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Mount Holly Chit Chat



46/7

September 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

1 st	Mt. Holly Community Association Meeting, Library	<i>World War II Began 1936</i>	7:00 pm
	Mason Meeting, Mt. Moriah Lodge, E. Wallingford	<i>Gray Squirrel ~ Black Bear Early Season</i>	8:00 pm
2 nd		<i>Japan Signed Formal Surrender V-J Day 1945</i>	
3 rd	Fire Dept. Business Meeting, Belmont Fire Station		7:00 pm
7 th		<i>Labor Day</i>	
8 th	Community Guild Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont		9:00 am
	Select Board Meeting, Town Office		6:30 pm
9 th	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
10 th	Fire Dept. Drill, Fire Station	<i>World Suicide Prevention Day</i>	7:00 pm
11 th		<i>Patriot Day</i>	
Sun 13 th		<i>Grandparents Day</i>	
14 th	Rescue Squad Meeting, Rescue Squad Building		7:00 pm
	<i>Star-Spangled Banner written by Francis Scott Key 1814</i>		
15 th	Mt. Holly PTSA Meeting, MH School		4:30 pm
	MH Chit Chat Annual Meeting, Odd Fellows Hall, Belmont		6:30 pm
16 th	Mt. Holly Town Library Meeting, Library, Belmont		6:30 pm
17 th	Fire Dept. work night, Fire Stations	<i>Citizenship Day ~ US Constitution Approved 1787</i>	7:00 pm
		<i>Ladies Auxiliary VFW Organized 1914</i>	
18 th	<i>Rosh Hashana Begins ~ Operation Uphold Democracy 1994 ~ US Air Force Est. 1947 ~ POW/MIA Day</i>		
Sun 20 th		<i>Rosh Hashana Ends</i>	
21 st	Mount Holly Planning Commission, Town Office		7:00 pm
22 nd	Community Guild Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont	<i>Fall Begins ~ Autumnal Equinox</i>	9:00 am
23 rd	ODD Fellows Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont		7:00 pm
24 th	Fire Dept. Drill, Fire Station		7:00 pm
Sat 26 th	<i>Hare & Rabbit – Ruffed Grouse (Partridge) Season ~ George Gershwin 1898</i>		
	<i>First Televised Debate took place between Presidential Candidates Richard M. Nixon & John F. Kennedy 1960</i>		
Sun 27 th		<i>Gold Star Mother's Day ~ Yom Kippur Begins</i>	
28 th	Rescue Squad Meeting, Rescue Squad Building	<i>Yom Kippur Ends</i>	7:00 pm
29 th		<i>VFW Est. 1899</i>	

* * * * *

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: Wayne Jones (Wayne Jones Metalworking) * Laura & Jared Pierce * Karin Lanzelin * VNA & Hospice of The Southwest Region * John & Katherine Greeno * Ted Stryhas (Ted Stryhas Builder Inc) * Craig 7 Maria Fortier * Gail Beardmore (Engel & volkers Okemo Woodstock) *



September Birthdays: 1st -Adam Frey 2nd -Mark Turco Sr 4th - John Taylor Jr 7th -Caleb Nye 8th -Sarah Hawkins-Delphia 10th - Felicia Turco Clark * Dustin Miller * Ruth Thornton (1925) 12th - Vera Tuomisto * Charles Conroy 13th -Joey Carrara 14th -Todd Bussino Jr (1983) 19th -Julia Hoeh * Heather Deem (1977) 22nd -Laurel Darling 24th -Eleanor Nowosad 26th -Peter Herbst 27th -Clarise Dana 98th (1922) 29th -Ryan Flynn * Kenny Hart (1964) 30th - Eliza Tarbell



September Anniversaries: 3rd -Douglas & Darlene Stocker 6th -Murray & Betty Merlin 12th -Candace Neary & Annette Lynch 14th -Mike & Melinda Pearson (1996) 15th -Richard & Laurel Darling 21st -Daniel & Linda Fitzgibbon * Jane Harrington & Susan Horsman 26th -Benjamin & Amber Taylor 28th - Frank & Barbara Gerdin

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



Card Shower For Clarise Dana

To honor her 98th Birthday
September 27th

Mail to:
5 General Wing Rd. Apt. 229
Rutland, VT 05701



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.



Minga Rae Dana

Minga Rae Dana, 70, died Aug. 16, 2020, at Rutland Regional Medical Center. She was born in Burlington, Jan. 24, 1950, daughter of Raymond and Clarise (Benjamin) Dana. She was a former Belmont resident. Minga loved family and friends, traveling, reading, attending plays and concerts, and was over the moon about cats and Christmas. Minga served on many boards and committees in the town she loved — Belmont, Mount Holly, Vermont. She was a member of, and held office in, the Mount Holly Barn Preservation Board, Ladies Night, Mount Holly Gardeners, Mount Holly Library, Mount Holly Book Club and the Mount Holly Conservation Trust. Minga was a longtime supporter of the Vermont Symphony and the Weston Playhouse. Surviving are her mother, Clarise Dana of Rutland; a son, Chad Getchell of Manchester, Connecticut; a brother, Brett Dana, and a sister, Susan Bassett, both of Belmont; her former husband, Doug Getchell of Belmont; her cousin and lifelong best friend, Gail Nadock of Agawam, Massachusetts. She was predeceased by her father, Raymond Dana, who died in 2020. Minga worked at Hawk Mountain as a bookkeeper and was CEO of Marble Valley Regional Transit District (The Bus) before retiring in 2017. There are

no calling hours or funeral services planned. Memorial contributions may be made to the Mount Holly Library, 26 Maple Hill Road, Belmont, VT; or the Mount Holly Conservation Trust, P.O. Box 85, Belmont, VT 05730. Arrangements are by the Clifford Funeral Home.

A Special Friend to Us All

We have lost Minga Dana and Mount Holly is all the poorer.

Born with deep roots in this town, Minga moved to link the old residents and newcomers, as they came together to provide services to all of us.

Minga, operating on the principle that showing up is the first act in doing good, appeared at the meetings of many community organizations. In most of them, she then took on some of the work: serving as treasurer, organizing raffle baskets, arranging events, getting discount coupons from local businesses, and helping with the planning and clean-up associated with meetings or sales or celebrations.

But Minga was more than the reliable helper and more than the explainer of local ways and customs; she was the great enthusiast for the work of organizations in which she was involved. It sometimes seemed that the Library, Barn Association, Community Association, Garden Club, and Conservation Trust were, in tough times, kept afloat by her belief in their cause.

Even as she got sicker and infirm, Minga would show up at crucial times to support efforts she believed in. I recall her slowly and painfully appearing at an important meeting to support workers housing. On other occasions, she attended community pre-planning sessions for the new Town Plan, in order to make a case for public transportation or an impassioned plea for the inclusion of the Mount Holly Environment Inventory in the Plan.

In memory of Minga and her many good works the Mount Holly Barn Preservation Association is launching the Minga Dana Barn Grant program to assist Mount Holly barn owners preserve their historic barns that Minga so loved. Annette Lynch, Mount Holly Barn Preservation Association, PO Box 183 Mount Holly VT 05758

Gold Star Mother's Day - Military Benefits

militarybenefits.info > gold-star-mothers-day

Gold Star Mother's Day is observed on the **last Sunday in September** which will be Sunday, September 27, 2020 this year. Gold Star Mother's Day is intended to recognize and honor those mothers who have lost a son or daughter in the service of the U.S. Armed Forces.

The name the Gold Star Mothers was derived from the custom of military families who put a service flag near their front window. The flag featured a star for each family member serving in their country – living members were denoted in blue but gold stars honored family members who were killed while in duty. In 1918 President Woodrow Wilson approved the wearing of black arm bands bearing a gilt star by those who had a family member who died in the military service to the United States. This distinguished them from the blue stars, representing a family member presently serving in the armed forces.

American Gold Star Mothers, Inc. was incorporated in 1929, obtaining a federal charter from the US Congress. It began with 25 mothers living in the Washington DC area and soon expanded to include affiliated groups throughout the nation. On June 23, 1936, a joint congressional resolution designated the last Sunday in September as Gold Star Mother's Day, a holiday that has been observed each year by a presidential proclamation.

A gold star symbolizes a family member who died in the line of duty while serving the United States Armed Forces. It may be seen on a service flag or in the form of a pin, which is worn by Gold Star mothers. The pin is not limited to mothers and it is awarded by the US Department of Defense.

Join Bone Builders

Monday & Thursday Mornings
9:00 am

For Weights and more information
Call Judy Nevin 259-2443

*** Hall Rental in Belmont ***

The use of the Hall in Belmont is scheduled by contacting Carol at 259-2791, or at tcg2791@yahoo.com. You may also leave a message with Dennis at 259-2460, or at ddevereux@vermontel.net.

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



Johnson Farm Feature Article – Wright Construction

Just off the main route 103 in Mount Holly sits a place where the sun hits just right. Where beautiful cows roam, chickens lay eggs and turkeys rest in the shade. The feeling you get when you pull up to the Johnson Farm at 1004 Hortonville Road is so welcome and relaxing.

You would often hear Millicent Johnson walking around and talking to the animals. “Hi babies!” she would say.

After Millicent and Jim Johnson came to Wright Construction saying their barn was on the verge of collapsing, we knew that we wanted to help them out and repair that part of the foundation that was destroyed from frost over the years.

“Not only was the wall being pushed in because of the frost and everything, but the movement of that was pushing the top out.” Millicent said about the warped nature of the wall before the renovation.

The original foundation, believe it or not, had little to no rebar at all in the concrete. With the weight of the hay on the second floor and the harsh Vermont winters, it just started crumbling.

“I asked him (the contractor who did the original foundation) about it when they were getting ready to pour the wall, I said, shouldn’t you have some rebar or something in there? Because the footing was there and they put the wall on top, but it was just free-floating,” Jim said.

While Wright typically works on larger renovations and new builds, helping this local farm was a no brainer to us. Concrete work is a specialty of Wright and offering this service allows our clients to cut out the middleman and save time and money.

With just a couple of guys and a few short weeks, the wall was replaced, and the tractor was back under a covered roof! The farm never stopped operating during construction.

“20-ton hydraulic jacks they (Wright Construction) let me borrow.” Jim said. “I needed something to hold the wall in place until I got the studs put back.”

“They said, ‘no, no. we’re going to leave these here and you can use them.’” Millicent commented.

The work of a farmer is never-ending and is in the mercy of nature and the elements. To be able to offer fresh, from-the-source milk and eggs to the community is rewarding and the biggest motivator for the Johnsons.

The Johnson’s also get to experience something that hardly any of us will ever be able to. When they sit down at the dinner table after a hard day’s work they know everything they have cultivated and prepared themselves.

“For me, it’s sitting down at the table and looking at the plate and saying, ‘I did this’. And being able to say, “thank you” God for giving us the opportunity, the strength, the know how to be able to put food on our table. There’s not too many people that can say that” Millicent said.

“I like being my own boss. And I like working outdoors and I like the animals and running the equipment,” said Jim.

“It’s a unique tension between dependence and independence,” Millicent and Jim’s son said, “The weight of the responsibility is

on you, but you also have the freedom to be creative with it. How you design your schedule, how you design the layout of the farm. There are infinite possibilities for how you can use the resources that you have available on the land, to include the animals. And you are producing something of value at the end of it.”

They will never take all the credit though, because according to the Johnsons, only God can make the plants grow.

Stop in to say hi at the Johnson Farm, pick up some eggs, visit the animals and have a nice conversation with the family. We really enjoyed working with them and we think you will love them too!

It was so important that the Johnsons called us when they did because that barn wall was on its last leg. Do not wait too long to start your project! Give Wright Construction a call today to start your renovation/building experience. Please see our Roster Listing “Who’s Got It Locally?” under Building & Repairs – General Work on the back page of the Chit Chat for our contact information.



Thank You

The Mount Holly Volunteer Fire Department would like to thank *Gregory* McKirryher of GM Tree Tech for his assistance in the replacement of our repeater antenna. The repeater is located on Old Turnpike Road at the Charles Garrow farm. It serves as our back up for dispatch of emergency calls. It is also available for truck to truck or officer to officer communication when it is not possible because of distance at some emergency scenes. It is also an emergency broadcast signal to our neighbors in Shrewsbury and Wallingford.

Constable Corner

The word "constable" comes from Latin words *comes stabuli*, which translates to "friend of the stables." In the Middle Ages in France and Britain, constables led the cavalry, and then the military, according to Encyclopedia Britannica. By the time the Pilgrims came to the so-called New World, constables were merely local officials collecting taxes and suppressing riots. In 1777 —

before Vermont even became a state — constables got written into the state's constitution, where the reference remains to this day. It has to do with the election of governor. Each town's constable, it was written, must deliver every vote to the General Assembly. Apparently, constables would bring all the bits of paper to Montpelier, in a bag. It is unknown when that practice ended, but while their constitutional duties ended, they are still considered constitutional officers. Up until 2011 a local resident could show up at Town Meeting and have their neighbors elect them constable — and then inside the boundaries of their town, they would have full law enforcement

authority. They could arrest people, charge them, detain them, you name it, without one hour of training. That ended in 2011 when the legislature mandated that Constables needed to be certified by the Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council to exercise law enforcement authority, which today means completion of 190 hours of training. Not all Constables are certified in Vermont, yet they fill a much-needed gap in law enforcement coverage especially in smaller towns around the state. Next month I will talk about my duties as Constable here in Mount Holly. Paul Faenza, First Constable

Book Sale

Sat. Sept. 5th, 10 am to 2 pm

Mt. Holly Town Library

Great Books, Great Prices

For a Great Cause

26 Maple Hill Road

Belmont, VT

Gigantic Inventory! Always New books!

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Beardmore Excavating Inc.

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July 2020, Trestleboard Mt. Moriah Lodge #96

Next Meeting Tuesday 8-25 8PM

Greetings Brothers,

We hope everyone has been healthy and safe over these past few months since the Covid-19 virus started.

Come in casual dress for this meeting as we will have our installation of officers. Refreshments are on order as we can use the dining room and be safe while obeying all the recommendations from our Governor and Grand Master which include masks from home, and hand sanitizer, which will be available.

When you receive your dues notice, please send your payment to

Buster Seward, 4280 Sugar Hill Rd. East Wallingford, Vt. 05742. Fraternally, Earl Miller W.M. - Buster Seward Sec'y

BRGNS Offers Back To School Supplies

While going back to school this year may look very different, most kids will be needing basic school supplies, shoes and clothing. Black River Good Neighbor Services has assisted many area families over the years with those supplies and this year is no exception. In keeping with its tradition, the "Back to School Supply Project" is now under way.

Applications for school supplies are available at the thrift store, food shelf and on the BRGNS website. Families who have children in school and live in Ludlow, Mt. Holly, Belmont, Cavendish, Proctorsville or Plymouth are eligible.

There is a great and expanded selection of supplies this year and families are encouraged to apply during the month of August. Please call 802-228-3663 with questions or for an application. Krey Kellington

SCREENED TOP SOIL

\$25.00 Per Yard Plus Delivery

802-342-3507



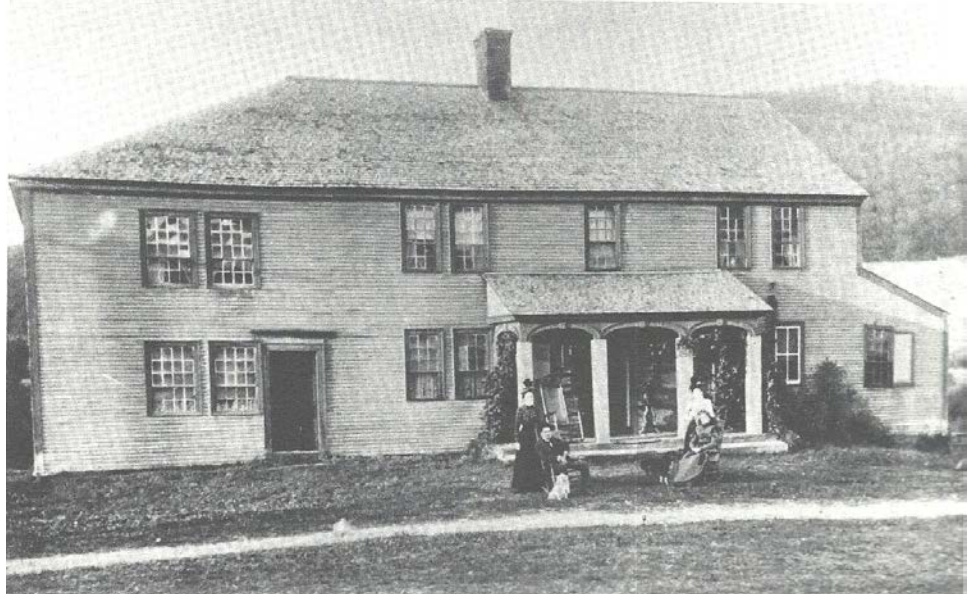
The Green Stand Tavern

The Green Stand across Branch Brook from the Green Cemetery was the most famous tavern in Mount Holly.

It was kept by Captain Joseph Green, a Revolutionary War Soldier who settled here in 1786. It became the Hoskison residence for many years.

The tavern was a large square, tow-story house. It was taken down about 1919. There was a large barn across the road with a large floor with doors at each end to allow stage coaches to enter with their teams in inclement weather and close the doors.

Paul and Blanche Lapre built a home in 925 where the Green Stand stood and operated a small restaurant in the front with five or six cabins across the road about ten years later. Their home burned. They rebuilt the house and built the restaurant across Route 103 and built a small motel. The restaurant called the Mountain View and cabins and motel were sold. The restaurant later burned. The cabins and motel were taken down in the 1970's. The flood of 1973 didn't help matters as it washed away some of the structures. The location of all of these structures was where Wright Contraction now stands on Route 103.



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



Mount Holly Community Association

All of us at the MHCA hope that all of you out there are well and staying safe. It seems so strange not to have a dozen events to report on at this time of year! However, the MHCA has been moving forward on several fronts in the middle of this pandemic.

This year the **Annual Meeting** was held outdoors at Star Lake on a beautiful, balmy evening. It was such a lovely place to meet that there has been discussion of doing it there again, even when we don't have to socially distance! It was a busy meeting with the reading of the Secretary's report that reviewed the 2019 – 2020 year...pure nostalgia when we think about not being able to repeat all of the events described this year! As reported by Linda Miller, one of the Co-Presidents, '19 – '20 was a most productive year. Membership was very strong and once again covered all of the operating expenses of the association, both the social and fund raising activities were also very successful, and of course, the huge bricks and mortar project, *digging the well*, was finally complete!

Elections were held and 4 members were re-elected to the Board

Mount Holly Community Association Membership Drive

2020 – 2021

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

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

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

sensory aspect missing in a virtual tour! This on-going tour can be viewed on the MHCA Facebook page, or you can go to the town website where you will find a link to the MHCA and their Facebook page. In addition to these four gardens, there will be a "surprise" garden that will appear at the end of this month. Please look out for it!

Your **membership in the MHCA** continues to be more important than ever! Among the many events sponsored by the Association (12 in total), four of them are fund raisers that have provided essential income to make all of the other events possible, as well as pay for essential building projects (e.g., the recently completed well!). This additional income is what contributes to being able to maintain a

Mount Holly Community Association

**Board of Directors is
Seeking to fill a current vacancy**

Are you looking to...

Have Fun

Be Creative

Contribute to our Community

??????????????

Contact: Jennifer Burrows

JenniferBurrows@msn.com

or

Linda Miller

lindaddmiller@gmail.com

for three year terms...Jennifer Burrows (who was also re-elected as Co-President with Linda), Penny Coldwell, Kevin Hollebeek, and Kathy Stone. Many thanks to Loriann Daley, who stepped down from the Board this year leaving one position on the Board open that is not yet filled. If anyone is interested in having fun, as well as working hard on behalf of the Mount Holly Community (!), please contact Linda Miller (lindaddmiller@gmail.com) or Jennifer Burrows (jenniferburrows@msn.com)

Although we had to give up the in-person **Garden Tour** this year due to the pandemic, Linda Miller and Jennifer Burrows developed a "virtual" tour of the gardens that were put forward for this year's tour. We would like to thank Carol Ballou, Carol DeVine, Linda Miller, and Dottie Stanley for opening their gardens to be taped for the virtual tour. We can't say you'll be able to "stop and smell the roses". However, we are sure everyone will be happy to have you visit in the future, when health considerations make that possible, so you can take advantage of that



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126 Main Street, Unit D

Ludlow, Vermont 05149

vibrant community association for our town. However, membership is what pays for the operating expenses of the MHCA, so *it is essential* that this continue to be a strong, on-going source of income. Membership flyers can be found in the Belmont Store, the Mount Holly Library, the post offices, and the town office. Please join today!

Last, but not least...don't forget to pick up the **Mount Holly Photo Calendar** for 2021!!! They are on sale at the Belmont Store, or you can call Craig Tomkinson at 259-3947. You can also order them on-line at mthollyphotos@gmail.com. Don't forget...these much loved calendars sell out really quickly, so be sure to purchase/order yours right away lest you lose out this year!

YANKEE HOME MANAGEMENT



Property Management
and Maintenance

yankeehomemanagement.com

802-259-3064

MT. HOLLY, VT

Keith Hawkins
PRESIDENT

making all of the tags that listed the items we were looking for. Also, many thanks to an anonymous donor who contributed all of the yoga mats that will be needed for all the children. The community's response to making sure that all of our children at Mount Holly School get off to a wonderful start this year has been extraordinary...thank you all so much!

The **Community Garden** is overflowing with the bounty of a very successful season! An abundance of tomatoes, basil, spaghetti squash, zucchini, and summer squash has already been distributed throughout the community to many families in need of fresh produce. If you, or someone you know would like to share in this bounty, please contact Jo Bania at 259-3661 or jo.bania@trsu.org. Because of the overflow of tomatoes, Jo will also be bringing some to the Village Market on the Green on

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 **Back to School Drive** that was held on Saturday, August 15th! We were overwhelmed when two thirds of the tags were claimed off of the school house in the Gazebo in that one day! Many thanks to Jo Bania for creating the school house and to Gail Campopiano for

Brandon Jenkins
Owner

(802) 952-9722



Mount Holly, Vermont

brandon@jenkinsbuild.com

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out another missive for frozen dinners within the next few weeks. We have decided that we will begin to stockpile the dinners, so Jo always has some on hand to give out with the food boxes.

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.*

**Mount Holly Chit Chat
Annual Meeting
Tuesday Septmeber 15th
6:30 pm
Odd Fellows Hall, Belmont**

September 2020 Mount Holly Chit Chat Inc

Saturday where Jim Corven will oversee "marketing" the tomatoes for a donation, money which will be "farmed" back into the food program of the MHCC. As always, we are still looking for volunteers to work in the garden, especially now that the harvest has begun! Please contact us at the email address above, if you wish to help. Many thanks!

Food Support Program: just a reminder to everyone that food box delivery is available from the MHCC food shelf located in the Village Baptist Church basement. If you would like a delivery, please contact Jo Bania...again at 259-3661 or jo.bania@trsu.org. Soup was again available this week thanks to the donation from Brigid Faenza. Another round of frozen dinners was prepared and will be distributed this week and next. *Many, many thanks* to all of the "chefs" for these delicious meals! Carol DeVine will be sending

\$1 PANDEMIC YEAR SPECIAL!!

You can order 2021 Mount Holly
Calendars by mail and pay only
\$1 shipping & handling per
calendar.

Send a check for \$21 (\$20 for the
calendar, \$1 S&H) for each calendar to:

Mount Holly Calendar Sales
PO Box 70, Belmont VT 05730

Make checks out to:
Mount Holly Community Assoc.
Be sure to include your return address.

All proceeds from calendar sales go to help support
the many activities of the MHCA.



CANCELED

Has Cancel Culture Canceled 2020?

Are you getting the feeling that 2020 is the year that made everything not happen? Can we have a “do-over”? “No, I’m sorry. That’s been canceled.” How many stolen graduations, postponed weddings, orphaned family reunions and lonely graveside services can we take? It just seems that so much in our current “virus and violence” culture has to do with cancellation.

But a more ominous concept, as you undoubtedly know, is the thread-bare concept of “cancel culture.”

The term actually refers to the popular practice of withdrawing support for (cancelling) public figures and companies after they’ve done or said something considered objectionable or offensive. It’s the social media means of group shaming based on a single disqualifying factor. Opponents insist it leads to a breakdown of civil discourse and weakens the social fabric. Others argue that it’s an empowering way to challenge the status quo and demand accountability from those in positions of power or wealth. It certainly can turn a person or a brand into a pariah in a matter of tweets. At best it draws attention and at worst it actively seeks to shut down any other dissenting opinion. Now, obviously, Twitter isn’t an ideal place to host conversations about nuanced issues. The real question is this: Are we evolving or devolving in our ability to handle conflicts? It seems as though the anonymous nature of social media provides new ways for us to be the same old humans by virtually exposing what has been in our hearts all along, good or bad. Too often it involves someone feeling hurt, embarrassed and defensive with a rush to judgement in a click happy courtroom. Many leaders (including former President Obama) are insisting that there are better ways of doing social justice work than public call-outs.

The rise of cancel culture actually reveals the deep longing that we all have for power and control. It is a distraction from a deeper examination of power and how it is used and abused in society. Personally, we would rather lord our perceived superiority and intellect over our neighbor rather than respectfully love them as an image-bearer of God. The Bible speaks of the Christian, not as a proud and loud person who exploits power for his own gain, but rather as a Christ-imitator



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who would willingly lay down his life for his enemies. James,

Christ’s brother, says “be quick to hear, slow to speak.”

In a broken society marred by sin, we are naturally drawn to power, especially the power of “cancelling” someone because it makes us feel as though we are in control. But instead of seeking power, we are called to live under God’s power and reign, recognizing that each of us fall short of God’s perfection. Not only that, defining someone’s worth based on the issues we disagree with wrecks our credibility and shows we are unable to engage in rich debate about what is true. Just as Jesus does not define our dignity based on one particular sin or issue, neither are we to condemn another based on one thing. We are more than our ideas, beliefs, and failures. Christians, of all people, should understand that. Why?

Each person has worth in God’s eyes...worth that caused the death of His son.

We need thicker skin to withstand criticism and hard questions. If we want to grow and mature, we have to defend our beliefs rather than run from the opposing position. As our society becomes increasingly more divisive, we need to love our neighbors in our online dialogue...seeking to understand rather than to caricature them. That means reading widely and listening intently, representing their views in a way they’d agree. That gives us credibility as we engage others in truth but also in love.

Some might see merit in challenging provocative loudmouths or those power mongers who think they are above it all. However, most public shaming is horizontal and done by those who think they have greater integrity or more sophisticated analyses. They are self-appointed guardians of political purity. We need to care more about loving God and our neighbor than we do about being right or popular. Respectful debate can be healing and restorative. *This* is about power, who has it and who wants it. Rather than seeking it, we should submit to the One who already won the victory. A few years back, a black feminist professor accidentally misgendered one of her students. Embarrassed, she expected to get blasted. Instead, the student said, “That’s all right. I misgender *myself* sometimes.” We need more grace. We all are in need of the grace that will cancel our *sin*, not our culture. Respectfully, *Pastor Glenn*

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State Representative Ludlow, Mount Holly, Shrewsbury

And just like that we are right back in the thick of things. It seems way too recent that I was writing how we had just adjourned and now as I write this I've already had two days of budget meetings. The state legislature officially reconvenes Tuesday, August 25th, but some committees have already started meeting (on August 18th) to prepare for budget negotiations. As before, legislators are telecommuting, so those meetings are conducted over zoom and they are livestreamed on YouTube. Links can be found to all the legislative YouTube channels here: <https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/streaming/>

Most of the meetings going on right now are in the fiscal committees (House Appropriations and House Ways and Means). That being said, some "policy" committees have been meeting during this adjournment to discuss time-sensitive topics, for example: the House Education Committee has met during adjournment to talk about schools re-opening next month; and the House Judiciary Committee has held three public hearings over just the last two weeks to talk about systemic changes to law enforcement in Vermont, conversations started in response to the racial justice protests that continue throughout the country.

We have a lot of work to do and very little time to do it. When we adjourned at the end of June we had passed a state budget that funded the government for the first quarter of the fiscal year, July-September. Now we must pass a budget that funds the government through the remainder of the fiscal year, October-June. The Governor has made his proposal for that budget, which does include some major potential policy changes, and we must explore the

details of that proposal to ensure we agree with the policies or negotiate changes with the administration where we don't. In a normal year this process takes the House around 8 weeks to review and make our proposal to the Senate, the Senate then takes another 7 weeks to get their proposal back to the House, then there are a few more weeks for the House and Senate to negotiate and iron out details where we disagree. Under our new schedule the House has about 2 weeks to get a budget to the Senate. So, these will be a very hectic and busy few weeks.

As always, I hope to hear from you if you have any questions or comments, about this or anything else. Stay safe and stay strong! Logan Nicoll, State Representative Ludlow, Mount Holly, Shrewsbury 802-345-8430



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(802) 228-2400**

Shop is Open Wednesday - Saturday 7am to 3 pm

Sunday 8am to 1pm

Visit our website www.bigeyesbakery.com

Masks are required in our shop, curbside is available

In response to Glenn Davis's "A Black Life that Mattered" in the August Chit Chat...

I wanted to thank Glenn for the first part of the piece he wrote about Alexander Lucius Twilight. I had never heard of Rev. Twilight, which is truly a shame, considering the historic milestones in his life as the nation's first black college graduate and Vermont's first legislator of color. It was interesting to read of his accomplishments as an educator here in Vermont.

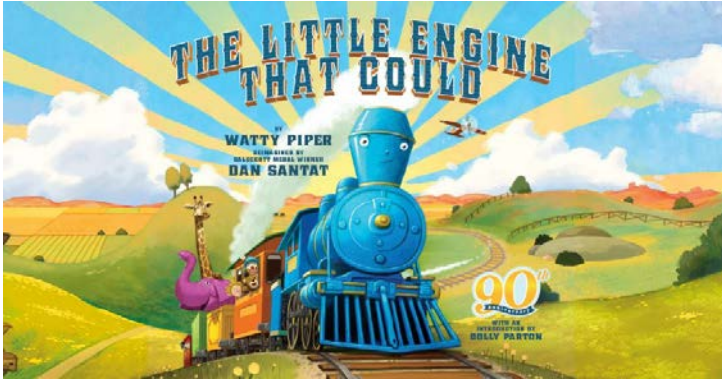
However, I must take exception to a couple of points Glenn made in what was essentially a non-sequitur to the history of Rev. Twilight. If I am incorrect about my first point here, please let me know, but when Glenn mentions his friend from "South Africa...where there is systemic racism..." the implication I gathered was that he thought systemic racism did not exist here. His friend has said that the conditions in South Africa are in no way comparable to the United States, neglecting to recognize how embedded racism is in our culture.

One only has to look at Amy Cooper, the young woman in New York City who called the police on a Harvard educated bird watcher and member of the Board of the Audubon Society, who simply asked her to leash her dog in accordance with the regulations in that area of the park. I refer you to a piece in the National Catholic Reporter: *The Assumptions of White Privilege & What We Can Do about It*. The author, Bryan N. Massingale, an African American Jesuit, succinctly enumerates all of the assumptions that Amy Cooper made about Christian Cooper, the Black man she met in the park. (<https://www.ncronline.org/news/opinion/assumptions-white-privilege-and-what-we-can-do-about-it>) These assumptions permeate our society and are the foundation of the systemic racism that continues to exist in our country.

One last point...violence. Of the tens of thousands of people who marched to protest the treatment of black Americans at the hands of the police, a very tiny percentage of them engaged in any violent behavior. The same could be said of the number of people who want to "defund" the police. It is an unfortunate term that for most of these same people does not mean to do away with the police department all together, but rather re-distribute some of those funds to support social services that should be responding to many of the things that police are handling now, but shouldn't be. (BTW...the police will be more than happy to turn a number of these responsibilities over to others!)

As Glenn said. "...there is a long way to go toward substantive change..." but the only way to get there is with our eyes open to the conditions that exist in our country currently. Maybe Glenn could sponsor a discussion here in town about racism in America. I, for one, would be very interested in joining such a discussion. Carol DeVine

Ludlow Rotary Club Provides Children's Books Through Dolly Parton's Imagination Library



mailed to children living in the United States, Canada, United Kingdom, Australia and the Republic of Ireland. Imagine the excitement the currently-registered 1,648,000 children feel receiving these gifts.

Since 2012, the Ludlow Rotary has made this Imagination Library program a reality in Mt Holly, Ludlow, Plymouth and Cavendish. With the help of local educators, a large proportion of children residing in our area are now registered to receive these books.

The Imagination Library program mails a new, age-appropriate book into the homes of children every month. Dolly's Imagination Library is designed to inspire the love of reading in children by spending time with family and friends sharing these wonderful books together. The signature book of the program, "The Little Engine That Could", is recognized by most parents. Dolly understands that reading is the key to a strong education, and that a child's imagination is the center of his or her dreams and creativity. By combining the two, this program inspires children to dream more, learn more, care more, and be more.

Registration cards can be requested from, and mailed back to, the Ludlow Rotary, PO Box 216, Ludlow, VT 05149. The privacy of the children is strictly honored. The books are addressed and mailed directly to the children, much to their delight. The mailings start about six weeks after the date of registration.

Researchers have concluded that children that participate in this type of program get a real boost in their performance – doing much better in kindergarten and throughout their academic career. We think this investment in our children is more than worth the cost.

For additional information, please contact David Almond at davidkalmond44@gmail.com. Further information about the Ludlow Rotary, its projects and membership opportunities are available at www.ludlowrotary.com.

Pictured above is the cover page of "The Little Engine That Could", one of the many books offered by the Dolly Parton Imagination Library for children.

FOLA Restarts Event Programs in Ludlow Auditorium with Oscar Winner

FOLA (Friends of Ludlow Auditorium) announced that it will resume its events programs at the Heald Auditorium in Ludlow Town Hall beginning on Saturday, September 5 at 7 PM with the showing of the Oscar-winning movie, "Parasite".

In making the announcement, FOLA Chairperson, Scott Stearns, said, "Covid-19 has compelled us to cancel much of our 2020 event calendar. However, after discussions with Ludlow Municipal Manager, Scott Murphy, we have been given the green light to restart our auditorium presentations. And what better way to restart than with the Oscar-winning film, 'Parasite'."



first film FOLA will screen as it restarts its schedule.

School closings, stay home orders, social distancing and other aspects of the coronavirus pandemic have brought Vermont families back together. Our youngest children now need more things to do at home than ever before. The Dolly Parton Imagination Library can help preschool children cope with the "new normal".

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is a book gifting program that mails free, high-quality books to children from birth until they begin school, no matter their family's income. Dolly was inspired to start this program by her father's inability to read and write.

After launching in 1995, the program grew quickly. At first, books were only distributed to children living in the Tennessee County where Dolly grew up. So far, over 142 million of these free books had been

"Flag Song" By Lydia Avery Ward



Out on the breeze,
Over land and sea
A beautiful banner is streaming;
Shining its stars,
Splendid its bars,
Under the sunshine it's gleaming.

Hail to the flag,
The American Flag---
The flag that is red, white and blue.

Over the brave,
Long may it wave,
Peace to the world ever bringing;
While to the stars,
Linked with the bars,
Hearts will forever be singing.

Hail to the flag,
The American Flag---
The flag that is red, white and blue.

Proudly submitted by Virginia Ward
P.O. Box 64
Mt. Holly, VT 05758
259-2693



He indicated that the 2020 schedule will feature:

- Sept. 5 - "Parasite", movie
- Sept. 26 - "The Anchorman", movie
- Oct. 10 - "Amazing Grace", an Aretha Franklin concert
- Oct. 24 - "Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein, movie for Halloween
- Nov. 14 - "Planes, Trains, and Automobiles, movie
- Dec. 19 - "It's a Wonderful Life", Christmas movie
- Dec. 29 - "Apollo 11", movie – starts at 5 PM

All events, except "Apollo 11", will start at 7 PM and will be free and open to the public; donations are appreciated. "Apollo 11" starts at 5 PM and is open to everyone.

In keeping with the Ludlow Policy for Covid-19, masks or suitable face coverings are required for these events and social distancing will be observed in the auditorium seating.

For information, call 802-228-3238. Pictured above is a scene from "Parasite", the

The 2020 Mount Holly Photo & Calendar Competition (or what's left of it)

This year the Mount Holly Photo & Calendar Competition will be conducted a little differently from past years, and hopefully, different from next year as well (we'll be back to normal). Okay, its more than a little different, it's a lot different.

Because of the need to conform to pandemic guidelines the photo competition this year will be held on-line.

Photos will be viewable on-line on the Photo Competition's **facebook** page where members of the public will also be able to vote on their favorite photos. More about that at a later date.

But...photos can be entered into the competition this year either in printed form or digitally. Any photos submitted in printed form will be scanned and placed on the **facebook** page.

IMPORTANT

- ✓ The deadline for all entries is Monday, September 21, 2020
- ✓ Printed photos should be left at the Town Offices, with an entry form.
- ✓ Printed entry forms will be available on-line or at the Belmont Store
(*Please remember to wear a mask wherever you go.*)
- ✓ Photos submitted digitally should be sent to:
mthollyphotos@gmail.com with the name, phone number and age of the photographer.

All entries will be viewable on the Photo Competition's **facebook** page by the second Saturday in October (the 10th).

For more information:

Craig Tomkinson mthollyphotos@gmail.com or (802) 259-3947





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 available at the Town Library.

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.

Computers with internet access are



Mount Holly Select Board Meeting - August 4 & 10, 2020 Minutes

Zoom Meeting: 836 4339 4585 (8.4.2020) - Zoom Meeting: 894 2405 8202 (8.10.2020)

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

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

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

Members of the Public: Jim Corven, Ted Crawford, Craig Hutt Vater

(Principal, Mount Holly School), Annette Lynch, Stephen Michel, 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** – Jennifer Matthews asked to add a discussion about Municipal Planning Grants to the agenda. It was agreed to do so under 'New Business.'
4. **Approval of July 14, 2020 Minutes** – Mr. Turco made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Jeff Chase, unanimously approved.
5. **Reorganization (continuation)**
 - a. **Select Board Chair** – No nominations. Ted Crawford asked why this item continued to be on the agenda if no resolution was possible, and he suggested the item be removed from the agenda in the future if no action was to be taken.
 - b. **Select Board Admin. Assistant** – Revisions still in process. Select Board members will review the latest revisions and revisit the issue at the next meeting.

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

BURN PERMITS
May be obtained from
THE MOUNT HOLLY FIRE WARDEN
Jim Seward
Pager: 786-3408
Home: 259-2211

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

SAFETY FIRST ALWAYS

CLOSED

**Mount Holly Town Office
September 7th In Observance
Of Labor Day**

6. Reports

a. Highways & Transfer Station Update – Clinton Woolley

i) **Municipal Roads Grants-in-Aid Program: Equipment Purchase** – Mr. Woolley recommended the purchase of a three-point hitch blower to be attached to the tractor for use in cleaning leaves from ditches and culverts. Ms. Matthews explained that the grant would cover 80% of the cost of one piece of equipment with 20% as a cash match

covered by the town. Mr. Woolley said the cost of the blower would be around \$5,100. Discussion ensued. Mr. Chase made a motion to apply for the grant and the purchase of a blower which could be attached to the tractor, seconded by Mr. Turco, unanimously approved.

ii) **Transfer Station Fence Repair/Replacement** – Mr. Woolley said he had made several calls about the repair. Mr. Turco asked if it was possible to just get the fence upright again. Mr. Woolley said the guys were working on it in the hopes they could fix it themselves.

iii) **Healdville Road Paving Bids** – Mr. Chase explained four bids had been received with Fuller Sand & Gravel as the lowest bidder on both Option #1 Shim & Overlay at \$49,600, and Option #2 Reclaim & New Pavement at \$105,550, as well as Alternate #1 Shoulder Aggregate at \$2,400. Much discussion followed on funds availability, overlay vs. full depth, future grant funding availability, the \$55,000 available for paving from the previous year's budget and the \$75,000 available in this year's budget, the Hortonville Road grant.

At this point in the meeting, there was a widespread power outage, the Select Board quorum was lost, and Mr. Turco adjourned the meeting at 7:02 pm.

The meeting was called back to order on Monday, August 10th at 6:32 pm.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, the Healdville Road Paving Bids discussion continued.

Mr. Chase stated we were debating overlay vs. reclaim. Discussion ensued about what to do with any leftover funds, longevity of overlay, and condition of other roads in town. Ms. Matthews stated she considered this process a bit haphazard. She thought it best to determine the number of miles of paved roads in town, determine their condition, then prioritize their repair, method and cost, and create a schedule/plan for such. She suggested the Select Board take up the bids received for

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.

the paving of Healdville Road and make a decision. More discussion ensued about overlay vs. reclaim, funds available, and use of leftover funds in the spring for other paving work. Ms. Matthews made a motion to accept Fuller & Sand Gravel's bid of \$49,600 for Shim & Overlay and their bid of \$2,400 for shoulder gravel work, seconded by Mr. Turco, unanimously approved. Mr. Chase will work with Mr. Woolley on a capital plan for future road improvements.

iv) **2011 Ford F-350 Dump Truck Bids** – Only one bid was received for \$12,000, the minimum, from GM Tree Tech. Mr. Chase made a motion to accept the bid for \$12,000 from GM Tree Tech, seconded by Ms. Matthews, unanimously approved.

v) **Land Pride Ditch Mower Bids** – No bids were received. The mower bid notice will be reposted. Mr. Chase will look into equipment auction services.

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.

b. **Rutland Regional Transportation Council Update – Clinton Woolley** – Mr. Woolley reported that most of the meeting was on the Emerald Ash Borer and the need to keep track of it and ash trees. Don Richardson, the RRTC Alternate, also attended the meeting and listened to the presentation by Joanne Garton. He stated the town needed an inventory of ash trees and their condition as well as a budget line item to deal with the coming infestation damage to trees in the town right-of-ways. He also stated the need to communicate with homeowners, especially second homeowners, about the Emerald Ash Borer and possible infestations and damage to ash trees on their property which could impact town roads. Mr. Turco said the town would need an inventory of ash trees in the right-of-ways, their condition, an estimate of costs to deal with infestation damage, and a documentation of those ash trees not in the right-of-ways. Mr. Woolley will do this. Jon McCann suggested it might be a good idea to take some trees down now so as to avoid a massive die off once an infestation arrives.

c. **Treasurer – David Johnson**

i) **Monthly Income & Expense Report** – Mr. Johnson pointed out: the Municipal Property Adjustment Income from the State of \$8,500 with an additional \$1,940 received since the end of July; the State Aid for Roads first-quarter only payment of \$30,201.46; the Solid Waste Labels Sold of \$3,074 so far; and, 3,920 tons of winter sand purchased and hauled to date.

ii) **Financial Management Questionnaire – Received & Reviewed** - Mr. Johnson stated the annual report had the same questions on it as last year so there was nothing new to report.

iii) **Outside Audit** - Mr. Johnson stated he had looked at the VT Society of CPAs website. He found only one firm in our area in Springfield. He said he would have to make some calls to learn if others in our area might be interested. Ms. Matthews asked if it would be possible to have the names of a few firms with cost estimates by the September Select Board meeting in the hopes of having this two-year audit done this fall. Mr. Johnson stated he thought that was possible.

d. **Mount Holly Planning Commission Update – Jim Seward**

– Mr. Seward reported on the business of the last Planning Commission meeting: eight building construction registration forms, a Land Use Permit for Okemo on the south side, a discussion on the clerk and Administrative Officer positions and combining the two positions into one. He noted the next regular meeting would be preceded by two subdivision hearings. Ms. Matthews asked about the development of a work plan for the town plan. Mr. Seward said that would occur at the August 31st meeting.

7. **New Business**

a. **Mount Holly School Reopening Briefing & Well Update – Craig Hutt Vater** – Mr. Turco reported that after the power outage on August 4th, Mr. Hutt Vater said school would reopen on September 8th with many arrangements still to be made. Mr. Turco also reported that the school was still looking at testing the water from the town garage well. Ms. Matthews asked if school would be held in-person or virtually. Mr. Chase responded they were considering two different options, constantly evolving with the changing circumstances, but would be using both remote and in-person learning.

b. **Carlton Cemetery Tree Removal Bids** – Ms. Matthews reported that two bids were received. GM Tree Tech would cut down the five dying trees and leave the wood for \$3,000, remove the wood for \$3,400. Jason Barrows would cut down the trees and leave the wood for \$5,700, remove the wood for \$10,800. Mr. Turco asked if the wood could be used at the town garage. Mr. Woolley stated it was too difficult to get the wood out of the cemetery. Discussion ensued on budget funds available, budget surpluses, and the costs. Ms. Matthews made a motion to accept GM Tree Tech's bid to cut down the trees and remove the wood for \$3,400, seconded by Mr. Chase, unanimously approved.

c. **Mount Holly Conservation Commission Formation – Jim Corven** - Mr. Corven gave an overview of what conservation commissions do in VT:

**NOTICE
MOUNT HOLLY TAXPAYERS**

2020 Real Estate Property Taxes are due
Monday November 30, 2020

After November 30, 2020 an 8% Penalty and
1% per month Interest will be added.

Partial Payments are allowed.

Payments must be received at the Town Office or
be postmarked Nov. 30, 2020 (or earlier) to be
considered timely paid.
The 4% Discount is valid until September 17, 2020



- Provide education & outreach about natural resources
- Serve as a liaison between landowners & a land trust
- Advise the Planning Commission & Select Board about conservation & environmental issues in town
- Do inventories of natural resources, e.g., as previously discussed, ash trees
- Apply for grants for particular projects
- Coordinate with State agencies



Invitation to Bid

Sale of Surplus Equipment

FY2021 Sale of Landpride Ditch Mower ReAd

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: Tuesday, September 8, 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.

Mr. Corven explained that conservation commissions are purely advisory with no regulatory authority; that rests solely with the Select Board. He noted that Shrewsbury, Wallingford, Killington, Weston, Tinmouth and Poultny are other area towns with conservation commissions. Ms. Matthews asked about wildlife. Mr. Corven replied, yes, conservation commissions can provide information on the town's wildlife and wildlife habitats, water sheds, flood plains, forestry, and recreation areas. He emphasized this was entirely in advisory capacity to the Planning Commission and Select Board to enable both to make informed decisions. Ms. Matthews commented on how a conservation commission could be a very helpful tool for the Planning Commission at present as it works to strengthen parts of the town plan. Mr. Corven also pointed out that conservation commissions do not have a budget. They can apply for Tiny Grants through the Association of VT Conservation Commissions to fund projects. They could also as a group do an ash tree inventory without the expense of a consultant or forester. In response to a question from Mr. McCann, Mr. Corven stated the group could monitor the water quality and do water testing at Star Lake if so asked. Tasks would be assigned by the Select Board and/or the Planning Commission. Discussion ensued about the number of members for the commission with Mr. Turco and Mr. Chase stating five would provide good representation. Ms. Matthews made a motion to create a Town of Mount Holly Conservation Commission with five members, seconded by Mr. Chase, unanimously approved.

d. Button-Up VT Program – Don Richardson – Mr. Richardson gave a brief overview of the program which helps educate homeowners on how best to cut energy costs through weatherization strategies, home energy audits with savings of \$150 per audit, and trainings. He is willing to coordinate the program here, working with Efficiency VT and the Rutland Regional Planning Commission. The program is primarily educational, sharing information with community members about weatherization opportunities, and at no cost to the town. Discussion ensued on the project. Ms. Matthews made a motion for Mount Holly to be a Button-Up VT participating community, seconded by Mr. Chase, unanimously approved.

e. Grants – Federal CARES Act & Municipal Planning Grant – Jon McCann explained that the VT Legislature passed Act 137 to distribute the coronavirus relief funds (CARES Act), including two million dollars to assist towns to digitize land records for easier public access. The State's rationale is to: modernize procedures; ensure public health & safety with fewer visitors to town offices; protect land records from natural disasters such as floods and fire; provide easier, more user-friendly access to land records. Mr. McCann said he thought this work would dovetail well with the State's current parcel mapping project and the additional work being done by Russell Graphics which includes digitized parcel maps. Mr. McCann explained the grant allows funding for a scanner or computer, staffing, and/or vendor fees to digitize the records with up to \$20,000 available per grant. The application is due by September first with funds to be spent by December 31st. Mr. McCann is willing to take the lead on this grant opportunity if the Select Board concurs. Discussion ensued on the equipment needed and costs, vendors, public records, complexity of the project, target dates, and the inevitable digitization of public

records in the future. Ms. Matthews made a motion to pursue the grant funding available through the Federal CARES Act for the digitization of land records, seconded by Mr. Turco, unanimously approved.

Mr. McCann stated he would discuss the Municipal Planning Grant with the Planning Commission and then return to the next Select Board meeting with an update on that grant, which is due October first.

f. **Other** - There was no additional New Business.

8. Ongoing & Old Business

a. **School Tuition Request – Mike Valente** – Mr. Turco stated that after the power went out at the August 4th meeting, Craig Hutt Vater

stated that Mr. Valente's tuition reimbursement request needed to be presented to the Superintendent at the Supervisory Union and to the School Board. Mr. Valente requested a letter from the Select Board stating as much. Mr. Turco said that the Select Board would draft a letter and send it to Mr. Valente. Mr. Turco



Since August 1st the State of Vermont has had a mask mandate in place. The Vermont Emergency Management has given the town cloth face masks to make available (in packs of 5) to residents. **While supplies last** they are available at the Town Office during normal hours, Monday thru Thursday, 8:30am thru 4pm. If you have any question please contact Mt Holly Emergency Management at jeff@chasevermont.com, 282-1607.

also explained that the request for driver's ed reimbursement should also go to the School Board.

b. **Purchasing Policy Revisions** - Mr. Chase stated he had made a number of revisions to the policy, in particular to categories of purchases: incidental, minor, and major. Discussion ensued about templates, bonding, recurring purchases, limits, emergency purchases, and dollar amount thresholds requiring Select Board approval. Additional revisions are forthcoming, and those will be reviewed at the next Select Board meeting.

c. **Swap Shed Reopening?** – Ms. Matthews stated she had heard from the transfer station attendants that there were a number of requests for the Swap Shed to reopen. The Select Board agreed to reopen the shed as long as all health & safety requirements are followed: 6' social distancing, wearing masks, disinfecting of the door handles on a regular basis, and only one person in the Swap Shed at a time. Mr. Chase will make up some signs, and Mr. Turco will drop off signs he has for use at the transfer station.

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

9. Announcements/Other Business

a. **Reminder: VT Route 155 Closure for Bridge #7 Replacement - until August 18th**

b. **Town Office Health & Safety Requirements: Masks Required, Social Distancing, Contact Log** – Mr. Turco stated all requirements must be followed in the town office.

c. **Reminder: 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** - Mr. Turco adjourned the meeting at 8:19 pm. Respectfully submitted: Jennifer Matthews



Planning Commission Virtual Meeting Minutes - August 17, 2020

Present: Jon McCann, Nicole Lewis, Jim Seward, Gabrielle Macklin-Bickford, Clinton Woolley, Kevin Thompson, Okemo Valley TV

Jim called the meeting to order at 7:13 PM. The minutes from July 20, 2020 were reviewed and accepted by motion, second and vote (5-0).

Building Construction Registrations: Egan – Frost Hill Road, 10x16 shed: approved - Todt – 103 South, 4x8 addition: approved - Barber – Bussino Road, new construction of 70x12 one bedroom dwelling on existing slab: approved - Taylor – Ninevah Road, 16x24 addition to garage: approved - Sheldon – Gates Road, new construction of 12x20 storage shed: approved

Old Business: Planning Commission Clerk/Administrative Officer – No letters of interest have been received for the combined Clerk/Administrative Officer position. A letter of interest had been received for just the Clerk position, prior to the meeting in July. Jim will follow up to see if that individual is interested in potentially filling both roles. Gabrielle will

continue to fulfill the Clerk responsibilities until the next (August 31) meeting.

Town Plan Revisions – The work plan for conducting the revisions will be to have a special meeting for this purpose scheduled each month, in addition to checking in about this work during regular monthly meetings to assign “homework” for in-between meetings, until all revisions have been completed. Public input will be heard and considered as each section is addressed. Gabrielle, acting as the Clerk, will maintain a shared document with input from all Commission members regarding each section, which will also be made viewable to the public (with the option to submit comments). The August 31 meeting will focus on revising the “Objectives” section of the Town Plan. Motion made to accept this work plan for the Town Plan revisions, second and vote (5-0).

August 31 Special Meeting, 6:00 PM – Will be virtual.

New Business: Digitization Grant – Available to enable scanning in of land records, in the amount of \$20,000. All work being conducted with these funds would need to be completed by the end of this calendar year. Grant application due by September 1.

Municipal Planning Grant – Funds earmarked to support towns with work related to their Town Plan, as well as updating the Natural Resources Inventory. Project completion required by May 2022. Grant application due by October 1. Interest in pursuing this grant will be revisited at the August 31st meeting.

September Regular Meeting Format – Regular meeting on September 21 will be virtual.

The meeting adjourned at 8:37 PM by motion, second and vote (5-0). Respectfully Submitted, Nicole Lewis, Planning Commission Secretary

Mount Holly CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEMBERS NEEDED

Are you interested in helping inventory and protect Mount Holly’s natural resources, be they agricultural lands, forest blocks, wetlands, floodplains, and/or wildlife habitats, streams, lakes, ponds, open spaces, unique plant life areas, scenic & recreational resources and more?

Are you interested in assisting the Planning Commission on natural resource issues and planning as it tackles strengthening the town plan?

Are you interested in working to safeguard the natural resources we all so value here?

This is the new Commission in town and the appointees will be an integral part of getting the Commission up and running for the benefit of the community. Please refer to 24 V.S.A. 4505 for all the various roles and responsibilities a Conservation Commission can assume to help protect & enhance Mount Holly’s natural resources.

If this sparks your interest, please send a Letter of Interest to the Select Board, PO Box 248, Mount Holly, VT 05758, or to mounthollyselectboard@gmail.com, to be received by noon on Monday (Labor Day), September 7th. Please state why you are interested in the Conservation Commission position, your qualifications, and the term length you would prefer. Terms available are: 1 one-year term, 1 two-year term, 1 three-year term, and 2 four-year terms.

Any questions, please email the Select Board at the email address above, or call 802-259-2454.

Primary Voting at Mount Holly Town Office - Photos Compliments of Joe Hammond



New Report Describes the Treatment of Hydropower in State [Clean Energy](#) Policies and Strategies for Reducing Barriers to Development

A new report by the Clean Energy States Alliance (CESA) analyzes state policies across the US to review eligibility criteria and the role hydropower is currently playing in helping states meet their emissions reduction and clean energy goals. The report, [The Role of Hydropower in State Clean Energy Policy](#), finds that while hydropower, in some form, is an eligible resource in all state renewable portfolio standards (RPS), it is also limited in many ways. Pumped hydropower energy storage also is largely excluded from state renewable energy policies, including energy storage mandates and targets.

A detailed case study of New England's RPS markets, based on data provided by Sustainable Energy Advantage, reveals that hydropower facilities are generally only eligible for the less remunerative classes of the RPSs. Some hydropower facilities can participate in more valuable New/Growth classes alongside other qualifying renewables, but must meet environmental criteria.

"This comprehensive report on hydropower's eligibility in clean energy policies and programs is a new and much-needed analysis that explains hydropower's eligibility and participation in renewable and clean energy markets," says Rebecca O'Neil, Program Manager at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory.

Hydropower, as an abundant, clean, and renewable energy resource, can help states not only meet their increasing renewable energy targets, but also help to integrate higher levels of intermittent renewables into the grid. However, hydropower faces a number of challenges in its inclusion in state renewable energy policies, including RPS restrictions based on system size and in-service date and new resource solicitation periods and contract terms that are too short to accommodate new pumped storage hydropower. Performance incentives, [loan](#) guarantees, and streamlined permitting can help level the playing field. **CESA's report is broken into three sections:**

1) Hydropower in State Renewable Portfolio Standards: This section highlights how hydropower qualifies for and participates in state RPS programs and identifies key takeaways and high-level strategies for maximizing hydropower's benefits.

2) Hydropower's Participation and Opportunities in New England RPS Markets: This section takes a close look at hydropower in New England's RPS markets and how each state's RPS eligibility criteria affect hydropower's participation. This section was written with support from Sustainable Energy Advantage, LLC.

3) Pumped Hydropower in State RPS Mandates and Energy Storage Policies: This section explores pumped hydropower energy storage (PHES) and discusses why state policies and programs often overlook the technology. It highlights PHES eligibility in RPS programs and energy storage mandates and targets, offering policy and regulatory approaches that open opportunities for PHES participation.

For each section, the report offers high-level takeaways and strategies for policy and regulatory changes that can reduce barriers to hydropower development and can capture hydropower's range of benefits, including carbon-free electricity and renewable integration.

"As states adopt 100% clean energy mandates, they could also consider how new and sustainable hydropower and pumped storage projects could help meet their ambitious carbon-free goals," says report author Val Stori. The report was prepared by the Clean Energy States Alliance for Pacific Northwest National Laboratory.

"This work will also be highly informative for the U.S. Department of Energy's upcoming U.S. Hydropower Market report," (due out later in 2020) concluded O'Neil.

Read the report at: <https://www.cesa.org/resource-library/resource/role-of-hydropower-in-state-clean-energy-policy>

CESA will host a webinar to discuss the report's findings on September 8th. Learn more and [register](#) for the webinar at <https://www.cesa.org/event/role-of-hydropower-in-state-clean-energy-policy>.

About the Clean Energy States Alliance: The Clean Energy States Alliance (CESA) is a national nonprofit coalition of public agencies and organizations working together to advance clean energy. CESA members—mostly state agencies—include many of the most innovative, successful, and influential public funders of clean energy initiatives in the country. CESA works with state leaders, federal agencies, industry representatives, and other stakeholders to develop and promote clean energy technologies and markets. CESA facilitates information sharing, provides technical assistance, coordinates multi-state collaborative projects, and communicates the positions and achievements of its members. For more information, visit www.cesa.org.

About the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory: The Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) is one of the United States Department of Energy national laboratories, managed by the Department of Energy's Office of Science. PNNL's priority is advancing the frontiers of knowledge, taking on some of the world's greatest science and technology challenges. PNNL is dedicated to improving the resilience of the U.S. energy system with a focus on the electric grid. From advanced grid modeling to expanded energy storage and renewable integration, PNNL researchers are taking steps to achieve a more secure, robust, and vibrant grid infrastructure. PNNL research also emphasizes more efficient ways to use energy resources in transportation, buildings, and industry, and advancing renewable energy technologies. www.pnnl.gov

CONTACT: Samantha Donalds, Communications Coordinator, Clean Energy States Alliance, Sam@cleanegroup.org Ph: 508-654-5813 Clean Energy Group, 50 State Street Suite 1, Montpelier, VT 05602

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To all Mount Holly Residents

Vermont continues to rank 47th in the nation in response to the 2020 Census. Rutland County places 6th among Vermont Counties in responding to the Census with a response rate of 58.1%. We appeal to Rutland County Towns to take a proactive role in urging their citizens to go online and complete the census questionnaire. Ask the question, have you been counted? Michael Henry, 2020 Census, Census Response Representative, 1 Northeast Drive, Rutland, VT 05701 802-923-0972 Cell

COUNTY	TOWN	7/16	7/20	7/23	7/27	7/30	8/3	2010	2020 vs	8/3 vs
								RESPONSE	2010	7/27
RUTLAND COUNTY		52.2%	52.3%	52.5%	52.7%	52.9%	53.0%	58.4%	-5.4%	0.3%
Rutland	Rutland Town	68.7%	68.9%	69.0%	69.5%	69.7%	69.9%	69.7%	0.2%	0.4%
Rutland	Brandon	64.4%	64.5%	64.7%	64.8%	65.2%	65.2%	65.1%	0.1%	0.4%
Rutland	Proctor	64.4%	64.4%	64.6%	64.9%	65.1%	65.2%	70.5%	-5.3%	0.3%
Rutland	Clarendon	64.4%	64.4%	64.7%	64.8%	64.9%	65.0%	63.2%	1.8%	0.2%
Rutland	West Rutland	62.0%	62.0%	62.3%	62.5%	62.5%	62.5%	47.5%	15.0%	0.0%
Rutland	Shrewsbury	62.4%	62.4%	62.4%	62.4%	62.4%	62.4%	64.6%	-2.2%	0.0%
Rutland	Chittenden	61.0%	61.1%	61.1%	61.3%	61.3%	61.3%	56.0%	5.3%	0.0%
Rutland	Pittsford	59.9%	59.9%	60.1%	60.5%	60.5%	60.6%	57.3%	3.3%	0.1%
Rutland	Rutland City	59.4%	59.5%	59.7%	60.0%	60.2%	60.3%	69.3%	-9.0%	0.3%
Rutland	West Haven	59.4%	59.4%	60.1%	60.1%	60.1%	60.1%	73.4%	-13.3%	0.0%
Rutland	Fair Haven	59.1%	59.1%	59.1%	59.2%	59.5%	59.6%	63.5%	-3.9%	0.4%
Rutland	Middletown S	58.0%	58.0%	58.5%	58.5%	58.5%	58.7%	51.6%	7.1%	0.2%
Rutland	Ira	55.3%	55.8%	56.3%	57.2%	57.2%	57.2%	67.5%	-10.3%	0.0%
Rutland	Wallingford	54.3%	54.4%	55.2%	55.5%	55.7%	56.1%	47.1%	9.0%	0.6%
Rutland	Poultney	52.2%	52.2%	52.3%	52.4%	52.6%	52.7%	59.8%	-7.1%	0.3%
Rutland	Sudbury	52.1%	52.1%	52.1%	52.1%	52.1%	52.1%	54.4%	-2.3%	0.0%
Rutland	Pawlet	51.2%	51.5%	51.6%	51.8%	51.8%	51.8%	65.1%	-13.3%	0.0%
Rutland	Danby	50.0%	50.0%	50.3%	50.4%	50.5%	50.8%	61.4%	-10.6%	0.4%
Rutland	Mount Tabor	47.8%	48.4%	49.0%	49.0%	49.0%	49.7%	45.2%	4.5%	0.7%
Rutland	Benson	47.5%	47.6%	47.6%	47.8%	47.9%	47.9%	51.7%	-3.8%	0.1%
Rutland	Castleton	46.0%	46.2%	46.3%	46.6%	46.8%	47.2%	56.7%	-9.5%	0.6%
Rutland	Tinnmouth	46.2%	46.2%	46.7%	46.7%	46.7%	46.7%	54.3%	-7.6%	0.0%
Rutland	Mendon	44.4%	44.6%	44.6%	44.7%	45.1%	45.7%	52.2%	-6.5%	1.0%
Rutland	Mount Holly	35.9%	36.0%	36.4%	36.8%	36.9%	37.0%	23.9%	13.1%	0.2%
Rutland	Hubbardton	34.8%	35.1%	35.1%	35.7%	36.0%	36.0%	42.4%	-6.4%	0.3%
Rutland	Wells	34.5%	34.8%	35.3%	35.4%	35.4%	35.5%	56.1%	-20.6%	0.1%
Rutland	Pittsfield	29.0%	29.2%	29.2%	29.6%	29.8%	30.5%	43.9%	-13.4%	0.9%
Rutland	Killington	12.4%	12.5%	12.7%	12.9%	13.1%	13.2%	52.9%	-39.7%	0.3%

Komen Foundation Speaker Featured at Ludlow Rotary



Linda Maness, New England Development Manager for the Susan G. Komen Foundation (SGKF) was the guest speaker at the recent meeting of the Ludlow Rotary Club (LRC) via the on-line Zoom app.

She discussed the history of the SGKF in Vermont, noting that the organization has been conducting fund-raising in the state for the past 28 years. SGKF, a non-profit group raising research dollars for the study and prevention of breast cancer, has donated \$400,000 to UVM in the past five years to support research at that institution.

Due to the impact of Covid-19, they have revised their annual walk to raise funds to a “virtual walk”. Maness indicated the virtual walk would “take place wherever the donor wished, their backyard or living room”. It is scheduled in Vermont on October 24. She added that “walkers raise more money for the foundation than racers” which is why the

foundation stresses the walking program.

She cautioned that “cancer hasn’t stopped because of Covid-19”, highlighting the continued need for research funds to find a cure for breast cancer. The SGKF also provides additional funding to support the cost of child care, travel expenses, and similar expenses associated with the medical treatment of cancer.

Maness also detailed how the funds raised by the foundation are allocated to various medical research organizations working on the cure and prevention of breast cancer, specifically, and all forms of cancer, in general. More information on the foundation may be found at its web site, <https://ww5.komen.org>.

Pictured above is Linda Maness, New England Development Manager for the Susan G. Komen Foundation, during her address to the Ludlow Rotary Club.



Vermont Community Leadership Network

Connecting and Supporting Local Leaders
Greetings!

Creativity, persistence, and the ability to rally others to your cause are just some of the qualities great leaders need to get things done.

At the Vermont Council on Rural Development, we have hosted nearly 100 Community Visits in all corners of Vermont and everywhere we go we see strong and capable people having transformative impacts, in their town and for all of Vermont. Since this spring when we were plunged into the Coronavirus crisis, these examples have only grown more striking as countless Vermonters have built local organizations and taken local actions to help their neighbors in need.

Supporting and recognizing Vermont’s local leaders has never been more important. **On August 27, you are invited to join VCRD as we announce the creation of the Vermont Community Leadership Network to connect and support local leaders working toward recovery, resilience and renewal.** The network will help local leaders share skills, practices, connections and mutual support to empower those who are building local projects, programs, organizations and systems that serve their communities and Vermont’s urgent and long-term needs.

This online event from 10:00 to 11:00 AM on August 27 will feature inspiring local leaders and their stories of success. We will also announce the 2020 recipients of VCRD’s Community Leadership Award.

Register here for this exciting online event:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEscuyqjpjosHdNC1eI8zgs4VEsqhU-KeSqB>.

Jon Copans, Program Director, Climate Economy Model Communities Program 802-272-0162

jon@vtrural.org www.vtrural.org Vermont Council on Rural Development, P.O. Box 1384, Montpelier, VT 05601 802-223-6091



It’s important to discuss health care needs with an aging loved one before a crisis arrives. Knowing their preferences in health care can help eliminate frustrations when decisions need to be made. If you or a loved one needs in-home care, it’s important to discuss your options with your physician, social worker or discharge planner, and ask for the VNA & Hospice of the Southwest Region.

VNA & HOSPICE
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Construction Update Mt. Holly BF 0133(12)



Project Type: Bridge Replacement on Route 155 approximately 5.8 miles north of the intersection with VT Route 100 and VT Route 155. The VT Route 155 Bridge 7 is now open as of August 18th. The Duration of this project was to be June 2020 – September 2020 with a 28 day closure, July 21st to August 18th, with completion September of 2020. The Paving and guardrail was installed over the weekend and VT Route 155 was opened to traffic at 1 pm August 17th. <http://www.aot.state.vt.us/FactSheet/default.aspx?pin=12CC594>

FYI: [DJ's Restaurant](#)

ANNOUNCEMENT: DJ's Restaurant will be re-opening for indoor dining starting Tuesday, August 18th! We will be open for dinner from 5:00pm-9:00pm Tuesday through Saturday. Please call 802-228-5374 after 3pm to make reservations per the Vermont state mandate for advance seating only. Masks are required to enter the restaurant. Thank you for your continued support and patience! We look forward to serving you all soon. Ralph Pace, (802)228-7239 ralphpace@gmail.com



BLACK RIVER GOOD NEIGHBOR SERVICES, INC.
37B MAIN STREET • LUDLOW, VERMONT 05149-1025

BRGNS Cancels Fall Rummage Sale

Usually Black River Good Neighbor Services spends August preparing for a major fundraiser – the fall rummage sale. Not so in 2020. Regretfully, the BRGNS Board of Directors has decided

to cancel the fall rummage sale out of concern for the safety of shoppers and staff. "This is a very difficult fiscal decision for us since the fall sale is a major source of revenue to get us through the winter months, but at the same time it is an easy health and safety decision for us in light of the pandemic," said Lou Krefski, Board President. "We've been through several dozen rummage sales now and it is always the same, physical distancing is not possible and even with masks the interior spaces at Fletcher Farm cannot ensure any measure of safety."

For over twelve years BRGNS has held its rummage sale twice each year at Fletcher Farm. The volunteers and staff usually begin gathering items during the summer and then fill the barns and other buildings with clothing, furniture, household goods, and Christmas merchandise. Tents are raised and goods are priced to sell. "The effort to put this sale together requires an enormous amount of labor in close quarters for many elderly volunteers who we really don't want to put at risk," said Audrey Bridge, Executive Director. "They and our customers should not jeopardize their health for this effort."

The BRGNS thrift stores are open and the food shelf still operates with a full staff. "We are approaching this difficult pandemic one day at a time, one problem at a time. While the rummage sale will not happen, our donors are helping us get through," said Krefski. Donations can always be made to the food shelf at 37B Main Street in Ludlow, or through the website www.brgn.org.

For further information about the food shelf or to volunteer, people are encouraged to call 802-228-3663 or visit on the web. Peter LaBelle



Rotary District Governor Speaks To Ludlow Rotary Club

The recent Ludlow Rotary Club's (LRC) weekly meeting featured a presentation by Steve Puderbaugh, Rotary Governor for District 7870. The meeting was conducted using the Zoom app due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Puderbaugh stressed the theme of Rotary International (RI), "Rotary Opens Up". This dealt with how RI and its local chapters comprising over 4 million members is dealing with the impact of the coronavirus crisis. He noted that the current use of Zoom was one of the major adjustments Rotarians have had to make to continue their methods of implementing the many goals of RI.

He noted that the LRC had to postpone a number of activities normally used to raise funds for its community-based projects, such as the Penny Sale which is used to underwrite its scholarship programs.

One of the major activities that area Rotary clubs is sponsoring because of Covid-19 is the importation of masks to help reduce the spread of the virus. He announced that, with the aid of a Connecticut Rotarian involved in importation, a truckload of masks, totalling half a million masks, will

soon be arriving in New England to provide protection to area residents.

In addition to detailing some of the planned district activities scheduled for next year, Puderbaugh indicated that a group of South African Rotarians would be coming to the United States next year while an American group of Rotarians will journey to South Africa. Photo of Steve Puderbaugh, Rotary District Governor, District 7870, attached (via Zoom)



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Call For References
Men need to call for interview first
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Trump Administration Awards \$500,000 Community Facility Disaster Grant to Vermont Foodbank

*Investment to Build Efficiencies, Upgrade Equipment and Keep Workers
Safe During Pandemic and Beyond*

The Trump Administration announced that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has awarded the Vermont Foodbank a \$500,000 grant to upgrade its Barre, Vt. facility with new equipment and infrastructure, and increased broadband capability to better manage its satellite locations and collaborate with partners.

Trump Administration Official & Vermont State Director Anthony Linardos recently announced the project, citing its essential role in the

age of Covid-19. "Under the leadership of President Trump and Agriculture Secretary Perdue, USDA has helped rural Vermont in building strong, healthy communities before and during the Coronavirus pandemic," he said. "The Vermont Foodbank is more important than ever because food insecurity is now a bigger challenge than it's ever been. This disaster-relief investment will help workers and staff accommodate the ever-growing demand for safe and efficient food distribution to our low-income rural neighbors."

Funds will be used to upgrade Vermont Foodbank facilities and purchase new operational assets, including a forklift, pickup truck, expanded storage racking, teleconferencing equipment, and a loading-dock canopy to provide all-season weather protection for vehicles, staff and drivers. USDA Rural Development awarded the grant through its Community Facilities Disaster Relief program.

USDA Rural Development provides loans and grants to help expand economic opportunities and create jobs in rural areas. This assistance supports infrastructure improvements; business development; housing; community facilities such as schools, public safety and health care; and high-speed internet access in rural areas. For more information, visit www.rd.usda.gov.



OVRCC Gather for 63rd Annual Meeting

New Board Members also Announced

The Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce recently gathered for their 63rd Annual Meeting held at the [Echo Lake Inn](#) located just north of Ludlow along the Scenic Route 100 Byway in the Tyson Village of Plymouth. Innkeeper **Tom Gianola** was thanked for hosting & sponsoring the event.

Gail Beardmore of [Engel & Volkers](#) in Ludlow was elected the incoming President of the Board. Former President **Tom Gianola** will remain on the executive committee serving as treasurer.

Attendees and those joining the meeting remotely had the opportunity to learn about the progress of the chamber in the past year and upcoming plans for the future. Members also voted on the following new Chamber Board members:

- **Brandon Durham** [T2B Fitness Athletics](#) (Ludlow)
- **David Pisha** [Town of Chester](#) (Chester)
- **Art Randolph** [People's United Bank](#) (Ludlow)
- **Garrison Smith** [Smitty's Chester Market](#) (Chester)
- **Alyssa Stewart** [Stewart Maple & Marketplace](#) (Shrewsbury)



The following outgoing board members were also thanked for their service: **Mike Bailey** - [Brewfest Beverage](#) (Ludlow), **Justin Hyjek** - [Homestyle Hotel](#) & [Main + Mountain Bar & Motel](#) (Ludlow), **Margaret Vincent** - [Vermont T's](#) (Chester) & **Brian Herndon** - [HB Energy Solutions](#) (Springfield).

The guest speaker via Zoom was **Molly Mahar** Executive Director of [Ski Vermont](#) the VT Ski Areas Association who spoke about the challenges and opportunities for this industry in Vermont.

To view a photo album of the event, click [HERE](#) or go to the chambers [Facebook page](#).

The OVRCC is a not-for-profit, member-driven association and the voice of the business communities in South Central Vermont. OVRCC includes the communities of Andover, Baltimore, Cavendish, Chester, Grafton, Landgrove, Londonderry, Ludlow, Mount Holly, Plymouth, Shrewsbury, Weathersfield, & Weston along the Vermont Scenic Route 100 Byway. OVRCC provides advocacy, support, and regional marketing to promote and enhance businesses in the region as well as the four-season economy.

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



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WESTON PLAYHOUSE THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS 'SONGS FOR TODAY'

Weston Playhouse Theatre Company continues its Reimagined 2020 Season with the debut of **Songs for Today**, a series of bite-sized musical tracks in the spirit of classic Playhouse shows. The project is the second in the recently launched new works initiative, **Weston Writers**.

Songs for Today 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 music that captures this unprecedented moment when we are all invited to care and connect in new, unique ways. These songs will premiere on Weston's social media channels weekly beginning **August 27**.

Featured musical theatre writers and writing teams for the first series of Songs for Today include **Joe Iconis** (Weston: Joe Iconis & Family; Broadway: BE MORE CHILL); **Jenny Giering** and **Sean Berry** (Weston: 2010 New Musical Award winners and 2011 world premiere of SAINT-EX); **Adam Guettel** (Weston: FLOYD COLLINS; Composer/Lyricist: LIGHT IN THE PIAZZA, FLOYD COLLINS); **Julia Meinwald** and **Gordon Leary** (2011 New Musical Award winner and 2012 world premiere of PREGNANCY PACT); **Tiditaya Sinutoke** and **Isabella Dawis** (2020 New Musical Award winners for HALF THE SKY); **Adam Gwon** (2019 New Musical Award winner for ALICE BLISS with **Jenny Giering** and Karen Hartman, 2014 winner for STRING with Sarah Hammond); and **Kirsten Childs** (2016 New Musical Award winner for BELLA: AN AMERICAN TALL TALE).

Says **Gellert**, "Weston has a long and rich history of supporting the work of America's leading musical theatre writers. The annual Weston-Ghostlight New Musical award has introduced more than a dozen new works to the world, and our summer season has produced acclaimed world premieres of wonderful musicals such as SAINT-EX and the chamber version of THE LIGHT IN THE PIAZZA. **Songs for Today**, the newest project in our reimagined season, turns to the musical theatre writers who have found a home in Weston and invites them to explore the stories of today in song. With **Songs for Today**, we recognize the healing power of song and theatre; even in this moment when we cannot gather in person, listening to music can bring us closer together. While some of our artists are using this opportunity to create a new piece, others are reinterpreting one of their early works in light of how the world has changed. The result is a fascinating collage, a beautiful meditation on the power of music."

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. Songs for Today is presented free of charge, 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. **Songs for Today** is made possible with support from **Wohler Realty Group**. Weston's Reimagined 2020 Season is presented by **The Vermont Country Store** with support from the **Weston New Works Fund**.

Media Contact: Jenna Jordan, Marketing & Communications Associate | 802-824-8167 x112 | jjordan@westonplayhouse.org



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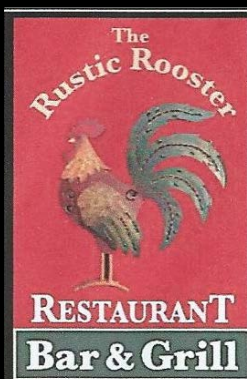
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Sunday	1 pm – 8 pm

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Please Be patient as Rules & Regulations are
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Guests.

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Any Changes

Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) Update

A team of four Mount Holly Residents are currently working with the Rutland Regional Planning Commission to create a Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP). This plan is required by the State of Vermont for all communities. Its purpose is to assist the Town to understand the natural hazards facing the community, rank them according to level of risk, and develop strategies to mitigate those hazards.

The first five sections of the plan; the Introduction, Community Profile, Hazard Identification, and Risk Assessment, will be ready for public review and comment on September 2, 2020 for a 14 day period. The draft plan will be posted to the town website at <http://www.mounthollyvt.org/announcements-bulletin-board/> and at the Town Office.

The remaining sections address analysis of specific hazards and development of mitigation strategies and will be created later in September. A second public review and comment period will be provided once the plan is complete.

Public review and comment are critical to the development of the plan. Your past experiences in Mount Holly and your perspective on natural disasters and hazards will be important to this plan. We request your assistance and input.

A brief overview of the draft plan will be presented at the September 8th regular Select Board meeting. This meeting will be held remotely via Zoom, at 6:30 pm. For the meeting link and/or call-in telephone number please visit <http://www.mounthollyvt.org/150047-2/>. Time for public comments will be provided after the overview. Comments can also be communicated in writing to Jeff Chase at jeff@chasevermont.com or dropped off at the Town Office or mailed to Jeff Chase, PO Box 248, Mount Holly, VT.



due to Covid like this year's cancelled annual Summer Palooza event. We will be rolling those out soon. We would like to thank the Mt. Holly community for all the returnable can and bottle donations left in our shed at the dump. Please double-check your donations to make sure they are returnables. Don't forget to check out our website: reinbowridingcenter.org, and follow us on Facebook, Twitter @ReinbowRiding and Instagram @reinbow_riding_center.

Everyone stay well and remember to social distance at least a horse length apart.

Straight from the horses mouth

Stay Safe Stay Spaced

from Reinbow Riding Center

September, where did the summer go? The current situation has definitely curtailed some of our usual summer activities, especially our therapeutic riding program, but also allowed us to work on things we rarely have time for. We are making Activity Bags for riders, recharging our engines, working on program ideas and chomping at the bit to get started again, although it looks like that won't happen until this coming Spring. Meanwhile the horses are fat and sassy and definitely enjoying the summer off.

We are also working on some fundraising ideas to help us replace some of the funding we lost

Driveway Grading / Ditching
Site Work / General Excavation
New Lawns / Ponds
House Sites / Septic Installations
Land Clearing / Driveway Installations

KEITH Hawkins
president

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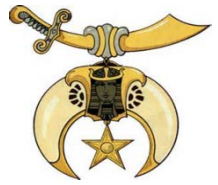
Mount Holly, Vermont
802 558.3082



Shriner Hospital For Children

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

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



Button Up Vermont; You're Certain To Save

Mount Holly it is that time of year again, time to start weatherizing our homes and businesses here in Vermont with the Button Up Vermont campaign! The campaign kicks off on September 2nd and runs until the end of November, and your community is participating in the statewide push to support Vermonters weatherizing. Expect more information about signing up for a *virtual* home energy walkthrough, fun online series like Weatherization Wednesdays, and much more.

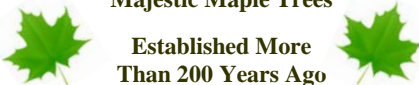
A lot of things are uncertain right now. Weatherization isn't one of them. When you weatherize your home, you're making a savvy investment that will pay off in comfort and savings for years to come.

And more of your money stays in Mount Holly, putting local contractors back to work buttoning up your home and keeping your cider donut supplier in business...or however you choose to spend the ~\$500 that most Vermonters save each year after a full home weatherization project.

There are significant rebates and low interest loans to make your payback even faster. And plenty of DIY projects you can start on right now. Get them all at www.ButtonUpVermont.org Thanks, Becca White, Customer Engagement Manager Efficiency Vermont 802-734-3227 & Mount Holly Energy Committee 802-228-1179

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MOVING IN Sale: I have several items for sale for which I lack use or room, including: a spinning wheel, a yarn winder, a captain's chair, an unusual tiger maple drop-leaf table w/ two drawers, a circular drop-leaf walnut table, a very nice girl's bike. Call Joan at 259-2773. Thank you.

**Mount Holly Chit Chat
Annual Meeting
Tuesday Septmeber 15th
6:30 pm
Odd Fellows Hall, Belmont**



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

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

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

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

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Phone Email

Sign Up for the Mt. Holly NewsFlash to get all that is happening locally in our Town just email to:

mthollynewsflash@gmail.com

And request to be placed on the list.

News item deadlines are 6 am & 6 pm

Also Check

www.mthollynewsflash.blogspot.com

To see all daily emails of the NewsFlash compiled in one place for all community news and events.

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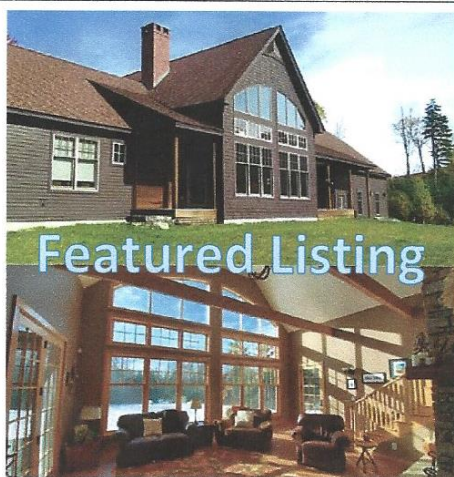
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Kelley Real Estate Welcomes Sue Starr-Adams

Susan's priority in life was finding a place in Vermont to call home, a beautiful place where she could raise her children. She is a Connecticut native, but had always been drawn to Vermont. After moving here, she soon fell in love with the small towns and the sense of connectedness Vermonters have.



Her professional life has included working in marketing as an office manager and certified bookkeeper and marketing properties for a cutting-edge vacation rental company.

Susan has always been involved in her community; she has served on school boards, the PTA, community associations, and was a hospice volunteer for the VNA.

Along the way, Susan has also passionately restored two 150-year-old farmhouses; one of them in Mount Holly where she lived for many years. She feels that nothing is more important than being in the right home. This is what led her to become a REALTOR®.

Susan will work tirelessly to help you find the home you are seeking or to find a buyer for your property. It's all about listening - and connectedness.

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Ty Murray
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ty@kelleyrealestate.com

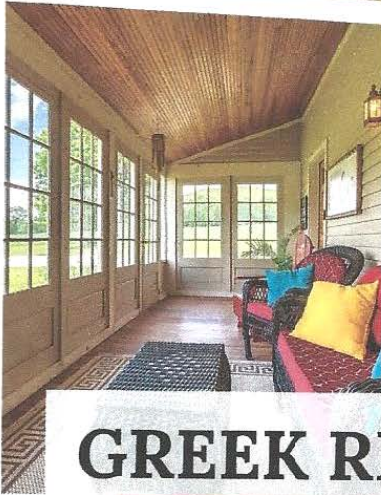


Sean Williams
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sean@kelleyrealestate.com



Alex Eatmon
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Who's Got It Locally?

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Spectrum Photography – John Miller 259-3060

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Mojo Café – John & Jodi Seward mojocafevt@yahoo.com 228-6656
The Rustic Rooster – Donna & Greg Ganzer 492-3433
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Cutting Edge Carpentry – Curt Marechaux Cell 236-5559
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

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
Rutland Jewish Center office@rutlandjewishcenter.org
Rabbi Shemtov rabbishemtov@rutlandjewishcenter.org 773-3455
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

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www.Smithmaplecrestfarm.com
Sugar Hill Berry Farm www.sugarhillberryfarm.com 259-2155

Food Shelf

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Funeral Homes

Clifford Funeral Home 773-3010

Garage, Repair & Wrecking

Belmont Motor Works LLC - Harley-Davidson, Small Engine 259-3178
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Belmont Country Gardens Quality Custom Stonework & More 259-2364
Kevin Smith, Garden Service & Lawn Mowing 259-3964
Salt Ash Nursery - The Balsam Barn – Scott Crawford 259-2146

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Lisa Donohue MA, LMT ~ Linda O'Brien MT 446-2499

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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 Srvup

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

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Wayne Jones Metal www.waynejonesmetal.com 259-2521

Mount Holly Email

Kevin Plew – mthollynewsflash@gmail.com 259-2250

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

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

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

Nora Sylvia nora@kelleyrealestate.com 978-793-2033

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

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Black River Good Neighbor Service 228-3663

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