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March 2012

Mt. Holly Chit Chat

Village Baptist Church – Worship 9:30am, Pastor Glenn Davis 259-2440

E. Wallingford Baptist – SS 10:00 am – Worship 11:00 am Evening 6:30 pm Phone 259-2831 www.ewbaptist.com

St. Patrick's Mass, Wallingford Sat 4 pm Sun 9:15 am Rev Justin Baker, Pastor & Rev James Dodson, Parochial Vicar Phone 446-2161

Annunciation Mass, Ludlow, Sat 4 pm, Sun 8 am & 11 am **Proctorsville** Sun 9:30 am, Rev. Romanus Igweonu Ph. 228-3451

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

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

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

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

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

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

FEB 29 th	Union #39 School Board Informational Meeting & Hearing, BRHS Library	7:00 pm
1 st	<i>Peace Corps Founded 1961</i>	
3 rd	<i>Alexander Graham Bell 1847 ~ "Star Spangled Banner" made US National Anthem 1931</i>	
4 th	V.F.W. Post #10155 meeting, Route 103, Ludlow	7:00 pm
	Fire Dept. Business Meeting, Fire Station	7:00 pm
5 th	Town Meeting & Annual School Board Meeting , Mt. Holly School Gym	7:00 pm
6 th	VOTE ~ Mt. Holly Town Office	Polls open - 10:00 am ~ 7:00 pm
	Mason's Meeting, Mt. Moriah Lodge, E. Wallingford	<i>Michelangelo di Lodovico 1475</i> 8:00 pm
	Union #39 Annual Meeting, BRHS Library	7:30 pm
7 th	Mt. Holly Community Association Meeting, Library	7:00 pm
11 th	<i>Daylight Savings Begins Spring Ahead 1 Hour ~ Hare & Rabbit Season Ends</i>	
12 th	Rescue Squad Meeting, Rescue Squad Building	<i>Girl Scouts Founded 1912</i> 7:00 pm
13 th	Community Guild Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont	9:00 am
	Selectmen's meeting, Town Office	7:30 pm
	Fire Dept. Drill, Fire Station	7:00 pm
14 th	Fire Dept. Ladies Auxiliary Meeting, Belmont Fire Station	<i>Albert Einstein 1879</i> 7:00 pm
	Mt. Holly PTC Meeting, Mt. Holly School Library	<i>Crow Season</i> 3:00 pm
	Mount Holly Grange	7:30 pm
	ODD Fellows Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont	7:00 pm
15 th	M.H. Republican Committee Meeting, Mt. Holly Town Office	7:00 pm
	<i>Walleye Season Ends & Ice Fishing for Trout, Salmon and Bass Ends</i>	
17 th		<i>St. Patrick's Day</i>
19 th	Mount Holly Planning Commission, Town Office	7:30 pm
20 th	Fire Dept. work night, Fire Stations	<i>Spring Begins ~ Vernal Equinox</i> 7:00 pm
		<i>Muskrat Hunting Season</i>
21 st	Mt. Holly Town Library Meeting, Library, Belmont	7:00 pm
22 nd		<i>Civil Rights March 1965</i>
23 rd		<i>National Diabetes Alert Day</i>
26 th	Rescue Squad Meeting, Rescue Squad Building	7:00 pm
27 th	Community Guild Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont	9:00 am
	Fire Dept. Drill, Fire Station	7:00 pm
28 th	ODD Fellows Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont	7:00 pm
31 st		

Cesar Estrada Chavez US Labor Organizer 1927
Muskrat & Beaver Trapping Season Ends

* * * * *

Emergency Services

Mount Holly Fire Dept.	259-2700 or 911	Poison Control	(802) 658-3456
Mount Holly Fire Warden – Jim Seward	786-3408	American Red Cross	773-9159
Mount Holly Rescue Squad	775-3133 or 911	Game Warden – Jeff Whipple	773-9101
Mount Holly Constable Paul Faenza	786-4404	Health Officer - Frank Bickford	259-2885
Animal Control Deputy, Rutland County	775-8002	Vermont State Police	773-9101

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

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

Donation Thank You's: Donna De Angelis & Eric Holm * Mary Diane McLaughlin * Joe Clifford (Clifford Funeral Home) * Walker & Mary Connor * Ted & Sue Crawford * Craig Tomkinson * Don Tarbell * Peter & Valerie Perrino * Sheila Hardy * Bill Walters (Tattersall's Clothing Emporium) *



March Birthdays: 1st -Jessica Duarte * Kimberly Chadburn. 2nd -Doris Nelson * Donald Reiser * Nicole Reiser. 3rd -Alexander Melville * Violet Colm. 5th -Morgan Coldwell * James Johnson * Alexa McCallum. 6th -Zoe Davis. 7th -Elijah Teter. 8th -Mike Dawley Sr. * Harold Chadburn. 9th -Hanna Colm. 11th -Ephram Bussino. 12th -Julie Parsells. 13th -Debbie Woods. 14th -Shawn Wortman. 15th -Cassandra Parsels * Karen Ham. * Frank Gerdin. 19th -Patric Melvin * Andrew Garrow * Eureka Johnson-Biczko. 20th -Bill Jacobs. * Linda Gwiazda. 21st -Jeremiah Johnson. 22nd -John Taylor. 23rd -Megan Carrara. 25th -Nicole Mattison-Griffin * Scott Turco. * Lucy Columb. 28th -Matt Nowosad * Bessie Centini. * Nick Gwiazda. 29th -Nancy Columb. 30th -April Melvin * Mary Nortunen.



March Anniversaries: 3rd -Jerome & Natalie Brown (50th). 5th -Matt & Eleanor Nowosad. 9th -Nick & Linda Gwiazda. 14th -George & Sue Covalla. 26th -Raymond & Linda Tarbell.

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

Local Post Office Hours

Mount Holly 802-259-2796

Post Master: Denise Young
Mon – Fri 7:30 am – 11:30 am
& 12:30 pm – 4:30 pm
Sat 7:30 am – 10:30 am

Belmont 802-259-2790

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

East Wallingford 802-259-2829

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 8:00 am – 11:00 am
& 12:30 pm – 4:30 pm
Sat 8:00 am – 10:30 am



Mount Holly Chit Chat, Inc.

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

BOARD of DIRECTORS:

PRESIDENT: David Venter; **V. PRESIDENT:** Steven Howard;
SECRETARY: Krey Kellington; **TREASURER:** Diana Garrow;
DIRECTORS: Annette Lynch, Heather Garrow, Mary Beth Dawley
MANAGING EDITOR: Diana Garrow

ASSISTANT to the EDITOR: Heather Garrow

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

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

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

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

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

RATES:

Back Page: \$20 Per Listing for one year

	1 Mo.	3 Mo.	6 Mo.	9 Mo.	12 Mo.
Business Card:	\$15	\$40	\$80	\$115	\$150
Quarter Page:	\$30	\$80	\$150	\$225	\$300
Third Page:	\$45	\$125	\$240	\$350	\$450
Half Page:	\$75	\$200	\$375	\$550	\$720

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

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

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

The Annual Membership meeting is held on the second Monday in September in the Mount Holly Library at 7 p.m. The meeting includes the annual report and election of the Board of Directors

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

Gerald S. George

Gerald Schuyler George, 87, died Jan. 28, 2012, at his home. He was born in Queens, Long Island, N.Y., July 28, 1924, the son of Nicholas and Lillian (Kopich) George.

After graduation from St. Michael's High School in New York in 1942, he entered the [U.S. Coast Guard](#), serving in the Pacific until he was discharged in 1947.

Mr. George's aircraft manufacturing employment included at Republic Aviation on Long Island, in management for Sikorsky Aircraft, receiving advanced education and taking courses for the Air Force. In Vermont, he was owner/operator of Mount Holly General Store and then worked for General Electric in Rutland for six years.

Mr. George was also one of the founding members of the Mount Holly Volunteer Rescue Squad and a member of American Legion Post 13 in Bennington. He enjoyed woodworking and gardening.

Survivors include his children, Barbara Ann Stricsek of Westford, Mass., Gerald George of Sandy Hook, Conn., Debra Hawkins of East Wallingford and Steven George of Wallingford, and two grandsons.

Mr. George was predeceased in 2011 by his wife, the former Betty Jane Smith, whom he married in January 1947. At the request of the family, funeral service and burial will be private. There are no calling hours.

Memorial contributions may be made to Bennington Project Independence or Mount Holly Rescue Squad, in care of Hanson-Walbridge Funeral Home, PO Box 957, Bennington, VT 05201.

Richard L. Hammond



Richard Lester "Dick" Hammond, 72, formerly of Mount Holly, died Feb. 3, 2012, at Rutland Regional Medical Center, following a long illness.

He was born Feb. 22, 1939, in Rutland, the son of Donald R. and Vera O. (Perry) Hammond. Dick graduated in 1957 from Wallingford High School, where he was a member of the state basketball championship team.

Mr. Hammond enlisted in the Vermont National Guard serving as a medic, first with Wallingford Ambulance Company and then with the 2nd Tank Battalion in the Medical Platoon, and was in charge of the ambulance maintenance until he was honorably discharged and retired.

He was employed by True Temper and then worked at General Electric Co. for over 30 years prior to his retirement in 1999.

In Wallingford, he served as constable and was a member of the volunteer fire department and rescue squad.

Dick also served the Town of Mount Holly as Second Constable under First Constable Russ Desautels for many years, was a lifetime member of Mount Holly Volunteer Rescue Squad and served as a governor of Loyal Order of Moose Lodge #1122.

He enjoyed hunting, bingo and bowling, and donated over nine gallons of blood to the American Red Cross.

Survivors include two daughters, Laurie Young of Rutland and Lynne Keyes of Tinmouth; three granddaughters and two great-grandchildren; his former wife, Noreen Booska; and several cousins. He was predeceased by his wife, Marie Hammond, in 2006.

The funeral service will be held at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 7, at the Rutland Aldous Funeral Home, 44 North Main St., where friends may call from noon prior to the service. Burial will be in Danby-Scottsville Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Mount Holly Volunteer Rescue, PO Box 102, Mount Holly, VT 05758.

George L. Burgess



George L. Burgess, 77, formerly of Bennington, died Feb. 4, 2012, following a long illness.

He was born in April of 1934 in Bennington, the son of Earl and Helen (Briggs) Burgess. George went to trade school in New York City and was in the National Guard for six years. Mr. Burgess worked at Union Carbide/EverReady before retiring to Lake Ninevah.

George was a woodsman and enjoyed traveling, hunting and fishing and was also known as a craftsman who built two airplanes, an amphibian and a taildragger, two homes and woodcrafted pieces.

Survivors include two sons, G. Paul and Richard, both of Mount Holly; two daughters, Beth Burgess of Montgomery and Lori Grikstas of Bennington; four grandchildren; two stepchildren, Michael Warren of Shaftsbury and Nancy Durgan of Mount Holly, and their mother, Viola Burgess; siblings, Betty Kearns of Keene, N.H., Chester Burgess, Hazel Candib, both of Bennington, and Ed Burgess of Belmont; numerous

nieces, nephews and great-grandchildren.

He was predeceased by siblings, Ty Burgess and Barbara Reynolds; and his former wife, Shirley Miller, whom he married in 1954.

Calling hours for George L. Burgess, 77, formerly of Bennington, who died Feb. 4, 2012, were from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 19, at the Mahar & Son Funeral Home in Bennington.

Memorial contributions may be made to Mount Holly Vol. Rescue Squad or Mount Holly Vol. Fire Department, in care of Mahar and Son Funeral Home, 628 Main St., Bennington, VT 05201

RWSU and WWSU Planning Committee Update

On Tuesday afternoon, January 17, 2012, RWSU chair, Doug Ficken and WWSU chair, Alison Deslauriers presented a petition, at the direction of their respective Boards, to the Vermont State Board of Education to form a new Supervisory Union to include the districts of the Rutland-Windsor SU and the remaining districts of the Windsor Southwest SU, should the Mountain Towns Regional Education District's (RED's) component districts' electorates each vote to approve the RED, and the newly formed RED is thereby regrouped into BRSU. Prior to considering the petition from RWSU/WWSU on the proposed consolidation, the State Board did approve a motion supporting the formation of a Mountain Towns Regional Education District. The petition also included the additional condition that the SU board of the newly-combined Windsor Southwest and Rutland-Windsor SU will require a 60% majority vote for the hiring of a superintendent and the approval of its SU budget. The petition, worded by the Vermont Department of Education, did not include the additional conditions for funding and tax considerations equivalent to those provided to approve RED's, or that the newly formed SU should organize an Executive

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Committee made up of an equal number of representatives from the current districts of the RWSU and WWSU. While these conditions were part of the motions passed by the RWSU and WWSU Boards on December 14, 2011, the last two conditions are not part of the State Board's authority. Vermont legislative action will be necessary to provide financial assistance for implementation. The new SU Board will be responsible for the creation of an Executive Committee and its makeup.

Ms. Deslauriers outlined the history of the planning process and some of the potential educational advantages the new SU might afford students. Mr. Ficken outlined the financial challenges that the current SU's would face in any implementation process and pointed out that both Boards voted contingent upon financial support from the Vermont State legislature. Donna Moyers, the facilitator hired by the Vermont School Board's Association under the financial auspices of the combined SU's then gave her report on the structural aspects of a new SU and the potential educational advantages. Norman Andrews, a financial consultant contracted by the Vermont Department of Education, presented his report, encompassing several months of study and analysis of the financial operations of each Supervisory Union. Assuming the new Supervisory Union would not include the towns of Peru, Weston, Londonderry and Landgrove, he projected that the combining the ten remaining districts of the two Supervisory Unions could result in a decreased assessment of \$481,700 or that these savings could be applied to provide additional educational advantages to

students.

The State Board then asked several clarifying questions, not least of which was how to respond to the conditions each local School Board expects to be met that are not under their control. They agreed not to formally consider the petition until at least April, or possibly at their May meeting. By that time votes by all constituent towns in the Mountain Town RED will have voted to approve or disapprove the RED. If any of those votes fail, this consolidation effort will end. Also, by late spring, the level of action by the State legislature will be clearer

Mr. Ficken and Ms. Deslauriers then had the opportunity to testify in front of the Education Committee of the Vermont House of Representatives. During this time, they were able to answer a number of the same questions asked by the State Board of Education, as well as make clear the need for financial assistance from the legislature to make implementation feasible.

MHCA Community activities

The MHCA would like to know if anyone is interested in organizing or running activities / workshops in the Community Room. People have expressed interest in card games, bridge refresher, drawing classes, photography, lectures, etc. If anyone is interested in starting such a group, please contact Kathy Leber - kleber@vermontel.net or 259-3363. The MHCA will be happy to assist you in making it happen! Kathleen Leber, kleber@vermontel.net

Thank You

I would like to thank the Mt. Holly Fire Dept. for their quick response to my shed fire on January 7, 2012.

Special thanks to Kevin Neubert for helping me rescue my girls (chickens) that night. Special thanks to Fern Melvin for her help fixing my chicken coop Sunday morning and to Ellen Horton and Dana Devereux for the plastic.

Also to all who offered assistance. Jane Hill

Mt. Holly School Board Meeting

The Mt. Holly school board met on Wednesday, February 1 at the Mt. Holly Elementary School. The board discussed the fiber optic connections coming from VTel. Mr. Williams noted that the legislature is discussing providing the transitional funds for SU consolidation. They also discussed school closures for weather and the decision to stay open. They discussed the expenditure report and the plans for the annual meeting. They discussed the heating system. The board discussed using some of the revenues from the tuition students for the bus replacement fund and noted that they had not put very much money into that fund over the past several years.

The next meeting will be the informational meeting on March 5. The annual meeting will be on March 6. The next regular meeting will likely be held on March 14 at Ludlow Elementary School at 7:00p.m.

Mount Holly After School Program Ballot Article Information

The Mount Holly After School program has an article on the town meeting ballot this year. The ballot asks that the voters of the town vote yes to funding the after school program in the amount of \$4000 in the upcoming fiscal year. As a state grant funded program the after school program is required among other things to show local financial support for the after school programs in order to continue to receive the grant funds. The state suggests that our goal should be 50% local sustainability. Mount Holly usually comes in around 30%.

Over the six years of the grant funding the Mount Holly After School Program has received over \$200,000 dollars from the grant, approximately \$8,000 from the school budget, and the town has contributed approximately \$0. Other sources of revenue include parent fees, Vermont Child Care Subsidy, fund raising, other grants, and in-kind services and donations.

I have sometimes heard Mount Holly parents questioning why students in Ludlow do not pay a fee for certain after school programs and our students do? The answer is that the voters of Ludlow have consistently voted to support their after school programs at a rate of over \$18,000 dollars per year with the aim of offering free after school academic support to all students of LES regardless of ability to pay.

In 2010-2012 in response to the tough financial climate the Mount Holly After School program has offered many programs free of charge including Homework Club, Morning Math club, Odyssey of the Mind, provided snack for special activities such as Boys on the Trail, and Girls on the Run. I made this decision in order to maintain our program mission of serving every student in some positive way through out of school time activities. I made this decision confident that when given the opportunity the community would show its support in the form of dollars.

Lest you think that the giving is a one way street I would like to share with you that over the years the kids in the Mount Holly After School Program have enjoyed projects that have allowed them to contribute to their community in many ways including: preparing meals for Dismas House, providing plants to the Mount Holly Garden Club, raffling off a hand made dog house to support the library, providing handmade gifts for PTC functions, holiday food drives, fund raising for the Children's Hospital at Dartmouth, making decorations for the school's haunted house, hosting the Vermont Institute of Natural Science Raptor Event, and fund raising for the Rutland Humane Society.

If you have any questions or comments on this article please do not hesitate to call me or email me: jpollard@tds.net/ home: 802-226-8070/ cell:802-299-8025

Drawing Classes At The Community Center To Continue Through March

Our drawing group is growing in size. Each week we set up a still life composition and beginners and more advanced artists come together to share knowledge and materials. If interested call Madeleine Fay 259-2654 or email mfay@massmed.org



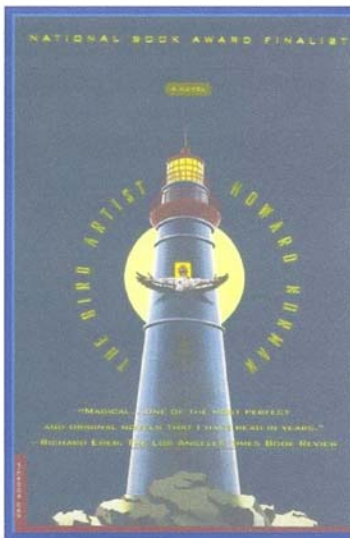
Stephanie Stouffer Gallery

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.

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802-259-2686 Stouffer@vermontel.net stephaniestouffer.com





MOUNT HOLLY TOWN LIBRARY READING GROUP

Meets Wednesday March 14th
at 7:00 pm

Minga Dana's home
1049 Straight Road

The book is *The Bird Artist*
By "Howard Norman"

Please join us for a very interesting
evening!

Crime Mapping Preview

From: **Donald Patch**

The Vermont State Police is currently working with a crime reporting program, Crime Reports that will supply timely crime data to the citizens of Vermont. It is a mapping program that will allow you to apply various filters such as dates and crimes types, and will then populate a map with the criminal activity that has been reported to the Vermont State Police. Once the map is populated with the various icons, you can click on the icon to view a few more details about the incident. The program includes the ability to submit anonymous tips about the incident that will be directed to the appropriate authority.

This is scheduled to be rolled out in the next several weeks but I wanted to give the Mount Holly community the opportunity to preview and provide feedback. Crime

Reports is located at <https://www.crimereports.com/> Once at the site, enter the town and state in the address box.

Feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns you have. I can be reached by email at dpatch@dps.state.vt.us
Captain Donald Patch, Troop C Commander, Vermont State Police, 124 State Place, Rutland, Vermont 05701 (802) 773-9101

Lamoine native wins Northern New England boxing title

Posted By UnBylined On February 10, 2012 (8:55 pm) In Sports

Lamoine native Jayson Richter captured the Northern New England Golden Gloves novice welterweight title last weekend in Burlington, Vt., with a unanimous decision over Ian McCleod of Burlington.

Richter, a member of the Portland Boxing Club, pursued McCleod from the opening bell and earned a clear-cut decision, according to release on the club's website.

Three other Portland Boxing Club members won titles as

Casey Kramlich captured the light welterweight open class for his third straight crown by beating Brandon Berry of West Forks; Juan Lopez won the featherweight open division with a unanimous decision over **Josh Bickford of Mt. Holly, Vt.**; and featherweight Liz Leddy beat Amber Blumenfeld of Claremont, N.H., in the women's open class.

The title winners advanced to the New England championships, which were being held over the weekend in Lowell, Mass.

Richter advanced to the Northern New England finals with two hard-fought wins, beating Anthony Collins of Lewiston and John

Irene's Wake

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Haley of Burlington, Vt.

Richter is a former U.S. Marine who is now premed student at the University of Southern Maine.

Article taken from Bangor Daily News -
<http://bangordailynews.com>

URL to article:
<http://bangordailynews.com/2012/02/10/sports/lamoine-native-wins-northern-new-england-boxing-title/>

MT HOLLY SNO*DRIFTERS IS HAVING A VINTAGE SNOWMOBILE RAFFLE

\$10.00 a ticket, prizes include:

Prize #1 1980 Scorpion TK340 Snowmobile or \$500.00 cash

Prize #2 \$100.00 Cash

Prize #3 \$50.00

Raffle will be drawn when 350 tickets sell. You do not have to be present to win.

Please see attached posters, pictures and raffle tickets. All proceed go towards our new groomer.

If interested in purchasing one or more tickets, send tickets and money to:

MT Holly Sno*Drifters
519 Tiffany Rd.
Belmont, VT 05730

Thanks for your support.



Mount Holly Photo Contest

When the snow comes (it surely must!), remember that we always need fabulous winter photos for the Mount Holly calendar.

And, if the snow doesn't arrive, then take advantage of the weather and get some unique April photos – in March! April photos have a much higher chance of getting in the calendar.

Take some photos today
so you can enter the
2012 Mount Holly Photo Contest!!

For more information, contact Janet Warren at 259-2007

MOUNT HOLLY TOWN LIBRARY

Acupuncture Program and Demonstration

March 10 at 1:00 pm, Virginia Voronin, L.A.C., will present a program on acupuncture. If you have ever been curious about this ancient Chinese technique that works to treat the whole person rather than specific areas this is the perfect free opportunity. Acupuncture is no longer viewed as a strange alternative method but has wide acceptance in conventional medical circles and is now routinely recommended by all manner of doctors, nurses and other health professionals. Virginia spent the fall offering community acupuncture events around the state to help people deal with the effects of hurricane Irene by performing simple yet effective ear acupuncture treatment. Virginia based this program on an organization called Acupuncturists Without Borders that travels to areas of the world experiencing some type of disaster from weather or war performing acupuncture to alleviate stress. In our program she will explain the

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treatment of acupuncture and the ways that acupuncture can improve your life. She will also do a demonstration with needles for those interested. Virginia is a licensed Acupuncturist with her own private practice. Learn how you can relax, release and restore your well being with this 5,000 year old method.

Universal Class

I am told through the Department of Libraries that Vermonters have embraced Universal Class. Many people all over the state are taking courses. As I have previously advertised in the Chit Chat, our library has signed up for this new resource available at no cost to everyone in Mt. Holly. If you would like to know how it all works, or if you're unfamiliar with this product that gives you access to over 500 free online courses, stop in the library or

call and leave a message on the library telephone that you would like a one-on-one tutorial with the librarian on how you can take advantage of this popular service.

Free Downloadable Audio Books

Our books on CD are a popular part of our collection. These are wonderful companions on car trips or just working around the house and yard. We buy many new books each year but the cost of audio books keeps increasing. Through the Department of Libraries we have purchased a program of One-Click Downloadable Audio Books that will start in late March. The program offers patrons access to high-quality downloadable Recorded Books titles. The Core List of 3,400 titles (2,500 adult titles; 900 for youth) will *always* be available to you. No holds or waiting lists required. This is an amazing opportunity for you to listen to books at no cost on portable devices. ALL titles are iPod and Windows compatible and Mac users will have a manual download option. Stop in the library and let us know if this service is something you are anxious to sign up for. Signing up will be easy. The same way we sign up for Universal Class. If our patrons use this service and we determine that many people in Mt. Holly are comfortable with devices such as iPods and ereaders we will then increase the services we offer to include printed books for ereaders next year. When the Audio book program is set up in March we will make announcements on the Mt. Holly Newsflash and give more detailed information in the April Chit Chat.

Nancy Wilson Speaks to the Sixth Grade

Mt. Holly born author, Nancy Wilson spoke to the sixth grade at the Mt. Holly School about the book she compiled from the many letters that her Great Grandfather wrote home during the Civil War. Each year Ms. Townsend, sixth grade teacher, teaches a unit on the Civil War and she was happy to allow the library to arrange the visit from Ms. Wilson. The students had read some of the letters so they were familiar with the book. Nancy gave a fascinating history of her ancestry in Mt. Holly, her mother and her reasons for writing the book. She spoke about some of the highlights of the book and the hardships of the Civil War. She brought some of the letters and a ring made of human bone. The children were very receptive to the talk and joined in with questions and their knowledge of the war. A big thank you to Nancy Wilson for giving the talk and to Ms. Townsend for seeing the value of allowing community participation in the classroom. If you would like to read this valuable account of our history it is available at the Mt. Holly Library.



SFC Torin A. Hammond

By Joe Hammond

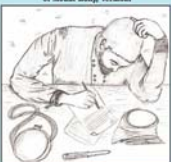
SFC Hammond attended Grade School in Claremont, New Hampshire. He later attended High School in Hartford, Vermont. As a boy he was a talented karate competitor. His family now lives on Hedgehog Hill in Belmont, Vermont.

On January 26, 2012, another tour began
For my little boy, who long ago became a man.
He's headed for Afghanistan, a place he's been before.
It's his fifth tour of duty in a country that's at war.

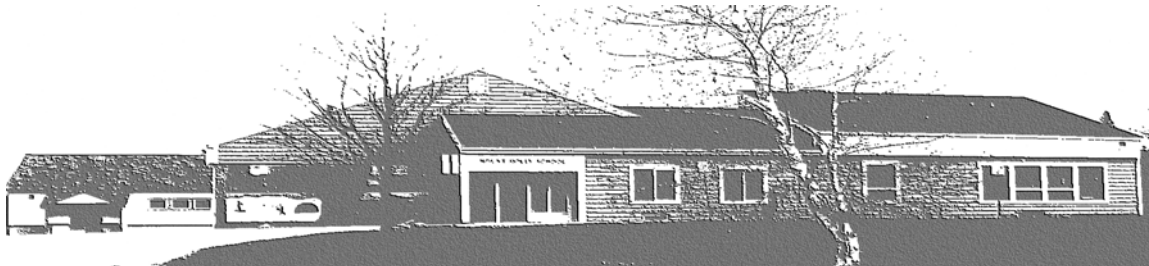
He's used to facing hardship and he never does complain.
He does what needs doing, in spite of stress or pain.
He's done his share and lots, lots more, to uphold what is right.
We wish him well and pray for him every single night.

Shouts & Whispers

The Civil War Correspondence of
D.B. Priest
of Mount Holly, Vermont



Edited by Nancy D. Wilson



Dear Mount Holly Residents:

The Mount Holly School Parent Teacher Club is hosting a bi-annual Spring Auction at the Odd Fellows Hall in Belmont on April 14th starting at 6pm. At this time, we are requesting donations to the Live or Silent Auctions.

The Parent Teacher Club sponsors many of the Enrichment Programs for the students of Mount Holly School. These programs include Four Winds, a nature trail, a sun space, field trips and learning brought to the school through local experts. Without the support from great businesses like yours, our students would not be able to benefit from out of the classroom learning experiences. The 2010 Auction supported programs like the installation of Smartboards in 7 out of 9 classrooms, numerous field trips, the greenhouse and a larger garden program for the school. It is our hope to continue to support these programs, as well as expand programs like: Odyssey of The Mind for grades 4-6 (presently 6th only), Artists in Residency, Girl's On the Run and Boys On the Trail.

Please consider a meaningful and artful donation for the auction. It can be a certificate or product from your business, or handmade goods and services. We appreciate your continued support. Sincerely, Liz Crowley, PTC President

Please send the donations directly to the school at the address below or call Liz Crowley to have the item picked up at your convenience. Please include a business card for advertising your generosity!

**MOUNT HOLLY SCHOOL
VENDOR DONATION RECEIPT**

Date _____

Vendor Name _____

Donation Description _____

Donation Value _____

School Event _____

**THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
GENEROUS DONATION!!**

**P.O. Box 45
MT. HOLLY, VT 05758
Phone: 802-259-2392
Fax: 802-259-2692**

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.

season, but with some good weather we hope to have another productive year. As for our current location, we plan to clean up the debris on what's left of our land and to return it to a meadow over time. For the long term, we're still looking for the right piece of land to move our business to. It's our hope that we can rebuild in the neighborhood with enough growing space to have vegetables available through the winter, when we need fresh food most in Vermont. We look forward to the opportunity to grow food again this season! Thank you so much to the community for your support over the past 6 months. Ryan and Kara
www.EveningSongCSA.com

**Recovery Update from Evening Song
Farm**

Hello neighbors! We're writing with a brief update on our plans to grow for this coming summer. We're going to continue our vegetable business on a neighbors' land, and we'll continue selling at the Rutland and Ludlow farmer's markets. We will also be offering pre-ordered vegetable starts in the spring for home gardeners, and we'll keep doing our Community Supported Agriculture program, where members sign up for a season's supply of vegetables at a discounted price. We'll plow in most of that land this spring, so it will be a later start to the

CLEANING JOB

WANTED - SOMEONE TO CLEAN THE MOUNT HOLLY TOWN OFFICE MONTHLY. PLEASE TALK TO OR CALL SUE COVALLA AT THE TOWN OFFICE AT 259-2391 OR CALL PAUL NEVIN AT 259-2443

Why it makes good sense (and "cents") to do an energy check-up!!

In the fall, we had an energy check-up through the NeighborWorks Program. NeighborWorks received a special grant to offer residents of Rutland County the opportunity to have an energy check-up for only \$100 instead of the usual fee of \$350. The



ALFRED CROWLEY MEMORIAL KAMP FOR KIDS PROGRAM

The Mt Holly Odd Fellows Colfax Lodge #21 invites you to submit an application for sponsorship to a camp of your choice this summer. If you live in Mount Holly and meet camp requirements, fill out an application. Based on community support of the Cow Flop Contest last July 4th, we can select up to four of you for camp this year!!! Applications will be at Mount Holly School and Belmont Store.

Applications must be submitted by April 1, 2012 to:

Mt. Holly Odd Fellows
P.O. Box 172
Belmont, VT 05730

work is completed, you will receive a reimbursement of up to \$2,500 in incentives depending on the improvement in air tightness.

As many of you know, Mount Holly is competing for a \$10,000 prize. We will win the prize if by May of this year we have the highest number of houses conduct an energy check-up and show at least a 15% improvement in energy efficiency. If Mount Holly comes in first, we will use the prize money on energy projects for town buildings. So it's a win-win – you get a toasty house and the town will be able to insulate at least one of our buildings (which might help with our taxes too since heating bills will be less).

We strongly urge you to have an energy check-up. We couldn't be happier with the results.

If you would like to contact us about our experience, please feel free to call us at 802-259-2007. Janet and Paul Warren

P. S. Please remember that you must have the energy check-up and show a 15% improvement by May in order for the town of Mount Holly to qualify for the \$10,000 prize.



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

energy check-up is extremely thorough. We received a written report that outlined valuable ways we could make our house more energy efficient. It was suggested that one of the most significant changes we could make was to insulate our basement with foam insulation.

Vermont Foam Insulation insulated our basement on January 9. Since we did the work there has been an enormous difference in the warmth of our house – not only how quickly it warms up but also how long it holds the heat. And the best part is that even though the work was done half way between our oil deliveries, we already could see the effect on our oil bill – we used **one third less oil** compared to the same time period last year! Better yet, when we had our house tested again after the installation of the insulation, our house was **50% more energy efficient** than when we had the original energy check-up. Also, when you are tested after the

**BELMONT
GENERAL STORE**
- Since 1842 -

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COME SEE OUR EVERYDAY LOW
PRICES ON DELI MEATS & CHEESES.

REQUEST A SAMPLER TRAY FOR
GATHERINGS OR PARTIES TODAY!

STORE HOURS:

MON - THURS: 7:00AM - 7:00PM
FRI - SAT: 7:00AM - 8:00PM
SUNDAY: 8:00AM - 7:00PM

Get more deals and specials, like us on Facebook:
BelmontGeneralStore

Mount Holly Community Association

The Community Association's welcome to spring is the annual **Spring Mud Fling** to be held this year on Saturday, April 21st. The doors open at 8:00 pm and **Fry Daddy** will once again take the stage at the Odd Fellows Hall at 9:00 pm. This has become the absolute "don't miss" dance event of the year, as Fry Daddy keeps us rollicking until late into the evening. Last year there was a packed house with both older and younger folks crowding the dance floor the entire night. There's no better way to shake off the mud season blues than a few turns around the floor with Fry Daddy. See you all on April 21st at the Odd Fellows!

Well, there certainly hasn't been much snow this year, but we still got the protection we needed over the Community Center doors thanks to Chad Devereux. Chad completed the overhangs on the library entrance and the entrance to the Community Room, finishing them off by copying the trim on the bell tower. They both look wonderful...thanks so much, Chad!

On another "snow safety" note, we put orange cones on the stairs up to the deck to the library, as there is no protection there from snow/ice sliding off the roof. Although not necessary right now, we would ask folks to keep in mind when/if the snow finally arrives to use the ramp to the deck. Thanks so much!

Correction and apology: the entry mistakenly submitted for the February issue of the Chit Chat was from

last year...February 2011! It is one of those computer error mysteries, we're afraid, but we have submitted the correct entry for February 2012 below. Many apologies to our readers and to all of the folks whose names should have appeared in last month's issue!



Rutland Region Chamber of Commerce 2012 Business Show!

Sign Up Now To Exhibit!
(Before it's sold out)

Tuesday, March 13, 2012
4-7:30pm
Holiday Inn, Rutland

Affordable Price!

Visit www.rutlandvermont.com for the Registration Form

This is your opportunity to sign up as an exhibitor. Again last year space was sold out! 88 exhibitors' participated and over 500 people attended in three and a half hours. That is 143 people in front of your booth every hour!

Please Visit www.rutlandvermont.com for the exhibitor sign up form, prices and additional information on becoming an exhibitor.

Mount Holly Community Association- February 2012

New Year's Eve at Star Lake, sponsored jointly by the Sno*Drifters and the Mount Holly Community Association, was an outstanding success! Literally hundreds of people enjoyed the hot cocoa and mulled wine, provided by the MHCA, and the bon fire and incredible fire works display, complements of the Sno*Drifters. We would like to extend many thanks to Curt and Mary Marechaux and all of the Sno*Drifters, who made the spectacular fireworks display possible. Also, many thanks to Robin Nelson, Jess Alberty, and Mike Smelser of the MHCA for providing the refreshments and the magically lit backdrop for the celebration. A new addition this year was provided by the Foster Family...noise makers for everyone! We really appreciate this generous contribution from one of Mount Holly's newest residents! Although the ice was too thin for skating

this year, it didn't dim the celebratory spirits of the many people, who welcomed in the New Year as part of the Mount Holly community!

New Year's Eve at Star Lake was the last MHCA event of the year until the regularly scheduled MHCA events resume in the spring, but we hope that the entire community will make use of the beautifully renovated Community Room on the lower level of the Library & Community Center Building. Currently, it is used on a weekly basis by a few groups in town, so please contact Carol DeVine or the librarian, Lynne Herbst to schedule an event or meeting.

FOLA Announces 2012 '1st Thursday' Movies

Now entering its second year of providing high quality movies to the Black River area, FOLA (Friends of Ludlow Auditorium) has released the schedule for its '1st Thursday' movies for 2012. All the movies are shown on the first Thursday of each month at 7 pm at the Ludlow Town Hall Auditorium. Admission is free; donations are appreciated.

The 2012 season begins on January 5 with the classic film, "Casablanca" (see photo of Bogart and Bergman above).

The remainder of the schedule is:

March 1 - "Citizen Kane" ~ **April 5** - "On the Waterfront" ~ **May 3** - "The Maltese Falcon" ~ **June 7** - "Dr. Strangelove" ~ **July 5** - "The Manchurian Candidate" ~ **August 2** - "Dances with Wolves" ~ **September 6** - "The African Queen" ~ **October 4** - "Bridge Over the River Kwai" ~ **November 1** - "The Third Man" ~ **December 6** - "Shane" For additional information, call 228-7239.

**It's Wise To Support
Your Library**



**The Mount Holly
Town Library**

Vote YES for Article 7

RE-ELECT PETER PERRINO



TAX
COLLECTOR

TOWN OF
MT. HOLLY

- * 27 YEARS EXPERIENCE
- * KNOWLEDGEABLE
- * EFFICIENT

VOTE

PETER PERRINO

TUESDAY, MARCH 6, 2012

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

The heavy load placed upon our Committee on Government Operations was apparent the first week in Montpelier. Not only did we start making changes to legislative districts, but also realized that we would be required to quickly pass language to address the December court determination that keeps property tax adjustment payments from being a public record. The Town of Manchester had won its appeal to keep the information private. The bill (H.515) would hold harmless those responsible for disclosing property tax adjustment information prior to January 12, 2012. There is still an ongoing discussion in the Ways and Means Committee on how our municipal officials will provide this needed information in the future.

After weeks of discussing the population shifts during the last ten years, it was apparent that Burlington would indeed get its tenth representative. This would force our committee to consolidate a district in the southern part of the state. Several plans and maps were offered after the decision that a district in Rutland County would be consolidated. I presented a final map to the committee that would not divide any town, dismantle an existing district, nor place any incumbents against each other in a single-member district in the county. This was not acceptable, though it did seem to some the more fair option. The final map voted out of the committee separates the present district of Wallingford, Shrewsbury, and Tinmouth into three different directions, and removes some people from the Town of Wells to ensure that the numbers meet our criteria. The new proposed district would be Ludlow, Mount Holly, and Shrewsbury. The bill has now moved to the senate, where they are working to adjust the state senate districts.

When Act 153 passed two years ago, it had my support because it started the discussion about how we might reduce the number of supervisory union offices to save money. I think many of us also saw it as a chance to improve some opportunities for students.

We constantly hear that there are too many superintendents in our state, and teachers mention there is too much administration. It became apparent during the school board supervisory planning meetings that a real concern is whether a newly created district board could have the power to close a school within the district. Much of the

discussion I heard was about not having enough of an opportunity to make comments because it was moving too quickly, and the transition costs to implement the merger. My concerns about this cost were addressed in the bill (H.753), which provides reimbursement for consulting services at each step of the process. It would provide a grant of \$150,000, less the previously paid services, to help with the incurred cost of combining offices.

With the shifting of some services to the supervisory union level, I understand the budgets would likely increase. I approached some members of the Education Committee that I would be offering an amendment to allow a vote on supervisory Union budgets by Australian ballot for towns that vote in that manner. By the time you read this article, the bill should be over to the senate, and hopefully they will not change its intent.

Please contact me at ddevereux@leg.state.vt.us, or with a message at 800-322-5616 or 802-259-2460.



Mount Holly Town News

"The following minutes are considered 'draft' until approved, scheduled for the next Select Board meeting, March 13th, 2012."

SELECT BOARD: February 14, 2012 ~ Paul Nevin, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. Raymond Tarbell and Jim Heald were present.

1. The minutes of the regular meeting of January 10 were reviewed. There were no corrections or additions and the minutes were approved.

2. Highways

- Salt Shed property. Deb Daniels will have something ready by Monday for the Planning Commission meeting. When Sue Crawford is back from vacation, she will draft the lease arrangement.
- Hen Farm Road. CVPS is looking to relocate wires along the roadway rather than thru the woods where the line is currently. A landowner is reluctant to provide an easement and cutting of trees to allow the new wire to cross the property. Jeff will meet with CVPS to review it with them. The poles and wires would all be in the town right-of-way. To be safe, the Town will schedule a hearing on the same evening as the next Select Board meeting (March 13).
- Grader. Received a proposal for a new grader (2012, to be built) before Christmas from Milton Cat for \$288,000 with a \$50,000 trade-in for the old grader, net \$238,000. Recently the State of NH ordered 4 new graders and reneged on 2. New proposal for one of those graders, (2011, which has additional upgrades) for \$230,000 net with the trade, includes 5 year warranty. Caterpillar offers a 10 year lease at 3.2%, which comes to approximately \$26,400 per year. The old grader (which was purchased for \$71,000) needs \$18-20,000 of repairs, including some carbon monoxide leakage. The Board also reviewed a proposal from Volvo, which included \$20,000 for the old grader. The Volvo proposal did come in somewhat less (\$191,000), but has only one year warranty. The Town has had good luck with the Caterpillar regarding service when needed. Upon motion made and seconded, it was

VOTED: To purchase the Caterpillar grader with the proposed lease rates.

- The Town received the paperwork from the State for Highway Paving and Structures. These are due back to the State by April 13, 2012, if the Town decides to apply.
- The State signed and returned the Certificate of Highway mileage, which is used to calculate the State funds to the Town. The mileage has not been affected for this year with the closure of High Bridge on Station Road. Once the Town has gone thru formal permanent closure hearing and vote, the mileage will be changed.
- The Town has received the Grant Agreement for the FHWA projects, the bridge on Belmont Road and work on Tarbellville Road. The form for filing for reimbursement was also received
- David Hoeh reported on a questionnaire from the Rutland Regional Transportation Council asking about bike and pedestrian projects (or plans) for the town. Since there are none in the town, David will reply accordingly.

3. Report of Treasurer.

- David Johnson presented an income and expense statement dated December 31, 2011 showing cash balances of \$2,063,717. There was no update on delinquent property tax collections; things are slow until people start getting their income tax refunds. The winter materials budget has about \$10,000 remaining. Otherwise, income and expenses are in line with expectations.
- David reported that the Fire Department, Rescue Squad and Emergency Services (a separate entity for insurance purposes) have all sent in the IRS Form 990s and the 501c(3) non-profit applications.
- Paul Nevin reported briefly on a post-Irene meeting he attended Monday night. The State will be sending out their share of reimbursement 'fairly soon'. The Town is still working on another \$180,000 of work to be reimbursed; FEMA estimates that turnaround time is running about a month once the projects are entered into their system

4. Solid Waste:

- Single Stream/Zero Sort Recycling. Information about this will be in next month's ChitChat. There are brochures available at the Town Office. Target start date is April 1; some details still need to be worked out. The existing recycling containers will be used without a second compactor. Newspapers (non-glossy), the metal pile and electronics recycling would remain the same and separate. Otherwise all recyclables go into one container. There will be a learning curve for everyone. Depending on volume, we may be able to switch to using the compactor with recyclables, rather than garbage. Recycling will still be free.

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!

It's Pruning Time!

Huck's Landscape & Property Care
Fruit Tree Pruning, Shrubs, Tree Work, Rototilling &
more!

Huckleberryhillfarm@gmail.com

Phone: (802)259-2629

5. Planning Commission:

- The director of the Rutland Regional Planning Commission passed away recently. He had been unwell for some time and was on medical leave when he died. He had been the director for 40 years. As part of moving forward after this loss, the RRPC plans to do a strategic planning process. Meanwhile, Susan Schreiberman will be the acting director. If the Town has any thoughts on the strategic planning, this would be a good time to make them known.
- The MH Planning Commission had contacted the Lutheran Church regarding the former Blue Spruce Inn. Annette Lynch reported that there is no further interest in the property by Will Hunter's group and the synod would like to have a meeting with the town to talk about uses for the property. Suggestions that Annette has been aware of include a year-round farmers market, business incubator, a commercial kitchen for small businesses. The synod is interested in giving the property to the town or perhaps to a non-profit organization in the town.

6. Paul Faenza, our Constable, has requested to purchase a new radio. The current radio has ceased to work and is not really repairable. The Board reviewed the quote for the new radio (\$700) and upon motion made and seconded, it was:

VOTED: To approve the purchase of a new radio for the constable.

7. Town Website

- Kevin Neubert has agreed to pick up the support of the website. Paul requested that the Town provide a small consideration to Amanda Frank for her efforts over several years. Upon motion made and seconded, it was

VOTED: To approve the purchase of a \$100 gift certificate (perhaps to DJ's) for Amanda.

8. Other Business

- The Village Center Designation renewal for Belmont was approved by the State. David Hoeh explained that the designation is primarily designed to help commercial activity to sustain village centers. That would pretty much limit it

to the Belmont Store and Stephanie Stouffer's graphic arts gallery. It has been used in the past to get the tree planting grant as well as leverage for grant assistance for the museum and community center. It may help in getting funding for the lake area work.

- Cemetery Commission requests that the town look into some tree issues in the Tarbellville cemetery. There is some concern that trees will come down and damage the headstones. The Board requested Jeff and the road crew to look at it and see what, if anything, they can do. It was noted that Allen Seward may have funds for the Tarbellville cemetery maintenance, but they are only for the Goodall (?) section.
- Prescott dog. There has been another incident involving this dog. This dog has harassed a lot of people, although few formal complaints have been made. The Board is concerned that there will be a serious incident with the dog. The Board reviewed the Town's dog ordinance and to follow the procedures, will write a second letter to the dog owner. The town has the option to fine the owner and also the option to pick the dog up and have it destroyed after the third time.

9. The Board reviewed and signed the January orders for payment. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:12 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.

The February 20, 2012 meeting was called to order by Steve Howard, Chair at 7:31pm. Members Present: Peter Smith, Steve Howard, Annette Lynch; Others Attending: David Hoeh, Tina Cohen, Deb Mithoefer, Millicent Johnson Minutes from the January 16, 2012 having been electronically submitted were approved as written.

Old Business: Sub-division Regulation: A town informational meeting will be held on March 1, 2012 at 7 pm at the Town Office to answer questions townspeople may have before voting takes place on March 6, 2012.

RABIES CLINIC

MOUNT HOLLY TOWN OFFICE

SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 2012

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

COST IS \$10.00 PER RABIES SHOT

**ALL DOGS MUST BE LICENSED WITH THE TOWN
BY APRIL 1, 2012 TO AVOID PENALTY**

\$10.00 FOR NEUTERED/SPAYED

\$14.00 UNNEUTERED

The Friend By Joseph Hammond

I once knew a girl who caused my blood to boil.
I left her behind to tread on Asian soil.
I would like to have stayed home like most folks do,
But we were at war and I had a job to see through.

The letters she sent me made me walk on air.
I believed that when I got home she would still be there.
When I left the army I still had things to do.
I had to go to college and a career to pursue.

The day came when she clued me in
I was in a race I couldn't win.
She gave me the story many men have heard before.
She liked me as a friend, but there wasn't any more.

I knew that what she said was true.
There was not one thing that I could do
That would change the way things were
In the relationship I had with her.

As I cleared her memory from my mind,
A positive side I was able to find.
When I needed her most, her letters were there
She truly was a friend, who really did care.

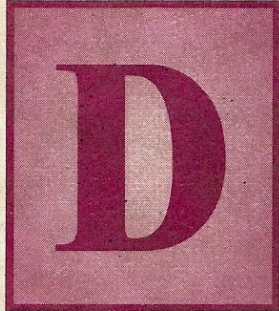
Elementary School Sub-division: An application for a 2 lot subdivision was received along with a preliminary plat. The subdivision checklist was reviewed and requirements for a completed plat were pointed out.

New Business: Building Registrations: Earl Runner III, 1609 Freeman Brook Rd, Mt Holly—addition to home Annette reported on the progress made thus far the Capital Budget proposal. Several communications were received and reviewed. Meeting was adjourned at 9:24 pm. Minutes submitted by Millicent Johnson, Administrative Officer. These minutes have not been approved by the Planning Commission

WORKING GROUP meets the second Monday of the month, at 7 p.m. in the Town Office. The Working Group is everyone who attends a meeting The WG met on Monday February 13. Progress on the Capital Budget was reviewed and details of the informational public meeting on the proposed Subdivision Regulations were listed to be decided at the next meeting of the Planning Commission – see below.

The status of the **Blue Spruce Inn:** the Planning Commission sent a DVD of the 2011 Public Meeting recorded by LPCTV to the New England Evangelical Lutheran Synod. The Synod contacted the Planning Commission. The Church has not made a decision on the future of the property and would like to send a representative to meet with the residents of Mount Holly in a public meeting in the spring of 2012. At that meeting the Church would like to hear from the Town, its residents, and its non-profit organizations ideas/suggestions/proposals for the future use of the property. Some suggestions heard by the Working Group include a year-round Farmers' Market, a business incubator, and an after-school activity center. Next meeting of the Working Group on Monday

March 12. Annette Lynch



Arthur DeArruda, Inc.

Custom Carpentry
& Renovation

Mt. Holly, Vermont
Boston, Massachusetts

(802) 274-0289

Town Informational Meeting ~ Proposed Subdivision Regulation Revision

March 1, 2012 7 pm ~ Town Office

The Planning Commission is holding an informational meeting regarding the proposed Subdivision Regulation revisions. The meeting will be an opportunity for any towns person who may have questions regarding the revisions to receive more information from the Commission. Plan on attending to ensure that your vote on March 6, 2012 is an informed one.

To The Editor:

Hi Mt. Holly Voters, my name is Darica Pierce and I am running for delinquent tax collector for the 2012 fiscal year. Born and raised in Mt. Holly, I watched and learned from my father, Warren Cole, how important small town business is. He was a great influence on the town and I hope to follow in his footsteps. My mother, Charleen Cole, started and ran the Rescue Squad for many years. I grew up going to meetings, on calls, and even plowing. I attended Mt. Holly School, Black River High School, and 3 years of college for accounting and core studies.

After my school years I worked at Pico and Killington Mt. areas as a lift mechanic and ending up in the purchasing department, where I ran the stockroom. While working on the mountain, I met and married Jon Pierce from Maine. We now have a daughter who is in 3rd grade at Mt. Holly School. Presently I drive one of the buses for the school. I also enjoy volunteering at school through skiing and driving for field trips.

As with all small towns times are changing, there is a growing need for the younger generation to be involved. With this in mind, if elected as delinquent tax collector, a position I feel I am qualified for, it would be a great way for me to serve my community as my parents did. This is a great place to live and raise a family; I would like it to stay that way. Thank you for your support. Sincerely, Darica.

SUPPORT THE MOUNT HOLLY TOWN LIBRARY

Where is the one place where all people in our community can come for inspiration, information, entertainment, and where they can easily explore new hobbies, careers, ideas, and places to visit? The answer is YOUR LIBRARY. The library is the convenient facility that provides free books, DVDs, CDs, magazines, internet access, classes, and entertainment. We are a gathering place where families connect and friendships are made. Your library board of trustees asks that you support our request for funds by voting YES on article #7. Thank you.

Board of Directors: President Susan Presson, Vice President Joan Bradley, Secretary Minga Dana, Treasurer Deborah Costa, Members at large: Nelda Holden, Stephanie Smith, Joan McCallum and Candace Neary

TO THE EDITOR: Vote for the New Subdivision Regulations

I urge the voters of Mount Holly to support responsive leadership of the Planning Commission in their two-year effort to revise and make user friendly the town's adopted Sub-division Regulations.

The Mount Holly Town Plan was approved by town vote. A court decision requires there be clear definitions as to how the Town Plan is to be applied in a town's existing land use control ordinances. The Mount Holly Planning Commission stepped up to this challenge.

Our Planning Commission is committed to an open, participatory process. Each month the Planning Commission holds a Working Group session where Mount Holly residents are welcome in the discussion of all topics being considered by the Commission. The monthly regular meeting of the Commission also offers the opportunity for public comment and participation.

The Planning Commission has prepared a revised Sub-division Ordinance that builds on the Town Plan. The ordinance responds to the concerns expressed at its meetings and public hearings, protects values and land use traditions from destructive exploitation.

The Sub-division ordinance update needs your vote and adoption. It will make our existing ordinance:

- Easier to understand both for those wishing to subdivide their land and those concerned about preserving the values of adjacent properties;
- Protect the taxpayer investment decisions in the Town's infrastructure (roads, drainage, bridges, culverts, and curb cuts);
- Help assure safe access for fire and rescue volunteers and vehicles.

I support the Sub-division ordinance offered at Town Meeting and urge you to vote for this ordinance and support the efforts of our Planning Commission. David C. Hoeh

Seeking Three-year Term as Mount Holly School Director

My name is Robert (Bob) Herbst and I have been a resident of Mount Holly since 1977. I am seeking election as a Mount Holly School Director for three years. I previously served the Town in that capacity for a period of nine years. I also served on the Union #39 School Board for nine years and as its representative on the River Valley Technical Center Board for eleven years. Subsequently I served on the Mount Holly Planning Commission for two years.

I was a member of the Mount Holly Community Association Board of Directors for approximately twelve years and during that time held the positions of President, Vice-president and Treasurer. I am in my 32nd year as an employee of the Vermont Dept. of Labor and currently serve as Regional Manager for the Springfield and Brattleboro offices.

I believe that my experience serving the Town of Mount Holly, my thirty-two years working in State government and my M.S. in Education make me uniquely qualified to serve as School Director.

More important is my firm belief that the Town of Mount Holly is a special place and the Mount Holly School is one of which we can all be proud.

If elected, I will work tirelessly with my fellow Directors, the Administration and staff to ensure continued excellence at our school while maintaining strong fiscal responsibility.

Please cast your vote to allow me to serve you and our students. Thank you, Robert G. Herbst

March Chamber Corner By Marji Graf, CEO

Even though the weather didn't cooperate, we still had two very successful winter carnivals. I want to acknowledge Julie Pollard of Chester and Liz Crowley of Ludlow (and their teams) for all the hard work they put into planning and executing these events. The Chamber promoted both events with google adword campaigns and facebook ads. We generated 160,182 impressions with facebook ads! We developed coupons on each events landing page to drive traffic to restaurants and shops that participated.

We attended the Boston Globe Travel Show on February 10-12 to represent the businesses in the Okemo Valley. On March 2-4 we'll be at the NY Times Travel Show and March 22-25 Mohegan Sun in Connecticut. We're doing everything we can to get people to come and visit us.

Windsor Connecticut Chamber will be visiting our towns on April 13-15 for a history exchange. In exchange, we encourage you to come with us to visit Windsor Connecticut. If this pilot program works well, we will be expanding to other Chambers in our drive market.

On May 12 the Chamber is co-hosting a Home, Energy and Business Expo from 10am-3pm at the Jackson Gore Inn in Ludlow. We will have the latest in home and energy savings as well as speakers from Efficiency Vermont and HB Energy Solutions. Please mark your calendars now and watch for more information as it becomes available.

Our next Chamber mixer is March 14th at Six Loose Ladies in Proctorsville from 5:30-7:30pm and our next free educational program is on March 21st at the Village Green Gallery in Weston from 8:30am-9:30am. Topic: google analytics, google adwords, using facebook ads and how a blog can help your business.

I would like to thank the Inn at Weston for hosting our Chamber mixer on February 8th. On August 17 & 18, we're participating in the VT Challenge, (www.vtchallenge.com). The Vermont Challenge is the only bicycle Challenge that circumvents Southern and Central Vermont over 3 or 4 days and draws upon the creative energy of local businesses and people of Vermont, key ski resorts, restaurants and farms in each local community that they visit.





WE NEED YOUR VOTE

On March 6th

Please vote YES on Article

Article 9

(Town Warning) Does the Town vote \$3,000 for Black River Area Community Coalition (BRACC), to be raised by tax?

YES ☒

NO ☐

The Black River Area Community Coalition (BRACC)

- We seek to reduce youth substance use and violence in our communities by expanding opportunities that provide high expectations, clear boundaries and strengthen bonds between youth and adults.
- Support the After School Program at the Mount Holly School and Girls on the Run.
- Support a SADD chapter at Black River High School
- Host an After Prom Event
- Teach Project Alert (a drug prevention program) to Middle School students
- Host the Summer Youth Leadership Program
- Internet Safety Program for children and adults
- Tobacco Cessation Workshops for adults and teenagers
- Summer Camp Enrichment Programs including Let's Go Fishing, CSI, Outdoor Adventures and Team Building
- Community Dialogues & Parent Workshops

You might not know our name, but many Mount Holly children have participated in our programs.

Help us to continue serving the Mount Holly Community.



Ludlow 250 Gives Excess Donations to 4 Groups

When the Ludlow 250 committee first organized to help celebrate the 250th anniversary of the Town of Ludlow's charter, it did not expect that its final concerns would deal with "what to do with extra money". According to committee chair Ralph Pace, "I think everyone on the committee just wondered if we'd be able to raise any money at all". However, when the committee did send out requests for donations they received enough to plan the two day 250th anniversary celebration - that include custom-designed flags, buttons, and a marvelous cake, along with other events. When the final results from the fund-raising efforts were tallied against event expenses, the committee discovered it had a surplus of almost \$2,000. At a meeting originally planned to simply dissolve the committee, the members decided that the best use of the excess donations would be to split the amount four-ways. As a result, Black River Academy

Museum, LPC-TV, the Fourth of July fireworks project of the Ludlow Merchants and FOLA (Friends of Ludlow Auditorium) will each share quarter-parts of the funds. Picture above are two Ludlow 250 committee members, Sharon Bixby and Georgia Brehm, as they stand in front of one of the custom flags designed for the anniversary celebration. The final act of the Ludlow 250 committee was to dissolve itself. According to Pace, "I don't think any of us will be around for the next 250th version of this celebration. I do want to thank everyone who helped make this such a splendid event for Ludlow". Committee members included: Pam Cruickshank, Richard Harrison, Theresa Southworth, Joyce Washburn, Jackie Hunt, Newton Rose, Connie Wilcox, Susan McNeely, Willow Feller, Patty Greenwood, Marilyn Ledoux, Elizabeth Graves, Dennis Devereux, Georgia Brehm, Linda Tucker, Lemire, Barbara, John Bremer, Ralph Pace, and Frank Heald.

BRAM Announces Brick Memorial Sidewalk

Black River Academy Museum (BRAM) announced the start of a customized brick walkway to its recently constructed new elevator wing. The walkway will be composed of bricks with special engravings to honor a loved one, a family name or business, an event or whatever name the donor wishes to immortalize. A brick may be purchased with a \$100 contribution to BRAM. Purchases may be done on-line via the BRAM web site at www.bramvt.org/brick.htm, through the mail at P.O. Box 73, Ludlow, VT 05149, via email to director@bramvt.org, or by calling 228-5050. Each brick may have up to 3 lines of words, each line containing up to 13 characters and spaces. According to Georgia Brehm, BRAM Director, the walkway is scheduled for installation this spring. Pictured above, examining a sample brick, are, from left to right, Sharon Bixby, BRAM Board Member, Georgia Brehm, and Linda Tucker, Assistant Director at BRAM.



Fletcher Memorial Library

Join us Saturday March 17th for a FREE Hunger Games Event @ 1pm in the Fletcher Memorial Library community room. There will be a discussion of the book, trivia, snacks, and we will be raffling off FREE tickets to the movie premiering March 23. Teens and adults welcome!! Lindsay Grattan, Youth Librarian, Fletcher Memorial Library 802-228-3517



RIBBON CUTTING at new Shaw's Supermarket in Ludlow.

Marji Graf, CEO of the Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce helps to cut the ribbon with Shaw's President Mike Stigers, and Store Director, Darren Williams. When interviewed about putting up a tent in the parking lot, President Stigers said "it was the right thing to do. We had to make sure people in Ludlow had access to food and water".

A company with a conscience! The new store is beautiful. A huge produce department, organic department, fresh bakery, sustainable seafood, wide aisles, warm and welcoming. Check it out for yourselves. It was worth the wait!! Thank you Shaw's.

FOLA Initiates New Web Site

FOLA (Friends of Ludlow Auditorium) announced the release of a new web site recently. According to Ralph Pace, FOLA Chair, the site is designed to offer area residents a user-friendly means of staying current with programs, movies, and other activities of the organization. The site will highlight the various movies and entertainment programs sponsored by FOLA. It will also afford a means of accessing organizational information about the group such as membership, planned future programs, and information concerning FOLA meetings and policies. The web site address is www.fola.us. Additionally, the site will allow interested people to email FOLA at info@folaus.



BRAM Prepares for Its "Up's & Down's"

After many years of working to raise the funds to install an elevator so that people could see the wonders of its three floor collection of area history, Black River Academy Museum (BRAM) is within weeks of seeing that dream become a reality. Pictured above are Jim Lynch and Joe Chistolini, proud members of local 41 in Worcester, MA, as they work on the electrical installation of the new elevator cab at BRAM. The cab, being installed by Baystate Elevator, working with BRAM's general contractor, Wright Construction of Mt Holly, is located in the new wing in the rear of the historic BRAM building. According to Anita Alic, BRAM leader on the elevator installation, "We could not have accomplished the installation of this elevator without the help and support of our many private donors and local businesses. Also, we benefited from the generosity of the Ludlow Enterprise Fund, the VT Cultural Facilities Coalition and the State of Vermont who awarded us a generous \$18,000 grant and the Walter Cerf Community Fund. We are planning an 'Elevator Celebration' on Saturday June 2nd, the museum's opening day for the 2012 season, so mark your calendar." She added that "the installation was delayed from our December 2011 completion date as Bay State was occupied with repairs related to Hurricane Irene damage. We now expect an operable elevator by the end of February." The addition of the elevator will make BRAM fully compliant with ADA-access requirements and offer the opportunity for all the visitors to the museum to view the three floors of exhibits offered by BRAM. Museum Director Georgia Brehm was particularly pleased that the elevator now means that "our area school students will be allowed to see and appreciate the artifacts of the past that have helped

shape the present they live in".

NITKA'S NOTES FROM THE STATE HOUSE

By Senator Alice Nitka, Windsor County February 17, 2012

It's hard to believe that Vermont had a "nursing home" in 1887 but indeed we did and the first patient was a Civil War soldier who arrived there on May 18th of that year. He was referred to as an inmate at the time rather than a patient but his needs were likely to have been the same as many of today's residents. The facility is the Vermont Veterans' Home in Bennington which continues today as a skilled nursing facility. The property before becoming a home for soldiers had been a home for destitute women and children and was a self contained working farm. In its earliest years, one hundred sixty soldiers resided there and it continued as a working farm while soldiers received care there. The numbers are not very different today as the home has 171 beds as well as an eight bed residential care unit.

Persons eligible for admission to the Home are Veterans, their spouses and Gold Star parents from any state with Vermonters receiving preference. Twenty per cent of the patients are from NY State. There are openings and the Home is recruiting in order to meet its budget. The majority of the residents are male and the current average age is 88 years old. Residents are more medically complex than those in privately run nursing homes. The challenges to deal with are a higher rate of alcohol and drug abuse; post traumatic stress disorder; mental health issues as well as behavioral issues including aggressive behaviors. Little or no family involvement places many of the patients at greater risk for a negative outcome also. There are no medical marijuana registered users at the facility as the doctors serving there are federal VA docs and prescribing such would be a violation of federal law. The Home is staffed by 216 state employees. The Alzheimer's Unit is internationally recognized and respected and can accommodate 77 patients in various stages of dementia. The Home is Medicare and VA certified and is a teaching facility for the VT College of Nursing, Union Univ. Albany College of Pharmacy and the College of St. Joseph and State Univ. NY at Albany Social Work programs. Rooms are either singles or doubles and with the new geo-thermal system that is now up and running (with some costly "glitches" still being ironed out) each room has individual controls for heat and air conditioning. The Home is working toward implementing an electronic medical records system. On another electronic note, a grant was received for iPods for the Music and Memory Program. They are being used as part of a research project to determine if music helps to reduce negative behaviors and the need for psychotropic medications for some dementia patients. And, "Yes", the Deer Park is still there for those of you who remember visiting it as a child. Consider going again and visiting a Vet you know.

The budget for all this is \$19 million. This year with a cut in Medicare funding, the Home is receiving \$150,000 less in funds. Medicare reimbursement per day is \$327, VT Medicaid is \$245, VA for a person with a service connected disability is \$337 and a private pay patient is charged \$270.

Contact me at home at 228-8432, the State House at 1-800-322-5616 or at anitka@leg.state.vt.us or P.O. Box 136, Ludlow, VT 05149 Find schedules and bills at www.leg.state.vt.us

VSO Sunday Matinee Concert in Rutland To Feature Classical "Heroes"



The Vermont Symphony Orchestra's forthcoming Sunday Matinee Series concert shines with orchestral heroes: Prokofiev's Classical Symphony, Beethoven's Symphony No. 3, "Eroica," and Strauss's Horn Concerto No.1, featuring guest soloist Jennifer Montone, French horn. The concert, conducted by VSO music director Jaime Laredo, will be performed at the Paramount Theatre in Rutland on Sunday, March 11, at 4:00 p.m. The same program will also be performed at the Bellows Falls Opera House on Friday, March 9, at 7:30 p.m., and at the Flynn Center, Burlington as part of the 2011/2012 Masterworks Series, on Saturday, March 10 at 8 p.m.

Second only to "Peter and the Wolf" in popularity, Prokofiev's Classical Symphony is one part neo-classicism (looking back to an 18th century idiom), and one part innovation, stirred by a belief that music should nourish with hope and beauty. The result is delicious! The soloist for Richard Strauss's first horn concerto is the amazing Jennifer Montone, principal horn with the Philadelphia Orchestra. Strauss' abiding love for the heroic French horn, and his indebtedness to the style of Schumann and Mendelssohn, are evident in this remarkably mature early work. The concert concludes with Beethoven's paean to heroism, his Third Symphony. Although the "Eroica" includes the most famous funeral march in the literature, death does *not* have the last word in this epic, immortal symphony.

Jennifer Montone joined the Philadelphia Orchestra as Principal Horn in September 2006, and is currently on the faculty of both The Curtis Institute of Music and The Juilliard School. She was principal horn of the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra from 2003 to 2006, and formerly the associate principal horn of the Dallas Symphony, where she was also an adjunct professor at Southern Methodist University. She has performed with numerous orchestras and won many solo competitions and awards throughout the United States. Montone, a native of northern Virginia, graduated from The Juilliard School.

A free pre-concert discussion, "Musically Speaking," moderated by Rutland Herald and Barre Times-Argus music critic Jim Lowe will begin at 3:00 p.m. for members of the audience. The discussion will feature Jaime Laredo with guest soloist Jennifer Montone, who will provide entertaining insight into the music, composers and musicians themselves.

Again this year, the VSO will collect food items at its concert in Rutland as part of the national "Orchestras Feeding America" project. Audience members and the public may bring a non-perishable food item to the Paramount Theatre lobby on March 11. All food collected will be donated directly to the Vermont Foodbank and donors will receive "Beethoven Bucks," good for discounts on future VSO ticket purchases. Suggested food items include boxed dry goods, canned goods and soups, cereal, pasta, rice, and peanut butter...please, no glass, perishables or clothing.

"Orchestras Feeding America" is a national food drive organized by the League of American Orchestras, representing America's professional, volunteer, and youth orchestras. This is the fourth year of the program in which 250 orchestras in 50 states have so far collected over 350,000 pounds of food. The food drive demonstrates the collective power of America's orchestras in undertaking a project designed to help feed the hungry in their local communities. Food collected by the VSO will be distributed to Vermont Foodbank partners around the state, to help ensure that all Vermonters have enough to eat.

Concerts by the VSO are made possible in part by the State of Vermont and 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. The March concert is also made possible in part by the Holiday Inn Rutland/Killington, People's United Bank, Trapp Lager, and Bravo Society member Betsyjune Bennett.

Tickets for the concert range from \$9 for students to \$29, available in person from the Paramount Theatre Box Office at 802-775-0903, or online at www.ParamountLive.org. For additional information please call the VSO office at (800) 876-9293, ext. 10, or visit the VSO website at www.vso.org.

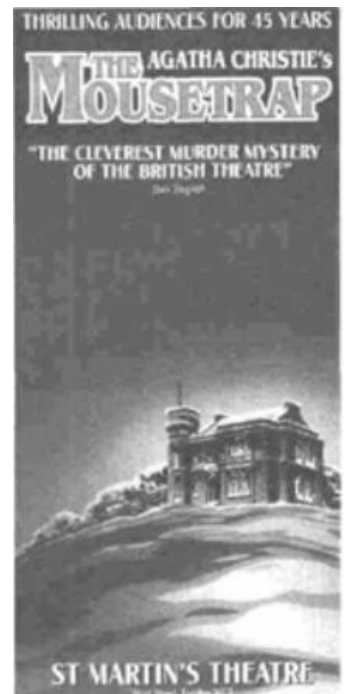


Auditions for Agatha Christie's "The Mousetrap"

The Marble Valley Players will hold open auditions for their Spring production of Agatha Christie's murder mystery, "The Mousetrap". As the creator of such famous sleuths as Miss Jane Marple and Detective Hercule Poirot, Agatha Christie is the most famous 'whodunit' crime writer of all time. Who has not heard of "Death on the Nile" or "Murder on the Orient Express"? This year marks the 60th anniversary of "The Mousetrap", which opened in the West End of London in 1952, making it the world's longest running play.

Director Martin Bones is looking for 3 women and 5 men to fill the roles of the eight eccentric people who are snowed in at the Monkswell Manor guest house on the night of a murder. No special preparation is required. A description of the characters is

available at www.marblevalleyplayers.org. For your convenience, you may also download a PDF of an audition form to fill out and bring with you to auditions. Auditions will be held on Sunday February 26 at 6PM, Thursday March 1 at 7PM and Friday March 2 at 7:00PM all at the West Rutland Town Hall. Production dates are May 4, 5, 6, 11, & 12 also at the West Rutland Town Hall Theater. For more information call Martin Bones at 353-5932.





Starting Over Strong Vermont: Resources for Recovery for Survivors of Tropical Storm Irene

Starting Over Strong (S.O.S.) Vermont teams now serving the communities most impacted by Tropical Storm Irene continue to collaborate with state and town officials, as well as with other flood-recovery service providers, to bring assistance to Vermonters affected by the 2011 flooding. Some of the same town officials, police, and firefighters who acted as first responders back in August are continuing to contribute to recovery efforts by connecting S.O.S. Vermont workers with families in need of support. Long Term Recovery Groups, case managers, and S.O.S. Vermont teams are working together to assess the continuing needs of the community as a whole.

Many Vermont flood victims have received help and are moving on, but there are still individuals and families struggling, and in need of assistance. Whether its crisis counseling support, like that being provided by S.O.S. Vermont, the cleanup efforts of family and neighbors, or financial assistance from a disaster relief organization, the recovery process continues for many. While the strength of Vermonters who have been able to move on is worth recognizing, it is also important to acknowledge the needs and continuing struggle of those who have not yet recovered.

Even with all of the help and services being provided to survivors of the flood there is still much work to be done to help people get back on their feet. There are numerous resources that can help people transition into their “new life” after the flood. For example:

Vermont Society of CPA's has formed a task force to offer free or reduced fee tax preparation and consulting services to survivors of the 2011 flooding. Contact Carolyn Stevens, CPA, at cstevens@trans-video.net with any questions.

Seasonal Fuel Assistance - www.mybenefits.vt.us.gov

Vermont State Housing Authority (VSHA) also offers a housing assistance program in which eligible participants are awarded a voucher to assist with rent. Visit www.vsha.org for more information on this and a number of other helpful programs.

Long Term Recovery Groups –Local groups are meeting to coordinate long term recovery efforts around the state. Go to this website to find the Long Term Recovery Groups in your area. <http://www.vtcucc.org/docs/e-kit/ekitdocs/LTRCommittees.pdf>

FEMA Helpline: 1-800-621-FEMA (TTY 1-800-462-7585) or go to:

http://www.fema.gov/pdf/assistance/process/help_after_disaster_english.pdf for a guide in assisting individuals with requirements, documentation, and processes

Community Actions Agencies – Go to this website for services regarding job training, affordable housing options, and support: <http://humanservices.vermont.gov/community-partners/cp-community-action>

More resources and educational materials to assist those affected by Tropical Storm Irene can be found at S.O.S. Vermont's website, www.startingoverstrongvermont.org, or call our toll-free number at 1-855-767-8800.

Starting Over Strong Vermont provides free short-term support for individuals, groups, and communities impacted by flooding from Tropical Storm Irene. 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.

Waiting for Someday, Why Not Now?

All the joy and passion you can envision can be yours right now, rather than in a future point in time.

The time we are blessed with is limited and tends to be used up all too quickly. How we utilize that time is consequently one of the most important decisions we make. Yet it is far too easy to put off until tomorrow what we are dreaming of today. The hectic pace of modern existence affords us an easy out; we shelve our aspirations so we can cope more effectively with the challenges of the present, ostensibly to have more time and leisure to realize our purpose in the future. Or we tell ourselves that we will chase our dreams someday once we have accomplished other lesser goals. In truth, it is our fear that keeps us from seeking fulfillment in the here and now because we view failure as a possibility; our reasons for delaying our inevitable success seem sound and rational. If we ask ourselves what we are really waiting for, however, we discover that there is no truly compelling reason why we should put off the pursuit of the dreams that sustain us.

When regarded as a question, "Why not now?" drains us of our power to realize our ambitions. We are so concerned with the notion that we are somehow undeserving of happiness that we cannot see that there is much we can do in the present to begin courting it. Yet when we look decisively at our existence and state, "Why not now, indeed!" we are empowered to begin changing our lives this very moment. We procrastinate for many reasons, from a perceived lack of time to a legitimate lack of self-belief, but the truth of the matter is that there is no time like the present and no time but the present. Whatever we aim to accomplish, we will achieve it more quickly and with a greater degree of efficiency when we seize the day and make the most of the resources we have at our disposal presently.

All the joy, passion, and contentment you can envision can be yours right now, rather than in some far-flung point in time. You need only remind yourself that there is nothing standing between you and fulfillment. If you decide that today is the day you will take your destiny into your hands, you will soon discover that you hold the keys of fate. Friend of OM: Daily OM Website: <http://www.dailyom.com/> Copyright 2004-2012 Daily OM - All rights reserved January 30, 2012

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

Just think what you will save based on the 2012 oil price estimates!!!!

Your neighbors that have retrofitted their homes are saving money now! You can join us!

We notice how warm our homes are and how much we are saving on fuel.

NeighborWorks has made this easy to do this year because of a grant from the US Department of Energy. There are also incentives that many are eligible for up to \$2,500 *and* the energy check up which is usually \$350 is now only \$100. There are also great financing options for you.

Call NeighborWorks today and find out more and join your neighbors so that you will have a warmer house and save money! If you would like to schedule a home energy audit call **802-438-2303 ext 227** or visit www.heatsquad.org

With The Cost Of Oil Rising, Can You Afford To Wait To Insulate Your Home?

Mount Holly continues to be one of the top towns in the \$10,000 prize

Every home that shows at least a 15% improvement and is tested out by May of 2012 wins Mount Holly \$50 and counts towards Mount Holly's goal of 24 homes improved.

Once Mount Holly reaches 24 homes improved, it enters the bonus round with a chance to win one of two \$10,000 prizes. ***The Town with the highest percentage of homes improved and the Town with the highest average savings in improved homes will each win \$10,000.*** (Towns can only win one category). All prize money must be spent on an energy efficiency improvement in a town or school building or helping residents or businesses improve energy efficiency. In this way, helping yourself helps our town.

Please keep this contest in mind if you are considering retrofitting your home. Have a warmer home and help us win this prize for our town.

Important Notice

If you scheduled a home energy audit with NeighborWorks within this past year or are having some of the suggested work completed, please call Marcy or Joan below; we need the names of people in town to confirm Mount Holly's progress toward the \$10,000 prize. We want to make sure we get credit for every house.

**Thank you! Marcy Tanger 259-2344
Joan McCallum 259-2318.**

Legislative Report by Eldred French

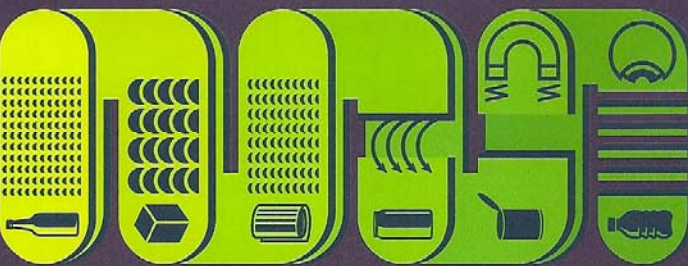
The big issue we worked on in early February was reapportionment. The State is required to reevaluate and reapportion its legislative districts every 10 years to keep up with population shifts. This requirement satisfies the Constitutional right of citizens to be represented equally. Since our last reapportionment in 2002 Chittenden County grew and Rutland and Windsor lost population. In order to comply with the Constitutional requirement of equal representation Chittenden needed one more Representative and Rutland/Windsor should lose one. Districts have to be manipulated as well to keep each district within a deviation of 417 (plus or minus) from the ideal single member size of 4172 people. In our case, the two member district to our west- Clarendon, West Rutland, and Proctor had too few people.

This process is incredibly difficult. Any change you make has a ripple effect in adjacent districts. Making the fluid puzzle of the whole state work out is a tough job. As it sugared off, my district was rearranged, as passed on the floor of the House. This was hard for me personally and hard for the towns. This is how I explained it, as journalized in my vote explanation on February 1st. "Mr. Speaker, Voting on this plan created a dilemma for me. By voting yes am I telling my hometown that I'm in favor of a change they might not like? Am I telling my many friends in Wallingford and Tinmouth that I'm okay with leaving them? On the other hand, by voting no am I sending a message to my possible new towns of Mt. Holly and Ludlow that I'm not happy about the prospect of serving them? My yes vote reflects the reality that it's not about me. It's about the citizens of Vermont getting the opportunity for fair and equal representation. The system works, and the manner in which it was conducted should make Vermonters proud."

The proposed new districts have Shrewsbury, Mt. Holly, and Ludlow in a single seat district named Rutland-Windsor 2. Wallingford joins Clarendon, West Rutland, and Proctor in a two seat district named Rutland 3. Tinmouth joins Ruppert, Pawlet, and Middletown Springs, and part of Wells in a single seat district named Rutland 1. Contact information: 492-3304. 345-9187 eldredfrench@vermontel.net



HOW THE ZERO-SORT MACHINE WORKS



1. Material enters the first screen that breaks and removes **glass** bottles and jars.
2. Rotating discs push **cardboard** over the top while smaller material falls below.
3. Smaller disc screens separate **paper**.
4. An eddy current creates a reverse magnetic field that repels **aluminum** cans.
5. A magnet picks out **tin** cans.
6. Optical sorting technology sorts **plastics** into their different types.



SEE THE PROCESS: ZEROSORT.COM

GIVING RESOURCES NEW LIFE

Zero-Sort is the single bin recycling service that puts more of your stuff back into the world and less of it into the landfill.

It never leaves our sight

Our state-of-the-art sorting facilities are located throughout the Northeast. From pickup to final processing, we make sure your recyclables take the shortest possible route from the bin to the shelves.

It's just one bin

No sorting on your end makes it easier to recycle more stuff more often. You just focus on filling the bin – we take care of the rest.

It's what we do

To us, green is much more than an empty promise or marketing tactic. It's our livelihood. And it's why we gear everything we do toward real, measurable results.



To see how Zero-Sort makes the most of your recycling efforts, visit us at zerosort.com

Coming in April Zero-Sort

IT'S A SINGLE BIN

THAT MAKES OUR BRIDGES, BICYCLES, CARPETS AND CLOTHING.

And it runs on your recyclables.

To see how Zero-Sort makes the most of your recycling efforts, visit us at zerosort.com



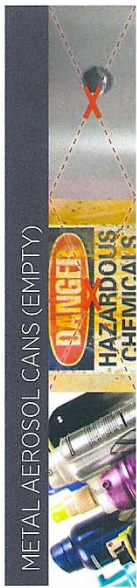
ZERO-SORT™
HOW RECYCLING GETS DONE
a casella service

ZERO-SORT: HOW RECYCLING GETS DONE



GLASS BOTTLES & JARS

- ✓ **Rinse clean.** Food and beverage containers only.
- No light bulbs, Pyrex, drinking glasses, window panes, or ceramics.



METAL AEROSOL CANS (EMPTY)

- ✓ **Separate cap from container.** Do not puncture cans.
- No full or partially full containers. Deliver paint, cleansers, automotive sprays, and other hazardous fluids to local hazardous waste disposal site.



ALUMINUM CANS, FOIL, AND PIE PLATES

- ✓ **Rinse clean.**
- No aluminum with stuck-on food or grease



METAL CANS

- ✓ **Rinse clean.** Food and beverage cans only. Labels are OK. Can lids are OK placed inside the cans.
- No oil filters or scrap metal.



BOXBOARD

- Cereal, shoe, and dry-food boxes, soda carries, paper egg cartons, tissue boxes, paper towel and toilet paper cores
- ✓ **Empty.** Remove and discard plastic liners.
- No styrofoam cups. No stuck-on food or grease.



CORRUGATED CARDBOARD

- Boxes with a wavy center layer.
- ✓ **Empty.** Staples, tape, and labels are OK.
- No oil, paint, or chemical stained, wet, unclean, or wax-coated cardboard. No strapping or string. No plastic, filmy, or foam packing materials.



ENVELOPES & OPENED MAIL

- White, colored, gummed, and window envelopes.
- ✓ **Remove non-paper enclosers.** (e.g., CDs, plastic cards, etc.) and strings. Labels are OK.
- No Tyvek or plastic envelopes. No bubble wrap padded mailers.



MAGAZINES & SOFT-COVER BOOKS

- Glue or staple-bound publications, paperback books, phone books, catalogs, etc.
- ✓ **Must be clean and dry.** Phone books are OK year-round.
- No plastic wrapping, CDs or plastic covers.



NEWSPAPER

- All sections and inserts
- ✓ **Must be clean and dry.** Remove from plastic bags. Do not tie with string.
- None That are contaminated with food, paint, oil, pet waste, etc. No plastic bags.



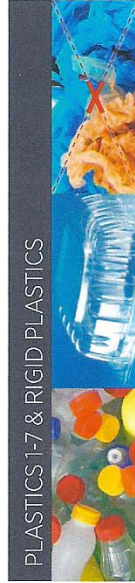
SHREDDED PAPER

- Confidential Documents.
- ✓ **Place in clear plastic bags and tie bag shut.**
- No shredded plastic (credit cards, etc.)



WHITE & COLORED PAPER

- Printed, letterhead, copier paper, glossy flyers & brochures, file folders, craft paper, manilla folders, index cards, construction paper, non-metallic wrapping paper, tissue paper & cards.
- ✓ **Must be clean and dry.** No need to remove plastic tabs, paper clips & metal hanging-file strips. Staples are also OK
- No pressure-sensitive duplication forms. No foil paper.
- No paper towels or facial tissue, No stickers or sticker backing material.



PLASTICS 1-7 & RIGID PLASTICS

- Containers, bottles & jugs for foods, beverages, beauty, and cleaning products, detergents, dairy tubs (yogurt, sour cream, etc.) 5 gallon pails, laundry baskets, sleds, take-out containers, flower pots and trays, and frozen-food trays. Minimum size: 2" on any 2 sides.
- ✓ **Rinse clean.**
- No filmy or pliable plastic (grocery bags, bubble wrap, etc.).
- No foam polystyrene (Styrofoam) products such as cups, take-out containers, packaging blocks and peanuts, etc. No housewares, office products, etc. No motor oil containers or electronics housing. No biodegradable plastics (PLA) fiber

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- Holistic Health Education
- Nutritional Supplementation
- Stress Reduction and Natural Body Care Products

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68 South Main Street, Wallingford, VT

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investment (Fee) is variable, ranging from: \$20.00 per workshop and \$10.00 per class. For further detailed information and to register call 802-446-2499 or email: uthrive@vermontel.net, today! Dress WARMLY for movement; bring a mat, blanket, and water. A portion of the proceeds will directly benefit the: Wallingford Elementary School, as well as, other charities to be named, on each date.

The instructor faculty include: Darci Whitehorne, PT, RYT on (2/19) & (3/18); Leslie Silver, RYT (3/4); Stephanie Jones, RYT (3/11); Cynthia Kirby-Reilly, RYT (3/25); and Margery Anderson, RYT on (4/1).

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

* RE: inclement weather potentials ~ If you do not hear from us directly ~ the workshop or class is still being held!

Rutland Area Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice Blood Pressure & Foot Care Clinic

The Rutland Area Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice is offering Blood Pressure and Foot Care Clinics. There is a suggested donation of \$2 for blood pressure and \$5 for foot care. For more information please call (802) 775-0568.

Thursday, March 1 st	Rutland	Parker House	10 AM
Wednesday, March 7 th	Wallingford	Wallingford House	10:30 AM
Thursday, March 15 th	Rutland	Maple Village	10 AM
Wednesday, 21 st	Rutland	Linden Terrace	11 AM
Wednesday, 21 st	Rutland	Sheldon Towers	9:30 AM
Wednesday, 28 th	Rutland	Godnick Center	12:30 PM
Thursday, 29 th	North Clarendon	Community Center	12:30 PM

MHNewsFlash

Check out Mount Holly News Flashes new blog spot at this address <http://mhnewsflash.blogspot.com/> be up to date with everything that is happening in Mount Holly and send items to inform your neighbors and friends of happenings too.

Because of the restrictions being placed on emails (max of 1000 e-mails per day) I had to find a way around. That's why I started the blog. <http://mhnewsflash.blogspot.com/>.

Please check out the updates on the blog such as: Stephanie Stouffer Gallery, [School Governance Planning](#) Etc. **Are you happy with the way Mount Holly is growing?**

New Mail Service From: Ron Unterman

<http://www.uspseverydoor.com/> With all the organizations in town I thought this might be useful info to forward. It only cost 14.5 cents per letter, and you

don't have to be a non-profit nor do you need to get a permit.

Farm House For Rent: 5 bedroom, 2 bath Farm House plus utilities private setting w/many acres asking \$1100 per month Call 802-259-3676 or 802-388-2446

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

Experience the joy of restoring movement to all areas of your body while learning how to unravel the restrictions produced from daily life; with five different yoga instructors, on the following Sundays: 3/4, 3/11, 3/18, 3/25 & 4/1. The workshops and classes of "The Sampler" are open to those who are new to yoga, as well as, those who are looking to grow an experienced practice.

The time for each session is 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (unless otherwise noted), and will be held at the Wallingford Elementary School Gymnasium, 126 School Street / Route 140 East, Wallingford. The

PRESIDENTIAL TOWN CAUCUS

The Mount Holly
Democratic Committee
will caucus

Saturday, March 24, 2012
11:00 a.m.

Mount Holly Community Center Community
Room - Belmont

The caucus will elect delegates to the State Convention representing the Presidential candidates.

All who vote Democrat in the March 6th Presidential Primary are encouraged to attend and support their candidate.

If you have questions please contact David Hoeh at 259-2274



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NITKA'S NOTES FROM THE STATE HOUSE

By Senator Alice Nitka, Windsor County February 10, 2012

Myriad reports and studies are received each week on a variety of issues and topics. Many are related to bills that have been introduced or were passed previously and require a report back to see if the bill did what it was intended to do. All aspects of the budget requested by the Governor require reports on what the money requested will be used for and comparisons to past years. An example would be the Buildings and General Services (BGS) budget and their request for the VT Information Centers, better known as rest areas to most people. But, in fact, they are providing marketing and promotion of businesses and attractions in our state to travelers while providing a needed service at the same time.

This past year 3,165,029 visitors were at the centers which are open 365 days per year. Hours were reduced at nine sites in 2009 to save money and 4 sites were closed completely due to budget cuts. However, two new sites will be opening; Hartford on I-91 in 2012 and the Bennington Welcome Center in 2013. Presently the Welcome Center in Guilford draws the most visitors in the state. The center at Sharon with the Viet Nam Memorial is another popular site. It also has a unique composting system with vegetation that can be found in South East Asia. A very expensive issue for the centers is waste disposal as the centers are not on municipal sewer systems and must pump out the waste and transport it to a disposal site. Operating expenses for all the centers in 2011 were \$3,891,422 and in 2008 were \$4,901,497. They are doing their best to reduce costs while still providing services. The question is always how much can we afford. Public-private partnerships are also being explored to address service voids.

BGS also has a fleet of vehicles that they lease and rent to various state agencies. Some may be interested to know that of the 530 vehicles, 232 are passenger sedans and station wagons and of those, 68 are hybrid vehicles. The report also provided information on charging stations, mileage for vehicles and options for the future. The cost of a charging station is about \$10,000 and a number of companies are manufacturing them.

A Senate bill that has generated some interest with the driving public is #244, An Act Relating to Referral to Court Diversion for Driving with a Suspended License. It has been changed a lot since it was introduced but addresses the issue of persons who have failed to pay fines and have lost their license because of the failure to pay. It excludes DUI and other serious offenses. The goal is to collect money and reduce the number of persons suspended. Presently there are 23,000 Vermont licenses suspended just from failure to pay fines. It will be interesting to see how this bill progresses.

Contact me at home at 228-8432, the State House at 1-800-322-5616 or at anitka@leg.state.vt.us or P.O. Box 136, Ludlow, VT 05149 Find schedules and bills at www.leg.state.vt.us



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Ludlow-Mt Holly Democratic Committees Ponder Redistricting at Feb 21 meeting

With the likely impact of the proposed redistricting of Vermont's legislative districts occupying a good deal of their concern, the town Democratic Committees of Ludlow and Mt Holly plan to hold a joint meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 21 at 7 PM at Ludlow Town Hall to develop united strategy for their candidate for the redistricted seat.

Based on pending legislation, both Mt Holly and Ludlow will be placed in a new district for a house seat in Montpelier. If passed, the legislation will join these two towns with Shrewsbury to create a new house seat district. Previously, Mt Holly and Ludlow, along with Plymouth, were the Rutland-Windsor 1 house seat district.

Eldred French, current Democratic house member from Shrewsbury, will attend this meeting to discuss the implications of the redistricting and strategy for retaining the seat within the new district.

Both David C. Hoeh of Belmont and Jim Alic of Ludlow, chairs of the Mt Holly and Ludlow town committees expressed interest in developing strategies for this election. Alic noted, "It's extremely important that we field a strong candidate who reflects the interests of his constituents. Both Dave and I believe this is a winnable seat."

Alic stressed that the meeting is open to everyone interested in seeing that "we send a representative to Montpelier concerned about the areas interests and needs. We don't care what your party affiliations are so long as you're guided by the interests of the area." For information, call 228-5380 or 259-2274.

Estate Tax Deductions

Nine Documents that Help You Reap Real Estate Tax Benefits

Gail Graves, Realtor® /Broker/Owner
Engel & Völkers, Woodstock & Ludlow

This month's article comes from a Broker in California, but it surely applies to most of us!

Technically speaking, April 15th is tax day. But for Americans who expect a refund - including many homeowners who want to cash in on real estate-related tax perks - filing sooner holds the promise of getting that check in hand, stat.

If you count yourself in that number, here's a handy guide for 9 pieces of paper you should be sure to round up as you prepare to file,

in order to reap every penny of the tax rewards you've earned by virtue of owning a home.

- 1. Mortgage Interest Statement - IRS Form 1098.** The meatiest real estate tax deduction on the books is the one that allows you to deduct 100 percent of the mortgage interest you paid in a year - including prepaid interest or points you might have paid at close of escrow, if you bought a home last year. By now, you should have received in the mail a Form 1098 from your mortgage lender that reports how much that interest totaled up to in 2011. If you itemize your taxes and claim a mortgage interest deduction, you must include this form with your tax form when you file. (If you haven't received yours yet, most lenders that have online account management services also post the form digitally in your secure account on the web. Just login like you would to make your monthly payment, and look for a notice that says you can now download your 2011 Form 1098.)
- 2. Property Tax Statements.** In addition to deducting your mortgage interest, if you own a home you are eligible to deduct the property taxes you pay to your local city, county and/or state. You are not allowed to deduct some of the other miscellaneous expenses that some localities bundle up with the taxes they collect, like waste management and local assessments for things like street lighting, libraries and sidewalk construction. To get this deduction right, the best practice is to have your property tax statements at hand and make sure you're only deducting what's allowed. If you bought your home this year, it's highly possible that you might not even have received a property tax statement yet - if that's the case, look to #3, below.
- 3. Uniform Settlement Statement (HUD-1).** If you bought or sold a home last year, right after closing you should have received a form called the HUD-1 Settlement Statement (hint: it's usually on legal-sized paper and contains an accounting of credits and debits for you and your home's buyer or seller). That form documents a number of line items which might help you out at tax time, including prepaid interest, the prorated property taxes you paid at closing, and closing costs like original fees and discount points. Some states offer tax credits for buying a foreclosure; check with your tax pro to find out if any such credits apply to you. If so, this statement might be your ticket to lower taxes. And here's another handy hint - if you can't find your copy, you might have gotten it on a disk - and you can always email your real estate or escrow agent for a copy, as well.
- 4. Moving Expense Receipts.** Moving expenses are tax deductible, if your move is closely related, both in time and in place, to the start of work at a new or changed job location and you meet the IRS' time and distance tests. Long story short, your new home must be at least 50 miles farther from your new workplace than your old home was from your prior place of work, and you must work essentially full-time. So, if you bought or sold a home and

moved in 2011, you'll need to include receipts from expenses you incurred making the move (meals not included) in your tax prep paperwork.

5. **Cancellation of Debt Statement - IRS Form 1099.** Homeowners who lost a home to foreclosure, or divested of one by negotiating a short sale or deed in lieu of foreclosure with their lender might receive some version of Form 1099 from their lenders, charging them with income in the amount of the mortgage debt that has been cancelled. You see, if you borrow money from someone, then they cancel the debt, that money you originally borrowed becomes income in the eyes of the IRS - and income is, as you know, taxable.
6. **Utility statements for home office.** For the average everyday homeowner who works at their employer's place of business, utilities are not deductible (sorry!). But if there is a part of your home that is "regularly and exclusively" used for business, you might be able to claim that portion of your home as a home office, and deduct some portion of your home utilities and costs of painting and repairs, as a result. Talk with your tax provider about what expenses are allowable to be claimed under your home office deduction, and whether or not you should take it.
7. **Income and Expense statements from rental properties.** Some of you have elevated the art of home ownership to a business! If you are a landlord, your tax situation is more complicated than that of the average bear; you'll need to have complete income and expense statements when you put your tax returns together. It might actually behoove you to consult with a tax professional to make sure you are appropriately depreciating the property over time and not taking deductions that will expose you to the risk of audits, as well as to begin cultivating a long-term tax strategy for your real estate portfolio.
8. **Contractor receipts from energy efficient home improvements.** Under the Non-business Energy Tax Credit, homeowners who have made improvements to their homes that fall within a list of energy efficient upgrades might be eligible to claim tax credits. If, during 2011, you installed energy efficient improvements such as insulation, new dual-paned windows and furnaces, you might be eligible for a tax credit of 10 percent of the cost of these upgrades, up to \$500 - only \$200 of which may be used to offset the cost of windows.
9. **Mortgage Credit Certificate (MCC).** If you own a home you bought in the last few years using a Mortgage Credit Certificate issued by a local housing authority that Certificate may entitle you to a pretty hefty tax credit, based on a percentage of the mortgage interest you paid - on top of your mortgage interest deduction. MCCs apply as long as you live in the home and have a mortgage on it, but they only apply to defray taxes you actually owe - you can't use them to get a refund. In any event, your mortgage credit certificate, if you have one, is a must-have document as you start putting your tax prep plan in play.

No matter what your tax situation is, if you own a home, it absolutely cannot hurt to get some professional help and advice to make sure you maximize your deductions, while minimizing your exposure to audit. And you should always consult with a tax attorney or certified public accountant regarding your tax liabilities and implications when you are involved in any real estate transaction. By [Tara-Nicholle Nelson](#) | Broker [San Francisco, CA](#)

FOLA Has A New Web Site

After a two year start-up, FOLA (Friends of Ludlow Auditorium) has decided it times to get 'hip' by creating a cool, user-friendly web site to keep everyone up-to-date on FOLA events and activities.

The new site is located at <http://www.fola.us/>. Hopefully, you'll find this web site of sufficient interest to 'bookmark' or add to your 'favorite' web sites.

The web site will keep you advised of all of FOLA's planned events . . . including

- The '1st Thursday' movie schedules with a brief description of what the movie is about and who is in it
- Special events, such as concerts, musical programs, community programs (like the annual Community Christmas Celebration)
- Civic programs like political forums featuring area candidates for public office and forums on major regional issues (such as the recent forum on Vermont's healthcare program)

We'll also keep you in the loop as to plans FOLA may have to improve the facilities in the Town Hall Auditorium.

If you have any questions or comments, use the "CONTACT US" form on the site or email us at info@fol.us. Let us know what you'd like to see at the auditorium and how we can improve both the web site and programs offered by FOLA. Thanks, Ralph Pace for FOLA

"I AM ONLY ONE; BUT STILL I AM ONE. I CANNOT DO EVERYTHING, BUT STILL I CAN DO SOMETHING; I WILL NOT REFUSE TO DO THE SOMETHING I CAN DO." *Helen Keller*



Who's Got It Locally?

Appliance Service

Green Mountain Appliance Service – Gary Van Akin 259-6012

Artists & Architects

Hunter Lea Gallery & Frameshop www.hunterleagallery.com 228-4703
McKeegan Stenciling & Faux Finishes 259-3333
Photography Gallery, Alex McCallum 259-2318
Spectrum Photography 259-3060
Stephanie Stouffer, Studio & Gallery 259-2686
Tracy Rogers Architecture & Design - Architecture & Interiors 282-4858

Bakeries - Catering - Restaurants - Stores

Belmont General Store 259-2292
Big Eyes Bakery-Irish Soda Bread, Tea Cakes, Pies 259-7005
Crowley Cheese, LLC 259-2340
Harry's Café 259-2996
Squeels on Wheels, Wood Roasted BBQ, Take Out 228-8934

Bed & Breakfast

Hounds Folly www.houndsfolly.com 259-2718
Clifford Country Bed & Breakfast www.cliffordcountry.com 259-2269

Building & Repairs – General Work

AW Carpentry-Remodeling*Building*Portable Sawmilling 259-3699
Bolalek Construction & Design, andzej@bolalekconstruction.com 259-7075
Cutting Edge Carpentry & Paint Works-Curt Marechaux 259-2900
G & H Masonry-Jay Goraj ghmasonryvermont@yahoo.com 259-2625
Grey Goose Chimney Sweeps, Window Washing 492-3549
Master Plumbing & Heating Inc. masterph@vermontel.net 492-3657
RDS Contracting-General Contractor New/Remodeling 259-7829
Cell 802-353-7802
Rick Lee Builder, Free Estimates Building & Renovations 259-3936
rickleebuilder@yahoo.com

Tailored Plumbing & Heating baztaylor@comcast.net 975-0033
Also Lawn Mowing, Landscaping, Snowplowing & Firewood M 417-1647
Ted Stryhas Builder 228-7327
Wright Construction – Brett Wright 259-2094

Communication – Computer Repair & Entertainment

Comcast-Rudy Hawes Rudy_Hawes@cable.comcast.com 802-353-2012
Film/Video Production & DJ Services David Guerrero 345-6905 259-2136

Engineering

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

Equipment For Hire & Snow Moving

Beardmore Excavating beardmoreexc@vermontel.net 342-3507
Devereux Earth & Snow Moving 259-2809
Garrow, C. Earth & Snow Moving 259-2867
P.J. Bushey Landscape/Garden/Snow Plow www.busheyland.com 259-2542
Martin Services – General Excavation tmartin82@aol.com 259-3444
Norton's Property Management – Logging*Land Clearing*Snowplowing
*Brush Hogging*Mowing & Care Taking 802-353-6289 Cell 259-3108
Roger Garrow Brush Hogging 259-2314
Russ Garrow –Lawn Mowing*Brush Hogging*Garden Tilling*Snow Plowing
*Care Taking greenerpastures@vermontel.net 259-3167

Farm Fresh Products

Mt. Holly Dairy Aire Farm-Fresh Milk, Eggs, Beef, Poultry 259-2386
Padema Blueberry Farm 259-2132
Plew Farm – Kevin & Pattie Plew 259-2250
Smith Maple Crest Farm- Grass Fed Beef Cuts-Fresh Frozen 492-2151
www.Smithmaplecrestfarm.com

Funeral Homes

Clifford Funeral Home 773-3010

Garage, Repair & Wrecking

BMW ~ Snowmobile, Motorcycle, ATV, Sm Engine & Welding 259-3178
Delaney Welding-Small Welding jobs & Air Cooled VW Repair 259-2965
Joe's Garage – Small Engine Repair 259-2688
Miller's Garage – Cold River Rd. Rutland 775-6852
Turco's YAMAHA Service & Sales www.turcosyamaha.com 773-8650

Garden & Landscape, Lawn Mowing

Belmont Gardens Quality Custom Stonework 259-2364
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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.com 259-2542
Paul Meoli, Mowing & Lawn Care, Painting, Garage Organizing 259-3367
Salt Ash Nursery, Scott Crawford 259-2146
Traveling Hoe Gardening www.thetravelinghoe.com 259-3345

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www.vermontghosthunters.com

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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 802-438-2303 Ext 215

Lawyers

Attorney Steven J. Howard 802-779-4447

Locksmith & Security

Countryside Lock & Alarms (Mike Blais) 259-2213

Manufacturing & UPS Outlet

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 www.smithmaplecrestfarm.com 492-2151

Marketing & Promotional Services

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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 www.LeafitinVermont.com 259-2636
Mary K – Natalie Brown 259-2067
Sew Easy Interiors Home Décor & Window Treatments 259-2048
bethjosselyn@gmail.com Fax 259-3905

Painters

MRS Unlimited Visions LLC Interior/Exterior Painting –Melissa 259-7829

Personal Services

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Ang's Cleaning Service 259-3598
Jencot Cleaning Co. 259-2146
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Jane_Harrington@cbwatson.net F 802-228-4100 Cell 978-337-3950
Ellison Properties homeinvt@tds.net 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.OkemoValley.com
Ty Murray H259-3014-Cell 777-8047, Carl Mitchell H259-2107-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

Chase Design & Construction www.chasevermont.com 259-2633

Surveying Land

On Point Land Surveying-Paul Griedner onpointsurvey@gmail.com 231-2556

Tree Services

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

Veterinary Care - Equine Services – Pet Care Needs

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