

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

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

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<u>January Birthdays</u>: 4th - Jamie Ludwig. 8th - Andrew Flanders. 14th - Kathy Wade. 15th – John Wasilewski. 17th -Lori Cole * Robert Keen. 19th - Rick Ludwig. * Benjamin Taylor. 20th - Eric Ludwig * Fredrick Ludwig IV. 23rd -Thomas Osbourne. * Jeff Columb. 24th -Minga Dana. 27th -Hannah Teter. 28th -Chris Lombardi. 30th -Brian Keen. 31st - Jennifer

Parker * Cole Tarbell



January Anniversaries: 15th – Kyle & Nancy Perry. 24th- Armand & Debby Bernagozzi.

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 <u>chitchat@vermontel.net</u> or call me at 802-259-2314.



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802-259-2796

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Post Master: Jane Hill Mon – Fri 8:00 am – 12:00 pm & 1:30 pm – 4:45 pm Sat 8:00 am – 10:45 am

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Post Master: Lynnette Devereux Mon – Fri 7:00 am – 12:30 pm & 2:30 pm – 4:30 pm Sat 7:00 am – 10:00 am

Cuttingsville/Shrewsbury

802-492-3585

Post Master: Barbara Perkins Mon – Fri 7:30 am – 11:00 am & 12:30 pm – 5:00 pm Sat 7:30 am – 10:30 am

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SUBMISSIONS: Deadline is 22nd of month for the following month. Send to <u>chitchat@vermontel.net</u> 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.

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Third Page:	\$45	\$125	\$240	\$350	\$450
Half Page:	\$75	\$200	\$375	\$550	\$720

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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 a grant from the Town

Robert Van Bibber



AGE: 90 • Florham Park, NJ, Robert "Bob" Van Bibber, 90, passed away Tuesday November 29th 2011. Born in Gardner, Mass., he was raised in Belmont, Vt., and lived in Florham Park, N.J. for more than 70 years. He was a World War II Merchant Marine Veteran from 1941-1946. He had retired in 1993 from his self-employed business of air conditioning and heating as well as being employed as Engineer at Fairleigh Dickenson University for 20 years. He was a part-time Florham Park Police Officer from 1940-41 and volunteered many years with the Florham Park Fire Department. He enjoyed spending time with family and friends, especially his younger Harley days with his brothers and buddies; traveling, and after retiring became certified in glider plane piloting.

He was predeceased by his wife of 51 years, Martha (Tinus) Van Bibber, in 1998. He is survived by his children, David Van Bibber of Seattle, WA, Barbara and spouse Tom Prunera of Marlboro, MA., Lu Ann Van Bibber of Fort Lauderdale, FL. and Newport, RI, grandchildren Kristin Prunera, Joseph Prunera and Jeff

Prunera, Also surviving him are brothers Tom Van Bibber and Richard Van Bibber and sister Carol Andlauer. He was also prehis brother, Charles, and sisters, Edna Mae DesJardins, deceased by and Margaret Van Bibber. He will be greatly missed by family and friends as one whose love, generosity and entertaining stories touched all. A Celebration of Life Memorial for family and friends will be held in 2012. Donations in his memory may be made to the Mt.

Holly Community Historical Museum, P.O. Box 17, Belmont, Vt 05730

Clyde P. Flanders



Clyde P. "Bug" Flanders, 89, died Monday, November 28, 2011, at Rutland Regional Medical Center, following a short illness.

He was born on April 22, 1922, in Belmont, Vt., the son of Clyde P. and Roxie (Pingrey) Flanders. Mr. Flanders owned and operated his own construction business for many years and also was a farmer at one time, and employed by GE and the Okemo Mountain Ski Area over the years.

He was very proud of his property and took great pride in maintaining his home, woodpile and equipment.

> There were no calling hours. In honoring Clyde's wishes, funeral services will be private

direction of the Barnard Funeral Home in Pittsford.

December

Clyde's memory may be made to the Mount Holly Volunteer Rescue

Squad, Mount Holly, VT 05758. Arrangements are under the

Walter A. "Skip" Debish Jr., 65, of Mount Holly, died at home on

and held at the family's convenience.

Walter A. Debish Jr.

(Shawver) Debish. A

United States Navy

veteran, he served

overseas during the

Vietnam War.

Gwendolyn

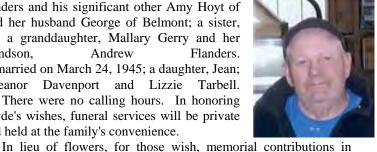
He is survived by a son, Stephen Flanders and his significant other Amy Hoyt of Belmont; a daughter, Betsy Hinckley and her husband George of Belmont; a sister, Barbara Fairbanks of East Wallingford; a granddaughter, Mallary Gerry and her

Friday,

and

husband

Chris, and grandson, Andrew Flanders. а He was predeceased by his wife, Eleanor, in 1999, whom he married on March 24, 1945; a daughter, Jean; and four sisters, Vivian Dunlop, Cassie Potter, Eleanor Davenport and Lizzie Tarbell.



2011.

"The Flood"

By: Myles Tristan Donohue Age 4, East Wallingford, VT

(As scribed, by Mom, Lisa Donohue, on 11/4/11 ----As we passed the Mill River in Cuttingsville, VT.)

The river was hungry. It saw some land. So, it took a bite. And carried it away.



Mr. Debish was self-employed as a carpenter for a short time before working for General Electric in Rutland. Skip enjoyed woodworking and mechanics and small engine repair.

Survivors include a brother, John R. Debick of Lynn, Mass., and a sister, Jeanette Taylor of Ludlow, Vt.; a niece, April Taylor, and a nephew, Wayne Taylor Jr., both of Ludlow; and several cousins, including Mary Drouin of Lincoln, Mass.

Visiting hour in the funeral home was held from 1 p.m. until the time of the service on Friday December 9th at 2 p m. at the Adams Funeral Home, 12 Meadow St., Ludlow. Burial will be in Pleasant View Cemetery in the spring.

Adams Funeral Home of Ludlow is entrusted with the arrangements.



2.





They offer fresh meats, eggs, baked goods and vegetables (in season) since taking over as the new owners of the Belmont General Store. BRACC will work with Kevin and Debby and other local retailers In Ludlow and Plymouth to increase these types of offerings and reduce the prominence of unhealthy choices.

BRACC will meet on January 17, 2012 at 5:30 p m. to discuss the Healthy Retailer project. We will also discuss the results of the 2011 Youth Risk Behavior Survey which our middle and high school students completed last spring. Results were released in early November by the Vermont Department of Health. Sarah Roy of the Health Department will be discussing the findings and talking about the trends



MOUNT HOLLY SCHOOL COMMUNITY CARES:

We are still collecting food for the Caring & Sharing Project and the Food Bank AND dog/cat food for the Humane Society. If you are able to contribute to either of these wonderful projects there are collection bins in the foyer.

The Holiday Concert was AMAZING! Another great accomplishment at Mount Holly School. We are so proud of all of our students!

BRACC – The Black River Area Community Coalition

The Black River Area Community Coalition (BRACC) has received a Healthy Retailers grant from the Vermont Department of Health. Many Mount Holly residents completed a survey about their convenience store shopping habits and we thank you for taking the time to do this. It is not too late to complete a survey if you are interested, go to http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/healthyretailer. The survey only takes about 5 minutes and is fun to do. Your code is 09-09-09.

The Healthy Retailer program works with local grocery and convenience store owners and the community to reduce tobacco and alcohol advertising in small neighborhood stores. There is also an effort to increase the availability of locally grown fresh food at these convenience stores. Kevin and Debby Neubert of the Belmont General Store have been offering more options for healthy, locally grown or produced foods.



we have seen locally and statewide at the meeting. Everyone is welcome to attend. Meetings are held at the Fletcher Memorial Library in Ludlow. Parents of children Grades 5 and up are encouraged to attend.

Picture: Brigid Sullivan from BRACC talks with Kevin Neubert about the healthy foods he offers his customers.

"Only from the heart can you touch the sky."~ Rumi

January 2012 Mount Holly Chit Chat

MOUNT HOLLY TOWN LIBRARY

Social Networking Forum to be Held at Mount Holly Library: On Wednesday, January 25 at 6:30 in the evening, Dan Lucier of VTel will conduct a discussion about Social Networking at the Mount Holly Library. The discussion will include an overview of different services including Facebook, Twitter, Google Plus, and Linked-in. Join the conversation to discover how social networking could fit into your life.

There are more ways to connect with others than ever before in history. Today's Worldwide Web is no longer just a place to get information; it is a user-driven medium where you can create your own content and communicate more effectively. Whether you want to stay in touch with friends and loved ones, meet new people, connect with colleagues and professionals in your field, or explore your hobbies and interests, social networking sites have a lot to offer.





Dan also offers computer instruction on an individual basis. If you are new to computers or just not confident about how to use them, now is a great time to start learning. VTel is conducting one-on-one training sessions at the Mount Holly Library. For more information, please call VTel Community Broadband Organizer, Dan Lucier at 885-7758.

Terrific Holiday Program: The library had a wonderful holiday celebration on December 11th. We thank Louise DeCormier for her powerful reading of "A Child's Christmas In Wales". Hearing Louise read the story made it easy for us to make connections to the story and visualize the wonderful descriptions that Dylan Thomas wrote about his Christmas memories. Over the next month the stories that community children wrote about Christmas memories from their families will be posted in the library. Awards were given to Brianna Flanders second grade, Natasha Fortin fourth grade, Marley Gifford sixth grade, Ayianna Fortin seventh grade and Meghan Garrow eighth grade for writing the

best story in their grade. Our thanks to Ms. Long, Mrs. Manney, Ms. Townsend and Mrs. Gardner for allowing their students to participate in the writing project. Our thanks to Marianne McGee and Claudine Langille for rehearsing the caroling entertainment; London Bremel, Natasha Fortin, Aislynn Kelley and Dakota Patchla (and Jeb Porter for the musical accompaniment). You kids did a great job singing carols mentioned in this wonderful Dylan Thomas story and carols Ms. Wilcox helped you learn. If you missed this charming program at least stop in and read the inspiring stories written by local children.

What Is Community Spirit? On December 6th I was running late as usual when I arrived at the library to start decorating the library for the holidays. We had a snow fall recently and the handicap ramp, the deck, front porch and stairs all needed shoveling. Much to my surprise Lisa King, Mt. Holly resident, and Mom to 4th grader Gregory, was busy shoveling away. She said she was "just helping out". She left to pick up her son and then came back and finished the entire job! This was heavy snow that had set over the weekend so it wasn't an easy job. I can't thank Lisa enough for her help. Your spirit of volunteerism is a fantastic example to us all. Thank you, thank you!!

Universal Class: A reminder about the Universal Class that we announced in the last Chit Chat. *Universal Class*, is a powerful new online continuing education service designed specifically for use by library patrons. One of our patrons is presently taking "Review of American History". She likes the course and says that it is very thorough. You are able to contact the instructor with questions and there are assignments due before you can go on to the next chapter. A catalog of over 540 courses is available to Mt. Holly Library patrons just by coming into the library to sign up and getting assigned a special number to access the classes on line. Don't miss this opportunity for lifelong learning or increasing you employability. Stop in for the details!

New Printer: Thanks to Minga Dana and the Marble Valley Regional Transit for the donation of a printer for the computer located on the desk in the rear of the library. And as always a huge thanks to our computer Guru Kevin Plew for hooking it up.

New Board Members: The Mount Holly Library Board (Susan Presson, Minga Dana, Deborah Costa, Nelda Holden, Stephanie Smith and Joan Bradley) and I would like to thank and congratulate Joan McCallum and Candace Neary for joining the library board. We are very fortunate to have eight community members give their support and time to continue this amazing Mt. Holly resource. The Board, the Volunteers and your patronage is what makes the library so special. Make visiting the library part of your New Year's resolutions for 2012.



Mount Holly Bone Builders will now be meeting 3 days a week

Tuesday 9:00 Mount Holly School Gym Thursday 9:00 Mount Holly School Cafeteria Saturday 9:00 Community Association Building basement

Bone Builders is a low impact exercise program done with weights. The purpose of the program is to build bone density, strength, balance and flexibility. You may attend any or all three days. There is no fee. If you have not attended the classes before please call Cathy Chadburn (259- 3665) to register.



Chamber Corner – January 2012 - By Marji Graf, CEO

The Chamber Team (Danielle, Andi, Gabrielle, Maria & Marji) would like to wish everyone a *Joyous* Chanukah, *Merry* Christmas and *Happy* New Year.

We still have 4 more seats available for the China trip on March 26th for \$2200 pp, all inclusive! Call the Chamber office asap to lock these in. 228-5830. Would make a great holiday gift!!!

We have an exciting line up of mixers and educational programs lined up for 2012. These are free for chamber members and a nominal fee charged for non-members. Hope you can join us.

January 6 is our Legislative Breakfast at the Newsbank Conference Center in Chester from 8:30-9:30am. A continental breakfast will be served. The Vermont Chamber of Commerce will be discussing their upcoming legislative agenda and would like to hear from you as well. Please rsvp the chamber office if you would like to attend. 228-5830.

Chamber Mixers are on the 2nd Wednesday of each month from 5:30-7:30pm 2012 MIXER LINE UP

January 11 - Outback Pizza, Ludlow - February 8 - Inn at Weston – Weston - March 14 - Six Loose Ladies – Proctorsville -April 11 - Papa Johns Sugar House - Mount Holly - May 9 - Good Commons – Plymouth - May 12 - Energy & Business Expo -Jackson Gore Inn (SWCRPC Energy Show combined with OVRCC's 4th Annual Business Expo) Ludlow - June 13 - WestonVT & VT Country Store, Weston - July 11 - WaterMusicArt and Hugging Bear Inn-Chester - August 8 - Stone Hearth Inn – Chester - September 19 - OVRCC Golf Tournament – Ludlow - October 10 - The Richards Group – Ludlow - November 14 - Jackson Gore Inn – Ludlow - December 12 - Annual Meeting & Holiday Party at Echo Lake Inn – Plymouth

2013 Mixers so far: July 2013 - Route 103 Auto Repair - Chester - November 2013 - Jackson Gore Inn - Ludlow

Upcoming Programs: January 24 from 8:30-9:30am- New member orientation and refresher course including how to use the Chambers website and offers and benefits available to members. Hosted at Inn Victoria in Chester (continental breakfast will be served) - February tbd- social media marketing - March tbd- google analytics and google adword campaigns - April tbd- how to use our mobile app and benefits for the end user - May tbd- credit card processing - June tbd- save on postage meters and ink - July tbd- email marketing with Constant Contact - August tbd- how to promote your business in our Okemo Valley Guidebook, Map and Blog

The Chamber welcomed the following new members in December: Town of Chester - Chester - FOLA - Friends of Ludlow

Auditorium – Ludlow - Martel Mechanical Plumbing & Heating - Cavendish Mountainview Physical Therapy – Ludlow - Sculpted Physiques – Chester - Williams River Cremation - Chester **Our marketing agenda includes the following for 2012:**

1. We're investing in search engine optimization (SEO), Search Engine Marketing (SEM) as well as paid search.

2. We're investing in social media marketing to include our <u>blog.</u> discoverokemo.org

3. We'll have downloadable coupons on our event landing pages

4. Mobile app users will be able to access last minute offers.

5. We're going to have an interactive web photo contest of favorite things to do in the Okemo Valley. We encourage the calendar winners from each town to submit their photos. The winners (chosen from our web viewers), will have their photos on our website, 2013 Calendar and post cards.

6. We're continuing our attendance at trade shows: February 10-12, Boston Globe Travel Show;

- March 2-4, New York Times Travel Show; - September, Big E in Agawam MA; - October, Vermont Wedding Associations bridal show.

Hold on to your seats as we take the Okemo Valley marketing to the next level!!



Stephanie Stouffer Gallery

Whimsical designs and rich imagination have earned Stephanie a reputation as a leader in design trends. Her art is licensed on products including rugs, needlepoint pillows, tapestries, stoneware and Caspari cards. Original art and prints, plus many holiday-themed items are on display in her gallery.

MANY GIFT IDEAS! SHOP LOCALLY!

250 Maple Hill Road, Belmont, VT Open most weekends 10 AM – 4 PM or by request 802-259-2686 Stouffer@vermontel.net stephaniestouffer.com

January 2012 Mount Holly Chit Chat

A Dozen Eggs Bake Shoppe

Local Baker and "Cookie Queen" makes an appearance on the Martha Stewart Show December 12, 2011, Mount Holly VT Following up her successful cover appearance in Country Woman Magazine, local baker Laura Courtemanche appeared on the Martha Stewart Show, Monday, December 12th on the Hallmark Channel. Laura appeared in the second segment along with four other "Cookie Queens" who chatted with Martha via the internet.

"It was a great experience", says Laura, who runs A Dozen Eggs Bake Shoppe located in Mount Holly. "We discussed our cookie business and my relationship with the other Cookie Queens." The "Cookie Queens" are a Flickr cookie-decorating group, where cookie artists from around the globe share iced cookie ideas and techniques.

You can find a link to Laura's appearance on the show at http://adozeneggs.com/

A Dozen Eggs Bake Shoppe makes hand iced sugar cookie collections and favors that can be ordered online 24 hours a day. The Bake Shoppe, located in Mount Holly, is open from Wednesday through Saturday from 12 to 5PM and they offer cupcakes and party cakes made from local, seasonal ingredients and custom cookie platters. They have also been featured on the Food Network, Phantom



Gourmet and Boston Magazine, and Country Woman Magazine. Check them out at adozeneggs.com!

Bone Builders

On July 11th of this year I was traveling home after having taught a karate class in Hartland, when as I passed through Ludlow, I suddenly saw two large headlights coming into my lane on a collision course. There was no way that I could avoid getting hit and a micro-second before impact I would have found it difficult to imagine that anything good could come out of what was about to happen. The oncoming vehicle hit me and totaled my beloved little Honda Fit. I felt myself being thrust forward and was relieved to find that my head made contact with an airbag and my seat belt did its part to keep my injuries down to a minimum. I managed to crawl out of the car and almost immediately I was approached by someone with EMT knowledge and moments later found myself on the way to Springfield Hospital to have my neck x-rayed. As I was being transported one of the people attending to me mentioned that the person who hit me had told the police officer that he had worked a thirteen hour shift and had fallen asleep at the wheel. I appreciated his having taken responsibility because then I could focus on dealing with my injuries and not have to worry about legal matters. I was sore for some time afterwards and just tucking in the back of my shirt was painful. I had heard about the Bone Builders program from my Neighbor, Carol Ballou, and since she spoke highly of the program I decided to give it a try. One day a few weeks after having attended Bone Builders, I was tucking in my shirt and noticed that the pain had completely disappeared. I also noticed that a pain that used to occur in my left leg had also disappeared. I now attend Bone

Mount Holly Community Association Membership Drive 2011 – 2012

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 available in the library, the General Store, and the post office.)

Builders three times a week and consider myself fortunate that I learned of the program's existence. The program features a full body workout that utilizes hand weights and leg weights as well as some basic exercises such as squats and stretching. I will be 65 in about two months and Bone Builders has become an important part of my strategy for keeping above ground as long as I can. Mount Holly is fortunate to have such a wonderful program available at no charge. I would like to thank the Bone Builder instructors who donate their time and energy to keep our community healthy. Joe Hammond



Mount Holly Community Historical Museum Update!

In 2011 the Mount Holly community showered the museum with support for our projects and activities. It was also the first year that the museum was open for browsing or for special programs each month.



The education committee created fun and informative programs for the children of Mount Holly School. The museum had participants of the Ludlow recreation program visit the museum as part of their summer activities, as well.

There were special programs each Sunday during the months of July and August, continuing a 40+ year tradition. Thanks to all the contributors who made the effort to share their talents and knowledge with the community.

The renovation of the Will White Blacksmith Shop Museum continued with the completion of the interactive Post Office and Country Store display in the former reading room. The main exhibit area was also renovated. An antique woodstove was uncovered during the removal of the old wall board...a hidden treasure! The new paneling on the walls in the main exhibit area is beautiful! New exhibits include a school room nook





featuring the original blackboard from the old Belmont (Mechanicsville) school and other artifacts used in other one room Mount Holly schools.

At the Perkins House Museum, the new Mammoth Tusk installation was completed and new displays were created as part of revolving exhibits.

Throughout the year, artifacts from Mount Holly were donated to the museum adding to the richness of the collection! Look for more about the new artifacts and their history in the spring newsletter.

"Hurricane Irene" impacted many in our greater community. Our annual museum fundraising dinner at the Odd Fellows Hall was held on Labor Day weekend and presented the museum the opportunity to give to others on behalf of the community that has been so generous to the museum. An anonymous donor covered the cost of the food for the dinner and the large crowd donated additional money. The museum board selected the Danby Historical Society (who lost their museum building and much of their collection due to the flooding), the historic Gethsemane church in Proctorsville and local individuals to receive the proceeds from the benefit dinner.

Irene also impacted our Festival of Lights Fundraiser. The fundraising committee decided to scale back for this year by having the event at the Perkins House Museum. We were delighted at the outpouring of donations and the number of museum supporters that made the event a success.

Thank you, All!

One other 2011 note...the Mechanicsville historic marker was installed, the donor plaques have been mounted and the donor quilt has been completed. The quilt will be presented and exhibited in the spring. Look for details about this in future weeks.

The museum board is currently organizing events for 2012. The "Winter in Mount Holly" exhibit will open the second weekend in January and will continue through March. This exhibit features antique sleds, skis, skates, snowshoes and great vintage photos of winter activities. In February, Card Making with Lynn Anderson will be offered again. In the spring we will shift our focus to the continuing commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War.

Check for information about upcoming events through the Chit Chat,

Newsflash, our website, www.mounthollyvtmuseum.org, and our Facebook page, Mount Holly Community Historical Museum. The Perkins House Museum will be open Saturday, January 14th and Sunday, the 15th from 12-4pm. Special Exhibit:

"Winter in Mount Holly".



FIRST RESPONDER CLASS

Mount Holly Volunteer Rescue Squad will be holding another class for First Responder training starting January 11th. First Responder Emergency Care Attendant (FRECA) is the entry-level certification for Emergency Medical Services.

Classes will be Monday and Wednesday evenings with a few Saturday commitments at the Belmont Fire Station for approximately 10 weeks. Upon successful completion of the class, students then take the National Registry Exam and are certified as a FRECA. There may be a small fee to cover the cost of the manual.

Please call Vicki Seward at 259-2810 or leave a message at 259-6001 the squad building if interested or with any questions.

January 2012 Mount Holly Chit Chat



Kill or Be Killed By Joseph F. Hammond

I was intercepting enemy messages with headsets on When suddenly my balance was gone. I had to stretch to reach my mill. Then I was up against it - It wouldn't sit still.

Then a pair of hands yanked my headsets away. "Incoming, Get to a bunker." I heard someone say. I was probably the only one there who didn't know What a bunker was or where to go.

I grabbed a machine guy and to a foxhole ran. The area before me I proceeded to scan. At an early age my mother instilled -"There are times when it is kill or be killed.



Many lessons in life I have failed to save But those words of hers, I'll take to the grave. We were poor and the country was headed for war. Experience had taught her what could be in store.

When I was ten, I was on the firing line of the NRA Shooting at targets fifty feet away. My brother and I, we learned to shoot well And we both came home from where others fell.

No matter what you know or how hard you try When you are in combat, you still might die. A Christian goal worth striving for Is to create a world where there is no war.

fireworks display is compliments of the Sno*Drifters. As s Sno*Drifters have promised the best one ever this year! Don't miss this wonderful way to welcome in the New Year and don't let the cold discourage you...there is a huge bonfire on the edge of the lake to keep everyone toasty warm. The festivities begin at 8:00 pm. See you there!!

New Year's Eve at Star Lake is the last MHCA event of the year until the regularly scheduled MHCA events resume in the spring. We would like to remind everyone that all of these events are made possible primarily through the **membership of the association**. If you have not joined the MHCA for the 2011 - 2012 year, please do so as soon as possible...we need your support! Membership forms can be obtained at the library, the general store, or by contacting Madeleine Fay, Membership Chair (259-2654), or Carol DeVine, Co-President (259-2562).

Happy New Year to everyone from the Board of Directors of the Mount Holly Community Association!

The Cricket on the Hearth

"The holiday season has changed, but the reason we celebrate remains".

Quoting this poem, By ~ Edmund Cooke:

'Tis not the weight of jewel or plate ~ Or the fondle of silk or fur

'Tis the spirit in which the gift is rich ~ As the gifts of the Wise Men were

And we are not told whose gift was gold ~ And whose was the gift of myrrh.

Mount Holly Community Association

This year Christmas in Mount Holly was sheer enchantment for children, as well as adults! Many, many thanks to Penny Coldwell and her radio players (Jess Alberty, Jake and Luke DeArruda, Fra DeVine, Aislyn Kelley, Kyle Kennedy, Abe Leber, Curt Marechaux, Caleb and Trinity Nye, Barbara Palotta, Mike Smelser, and Emma Vastola) for the wonderful, and often hilarious, skit, "Wake Up, Santa Claus!" All of the actors are to be congratulated for stellar performances! Christmas in Mount Holly wouldn't be, well, Christmas in Mount Holly, if it were not for the traditional reading of The Night Before Christmas. This well known poem was read once again by Barbara Palotta, who has been enchanting the children with this beloved classic for many years. Thank you, Barbara! We were also treated to what has become another annual tradition...a Christmas performance and sing along with the Mount Holly Folk Club under the direction of Claudine Langille. All of the singers (Sally & Paul Giambatista, Steve Hekler, Shel Hochman, Marianne McGee, Jeb Porter, and Tisa Vandine) were in full voice and got everyone in the Christmas spirit through song...thanks so much to all of you! Of course, the children most anxiously awaited their turn to sit on Santa's lap to tell him what they most wanted for Christmas this year. Santa was in great spirits after the nap he took during most of the performance of "Wake Up, Santa Claus!" and presented each of the children with a small gift. The children really appreciated not only this gift, but the fact that Santa visited Mount Holly again in person this year! Thank you one and all, who made this memorable afternoon possible for the children of all ages from Mount Holly!

Is to create a world where there is no war. We are all looking forward to *New Year's Eve at Star Lake*. Cocoa and mulled wine will be provided by the MHCA and the fireworks display is compliments of the Sno*Drifters. As spectacular as these fireworks displays have been in the past, the



January 2012 Mount Holly Chit Chat

MESSAGE FROM MONTPELIER

Legislative Report from Rep. Dennis Devereux for Ludlow, Mount Holly, and Plymouth

My article last spring mentioned that a large part of our committee's efforts this winter will deal with reapportionment. Any changes to legislative districts will use the most recent census figures. Generally, there has been a shift with population gains to towns in Chittenden and Franklin Counties.

Our Committee on Government Operations started reviewing the steps required to finalize the process by the end of the session. We have been holding hearings around the state for input to the proposed district changes. I sense there will be an attempt to make minimal adjustments to the current map that also approaches the new population target. It is my understanding that our committee plans to get a preliminary bill out of the house by the end of January. The reality is that small towns are more likely to be realigned to create new districts.

One of the ongoing concerns to towns is the question surrounding the abatement of property taxes for people that had property damaged this year. The problem started with high water to properties along Lake Champlain last spring, then continued with the flooding in central Vermont in June, and ended with the destruction caused by Tropical Storm Irene at the end of August. A bill to address this dilemma was voted out of the Ways and Means Committee at the end of October. It would set up a process for towns to receive reimbursement by the Commissioner of Taxes for payments that are owed under our education funding formula. The abatement costs would be spread to all property taxpayers rather than be put onto only those towns devastated by the storm.

The loss would have to be at least 50% of the value of the primary structure on the property, and the loss of use must be for 90 days or more. It would have to be caused by a federally declared disaster through April 2012. The school and municipal taxes would have to be abated equally, and the Boards of Abatement can reconsider decisions previously made. Towns may request a delay in their scheduled education payments by contacting the State Treasurer. The Department of Taxes plans to also send instructions to towns. The cost of this help will come from the Education Reserve Fund. This bill will be acted on soon after we return, and is expected to have wide support and be quickly signed into law.

A local issue is whether or not the Plymouth State Park will be ready to open by the end of May. The regional parks manager, Ethan Phelps, assures me that there is a plan to complete the repairs in time. The streams have already been restored, and the bidding process for repairs to the beach area has begun. He stated that the buildings will also need some work. This total damage estimate has been put at \$250,000, and should qualify for FEMA money. They will also need the weather to cooperate next spring.

Sue Crosby's Vermont Stove Shop is relocating

Yes!!!! The stoves are putting on their roller skates and moving on down the hill. Heading down to share space with Gary Ladabouche at Ladabouche Furniture (162 So. Main St.).

North Main has been fun. Relocating south promises to be even more fun. Stoves will be in Gary's window; tucked into Gary's furniture displays; two others will be operating demos and the stove shop showroom in the N. E. corner will be filled with even more product.

There will be many stoves by Enviro; St. Croix; Lennox; Cumberland and a few other companies. Products include not only pellet stoves and wood stoves (along with fireplace inserts), but furnace/boiler lines as well.

Some boilers are inside models and some are outside models. We carry Tarm (Bio-Heat USA); Portage and Main; Woodmaster; Traeger; Maine Energy Systems (Bosch boiler with Janfire "gun"); Maxim and others.

We have many customers who are just waiting to demo their unit for you. We have operating demos in our Danby Store that we can put through their paces for you, too. Elbert and I have the Maine Energy System in our home. That's a pellet boiler. It operates with our existing oil as a back up. We have not used any oil in the three years that we have had the pellet boiler in operation. That's a very good thing. Our hot water is heated by the pellet boiler in the heating months.

Even though we have the pellet boiler which will do all 3,000 sq. ft. (yes, we could take in folks now that the kids are gone), I just love to experiment with pellet stoves and put them through their paces. Therefore, I put a different pellet stove into our home every year. I operate it by myself, maintain it on my own (not much to it). In this way, I can compare stoves to one another for heat output; noise and ease of maintenance. I just sold the unit that I had last spring til this point. Number 14 will be coming in shortly. I might try the Enviro EF2i. Or, maybe the Enviro M-55 Steel. We keep the thermostat from calling for any heat from the boiler so as to really let the pellet stove go through its paces. The only way I can sell a stove with confidence is by having first hand operational experience with it. I really don't like to sell a stove until a customer has as much experience with the operating stove as possible. Providing the most hands on demonstration until the customer has no further questions is important to me.

In case you are wondering, Vermont Stove Shop is a d/b/a of E. C. Crosby and Sons, Inc. AND, Crosby's has been a family owned Vermont Business for over 92 years in one location. There was a little stretch in the beginning when Crosby's was in Tinmouth. Funny though, no one can remember that time.

By operating on a low overhead (just me as staff (the old dog died), along with our part time technician whiz), and advertising mostly word of mouth, the Vermont Stove Shop is able to pass along low prices on excellent products. I love what I do. I experience great satisfaction when my customers are enjoying warmth and are able to cut down oil consumption. That's my favorite part of this little shop-- enjoying the great feedback from happy customers. Our technical service is fantastic. My fellow is part time only. My stoves seldom have problems. One of the most memorable was when a G.I. Joe ended up in the auger. G. I. Joe is tough but not that tough.

The shop should be fully opened by Dec. 5th. Hope you will stop by and say "hi". The shop is open almost every afternoon, but please call first to make sure I have not stepped out. 802-747-0440.

Thank you in advance for letting friends know about the Vermont Stove Shop. The web site is still in the makings. I took the web design class (HTML nightmares) and have just now handed the building of the web over to a star student. He will have it up and running soon. In the meantime, please call or drop by. Sue



Mount Holly Town News WARNING **PUBLIC HEARING** MOUNT HOLLY SELECT BOARD SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS REVISION



JANUARY 10, 2012 ~ 7:00 PM ~ Mount Holly Town Office

Pursuant to V.S.A. Title 24 Secs. 4302, 4401, and 4413 through 4421, notice is hereby given of a public

hearing by the Mount Holly Select Board to receive comment on proposed Town of Mount Holly Subdivision Regulations. A copy of the proposed regulation is available for public review at the Mount Holly Town Clerk's Office during regular office hours.

The proposed regulation is designed to bring the Town's Subdivision Regulations of 1998 into conformance with the Mount Holly Town Plan adopted in 2008. This revision will also replace vague standards with specific standards that will withstand legal challenge.

The Table of Contents of the proposed regulations follows:

- 1. Authority and Purpose
- 2. Subdivision Application Procedures
- 3. Subdivision Standards
- 4. Administration and Enforcement
- 5. Definitions

The Mount Holly Select Board

Paul Nevin, Chair

SELECT BOARD: December 13, 2011 ~ Paul Nevin, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. Raymond Tarbell was present; Jim Heald was absent.

Mount Holly Transfer Station

Starting on January 1st no transfer station stickers will be sold at the transfer station. Stickers will be available at the town office and by mail at \$2.00 per sticker. Mail envelopes will be available at the transfer station. The Belmont Store will sell transfer station stickers for \$3.00 each. Plan ahead so that you are prepared for this new town policy.

Thank You, The Mount Holly Select Board

- 1. The minutes of the regular meeting of November 08 were reviewed. There were no corrections or additions and the minutes were approved.
- 2. Highways
 - Salt Shed property. Waiting on the plats from Deb Daniels. The Board requested that the Town be placed on the January Planning Commission's meeting agenda.
 - Station Road High Bridge The Board noted that the residents of Station Road have no objections to closing the bridge • permanently. The bridge will be kept open for pedestrians and snowmobile traffic, but no vehicles. Upon motion made and seconded, it was

VOTED: To close Station Road High Bridge to vehicular traffic and allow pedestrian and snowmobile traffic only.

The Board will adjust the Town's Highway Mileage Certificate and the Road and Bridge Weight Restrictions on file with the State as necessary.

- The Town is working on the Highway Infrastructure Inventory update as a result of all the post-Irene work. The • inventory qualifies the Town to receive favorable grant rates for State highway programs.
- The Traffic Operations Unit of VTrans is recommending the State modify the speed limit on Route 155 near Wallingford. The recommendation is to establishing a 35 mph speed limit starting at Trestle Lane and terminating at the VT 140 intersection in Wallingford. This lengthens the reduced speed zone to incorporate the entire built up area and changes the speed limit from 30 to 35.
- Two residents on Freeman Brook Road requested that the Town plow the road a bit wider than has so far been done. Jeff noted that the ground has yet to freeze, so all roads have been plowed cautiously so far. Once things freeze up, all roads will be plowed a little wider. The Board had also been notified about a tree in the road which needed removal. The residents also expressed concern about a particular curve, which they felt should be widened. The Board agreed to take a

OPEN TRASH BURNING IS ILLEGAL

The Select Board and Fire Warden would like to remind all Mount Holly Residents and property owners that open trash burning (including burn barrels) is illegal and subject to a fine of up to \$500.00 and community service hours. Brush burning is legal with a permit from the Fire Warden (No permit required if snow is on the ground). Vermont State Police have a list of all permitted burns, updated daily.

look at it.

- The FEMA paperwork is progressing, although no monies have been received yet.
- 3. Report of Treasurer.
 - David Johnson presented an income and expense statement dated November 30, 2011 showing cash balances of \$2,826,557. Delinquent property taxes are \$279,455, about \$44,000 more than last year. The 3rd quarter Highway payment came from the State in November (normally January). Expense items are in line with the year to date budget expectations.

The Town received notification of the Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) for the town at 99.16%. January 2012 Mount Holly Chit Chat

- The Budget work session will be on Thursday, January 05 at 6:30pm.
- The Town received the completed FY2011 Financial Statements from the auditor.
- 4. Solid Waste:
 - Christmas Day and New Years Day fall on Sunday this year. There will be NO Sunday hours for those two days. The transfer station will be open Saturdays Dec 24 and Dec 31, normal hours. Sunday hours will return January 08. Hours changes will be posted and also in the Chit Chat.
 - Reminder: As of January 1, 2012, no stickers will be sold at the stations. This will eliminate any issues with cash at the site. Stickers will still be for sale at the Belmont Store, in person at the town office and thru the mail.

MOUNT HOLLY TRANSFER STATION STICKER SALE AND CASH POLICY

AS OF JANUARY 01, 2012 THE TRANSFER STATION WILL NOT ACCEPT CASH AND NO STICKERS WILL BE SOLD THERE.

STICKERS MAY BE PURCHASED AT:

THE TOWN OFFICE: \$2.00 per sticker In person or by mail (ask attendant for envelope) or

BELMONT GENERAL STORE: \$3.00 per sticker

PLEASE PLAN ACCORDINGLY. THANK YOU!

will contact the sheriff regarding this.

6. Belmont Village Center Designation.

MOUNT HOLLY TRANSFER STATION HOLIDAY HOURS

SATURDAY, 12/248 AM TO 2 PM SUNDAY, 12/25 CLOSED

SATURDAY, 12/318 AM TO 2 PM SUNDAY, 01/01 CLOSED

- Single Stream/Zero Sort Recycling. Last month there was some concern about additional costs to the town to adopt this. Upon further research, the Town would not need to get a second compactor, we could just use one of the existing containers and not compact it. The Town would still get money back for the recyclables. The Town would probably keep the metal pile as is. The Town can decide to continue as is (no single stream recycling) but the advantage is that garbage disposal costs typically drop 20-30% due to increased recycling.
- 5. Animal Control:
 - Another incident with a dog was reported to the Town, this time on Lake Ninevah Road. The dog is unregistered, not clear if it has required shots. The Sheriff's Dept. is not handling dog complaints as well as they used to. Paul Nevin
- David Hoeh and Kevin Neubert presented the application to renew the Village Center Designation for Belmont. The designation can provide assistance to businesses in the center and also may allow the Star Lake group to apply for some assistance. Upon motion made and seconded, it was

VOTED: to approve the renewal application for the Belmont Village Center Designation.

7. Planning Commission:

• Subdivision Regulations. Steve Howard, the Planning Commission Chair, noted that the Board has 120 days to act or the process has to start all over again. The deadline is in January. The Board was prepared to act, so upon motion made and seconded it was

VOTED: To approve the Revised Sub-Division Regulations as presented by the Planning Commission. There will need to be a final public hearing warned (which will be Tuesday, January 10 at 7:00pm, prior to the next

Select Board meeting). Meanwhile the Planning Commission will proceed using the new regulation, as required.

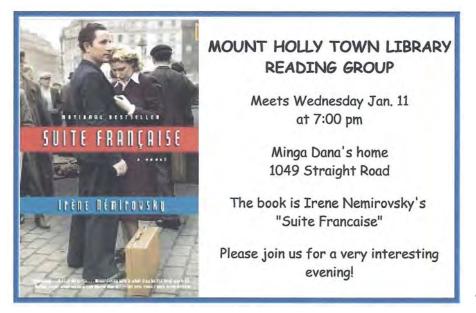
• Administrative Officer: The Planning Commission recommended Millicent Johnson for the position of Administrative Officer. Upon motion made and seconded, it was

VOTED: To appoint Millicent Johnson as the Mount Holly Administrative Officer for a three year term.

• PC Members: Upon motion made and seconded, it was

VOTED: To appoint Dennis Deiters and Annette Lynch each to a three year term, expiring November 2014.

- Steve Howard reported that the PC is working on a Capital Budget Plan. The Board requested input for the budget work session meeting.
- 8. Other Business
 - Swan property: The Town has received complaints of dumping on the property. The property is in foreclosure. Paul has been unable to contact the.
 - The Town has received and will respond to the Vermont Municipal Fiscal Survey regarding the town's financial state post Irene.
 - The US Census Boundary and Annexation Survey will be updated (no changes).



- Friends of Star Lake has applied for a Watershed Grant to help combat the summer geese problems. Paul signed this previously to meet a due date requirement.
- Rutland County has informed the towns that there will be a slight budget increase next year.
- **CVPS Re-conductoring** project: additional information required for the Certificate of Public Good was received by the Town.
- Aquatic Nuisance Control Grants are available (application due 03/12/12).
- Crowley Cheese Discharge Permit renewal: comment period is Dec 05 -Jan 03 to the VT ANR.
- 9. The Board reviewed and signed the November orders for payment.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:06 pm. Respectfully submitted, Rhonda Rivers

PLANNING COMMISSION meets on the third Monday of every month at 7:30pm at the Mount Holly Town Office. Warned Public Hearings, if scheduled, usually take place prior to the regular meeting. Planning Commission meetings are open to the public and attendance is encouraged.

WORKING GROUP of the Planning Commission meets the second Monday of the month, at 7 p.m. at the Town Office. The Working Group includes everyone who attends a meeting. The Working Group is a way for Mount Holly's citizens to be involved in planning for the Town's future. The December 12 meeting opened at 7 p.m. with a warned Public Hearing of the Planning Commission on the two applications for the position of Administrative Officer.

Present: the five members of the Planning Commission: S. Howard (Chair), A. Lynch, D. Deiters, P. Smith, T. Martin, also David Johnson (Treasurer), an applicant for the post, Millicent Johnson, and Francis DeVine . A discussion of the two applications and their resumes was followed by a vote in executive session. Following executive session the Commission voted to forward both applications to the Select Board for action re appointment with the Commission's voted recommendation. At the conclusion of the Public Hearing the Working Group convened at 7:15 to discuss information provided by the Treasurer on the Town's capital budget. The Commission asked questions of Mr. Johnson and Mr. DeVine and decided to continue the discussion at the next meeting of the Working Group when more current information for both the Town and the School will be available. A date for the initial brainstorming meeting of the newly formed Economic Development Committee under the leadership of Hal Kirshner has been set for Monday January 23, .2012 at 7 p.m. in the Town Office. The next meeting of the Working Group is Monday January 9, 2012 at 7 p.m. in the Town Office. Annette Lynch

Mount Holly Town Auditors Request

Mount Holly Town Auditors are requesting of all organizations who submit articles and or budgets for the Mount Holly Town Report to have your articles typed single spaced and mailed or dropped off or emailed to: mthollyauditors@vermontel.net the Town Office no later than January 3, 2012. All articles mail to the Town Office at the following address: Mount Holly Town Office, Attn: Auditors, P.O. Box 248, Mt. Holly, VT 05758

If you have any pictures of your organization or the Town of MT. Holly that have occurred in town this past year and wish to have them included in the Town Report, please send them to us for our consideration.

Auditors. Thank You, The Mount Holly Town Auditor



Join your neighbors, stop burning money on home heating - and improve your comfort! The NeighborWorks H.E.A.T. Squad is your one-stop solution.

Call today (802) 438-2303 x 227 www.HeatSquad.org

Mount Holly Chit Chat Inc., 3379 Shunpike Rd., Mount Holly, VT 05758 Dear Chit Chat Reader. 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. I do not wish to receive the Chit Chat check here Donation amount \$ Tax Deductible Name Address Phone Email The Mt. Holly Chit Chat has Federal tax exempt status.

We can scan the photo and return it to you. For more information, call the town office and leave a message for one of the

BRAM Radio Version of Christmas Carol Big Hit



The Black River Academy Museum would like to thank the following people for the marvelous Christmas play 'A Christmas Carol' that was performed on Dec. 9 and 10th. The Players recaptured the spirit of the 1940s, when families gathered round to listen to "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens on a massive Philco radio set. The Players brought the radio show to life in a recreated studio, complete with the actors' interpretations of Dickens' immortal characters and authentic sound effects produced right on stage. Pictured above is a photo of the entire cast as

they appeared during the broadcast.

Tom Field of Springfield portrayed Scrooge, the heartless miser who discovers the true meaning of the holiday season after a Christmas Eve haunting. Frank Wadelton of Bellows Falls played Bob Cratchit, Scrooge's mistreated clerk, and Paul Faenza of Mount Holly narrated the play. Linda Dunworth and Bailey Matteson of Ludlow, Molly Ferris and Lynne Cannon of Chester, Lanie Wadelton of Bellows Falls, and Mike Wooten and April Moore of Springfield played multiple roles: the ghosts, the Cratchit family, carolers, street sellers, and Scrooge's long-lost childhood friends and associates. Cindy Wooten of Springfield let Christmas Carols as the pianist. The play was directed by Stephanie Rowe of Springfield, Vermont.



VERMONT PROPERTIES COAT DRIVE A SUCCESS

On Saturday December 3rd Black River Good Neighbor Services was able to provide, free of charge, a winter coat to anyone in need. This was made possible through the efforts of Vermont Properties, their clients and friends.

Suzanne Garvey said "Vermont Properties appreciates the support of clients and friends to make this year's Coat Drive a success. The number of coats collected was 200+. It was inspiring to see our second homeowners

drive up to our office with their bags of donations and some even gathered coats from their neighbors at home to send to us

here in our corner of VT! Local support was stronger than ever as well. Neighbor helping neighbor and everyone pitching in. We know that BRGNS will make sure the coats get where there is need and we know that that any sales of coats will greatly help the BRGNS food shelf."

Audrey Bridge, Executive Director of BRGNS Thrift Store and Food Shelf said "anyone who missed the giveaway day and who may still be in need of a coat should come to the store at 37B Main Street in Ludlow, we are eager to help. No one in our community needs to be without the proper clothes to survive winter".

Store hours are 10 a m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday. For more information please call 802-228-3663.

Pictured: Kathy Burns and Suzanne Garvey stand in front of the coats Vermont Properties gave to BRGNS

Maple Leaf Clinic

Maple Leaf Clinic is proud to sponsor: FREE 2-Part Video Presentation for Parents, Educators & Professionals, with discussion led by Dean J.M. Mooney, Ph.D., N.C.S.P. Michelle Garcia Winner's "Strategies for Organization: Preparing for Homework and the Real World."

Wallingford Elementary School

Part I - Thursday January 26th - 6:30pm - 8:30pm ~ Part II - Thursday February 9th - 6:30pm - 8:30pm For ALL students from upper elementary school through adults - not just those with learning disabilities. The primary focus of this video is laying out the steps students need to take to build successful study systems. Spanning topics such as developing motivational skills to understanding time estimation, Michelle addresses a range of issues and provides clear teaching strategies.

Maple Leaf Clinic is also providing one handout per attendee providing examples of worksheets which can be used to teach more specific organizational concepts. *To make sure that a handout is ready and waiting for you, please RSVP by email:* <u>MapleLeafClinic@vermontel.net</u> Refreshments will be served One entry per person to win a Spa Basket!





Committed to the future of rural communities.

Agriculture Secretary Vilsack Announces Funding To Improve Access to Health Care and Education in Northern Vermont

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced that 100 recipients in 34 states and one territory will receive \$30,172,507 to improve access to health care and educational services in rural areas. Funding is provided through the USDA Distance Learning and Telemedicine (DLT) Program. The announcement included a \$499,870 grant to North Country Supervisory Union in

Newport, VT and an \$84,141 grant to Orleans-Essex VNA & Hospice also in Newport.

"This program delivers educational and medical opportunities that are urgently needed in remote, rural areas," Vilsack said. "President Obama has said that no matter where you live in America, you should have access to quality educational opportunities. Rural Americans deserve the same opportunities for education and medical care as metropolitan-area residents, and these funds will make that happen."

Orleans-Essex VNA & Hospice, which provides home health care to a 1,000 square mile area in Orleans and northern Essex counties, will use the grant to continue implementation of in-home telemonitoring which was initiated in 2009. An upgrade to the system will also expand the use of in-home videocams to monitor wound care.

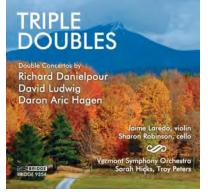
North Country Supervisory Union will support the Northeast Kingdom Education Project that will link Lyndon State College (LSC) to 14 rural school districts primarily located in Orleans, Essex Counties. Expanded videoconferencing technology at LSC will enhance their ability to offer dual enrollment courses in which high school students take college courses for both college and high school credit; provide information for students on the range of career opportunities available within key industries in the Northeast Kingdom and provide Masters in Education degree programs to the region's teachers.

"Through this grant program, USDA Rural Development is working to level the playing field between rural and more urban areas. Vermonters in the most remote locations will have access to advanced medical care and top notch educational opportunities because of these funds," according to Molly Lambert, State Director for USDA Rural Development.

Further details on the DLT program can be obtained at <u>www.rurdev.usda.gov/UTP_DLT html</u> or by contacting Rhonda Shippee, Community Programs Director for VT/NH at 802-828-6033. For a complete list of awardees that will receive funding, please <u>click here</u> Awards are contingent upon the recipients meeting the terms of the agreement with USDA.

Since taking office, President Obama's Administration has taken historic steps to improve the lives of rural Americans, put people back to work and build thriving economies in rural communities. From proposing the American Jobs Act to establishing the first-ever White House Rural Council – chaired by Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack – the President wants the federal government to be the best possible partner for rural businesses, entrepreneurs and people who want to live, work and raise their families in rural communities.

USDA, through its Rural Development mission area, administers and manages housing, business and community infrastructure and facility programs through a national network of state and local offices. These programs are designed to improve the economic stability of rural communities, businesses, residents, farmers and ranchers and improve the quality of life in rural America. Rural Development has a portfolio of more than \$160 billion in loans and loan guarantees. Visit http://www rurdev.usda.gov/ for additional information about the agency's programs or to locate the USDA Rural Development office nearest you.



Vermont Symphony Orchestra Announces "Triple Doubles" CD

The Vermont Symphony Orchestra has just produced "Triple Doubles," a compact disc featuring soloists violinist Jaime Laredo, the VSO's music director and conductor, and his wife, the noted cellist Sharon Robinson. The CD highlights new double concertos by three acclaimed contemporary composers--Richard Danielpour, David Ludwig, and Daron Hagen--with Sarah Hicks and Troy Peters conducting. Each concerto has been written expressly for Laredo and Robinson and the CD is being released to coincide with their 35th wedding anniversary.

The CD liner notes include the following from the Vermont Symphony Orchestra: "As the Vermont Symphony Orchestra contemplated repertoire choices for its first-ever commercial orchestral recording, we decided to recognize the tremendous musical impact Jaime Laredo and Sharon Robinson have had in their adopted home state of Vermont. What better way to honor their 35 years of making music together in Vermont—and around the world—than to record three double concertos written for them?" Performing for more than five decades before audiences across the globe, Jaime Laredo has excelled

in the multiple roles of soloist, conductor, recitalist, master teacher, and chamber musician. He has made more than 100 recordings with his famed trio, the Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson Trio, as a chamber musician with Yo-Yo Ma, Isaac Stern and Emmanuel Ax, and as a violin soloist with many of the leading orchestras around the world. Laredo and Robinson live in Guilford, Vermont, and currently teach at Indiana University.

"I have received many awards and honors over my lifetime," said Jaime Laredo at a recent gathering of CD project donors, "but this is the most special gift ever given to us."

The three double concertos dedicated to Laredo and Robinson include a new, fully-orchestrated version of Richard Danielpour's "A Child's Reliquary" (originally written as a piano trio for the Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson Trio); David Ludwig's Concerto for Violin, Cello and Orchestra; and Daron Hagen's "Masquerade." Richard Danielpour is one of the most sought-after composers of his generation, and has been described as "solidly rooted in the soul of tradition yet with an optimistic voice for today that speaks to the heart as well as to the mind." David Ludwig, VSO new music advisor, has been noted by the *The New York Times* for his expressive directness, and the *New Yorker* magazine called him "the musical up and comer." Daron Hagen's music has been described by *Opera* Magazine as "both highly original and gripping; restless, questing music that never loses its heart."

The "Triple Doubles" CD will be released by the well-regarded Bridge Records in mid-November. It will be widely available in Vermont bookstores and other retail outlets, and directly from the VSO for \$15.00 with a \$3.00 fee for shipping and handling. For additional information, please visit the VSO website at www.vso.org or telephone the VSO office at 802-864-9293, ext. 10.

"Starting Over Strong (SOS) Vermont" for Flood Disaster Relief Available in Your Community

Starting Over Strong (SOS) – Vermont, a Crisis Counseling and Assistance and Training Program, provides short-term support for individuals, groups, and communities impacted by flooding from Tropical Storm Irene.

Starting Over Strong (SOS) Vermont deploys teams of crisis support workers throughout the hardest hit communities to conduct community and home-based outreach and psycho-educational services. The Program offers free, short-term interventions that promote individual and family recovery to those individuals experiencing distress and/or related emotional and behavioral difficulties from the flood. It is designed to assist individuals of all ages to better understand why they feel the way they do and how to begin to feel safe and confident again going forward. The Program is also designed to identify and refer individuals who may be in need of more intensive supports.

S.O.S. Vermont is actively coordinating with existing community-based organizations and service agencies in identified communities to support ongoing local and state recovery efforts. **S.O.S.** Vermont services are available through the anniversary of the Tropical Storm in 2012. Our staff is available to meet with individuals, groups, and other concerned Vermonters to promote resiliency and recovery through the rebuilding process.

S.O.S. Vermont is supported by FEMA grant funding and is administered by Washington County Mental Health Services in conjunction with other designated mental health agencies and community services in the hardest hit regions of our State.

For more information contact S.O.S. Vermont through their toll-free number: 855-SOS-VT00 (855-767-8800).

VSO "Sunday Matinee Series" Returns to Paramount Theatre

In January, Robert De Cormier leads the Orchestra with the VSO Chorus in the magnificent Requiems of Fauré and Mozart. This monumental program is presented in celebration of Mozart's 256th birthday and Robert De Cormier's 90th birthday, both of which take place in January 2012. De Cormier, a Vermont resident for more than 30 years, helped found the VSO Chorus in 1993. As its director he prepares and conducts performances with the Symphony and, over the years, has won unqualified praise for it. Soloists for this program of "Monuments" are Jonita Lattimore, soprano; Susan Platts, mezzo-soprano; Richard Clement, tenor: and Kevin Deas, bass.

VSO music director and conductor Jaime Laredo leads the March program, "Heroes," which includes Prokofiev's Classical Symphony, Strauss's Horn Concerto No. 1, and Beethoven's beloved Symphony No. 3, "Eroica," Jennifer Montone, principal horn with the Philadelphia Orchestra, solos on horn.

"Sunday Matinee Series" subscribers will save 15% off the cost of single tickets, choosing reserved best seats of the house for the entire series with the option of renewing those same seats for future seasons. The January and March concerts are preceded by *Musically Speaking*, pre-concert discussions with guest artists providing insights into the program, the composers, and themselves. The discussions begin one hour before the stated concert time. Series subscribers also receive a New England Orchestra Consortium subscriber savings card enabling them to enjoy discounts on tickets purchased for concerts presented by 15 orchestras across New England. A special subscription offer is also available for members of the Lakes Region Youth Orchestra and their families. Subscriptions may be ordered by called the VSO at (800) VSO-9292, ext. 10.

VSO concerts are made possible in part by the State of Vermont and by individuals, businesses and foundations throughout Vermont. Vermont Public Radio is the co-sponsor for the 2011/2012 season. The *Rutland Herald* is the sponsor of the "Sunday Matinee Series" this season. Additional support is provided by the Lintilhac Foundation.

Series tickets range from \$24 for students to \$77 for premier seating, available only through the VSO office. Single concert tickets range from \$9 for students to \$29, available in person and online from the Paramount Theatre Box Office at 802-775-0903, or www.Paramountvt.org.

For personalized service from the VSO, for additional information or to order "Sunday Matinee Series" subscription tickets, please call the office at (800) VSO -9293, ext. 10, or visit the VSO website at www.vso.org.



Space Weather News for Dec. 16, 2011

http://spaceweather.com SUNGRAZING COMET SURVIVES: Sungrazing Comet Lovejoy has confounded the experts and survived its close encounter with the sun. Last night, NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory recorded amazing movies of the comet entering and exiting the sun's atmosphere. Comet Lovejoy's scorched remnant is now receding from the sun in full view of the Solar and Heliospheric Observatory. Visit http://spaceweather.com for the latest movies and discussion.

The <u>scorched core</u> of sungrazing Comet Lovejoy is still intact as it recedes from the sun. Even the comet's flamboyant tail, temporarily lost in transit through the solar corona, has re-grown. The last 24 hours of coronagraph images from the Solar and Heliospheric Observatory (SOHO): SOHO images show two tails: the ion tail and the dust tail. The ion tail is made of gas and is blown directly away from the sun by the solar

wind. The heavier dust tail is curved and more closely traces the comet's orbit.

COMET LOVEJOY SURVIVES: Incredibly, sungrazing Comet Lovejoy has survived its close encounter with the sun. Lovejoy flew only 140,000 km over the stellar surface during the early hours of Dec. 16th. Experts expected the icy sundiver to be destroyed. Instead, NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory caught the comet emerging from perihelion (closest approach) apparently intact.

Vermont Real Estate Perspective



By Gail Graves, Realtor® /Broker/Owner at Engel & Völkers, Woodstock & Ludlow January 2012 **Perspective** is so important! Sometimes we lose it. Here's a subject that we are bombarded with from the National media on a regular basis. **Foreclosures!**

Here are some real statistics to put it in **perspective** as it relates to us here in Vermont: These statistics come from *RealtyTrac*, a foreclosure data website:

Nationally, one in every 579 housing units, or 224,394 properties, received a foreclosure filing -- a default notice, scheduled auction, or bank repossession -- in November. That's a 3 percent drop from October and a 14 percent drop from November 2010 -- the smallest year-over-year decline in the past year.

Here is an example of how we stack up against some other states:

State	Total Foreclosures in November	Foreclosure Ratio
Vermont	20	1 in every 15,712 housing units
NH	816	1 in every 735 housing units
Maine	479	1 in every 1,471 housing units
Wyoming	30	1 in every 8,313 housing units
Nevada	6,512	1 in every 175 housing units
Wash., DC	7	1 in every 40,734 housing units
N. Dakota	7	1 in every 45,205 housing units

So, unless you are interested in moving to Washington, DC or North Dakota – Vermont is still a pretty good deal.

Energy Check-Up Through NeighborWorks

We had an energy check-up through NeighborWorks and we learned so much about ways we are wasting energy and money. For example...did you know that spiders like drafts and that's where they build their webs.

In order to save money, we decided to do some of the easier jobs ourselves such as caulking; it's amazing to find all these small, leaky places that we really hadn't been aware of before. We left some of the more complicated projects to the professionals and had our basement insulated and now 2 rooms in the house that had been very cold in years past are much warmer. What a difference!

Many people in town have also had check ups and are doing some of the recommended work and we all find it very exciting to see the difference. At our house, we have our furnace turned off completely and are using only wood to heat the house for the first time ever. Our solar collector is taking care of the hot water through the winter and we are not using any oil. Believe me, it is a wonderful feeling! We can't wait till the end of winter to see how much we have saved. Marcy and Andy Tanger

Why should you make your house more energy efficient *this* year?

NeighborWorks of western VT received a \$4.5 million grant which will **help people in Rutland County. However, due to the demand** it is now taking about two weeks to have the check-up and two weeks to receive your report and the time may get longer as the demand increases.... So **schedule you check up today at 802-438-2303 ext 227** or visit www.heatsquad.org.

- Because of this grant we can have a home energy check-up at a special cost of \$100 until May; the price is usually \$350-\$500.
- If you decide to upgrade your home, financing is available regardless of your income.
- The sooner you decide to have the check-up, the sooner you can enjoy paying less for fuel and enjoy a warmer house.
- There is a contest for the towns in Rutland County for a \$10,000 prize and Mount Holly continues to be one of the top 3 towns....but only two towns will win this prize. So not only can you help yourself, but you can help your town. For more information call Marcy at 259-2344.



Remember....The average Rutland County homeowner will **save an estimated average of <u>\$947</u> per year** on home and utility costs based on 2010 oil prices... if they do home energy improvements.

Join your neighbors and save this winter!

Mount Holly Volunteer Rescue Squad

Dear Mount Holly Citizens,

The Mount Holly Volunteer Rescue Squad (MHVRS) is beginning its Annual Membership Drive. The Membership Drive is a way to support your local volunteer rescue squad and cover costs that your insurance company does not. By becoming a member, you and others living with you will <u>never</u> receive a bill, in the unfortunate event that you may need to call upon MHVRS for emergency services. In the rare situation that MHVRS is unable to transport you for emergency care to the hospital, costs incurred by the transporting ambulance would not be covered under MHVRS's membership. Membership details:

- Membership is available to anyone living in our coverage area
- Membership costs \$40.00
- Membership includes the subscriber and all persons listed as dependents on your most recent Federal Tax Return
- Mt. Holly Volunteer Rescue Squad will bill your insurance company, and you will <u>not</u> be responsible for any deductibles or co-pays
- Medicaid patients are already covered for these services

Mt. Holly Volunteer Rescue Squad is a not-for-profit volunteer ambulance service. Our mission is to provide emergency services to our community 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. We also are trying to maintain a low tax rate while providing those services. The Membership Drive helps us accomplish both of these goals. Last year we rose over \$9,000 during the Membership Drive. Your support "Helps Us to Help You".

Please feel confident that your membership status does not in any way affect the care and services you will be provided. It is simply a way to raise funds and provide you with a little extra protection. Your information and membership status is strictly CONFIDENTIAL and will not be seen by anyone other than our squad President and Treasurer. If you have any questions, please feel free to talk to any MHVRS volunteer or call the squad building at the above number.

Thank you in advance for your consideration. To join, please fill out the enclosed application and mail back to the Mount Holly Volunteer Rescue Squad in the provided envelope. Thank you, Kristin Veysey, Squad President

		Mount Holly Volunteer Rescue Squad Membership Application November 1, 2011 to October 31, 2012			
Please Print			_, _ 0 _		Date Of
Principal Subscriber	(First)	(Middle)	(La	st)	Birth
Mailing Address					Apt. #
City		State	Zip	Home Phone	
911 Address for cover	age area: _				
List Current Dependen	its.			Payment of \$ 40 must	accompany this application
Name		DOB		[] Personal Check	[] Money Order [] Cash
				In addition to the \$ 40 Donation of \$	

PLEASE READ AND SIGN THE AGREEMENT BELOW

I hereby apply for Mount Holly Volunteer Rescue Squad Membership for me and my dependents listed above. I understand that the \$ 40 per family per year fee provides Local emergency medical ambulance service to me and my listed dependents as medically needed in Mount Holly, East Wallingford and Belmont. From November 1, 2011 to October 31, 2012. The Membership fee will cover any applicable deductible or co-payments. I also understand that this membership permits MHVRS to collect directly from any third party insurance agency whatever benefits may be available at no charge to me or my family. And that this membership is nonrefundable and is nontransferable. I request that payment of authorized Medicare or any other insurance benefits be made either to me or on my behalf to Mount Holly Volunteer Rescue Squad, for any ambulance services or supplies furnished to me by MHVRS. I authorize any holder of medical information about me to release to the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services and its agents and Carriers, Social Security Administration, all other third party payors as well as MHVRS , any information or documentation in their possession needed to determine these benefits or the benefits payable for related services now or in the future.

Date_____Signature required By Insurance Carriers

Thank You

Mount Holly School Library

Library resources available

24/7

e-books Timble

Read a Book on-line

User name: mountholly

Password: books

e-kids

FALL 2011

Cat Chat

Mount Holly Elementary School

MHS 1st Trimester Honor Roll

Grade 4 Honors:

McKinley Bremel, Eve Cole, Abby Crowley, Natasha Fortin, Jae Greineder, Calvin Kelley, Olivia Murray, Joshua Noble, Ashlynn Rumrill, Sara Swartz

Grade 5 Honors:

Cyrus Bickford, Kassidy Niklasson, Emily Perham, Kendra Richards, Kyleigh Savery, Adam Staley, Jarrett Staples Grade 6 Honors:

Micah Cole, Jordyn Demers, Nicole Grenier, Dustin Miller, Andrea Stevens

Grade 5 High Honors:

Talari Anderson, London Bremel, Lukas DeArruda, Heather Graham, Halley Riley-Elliott



World Book On-line User name: mountholly Password: worldbook



School Password: alice

Offsite Password:norm



Kid Infobits School Password: alice Offsite Password:norm The Power of Sharing Meals

from Bela Schug, School-Community Liaison

Parenting is a tougher job than ever! Our kids face an ever-widening array of negative influences, from violent video games and cyber-bullying to waves of increasingly addictive drugs arriving in our community. How can we protect our kids from these problems, which are SO much bigger than our families?!

I was encouraged to read earlier this month that good old-fashioned parenting tools can still be effective against new-fangled problems. A study by the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse, which surveyed over 1000 teens, has found that kids who eat dinner at the table with their families 5 times or more each week were *four times less likely* to use alcohol, tobacco or marijuana, as compared with kids who had family dinners less often. Teens who ate family dinners often were also much more likely to report having an "excellent relationship" with their parents and siblings. Other important benefits of frequent family dinners: kids are less likely to become overweight or obese and even have better grades!

How can simply sitting at the table to eat with your kids have such a big effect? As a parent, having a meal with your family sends a powerful "behavioral statement" to your children, which says "I love you. I care about you and your needs." Your behavior of providing a meal and your presence for your family *consistently and frequently* is a very powerful message- much more powerful than saying it with words alone.

Of course, another reason why sitting together and sharing a meal (without the TV, phone or other distractions) can be so powerful is because it gives us a chance to talk. And sitting down together often means that conversation about how things are going in our lives doesn't stop. It keeps our relationships with our kids strong and gives us a chance to communicate our values to them.

Page 2

CAT CHAT

Kindergarten Snapshots









We have had a great start to our year. During the first 3 months we have been reading, reading and reading. We read every day to the teachers and to our families. In addition, we are listening to lots of great stories, including many nonfiction books.

KINDERGARTEN NEWS!

In math we are doing our Counting Collections. So far we have counted our bears, cars, paper clips, pattern blocks and pipe cleaners. We have also created many patterns using different manipulatives and we are working on writing our numbers using our number songs.

We counted the pipe cleaners to make sure we had enough for our Thanksgiving Tea. We had plenty- 700 pipe cleaners! Our Annual Thanksgiving Tea was wonderful. Every child in kindergarten and 1st grade had at least one guest. It was so nice to see all the friends and family members. We were fortunate to have Greatgrandmother Barbara Frucci as Alexis's guest. Mrs. Frucci has come to the Tea for over 20 years.

As part of our celebration, we collected food for the local food bank and pet food for the humane society. Thanks for all who contributed, helped at the Tea and came to share this day with us.

The kindergarten and 1st grade students will continue to collect food and pet food during the Holiday season.



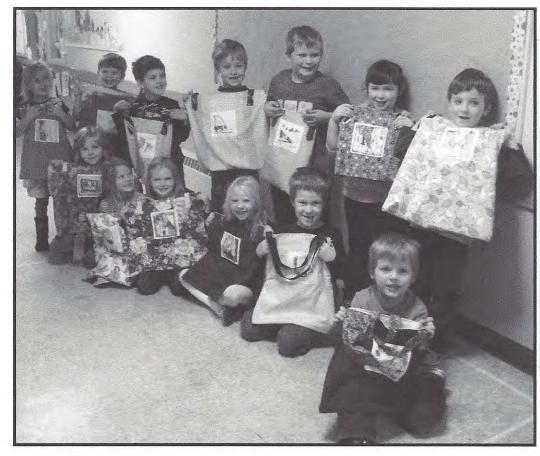
VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

READING WITH NEMO



Kindergarten students reading with Nemo before Thanksgiving!

Mt. Holly Kindergarten Caring & Sharing Project



Once again Mrs. Perry's kindergarten students are making and selling gifts for our Caring and Sharing Unit. Each year we raise money by selling gift tags and cloth tote/shopping bags to our friends and families. All the money raised is used to purchase gifts for local families in need. Come and check out our bags at school, at the Holiday Craft Fair on December 10 and at the Holiday Concert on December 15.

Thank you for supporting our efforts!

Page 4

CAT CHAT

GRADE 1 STORIES

<u>My Friends</u> By Ariel Olson

My friends help me when I am sick. They give me toys when I am sick. Luna. They make me feel better. I like my friends. Black Cats By Greta Fairbanks

Black cats have eyes that glow in the dark. Cats are smart animals.

> <u>My Cat</u> By Ayla Price

I played outside with my cat, We had fun, we played tag.

<u>The Bear</u> By Anna Pratt

RUN! Run away from the bear. RUN! It is going to eat you.

> <u>RUN!</u> By Riley Fitzgerald

Run from the coyote. Run from a fox. Fun from the tiger. Run from a lion. Run from the penguin. Wait. penguins are nice.

<u>Rain</u> By Sam McMillan

Rain comes and make floods. The rain and the wind goes into the city. The wind can damage the houses and trees.

RUN!!! By Jordan Devereux

RUN!!! From the monster said a little boy. I said "NO"! It is OK. It's just a trick or treater. It's just Jake.

The Bear

By Dominic Valente

Run, when you see the

bear because he is a

hungry bear.

He's going to eat you.

Run!!!

<u>It is Fun</u> By Johnna Turin

Run! Run with us. You'll have fun. So run, run, run. It is fun.

The Moon

By Jada Spaulding-Doyle

See the bright moon on a Halloween night. The moon can be big. The moon can be scary.

The Moon By Chloe Ayer

See the yellow moon. It is very, very bright tonight. I don't even need my headlights on because the yellow moon is so bright.

<u>Goblins</u> By Quentin Spaulding

Funny goblins did you know they live underground?

They do!

<u>The Wind</u> By Emily Flanders

The wind can blow the leaves right out of the trees. The leaves fall from the tree to the ground. It is fun to rake up the leaves and jump in them. VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1 French News Mme Goraj



Mount Holly students have been doing fantastique in French classes this year. Our kindergartners are learning French greetings as our older students increase their knowledge of basic French vocabulary, conversation, and grammar through the use of games, readings, songs, puppets, web sites, and skits. Students are also being introduced to the cultural similarities and differences of French speaking countries, including holiday traditions. Students will be singing a traditional French Christmas song about le Réveillon (Christmas Eve), le Père Noël (Santa), and the traditional bûche de noël (Christmas Yule log cake) at this winter's holiday concert. Merci beaucoup to



Page 5

Library News - Mrs. Goraj

Library classes are off to a great start this year. We're so lucky to have so many wonderful books to share. Please help your student care for and return on time the books they borrow. Library day is: Monday for 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th graders, and Wednesday for Kindergarten, 5th, and 6th graders.

During classes this fall:

Kindergarteners are focusing on making connections as we read classic children's books with similar characters or themes.

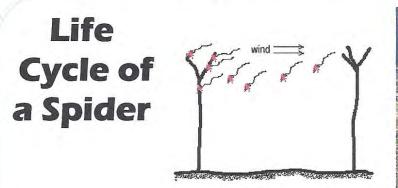
- 1st graders are learning to locate picture books by author and nonfiction by subject. We are focusing on books by Don and Audrey Wood as we compare and contrast their many different styles.
- 2nd and 3rd graders have been reading many of the picture books of Chris Van Allsburg. Jumanji and The Polar Express are two of the most well known examples of the work of this Caldecott Award winning author/ illustrator. Mr. Van Allsburg's books demonstrate the deliberate decisions he makes when creating a book regarding the inclusion and use of color, text, and illustration. He also is a master of the "twist" ending and leaves his readers thinking about the relationship between reality, dreams, and illusion.
- 4th graders enjoyed the crazy tales from Louis Sachar's Sideways Stories from Wayside School. We are now reading Bruce Coville's Monster's Ring which has led to some good discussions regarding Mt. Holly School's focus on community and the importance of supporting each other. Students are now using the catalog independently to locate books by author, title or subject.
- 5th graders learned about the purpose of myths during their classroom study of Greek mythology. In library classes, we extended this learning by reading Norse mythology. By comparing and contrasting the tales of the Vikings with those of the ancient Greeks, students have been able to discuss the relationship between nature, science, and myth, and also the ways in which cultural values are shared and taught. Students have also been introduced to the school's subscription to the **Worldbook On-line Encyclopedia** as a way to supplement their knowledge of world mythology or any research topic.
- 6th graders have been reading childhood memoirs by favorite authors such as Gary Paulsen, Roald Dahl and Robert Peck as the students begin to reflect on their own memories of their 7 years here at MHS. This memoir study corresponded with their classroom Response to Text biography project. Students are now creating their own memoirs of a memorable Halloween experience using the **Wikispaces** on-line technology service.

Visit <u>http://mounthollyschool.org/Library.htm</u> for these resources and other great kid websites.

CAT CHAT

Page 6

Second Grade Spider Study





A mother spider will lay eggs and protects those eggs by spinning an egg sac around them. The egg sac is also called a cocoon. Some mothers will wait for their eggs to hatch. Others will leave their egg sacs. Soon the baby spiders, or spiderlings, will hatch. Then they find the highest place, let out a long streamer of silk and fly away in the wind. This is called ballooning. As the spider grows, its old skin gets tighter and tighter. It needs to molt so it can continue to grow. Molting is shedding its skin and exoskeleton. A spider will molt several times until it is an adult. Then the cycle starts again.



Spiders build webs to catch food. The most common spider web is the orb spider web. It is made in many steps. Step number one is the first strand called the bridge. It runs from one side to the other side. Step two is a "Y". Step three is triangles that point to the hub, or the center of the web. The last step are the circles around the hub. The spider first makes it with non-sticky thread and then goes over it again with sticky thread. The spider uses it legs to measure as it goes around the hub. Spiders eat and recycle 80% of their web.





Parts of a Spider's Body

A spider has two body parts. The bottom part is called the abdomen. It contains the silk and the spinnerets. The top part is called the head and contains the eyes, mouth, brain, stomach and poison glands. All eight legs are on its head. Spiders also have pedipalps on their head. You know if the spider is a male because the pedipalps are shaped like boxing gloves.

4th Grade News!

The 4th graders have been very busy! Our "extremely unfortunate visit" from Hurricane Irene made quite an impact on our understanding of erosion. We gathered up some sand, rocks, sticks, and water and set up a "river table" in our classroom to further explore the effects of moving water on the land around us. "Little Irene", our very own video production, is currently in the making! Along with reviewing a variety of math concepts and skills we had a fun time exploring Pumpkin Math! After we harvested some pumpkins from our scholl's garden we collected and analyzed data with regards to each pumpkin's weight, height, circumference and number of seeds! We have learned about using the , **Meam, Mediam**, and **Mode** to determine the AVERAGE pumpkin. We had such a great time that we also found the average number of M&Ms in a snack bag as well as the average number of mini chocolate chips in a mini chocolate chip muffin! Vermont's physical geography has also been a large part of our curriculum this Fall. What better way to learn where some of Vermont's rivers, lakes and mountains are than to make a relief map out of flour, salt, and water! And, this is just SOME of what has been keeping us so busy!

> Mmmanney mmmanney@aol.com

6th GRADE FUNDRAISING:

Our Candle, Soap, & Spice fundraiser went very well; we raised close to a thousand dollars. The classroom smelled so wonderful when the candles arrived we did not want to give them up.

Our pancake breakfast at Harry's was held on December 4th. Thank you to everyone who joined us for a delicious breakfast.

Thank you to everyone who helped out and *special thanks* to Deb & Tripp Pearce and Ray Alosi for cooking, providing the space and making the morning so much fun!



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THIRD GRADE?

CAT CHAT

Technology in Our Classroom By Jack Lienhard & Michael Kautz

In third grade we use technology to learn new things. This year we started using the Smartboard and writing a blog.

The blog is about what we did recently. On our blog we have lots of pictures and information about what we are doing in third grade. You can find a link to our blog on the Mount Holly School website.

We used the computers for the third grade lifecycle projects. We used Safari , iMovie and iPhoto. We made a class animal life cycle movie. You can view it on our class website.

We use the Smartboard, the interactive whiteboard everyday. Aisy, says, "It is fun to play and learn on." We both feel it is really big, but we really like it.



We are learning cursive! By Aislynn Kelley

We been leaning the beginning letters of cursive. They are e, a, d, g, h, t, p, e, l, f, u, q, i, and j. This is what Ms Emma thinks about cursive, "I think cursive is important for third grades because they need to learn how to read it and it can help them write faster". Josh likes cursive because he can write words faster. I think smaller lines make cursive easier. I can't wait until we learn the rest of the alphabet.



Visit our classroom website and blog: www.mounthollyschool.org. Keep in touch with us virtually!

Our Class Projects By Caleb Nye

At the beginning of the year the 3rd grade we did All About Me posters. The 2nd project was our book mobiles. The 3rd project was fire safety posters. All About Me posters included things about you. They were hung on our classroom bulletin board in the hallway. Hailey said she liked it because she could color. Aisy said she liked it because she could color and she could learn about others. Our book mobiles were made after we read any realistic fiction book. Mine was on the book, *I survived the Bombing of Pearl Harbor* by Lauren Tarshis. We made the fire safety posters because we entered a contest. The contest was a poster contest for a calendar to promote Fire Safety. All third graders in the state were asked to enter. The winner will be included in the 2012 Fire Safety calendar. We had fun on our projects so far because we got to read, color and learn about each other, parts of realistic fiction, and how to prevent fires.

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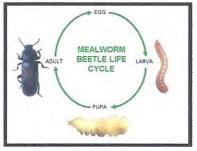
Third Grade Science By Hailey Pierce

In science we have been leaning about animal life cycles. We have done are own projects on the computers. The animals were mountain lion, frog, snake, spider, sockeye salmon and the penguin. Then we made them into movies.

We have been experimenting and using science notebooks. We have been observing mystery animals. We have learned a lot about our mystery animal. We found out that our mystery animals were the larva stage of the Darkling Beetles life cycle, they are known as mealworms. We learned it's whole lifecycle. The lifecycle is egg, larva, pupae, adult.

We had five Monarch Butterflies and three Black Swallowtail Butterflies in our classroom. In early September, we learned about a butterflies lifecycle. When the Monarch's hatched out of the chrysalis we kept them in for a day and let them go the next day. We did this because they needed to dry their wings. The Monarchs hatched but the Swallowtails did













The Halloween Ball By Josh Cohen

The second and third grade play was called the Halloween Ball. It was performed on October 14th, 2011 in front of the whole school and parents. It was an ugly version of Cinderella. Mrs. Coldwell directed the play. We practiced the play for 5 weeks. Our play was the first play of the year. Caleb said, "I liked it because we can show off our skills." Hailey thought the play was fun. Ms Emma thought the play was funny and a little scary.

Page 10

CAT CHAT

5th Grade Happenings



Excavating Cookies!

We learned about artifacts and how to excavate a dig site. We all got to excavate chocolate chip cookies using a toothpick and a paintbrush. We tried to get out as many chocolate chips as we could get out whole. In the end, we got to eat our cookie!

Greek Creatures and Gods

This trimester in Language Arts, we learned about Greek creatures and gods. We made posters. For our monster poster, we looked for a picture, printed it out or drew something for our illustration. Everyone did a beautiful job on making a picture. For the rest of our poster, we wrote a descriptive paragraph and a myth. A lot of great words were used! We decorated our poster with designs and letters, which were, of course, Greek. That was really fun, and we got to present them to the entire school!





Fifth graders have been studying geometry and multiplication. They have begun their study of poetry with haiku and they have been reading biographies. They completed an extensive unit on meteorology and have begun learning about rocks and minerals. They are becoming geographers and have also begun a study of life in the Americas from the Ice Age on.

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Grade 6

READING:

We started the year with a captivating mystery, <u>The Westing Game</u>. It kept us on the edge of our seats until it's surprising ending. We learned about stereotyping and mystery writing.

Now we are reading books dealing with the Westward Migration of the early 1800s. Trying to gain some perspective on what it was like for those settlers who traveled the arduous Oregon Trail.

The first two "Response to Texts" have been completed and we are now reading for the third. The next Response to Text is Nonfiction (not myth), due January 3rd.

MATH:

We reviewed previously learned math skills in preparation for the NECAPs, while examining geometric principles. We experimented with origami and tangrams; then we met the sixth grade math friend, pi. Your student should know the value for simplified pi; ask him or her to share this with you.

The children voted on the math unit they wanted to cover next and probability was the winner. So ratios, percents, outcomes, probabilities, and random numbers it is.

SOCIAL STUDIES:

Architecture, with its variety of styles, was a topic that seemed to catch the children's interest. Besides examining the specific and unique features that combine to define each style, we also looked at the social/political beliefs that drove the adoption of one style over another. Each child constructed a timeline of styles and corresponding events to demonstrate the connection. They also took on the "Tower Challenge" with great results!!

The class is now proceeding along the Hacker Trail heading west seeking new opportunities and free land. They have already faced some danger and stress and are learning to work together to make wise choices that will be effective.

The students had a sushi making competition during our **Seeds** to **Supper** class. You would be amazed how beautiful and delicious their creations were. The judges were duly impressed by the creative arrangements. We then tackled bread making with great success. It was so much fun to get our hands into the dough and see what we could produce.

History Day projects have begun. It is still the research stage; they will soon be making final decisions about their topics and presentations.

LANGUAGE ARTS:

Poetry was our first focus. We read and wrote many different types of poems. The students typed their works into illustrated slide shows, which we hope to share with you at parent conferences.

We continue to work on improving spelling, vocabulary, and grammar. In line with the new Common Core standards we are working on increasing the complexity of our writings.

Since we had so much fun reading the intricate mystery mentioned above, the children are now writing their own mystery stories. I can't wait to read them, as they are so excited about these pieces.

SCIENCE / HEALTH:

In **Health** we looked at safety issues: seat belts, helmets, and avoiding getting into a car with an inebriated driver. We then examined tobacco use: its effects on the human body, the dangers it poses, the financial costs to the individual and society, and the ingenious way it is marketed. Paul Faenza joined us with his tobacco kit and shared some of the statistics related to this habit with us.

Three body systems have been reviewed at this point: the respiratory, excretory, and endocrine.

Science began with a look at simple machines and a study of Force & Motion.

We read, watched videos, and then got out the simple machines to see how they operate. To enhance our understanding of force and motion the children built cars. They used these to experience vehicle design, stored energy, wind power, and friction. Our final race was quite exciting!!

Recently they researched and constructed 3D posters of the varied biomes that exist on our planet. Their presentations were used to design a quiz reviewing what they had learned.

The Thrive Center of The Green Mountains

1.) Since August 29th. we have been setting aside 10% of retail sale proceeds to go toward the VT Disaster Relief Fund. We will conclude on 1/31; sending in a donation then. Keep in mind, for your gift giving needs that wise men & women shop here; with **Gift Certificates** being usually the right color, and fit! Look for a retail sale and new product re-sets in the New Year.

2.) On 11/1 we crossed the threshold into our 12th. Year of business! Happy Birthday ~ Thrive Center!

"So get in on the Goods" ~ Because "We're the Goods" as they say! Enter your name to win \$12 off your next massage & bodywork session

by 1/12. You can Email us to enter at <u>uthrive@vermontel.net</u>, call 446.2499, or just stop in and enter!

3.) Recently, both Linda O'Brien & Lisa Donohue completed the "Access the Bars" training adding yet another technique to our tool boxes. For more information just ask us and / or go to:

http://www.accessconsciousness.com/classtype_details.asp?cid=11&l=

4.) We ELVES have been pretty busy here @ Thrive with our remodeling. Thank you for your patience as we continue to improve the space, over the Winter, given last year's ice damages. Let us know if you want to be invited to our forthcoming painting parties

RAVNAH FOOT CLINIC SCHEDULE JANUARY 2012

There is a suggested donation of **\$2.00 for blood pressure screenings** and **\$5.00 for foot care**. The following calendar lists the blood pressure and foot care clinics for January 2012

Day	Date	Town	Site	Time
Wednesday	1/4/12	Wallingford	Wallingford House	10:30 am
Thursday	1/5/12	Rutland	Parker House	10:00 am
Wednesday	1/18/12	Rutland	Sheldon Towers	9:30 am
Wednesday	1/18/12	Rutland	Linden Terrace	11:00 am
Thursday	1/19/12	Rutland	Maple Village	10:00 am
Wednesday	1/25/12	Rutland	Godnick Center	12:30 pm
Thursday	1/26/12	N. Clarendon	Community Center	12:30 pm



Got Cholesterol?

The Rutland Area Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice (RAVNAH) offers a total lipid profile along with a comprehensive cholesterol and glucose screening on the first Wednesday of each month. Screenings will be held at the RAVNAH office on 7 Albert Cree Drive, in Rutland on Wednesday, January 4 and Wednesday, February 1 at 8:30am. Please call in advance for an appointment at 775-0568. The total lipid profile is a group of tests to determine risk of coronary heart disease. The blood glucose test screens for diabetes. The complete lipid profile requires an 8-12 hour fast prior to the test to ensure accurate results.

The cost for a Complete Lipid Profile and Glucose is \$30.00.



FOR SALE: 2001 Yamaha SRX700 with tank bag map pouch, mirrors, 192 Stainless Steel Studded track, handgrip warmers, cover and sport smoke windshield. Asking \$2000 OBRO call 802-259-2314

Ski House for Rent In Belmont 5 Bedrooms, 2 Full Baths Sleeps 12 Easily (Can sleep 16) \$1,500 per month, plus utilities (Weekend or Weekly rental also available) Email: tracyrogersarch@gmail.com (802) 282-4858

For Rent: In Florida - 1 bedroom Condo Near Beaches, Golf, Malls & More Heated Pool & Car Port, Seasonal or Yearly, Reasonable - Call Don 802-259-2763

Run time to Thrive? Nutritional Supplimentation . Holistic Health Education · Stress Reduction and Natural Body Care Procucts . Gift Certificates Available minutes from downtown **Rutland and** worth the

Chiropractic Care · Therapeutic Massage

OF THE GREEN MOUNTAI

Joseph P. Donohue, DC

Lisa Marie Donohue, MA, LMT

Paul Colletti, MT

802-446-2499 68 South Main St. (Route 7) Wallingford, VT

drive!

Only 15

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+



Please Join Us!

Monday, January 9th, 2012 at 6:30 PM

At 6 Court Street, Rutland

Rheumatoid Arthritis Support Group

The purpose of our group is to share stories, provide support, suggest strategies and tips for

dealing with RA, invite speakers to attend who can

Rheumatoid Arthritis

Support Group





\$475,000 3 Bedrooms, 4 Baths on 12.13 acres with pond and southern exposure located in Barnard.



\$1,345,000 Executive estate located in the heart of the Green Mtns. 4 bedrooms/6 baths plus in-law apt.



\$549,000 Master craftsmans special home on 10+ ac. 4 bedrooms/3 baths - Stone Waterfall in the livingroom!



\$333,000 Snowmobile retreat on VAST with 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, 10 acres, attached garage.



\$2,000,950 Large stone cape with guest house, 5 stall horse barn on 38+ acres located in S. Woodstock.



\$479,000 NEW PRICE on this elegant Victorian. 5 bedrooms/6 baths, VAST, Village and lake views.



\$589,000 Energy efficient turn-key cape with 3 bedrooms and 3 baths at private Quechee Lakes.



\$280,000 Small house with LARGE barn with great exposure for a business in S. Woodstock.



\$350,000 59+ acre parcel with views to Okemo & Killington long road frontage - many options for siting.



\$300,000 Back-to-nature lodge with 4 bedrooms, stone center fireplace and tremendous South views.



\$489,900 Vacation home with over 4,000 sq. ft.. 4 bedrooms/4 baths, views of Okemo Trails.



\$489,000 Classic Vermont Farmhouse - 5 bed/3 bath, lake frontage, barn, 2 acre meadow

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Who's Got It Locally?

V	
Appliance Service	
Green Mountain Appliance Service – Gary Van Akin Artists & Architects	259-6012
Hunter Lea Gallery & Frameshop www.hunterleagallery.cc	om 228-4703
McKeegan Stenciling & Faux Finishes	259-3333
Photography Gallery, Alex McCallum	259-2318
Spectrum Photography Stephanie Stouffer, Studio & Gallery	259-3060 259-2686
Tracy Rogers Architecture & Design - Architecture & Interior	
Bakeries - Catering - Restaurants - Stores	
Belmont General Store	259-2292
Big Eyes Bakery-Irish Soda Bread, Tea Cakes, Pies Crowley Cheese, LLC	259-7005 259-2340
Harry's Café	259-2996
Squeels on Wheels, Wood Roasted BBQ, Take Out	228-8934
Bed & Breakfast	
Hounds Folly www.houndsfolly.com Clifford Country Bed & Breakfast www.cliffordcountry.com	
Building & Repairs – General Work	239-2209
AW Carpentry-Remodeling*Building*Portable Sawmilling	259-3699
Bolalek Construction & Design, andrzej@bolalekconstruction	
Cutting Edge Carpentry & Paint Works-Curt Marechaux G & H Masonry-Jay Goraj ghmasonryvermont@yahoo.com	259-2900 259-2625
Grey Goose Chimney Sweeps, Window Washing	492-3549
Master Plumbing & Heating Inc. <u>masterph@vermontel.net</u>	492-3657
RDS Contracting-General Contractor New/Remodeling	259-7829
Cell 802-353-7	
Rick Lee Builder, Free Estimates Building & Renovations rickleebuilder@yahoo	259-3936
Tailored Plumbing & Heating <u>baztaylor@comcast.net</u>	975-0033
Also Lawn Mowing, Landscaping, Snowplowing & Firewood	
Ted Stryhas Builder	228-7327
Wright Construction – Brett Wright <u>Communication – Computer Repair & Entertainment</u>	259-2094 چ
Comcast-Rudy Hawes Rudy_Hawes@cable.comcast.com	802-353-2012
Film/Video Production & DJ Services David Guerrera 345-0	6905 259-2136
Engineering Krueger Engineering- Arthur G. Krueger, P.E.	492-3653
Equipment For Hire & Snow Moving	492-3033
Beardmore Excavating <u>beardmoreexc@vermontel.net</u>	342-3507
Devereux Earth & Snow Moving	259-2809
Garrow, C. Earth & Snow Moving P.J. Bushey Landscape/Garden/Snow Plow <u>www.busheyland</u>	259-2867
Martin Services – General Excavation tmartin82@aol.com	259-3444
Norton's Property Management - Logging*Land Clearing*Su	nowplowing
*Brush Hogging*Mowing & Care Taking 802-353-6289 Ce	
Roger Garrow Brush Hogging Russ Garrow –Lawn Mowing*Brush Hogging*Garden Tilling	259-2314
*Care Taking greenerpastures@vermontel.net	
Farm Fresh Products	
Mt. Holly Dairy Aire Farm-Fresh Milk, Eggs, Beef, Poultry	259-2386
Padema Blueberry Farm Plew Farm – Kevin & Pattie Plew	259-2132
Smith Maple Crest Farm- Grass Fed Beef Cuts-Fresh Frozen	259-2250 492-2151
www.Smithmaplecrestfarm.cor	
Funeral Homes	
Clifford Funeral Home	773-3010
Garage, Repair & Wrecking BMW ~ Snowmobile, Motorcycle, ATV, Sm Engine & Weld	ing 259-3178
Delaney Welding-Small Welding jobs & Air Cooled VW Rep	
Joe's Garage – Small Engine Repair	259-2688
Miller's Garage – Cold River Rd. Rutland	775-6852
Turco's YAMAHA Service & Sales www.turcosyamaha.c Garden & Landscape, Lawn Mowing	<u>om</u> 773-8650
Belmont Gardens Quality Custom Stonework	259-2364
Kevin Smith, Garden Service & Lawn Mowing	259-3964
Frost Hill Farm, Peony Nursery, Fresh Cut & Dried Peonies	259-2716
Mike's Mowing & Brush Hogging, Mike Dawley	259-3052
P.J. Bushey Landscape & Garden Ctr. www.busheyland.cc Paul Meoli, Mowing & Lawn Care, Painting, Garage Organiz	
Salt Ash Nursery, Scott Crawford	259-2146
Traveling Hoe Gardening <u>www.thetravelinghoe.com</u>	

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	Vermont Ghost Hunters Got Ghosts? ~ VTGH@comcast.net 802-	-298-0033
	www.vermontghosthunters.com	
	Hair Cuts	100.00.00
	Cuttings In The Ville – Lisa Sharrow	492-3360
	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/Paul Colletti MT/Linda O'Brien MT	446-2499
	Home Management Services	
	Belmont Gardens Property Management	259-2364
	Country Home Management, Richardson/Rivers 259-3662	228-7086
	Yankee Home Management, Keith Hawkins 259-3064	
	Home Ownership Services	
	Neighbor Works of Western VT, Jacki White 802-438-230	3 Ext 215
	Lawyers	5 EAC 215
		-779-4447
	Locksmith & Security	-////
	Countryside Lock & Alarms (Mike Blais) 259-2213	
	Manufacturing & UPS Outlet	050 0477
	DECO Manufacture Machine Job Shop	259-2477
	Nutmeg Fabricating Inc. – David Graham -971 Northam Rd.	492-3575
	Maple Syrup	
	Green Mtn. Sugar House	228-7151
	Smith Maple Crest Farm <u>www.smithmaplecrestfarm.com</u>	492-2151
	Marketing & Promotional Services	
	Express Copy Inc., Don Reiser 259-2722	362-0501
	Merchandise Sales & Service	
	Black Satin Silversmiths, Daryle Thomas	259-2841
	Dan Turco & Sons YAMAHA-Snowmobile, Motorcycle, ATV	773-8650
	Environmentally Safe Products For Body & Home - Pat LaBella	259-6078
	Fuller Brush & Rawleigh Products – Diana Garrow	259-2314
	Generator Maintenance Systems- Carl Harlow	259-2775
	Hearth & Cricket Stove Shop – Daryle Thomas	259-2841
	Leaf it in Vermont- Wanda Trinci <u>www.LeafitinVermont.com</u>	259-2636
	Mary K – Natalie Brown	259-2050
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	Personal Services	050 0544
	Angelo's Family Tailoring	259-3564
	Ang's Cleaning Service	259-3598
	Jencot Cleaning Co.	259-2146
	Pet/House Sitter – Barbara Pallotta	259-2856
	Real Estate Sales	
	Coldwell Banker Watson Realty, www.cbwatsonrealty.com	228-5678
	Jane Harrington@cbwatson.net F 802-228-4100 Cell 978-337	-3950
	Ellison Properties <u>homeinvt@tds.net</u>	228-4011
	Carol Pike	259-2313
	Engel & Voelkers, Woodstock & Ludlow Gail Graves	259-3005
	Gail.graves@engelvoelkers.com (Mobile) 802-236	5431
	Kelley Real Estate, Don Eatmon, Broker/Owner H 259-2646	228-5333
	Fax 802-228-5343 www.KelleyRealEstate.com www.OkemoVall	ey.com
	Ty Murray H259-3014-Cell 777-8047, Carl Mitchell H259-2107-C	Cell 384-3202
	Lisa Kelley 259-3112 Cell 802-345-6581	
	Refrigeration	
	J.C. McDonald Inc. ~ Commercial Refrigeration	
	Air Conditioning Sales & Service joemc@vermontel.net	259-3152
	Septic System Design	207 0102
	Chase Design & Construction <u>www.chasevermont.com</u>	259-2633
	Surveying Land	257-2055
	On Point Land Surveying-Paul Grieneder onpointsurvey@gmail.cc	221 2556
		<u>m</u> 231-2330
	Tree Services	250 9722
	G.M. Tree Tech & Landscaping, Greg McKirryher	259-8733
	Veterinary Care - Equine Services - Pet Care Needs	250 220 5
	Mt. Holly Feeds, Jim & Millicent Johnson	259-2386
	Riverside Veterinary Care, Ludlow	228-5700
	Volunteer Services	
	Belmont/Mt. Holly Food Co-op, Tanger H 259-2344 W	259-2899
	Black River Good Neighbor Service	228-3663
	Neighborworks Of Western Vermont	438-2303
	Woodworking, Cabinets & Furniture	
	Chesters Custom Woodworking, ccw@vermontel.net	259-3232