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Mt. Holly, VT 05758



Mount Holly Chit Chat

46/6

August 2020

Church Listings, back page "Who's Got It Locally?"

Mt. Holly Community Asso – Contact Linda Miller at 802-345-1740

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's Hours: Tues 10:00 am – 2:00 pm or by appointment 802-259-2391

Town Garage: 259-3179

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

TRANSFER SITE: Wed. 4 pm – 7 pm & Sat. 8 am – 2 pm

Sat 1st **Moby Dick, Author Hernan Melville B. 1819 ~ Francis Scott Key "The Star Spangled Banner b. 1779**
Joseph Priestly Discovers Oxygen 1774

3rd **Christopher Columbus Set Sail with Nina, Pinta & Santa Maria 1492**

4th Mt. Holly Community Association Meeting, Library **Louis Armstrong 1901 7:00 pm**

US Coast Guard Est. 1790

6th Fire Dept. Business Meeting, Belmont Fire Station **Alfred Lord Tennyson 1809 7:00 pm**

1st Atomic Bomb Dropped on Hiroshima 1945

7th **Purple Heart Medal Est. 1782 ~ Mata Hari "Margaret Gertrude Zelle" 1876**

US Satellite Explorer VI Transmits first pictures of Earth from Space 1959

10th Rescue Squad Meeting, Rescue Squad Building 7:00 pm

11th **VOTE** Primary Election, MH Town Office Polls Open 10:00 am- 7:00 pm

Community Guild Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont 9:00 am

Select Board Meeting, Town Office 6:30 pm

12th LMHUUS Meeting, 6:00 pm

Fire Dept. Ladies Auxiliary Meeting, Belmont Fire Station 7:00 pm

ODD Fellows Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont 7:00 pm

13th Fire Dept. Drill, Mt. Holly Fire Station **The Berlin Wall Built 1961 ~ Annie Oakley 1860 7:00 pm**

Alfred Hitch cock 1899

14th **Social Security Act Est. 1935 ~ Japan Surrendered Ending WWII - V-J Day 1945**

Sat 15th **Panama Canal opened 1914 ~ Woodstock Began 1969 ~ Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte b. 1769**

Sun 16th **Battle of Bennington, VT 1777 ~ Great Klondike Gold Rush 1896**

17th Mount Holly Planning Commission, Town Office 7:00 pm

18th Mt. Holly Town Library Meeting, Library, Belmont 6:30 pm

19th **Orville Wright Aviation Pioneer 1871**

20th Fire Dept. Work Detail, Fire Stations **1st Telegram Sent Around World in 16.5 Mins. 1911 7:00 pm**

21st **Crow Season Fri, Sat, Sun, Mon Only ~ Hawaii Becomes 50th State 1959**

24th Rescue Squad Meeting, Rescue Squad Building 7:00 pm

25th Community Guild Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont 9:00 am

26th ODD Fellows Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont **Women's Suffrage 1920 7:00 pm**

27th Fire Dept. Drill, Fire Stations **Mother Teresa Anjeze Gonxhe Bojaxhiu b. 1910 7:00 pm**

Sat 29th **Oliver Wendell Holmes 1809**

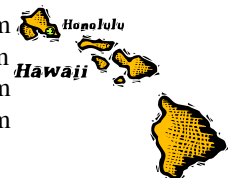
31st **Thomas Edison Secures Patent for Kinetograph Movie Camera ~ Princess Diana Died 1977**

* * * * *

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 text only 353-4492	H 802-259-3976	Vermont State Police	773-9101

Send ARTICLES to: Diana Garrow, 3379 Shunpike Rd., Mt. Holly, VT 05758 Phone 259-2314 or E-Mail to chitchat@vermontel.net



"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."

Donation Thank Yous: Cathy Chadburn * Mary & Jeff Smith (Smith Maple Crest Farm, Grass-Fed Beef & Maple Syrup) * Craig & Janet Hayman * Philip Conderino Memorial for Jeannette *



August Birthdays: 1st -Jonathan Turco * Joan McCallum 2nd - Fern Adams * David Johnson * Linda D. Miller 3rd -Steve Howard * April Norton Rumrill 5th -Michael Mattison 6th -Kai Stanley 8th -Kelsey Stewart-Hawkins 11th - Mary Beth Dawley * Katie Ann Labozzo 12th -Armand Bernagozzi 13th -Teresa Bolalek 15th -Lauren Ely 16th -Amber Taylor 17th -Eric Gates 18th -Maria Howard 19th -Paul Deegan * John W.F. Miller 21st -Judy Nevin * Amy Spaulding 22nd -Thomas Adams 27th -Lynnette Audy * Jeffrey Bussino Sr (1963) 30th -Matthew Ely 31st -Russell Garrow * Michael Huck



August Anniversaries: 1st -Shari & Al Lewis 9th -Jim & Donna Seward * Chuck & Jean Palmer 12th -Ted & Sue Crawford * Barbara & Steve Hazelton 15th -Alec & Joan McCallum * Pat & Debby Marro 20th -Donald & Lisa Patch * Lars & Tina Anderson * Keith & Kelsey Hawkins (2016) 21st -Russ & Joan Garrow 25th -Diane & Paul Deegan

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
Lobby Hours:	Mon – Fri	8:00 am – 4:45 pm
	Sat	7:30 am – 10:30 am
Belmont		802-259-2790
Window	Mon – Fri	7:30 am – 9:30 am
	&	2:45 pm – 4:45 pm
	Sat	7:30 am – 10:30 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 Town 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 Third Tuesday 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.



Steven Israel Hekler

Steven Israel Hekler, 59, passed away on July 5, 2020, following a year-long battle with cancer. The son of Abraham and Janina Hekler who immigrated to the United States from Poland in 1950, he was born in Boston, Massachusetts, and raised in Newton. He graduated from Newton High School and began his lifelong career in the seafood business at Captain Marden's in Waltham, Massachusetts. He leaves behind his wife of 28 years, Darla Hekler; his children, Darren Bailey and fiancée Caitlyn Laskevich of Monmouth, Maine, Crystalyn Dearmin and partner Robert Jackson of West Rutland, Stephanie and Mathew Fassett Jr. and Joshua Hekler of Mount Holly. Steve was the devoted grandfather to nine grandchildren, Damion, Jace, Piper, Taylor, Dakota, Oliver, Aloral, Jasper and Alistair. Steven was the youngest of three children and leaves behind his brother, Erwin Hekler of Simsbury, Connecticut, and his sister, Liba Furhman of Gaylordsville, Connecticut. Steve had a love of life and a clever wit that charmed everyone he met. He was devoted to his family and friends. A self-taught "chef," he loved to host family meals and Thanksgiving dinners and was always available to help with family occasions. He loved his

home and his land, dubbed Kosher Mountain. He would spend hours happily mowing his nine-hole golf course, caring for his pond and in winters, grooming snowmobile trails for his children to enjoy. Annual journeys to the ocean – Good Harbor Beach in Gloucester, Massachusetts, or the Maine seashore with his family – brought him immense pleasure and was his favorite indulgence. An avid musician with 14 guitars, Steve's favorite songs were anything by the Beatles. He played local venues with several bands over the years – and was always part of community events and occasions. He was a regular at the Monday night Folk Club gatherings. A sports fan who loved any team from Boston, he enjoyed going to games at Fenway Park and rooted for the Celtics. He also loved his kosher corn beef, pastrami and pickles – and never turned down a bowl of chicken soup with Matzoh balls. Steve spent the bulk of his adult life working for Black River Produce. A 25-year employee, he joined the company after several years in the restaurant business. He was admired by his colleagues for his vast knowledge and understanding of the fish industry and he cooked the best crab cakes ever! His last year was a long journey battling cancer. Throughout the entire battle, Steve never wavered in his hope. He was brave and focused on living life and being surrounded by family and friends. He is now at peace. Steve touched many lives and left each one happier and better for knowing him. All are grateful to have known him. May the memories and love that was shared with him serve for a blessing in his name. A graveside service for family and close friends was held on Thursday, July 9, at 1 p.m. in Maple Grove Cemetery, Route 140 in East Wallingford with Rabbi Ellie Shemtov of the Rutland Jewish Center officiated. Musicians were Stuart Currie, Stuart Berry and Rob Church. Steven was laid to rest in peace with a view of his beloved Kosher Mountain. Memorial contributions in his memory, may be made to the Mt Holly Volunteer Fire Dept./Rescue Squad, 26 School St., Mt Holly, VT 05758; The Foley Cancer Center, 160 Allen St., Rutland, VT 05701 or to the Maple Grove Cemetery Assoc., c/o David Seward, 4180 Sugar Hill Rd., East Wallingford, VT 05742. Funeral arrangements are by Tossing Funeral Home.



Jeannette Conderino Sweetie,

Five years has passed and we all miss you so very much! Not a day goes by that we don't think of you and remember all the good times we had. But, the Lord has a bigger job for you to do and you are now our angel looking over all of us. You will always be close to our hearts and we will all continue to pray for you every day! We love you so much...to the moon and back and we miss our shining star! XOXO Love you, Your loving husband Phil and children.



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Are Lifted

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Food Distribution Bags

Mt Holly Community Cares Food Shelf - Wednesdays and Saturdays from 9 am - 6 pm - Pick up at the Belmont Baptist Church

Pre-made food bags will be available to anyone in need as available. No need to preregister. To participate simply drive up and take a bag for your family. For alternate times to access the food shelf please contact Glenn or Laura Davis at 802-259-2440

Salvation Army Service Unit

The Salvation Army, through its Service Unit, sets aside \$600 annually for use in the towns of Belmont, Danby, Healdville, Mt.

Holly, Shrewsbury and Wallingford. Service Unit clientele fall under the category of people or families with temporary or emergency needs only. If you or someone in your community could benefit from a small donation towards heat or utility expenses, a payment can be paid directly to the company. Please contact the Wallingford Town Clerk at 446-2336 for further details. Julie M. Sharon, Town Clerk & Treasurer, Town of Wallingford, 75 School Street, Wallingford VT 05773

Notice: All invited Mechanicsville Cemetery

Monthly Volunteer clean up schedule;

1st Tuesday of each month

May 5, 6 pm June 2, 8 am

July 7, 6 pm Aug 4, 8 am

Sept 1, 6 pm

Please bring tools for the job

Brewfest Beverage hosted different phases of the sale, as did the Ludlow Farmers Market and the Belmont Farmers Market. The local community as well as many out-of-state visitors enjoyed the opportunity to purchase something of beauty while supporting a worthwhile cause.

If you would like more information or would like to get involved with the Black River Independent School, please contact Sean Williams at sean@blackriveris.org or Suzy Buckley at suzy@blackriveris.org. General inquiries can be made to TheSchool@blackriveris.org. Please visit our website www.blackriveris.org. Donations can be made on the website or by mailing a check to P.O. Box 485, Ludlow, VT 05149.

TREE STUMP GRINDING

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use someone's Mount Holly Town Library card. Would you like to be able to access the Mount Holly Town Library collection on your iPhone? Now you can!

1. Go to the App Store and download the "LibraryWorld App for iPhone"
2. After installing the app, enter "Mount Holly Town Library" where it asks for library name. No password needed
3. click on the home button. You can then search our collection by author, title or keyword.

The Library is planning its book sale for Saturday September 9th. We are also accepting book donations again during our current hours Wed. 2-6, Sat. 9-1

The MHTL relies on donations of used books from the community for its book sales. However, the library has no budget for trash removal or recycling and also relies on the generosity of others for disposal. Combined with our lack of storage space we ask that you please go through all donations before they are left at the library to make sure we only keep what we can sell.

We will gladly take your: Hardcover and paperback books in good condition - DVDs and books on CD
We will accept the following as long as they are LESS THAN 5 YEARS OLD: Price guides and almanacs - Travel guides -

Medical and Financial advice books - Non-fiction or reference books
We can NOT accept: Moldy, mildewed, musty, dirty or water damaged books - Books with ripped/torn/missing covers or yellowed brittle pages
Reader's Digest or other Condensed Books - Encyclopedias and Dictionaries - Professional Journals - Textbooks, Computer manuals, Workbooks/Test Prep - Magazines, audio tapes or VHS tapes - Toys, Games or Puzzles

Joe Galbraith, MLS, Library Director, Mount Holly Town Library, 26 Maple Hill Road, Belmont, VT 05730 802.259.3707

Library Hours: Monday 10am - 6pm * Tuesday 9am - 1pm * Wednesday 2pm - 6pm * Saturday 9am - 1pm * Sunday 2pm - 4pm.

Peony Sale Fundraiser Huge Success During Challenging Time

In the face of challenges brought forth by the Covid-19 pandemic, the Black River Independent School Committee has continued to hold fast to their fundraising goals. BRISC hosted a hugely successful Peony Sale over the course of three weekends from the end of June to early July raising nearly \$5,000. The fundraiser was generously supported by the community with Frost Hill Farm donating hundreds of fresh cut peonies. BRISC would also like to extend tremendous gratitude to the Kennedy family, whose countless hours of hard work caring for and transporting the peonies helped the fundraiser be so successful. Local champions Big Eyes Bakery, Homestyle Hostel and Ludlow

*** Hall Rental in Belmont ***

The use of the Hall in Belmont is scheduled by contacting Carol at 259-2791, or at tgc2791@yahoo.com. You may also leave a message with Dennis at 259-2460, or at ddevereux@vermontel.net.

Mount Holly Town Library

The Mount Holly Library has free family entry passes for VT State Park Day Areas and VT State Historic Sites. Available beginning July 15

We have one of each available for check out. Details below:

- 1 pass per family - Each pass may be checked out for 1 week under our current operating hours (Wed. 2-6 pm and Saturday 9-1)

Passes are first come first served, reservations are not available

Passes must be checked out and returned to the library desk in person.

Person checking the pass out must have a library card/permission to

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Thomas Edison patents the Kinetograph

August 31, 1897

Thomas Edison receives a patent for his movie camera, the Kinetograph. Edison had developed the camera and its viewer in the early 1890s and staged several demonstrations.

The camera was based on photographic principles discovered by still-photograph pioneers Joseph Nicéphore Niepce and Louis Daguerre of France. In 1877, inventor Edward Muybridge developed a primitive form of motion pictures when Leland Stanford, governor of California, invited him to develop photo studies of animals in motion. Muybridge developed an ingenious system for photographing sequential motion, setting up 24 cameras attached to trip wires stretched across a racetrack. As the horse tripped each wire, the shutters snapped. The resulting series of photos could be projected as something resembling a motion picture. This breakthrough in the early 1870s inspired another student of animal motion, Etienne Jules Marey of France, to develop in 1882 a rotating camera rather like a rifle, where different pictures were taken in a rapid sequence by a rotating cartridge.

Unlike these earlier cameras, Edison's Kinetoscope and Kinetograph used celluloid film, invented by George Eastman in 1889. In February 1893, Edison built a small movie studio that could be rotated to capture the best available sunlight. He showed the first demonstration of his films—featuring three of his workers pretending to be blacksmiths—in May 1893.

The invention inspired French inventors Louis and August Lumiere to develop a movie camera and projector, the

Cinematographe that allowed a large audience to view a film. Several other cameras and projectors were also developed in the late 1800s.

In 1898, Edison sued American Mutoscope and Biograph Pictures, claiming that the studio had infringed on his patent for the Kinetograph. He had entrusted the development of the machine to his assistant, W.L.K. Dickson, who left Edison's company in 1895 and helped found Biograph. However, in 1902, the U.S. Court of Appeals ruled that although Thomas Edison had patented the Kinetograph, he only owned rights to the sprocket system that moved perforated film through the camera, not the entire concept of the movie camera.

In 1909, Edison and Biograph joined forces with other filmmakers to create the Motion Pictures Patents Company, an organization devoted to protecting patents and keeping other players from entering the film industry. In 1917, the Supreme Court dissolved the trust, and the Edison Company left the film industry the same year.

Fletcher Memorial Library

Happy Summer! Staff is awaiting your item requests for Curbside Pick-up (rear door). Visit our on-line catalog and place holds. We will be notified and you will receive an email or phone call to, "Please call us to arrange for pick-up". We will gladly take your phone requests as well. Ask us to suggest new authors!

www.fmlnews.org / 802-228-8921

PLEASE NOTE: Do Not be concerned if you receive overdue notices or if your account shows late items. We Quarantine every item 7 Days before staff handles it. No Fines will be levied.

New books are always on order. During Covid-19 I am finding shipments are slow. But, rest assured that all your favorites plus will be on our shelves! Be Well - Stay Safe - and PLEASE, Wear a Mask for all of Us. (You do not know who is compromised or who are caregivers for those that are.)

Please join us...

**Mount Holly Community Association
Annual Meeting**

At Star Lake

Thursday, August 13, 2020

6:00 pm

**Please bring your own chairs
&
Refreshments, if you so choose**



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Stay the Course Today Plan for Tomorrow

We're kind of lonely here at Rainbow Riding Center this summer, and it looks like it's going to stay that way for a while longer. We were hoping to open up and start giving lessons again in August, but the fluidity of the Covid-19 pandemic makes us loathe to put anyone in harm's way at this time. In the meantime we are schooling horses and planning a program to keep in touch with our riders even though they can't come to the barn. Watch our website: rainbowridingcenter.org for more details.

We are currently working on ways to fundraise this year, perhaps an on-line auction. We will not be holding our annual lakeside Summer Palooza this August and want to thank everyone that has helped in the past whether participating in the Silent Auction and BBQ, donating or volunteering. Details about our future fundraisers will appear on the website, Facebook, Twitter @RainbowRiding and Instagram @rainbow_riding_center and in the Chit Chat.

Everyone stay well and please take Smokey and Cutie's advice so we can all get back to life as we used to know it—or as close to it as possible.

Smokey and Cutie want everyone to be safe so we can all get back to work and have some fun!



Mount Holly Community Cares Task Force

Mount Holly, VT 802-245-3490 mthollycommunitycares@gmail.com

www.mounthollycommunitycares.org

The Mount Holly Community Cares Task Force has continued its efforts to provide assistance to any of our neighbors in need of help.

We cannot thank everyone enough for the tremendous success of the **Food Drive** that was held on Saturday, June 27th! We were overwhelmed with the number of contributions made from folks in Mount Holly and now the food shelf in the church basement is overflowing. In order to make the best use of your generosity, we have established a process for distribution as follows:

Food Distribution Bags

Mt Holly Community Cares Food Shelf - Wednesdays and Saturdays from 9 am - 6 pm - Pick up at the Belmont Village Baptist Church

Pre-made food bags will be available to anyone in need as available. No need to pre-register. To participate simply drive up and take a bag for your family. For alternate times to access the food shelf please contact Glenn or Laura Davis at 802-259-2440.

We also would like to extend our thanks to the many volunteers who stepped up to make the **frozen dinners** that were distributed to the families in Mount Holly.

As we all expected given the culinary talents of the people who prepared them, they were an enormous hit! Sixteen "chefs" prepared approximately 130 meals, which is a real testament to the generosity of the folks in this amazing town. Thank you all so much! At this time, we have put a hold on the frozen dinners, as so many other food sources have fallen into place. However, we are keeping a watchful eye out to see if we should step in again with this program. We'll be in touch!

The **Community Garden** is flourishing and the harvesting of some vegetables will begin soon and the produce made available to the community. Plans for the distribution will be announced in the Mount Holly Newsflash. In the meantime, we are still looking for volunteers, who can spend an hour or so watering and doing the minimal weeding required (thank God for raised beds!). Please contact us at the email above, if you can spare a little time for this amazing garden. Thanks so much!

Last, but not least, if you know of anyone in Mount Holly who is in need of assistance in any way, please let us know, or tell them to contact us at the email address above. We are here to help make life a bit easier in these difficult times.

Mount Holly Community Cares - A coordinated and cross organizational task force dedicated to addressing the immediate and ongoing needs of the Mt Holly community during the COVID-19 pandemic.

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"The Greenstead"
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near Kapp's*

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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

Horses On The Road

IT'S THE LAW Title 23§1127
That horses have the right-of-way
On all roads.

Horse owners and riders are asking that you slow down.
Give the horse some extra room, and proceed with caution.

There are many things that frighten a horse:

- The sounds of different road conditions.
- Water puddles or if it's raining.
- Maybe you hit a big pothole with your vehicle.
- Stones on a dirt road – the sound of them hitting your vehicle, or when they fly out from the tires.
- Maybe you are pulling a trailer and the items in it are making loud noises.

Things like these can cause even the best-trained horse to become afraid and make unexpected movements – SOMETIMES JUMP INTO THE ROADWAY!

**WE SHARE THE SAME ROADS. SO PLEASE PASS THE WORD ON.
SLOW DOWN AND GIVE A HORSE AND RIDER
SOME EXTRA ROOM FOR SAFETY.**

THANK YOU

**FROM THE
VERMONT
HORSE COUNCIL**

www.vthorsecouncil.org



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MT. HOLLY, VT

Keith Hawkins
PRESIDENT

RIDE RIGHT!

BICYCLE RULES OF THE ROAD

1. Ride on the right with the flow of traffic.
2. Ride single file.
3. Stop at stop signs and traffic lights.
4. Signal by hand for turns.
5. Give the right of way to pedestrians.
6. Give a clear warning (bell, horn, or voice) when needed for safety.
7. Carry no passengers (except on approved baby seat).
8. Check your brakes often.
9. Equip your bike with front and rear reflectors, pedal reflectors and reflective material on both sides.
10. Do not adjust handlebars above your shoulders or alter the front fork of bike.
11. Do not ride on express or limited access highways.
12. You may ride on the sidewalk outside of the business districts unless the city or town prohibits it.
13. Equip bike with white light in front, red light on rear.



Sponsored by
The Kiwanis Pediatric Trauma Institute
New England Medical Center, Boston



Supported by your
Local Key Club

lindaddmiller@gmail.com, or Jennifer Burrows at jenniferburrows@msn.com.

It is with the greatest regret that the Board of Directors of the Mount Holly Community Association announces that it is **cancelling Cider Days for 2020**. This beloved tradition, which has been on-going since 1988, has been a focal point for the town of Mount Holly for the past 32 years and this will be the first time that it has been cancelled. Given the nature of the event and the number of people it brings into our town (as many as 1,000 visitors have attended over that weekend), we are forced to seriously consider the problems that it brings with it during this pandemic. For the safety of the community, we feel this is a wise decision. All of us look forward to a truly spectacular break out event in October of 2021 and we know that you will all join us to celebrate this notable event in safer times! In regard to the Photo Contest, please see the announcement here in the Chit Chat about plans for this year's competition.

While we are on the topic of the Photo Contest, the **Calendars for 2021** are now on sale! Please be sure to pick yours up as soon as possible...as you all know they sell out every year and you wouldn't want to miss getting this coming year's edition. You will find them at the Belmont Store, the Library, and the Town Hall. Thanks so much for supporting the MHCA through this annual fund raiser!

Last but not least, don't forget the request from the MHCA Co-Presidents for this year's membership drive:

The MHCA membership...is so very important as it is our main revenue stream for the Association. Our building and ability to provide community events depends on the support of people like you though membership donations. We are ever grateful for the ongoing support we have received, but this year your contribution is even more vital. Now, more than ever, our community needs us, and we need you!

Thank you all so much for responding promptly to their plea in support of the Mount Holly Community Association. Be well and stay safe everyone!

Mount Holly Community Association

Greetings from all of us at the MHCA! We hope that all of you are staying safe and well during these difficult times. We are all so fortunate to be living in this beautiful place where we can get out to safely enjoy the outdoors.

Speaking of outdoors, although the actual **Garden Tour** had to be cancelled this year, the co-presidents of the MHCA, Linda Miller and Jennifer Burrows, arranged a virtual tour of five gardens this year! They filmed each of the gardens with the help of the gardeners, who had worked so hard to prepare for the annual tour. Many thanks to all the gardeners, who opened up their gardens for the filming. An announcement will be made in the Newsflash to let you know when the virtual tour will be ready for viewing on the MHCA Facebook page. Hope you enjoy the tour!!

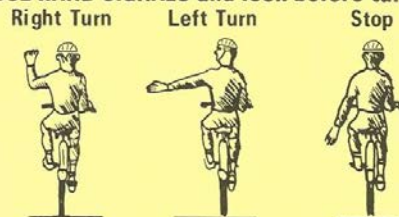
Now, speaking of gardens...! As many of you, know Star Lake is under the auspices of the Mount Holly Conservation Trust. However, the beach area, including the beautiful community flower garden there is the responsibility of the MHCA. We are looking for volunteers to help water and weed the garden throughout the summer. If you would like to be part of initiating a **Friends of the Star Lake Garden**, please contact Linda Miller at lindaddmiller@gmail.com or Jennifer Burrows at jenniferburrows@msn.com. We will discuss this further at the annual meeting this August (see below).

The MHCA Board has agreed to hold its **Annual Meeting** this year on Thursday, August 13th at 6:00 pm at Star Lake. Please bring your own chairs, as well as beverages, and snacks if you so choose. There will be plenty of room at the lake for us to socially distance and still be able to have the meeting and enjoy one another's company. Should it rain, we will convene in the Odd Fellows Hall, once again sitting at the appropriate social distance. **Please note that masks will be required...thanks so much!** Among a number of important items to be discussed will be new Board members. Many thanks to Loriann Daley, who will be stepping down this year, for all she has done to help the MHCA over the past two years. We, of course, are looking for someone to replace her, so if you have any interest in joining the MHCA Board of Directors, please email Linda Miller at

RIDE ON THE RIGHT WITH TRAFFIC



USE HAND SIGNALS and look before turning



HAVE GOOD BRAKES

EQUIP BIKE WITH FRONT, REAR, SIDE and PEDAL REFLECTORS



Prevent Head Injuries

PLEASE!
Wear a helmet
while cycling



Big Eyes Bakery Update

Our shop is back open for business Wednesday thru Saturday 7AM to 3PM and Sunday 8AM to 1PM. In an effort to keep ourselves and our customers healthy we require the wearing of a mask while shopping in the store. We continue to offer curbside pickup, call us at 802-228-2400. We have limited seating at this time. We continue to



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(802) 228-2400

Shop is Open Wednesday - Saturday 7am to 3 pm
Sunday 8am to 1pm

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Masks are required in our shop, curbside is available

Mount Holly Community Association Membership Drive 2020 ~ 2021

Although we regret the cancellation of
Our summer events, we trust you will
continue your support
Needed now more than ever for
the maintenance of our historic
Community Center Building
Please join today!!

(Brochures are available in the
General Store, and the post offices.)

offer a wide selection of products including our freshly made hand crafted butter crust pies, quiche, cakes, sausage rolls, cookies, cannoli and more. We now have a selection of Gelato from the Vermont Gelato Company in Brattleboro. Enjoy an Espresso drink or cup of Mountain Grove Coffee. Thank you to everyone who supported us during the past several months, please do all you can to fight the virus: Wear a mask in stores, social distance and wash your hands. The Faenza Family, Mt. Holly

Mount Holly community Historical Museum Car Tour

The Mount Holly Community Historical Museum is planning a car tour to the location of the one-room schoolhouses that used to be around the Town of Mount Holly on Saturday, August 8th. The tour group will gather at the Perkins House Museum on the Belmont Village Green at 2 P. M. and be led by Dennis Devereux. The tour will make it easy for social distancing when the group stops to discuss many of the locations. Please call Dennis at 259-2460 with any questions.



MOUNT HOLLY PHOTO EXHIBIT ON FACEBOOK!



Mount Holly Photo & Calendar Competition >

PRIVATE GROUP · 2 MEMBERS



+ Invite

Watch Party

Photos

Events

Files

Albums



Write something...

Live

Photo

Recommend

Just because this year there won't be any in-person public balloting for photos to go into the next Mount Holly Calendar doesn't mean we won't have entries and fresh photos to look at. We're just going to do it on line. Please go to the Facebook page titled **Mount Holly Calendar** and request to join (since this is a private group).

WEB ADDRESS: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/MountHollyCalendar/>
All instructions for submitting photos will be on Facebook.

Brandon Jenkins
Owner

(802) 952-9722



Mount Holly, Vermont

brandon@jenkinsbuild.com

State Representative, Ludlow, Mount Holly & Shrewsbury

The legislature did adjourn on Friday, June 26th after we had passed multiple bills to set up the various grant programs to get the federal COVID relief dollars out to people and businesses in need. The VT Agency of Commerce and Community Development has since stood up those programs and is getting money out the door. As always, please feel free to reach out if there is anything I can do to help with a grant application or knowing where to go for your business/situation. The legislature will be re-convening on Tuesday, August 25th to hopefully finish our work on the budget. With all the uncertainty we only worked on/completed the state

budget for the first quarter, and we are hoping when we go back to have better information about the outlook for the rest of the year.

I would like to offer my perspective here about some comments I received about "voting to raise legislative salaries during the crisis". I really appreciate people reaching out to me with their comments and talking to me directly about any votes/bills you have questions about. As I said last month with the CARES money too, it seems like some are taking votes and the process out of context in extreme ways because there is an election. In this case the vote was actually to freeze the otherwise automatic inflationary increase to expenses, which is a portion of the money we receive as legislators; and in future years negotiate our regular salary with those of other constitutional officers, such as the Governor. This, on its own, will not result in any increase to legislative salaries this year or in future years, and it actually did stop us from receiving an inflationary increase to expenses this year. The change with this bill is when and how possible increases are negotiated in future years, which I felt should be done the same as other elected offices. This did become a bit of a partisan debate on the floor. (One of the small *advantages* of this crisis, you can watch that conversation on the House Chamber YouTube channel, which would not be possible normally: (<https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/streaming/>) It was on June 24th)

I should add though, I did co-sponsor a bill this year, before the crisis, to pay legislators during the off-session. I did not and would not have voted to give legislators a raise during this crisis, but I do think we need to discuss legislative pay in general. Currently we receive money only during the session, which in a normal year is around 15 weeks, Jan-May. Personally, I think one of the most important parts of this position is talking to and working with you all about non-legislative issues, which I do my best to do all year round with my coffee hours. But I am privileged to be able to do that with my work schedule in a way that others are not. In just this year we have at least 6 younger legislators, who otherwise enjoy the position, not running for reelection largely because you can't survive solely on this pay and it's hard to find a job that works with the schedule. Most of the longtime legislators (Republicans and Democrats), are retired or otherwise financially secure. Does that really represent the state? They are all great people and I can honestly say everyone I have met in that building cares about everyone in this state. But I do think it would be better if more Vermonters, especially younger, could afford to serve in the legislature.

As always please feel free to reach out about this or any topic, the easiest way right now is by calling my cellphone. Stay safe and stay strong, Logan Nicoll 802-345-8430

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| * KABOB MEAT | * PREMAD BURGERS |
| * RIB STEAKS | * SAUSAGE |
| * SOUTHWEST SEASONING | * TALLOW |
| * BRISKET | * MAPLE DRESSINGS |

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A Black Life That Mattered

The nation's first college grad of black descent-and Vermont's first legislator of the same- gets his own day in our Green Mountain State this year. He truly is a hero who diligently worked to achieve a place of godly leadership in his community and his state. September 23, 2020 was recently designated by lawmakers as Alexander Twilight Day, recognizing the 225th birthday of this preacher and educator who made his name in 19th century Orleans County.

My wife and I recall a delightful Northeast Kingdom visit to the Old Stone House Museum, the site of Alexander Twilight's home, church and the stately granite building he built to house students at his Brownington Academy. With lovely buildings dating from 1830 to 1848, the museum is located in the Brownington Village Historic District where Twilight's dormitory - Athenian Hall -dominates the landscape that really looks much the same as it did 180 years ago. Twilight pushed to build the dorm despite school board opposition.

Rev. Alexander Lucius Twilight was born of biracial parents in the Bradford area in 1795. An 1839 graduate of Middlebury, he was an educator who pioneered educational techniques still used today, like experiential and place-based teaching. Except for a four year absence when the school floundered, Twilight served as the Brownington headmaster from 1829 until his death in 1857. Throughout his career, he taught more than 3,000 students, (1/3 were girls!) in addition to preaching to congregations in town and elsewhere.

In 1836, Twilight became the first African American elected to public office as a state legislator, and served in the Vermont General Assembly. He was known as an innovative, strong willed, talented educator and preacher, whose skills earned him both the love, respect and esteem of his students. Twilight is buried along with his wife, Mercy Ladd Twilight, in the church yard next to the Brownington Church.

There is a collection of 20 sermons in manuscript, hand written ink, hand-sewn into small booklets that were composed in the "twilight" of this great preacher's life. The manuscripts are notes for sermons preached throughout Northern Vermont: in Brownington, Barton Orleans (then called Barton Landing), and Derby. This man of great vision made a powerful difference in the lives of those he touched for his Savior..

Now I have a friend who grew up in South Africa where there is *systemic* racism. What we have today in the U.S. is in *no way* comparable to that, according to him. My father recalls hearing another great man, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., speak at a historic church in Rhode Island. King's black and white supporters brought people of color the full rights of citizenship through a *non-violent* Civil Rights movement. Most African Americans who are in the U.S. today certainly did not come here of their own accord. Slavery in the U.S. was a brutal economic machine only to be overthrown by an equally brutal Civil War. Never-the-less, now that equality has been enacted by our laws, every person of color can look around at our society and recognize the opportunities available to them in comparison to the plight of those still in Africa. Admittedly, we still have a long way to go toward substantive change.

We do not need to be taken violently *backwards* on some Marxist experiment where there is no police presence as advocated by some leaders in Philadelphia. The results will inevitably mirror Seattle's CHOP flop. What we need is the message Paul preached in a culture of Roman slavery, "In Christ's family there can be no division into Jew and non-Jew, slave and free, male and female. Among us you are all equal. That is, we are all in a common relationship with Jesus Christ." That radical message eventually brought slavery down. In the love of Christ we have the potential for true liberation, societal alteration, and ultimate unification. Let's work and pray for it. Pastor Glenn



Wright Construction Appreciation

This man right here deserves a massive round of applause. Without him, Wright Construction would be seriously lacking. Bruce Champion is exactly as his last name states, a champion. When our beloved Shop Manager Andy Rogstad notified us of his retirement, it was clear that Bruce was the best person to step up and assume the position. Talk about a jack of all trades. Bruce can fix anything from a piece of heavy machinery to a hand tool. He monitors everything that comes in and out of the shop and yard - the company trucks, the job trailers, heavy equipment, equipment trailers, concrete forms - essentially everything we use to ply our craft. Bruce is also our certified crane operator.

Beyond his incredible skillsets, Champion also has an incredible personality. A true Triple threat. He cares about doing what is right and doing it to the best of his ability. He is organized and thorough and always works hard to get the job done. Champion cares about safety and teamwork. He is a true leader. We are so happy that he gets to hone in on that as the new Shop Manager.

Rogstad trained him, gave him opportunities to grow and Champion never backed away from the challenge! We have no doubt that he will carry on the shop legacy and find a pupil of his own to pass his expansive knowledge to. A person with that many amazing qualities and skills is a rarity and there is so much that we can all learn from him.

Those who know him best respect his work ethic and have benefitted from his variety of skills and loyal friendship. They'll call him a good, hardworking man and a loving father and husband.

We love you Bruce! The Wright family would not be the same without you, and boy we are lucky to have you.





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 Special Select Board Meeting - June 29, 2020 Minutes - Zoom Meeting: 402 092 2478

Present: Select Board: Jeff Chase, Jennifer Matthews, Mark Turco

Regular Select Board meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm in the Town Office. Items to be included on the Agenda are due by Noon the Wednesday before the meeting.

Town Officials: Lori Norton, Clinton Woolley

Members of the Public: none in attendance

1. **Call to Order** by Mark Turco at 6:30 pm.

2. **Changes and/or additions to the agenda** – Mr. Turco asked to add a petition he had received. Jennifer Matthews asked to add the Belmont Store liquor license. It was agreed to add both items.

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

3. **Junk Ordinance Enforcement** – Ms. Matthews explained she had received a couple of phone calls with complaints about junk accumulating in neighbors' yards. Both callers expressed concerns about retaliation. For Mount Holly community members to be reluctant to bring legitimate concerns to the Select Board for fear of retaliation by others in town is both a concerning and unacceptable situation, Ms. Matthews

stated. Both Mr. Turco and Jeff Chase agreed.

The junk ordinance was discussed. Ms. Matthews will contact Constable Paul Faenza about the Judicial Bureau enforcement officer role.

Mr. Turco made a motion to approve the liquor license for the Belmont Store, seconded by Ms. Matthews, unanimously approved.

Mr. Turco explained a petition had been stuck to his front door. The petition requested that the Select Board return to in-person meetings. Ms. Matthews reviewed the latest health & safety requirements from the State which limits attendance to a maximum of 75 people or 50% of the fire safety number or one person per 100 square feet, all with 6' social distancing necessary. Discussion ensued about a space in town which could meet those requirements; only the school gym would do so. Mr. Chase will contact the school. No decision made.

Clinton Woolley said he had installed 100' of fencing along the nature trail.

4. **Executive Session: Title 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(3) – personnel** – Ms. Matthews made a motion to enter executive session to discuss several personnel matters at 6:49 pm, seconded by Mr. Chase, unanimously approved. Motion to exit executive session at 7:47 pm was made by Mr. Chase, seconded by Mr. Turco, unanimously approved. The Select Board will write a warning letter and meet with an employee to discuss complaints received.

5. **Adjourn** – at 7:47 pm. Respectfully submitted: Jennifer Matthews, Minutes Approved: 7.14.2020

Mount Holly Select Board Meeting - July 14, 2020 Minutes - Zoom Meeting: 814 7316 5279

Present: Select Board: Jeff Chase, Jennifer Matthews, Mark Turco

Town Officials: Gabrielle Bickford, David Johnson, Jon McCann, Don Richardson, Jim Seward, Brigid Sullivan, Clinton Woolley

Members of the Public: Ted Crawford, Steve & Barbara Hazelton, Jim Heald, Annette Lynch, Stephen Michel, Christine Pratt, Don Richardson, Rhonda Rivers, Mike Valente

1. **Call to Order** by Mark Turco at 6:32 pm.

2. All recited the **Pledge of Allegiance**.

3. **Changes and/or additions to the agenda** – None were necessary.

4. **Approval of June 9, 2020 Minutes & Special SB Meeting Minutes of June 29, 2020** – Jeff Chase made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Turco, unanimously approved.

5. **Reorganization (continuation)**

a. **Select Board Chair** – No nominations.

b. **Select Board Admin. Assistant** – Mr. Chase is working on edits to the job description. He noted per conversations with VLCT, if a Select Board member does the admin work, that individual should not participate in pay decisions for the admin assistant position. Select Board members will review the job description changes and revisit the issue at the next meeting.

6. **Reports**

a. **Highways & Transfer Station Update** – Clinton Woolley – Mr. Woolley reported that GM Tree Tech is due in town on Monday, July 20th to remove previously agreed upon trees along the road and in the cemetery in Belmont.

Mr. Woolley has spoken with an individual interested in purchasing the old ditch mower. Discussion ensued on the age, initial purchase price, and cost of repairs to the mower. Ms. Matthews asked what the town policy was on the sale of used, no longer needed equipment, a bid process similar to that for the dump truck? The Select Board agreed to

**VT Route 155
will be CLOSED
at Bridge #7 over the Mill River
July 21st to August 18th
(dates may vary slightly)**

**DETOUR
AHEAD**

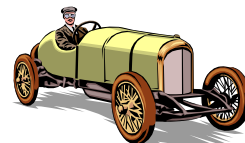
Detours:

Coming from the North on VT Route 155:
Tarbellville Road to Maple Hill Road

Coming from the South on VT Route 155:
Maple Hill Road to Tarbellville Road

Drive Safely!

TOWN OF MOUNT HOLLY
**A PERMIT IS REQUIRED FOR OUTDOOR
BURNING**
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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



put the ditch mower up for sale through a bid process. Mr. Chase will work with Mr. Woolley to put together the bid specifications with a minimum bid of \$4,000. For bids to be considered, they must be submitted in a sealed envelope and in the Select Board office by Monday, August 3rd.

Mr. Woolley inquired about using DD Trucking again this year for hauling winter sand. The rate would be the same paid Gary Norton and the same as last year. The Select Board agreed to use DD Trucking again this year to haul winter sand at that same \$80 an hour rate.

As to the transfer station, Mr. Woolley reported 800 lbs. of food scraps had been collected; it is time to dispose of the tire pile; and, it is time to think about how to dispose of the metal pile. Discussion ensued about when, how, and who would take the metal pile. Mr. Woolley will look into available options for metal disposal at no cost to the town and preferably with some revenue realized by the town.

b. Treasurer – David Johnson

i) **Monthly Income & Expense Report** – Mr. Johnson reviewed the Balance Sheet noting there is currently about \$300,000 in cash on hand. He also pointed out the Property Taxes Receivable amount of \$27, 807 comprised of six properties, of which one has now paid and another is in the process of paying. Reviewing the Balance Sheet, Mr. Johnson pointed out the Forestry Receipts of \$9,584 which is \$1,084 more than budgeted; the VT Rte. 155 grant funds of \$10, 226 which have been received and will rollover as deferred revenue to cover expenses to come in the new fiscal year; Solid Waste Disposal costs which are over budget as zero-sort disposal has no real revenue offset, but cost is still cheaper than disposing of recyclables through the regular trash; and, the Vehicle/Equipment Repair & Maintenance category which is \$7,291 under budget.

ii) **FY'21 Tax Rate Change & Due Dates** – Mr. Johnson reviewed the \$109,840 budget surplus and the ability of the town to lower the tax rate due to legislation passed because of various COVID-19 concerns. With the extension of the federal and state tax deadline to July 15th, tax bills will not be mailed until early-to-mid August, so there will be a three-to-four week delay on tax revenue received. At present, there is enough cash on hand to cover two to three months of expenses. Discussion ensued about previous budget surpluses and the effect on future budgets of a tax rate cut now. Mr. Chase pointed out it would cost \$60,000 to pave one-fifth of a mile of Healdville Road, and there are other roads in town which also need to be paved. He asked if it might not be a good idea to use the remaining highway funds for their intended purpose: paving roads which are in poor condition. After additional discussion, Mr. Chase proposed a two-cent tax decrease, with the remaining \$55,000 surplus to be used for paving. He made a motion to set the municipal tax rate at 37.73 cents, seconded by Mr. Turco, unanimously approved. (Note: The municipal tax rate plus the education tax rate puts the Total Homestead Tax Rate at 1.9297, a 1% decrease from last year, and the Total Non-Homestead Tax Rate at 1.8948, a .35% decrease from last year.)

Additional discussion ensued about paving: timing, which roads, tonnage needed, shim coat vs. reclaim. Mr. Turco suggested asking for quotes for both: a top coat, and for reclaim. Mr. Chase will work with Mr. Woolley on a paving bid specification sheet.

Additional discussion ensued concerning the tax bills mailing date and the final tax due date with an awareness of the primary election on August 11th and the general election on November 3rd. The 30-day discount rate is in effect regardless of mailing date. Mr. Turco made a motion that November 30th be the final due date for taxes, seconded by Mr. Chase, unanimously approved.

Ms. Matthews asked Mr. Johnson if he could run the Schedule of Officers' Compensation report for the August meeting. He replied he would do so.

iii) **Financial Management Questionnaire** - Mr. Johnson stated this is an annual report which will be ready for review at the August meeting reflecting the year-end information.

c. **Rutland Regional Transportation Council Update – Clinton Woolley** – Mr. Woolley reported there was nothing that pertained to Mount Holly at the meeting aside from a discussion about chloride and chloride tanks.

d. **Rutland Region Planning Commission Update – Jon McCann** – Mr. McCann reported that RRPC welcomed Gabrielle Bickford as the alternate for Mount Holly. He also reported that RRPC has pledged their full support to help revise the town plan and RRPC staff will be available to help with the revisions when needed.

e. **Mount Holly Volunteer Rescue Squad Update – Kristin Veysey** – As Ms. Veysey was out on a Rescue call, Ms. Matthews read from MHVRS's year-end report. She pointed out that MHVRS ended their fiscal year making 44 calls in a row with an 88% coverage rate. Given the pandemic and the challenging

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 Animal Control Officer

The Mount Holly Animal Control Officer is Laura Swartz. She handles all calls concerning domesticated and farm animals, including Animal Cruelty concerns. For more information or to make a report please call Home (802) 259-3976 or Cell text only 802-353-4492.

Invitation to Bid

Sale of Surplus Equipment

FY2021 2011 F350 Dump Truck

The Town of Mount Holly is selling a 2011 F-350 XL dump truck. Mileage approx. 98,000. Engine: 6.7L Powerstroke Diesel. Color: Red. Options: AC, 4wd, 9' Fisher Straight Plow. The truck can be viewed at Town Garage. Contact Clinton Woolley at 259-3179 to setup a viewing. **Bid minimum is \$12,000.** Please send bid to: Town of Mount Holly Office, PO Box 248, Mount Holly, VT 05758. Clearly marked "BID ENCLOSED - FY2021 Sale of F350 Dump Truck" on outside of envelope. Please provide written bid with bidders name, bidders address, telephone no., and bid amount. **DEADLINE WILL BE Monday, August 3rd, 2020 at 3:30pm** (must be received by town office by this time).

Visit <http://www.mounthollyvt.org/announcements-bulletin-board/> for further bid information.



circumstances which exist because of it, Ms. Matthews stated MHVRS was doing an outstanding job. She offered kudos all-around and thanked them for the essential service they provide the community. (Ms. Veysey joined the call shortly thereafter. Mr. Turco repeated what had been

stated earlier.)

Invitation to Bid

Sale of Surplus Equipment

FY2021 Sale of Landpride Ditch Mower

The Town of Mount Holly is selling a Landpride Parallel Arm Rotary Cutter / Mower, Model No. RCP2560. PTO powered ditch, bank, and slope 60" wide rotary brush mower for tractor. Category 2 or 3 three-point hitch mount for 75-150 hp tractors. Requires tractor with 1-4 hydraulic remote outlets and min. tractor weight of 7000lbs. Includes accessories: cab remote. Hours unknown. Estimated manufacture date 2000-2010. Serial number L109683. Contact Clinton Woolley at 259-3179 to setup a viewing. Bid minimum is \$4,000. Please send bid to: Town of Mount Holly Office, PO Box 248, Mount Holly, VT 05758. Clearly marked "BID ENCLOSED - FY2021 Sale of Landpride Ditch Mower" on outside of envelope. Please provide written bid with bidders name, bidders address, telephone no., and bid amount. **BID DEADLINE: Monday, August 3rd, 2020 at 3:30pm** (must be received by town office by this time)



Visit <http://www.mounthollyvt.org/announcements-bulletin-board/> for further bid information.

7. New Business

a. School Tuition Request – Mike Valente – Mr.

Valente referenced the recent Supreme Court decision in talking about his son's need to attend MSJ as well as take driver's ed elsewhere. Mr. Turco stated the Select Board would need a formal request from Mr. Valente to start to research and address the issue. Ms. Matthews

asked if this was not an issue for the School Board rather than the Select Board. Mr. Valente stated the School Board deferred to the town when he approached them. Rhonda Rivers asked when did the Select Board ever vote on an individual student's tuition payment, and shouldn't this issue be addressed by the school district? Mr. Turco again stated the need for a formal request in writing from Mr. Valente.

b. **Mount Holly Administrative Officer/PC Clerk – Jon McCann** – Mr. McCann reported on the statutory need for an Administrative Officer (AO) once a town has land use by-laws. Mount Holly's subdivision regulations and flood hazard area regulations are land use by-laws and thereby require by State Statute the appointment of an Administrative Officer. Both VLCT and RRPC confirmed this to be the case. Mr. McCann also inquired about the Zoning Board of Adjustment, which Mount Holly has had in the past, and he inquired about who currently sat on that Board. Ms. Matthews reviewed that State Statutes and affirmed the need of an AO. Discussion ensued about the differences between a Zoning Board of Adjustment and a Development Review Board, the different responsibilities of the AO versus those of the Planning Commission clerk, the ability to combine both positions, funds currently available for the positions, and the need for the Planning Commission to further discuss the Administrative Officer position. The Select Board members did agree that an Administrative Officer is required by State Statute and will wait for a recommendation from the Planning Commission on the best person to fill that role and meet the responsibilities of the position.

c. **Purchasing Policy Revisions** - Mr. Chase stated that some revisions were necessary to the current policy to reflect minor versus major purchases per VLCT's recommendations. Mr. Chase will make the necessary edits and the Select Board will revisit the issue.

d. **Transfer Station Fence Repair/Replacement** – Mr. Turco noted that part of the fence is down at the transfer station and it needs to be fixed. Mr. Chase said he thought it should cost around \$1,000. Mr. Woolley said the fence got knocked down by plowing and pushing the snow in that corner. Discussion ensued on various repair options. Mr. Turco asked Mr. Woolley to get a couple of prices for the fence repair.

e. **Citizen Petition re: Select Board Meetings in Person** – Mr. Turco stated he had received a citizen petition requesting the Select Board return to in-person meetings. He noted the school could be used with health and safety requirements to be followed. Mr. Chase expressed concerns about the recent COVID-19 outbreaks in Chester and Londonderry. Ms. Matthews noted that Governor Scott had extended the State of Emergency to August 15th. Discussion ensued about recent outbreaks and closures. Eric from Okemo Valley TV commented on the difficulty people were having hearing at a recent Ludlow meeting given the need for social distancing and masks. Mr. Turco stated the Select Board would revisit the issue at the next meeting.

f. **August Select Board Meeting Date** – Ms. Matthews explained that the next Select Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 11th which is also the date of the Statewide Primary Election, so the meeting date needs to be changed. Discussion ensued on various dates. It was decided that the August Select Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 4th.

g. **Other** – There was no additional New Business.

8. Ongoing & Old Business

a. **2011 Ford F-350 Dump Truck Bids** – Ms. Matthews explained that the bid deadline was July 7th and no bids were received, but a bid was dropped off today at the town office. The Select Board decided they could not accept that bid at this time and pushed the bid deadline out to Monday, August 3rd. The minimum bid remains at \$12,000, and the minimum bid on the ditch mower is \$4,000.

b. **Junk Ordinance Enforcement** – Ms. Matthews reported that Constable Paul Faenza is registered with the Judicial Bureau as Mount Holly's enforcement officer. She has received the order form for municipal tickets, so those will be ordered shortly. She also reported on her conversation with VLCT about revisions to the junk ordinance to clarify some of the language. VLCT stated that any revisions to an ordinance requires following all the steps for the adoption of an ordinance. The Select Board decided to leave the ordinance as is for the time being.

c. **Town Office Reopening? - i) Face Coverings & Social Distancing, ii) Contact Tracing Log** – Mr. Turco discussed various health and safety



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requirements needed for re-opening businesses. Discussion ensued on those requirements: social distancing, number of people allowed per square foot, face coverings, contact tracing logs, disinfecting procedures, and others. Mr. Turco will pull together the health and safety requirements to be followed for the town office to reopen, and he will review these with the town office staff. Mr. Turco made a motion to reopen the town office on Monday, July 20th with adherence to all health and safety guidelines, seconded by Ms. Matthews, unanimously approved. Brigid Sullivan stated that additional masks were available through Rotary, if needed.

d. **Swap Shed Reopening?** – No, will revisit the issue in August.

e. **Other** – There was no additional Old & Ongoing Business.

9. **Announcements/Other Business**

a. **VT Route 155 Closure for Bridge #7 Replacement: July 21st – August 18th**

b. **VT Statewide Primary – Tuesday, August 11th – Polls Open 10:00 am – 7:00 pm**

10. **Review & Sign Orders** – to be signed one Select Board member at a time at the town office.

11. **Executive Session: Title 1 V.S.A. S 313(a)(3) – personnel** – Not needed this evening.

12. **Adjourn** - Ms. Matthews made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 pm, seconded by Mr. Turco, unanimously approved, and the meeting was adjourned. Respectfully submitted: Jennifer Matthews



Planning Commission Virtual Meeting Minutes - June 22, 2020

Present: Jon McCann, Nicole Lewis, Clinton Woolley, Jim Seward, Gabrielle Macklin-Bickford, Ed Bove, Mark Turco, Jeff Chase, Jennifer Matthews, David Johnson, Brigid Sullivan, Okemo Valley TV

Jim called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

Discussion with Ed Bove, Executive Director of the Rutland Regional Planning Commission. Town Plans carry weight with regard to Act 250, particularly when it comes to identifying specific natural features that a town wishes to protect. Town Plans have the ability to be more regulatory than they were 15 years ago (ie/ views from specific right-of-ways can be protected through the Town Plan). Jennifer Matthews raised the concern about the possible impact by Vail with regard to any potential future development of the Mount Holly side of Okemo Mountain. Other towns restrict this sort of development through zoning regulations, which Mount Holly does not have. Options instead might include

changing land use regulations, to safeguard that area. Also, much of the backside of Okemo is currently conserved land. In the Town Plan, providing a more specific definition of “Conserved Land” in the Future Land use section as well as including more specificity within the Rural Residential areas of Mount Holly would add additional protection against future unwanted development. A re-adoption of the Town Plan would “re-start” the 8-year clock of how long a Town Plan is good for. Other helpful resources could include a Viewshed Study and/or Community Value Mapping (ecological concerns) to gather more data, as well as looking at the Town Plans of towns similar in composition to Mount Holly (all Town Plans are linked on the RRPC website). At the next Planning Commission meeting on July 20th, a work plan for amending the Mount Holly Town Plan will be developed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:08 PM by motion, second and vote (5-0). Respectfully Submitted, Nicole Lewis, Planning Commission Secretary

Mount Holly Updating Hazard Mitigation Plan

The Town of Mount Holly is currently engaged in hazard mitigation planning and is updating the Mount Holly, Vermont Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. For more information on the planning process or to find out about upcoming opportunities for public input, contact Steffanie Bourque at the RRPC – sbourque@rutlandrpc.org or 802-775-0871 x206.

Thanks, Jeff Chase

Mount Holly Administrative Officer and Planning Commission Clerk Needed

The Mount Holly Planning Commission is looking for a strong candidate to serve as our Planning Commission Clerk and to nominate for the position of Administrative Officer for the Town of Mount Holly.

This position will serve the community by helping to administer permits for our land-use bylaws, manage administrative tasks, and work with the Planning Commission to provide customer service to the public. This position will perform work requiring clerical skills, public relations, email and word processing, records management, and should be able to work with minimum supervision.

The position is up to 10 hours per month (hours are flexible and can vary weekly), with the opportunity for the position to be done partially remote (a portion of the work will need to be done on location at the town office). Attendance at regularly scheduled meetings is required, which are held every third Monday of the month at 7 pm. Pay is competitive.

Do you have great organizational skills and have a desire to help your community?

Email a letter of interest and your resume to the Planning Commission at planningcomm@mounthollyvt.org

Even though right now we have...



☒ **NO GATHERINGS OF MORE THAN ONE PERSON**
(and that person has to stand six feet away from himself or herself)

☒ **NO PARTIES UNLESS NO ONE IS INVITED**

☒ **NO APPEARING IN PUBLIC WITHOUT WEARING A MASK (& CLOTHES)**

☒ **NO 2020 MOUNT HOLLY CIDER DAYS (Can you believe it!!)**

☒ **AND NO PUBLIC VOTING FOR CALENDAR PHOTOS. But...**
...we do have Mount Holly's 2021 Calendar on sale at the Belmont Store (with curbside delivery) or send a text to mthollyphotos@gmail.com for info about mail delivery or at home delivery (in Mt. Holly) for the purchase of two or more calendars.

Or you can call Craig Tomkinson (802) 259-3947
(but he's cranky in the morning)

Mount Holly Conservation Trust News

A huge thank you to everyone who helped conserve the 346-acre McClean property connecting the Green Mountain National Forest with the Okemo State Forest. We look forward to the completion of the final steps necessary to transfer title of the property on Rte. 155 to the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation in August. This important parcel completes a 100-plus-mile wildlife corridor from Warren, VT to the Massachusetts border. It will become part of the Okemo State Forest, open to dispersed recreation.

This spectacular property has three separate watersheds on it with great wildlife habitat, including high elevation forest with several ponds and vernal pools. Bear, moose, beaver, birds, and amphibians are residents of the property.

A debt of gratitude is owed from the people of Mount Holly to retiring Board members; President **Andy Tanger**, Secretary **Stephanie Smith**, and the leaders of the Star Lake Dam Project, Treasurer **Ron Unterman** and **Dottie Finnerty**, and our former treasurer, **Minga Dana**.

Their hard work, dedication and commitment were critical to the success of the Conservation Trust over many years. Please thank each of them for many, many hours of volunteering for a great cause, if you see them around town!

For more information about the Mount Holly Conservation Trust visit our web site at: <http://mounthollyconservationtrust.org/>

Watch the August Chit Chat for information about a chance to visit the newly conserved property and attend our annual meeting.

Mount Holly Conservation Trust Volunteer Opportunity

We are looking for board members who have strong ties to Mount Holly, an interest in and commitment to conservation, willing to make a meaningful contribution to the future of Mount Holly and are over 18 years old. Membership or participation in other local or state organizations is a plus to increase collaboration among similar groups. If you have an interest, please send contact information, background and an outline of your knowledge, skills and experience to MHCT via Brigid Sullivan at brigid526@gmail.com or Annette Lynch at lyncha456@gmail.com.

Don't miss a chance to join fellow Mount Hollyians to protect the nature of our beautiful community.

Planning Commission Virtual Meeting Minutes - July 20, 2020

Present: Jon McCann, Nicole Lewis, Jim Seward, Gabrielle Macklin-Bickford, Kevin Hollebeek, Matthias Weiter, Jennifer Matthews, Brigid Sullivan, Okemo Valley TV

Jim called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM. The minutes from June 15, 2020 were reviewed and accepted by motion, second and vote (4-0).

Building Construction Registrations: **Wright** – Stewart Road North, 28x28 addition to existing garage: approved

Miseneik – Summit Road, 28x45 construction of new shed with living space: approved

Freeman – Freeman Brook Road, 12x15 shed: back-side of form will need to be completed prior to approval (Jim will follow up)

Burnor – Freeman Brook Road, 26x32 addition: approved

BL Capital Holdings LLC – Old Turnpike Road, construction of 95x18 one living unit and new septic: approved

Chlodnicki – Bowlsville Road South, 38x28 structure with new septic: approved

Gates – Gates Road, 10x14 deck: approved

Perham – Dark Meadows Road, 8x12 porch: requires diagram on page 2 prior to approval (Jim will follow up)

Other Correspondence: Act 250 Land Use Permit re: Okemo residential boundary adjustment (South side of mountain).

Old Business: Planning Commission Clerk/Administrative Officer – letter of interest received for the Clerk position. Notice has not yet run for the Administrative Officer position. Notice will express desire to have one candidate fulfill both roles. Jon will draft and run the notice in the Chit Chat and Vermont Journal. Motion made to appoint Gabrielle to fill the clerk position temporarily (until the next meeting), second and vote (4-0).

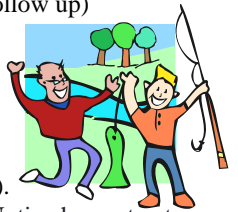
New Business: Development Review Board - a Zoning Board of Adjustment has existed in Mount Holly (aka Board of Adjustment). Discussion regarding having a DRB vs. ZBA will be revisited once the Administrative Officer and Clerk positions have been filled.

August Regular Meeting Format – public hearings and regular meeting on August 17 will be virtual.

Schedule for Subdivision Hearings – both will be held prior to the regular meeting on August 17 (public hearings to begin at 6:30).

Town Plan Revisions – work plan will be finalized and “Objectives” section will be reviewed at August regular meeting. Special work meeting will be tentatively scheduled for August 31 at 6:00.

The meeting adjourned at 9:06 PM by motion, second and vote (4-0). Respectfully Submitted, Nicole Lewis, Planning Commission Secretary



Conservation Chats: Greeter On Duty

Virtual Event hosted by Ninevah Foundation and Farm & Wilderness - Wednesday July 23rd at 1:00PM on Zoom

Ever wonder who those people are in the yellow shirts stationed at the public boat access areas and why it is so important that they are there? Join us in learning how Vermont greeter programs prevent aquatic invasive species from spreading in the lakes and ponds across the state.

We will use the Lake Ninevah greeter program as a success story to describe the threat of aquatic invasive plants in Vermont, the tools and programs used to prevent their spread, the importance of greeter data collection state-wide, and why greeters offer more than just a simple courtesy boat inspection.

There will be a presentation from our conservation director, followed by a Q&A session. So bring your questions!

Zoom Meeting Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84920707241>

Please RSVP for this event by completing this form: <https://forms.gle/7eTz1H9deHk7aiQP7>

Ninevah Foundation Website: <https://www.ninevahfoundation.org/post/introducing-conservation-chats>.

Facebook Event Link: <https://www.facebook.com/events/253814265824254/> You can follow Ninevah Foundation on Facebook and Instagram now for future updates!

Gift of Life Mini Marathon Dedicated to Pete Giancola

Family Encourages Blood Donations in Rutland Man's Memory

The family of Pete Giancola urging the greater-Rutland community to donate blood in his memory at the 2020 Gift-of-Life Mini Marathon (GOLM) Blood Drive. Giancola died in March after a 10-year battle with cancer, and relied on hundreds of blood donors who improved his quality of life and helped him survive much longer than his doctors expected. This donation drive is their way to give back to others. The Mini GOLM will be held July 14 from noon to 6 p.m. at Franklin Conference Center and American Legion in Rutland.

WESTON PLAYHOUSE THEATRE COMPANY AWARDED GRANT FROM THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

Weston Playhouse Theatre Company has been approved for a \$50,000 award from the **National Endowment for the Arts** (NEA) as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. This grant will be used in 2021 to support the company's Education programs for all ages and New Works development and programming. Of over 3,110 organizations from across the US who applied, Weston is among six Vermont organizations receiving this award.

"We know the competition for federal funds is always stiff, but especially now when the arts and culture sector is struggling," said **Vermont Arts Council Executive Director Karen Mittelman**. "These grants...recognize the incredible value of creativity and artistic practice in the midst of the pandemic, and the vitality that arts organizations bring to our communities."

Founded in 1937, Weston is Vermont's oldest professional theatre company. The company's mission is to create and present **entertaining, inspiring, and innovative theatre** and performance that connects to our community and enhances life throughout the region and beyond. We engage and enrich the perspectives of our audiences through entertaining and innovative work that inspires curiosity and connection; we cultivate new work by supporting artists and theatre makers at diverse stages of the development process; and we train the next generation of theatre artists and audiences.

The company's highly impactful **education and outreach programs** comprise year-round activities that include in-school programs for Pre-K-12 students and teachers; summer camps for teens; accessibility programs (audio and sensory friendly); and enrichment for lifelong learners – pre- and post-show discussions, director's talks, and show notes, an in-house publication providing background on every production. Weston's nationally recognized **New Works program** includes the annual **Weston-Ghostlight New Musical Award**, artist retreats, staged readings, and workshops, as well as the new **Weston Writers series**.

Says **Executive Artistic Director Susanna Gellert**, "Weston is profoundly appreciative and grateful for this grant from the NEA, which provides an important foundation as we look ahead to making theatre in the aftermath of the Covid-19 crisis. This support recognizes Weston's impact on its community and on the theatre field at large. Just as important is the impact our community of audiences, artists, and students has on the theatre; Weston would not be what it is today without them."

The Weston Playhouse Theatre Company is a non-profit organization supported in part by funds from the National Endowment for the Arts and an ever-growing family of individuals and organizations who believe in the impact the performing arts make on its community.

For more information about the CARES Act grant announcement, visit arts.gov/news.



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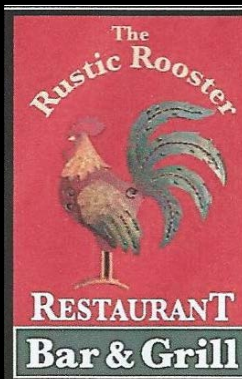
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July 2nd

New Hours

(For Now)

Will Be Subject to change as
Rules & Regulations from the
State & Governor change

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(Will Change With Restrictions Being Lifted)

Reservations Encouraged (At This Time)

Curbside Dining With Waitress Service

Enjoy your Meal & Cocktail Inside Your Car
With Car Hop Waitress Service

HOURS

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Tuesday	Closed
Wednesday	Closed
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Friday	4 pm – 8 pm
Saturday	1 pm – 8 pm
Sunday	1 pm – 8 pm

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Customers to save \$350 off a new boiler, \$250 off a new furnace, \$200 off a new tankless water heater, or \$200 off a new oil tank!

Offers cannot be combined with any other discount or promotional offer except Irving Rewards and are subject to change or termination without notice. †Visit irvingenergy.com/newoffer to learn more.

Mt. Holly Oil & Gas Group

I have been in contact with Irving Energy on behalf of the buying group and they are offering the same deal as we had last year.

\$.15 cents off per gallon of heating oil on the going price of the day you call in.

\$.30 cents off per gallon of propane on the going price of the day you call in.

Remember to give our **group code number 6216** to be enrolled under our group. The cutoff date is December 31, 2020. **Call Irving Energy at 1-888-310-1924** to get signed up. Please have your Irving account number handy when you do and if you do not have an Irving account call the above phone number to get an account and then join the group.

New customers to the group please contact me first so I can get you on the list at 802-259-2314. Diana Garrow, Manager, Mt. Holly Oil & Gas Group

United Way Approves \$300k in Grants to 19 Rutland County Non-Profits

United Way of Rutland County (UWRC) is proud to announce that \$300,000 worth of grant awards have been disbursed to nineteen different area nonprofits within Rutland County! A trusted group of community leaders helped in the overall decision making process for dispersing these funds, making sure that community donations (what actually fund these grants requests) only heighten the capabilities of organizations working toward promoting a better life for individuals in need. All of the organizations requesting grant funds this year were asked to focus on one or more of the following Community Impact focuses: *Health, Education, and Financial Stability*.

Organizations that received grant awards this year are as follows in no particular order: Rutland Free Clinic, ARC of Rutland, VNA and Hospice of the Southwest Region (*Choices for Care Program*), Come Alive Outside, Turing Point Center of Rutland, Vermont Farmers Food Center, Wonderfeet Kid's Museum, Mentor

Connector, Prevent Child Abuse Vermont, Rutland County Restorative Justice Center, Rainbow Riding Center, BROCC Community Action of the Southwest Region (*Meals on Wheels Program*),

Vermont Catholic Charities, Dismas House of Rutland, Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging, and Slate Valley Unified School District (*SnackSack Program*), Fair Haven Concerned, The Compassionate Friends of Rutland, and The Caving Studio & Sculpture Center.

UWRC is grateful for the opportunity to work with so many deserving non-profits within the Rutland County region this year, and the organization appreciates the continued support from the non-profits that it serves. "Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging (SVCOA) is incredibly grateful for the generous grant award provided by the United Way of Rutland County for our Meals on Wheels program," said Courtney Anderson, *Nutrition Director* with SVCOA. "This support is vital to SVCOA being able to provide over 100,000 home-delivered meals to thousands of homebound older Vermonters throughout Rutland County in the coming year, ensuring their health and wellness." Another grantee partner wrote "We are grateful for the continued support of the United Way," said Tracie Hauck, *Executive Director* of Turing Point Center of Rutland. "Their funding ensures that we are able to continue and, in many cases, extend our work in Rutland County. Specifically, recent funding will support an in-house supervisory position, further strengthening our core functions."

Because of the extensive generosity within Rutland County, United Way of Rutland County can continue to help support enriching programs that better the lives of your neighbors in need. To learn more about these continued efforts, visit www.uwrrutlandcounty.org, or call (802) 773-7477. Be well, stay safe, and remember to live united!

About the United Way of Rutland County:

The United Way of Rutland County (UWRC) is an independent, non-profit organization dedicated to advancing the common good, focusing on health, education and financial stability for Rutland County since 1943. UWRC collaborates with other community organizations, partner with businesses, teams with service delivery organizations and joins forces with dedicated leaders and volunteers to solve community needs that affect families and children, assuring a community-wide services infrastructure.



Vermont Home Gardener: July Garden Care

Gardens are in their peak growth phase and things are getting big fast. So are the weeds, bugs, and slugs. If you have already side-dressed with compost to feed and mulched to cover the soil you can now think about more specific tasks. It's a great time to be gardening but may seem a challenge just to keep up. Let's try to focus on a few priority things to do in early July so the garden does well without overwhelming us.

Heat & humidity are great for our gardens but can also trigger the appearance of numerous pests and diseases. Along with the great growth we're seeing and early harvests of greens, peas, broccoli, & summer squashes it's time to keep a keen eye to detect and control any problems before they become serious issues. Healthy, well-watered plants can tolerate most pests and diseases, but plants may need our help when conditions in mid-summer are ideal for unwelcome insects or plant disease organisms. Let's look at what's happening now in the garden and some near future issues that we can prevent.

Learn the best ways to support tomatoes and more at Vermonthomegardener.com

OKEMO VALLEY DINING MEMBERS NOW OPEN!

Posted By |Diane


Here are some of our DINING members that have reopened. Some also offer outdoor seating!

(Please comply with their recommended safety measures):

Big Eyes Bakery (Ludlow) * **Black Line Tavern at Magic Mountain** (Londonderry) Also offering outside seating! * **Crow's Bakery & Opera House Café** (Proctorsville) Also offering outside seating! * **du Jour Restaurant** (Ludlow) Also offering Outside Dining! * **Echo Lake Inn** (Plymouth) Also offering outside seating! * **The Free Range** (Chester) Also offering outside seating! * **Fullerton Inn** (Chester) Also offering outside seating! * **The Grafton Inn** (Grafton) Also offering outside seating! * **Homestyle Hotel** (Ludlow) They are now **hiring!** Outside seating only! * **Inn at Water's Edge** (Plymouth) * **Johnny Seesaw's Restaurant at Seesaw's Lodge** (Peru) Outside seating only! * **The Killarney** (Ludlow) Also offering outside seating! * **Main + Mountain Bar** (Ludlow) Outside seating only! * **Mangiamos Ristorante** (Ludlow) Outside seating only! * **Mildred's Dairy Bar & Grille at the Vermont Country Store** (Weston) Outdoor seating only! * **Mr. Darcy's Bar & Grill** (Ludlow) They are now **hiring!** Also offering outside seating! * **Outer Limits Brewing** (Proctorsville) Also offering outside seating! * **Phelps Barn Pub at The Grafton Inn** (Grafton) Also offering outside seating! * **Sam's Steakhouse** (Ludlow) Also offering outside seating! Ralph Pace (802)228-7239 ralphpace@gmail.com



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Fletcher Farm Announces August Classes

The Fletcher Farm School for the Arts and Crafts is announcing the classes being offered in August, 2020.

August 1 – Creating Custom Cabochon Settings with Debi Orton

August 3-7 – Quilter's Choice with Susan Damone Balch

August 5-6 – Creative Metalworking with Piper Strong

August 8-9 – Weave a Necktie Chair Seat with Joyce Fuller

August 15 – Silk Sampler Day with Sandi Cirillo

August 15-16 – Chair Caning with Meg Kupiec

August 18 – Simple Country Work Basket with Jean Reed

August 19-21* – Introduction to Landscape Painting in Watercolor with Robert O'Brien

August 25-27 – Liberated Quilting with Susan Damone Balch

August 29 – Feather Wool Trees with Jean Reed

Further information on each of these classes is available on our website, <http://www.fletcherfarm.org>. Online registration is available.

On another note, the School will be holding a Fabric and Craft Supply on Saturday, July 25 from 10:00 – 4:00. This is the same day as the Cavendish Town-Wide Yard Sale, so stop and see us on your way to or from the Yard Sale.

Please note that we are following all Vermont State guidelines for preventing the spread of the Covid-19 virus. See our policy at <https://www.fletcherfarm.org/classroom-policy-during-health-emergency/>

Fletcher Farm School for the Arts and Crafts, 611 VT Route 103 South, Ludlow, VT 05149 802-228-8770





WESTON PLAYHOUSE THEATRE COMPANY ANNOUNCES REIMAGINED SEASON

Susanna Gellert, Executive Artistic Director of **Weston Playhouse Theatre Company**, announces the debut of **Weston Writers**, the flagship project of Weston's Reimagined 2020 Season. This new works initiative builds on Weston's long history of supporting playwrights and musical theatre writers through retreats, workshops, the annual Weston-Ghostlight New Musical Award, and world premieres on the Weston stages (**PREGNANCY PACT**, **SAINT-EX**, **ANALOG & VINYL**).

Says **Gellert**, "Over the past decade Weston has developed a nationally recognized New Works Program grounded in the belief that the voice of the author is central to shaping our cultural conversations locally and nationally. We believe that when we nurture new writing, we nurture new points of view and foster deeper connections within our community and with the world beyond.

Today we know that theatre is more important than ever. In this time of anguish and isolation, Weston is making a fresh investment in the stories that will help to heal us and make us whole. We are committed to creating and deepening ties with artists and audiences; to supporting writers as they embark on creating new, original plays and musicals; and to ensuring that artists and audiences gather at the theatre for generations to come. These commitments form the basis of our **Weston Writers** program.

To inaugurate the next era of new works development in Weston, we are introducing a series of projects beginning in the summer of 2020. Bringing forward a multitude of original writing and performance during this time of reflection, we celebrate the artists who deepen our understanding of the world we live in and who inspire us to imagine the world as it might someday be."

Featured Weston Writers projects premiering in summer 2020 include:

One Room, which explores the events of this year by looking at our homes as spaces of possibility and creativity. In May, we commissioned 15 of America's leading playwrights to create 5-minute, one person plays that respond to the present moment and explore the questions, "What makes a home? What stories might be hiding in its ordinary rooms?" Writers will be joined by actors and directors from across the country and each play will be recorded to premiere online **August 7**. For local viewers, our restaurant partner **MKT: Grafton** will offer pre-order takeout dinner and beverage options, available for pickup in Weston on the night of the premiere presentation.

Songs for Today, which invites Weston's family of musical theatre writers to talk to us in song about the stories they want to tell today. Composers who have previously been with us in Weston will create and record original songs that capture this unprecedented moment when we are all invited to care and connect in new, unique ways. Songs for Today will be on an ongoing series commencing **later this summer**.

Postcard Plays, a multi-media exploration of story and form. Commissioned writers will receive a picture-postcard of a rural American image and asked to respond with a playscript that fits within the card's 4x6" structure. The postcards feature photography by **Skye Chalmers** from his collection, **Sending Milk**. The resulting plays will be performed at the theatre once we are able to open, and the postcards will be available for purchase. Postcard Plays will premiere **this fall**.

Additionally, Weston Playhouse presents **Beyond the Fourth Wall**, a smart and entertaining educational series featuring interviews, discussions, and special guest appearances. Join Executive Artistic Director Susanna Gellert and some of the industry's leading writers, performers, and directors, right from the comfort of your home. Though we may be scattered across the country, stimulating conversation will make you feel as if you are back at Playhouse and in the company of good friends. As soon as we can gather at the theatre again, this program will be offered in person, as well as continuing online.

The Box Office at the Weston Playhouse remains closed for the summer, but staff will be returning voicemails left on the Box Office line at 802-824-5288. These events are free, but gift cards for future Weston events can be purchased online at westonplayhouse.org.

The Weston Playhouse Theatre Company is a non-profit organization supported in part by funds from the **National Endowment for the Arts** and an ever-growing family of individuals and organizations who believe in the impact the performing arts make on its community. Weston's Reimagined 2020 Season is presented by **The Vermont Country Store** with support from the **Weston New Works Fund**.



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Ludlow Rotary Club Conducts President Change Despite Covid-19



As is usual for the Ludlow Rotary Club (LRC) at its last meeting in June, the current President handed over the leadership of the LRC to its incoming President in an annual event known as "the changing of the gavel". In this instance, however, since Covid-19 has altered how the club meets, the physical exchange of the gavel from President Mark Huntley to incoming President Kevin Barnes was not quite as simple as it was when both were physically present at the same meeting. This meeting was conducted using the computer app Zoom so that Rotarians could participate from their homes and offices.

The actual exchange of the gavel was done by Mark Huntley presenting a gavel during the meeting and with Kevin Barnes accepting it in a separate Zoom session, with both sessions visible to the on-line Rotarians. It also gave Kevin the opportunity to thank Mark for what he had accomplished in the LRC during the past year, awarding him a specially engraved plaque. Pictured above are Mark and Kevin during the exchange of the gavel.

In his remarks preceding the changing of the gavel, Mark noted that "being a Rotarian was, first and foremost, a willingness to live by the Rotary motto of 'Service above self.'" He observed that his year as club leader had made him appreciate that friendship and fellowship were kindred benefits of the Rotary experience. "It really makes you appreciate what you can do to help your community".

He also applauded individual members of the club for the work they had done in helping both local communities and regional and international goals of Rotary International. In particular, he praised Bob Kirkbride, the first Vermonter to die from Covid-19, for the 63 plus years he dedicated to the work of Rotary.

Pictured out-going President Mark Huntley presenting gavel to Kevin Barnes the incoming LRC Rotary President.

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Vermont Sole Proprietor Stabilization Program Application Portal Now Open

The State of Vermont has developed a program to assist sole proprietors with no employees who have been impacted by COVID-19. The Sole Proprietor Stabilization Program provides grants of \$5,000, \$7,500, or \$10,000 to qualifying sole proprietors through a lottery draw. Funds may be used for working capital to cover business costs, such as rent, utilities, and for retrofitting to meet COVID-19 requirements to re-open and stay open.

Program Timeline: **July 20:** Portal opens * **July 27:** Deadline for pre-application submissions * **July 31:** Deadline for grant application submissions (once registration is approved)

August 14: Lottery draw * **August 17:** Grant awardees issues sub grant agreements * **August 27:** Checks issues to businesses starting this date

Am I Eligible? To qualify, you must be a bona fide business entity at the time of shut-down in the State of Vermont and defined as a sole proprietor. Sole Proprietor is defined as someone who owns an unincorporated business by himself or herself, or as a Partnership or alternative business structure, and does not have W-2 employees regardless of how they are set up for tax purposes. For example, S Corps and Partnerships (such as a two-person team) that do not have W-2 employees would be eligible. The owner(s) of the enterprise must be a Vermont resident.

Businesses must meet all of the following eligibility criteria:

- Be a Sole Proprietor, do not issue W-2s to any employees.
- Be a for-profit entity.
- Have a physical establishment (mailing address only is not sufficient) in the Vermont city/town of application.
- Provide goods or services to multiple clients or customers.
- Be in good standing with the State of Vermont and Vermont, city/town. Be current on all taxes due through March 31, 2020, or have a workout arrangement in place with the taxing entity; Active and valid state licenses/registrations, if applicable; Not a party to litigation involving the State of Vermont or Vermont, city/town.
- Have annual gross revenues greater than \$25,000.
- Be able to document past or expected eligible costs of no more than ten (10) items totaling the amount of the grant award.
- Be able to show that paying these costs is a hardship due to loss of income between March 1, 2020 and September 1, 2020 as a result of COVID-19.
- Have been legally established prior to or as of January 1, 2020.
- Not be listed under the excluded business types (see below), and not be a subsidiary enterprise or franchise.

Excluded Business Types: The following business types are excluded from participating in this program: Cannabis-related businesses * Businesses owned by persons under age 18 * Businesses that are franchises or chains * Weapons/firearms dealers * Lobbyists * Persons operating as independent consultants/contractors and providing services to a single entity

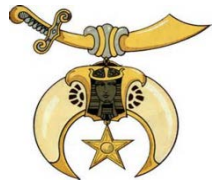
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Ludlow Rotary Learns How to Make Cheese

The Ludlow Rotary Club (LRC) hosted Rick Woods, Vice President of the Vermont Farmstead Cheese Corporation (VFCC), at its recent online meeting. While the meeting was conducted using the ZOOM online conferencing app, the speaker was still able to describe how his cheeses were produced and offer some real time glimpses into the actual process.

Woods spoke to the LRC about his 27 years in the cheese making business starting at Grafton Village Cheese then accepting a cheesemaker position at the former water buffalo farm in South Woodstock. He noted that VFCC is the only commercial company using an English style peg mill for making cheddar cheese in the



country.

The speaker described the processes used in making soft ripened cheeses and gave the Rotarians a quick tour of the cheese making room while they were in the process of making cheese that day.

Woods has more than twenty years of being involved in all aspects of cheese production from cheese maker to plant manager, to developing regulatory compliance programs and educational cheese making classes for school groups.

Pictured above is Rick Woods of the VT. Farmstead Cheese Corporation as he addresses Ludlow Rotarians during his presentation on cheese production.

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In the above photo, Rick Woods and his assistant, Megan Cooney, are shown as they examine a batch of their soft cheese under development.



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 _____

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Geralyn brings twenty years of professional Realtor experience, during which she has served as both Education Director (2005-2010) and as a Director (2017) of the Crown Point Board of Realtors. She has also served as a local School Board Director in Chester, VT.

Geralyn's professional expertise includes a strong background in technology, art and legal proofreading, excellent communication skills and attention to detail, complimented by knowledge of resources and history of the local market and area. She has successfully worked with buyers and sellers from all over the world and approaches every transaction with the same amount of care and integrity.



Geralyn currently resides in Chester with her husband, Steve Dent, two sons, White Shepherd and cat. She is very excited to join the team of professional agents at Engel & Volkers- Okemo!

Geralyn Donohue

126 Main Street Suite 1A

Ludlow, VT 05149

O: (802) 975-0338

M: (802) 377-7096

License #: 081.0004386

geralyn.donohue@evrealestate.com

Who's Got It Locally?

Artists & Architects

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

Bakeries - Catering - Restaurants - Stores

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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
Grey Goose Chimney Sweeps 492-3549
Jenkins Builders – General Contractor brandon@jenkinsbuild.com 952-9722
Summit Home Services LLC- Todd Durgin H: 259-3000 C: 236-7075
Electrical & Home Maintenance
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 abvmludlow@comcast.net 228-3451
Belmont Village Baptist Church-Worship 9:30am, Coffee Hour 10:30
Pastor Glenn Davis vbch.weebly.com 259-2440
E. Wallingford Baptist – PS 9:15-10:00 am SS 10 am, Worship 11 am
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 Garrow –Lawn Mowing*Brush Hogging*Garden Tilling*Snow Plowing
*Care Taking 259-3167

Farm Fresh Products

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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
Kevin Smith, Garden Service & Lawn Mowing 259-3964
Salt Ash Nursery - The Balsam Barn – Scott Crawford 259-2146

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Massage Therapy/Bodywork, Thrive Center of Green Mtns 446-2499
Lisa Donohue MA, LMT ~ Linda O'Brien MT 446-2499

Home Management Services

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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

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Smith Maple Crest Farm www.Smithmaplecrestfarm.com 492-2151

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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
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Tailored Plumbing tailoredplumbingheating@gmail.com 802-417-1647

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

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

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Septic System Design

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

Therapeutic Riding

Rienbow Riding Center Home 259-2282 Barn 492-2226

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Volunteer Services

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Black River Good Neighbor Service 228-3663

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www.chesterscustomwoodworking.com
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