



Mount Holly Chit Chat



43/12

February 2018

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

Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce – Marji Graf 228-5830

Town Library: Sat 9-1 Sun 2-4 Mon 11:30 -7 Wed 3-7 Mt. Holly Town Library, P.O. Box 93, Belmont, VT 05730 Call 259-3707

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

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

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

Town Garage: 259-3179

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

Transfer Site: Sat. 8 am – 2 pm & Sun. 9 am – 12 pm

Jan 27 th		Free Ice Fishing Day	
1 st	Fire Dept. Business Meeting, Fire Station	7:00 pm	
	<i>Freedom Day – Pres. Lincoln Approves 13th Amendment Abolishing Slavery 1865</i>		
2 nd		Groundhog Day	
Sun 4 th	Snow Flyer Meeting, Belmont Fire Station	8:30 am	
5 th			
6 th	Mt. Holly Community Association Meeting, Library	7:00 pm	
7 th	Mt. Holly PTSA Meeting	3:15 pm	
	Mt. Holly School Board Meeting	6:00 pm	
	Union #39 School Board Meeting	6:00 pm	
8 th	Fire Dept. Drill, Fire Station	7:00 pm	
Sun 11 th	<i>Red & Gray Fox Hunting Season Ends ~ Thomas Alva Edison Founder of General Electric Co. 1847</i>		
12 th	Rescue Squad Meeting, Rescue Squad Building	7:00 pm	
13 th	Community Guild Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont	9:00 am	
	Selectmen's Meeting, Town Office	7:30 pm	
14 th	Fire Dept. Ladies Auxiliary Meeting, Belmont Fire Station	7:00 pm	
	ODD Fellows Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont	7:30 pm	
15 th	Fire Dept. work night, Fire Stations	7:00 pm	
Sat 17 th	<i>Roast Beef Dinner</i> , Benefit Knights of Columbus, Church of Annunciation Parish Hall 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm		
19 th	Mount Holly Planning Commission, Town Office	7:00 pm	
20 th			
21 st	Mt. Holly Town Library Meeting, Library, Belmont	6:30 pm	
22 nd	Fire Dept. Drill, Fire Station	7:00 pm	
23 rd			
26 th	Rescue Squad Meeting, Rescue Squad Building	7:00 pm	
27 th	Community Guild Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont	9:00 am	
	<i>US Supreme Court Upholds 19th Amendment for Women's' Right to Vote 1922</i>		
	Mason Meeting, Mt. Moriah Lodge, E. Wallingford	8:00 pm	
28 th	ODD Fellows Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont	7:00 pm	
29 th	Fire Dept. work night, Fire Stations	7:00 pm	

* * * * *

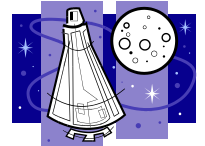
Emergency Services

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

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

chitchat@vermontel.net Check out Mt. Holly Web Site www.mounthollyvt.org

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



Donation Thank Yous: Francis & Carol DeVine * Margaret Whyte * Ron Unterman & Dottie Finnerty * Joan Amatniek * Wanda & Michael Spatzer * Gail Beardmore (Engel & Volkers Okemo Woodstock) * Town of Mount Holly * Paul & Cecilia Ayres * Craig Tomkinson * Heidi Schneider * Stephanie Stouffer (Stephanie Stouffer Studio & Gallery Shop) *



February Birthdays: 2nd -Justin Bussino (2004) 4th -Chris Charuk 5th -Pat Marro 6th -Candance Bussino 8th -Alyssa Collins * Debbie Pearce 9th -Emma Coldwell 10th -Amy Perrino * Jack Koponen 11th -Mary Desautels 18th -Andy Bolalek * Peggy Taylor 19th -Dennis Turco * Denise Turco 20th -Barbara Palotta 21st -Ben Veysey 22nd -Susan Horsman 23rd -Jerome Brown 25th -Meghan Garrow 27th -Mary Crawford * Steven Radonis



February Anniversaries: 17th -Lisa & Todd Bussino (1990) 23rd - Raymond & Clarise Dana 69 Yrs. (1949) 27th - John & Carol Delaney 52 Yrs. (1965) 28th -Andy & Teresa Bolalek

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

Mon - Fri 8:00 am - 10:00 am
& 2:45 pm - 4:45 pm
Sat 7:30 am - 10:30 am

Belmont 802-259-2790

Mon - Fri 8:00 am - 9:30 am
& 2:45 pm - 4:45 pm
Sat 8:00 am - 10:45 am

East Wallingford 802-259-2829

Mon - Fri 7:00 am - 11:00 am
Sat 7:00 am - 10:00 am

Cuttingsville/Shrewsbury 802-492-3585

Window Hours Mon - Fri 7:30 am - 10:30 am
& 11:30 pm - 2:30 pm
Sat 8:00 am - 11:00 am
Lobby Hours Mon - Fri 7:30 am - 5:00 pm
Sat 7:30 am - 11:00 am

Ludlow 802-228-7436

Post Master: Dawn Howlett
Lobby Hours: Mon - Fri 6:30 am - 5:30 pm
Sat 6:30 am - 11:00 am
Window Hours: Mon - Fri 8:30 am - 5:00 pm
Sat 8:30 am - 10:30 am



Mount Holly Chit Chat, Inc.

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

BOARD of DIRECTORS:

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

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

DIRECTORS: Heather Garrow, Christine Pratt, David Venter

MANAGING EDITOR: Diana Garrow

ASSISTANT to the EDITOR: Heather Garrow

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

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

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

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

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

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

	1 Mo.	3 Mo.	6 Mo.	9 Mo.	12 Mo.
Business Card:	\$15	\$40	\$80	\$115	\$150
Quarter Page:	\$30	\$80	\$150	\$225	\$300
Third Page:	\$45	\$125	\$240	\$350	\$450
Half Page:	\$75	\$200	\$375	\$550	\$750
Full Page:	\$125	\$325	\$625	\$1025	\$1250

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

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

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

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

The Annual Membership meeting is held on the second Monday in September in the Mount Holly Library at 7 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.

Be My
Valentine

Lawrence D. Freeman



Lawrence D. Freeman, 83, of Rutland and formerly of Mount Holly, died Jan. 6, 2018, at his home. He was born June 10, 1934, in Mount Holly, the son of Charles and Mabel (Rabtoy) Freeman. He was employed at Bryant Grinder Co. in Springfield and Howe Scale Co. in Rutland.

Mr. Freeman was a member of the Vermont National Guard.

Survivors include his wife, Shirley (Todriff) Freeman; four children Betsy Foster, Marlene Freeman, both of Springfield, Ricky Freeman, of Claremont, New Hampshire, and James Freeman, of Brookfield; eight grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

He was predeceased by his siblings Claude, Vernon, Lillian, Lilla and Ruth.

Funeral services will be held at a later date. Arrangements are by Clifford Funeral Home in Rutland.

Join Bone Builders

Monday & Thursday Mornings

9:00 am

At Mt. Holly Community Center
For Weights and more information
Call Judy Nevin 259-2443



Always wanted to go ice fishing but couldn't find a good excuse to get away? Now we have found that excuse for you: a "FREE ICE FISHING DAY" on the last Saturday in January.

Saturday, January 27, 2018 is Vermont's free ice fishing day - a day when anyone, resident or nonresident, may go fishing in Vermont without a fishing license.

Not Sure How? - NO PROBLEM!

Come to our **FREE** Ice Fishing Festival! Vermont Fish & Wildlife staff will be there to help everyone, young and old, learn how to enjoy this unique and popular type of fishing.

WHERE: Lake Bomoseen State Park, Castleton, VT

WHEN: Saturday, January 27, 2018 - 11:00 am to 3:00 pm

EVENT SCHEDULE: 11:00 am - Registration Opens ~ 11:00 am to 3:00 pm - Fun Family Activities

This year, Fish & Wildlife staff and Let's Go Fishing volunteers will help new ice anglers learn the basics of winter ice fishing with stations including: Ice Fishing Gear Explained ~ Tip-up Techniques ~ Using a Rod and Jig ~ Fish Identification Game ~ Knot-tying Know-how and tackle craft

Plus enjoy a fish fry and cocoa (bring your own mug if you can)! Warming huts will be available to keep you comfortable. Bring your own ice fishing equipment or you can borrow ours.

Pre-register now to avoid long lines at registration and get in the "fast pass" lane for ice fishing!

For more information, contact **Nicole Meier** (Nicole.Meier@vermont.gov) by email or call 802-318-1347.

A Message From The Vermont Department Of Taxes:

Did you know that in 2017, about **65% of Vermont taxpayers qualified** to file their federal and state taxes for free through Vermont Free File, but **only about 2% of those eligible actually used Free File?**

Free help is offered through several organizations. In 2018, the Vermont Department of Taxes is emphasizing free tax services and assistance for eligible Vermonters through Vermont Free File (free e-filing using vendor software), MyFreeTaxes, VITA/TCE, the AARP Foundation, and the IRS Agent Virtual Delivery Service. Are you eligible? Learn more:

- <http://tax.vermont.gov/sites/tax/files/documents/FreeTaxHelpforVermontersPoster.pdf>
- <http://tax.vermont.gov/individuals/free-file>
- <http://tax.vermont.gov/individuals/free-tax-preparation-assistance>

Requests for paper forms continue to decline as more taxpayers move to e-filing their returns, but we recognize there is a still a need for those who prefer to file using paper forms or who do not have access to a computer and the internet. Find information to obtain paper forms:

- <http://tax.vermont.gov/sites/tax/files/documents/4WaystoGetTaxYourVTIncomeTaxFormsPoster.pdf>
- <http://tax.vermont.gov/form-request>

Taxpayers may also find the following online through myVTax at www.myvtax.vermont.gov:

- File a Homestead Declaration
- File a Property Tax Adjustment Claim
- File a Renter Rebate Claim
- Generate a Landlord Certificate
- Check the Status of Your Return

If you have questions, call the Vermont Department of Taxes at [\(802\) 828-2505](tel:8028282505).

Mt. Holly Senior Stars Luncheon

February Luncheon will be Thursday the 8th. Please make reservations or cancellations by February 4th. Telephone 259-2473. Donations are \$4.00 at Harry's Restaurant

Gardening Course

Do you enjoy gardening? Want to learn more to work less and make you garden better?

The UVM Extension Master Gardener Course is for you. The course is now on line. The course runs from January 17 to April 25.

You will be finished just in time to get back into the garden.

Registration and details are available at master.gardener@uvm.edu or [802-656-9562](tel:802-656-9562).



Flander's Excavating & Firewood

Complete Site Work Start To Finish

All Aspects of Excavating:

Roads ~ Clearing Lots ~ Septic Systems ~ Ponds

Fully Insured – Call Steve @ 802-259-2147

Firewood – Cut, Split & Delivered

Update From The

Black River Independent School Committee

National School Choice Week: From January 21st to the 27th National School Choice Week is being celebrated around the country (www.schoolchoiceweek.org). A quote from the website says: 'Research shows that when parents are empowered to choose the education environments that they believe work best for their kids, students are more likely to succeed and graduate from high school. That is because every child is unique, and students thrive when they're matched with learning environments that meet their individual needs.'

We all want the same thing when it comes to the education of our children. We all want what is best for our children. We all want them to

thrive.

On February 6th, voters in Ludlow again have to make the decision between open school choice for all children in grades 7-12, with a yes vote, or a single schooling option (Black River Middle and High School), with a no vote. There are many concerns that parents and voters might have with both sides of this issue. We encourage all voters and residents of Ludlow to inform themselves on the issues at stake by attending the informational meetings:

January 29th, 6pm Ludlow Town Hall, hosted by Ludlow Elementary School Board

February 1st, 6pm Ludlow Town Hall, presentation by Tom Martin, hosted by the Black River Independent School Committee

Having school choice does mean that Black River Middle and High School closes as a public school. We are fully committed to reopening it as an independent Black River Academy the day after it closes as a public school. We believe that school choice and an independent Black River Academy are the best ways to help our children and our community thrive! Sincerely, Black River Independent School Committee www.blackriveracademy.org

Mount Holly Community Association

Even after many days of sub-zero temperatures, about 100 intrepid souls were not deterred from turning out for the annual **New Year's Eve at Star Lake**. The temperature was below zero that night, but those who showed up were warmed by the bonfire, mulled wine, and hot cocoa. *Many, many, many thanks* to those who braved the cold to set up for the evening...the Mount Holly Snow Flyers with the fireworks and Mike Smelser and Robin Nelson, who provided the wine and cocoa on behalf of the MHCA. They all deserve medals for outstanding performance in extreme conditions!! This is a treasured evening in the Mount Holly calendar, as the community gathers together to celebrate the end of an old year and the beginning of the new. Thanks to everyone who helped make the evening a success and to all those who braved the cold to enjoy the fireworks!

New Year's Eve at Star Lake was the **last MHCA event of the year** until the regularly scheduled MHCA events resume in the spring, but we hope that the entire community will make use of the Library & Community Center throughout the winter months. The beautifully renovated Community Room on the lower level is currently used on a weekly basis by the Play Group, the Mount Holly Folk Group, Bone Builders, and the Mount Holly Artists Group. The library is also a popular winter stop and our new librarian, Jessica Shurlow, has done an amazing job keeping the library stocked with all of the latest best sellers and a great many recent movie releases. When it's too cold to go out, the library is a warm and welcoming place to spend a winter afternoon!

This will be our last call for **membership in the MHCA** for the 2017 – 2018 year. Reminder letters were recently sent out to a number of people who were members last year, but had not signed up for this year as yet. The MHCA is *your* community association and it needs your support to carry on its work sponsoring events for the entire town and to maintain the beautiful, historic building that houses the library and community room. Membership forms are available in the general store and the library. *Please join us in making this a record breaking year for membership in the MHCA...thank you for your support!!*

Mount Holly Community Association

Membership Drive

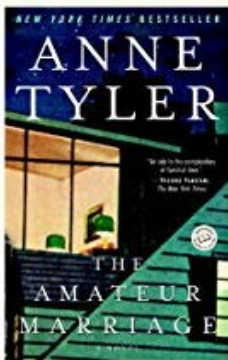
2017 – 2018

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

And the maintenance of our historic Community Center Building

Please join today!!

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



Mount Holly Library Reading Discussion Group

The Mount Holly Library Reading Discussion Group meeting February 14th at 6:00 pm at Susy Hamilton's home on Healdville Road. We are reading *The Amateur Marriage* by Anne Tyler. Please call Minga if you need a copy at 259-2471.

We wish to thank the Mount Holly Community Library for their continued support of our Reading Group. It is very, very much appreciated.

JANUARY 2018, Trestleboard

Next Meeting Tuesday January 30th 8:00PM

Regular Meeting Tuesday February 27th, 8:00 pm

Happy New Year

Just another reminder for any of the Brothers who have email but are receiving the Trestleboard in the mail, it would be a lot easier for the secretary to send you the Trestleboard via email and it will also save some money for postage and envelopes. I presently mail out around 30 each month. You can send me your email address to: sseward@vermontel.net. Thank you to those who have already sent me your email addresses.

December is now our month to receive notice of the ensuing years dues and some of you have already paid for 2018-2019. Your Secretary hasn't mastered the Grand Lodge website for you to receive your individual dues notice, so I am letting you know through the Trestleboard. **Your dues are \$40 for the year.**

RWDD Andy Paczkowski has announced that Worshipful Brother Robert Hale is organizing a Turkey dinner for all the widows in District 11 on May 12th 2018 at King Solomon's Temple in Bellows Falls. The secretary will send you the information, either by email or regular mail, in time for anyone who would like to attend.

Finally Brothers be careful about taking your shirts off in this sunny weather we are having, we don't need everyone getting sunburned! Fraternally, Bob Blaisdell, WM - **Buster Seward Sec'y**

Coming in the next issue of the *Chit Chat*: the photos of the 2019 Mount Holly Calendar.

(Selected by Popular Vote)

In the meanwhile there are fantastic winter scenes out there just waiting to be photographed and entered into the next calendar photo competition later this year.

For more information: Craig mthollyphotos@gmail.com

Some sneak peeks!

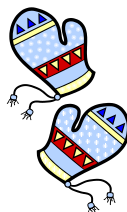
Roast Beef Dinner

Saturday, February 17, 2018
5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Church of the Annunciation Parish Hall
7 Depot Street, Ludlow

Complete dinner with homemade desserts
Adults: \$12 -- Children 6 and under: \$6

Sponsored by
Knights of
Columbus
Council 7324



Beardmore Excavating

E-mail: beardmoreexc@vermontel.net

Robert W. Beardmore Jr.

802-342-3507



Custom Builders of Belmont Inc.

P.O. Box 171
Belmont, VT 05730

Charlie Conroy
cjconroy@vermontel.net

30+ Years Experience

Black River Area Community Coalition (BRACC) Update

We are pleased to announce that the Ludlow Pharmacy (Smilin' Steve's) now has a permanent prescription drug take back box in their store thanks to a grant from the Vermont Department of Health. All unused and expired drugs can be placed in the box, including creams and inhalers. Sharps and liquids are not allowed. This box is in addition to the one that is located at the Ludlow Police Department.

The Drug Abuse Resistance Education Program (DARE) has started again at Mount Holly Elementary School in the 6th grade. Facilitated by



BIG EYES BAKERY

"Home of the Mini Quiche"
126 Main Street, Ludlow
(802) 228-2400

Visit our Facebook Page @Ludlowbakery
Pies, Cakes, Quiche, Irish Soda Bread, Cookies, Italian
Desserts and more.

Espresso, Cappuccino and Latte's available
www.bigeyesbakery.com

Two Fundraising Events in One Night

**Celebrate Valentine's Night at Ludlow
Elementary School with a spaghetti dinner
followed by**

**"Chocolate for a Cause...because it is sweet to
make a difference."**

When: Wednesday, February 14th

Time: 5-7:30 p.m.

Where: BRHS Gym

Cost: \$6.00 single

\$20.00 for a family of 4 or more

- **The spaghetti dinner** includes spaghetti and meatballs, salad, bread and butter, and water.
- **"Chocolate for a Cause"** will feature tasty chocolate desserts for purchase against the back wall of the gym. All proceeds to benefit cancer research and The American Stroke Association. Sponsored by Lisa Marks and Lora Miele.



DARE Officer Paul Faenza, in cooperation with the Ludlow Police Department, the ten week program teaches children how to make safe and responsible decisions, risks & consequences, health effects of alcohol & tobacco, bullying prevention and more.

BRACC and Okemo Mountain are sponsoring the second annual Skating for Prevention on Friday February 2nd from 6-8 pm at the Ice House at Jackson Gore. The night will be a great time for families to get out and enjoy some ice skating. Admission to the Ice House is free and there will be Hot Chocolate and snacks available as well. Ice skates will be available for a \$7 rental fee for those who need it.

For those that are unfamiliar with our coalition, we are entering our 15th year of providing drug and alcohol prevention programming to the Towns of Mount Holly, Ludlow and Plymouth. We partner with the Vermont Department of Health, prevention coalitions throughout the state, law enforcement and other local partners to promote a healthy involved community supporting substance free youth.

We meet on the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 5:30pm, Fletcher Memorial Library in Ludlow.

For more information please visit our website: www.braccvt.org or call the coalition office at 228-7878



NITKA'S NOTES FROM THE STATE HOUSE January 12, 2018

By: Senator Alice Nitka

Although we are just at the end of the second week of the session, the State House is buzzing with activity. There is a daily schedule for all events or meetings taking place in the available spaces in the building which includes a portion of the cafeteria in the morning. This is in addition to the daily calendars for House and Senate floor action and the witnesses scheduled to testify for each committee. Some of the non- legislative groups convening here on one day were the Association of General Contractors, the Lake Carmi Campers Association who are dealing with a serious pollution problem, the VT Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs who had a display in the so called "card room" and the VT National Guard in the Cedar Creek room as well as VT Legal Aid. Former Senator Bill Doyle's class from Johnson State College was in the Ethan Allen room and all over the building observing committees, Founders Memorial School students from Essex Junction were on a tour and the Governor was holding his weekly press conference. Extra legislative meeting that occurred were the Climate Solutions Caucus and the Rural Economic Working Group. All of these meetings are open to the public.

Many reports that were requested during the last half of the session have been arriving and almost all are posted on the Legislative website. Others, not requested have also been received and are informative in their areas of expertise. "How are Vermont's Young Children and Families?" from Building Bright Futures provides data and analysis re challenges and successes our young children and their families are facing. The opiate epidemic is having a significant impact in multiple areas of child and family wellbeing. It also features some recommendations and strategies as to how to best serve and support these young children and their families. We have a decline in the number of children in VT but we have an increase in the number of children going into the custody of the state. From 2011 to 2015, the population of children under nine years of age dropped from 58,321 to 56,093. From 2012 to 2015 the number of children under nine in the Dept. of Children and Families' custody went from 366 to 695 and it has increased since those dates. There are positives reported as well and in most areas around the state there is improvement in readiness for Kindergarten. The report provides regional breakdowns of the information as well as by school districts.

With regard to a January 2018 report from the Department of Corrections there is good news in that the incarcerated population is at 1796 persons down from a high of 2248 in 2010. This number includes 261 prisoners who are placed out of the state of Vermont. For those who follow prison numbers, there are 370 detainees currently being held. Windsor Prison, so called, has closed due to the high cost of housing prisoners at the facility.

There is a pleasant view out the front windows of the State House as the skating rink on the lawn has returned despite a big blip that threatened its existence at the start of winter. It is being used and there are lights for night skating. It's not Rockefeller Center but we may be the only State House in the country to have our own rink.

If you drive a car or truck on roads or highways around Vermont and the rest of the country you likely have passed an "Automated License Plate Recognition" system" and had your license plate photographed by a high speed camera. ALPR systems as they are known are mobile or fixed high speed cameras combined with computers to convert images of registration plates into computer readable data. The data collected by the systems in VT is considered collected only for a legitimate law enforcement purposes. These purposes apply to active or historical data and means investigation, detection, analysis or enforcement regarding a crime or a commercial motor vehicle violation as well as certain other motor vehicle violations. (Stolen cars are an easy one for these devices.) The computer in the police car only gives an "alert" when it recognizes a plate that has been fed into it on a vehicle that the police are seeking. They also can be used for AMBER alerts or missing or endangered person searches. A use not usually thought of is that they can be used in a person's defense against a charge of a crime or a commercial motor vehicle violation. They were first approved for use in Vermont in 2013 with a sunset date of 2016 when they would be reviewed by the Legislature as to their effectiveness, uses of the data, and whether the allowed time frames for retaining the data was appropriate. The retention period is for 18 months after which the data must be destroyed unless extended by court order. All of the ALPR information gathered, whether by municipal law enforcement agencies, sheriffs, DMV officers and the state police is stored at the Department of Public Safety. The 2016 law was extended that year and another sunset established for 2018 thus ALPRs were back again in the Senate Judiciary Committee. The full Senate has voted to again extend the time and the law governing their use with another report due in 2020. Without the law the material could be stored in perpetuity and the uses of it could be expanded. There are definitely privacy concerns should the material simply be available to the public rather than confidential as it is now except for the designated uses. The American Civil Liberties Union testified that they felt the retention period should be less than 18 months however the Senate left it the same. Another complaint about the ALPR systems is that the reporting requirements for law enforcement are so

onerous when they have a hit or alert that many departments are discontinuing their use. The House of Representatives will next consider the bill. The bill, S-150 only shows the extension of the sunset thus it isn't anything interesting to read.

Incidentally, many states are now using similar systems for collecting tolls rather than having toll booths. Your license plate is photographed by an overhead camera as you drive by it and you subsequently receive a bill in the mail. I'm not sure how successful the collections are going but they must have figured all of that out ahead of time.

Visit Montpelier, have lunch in our cafeteria and take a tour. Contact me at home at 802-228-8432 or anitka@leg.state.vt.us I am able to read all of your e-mails and appreciate you sending them, however the volume received makes it impossible to respond to all of them.

Visit us on
Facebook



1966 Healdville Road, Mount Holly 802.259.2250

Visit our farm stand for:

Pasture raised chicken, pork & eggs

Grass fed & finished beef

Maple syrup

*dedicated to providing a local alternative
to commercially produced factory food*

☘ Pasture Raised ☘
**PLEW
FARM**
Mt Holly, Vermont

**Farm Stand
Winter Hours:
Thurs-Sun
12pm-5pm**



Library News

Winter Reading Bingo!: The Mount Holly Town Library invites you to hibernate with a book this winter! You know you'll be cuddling up with a few good books, so why not have a chance to win a prize with Winter Reading BINGO!?!

Winter Reading BINGO is open to everyone. Any books you finish between February 1, 2018 and March 31, 2018 can be included on your BINGO sheet, with each book counting for a single square. Don't worry, audiobooks and ebooks definitely count!

Each completed BINGO row (horizontal, vertical or diagonal) equals one entry into our prize drawings. There will be two Adult (9th grade up) and two Youth (K-8th grade) winners chosen from the entries. Download BINGO sheets below, or pick them up in the library. BINGO sheets must be returned by noon on Saturday March 31st. The drawing will be held Monday April 2nd.

Print out your own BINGO sheet here (front/back or 2 pages):

ADULT: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1PnYt_NUaEXwSQRxR4nbkELO9h7OdH0ZA/view?usp=sharing

KIDS: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1zTWwJNIXyZtbzlhjoeLyosuuJ49b4v9Z/view?usp=sharing>

NEW Books and DVDs at MHTL!

DVDs: Leap!, Brave, Captain Underpants: The First Epic Movie, The Princess Bride, Cars, Houseboat, Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them

Adult Fiction: Year One by Nora Roberts, The Deal of a Lifetime by Fredrik Backman, The Princess Bride by William Goldman, The Wanted by Robert Crais, Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng, Seeing Red by Sandra Brown, In the Midst of Winter by Isabel Allende, The Keeper of Lost Things by Ruth Hogan, Winter Solstice by Elin Hilderbrand, Power and Empire by Tom Clancy, A Stranger in the House by Shari Lapena, End Game and The Fix by David Baldacci, Enemy of the State by Vince Flynn, Enigma by Catherine Coulter

Adult Non-Fiction: Endurance: A Year in Space, A Lifetime of Discovery by Scott Kelly, As You Wish: Inconceivable Tales from the Making of The Princess Bride by Cary Elwes, Chief Engineer: Washington Roebling, The Man Who Built the Brooklyn Bridge by Erica Wagner, The Stranger in the Woods: The Extraordinary Story of the Last True Hermit by Michael Finkel, Meditation for Fidgety Skeptics: A 10% Happier How-to Book by Dan Harris

Don't forget to email mthollylibrary@gmail.com or stop by with your book or DVD suggestions!



**Do your shopping with us for
Grassfed Beef & VT Maple Syrup**

Try our new

**~ Farm Store Hours ~
Saturday & Sundays
11:00 am - 2:30 pm**

Gift Certificates available

2450 Lincoln Hill 802-492-2151
www.smithmaplecrestfarm.com

Ladies Night at MHTL: The Mount Holly Town Library will be hosting Ladies Night February 23rd at 6pm. Watch your email for more details!

Follow us on Facebook! : Did you know the Mount Holly Town Library is on Facebook? Make sure to Friend Us and Like our page **@mthollytownlibrary!**

Get program announcements, winter weather closings and new book updates all in one place!

Winter is here! The Mount Holly Town Library would like to remind you that if the schools are closed then so is the library. On the weekends we will make an announcement on Facebook and our website if we will be closed due to winter weather. Please feel free to call first if you are unsure whether or not we are open. 802-259-3707

Book Donations: Due to the lack of storage space, the Mount Holly Town Library will stop taking book donations during the winter months. Please hold on to your gently used books until the Spring when we will begin accepting donations again in anticipation of our Fourth of July Book Sale! The library would like to thank all of the wonderful community members who donate books for our sales, we truly appreciate it!

Playgroup at the Library Tuesdays 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM: All children ages birth to 5 years old are welcome. The program is run by early childhood education expert, Lynn Gould. Bring your littles for free play, songs, stories, healthy snacks and arts and crafts. Stop in the library after to check out some great picture books to take home. Tuesday Playgroup is a wonderful support for parents with young children.

Library Hours: The Mount Holly Town Library is open: Mondays 10:00am – 6:00pm, Tuesdays 9:00am – 1:00pm, Wednesdays 3:00pm – 7:00pm, Saturdays 9:00am – 1:00pm and Sundays 2:00pm – 4:00pm.



Wayne Jones Metal

All Metals

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

www.waynejonesmetal.com

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



MASTER

PLUMBING & HEATING

New Location!

P.O. Box 354, 126 Main St. Unit D, Ludlow
masterph@vermontel.net
802-975-0369

NAME:

EMAIL:

PHONE #:

				
Read a book with a "NEW" sticker	Read a book with more than 300 pages	Read an article in a magazine (online or paper)	Read an award winning book	Read a book by your favorite author
Read a Fantasy book	Read a book recommended by someone else	Read a book with a one word title	Read a Historical Fiction book	Read a book set during the winter
Read a book from the bottom shelf	Read an ebook or listen to an audiobook	Free! Read a Book of your choice	Read a work of Non-Fiction	Read a Romance
Read a book with a Blue cover	Read a Mystery or Thriller	Read a book you own but haven't read yet	Read a book that became a Movie	Watch the Movie of the book you read
Read a book by an author you've never read before	Read a book by a VT author	Read a Young Adult book	Read a Biography, Autobiography or Memoir	Read a book by a female author



NAME:

EMAIL:

PHONE #:

Title

Author

"New" book _____

300+ pages _____

Magazine article _____

Award winner _____

Favorite author _____

Fantasy _____

Recommendation _____

One word title _____

Historical Fiction _____

Set in winter _____

Bottom shelf _____

Ebook/audiobook _____

Your choice _____

Non-fiction _____

Romance _____

Blue cover _____

Mystery/Thriller _____

Book you own _____

Book into Movie _____

Watch the Movie _____

New to you author _____

VT author _____

YA book _____

Bio/Memoir _____

Female author _____

NO DOUBLE DIPPING. ONE BOOK = ONE SQUARE

Tear or cut along the dotted line.



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 LPC-TV. The videos can be viewed at their website, www.lpctv.org. Computers with internet access are available at the Town Library.

Select Board Meeting Minutes ~ January 9, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 7:30PM, by Ted Crawford, Select Board Chair. Select Board members Ron Tarbell and Tim Martin were present. All stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. The VLCT new bill was added to the agenda.
2. The minutes of the December meeting and Budget meeting were approved by motion and second. Passed 3-0

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

Class 4 roads)

4. Report of the Treasurer: David Johnson presented an income and expense statement dated December 31, 2017 showing cash balances. David reports that there was no noteworthy revenue in December. He also, reported that town expenses are the same last year. The external audit has been done and hopefully the Town will have the draft in the near future.

The Vermont Division of Property Valuation and Review - David noted that the State set the Common Level of Appraisal at 110%. The Coefficient of Dispersion is 16. These numbers indicate the State will not be requiring re-appraisal this year as the co-efficient is under 20%..

5. Proposed FY19 Budget: The Board reviewed the FY19 budget, as drafted at the January 5, 2018 work session. David reviewed; overall the Board felt the budget to be reasonable. In considering the capital assets fund, the Board noted the need to build that fund for future replacements on equipment, also the need to replace the '05 truck. The board felt that an increase to 60,000 this year will aid in the ability to replace equipment in the future. The Board is still waiting for a couple budgets to be submitted to finalize the budget for FY19. Currently, the budget increase is just over 3%, which equates to a \$.01 increase in taxes. The vote on the budget will take place at the February Board meeting.

6. Transfer Station – Jeff Teter reports that the compactor has not been working, as it is not programmed for the recent Arctic temperatures. The compactor was reprogrammed Monday (1/8), and an insulated box was made to help protect the electronics from the colder environment. Casella will pay for the Town's cost in building and installing the protective box. The warranty is for one year. Jeff will work on researching if this warranty can be extended per Board request.

7. Other: The Aquatic Nuisance Control Grant; The Board reviewed and signed the pages for this year's grant application for Lake Ninevah. It is noted that again this year no paperwork has been presented for Star Lake, as no one has taken on that responsibility.

The Migratory Birds permit for Star Lake was reviewed by the Board and will be passed on to the proper department.

The date to set the warning, Sue Cavella noted that the last day for petitions to be submitted is January 25, 2018 at 5PM.

MHCA well easement was passed 3-0. Noted: the town will never incur a cost

for Mount Holly Community Association. This document has been looked over by the Town Attorney.

Winter Parking Ordinance was approved contingent on the approval of VLCT.

Update School Expenditure Discussion w/Ludlow & TRSU- the Board voted on continuing the non-payment of the Union 39 education bill. Ted submitted the following information:

At the last Select Board meeting, we discussed statements of the Ludlow Select Board and Ludlow Elementary School Board regarding Mount Holly not paying its share of the Union 39 education bills. I have discussed these statements with the Chairman of the Ludlow Select Board and exchanged several e-mails with the TRSU accounting office.

It was stated that Mount Holly did not pay for after school programs, sports uniforms, coaches referees, transportation to sporting events and field trips. The fact is that Mount Holly does pay for the after school program (6,500) and has never been billed for any of these other activities. To quote the accounting office, "I have never been asked to bill you (Mount Holly) for any of them and I have worked for the school district for 17 years. There is definitely some misinformation out there."

It was also stated that we did not pay for some Union 39 expenses that were billed to us earlier in the year. I have researched this and found that this is regarding an invoice sent to Mount Holly in June 2017. This invoice was for some Union 39 expenses not included in the taxes we voted on and agreed to pay in support of Union 39. The total cost to Mount Holly was \$6,008. On

Regular Select Board meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm in the Town Office. Items to be included on the Agenda are due by Noon the Thursday before the meeting.

Mount Holly Animal Control Officer

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

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.

January 5, 2016, six months prior to receiving this invoice, the Mount Holly Select Board determined it was not going to pay for educational expenses from the Town budget. This included our elementary school and Union 39 expenses. This "hiding of funds" was done many years ago in response to Act 60 and was no longer relevant. The Select Board felt it was wrong to continue a practice of not letting the tax payers know the true cost of educating our students. After, we took this action we notified Mount Holly Elementary School Board and TRSU. Again, this was January 2016. We will be happy to pay our share of educational expenses, but they must be part of the school budget and voted on by our citizens annually. It is my understanding that the Ludlow Select Board is currently wrestling with this issue as it prepares their next town budget. I believe the amount they are dealing with in excess of \$400,000. ~ Ted Crawford, Select Board Chair

Discussion was held on this subject. David reminded the Select Board that a similar invoice was submitted by Union 39 in 2016 and was rejected by this Select Board, so this should not come as a surprise to TRSU.

VLCT – new statute/law (S.97) concerning electronic notification. The VLCT would like to amend Sec 1. 1V.S.A 174. The Board voted to support this piece of legislation.

8. Executive Session: Upon motion made and seconded, it was voted to enter Executive Session to review an employee matter (Title 1 VSA S 33(a) (3)) at 8:21PM (vote 3-0).

Upon motion made and seconded, it was voted to return from session at 8:26PM (vote 3-0).

There were no decisions as a result of the Executive Session.

9. The Board reviewed and signed the December orders for payment.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by motion made, seconded and approved at 8:27PM. Respectfully Submitted, Carrie Dougherty

Town of Mount Holly Planning Commission Regular Meeting ~ January 15, 2018

Members present: Bill McGrath, Jim Seward, Peter Berger

Visitors: Robert & Lynn Herbst, Art Krueger, Ed McEneaney (PEGTV)

Bill called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. The minutes from December's meeting (12/18/17) and the Special meeting (1/8/18) were approved (3-0).

New Business: Herbst subdivision - The Herbst presented the plans for their subdivision for the Planning Commission's review. The commission went through the subdivision checklist and asked for 2 Mylar plans, the deed description, and the filing fee for next month's meeting.

Old Business: Buck Subdivision

The Planning commission is still waiting for response to complete the paperwork.

Correspondence: None

Other: Snyder property - This carried over from December. The property and wastewater system permit have been filed.

Town Plan: The Commission continued work on the Town Plan.

Motion to adjourn was made by Jim Seward, and seconded by Peter Berger. Passed (3-0) Meeting adjourned at 8:28 PM. Respectfully Submitted, Carrie Dougherty, Clerk



Annual Snow Ball Ride-In

Join us for food and fun.

Saturday February 17, 2018

11:00AM - 3:00PM

At the Stone House in The Coolidge State Forest

Look for intersection RD 669

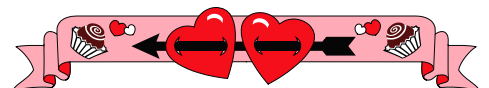
Mount Holly, Trail Corridor 7 will be marked with directions to the Ride In location by sled.

- Burgers, hot dogs, chips and refreshments
- Bonfire
- 50/50 raffle
- Raffles
- Club sweatshirts, t-shirts, and logo stickers available for sale
- See/meet the Groomers!



Weather Permitting!

www.mounthollysnowflyers.org or find us on Facebook



The Old Main to play a benefit concert for Flood Brook Student Activities Cooperative February 9

Londonderry, VT. The popular band The Old Main will play a special, one-night-only concert at 7pm at The Black Line Tavern at Magic Mountain to benefit the students of Flood Brook School.

Hailing from the foothills of the Adirondack Mountains in Upstate New York, The Old Main has drawn favorable comparisons to bands such as The Avett Brothers, The Band, and Dawes, while retaining a sound and style uniquely their own. With catchy original music and creatively reimagined covers, they've been called everything from Folk-Rock to alt-Americana, though no label or description compares to hearing their foot-stomping music in person. Acoustic guitar, harmonica, banjo, upright bass, drums, and ringing vocal harmonies make up The Old Main's raw acoustic sound, and their high-energy live performances are enjoyed by all. The Old Main continues to build acclaim and expand their already strong following all over the North East.

Join us on Friday, February 9 at 7:00 pm to hear a great band benefitting a great cause at Magic Mountain's Black Line Tavern, 495 Magic Mountain Access, Londonderry, VT 05148.

Tickets are \$15 in advance or \$20 at the door. Advance tickets are available at Flood Brook School, the Weston Marketplace, Brown Enterprises or by emailing nadinevanhouten@yahoo.com. Proceeds benefit the Flood Brook Student Activities Cooperative, a non-profit organization dedicated to raising funds for enrichment activities for the students of Flood Brook School.

Generations: Stories From Rutland County



A New Documentary Series on PEGTV

PEGTV is proud to announce the release of its first documentary series, "Generations: Stories from Rutland County." This PEGTV-produced show shines a spotlight on the Rutland County families that helped shaped our community. Their stories, as told by their living relatives, take viewers on a nostalgic journey by exploring their local origins that created a lasting legacy for future generations.

The first film of the series follows the lineage of the Costello family as told by local celebrity Steve Costello and his cousins, BJ Costello, Michelle Kaufman and Katrina Clark. Their family story is

one of heartache and hardship, but also one of triumph. The story begins with a 1928 Rutland Herald editorial read by Steve Costello describing the sudden and tragic loss of his grandfather Bartley Costello who passed away at the age of forty-nine, leaving behind a wife and nine children at the beginning of the depression. It's a must-see documentary that will touch your heart, and give you a new outlook on East Washington Street in Rutland City.

"Rutland County is a special place for many different reasons, but our biggest asset is the people who live here," said Missi Delehanty, the Program Development Coordinator at the station. "This series celebrates our residents and their rich history. I'm so excited for viewers to see our community through the eyes of these incredible families who shared their remarkable stories."

"Generations: Stories from Rutland County – The Costello Family" will premiere on Channel 15, Thursday February 15th at 8:00pm. It will also be available to watch online at pegtv.com.



Shrewsbury Singers concert, Sun, Feb. 4

Shrewsbury Singers & Friends present "Singing on a Sunday Afternoon" sharing songs we love to sing, old and new, from here and there. Sunday, Feb. 4 at 3:00 PM, Shrewsbury Meeting House. Free Will offering to benefit the Shrewsbury Helping Hand Fund. The Shrewsbury Singers gather weekly to sing in harmony. This group is diverse in age and

experience and comes together through a love of singing. All are welcome to join. Information: Licia Gambino Hamilton 802-492-3792 or hamgam@vermontel.net

Help Us Welcome the Northeast Shrine Association

This is a great opportunity to market your business to over 1,000 members of the Northeast Shrine Association at NO COST.

The Chamber is working closely with our local Cairo Shriners as they are making plans to host the 2018 Northeast Shrine Associations

Fall Field Days in Rutland. This event scheduled for September 13-15, 2018 will bring more than a thousand of Shriners to our region. There will also be a group of around 100 members in the region in March.

As a way of welcoming this group to the area, we are creating a Passport To Rutland. We are asking any businesses that are willing to participate to offer a special or discount for this Passport which will be provided to those in attendance at this event.

Your offer should be submitted in the form of a 2.5 inch high x 3.5 inch wide camera ready ad. Your ad should include the special or discount you are offering; your location and any other information that will get people in your door.

If you are willing to participate in the Passport To Rutland, fill out the form and upload or ad with your discount or special by email your ad to Penny@RutlandVermont.com. For more information call 802-773-2747 or [email us](mailto:Penny@RutlandVermont.com).

UPPER VALLEY CURLING CLUB

White River Junction, Vermont

Learn the Sport of Curling

The Winter Olympics begin on February 8th and there will be plenty of



curling action to watch on TV. Why not experience the sport firsthand now and appreciate it more when you watch?

The Upper Valley Curling Club will host a Learn to Curl Clinic on Saturday, February 3rd from 5:45 to 8:00 pm at the Barwood Arena in White River Junction. The club invites anyone age 12 or older to become familiar with the action and the terminology by taking this class, which is designed for those who have never before tried the sport.

All you need to bring are warm clothes and shoes with non-skid soles. The club will provide all of the equipment. The class begins with off-ice instruction, then moves into the arena for hands on practice and, time permitting, will allow for a short game. Cost is \$25 per person for two hours of fun.

The Upper Valley Curling Club plays weekly at the Barwood Arena, which is located behind the high school at 45 Highland Ave in White River Junction. For more information regarding the club or about the clinic, email upervalleycurling@gmail.com or go to www.upervalleycurling.org.



Weston Film Club: Friday, January 26 7:00 at The Playhouse Theatre at Walker Farm.

The Weston Film Club strives to introduce lesser known, intriguing, entertaining and/or provocative international films to our community celebrating film as an art medium as well as entertainment. Thanks to the Weston Playhouse at Walker Farm we will have use of their theatre complete with state-of-the-art Audio and visual system and comfortable chairs!

Beginning Friday, January 26 at 7:00 pm (following the Farmers' Market from 3 to 6:00 p.m.) we will show our first film in a series of 4 - **Tell No One** in which Intrigue is the name of the game.

Tell No One (French: *Ne le dis à personne*) - is a 2006 French [thriller film](#) directed by [Guillaume Canet](#) and based on the [novel of the same name](#) by [Harlan Coben](#). Starring [François Cluzet](#) and Kristen Scott-Thomas this film won four categories at the 2007 [César Awards](#) in France: Best Director ([Guillaume Canet](#)), Best Actor ([François Cluzet](#)), Best Editing and Best Music Written for a Film.

Summary: "In Guillaume Canet's delicious contemporary thriller **"Tell No One"** a husband is snared in a dark labyrinth" when "after eight long years since his beloved wife's hideous murder, the unexpected, accidental discovery of two bodies near a Doctor's estate stirs things up again in a long-forgotten buried case that nothing is as it appears...."

What the critics say: "A thriller in the grand manner, **"Tell No One"** takes Hitchcock's favorite theme - a man wrongly accused - and runs with it. And runs is the word. The chase scenes in Guillaume Canet's film are lengthy, grueling and as thrilling as some classic Hollywood examples - appropriately The French Connection sprang to mind." The Guardian

According the the New York Times: **Tell No One** is "Vertigo" meets "The Fugitive" by way of "The Big Sleep." (That is meant as high praise.)

Author Coben, says he is a fan of "stories that move you, that grab hold of your heart and do not let it go, and Canet has gotten a film that does exactly that."

The Los Angeles Times says " **Tell everyone** about **"Tell No One"** because this is a top-notch thriller so twisty you may forget to breathe.

SO, PLEASE TELL EVERYONE and **RSVP TO OUR NEW EMAIL** westonvtfilm@gmail.com to JOIN US for this intriguing film! Janet Warren



Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce

February Chamber Corner

By Marji Graf, CEO

We started off the year strong!!!

On January 10th our first topic in our FREE education series was about Cyber Security and what steps you should take to keep your data safe.

We followed that up with a workshop by Kim Dixon of Insights LLC on January 16th re: Small Business Success. We learned how to build marketing campaigns that drive action, organize these campaigns, choose advertising to reach our target market without draining resources, and coordinate our chosen marketing venues with cohesive messaging!!!

Our next workshop presented by Kim will be **March 13 from 11-12n** at Newsbank Conference Center in Chester: Topic, Growing your business using Google and **May 15** topic will be Finding your niche on social media.

The chamber is working diligently on our Annual Regional Guidebook. If you want your business or events to be included then your chamber dues need to be paid

by February 15.

We honored Brewfest Beverage as January Members of the Month.

Marji interviewed new member Scott MacDonald of S. B. MacDonald Custom Instruments of Chester on her monthly show on OkemoValleyTV.

Travel Shows: Leaving 1/25th for NY Times Travel Show to represent our Region.

Speaking Engagements: Marji spoke to Chester Select Board on January 3 re: OVRCC 2017 accomplishments, 2018 goals and asked for help with text and images for the Chester section of guidebook and website. (You can watch on SAPA)

Marji will also be speaking with Chester Economic Development committee on February 7th at 8am at Free Range.

Ribbon Cuttings were held for: Main + Mountain ~ S.B.MacDonald Custom Instruments ~ Vermont Cannoli



Marji Graf, CEO of Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce welcomes our newest renovated boutique motel called Main + Mountain Bar and Motel to the Chamber. They are located at 112 Main Street in Ludlow, VT (formerly All Seasons)

This newly renovated, well-designed motel has a sense of authenticity and adventure that reflects the spirit of the area. They have a beautiful lobby bar showcasing spirited mixology & handcrafted cocktails, craft beer and wine. Their bar doubles as the check-in counter as well.

Visit them and their sister property across the street, Homestyle Hostel!

Pictured l-r: Marji Graf, Eliza Green, Matthew Farkas, Christie Farkas, Justin Hyjek

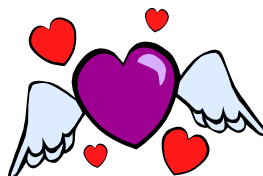
The Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce would like to thank Todd Sears, Chief, Engagement Section of VT Emergency Management (VEM) for speaking at our Lunch and Learn on January

10th at Newsbank Conference Center. Todd also serves on the Governor's Cyber Security Advisory team.

Also attending were Whytnee Bush and Lauren Jandl, from the Office of the Attorney General, Consumer Assistance Program.

Immediate things you should be sure to do:

1. Install OS/Software Updates.
2. Run Anti-virus Software
3. Don't use Open WiFi Networks
4. Don't Click attachments (unless you know who they are coming from)
5. Use Multi-factor Authentication
6. Use Strong Passwords
7. Back-Up your data
8. Train your employees
9. Monitor personal devices
10. Plan for Attack



Heat Pumps In Vermont

You Are Welcome Thank goodness for fuel oil which is providing both heat and electricity to the Northeast. Heating oil has been critical to ensuring the electric grid has enough power, according to ISO-NE. New England power generators (including peaking plants in Vermont) used 84 million gallons of heating oil between December 25th and January 9th. This is about the same amount of residential heating oil sold in Vermont during an entire year.

Wait....what? Let me repeat that. New England electric utilities needed a year's supply of Vermont's heating oil to ensure we had enough electricity FOR TWO WEEKS.

Not only are we helping the electric company with their power problems, natural gas utilities also need a lifeline from heating oil. Unable to supply their large customers, natural gas utilities across the northeast shut off the gas and told their interruptible customers to switch to heating oil.

Heat Pump Hysteria Electric heat pumps keep you cool when it is warm and they keep you warm when it is cool. But as thousands of Vermonters found out this month, they do not work well when it is cold. Pipes are at risk of freezing if the homeowner does not have a central heating system. Fuel dealers report that customers who thought they could rely on solely on electric heat pumps this winter now want to be put back on automatic delivery for oil and propane.

This stone cold truth is not understood by many anti-fuel lobbyists in Montpelier. One testified in the House Energy Committee on Tuesday, suggesting that Vermonters should not install high efficiency oil and gas equipment when their existing system needs to be replaced, and instead rely solely on electric heat pumps. This is something even the electric companies DO NOT recommend. At a hearing on Wednesday, an electric company executive confirmed what thousands found out this week— that you can't rely on solely on an electric heat pump when it gets Vermont cold. Even the electric company uses fossil fuels to keep their employees warm. Learn the facts at www.vermontfuel.com/heatpump Johnson Energy Inc.



USDA Grant Supports Vermont State Colleges System's Distance Learning Network

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) awarded the Vermont State Colleges System a \$388,988 grant to enhance their distance learning capabilities. Assistant to the Secretary for Rural Development Anne Hazlett today announced that USDA is awarding grants for broadband projects to increase access to job training, educational and health care services in rural areas in 35 states.

"Distance Learning technology has the potential to close the geographic divide faced by rural America and bring resources to communities that are not readily available," said Acting State Director for Vermont and New Hampshire Jon-Michael Muise. "I applaud the leadership at the Vermont State College System and Northern Vermont University for pursuing an innovative solution to extend educational resources to rural communities across the state and the country."

The USDA Rural Development grant will help the Vermont State Colleges System create a distance learning network to connect Northern Vermont University, comprised of Johnson State College and Lyndon State College, to Sinte Gleska University, Lower Brule Community College and Ihanktonwan Community College in South Dakota and to 28 Vermont high schools. A mix of fixed and mobile video conferencing technology will increase course offerings to students, such as dual-credit college courses. It also will provide increased professional development opportunities for instructors and extend these opportunities to individuals in public service agencies, such as police officers and firefighters.

Nationwide, USDA is awarding 72 grants totaling \$23.6 million through the Distance Learning and Telemedicine (DLT) Grant Program. This program funds equipment that uses broadband to help rural communities connect to advanced learning and specialized medical services. The 2017 grant recipients include organizations seeking to address two of the nation's most urgent needs: opioid abuse treatment and mental health counseling.

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 services such as schools, public safety and health care; and high-speed internet access in rural areas. For more information visit the Vermont Rural Development website (www.rd.usda.gov/vt) or contact USDA RD at (802) 828-6000.

Sign Up for the Mt. Holly NewsFlash

To get all that is happening locally just email to mhnewsflash1@gmail.com
And request to be placed on the list.

Also check out

<http://mhnewsflash.blogspot.com/>

For all happenings in Mt. Holly Town and our Schools

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



The Paramount Theater Presents Tribute Concert In Memory of Robert De Cormier

Sunday Matinee Series concerts January 28, 2018 at The Paramount Theater begins at 3pm.

The VSO wouldn't be the organization we are today without the artistic vision and leadership of VSO Chorus founder Robert De Cormier. This tribute concert is our small way of thanking him for his musical service to Vermonters and the VSO.

The first half of the concert will feature the Vermont Symphony Orchestra and Chorus, under the



direction of Jose Daniel Flores-Caraballo, who is making his conducting debut with the VSO. Los Angeles-based composer Morton Lauridsen (b. 1943) wrote *Lux Aeterna* following the death of his mother in 1997, and the text for the piece is based on various references to light from sacred Latin texts.

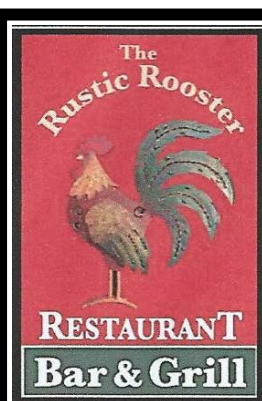
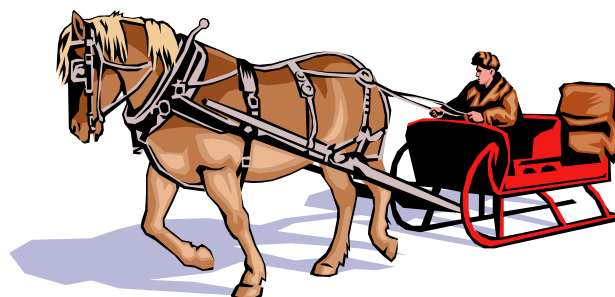
The first half is anchored by Robert De Cormier's own composition for chorus and orchestra: *Legacy*. De Cormier composed this piece in 1981 as a memorial for his son. This performance marks the first time the VSO has ever performed the work.

After intermission, VSO Music Director Jaime Laredo takes the stage to lead the orchestra in Schubert's ninth symphony, aptly nicknamed "The Great." Widely regarded as Schubert's supreme masterpiece, this is an extremely challenging piece to perform, due to the endurance and technique required—particularly among the strings and woodwinds. In fact, orchestras refused to play the symphony in Paris and London when Felix Mendelssohn attempted to program it in the late-1830's.

PROGRAM: ROBERT DE CORMIER – *Legacy* ~ MORTEN LAURIDSEN – *Lux Aeterna*

Intermission

SCHUBERT – Symphony No. 9 ~ Jaime Laredo, conductor ~ José Daniel Flores-Caraballo, chorus director and conductor ~ Featuring the VSO Chorus



SUNDAY BRUNCH
Every Sunday
10 am – 2 pm

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

Hours:

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

492-3433

Vtrusticrooster.com
5446 VT Route 103, Cuttingsville, VT
Like us on Facebook





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



VNA & HOSPICE
of the Southwest Region
Serving Bennington and Rutland Counties

Community Health Clinics – February 2018

February Blood Pressure/Foot Care Clinics

Thursday, 02/01/2018,	Rutland, Parker House,	10am
Thursday, 02/01/2018,	Rutland, Bardwell House,	12:30pm
Wednesday, 02/07/2018,	Wallingford, Wallingford House,	10:30am
Wednesday, 02/28/2018,	Rutland, Godnick Adult Center,	12:30pm

The cost of the foot clinic is \$10. No appointment necessary. Please call 802.770.1536 for more information.

Bereavement Group: VNAHSR's monthly bereavement group is held Tuesdays at 6pm at Grace Congregational Church in Rutland with Rutland office chaplain, Andrew Carlson, facilitating. The group is free and open to the public. For more, please contact Andrew at 770.1613.

Vermont Ostomy Group: A support group for individuals with bowel and bladder ostomies and continent diversions will be held Saturday, February 24, from 10:30am until noon at the Rutland office on 7 Albert Cree Drive. For more details or questions, contact Kate Lawrence, MSN RN CWOCN at 802-770-1682.

Experience the Region's Dim Sum of Yoga & More:

Thrive Center Sponsors "A Winter ~ Spring ~ Sampler: Classes & Workshops"

Experience the joy of restoring movement to all areas of your body while learning how to unravel the restrictions produced from daily life; with 4 different instructors, on the following Sundays: 3/4, 3/11, 3/18, 3/25. The classes and workshops of "The Sampler" are open to those who are new to yoga and other offerings (some new twists this year!), as well as, those who are looking to grow an experienced practice.

The SESSIONS will start at 2:30 PM, and will be held at the Wallingford Elementary School Gymnasium, 126 School Street / Route 140 East, Wallingford. The investment (Fee) is either: \$10.00 per class and \$20.00 per workshop. Pricing subject to change.

On Saturday, 3/31, "Easter Eve" a class or workshop field trip may be offered. Details to be announced.

For further detailed information and to register call 802-446-2499 or Email: uthrive@vermontel.net, today! For weekly updates check: <https://www.facebook.com/ThriveCenteroftheGreenMountains/>



BONE BUILDERS

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



Dress WARMLY for movement; bring a mat, blanket, and water. A portion of the proceeds will directly benefit the: Wallingford Elementary School, as well as, the Rutland Open Door Mission.

~ Payments can be brought day of, dropped off, or mailed to: Thrive Center, c/o: Lisa Donohue, 68 South Main Street, P.O. Box 539, Wallingford, VT 05773 ~ (with checks payable directly to each instructor.) [Please denote the date(s) you are registering for. Refund-ability on checks paid, will be the discretion of the instructor.]

Join Us ~ Experience the Region's Dim Sum of YOGA & More!

RE: inclement weather potentials ~ If you do not hear from us directly ~ the workshop or class is still being held! **Lisa M. Donohue, MA, LMT, Co-Owner, Thrive Center of the Green Mountains,** p) 802-446-2499, (e) wellbeyond@vermontel.net

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

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

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

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

Name

Address

Phone Email





ENGEL & VÖLKERS
Okemo-Woodstock

World Class Real Estate
802-975-0338

Restored Post & Beam Farmhouse



Wallingford, Vermont

MLS # 4663765 \$469,000.



Forget Winter for just a moment and feel the warmth of this beautiful home. If you love the charm of antique homes but don't want to deal with all of the renovations necessary for today's standards then this home is for you. This spacious, beautifully-restored Post and Beam farmhouse was originally built in 1823 with two additions added in 1917. The setting gives you spectacular views and a separate two car barn/garage. There are two large gathering areas, both with fireplaces, gorgeous wood floors and built-ins galore. The first floor master has it's own private bath. Four more large bedrooms make this home well-suited for all of your friends and family. This home is impeccable! Outdoor spots include a covered front porch with distant views of Okemo Mountain and a screened porch to enjoy your morning coffee. Situated on one of Vermont's most scenic roads, this completely renovated farmhouse offers you easy access to everything in South-Central Vermont. Come and enjoy!

Engel & Volkers Okemo-Woodstock
okemo-woodstock.evusa.com
office: 802-975-0338

Gail Graves-Beardmore, Broker/Owner
gail.graves-beardmore@evusa.com
Cell: 802-236-5431



©2018 Engel & Völkers. All rights reserved. Each brokerage independently owned and operated. Engel & Völkers and its independent License Partners are Equal Opportunity Employers and fully support the principals of the Fair Housing Act. All information provided is deemed reliable but is not guaranteed.

Who's Got It Locally?

Artists & Architects

Spectrum Photography – John Miller	259-3060
Stephanie Stouffer, Studio & Gallery Gift Shop	259-2686
<u>Bakeries - Catering - Restaurants - Stores</u>	
Harry's Café, Trip & Deb Pearce III	228-2996
Mojo Café – John & Jodi Seward mojocafevt@yahoo.com	228-6656
The Rustic Rooster – Donna & Greg Ganzer	492-3433
www.vtrusticrooster.com	

Bed & Breakfast

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

Building & Repairs – General Work

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

Grey Goose Chimney Sweeps	492-3549
Radican Construction Co – Home Improvement & Remodel	345-9619
www.Radicanconstruction.com	

RDS Contracting – General Contractor	259-3383
New/Remodel Decks, Roofing	

Ted Stryhas Builder	228-7327
Wright Construction – Brett Wright	259-2094

Church Listings

Annunciation, Ludlow, Mass Sat 4:30 pm, Sun 8 am & 11 am	
Holy Name of Mary, Proctorsville, Mass Sun 9:30 am	
Rev Thomas Mosher	228-3451
E. Wallingford Baptist – SS 10 am, Worship 11 am, 6:30 pm	
Pastor Kevin Miner www.ewbaptist.com	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
St. Patrick's, Wallingford, Mass Sat 4 pm, Sun 10 am	
Rev Msgr Bernard Bourgeois christthekingprsh@gmail.com	446-2161

Engineering

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

Equipment For Hire & Snow Moving

Beardmore Excavating beardmoreexc@vermontel.net	342-3507
Devereux Earth & Snow Moving	259-2809
Norton's Property Management – Logging*Land Clearing*Snowplowing	
*Brush Hogging*Mowing & Care Taking 802-353-6289 Cell	259-3108
Russ Garrow –Lawn Mowing*Brush Hogging*Garden Tilling*Snow Plowing	
*Care Taking	259-3167

Farm Fresh Products

Plew Farm (meat, eggs, maple)	802-259-2250
Smith Maple Crest Farm, Grass-Fed Beef Cuts Fresh/Frozen	492-2151
www.Smithmaplecrestfarm.com	

Funeral Homes

Clifford Funeral Home	773-3010
-----------------------	----------

Garage, Repair & Wrecking

Belmont Motor Works LLC - Harley-Davidson, Small Engine	259-3178
Snowmobile, ATV, Aluminum Welding & Metal Fabrication	
Joe's Garage – ATV's, Snowmobiles, Motorcycles	259-2688
Joesaragellc@hotmail.com	

Miller's Garage – Cold River Rd. Rutland	775-6852
--	----------

Garden & Landscape, Lawn Mowing

Belmont Country Gardens Quality Custom Stonework & More	259-2364
Frost Hill Farm Seasonal Peony Wedding Flowers	259-2716
Jeb Porter Landscaping rocker@vermontel.net	259-3058
Kevin Smith, Garden Service & Lawn Mowing	259-3964

Noreen's Petals & Greens	236-8188
Salt Ash Nursery - The Balsam Barn – Scott Crawford	259-2146

Health Care Providers

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

Home Management Services

Belmont Country Gardens Property Management & Mowing	259-2364
Country Home Management, Richardson/Rivers	259-3662 228-7086
Yankee Home Management, Keith Hawkins	259-3064

Lawyers

Liccardi & Crawford PC – Susan J Crawford Esq.	Cell 558-3987
--	---------------

Manufacturing & UPS Outlet

DECO Manufacture Machine Job Shop	259-2477
-----------------------------------	----------

Maple Syrup

Green Mtn. Sugar House	228-7151
Smith Maple Crest Farm www.Smithmaplecrestfarm.com	492-2151

Marketing & Promotional Services

Express Copy Inc., Don Reiser	H 259-2722 362-0501
-------------------------------	---------------------

Merchandise Sales & Service

Mary K – Natalie Brown	259-2067
------------------------	----------

Metal Fabrication

Wayne Jones Metal www.waynejonesmetal.com	259-2521
--	----------

Mount Holly Email

Randy Bixby – mhnewsflash1@gmail.com mhnewsflash@gmail.com	
http://www.mhnewsflash.blogspot.com/	

Painters

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

Personal Services

Paneless Window Cleaning- Insured, Free Estimates	259-2786
Pet Sitter – Barbara Pallotta	259-2856

Plumbing & Heating

Master Plumbing & Heating Inc. masterph@vermontel.net	492-3657
---	----------

Real Estate Sales

Coldwell Banker Watson Realty, Frank Ellison frank_ellison@cbwatson.net	228-5678
Frank Ellison	H 228-4011 - Cell 802-345-3766
Engel & Volkers, Okemo - Woodstock Gail Graves-Beardmore	259-3005
Gail.graves@engelvoelkers.com	(Mobile) 802-236-5431
Patrick.mclaughlin@evusa.com	Cell 203-994-6768 802-975-0338
Kelley Real Estate, Don Eatmon, Broker/Owner	H 259-2646 228-5333
Fax 802-228-5343 www.KelleyRealEstate.com www.OkemoValley.com	
Ty Murray	H 259-3014 - Cell 777-8047
Carl Mitchell	H 259-2107 - Cell 384-3202
Lisa Kelley	H 259-3112 - Cell 345-6581

Roofing

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

Security

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

Septic System Design

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

Therapeutic Riding

Rienbow Riding Center	Home 259-2282 Barn 492-2226
-----------------------	-----------------------------

Tree Services

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

Volunteer Services

Belmont/Mt. Holly Food Co-op, Tanger	H 259-2344 W 259-2899
Black River Good Neighbor Service	228-3663

Woodworking, Cabinets & Furniture

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

