for car show registrants. Other food concessions included **Du Jour Restaurant** Tacos, **Goodman's American Pie** wood fired pizzas and **The Lazy Cow** ice cream.

A big thank you to our volunteer committee who helped to make this event possible: **Lou Beauchain**, **Clayton Rockwell**, **Gary Joseph**, **Cynthia Noyes**, **Sue Chadwick**, **David Foster** and **Gail & Ken Vikse**. We couldn't have done it

without you! Thanks also to **Images by Donald Dill** for all the great photos! FOR MORE INFORMATION: *Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce*, www.yourplaceinvermont.com 802-228-5830

The Thrive Center of The Green Mountains Turns 20

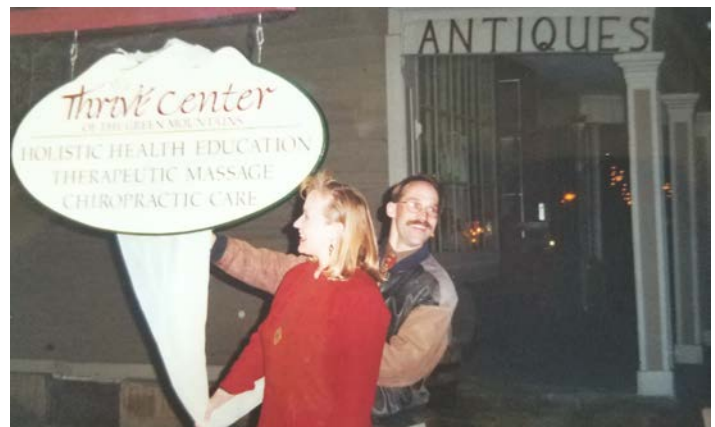
The Thrive Center of the Green Mountains has been "thriving" on Main Street in Wallingford for two decades. Owners Joseph P. Donohue, DC and Lisa Marie Donohue, MA, LMT unlocked the doors to this holistic health center 20 years ago and together have built a valuable community resource for living well. These dedicated practitioners offer a wide range of services within the center and beyond their office walls in order to support patients to live healthier lives. Those services include: Chiropractic Care, Applied Kinesiology, Therapeutic Massage/Bodywork (>12 modalities), Holistic Health Education/Classes, Niche Coaching, Nutritional Counseling/Supplementation, Worksite Wellness, Retail, Mobile Chair Massage and Outcalls available.

Congratulations to Dr. Joe and Lisa for your commitment to your patients and the greater Wallingford community since opening your doors in 2000.

It truly has been a "mutual gift" to be of service to the region...One person at a time!

"Work is love made visible." ~Kahlil Gilran

December 2019 Mount Holly Chit Chat Inc.





Okemo Valley Showcase: Shopping Deadline Approaches!

Regional Chamber On-line Auction Featuring Members Products & Services

The *Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce* (OVRCC) will soon conclude its inaugural "Okemo Valley Showcase", an online auction of some of the region's favorite items. The **deadline** for auction bids will be on Saturday, November 30, 2019. To link to the auction, go to: <https://event.gives/okemovalleyshopping>.

Since we will also be celebrating #SmallBusinessSaturday on November 30th, this auction is a great way to #ShopSmall

and showcase "buying local" in Okemo Valley, especially right before the holiday season!

Chamber members participating with items in the *Okemo Valley Showcase* include:

- **Big Eyes Bakery** (*Ludlow*) pie baking cooking classes (\$60 value)
- **Castle Hill Resort & Spa** (*Cavendish*) Spa Gym 1 month membership for 2 (\$119 value)
- **Clearlake Furniture** (*Ludlow*) shaker cherry wood rocking chair (\$950 value)
- **Artist David Ladd** (*Ludlow*) framed painting of Buttermilk Falls (\$110 value)
- **Depot Street Gallery** (*Ludlow*) antique silverware art mobile (\$90 value)
- **Echo Lake Inn** (*Plymouth*) gift certificate for overnight stay (\$250 value)
- **The Free Range Restaurant** (*Chester*) gift certificate (\$200 value)
- **Fletcher Farm School for the Arts & Crafts** (*Ludlow*) 2-day art class (\$250 value)
- **Green Mountain Sugarhouse** (*Ludlow*) Gallon of Maple Syrup (\$60 value)
- **Green Mountain Railroad** (*Chester*) two Fall foliage train tickets (\$50 value)
- **Golden Stage Inn** (*Proctorsville*) gift certificate for overnight stay (\$250 value)
- **Images by Donald Dill** (*Ludlow*) framed photograph or photography session (\$100 value)
- **Johnny Seesaw's Restaurant** (*Peru*) gift certificate (\$75 value)
- **Mr. Darcy's** (*Ludlow*) gift certificate (\$25 value)
- **Okemo Mountain Resort** (*Ludlow*) 2 night stay at the Jackson Gore Inn (\$1000 value)
- **Outer Limits Brewing** (*Proctorsville*) gift certificate (\$20 value)
- **Rockledge Farm Woodworks** (*Weathersfield*) cherry wood cutting board (\$110 value)
- **Russ Hurlburt Photography** (*Ludlow*) framed photo of Okemo Mountain (\$175 value)
- **Sam's Steakhouse Restaurant** (*Ludlow*) gift certificate (\$25 value)
- **Seesaw's Lodge** (*Peru*) gift certificate for lodging (\$300)
- **Smith Maple Crest Farm** (*Shrewsbury*) Sample Boxes: Maple (\$55 value) & Beef (\$40 value)
- **Smokeshire Design** (*Chester*) cherry wood mirror (\$125 value)
- **Weston Playhouse Theatre** (*Weston*) 2 premium tickets for 2020 season (\$140 value)

Even if shoppers don't have the winning bid, they can still contact any of our participating members directly to purchase their products and services!

Proceeds will benefit the *Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce* Marketing Program, including a new website to better promote the region.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Carol Lighthall, *Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce*, www.yourplaceinvermont.com 802-228-5830

BLACK RIVER ACADEMY MUSEUM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

LOCATION: 14 HIGH STREET, LUDLOW, VT 05149

DATES: DECEMBER 7, 13, 20, 2019 FRIDAY MORNING FROM 10:30 A.M. – 12 NOON

CONTACT: MELISSA LOVELL POST; EMAIL: goodwood@vermontel.net; TEL. # 802-875-4102

Let's dance away those winter blues by joining Melissa Lovell Post at the **Black River Academy Museum** on Friday morning, December 7, 13, 20 from 10:30 A.M. until noon at 14 High Street in Ludlow. The dances will be at the beginner to intermediate level. No partner is necessary. All beginners are welcome.

Dances will come from Bulgaria, Croatia, Serbia, Macedonia, Hungary, Romania, Greece, Albania, France, Israel, and the USA (and from other countries too!)

The cost is \$5 per class or whatever is affordable. Wear comfortable clothing and shoes that slide easily on wooden floors. For more information, contact Melissa at 802-875-4102 or email her at goodwood@vermontel.net. Join in on the fun! Hope to see you there!





JOHN NAPIER

REALTOR®

O. 802-228-5678

C. 860-559-9334

www.CBLifestylesRE.com

jnapier@cblifestylesre.com

156 Main Street
Ludlow, VT 05149



Each office is independently owned and operated.



31st Annual Tree of Remembrance Ceremony Hosted in Rutland

The Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice of the Southwest Region (VNAHSR) will host its 31st Annual Tree of Remembrance ceremony at the Franklin Conference Center, Howe Square in Rutland on Tuesday, December 3 at 6pm. For inclement weather a snow date of Wednesday, December 11 has been set. The event is free and open to the public.

The Tree of Remembrance ceremony is a way for community members to reflect, honor and celebrate loved ones and friends who have passed away. The ceremony will feature music by the Hospice Trillium choir, remarks by Hospice medical director Allan Eisemann, MD, recitation of loved ones' names, the lighting of the tree, refreshments and fellowship.



"This ceremony is about families who have lost a loved one and their legacy," says Nicole Moran, MSN, BA, RN and director of the Hospice program. "Our caregivers, volunteers and staff care deeply for the families of our patients and offer a variety of services to them to help deal with grief and loss. This ceremony is a beloved annual event and is just one of the many ways we want to honor and remember their loved ones for years to come."

To add a loved one's name to the wall of remembrance, to RSVP or for event questions, please call 802.775.0568.

Rotary Hears Speaker on Proposed 1% Local Tax in Ludlow

At its regular Tuesday luncheon meeting, a large group of Ludlow Rotary Club (LRC) members listened to Charlie Kimbell of Woodstock as he discussed that town's implementation of the 1% local sales tax.

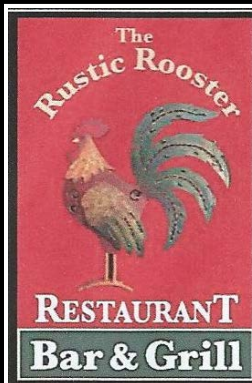
Kimbell, who was instrumental in the implementation of the 1% tax in Woodstock, was invited by the LRC to discuss this issue since the Ludlow Select Board may consider placing the additional 1% sales tax before the 2020 Town Meeting for consideration.

He noted that, contrary to some towns who have implemented this tax, Woodstock was interested in using the additional revenue to improve infrastructure, enhance recreational facilities, and promote the town's economical development. Kimbell indicated that the benefit of this approach, rather than simply putting the new revenue in the general fund to lower property taxes, was that it provided necessary improvements that did not increase property taxes.



The speaker, who is very active in local and state activities, answered a number of questions from Ludlow Rotarians and guests. He is pictured above during his speech to the group at Sam's Restaurant as LRC members look on. Kimbell is pictured standing with LRC Rotarians Jill Tofferi, Arthur Randolph, and Glenn Heitsmith among the many listening to his comments.

The LRC was created in 1927 and has been involved in many area community projects as well as those associated with Rotary International. The club serves the Cavendish, Ludlow, Mt Holly, and Plymouth areas. LRC welcomes interested people from this area to attend its meetings to enjoy the friendship and work Rotary performs. Ralph Pace



SUNDAY BRUNCH
Every Sunday
10 am – 2 pm

Outdoor Fire Pit
Take Out Available
Free Wi-Fi
Reservations Not Required

Hours:

Monday	5pm-9pm
Tuesday	Closed
Wednesday	5pm-9pm
Thursday	5pm-9pm
Friday	12 noon - 9pm
Saturday	12 noon - 9 pm
Sunday Brunch:	10 – 2 pm
Sunday Regular Menu:	12 noon – 9 pm

CLOSED TUESDAYS

492-3433

Vtrusticrooster.com

5446 VT Route 103, Cuttingsville, VT

Like us on Facebook



'Twas The Night Before Christmas



'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse. The stockings were hung by the chimney with care, In hopes that St Nicholas soon would be there.

The children were nestled all snug in their beds, While visions of sugar-plums danced in their heads. And mamma in her 'kerchief, and I in my cap, Had just settled our brains for a long winter's nap.

When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter, I sprang from the bed to see what was the matter. Away to the window I flew like a flash, Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash.

The moon on the breast of the new-fallen snow Gave the lustre of mid-day to objects below. When, what to my wondering eyes should appear, But a miniature sleigh, and eight tinny reindeer.

With a little old driver, so lively and quick, I knew in a moment it must be St Nick. More rapid than eagles his coursers they came, And he whistled, and shouted, and called them by name!

"Now Dasher! Now, Dancer! Now, Prancer and Vixen! On, Comet! On, Cupid! On, on Donner and Blitzen! To the top of the porch! To the top of the wall! Now dash away! Dash away! Dash away all!"

As dry leaves that before the wild hurricane fly, When they meet with an obstacle, mount to the sky. So up to the house-top the coursers they flew, With the sleigh full of Toys, and St Nicholas too.

And then, in a twinkling, I heard on the roof The prancing and pawing of each little hoof. As I drew in my head, and was turning around, Down the chimney St Nicholas

came with a bound.

He was dressed all in fur, from his head to his foot, And his clothes were all tarnished with ashes and soot. He had flung on his back, And he looked like a peddler, just opening his pack.

His eyes-how they twinkled! His dimples how merry! His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry! His droll little mouth was drawn up like a bow, And the beard of his chin was as white as the snow.

The stump of a pipe he held tight in his teeth, And the smoke it encircled his head like a wreath. He had a broad face and a little round belly, That shook when he laughed, like a bowlful of jelly!

He was chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf, And I laughed when I saw him, in spite of myself! A wink of his eye and a twist of his head, Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread.

He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work, And filled all the stockings, then turned with a jerk. And laying his finger aside of his nose, And giving a nod, up the chimney he rose!

He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle, And away they all flew like the down of a thistle. But I heard him exclaim, 'ere he drove out of sight, "Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good-night!"

Clement Clarke Moore Miniature Biography

Clement Clarke Moore (1799 - 1863) came from a prominent family and his father Benjamin Moore was the Bishop of New York who was famous for officiating at the inauguration of George Washington. The tradition of reading 'Twas the night before Christmas poem on Christmas Eve is now a Worldwide institution and tradition.

Clement Clarke Moore (1779 - 1863) wrote the poem 'Twas the night before Christmas also called "A Visit from St. Nicholas" in 1822. It is now the tradition in many American families to read the poem every Christmas Eve. The poem 'Twas the night before



Christmas' has redefined our image of Christmas and Santa Claus. Prior to the creation of the story of 'Twas the night before Christmas' St. Nicholas, the patron saint of children, had never been associated with a sleigh or reindeer!

Clement Moore, the author of the poem 'Twas the night before Christmas, was a reticent man and it is believed that a family friend, Miss H. Butler, sent a copy of the poem to the New York Sentinel who published the poem. The condition of publication was that the author of 'Twas the night before Christmas was to remain anonymous.

The first publication date was 23rd December 1823 and it was an immediate success. It was not until 1844 that Clement Clarke Moore claimed ownership when the work was included in a book of his poetry.



A bundle of Toys he



Yes, Virginia, There is a Santa Claus

By Francis P. Church, first published in The New York Sun in 1897.

Dear Editor—

I am 8 years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says, "If you see it in The Sun, it's so." Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus? Virginia O'Hanlon

Wayne Jones Metal

All Metals

Sheet - Plate - Structural - Fabrication
CNC Plasma - Oxy Fuel Burn Table
Equipment Repair
Light Machining
Sand Blasting
Polishing

www.waynejonesmetal.com

Wayne Jones

1759 RT 103 N
East Wallingford VT 802-259-2521

(The following is an excerpt from what is perhaps the most famous editorial ever written.)

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! How dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There

would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished. . . . Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies. You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if you did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not

there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world. . . . You tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived could tear apart. Only faith,

poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding. . . . No Santa Claus! Thank God! he lives and lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay 10 times 10,000 years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.



Christmas Everywhere Poem by Phillips Brooks

Everywhere, everywhere, Christmas tonight!
Christmas in lands of the fir-tree and pine,
Christmas in lands of the palm-tree and vine,
Christmas where snow peaks stand solemn and white,
Christmas where cornfields stand sunny and bright.
Everywhere, everywhere, Christmas tonight!

Christmas where children are hopeful and gay,
Christmas where old men are patient and gray,
Christmas where peace, like a dove in his flight,
Broods o're brave men in the thick of the fight;
Everywhere, everywhere, Christmas tonight!
For the Christ-child who comes is the Master of all;
No palace too great, no cottage too small.

MOVIE NIGHT
FRIDAY DEC. 6TH 6PM

WEAR YOUR PAJAMAS FOR THIS FREE EVENT, SHOWING THE POLAR EXPRESS.

FREE POPCORN & HOT CHOCOLATE!!!

ADDITIONAL CONSESIONS:

PIZZA BY THE SLICE \$2
MOVIE SNACKS FOR \$1 ea.
(WHILE SUPPLIES LAST)

LOCATED IN THE MT. HOLLY SCHOOL GYM.

FEEL FREE TO BRING YOUR BLANKETS, PILLOWS, STUFFED ANIMALS OR COMFY CHAIRS.

FOOD DRIVE:
Bring your non-perishable goods to help fill our very own Polar Express Train!!
All goods will be donated to Black River produce.

SPONSORED BY:
Mt. Holly PTSA

TOM HANKS
THE POLAR EXPRESS



Farm Store Hours Sat-Sun 11am - 3pm
or by appt. 802-492-2151

Give the gift of local and enjoy the best of Vermont!
Pure Vermont Maple Syrup
Local Grass-Fed Beef for Pick-Up



MY FIRST CHRISTMAS IN HEAVEN

I SEE THE COUNTLESS CHRISTMAS TREES AROUND THE WORLD BELOW,
WITH TINY LIGHTS, LIKE HEAVEN'S STARS, REFLECTING ON THE SNOW.
THE SIGHT IS SO SPECTACULAR, PLEASE WIPE AWAY THAT TEAR,
FOR I AM SPENDING CHRISTMAS WITH JESUS CHRIST THIS YEAR.

I HEAR THE MANY CHRISTMAS SONGS THAT PEOPLE HOLD SO DEAR,
BUT THE SOUNDS OF MUSIC CAN'T COMPARE WITH THE CHRISTMAS CHOIR
UP HERE.

I HAVE NO WORDS TO TELL YOU, THE JOY THEIR VOICES BRING,
FOR IT IS BEYOND DESCRIPTION, TO HEAR THE ANGELS SING.

I KNOW HOW MUCH YOU MISS ME. I SEE THE PAIN INSIDE YOUR HEART,
BUT I AM NOT SO FAR AWAY. WE REALLY AREN'T APART.
SO BE HAPPY FOR ME DEAR ONES. YOU KNOW I HOLD YOU DEAR,
AND BE GLAD I'M SPENDING CHRISTMAS,
WITH JESUS CHRIST THIS YEAR.

I SEND YOU EACH A SPECIAL GIFT, FROM MY HEAVENLY HOME ABOVE.
I SEND YOU EACH A MEMORY OF, MY UNDYING LOVE.
AFTER ALL "LOVE" IS THE GIFT, MORE PRECIOUS THAN PURE GOLD.
IT WAS ALWAYS MOST IMPORTANT IN THE STORIES JESUS TOLD.

PLEASE LOVE AND KEEP EACH OTHER, AS MY FATHER SAID TO DO,
FOR I CAN'T COUNT THE BLESSING OR LOVE HE HAS FOR EACH OF YOU.
SO HAVE A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND WIPE AWAY THAT TEAR,

REMEMBER, I'M SPENDING CHRISTMAS, WITH JESUS CHRIST THIS YEAR.

AUTHOR UNKNOWN



Puppies' Christmas

~ Anon

It's the day before Christmas
And all through the house
The puppies are squeaking
An old rubber mouse.

The wreath which had merrily
Hung on the door
Is scattered in pieces
All over the floor.

The stockings that hung
In a neat little row
Now boast a hole in
Each one of the toes.

The tree was subjected
To bright-eyed whims,
And now, although splendid,
It's missing some limbs.

I catch them and hold them.
"Be good", I insist.
They lick me, then run off
To see what they've missed.

And now as I watch them
The thought comes to me,
That their's is the spirit
That Christmas should be.

Should children and puppies
Yet show us the way,
And teach us the joy
That should come with this
day?

Could they bring the message
That's written above,
And tell us that, most of all
Christmas is love.



Shriner Hospital For Children

Shriner Hospital for Children provides specialty care to children up to age 21 with orthopedic conditions, burns, spinal cord injuries, and cleft lip and palate, regardless of the family's ability to pay. All care and services are delivered in a family-centered environment.

To learn more about our services, or to refer a patient, visit www.shrinershospitalforchildren.org to locate a hospital near you. Or call 800-237-5055 in the U.S. or 800-361-7256 Canada – Past Potentate Bob Ferguson, Cairo Shriners, Rutland



Community Health Clinics – December 2019

December Blood Pressure/Foot Care Clinics

Monday, 12/02/2019,	Pittsford, Village Manor,	11:30am
Tuesday, 12/03/2019,	Bennington, Bennington Senior Center,	1pm
Wednesday, 12/04/2019,	Wallingford, Wallingford House,	10:30am
Thursday, 12/05/2019,	Rutland, Parker House,	10am
Thursday, 12/05/2019,	Rutland, Bardwell House,	12:30pm
Friday, 12/06/2019,	Poultney, Young at Heart Senior Center,	9:30am
Friday, 12/06/2019,	Ira, Ira Town Hall,	12:30pm
Wednesday, 12/11/2019,	Manchester, Manchester office of VNAHSR,	1:30pm
Thursday, 12/12/2019,	Castleton, Castleton Meadows,	12:30pm
Friday, 12/13/2019,	West Rupert, Rupert Firehouse,	8:30am
Tuesday, 12/17/2019,	Bennington, Walloomsac Inn,	11am
Thursday, 12/26/2019,	Fair Haven, Appletree Apartments,	9:30am



The cost of the foot clinic is \$10. Please contact 802.775.0568 to find a clinic near you. No appointment necessary.

Cholesterol Screening: Wednesday, 12/04/2019, Rutland, Rutland office of VNAHSR, 8:30am

The cost is \$30. Call 802.775.0568 for more information.

Bereavement Support Meetings: Manchester – Every Monday at 5pm at Bromley Manor's The Chapel. Reverend Andrew Carlson, office chaplain for the Rutland VNAHSR office, will facilitate. Call 802.770.1613 for more information.

Rutland – Every Tuesday at 6pm at Grace Congregational Church. The Reverend Andrew Carlson, office chaplain for the Rutland VNAHSR office, will facilitate. Call 802.770.1613 for more information. **Bereavement support meetings are free and open to the public.**

Ostomy Support Meeting: The Vermont Ostomy support meeting will be held Saturday, December 14th from 10:30am - noon at the VNA & Hospice of the Southwest Region, 7 Albert Cree Drive, Rutland, park down in the lower parking lot. **For more information contact Kate Lawrence, MSN, RN, CWOCN, ET/WOC NURSE at 802.770.1682 or email**

kate.lawrence@vnahsr.org.



BONE BUILDERS

Join BONE BUILDERS
Free weights and lessons
No age limit Good Company
Great way to improve Balance
And Strength
Call Judy at 259-2443



Mount Holly Chit Chat Inc., 3379 Shunpike Rd., Mount Holly, VT 05758

The Mount Holly Chit Chat, a membership organization, has been incorporated as a non-profit organization in the State of Vermont, dedicated to providing all members of the Mount Holly community with information on Town events and issues. Membership is open to anyone who lives in, works in, or owns property in Mount Holly and who has made an annual membership donation. Membership donations help bring the Chit Chat to you every month.

Check here if you DO NOT wish to receive the Chit Chat _____

Donation amount \$ _____ **Tax Deductible** We have Federal tax exempt status.

Name

Address

Phone Email

Sign Up for the Mt. Holly NewsFlash

to get all that is happening locally in our Town, our Schools and the local area just email to

mthollynewsflash@gmail.com

And request to be placed on the list.
News item deadlines are 6:00 am & 6:00 pm

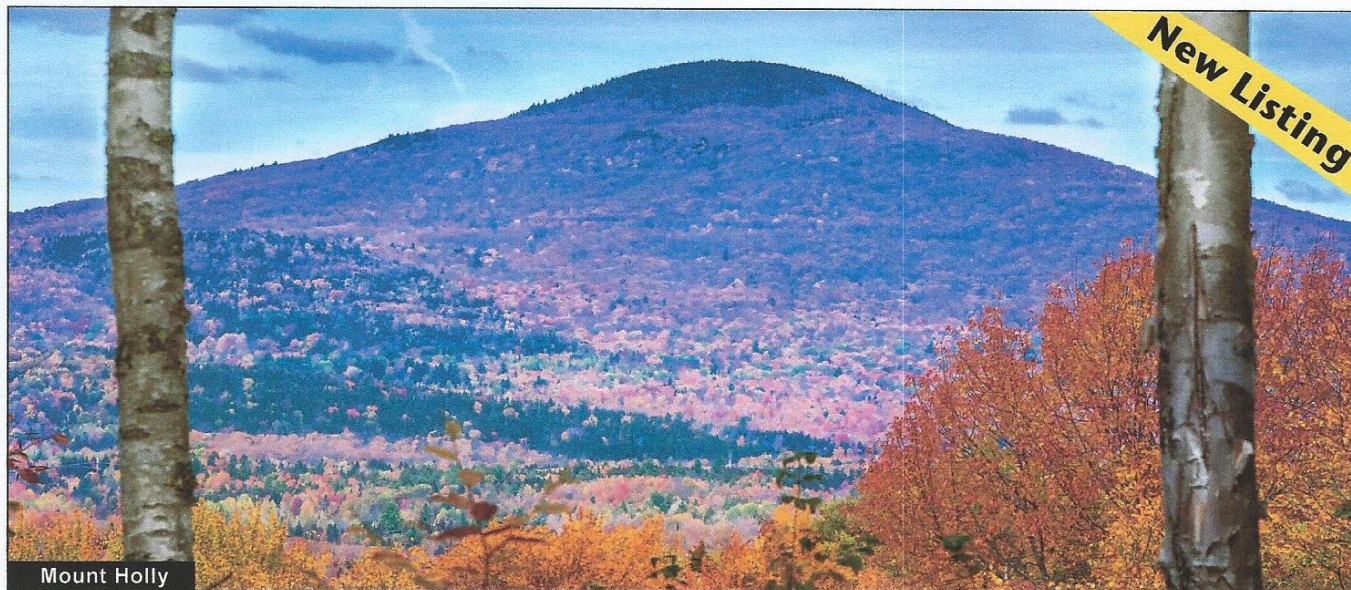
For Sale: Firewood –
Delivered Or You Pick Up.
Call 802-259-2147



ENGEL & VÖLKERS
Okemo



Feel Like You're On Top Of The World



Mount Holly



The views from this gorgeous Timberpeg home are spectacular! Built in 1999 by one of the areas premier builders, Ted Stryhas, this home features an open floor plan, large open kitchen, 20 x 18 living room with stone fireplace, formal dining room and a large screen porch to take in the breathtaking views - from Sunrise to Sunset, you will have a birds eye view. Of course, in a timber frame home it's all about the beams - they are a work of art. Drive right in to the two-car garage where there is plenty of room to leave your outdoor gear before entering the cozy main floor. The kitchen features quartz countertops, a 2nd sink, Jenn-Air stove top plus double wall oven. The laundry is conveniently located just off the kitchen. Upstairs brings you to the over-sized master suite including a walk-in closet, an over-sized steam shower and even a charming propane stove. There is a 2nd bedroom plus a library which looks down to the living room.

MLS#: pending • \$449,000.

Engel & Völkers Okemo
126 Main Street, Ludlow, VT
okemo.evrealstate.com • 802-975-0338



©2019 Engel & Völkers. All rights reserved. Each brokerage independently owned and operated. Engel & Völkers and it's independent License Partners are Equal Opportunity Employers and fully support the principals of the Fair Housing Act. All information provided is deemed reliable but is not guaranteed.

Who's Got It Locally?

Artists & Architects

Alistair McCallum Landscape Photographs & Paintings 259-2318
Spectrum Photography – John Miller 259-3060

Bakeries - Catering - Restaurants - Stores

Harry's Café, Trip & Deb Pearce III 228-2996
Mojo Café – John & Jodi Seward mojocafevt@yahoo.com 228-6656
The Rustic Rooster – Donna & Greg Ganzer 492-3433
www.vtrusticrooster.com

Bed & Breakfast

Clifford Country Bed & Breakfast www.cliffordcountry.com 259-2269

Building & Repairs – General Work

AW Carpentry-Remodeling*Building*Portable Sawmilling 259-3699
Cutting Edge Carpentry – Curt Marechaux Cell 236-5559
Earl (Tersh) Runner Carpentry – Superior Woodworking 492-3388
G & H Masonry – Jay Goraj ghmasonryvermont@yahoo.com 259-2625
www.facebook.com/ghmasonry

Grey Goose Chimney Sweeps 492-3549
Jenkins Builders – General Contractor brandon@jenkinsbuild.com 952-9722
Ted Stryhas Builder 228-7327
Wright Construction – Brett Wright 259-2094

Church Listings

Annunciation, Ludlow, Mass Sat 4:30 pm, Sun 8 am & 11 am
Holy Name of Mary, Proctorsville, Mass Sun 9:30 am
Rev Thomas Mosher 228-3451
Belmont Village Baptist Church-Worship 9:30am, Coffee Hour 10
Pastor Glenn Davis vbch.weebly.com 259-2440
E. Wallingford Baptist – PS 9:15-10:00 am SS 10 am, Worship 11
Pastor Kevin Miner 259-2831
First Baptist Church, Wallingford, SS 11am Prayer Meeting Wed 7 pm
Pastor Dave Bentley 446-2020
Lighthouse Independent Baptist Church, Rutland SS 11am & 3pm
Until May 11am & 6pm 779-0300
Ludlow Baptist Church, 9:30 am SS, 10:30 am Music Fellowship,
11 am WS, 6:30 pm Evening PS, Wed 6:30 pm PM & BS
Pastor Jerry Scheumann jfscheumann@gmail.com 603- 439-0803
St. Patrick's, Wallingford, Mass Sun 9 am
Rev Msgr Bernard Bourgeois christthekingprsh@gmail.com 446-2161
Wilderness Friends Meeting (Quaker) Sundays 10 am
Shrewsbury Library, Cuttingsville 259-2803

Engineering

Krueger Engineering- Arthur G. Krueger, P.E. 492-3653

Equipment For Hire & Snow Moving

Beardmore Excavating beardmoreexc@gmail.com 342-3507
Flander's Excavating & Firewood 259-2147
Norton's Property Management – Logging*Land Clearing*Snowplowing
*Brush Hogging*Mowing & Care Taking 802-353-6289 Cell 259-3108
Russ Garow –Lawn Mowing*Brush Hogging*Garden Tilling*Snow
Plowing *Care Taking 259-3167

Farm Fresh Products

Plew Farm (meat, eggs, maple) www.plewfarm.com 802-259-2250
1966 Healdville Rd, Mt. Holly
Smith Maple Crest Farm, Grass-Fed Beef Cuts Fresh/Frozen 492-2151
www.Smithmaplecrestfarm.com
Sugar Hill Berry Farm www.sugarhillberryfarm.com 259-2155

Food Shelf

Black River Good Neighbor Services – Krey Kellington 228-3663

Funeral Homes

Clifford Funeral Home 773-3010

Garage, Repair & Wrecking

Belmont Motor Works LLC - Harley-Davidson, Small Engine 259-3178
Snowmobile, ATV, Aluminum Welding & Metal Fabrication

Garden & Landscape, Lawn Mowing

Belmont Country Gardens Quality Custom Stonework & More 259-2364
Frost Hill Farm Seasonal Peony Wedding Flowers 259-2716

Jeb Porter Landscaping rocker@vermontel.net 259-3058
Kevin Smith, Garden Service & Lawn Mowing 259-3964
Noreen's Petals & Greens 236-8188
Salt Ash Nursery - The Balsam Barn – Scott Crawford 259-2146

Health Care Providers

Dr. Joseph P. Donohue – Chiropractic Care, Thrive Center 446-2499
Massage Therapy/Bodywork, Thrive Center of Green Mtns 446-2499
Lisa Donohue MA, LMT ~ Linda O'Brien MT 446-2499

Home Management Services

Belmont Country Gardens Property Management 259-2364
Mowing & Plowing Jon Lienhard
Country Home Management, Richardson/Rivers 259-3662 228-7086
Jenkins Builders brandon@jenkinsbuild.com 952-9722
Seiple's Property Management 802- 236-8104
Yankee Home Management, Keith Hawkins 259-3064

Interior Design

Rose of Sharon Designs – Sharon Napier Design Consultant 860-214-3911

Maple Syrup

Green Mtn. Sugar House 228-7151
Plew Farm 1966 Healdville Rd, Mt. Holly www.plewfarm.com 259-2250
Smith Maple Crest Farm www.Smithmaplecrestfarm.com 492-2151

Marketing & Promotional Services

Express Copy Inc., Don Reiser H 259-2722 362-0501
print@expresscopyinc.com

Metal Fabrication

Wayne Jones Metal www.waynejonesmetal.com 259-2521

Mount Holly Email

Kevin Plew – mthollynewsflash@gmail.com 259-2250

Painters

MRS Unlimited Visions LLC Interior/Exterior Painting –Melissa 259-3989

Plumbing & Heating

Master Plumbing & Heating Inc. 802-975-0369
masterplumbingheating@gmail.com
Tailored Plumbing tailoredplumbingheating@gmail.com 802-417-1647

Real Estate Sales

Coldwell Banker Lifestyles, fellison@cblifestylesre.com 228-5678
Frank Ellison Real Estate H 228-4011 - Cell 802-345-3766
John Napier jnapier@cblifestylesre.com 860-559-9334
Engel & Volkers, Okemo - Woodstock Gail Beardmore 802-975-0338
Gail.Beardmore@evusa.com (Mobile) 802-236-5431
Kelley Real Estate, Don Eatmon, Broker/Owner H 259-2646 228-5333
Don@KelleyRealEstate.com

Alex Eatmon Alex@KelleyRealEstate.com Cell 802-345-7886

Lisa Kelley Lisa@KelleyRealEstate.com H 259-3112 Cell 802-345-6581

Ty Murray Ty@KelleyRealEstate.com H 259-3014 Cell 802-777-8047

Fax 802-228-5343 www.KelleyRealEstate.com www.OkemoValley.com

Roofing

Buddy System Roofing Contct Buddy 259-3989
New Roofs/Roof Repairs & Replacement – Slate/Wood/Asphalt/Metal

Security

Countryside Alarms – Mike Blais www.countrysidealarms.com 259-2213

Septic System Design

Krueger Engineering – Arthur G. Krueger, P.E. 492-3653

Therapeutic Riding

Rienbow Riding Center Home 259-2282 Barn 492-2226

Tree Services

G.M. Tree Tech & Landscaping, Greg McKirryher 259-8733

Volunteer Services

Belmont/Mt. Holly Food Co-op, Tanger H 259-2344 W 259-2899

Black River Good Neighbor Service 228-3663

Woodworking, Cabinets & Furniture

Chesters Custom Woodworking ccw@vermontel.net 259-3232
www.chesterscustomwoodworking.com
Stone Creek Workshops www.stonecreekworkshops.com 259-2254



Merry
Christmas

