News Items DEADLINE February 20th By 6 pm



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Permit No. 8
Mt. Holly, VT 05758

February 2020





45/12

Mount Holy Chit Chart

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

Mt. Holly Community Asso – Contact Penny Coldwell at 259-2760

Mt. Holly Museum-Open By Appointment, Jul-Aug Sat & Sun 2-4pm www.mounthollyvtmuseum.org mounthollymuseum@gmail.com

Town Library: Sat 9-1 Sun 2-4 Mon 10am-6pm Tue 9am-1pm Wed 2-6pm, P.O. Box 93, Belmont, VT 05730 Call 259-3707

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

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

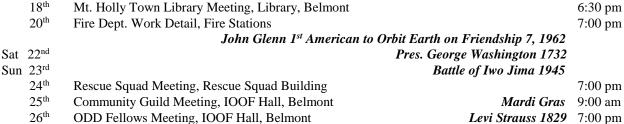
Town Lister Hours: Tuesdays 10:00 am – 2:00 pm and by Appointment 802-259-2391

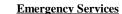
Town Garage: 259-3179

 27^{th}

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

TF	RANSFE	R SITE: Sat. 8 am – 2 pm & Sun. 9 am – 12 pm						
Sa	t 1st	Freedom Day-Pres. Lincoln Approves 13th Amendment Abolishing Slavery 1865	**					
Su	n 2 nd	Mt. Holly Snow Flyer Meeting, Belmont Fire Station Groundhog Day	8:30 am					
	4^{th}	Mt. Holly Community Association Meeting, Library	7:00 pm					
		Mason Meeting, Mt. Moriah Lodge, E. Wallingford	8:00 pm					
	5^{th}	One of America's 1st Weather Observers John Jeffries 1744						
	6^{th}	Fire Dept. Business Meeting, Belmont Fire Station	7:00 pm					
	7^{th}	Bobcat Season Ends	_	1				
Sa	t 8 th	Boy Scouts Founded 1910		L				
Su	n 9 th	Red & Gray Fox Season Ends ~ Full Snow Moon						
	10^{th}	Rescue Squad Meeting, Rescue Squad Building	7:00 pm					
	$11^{\rm th}$	Mt. Holly PTSA Meeting, MH School <i>Thomas A Edison Founder of G. E. Co. 1847</i>	7:00 pm					
		Community Guild Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont	9:00 am					
		Select Board Meeting, Town Office	6:00 pm					
	12^{th}	LMHUUS Meeting, Ludlow Elementary School	6:00 pm					
		Fire Dept. Ladies Auxiliary Meeting, Belmont Fire Station Abraham Lincoln 1809	7:00 pm					
		ODD Fellows Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont	7:00 pm					
	13^{th}	Fire Dept. Drill, Mt. Holly Fire Station	7:00 pm					
		Boston Latin School 1st Public School in USA 1635						
	St. Valentine's Day ~ League of Women Voters Formed 1920							
Sa	t 15 th	Susan B Anthony Women's Rights Leader 1820 ~ Sinking of The USS Maine 1898						
	$17^{\rm th}$	Mount Holly Planning Commission, Town Office Presidents' Day Observed	7:00 pm					
	18^{th}	Mt. Holly Town Library Meeting, Library, Belmont	6:30 pm	/				





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

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







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

<u>Donation Thank Yous:</u> Marcy & Andy Tanger * Black River Area Community Coalition (BRACC) * Ted & Sue Crawford * Margaret Whyte * Bob & Lori Keen (Keen Woodworking) * Gail Beardmore (Engel & Volkers Okemo Woodstock) * David & Keay Wagner * John & Lois Perry * Ron Unterman & Dottie Finnerty * Dottie Stanley * Wanda & Michael Spatzer * Brandon

Jenkins (Jenkins Builders) * Richard & Diane Squires * Dr. Joseph & Lisa Donohue (Thrive Center of The Green Mountains) *

February Birthdays: 2nd –Justin Bussino (2004) 4th -Chris Charuk 5th –Pat Marro 6th -Candance Bussino 8th –Alyssa Collins * Debbie Pearce 9th -Emma Coldwell 10th -Amy Perrino

* Jack Koponen 11th -Mary Desautels 18th-Andy Bolalek * Peggy Taylor 19th -Dennis Turco * Denise Turco 20th -Barbara Palotta 21st -Ben Veysey 22nd -Susan Horsman 23rd -Jerome Brown 25th - Meghan Garrow 27th -Mary Crawford * Steven Radonis



<u>February Anniversaries</u>: 17th –Lisa & Todd Bussino (1990) 23rd - Raymond & Clarise Dana 2020 is their 71 Yr (1949) 27th – John & Carol Delaney 60 Yr (1965) 28th –Andy & Teresa Bolalek

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

Local Post Office Hours

Local Post Office Hours				
Mount Holly		802-259-2796		
Window	Mon – Fri	8:00 am – 10:00 am		
	&	2:45 pm – 4:45 pm	(Q	
	Sat	7:30 am – 10:30 am		
Lobby Hours: M	1on – Fri	8:00 am – 4:45 pm		
Belmont		802-259-2790	l	
Window	Mon – Fri	7:30 am – 9:30 am	`	
	&	2:45 pm – 4:45 pm		
	Sat	8:00 am – 10:45 am	<u> </u>	
Lobby Hours:	Mon-Fri	7:30 am – 4:45 pm	_	
East Wallingfor	rd .	802-259-2829		
Window	Mon – Fri	7:00 am – 11:00 am		
	Sat	7:00 am – 10:00 am		
Lobby Hours:	Mon-Fri	7:00 am – 4:45 pm		
Cuttingsville/Sh	rewsbury	802-492-3585		
Window Hours	Mon – Fri	7:30 am – 10:30 am		
	&	11:30 am – 2:30 pm		
	Sat	8:00 am – 11:00 am		
Lobby Hours	Mon – Fri	7:30 am – 5:00 pm		
	Sat	7:30 am – 11:00 am)	
Ludlow		802-228-7436	}	
Post Master: Da	wn Howlett		/	
Lobby Hours:	Mon – Fri	6:30 am – 5:30 pm		
	Sat	6:30 am – 11:00 am	(-	
Window Hours:	Mon-Fri	8:30 am – 5:00 pm	\	
	Sat	8:30 am – 10:30 am		

February Deadline for March issue of the Chit Chat Wednesday February 19th by 6:00 pm

February 2020 Mount Holly Chit Chat Inc.

Mount Holly Chit Chat, Inc.

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

BOARD of DIRECTORS:

PRESIDENT: Susan Crawford V. PRESIDENT: Dennis Devereux SECRETARY: Terri Isidro TREASURER: Diana Garrow DIRECTORS: Heather Garrow, Christine Pratt, David Venter

MANAGING EDITOR: Diana Garrow ASSISTANT to the EDITOR: Heather Garrow

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Annual Membership meeting is held on the second Monday in September in the Mount Holly Town Office at 6 p.m. The meeting includes the annual report and election of the Board of Directors

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



Iona M. Bumps

Iona "Onie" Marjorie Bumps, 94, passed away peacefully at her home Dec. 21, 2019, with her family by her side. Iona was born Oct. 4, 1925, in Wallingford, daughter of the late Peter and Ethel (Rabtoy) Garrow.

She graduated from Wallingford High School in 1944. Iona married Alfred J. Bumps on Sept. 3, 1950, in Wallingford. After raising her family, Iona went to work for MetroMail, then General Electric Aviation, retiring in 1988.

Iona and her husband, Alfred, traveled the United States in their motor home with their Gold Wing motorcycle in tow, visiting the 48 contiguous United States, Alaska and all the Canadian Provinces. When their traveling was completed, they made their winter home in Winter Garden, Florida. She enjoyed spending time with family,

dancing, snowmobiling, motorcycle riding and camping.

Iona is survived by daughter Marjorie Barone and husband Tom, of East Wallingford, and son Kevin Bumps, of Mount Holly. She was the proud "Mimi" of eight grandchildren Stephen Bruckner, Mark Barone, Jesse LaFrancis, Chris LaFrancis, Ryan LaFrancis, Brent LaFrancis, Vanessa Bumps, Peter Bumps; and nine great-grandchildren. Iona is also survived by her brother, Peter Garrow and wife Audrey (her best friend), of Mount Holly. Iona was predeceased by her husband, Alfred, in 2015; infant son William in 1958; daughter Joanne Greenwood in 2012; son-in-law Alan Greenwood in 2005; and sisters Dorothy Hawkins and Mary Hawkins. Respecting Iona's wishes, there will be no services.

There will be a private burial in Maple Grove Cemetery, East Wallingford, at the family's convenience. Memorial contributions may be made to the charity of one's choice. Arrangements are under the direction of Aldous Funeral Home.



Carole Goodman

Carole Goodman, 72, passed away on Saturday December, 28th at her home in Belmont, Vermont following a brave battle with brain cancer.

Born in Scranton, PA, she was the middle child of the late Jack and Helen Benkaim. She graduated from Central High School and went on to become a proud graduate of the University of Miami. She spent time living in Miami and New York City before coming back to Scranton where she met her late husband, Nelson Goodman.

Carole is survived by her son, Joshua Goodman and his fiancé Mallory Goldberg, her partner Stephen Michel, her siblings Lois Anderson and Robert Benkaim, her grand-dog Ranger, and her cat Cheeto.

The family will be having a small private graveside service. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made

in her memory to The American Brain Tumor Association at www.abta.org.

January 2020, Mt. Moriah Lodge #96 Trestleboard Next meeting Tuesday 2/04th 8PM

Greetings Brothers,

As we approach the start of another year, we hope everyone had a nice Christmas with your families.

Black River Laffayette Lodge had a pot luck supper Thursday, January 2, which everyone brought a dish to share followed by their meeting at 7:30.

Join Bone Builders

Monday & Thursday Mornings 9:00 am

Mt. Holly Community Room
Under The Library
For Weights and more information
Call Judy Nevin 259-2443

Flander's Excavating & Firewood

Complete Site Work Start To Finish

All Aspects of Excavating:

Roads ~ Clearing Lots ~ Septic Systems ~ Ponds

Fully Insured – Call Steve @ 802-259-2147

Rutland Lodge did an Entered Apprentice Degree on the 15th of January.

It was decided at the December meeting to keep our varying amounts for dues to remain the same for this year.

Our Brother Fay Freeman has a new hip, due to a fall on the ice. Give him a call and wish him well. The family says he is up and about and just using a cane to get around with.

Please keep your dues monies coming in and, if you disagree with the amounts you are said to owe... let the secretary know by contacting

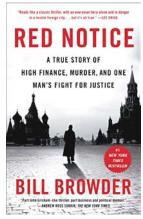
him at 802-259-9400, by email at: sseward@vermontel.net. or mail it to: 4280 Sugar Hill Rd, East Wallingford, VT 05742

Happy New Year to you and your families.

Fraternally, Earl Miller, WM - Buster Seward Sec'y

Mount Holly Library Reading Group

The next meeting of the Mount Holly Reading Group will be held on Wednesday, February 12th at 6 pm, at Barbara Pallotta's home. We will be discussing the book, Red Notice: A True Story of High Finance, Murder, and One Man's Fight for Justice by Bill Browder. This was our January selection but since we did not meet in January, we will discuss it this month. Looking forward to seeing everyone! If you need a copy of the book or have questions, call Donna at 259-2730.





Black River Independent School Committee Welcomes New Board Member

The Black River Independent School Committee is excited to announce the addition of their newest Board Member, Julie Abraham. Julie completed her BS in Accounting at the University of Vermont and is a seasoned financial executive with over 30 years of experience in large public companies. She has also been a Board Member in various public, private, and non-profit entities. She and her husband, George, have had a second home in Ludlow for 20 years. Along with their daughters they have been a part of the Okemo Mountain and Okemo Mountain School Community for over 15 years. As of August 2018, Julie and her husband are now

full time permanent Ludlow residents. BRISC is excited to welcome Julie to the board as her expertise is the perfect complement to their continued fundraising efforts.

BRISC continues to seek input from the community. Weekly meetings are held every Thursday from 6:00-8 p.m. at the Black River High School library. Anyone with interest or expertise is encouraged to attend the meetings and to contribute to the work in progress. The group's current focus is to generate fundraising dollars for start-up and reserve funds to establish Black River Independent School. BRISC is seeking not only monetary support but also volunteers.

If you would like more information or would like to get involved with the Black River Independent School, please contact Sean Williams or Pat Pullinen at theschool@blackriveris.org. Please visit our website www.blackriveris.org. Donations can be made on

the website or by mailing a check to P.O. Box 485, Ludlow, VT.

Mount Holly School PTSA

Hi Mount Holly Families, Thank you so much for your support of the PTSA and the programs we fund! We all owe a big thank you to Katie, Kevin and Charity for the organizing and also to Raye Lin for everything she does daily and always to support us! Along with a big thanks to all the families working hard to fundraiser to enhance our children's educational experience. The PTSA appreciates all of you! Best Wishes for a Merry Holiday Season!

Knights of Columbus Basketball Free Throw: The

Knights of Columbus Basketball Free Throw competition will take place on Sunday, January 26th @ 11:00 a.m. at the Ludlow Community Center for boys and girls ages 9—14. Parent or Adult must accompany children to register for this event. Please contact Paul Faenza @ 802-353-8347 or Terry Thayne 802-228-7206 for more information.

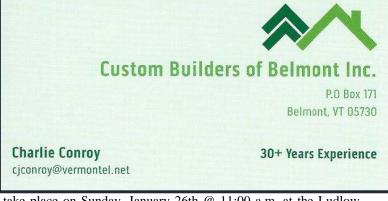


Knights of Columbus News Council 7324 Church of the Annunciation Depot Street, Ludlow, VT

2020 Dinner Schedule:

Saturday, February 15th Roast Beef Saturday, March 14th Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinners are held at the Church of the Annunciation Parish Center and begin at 5PM. Cost is \$12 per person.

Our council has members from Mount Holly, Weston, Ludlow, Plymouth, & Proctorsville. We are looking for new members. If you would like to serve your church and community, please consider joining our organization. For more information please call Paul Faenza 259-4100.



Fingerprinting: The TRSU Board voted to require all volunteers, for any school activities, to be fingerprinted. Please ask your volunteers to stop by the TRSU office (located at Fletcher Farm 609 VT Route 103S, Ludlow) with a photo id and to complete the required paperwork. The following offer fingerprinting services: Ludlow Police Dept. (228-4411), Rutland Sheriff's Dept. (775-8002) and Rutland Police Dept. (773-1816). Proof of fingerprinting is required in order to volunteer. A copy of the receipt must be on file at the TRSU or given to Raye Lin prior to being able to volunteer. If you are planning to volunteer in the next couple of days please let Craig know.

A Message from the Constable

I would like to thank all our residents for keeping a watchful eye this past year. Many of you called either me or the State Police to report suspicious activity. Whether it be a suspicious vehicle or person, an open door, or providing information on illegal drugs, possible fraud or illegal dumping. All your calls are important, and I will respect your confidentiality. If something or someone doesn't look right to you, make the call, it is essential to keeping our families and community safe. I look forward to serving you in the future. To report suspicious activity call VSP 773-9101, and/or Constable Paul Faenza 802-353-8347 or email pfaenza47@yahoo.com. Thank You.



Horse Drawn Snow Roller From the internet:

For a good stretch of American history, getting rid of snow was of no great concern. In fact, people actually wanted it around. While this might blow the minds of modern Northeasterners and Midwesterners, keep in mind that these were the days of the horse-drawn vehicle, not the Prius. To improve travel in winter conditions, horse carts and coaches traded their wheels in for ski-like runners. With those things on, the more packed snow on the roads, the better! Historian and weather geek Eric Sloane wrote that,

in the 18th and 19th centuries, "snow was never a threat" to road travel, "but rather it was an asset."

To keep roads in optimal snowy condition, many municipalities employed a "snow warden" to pack and flatten the snow with a crude vehicle called a snow roller—essentially a giant, wide wheel weighed down with rocks and pulled by oxen or horses. A far cry from the winter road work we see today, it was more like maintaining a ski slope or smoothing out an ice rink. Stranger still, snow wardens actually had to install snow on the pathways of covered bridges so that travel would not be interrupted.

Excerpt from Carroll Tarbell's book History of Mount Holly, Vermont

Mount Holly never had snow rollers. Farmers hitched their teams to a bob-sled after fastening a plow beside one runner. By going both ways on the road they got some snow out. The horses would follow the road with a little help. Drifts had to be shoveled. Often only one side of the road would be drifted. Snow rollers packed the whole road.

From Dennis Devereux

It seems they were more interested in running on packed snow with sleighs then plowing. Until after 1946, local men were hired to break thru drifts too deep to use sleds. Many of the older men in town talked about shoveling all day for about a dollar a day when

they were younger in the 1930s. I think some of the town reports from that period also tell the expense.

Until after world War 11 when equipment became available, most people just stayed inside to keep warm, play cards, and make some homebrew. They also did a lot of rabbit hunting with dogs on snowshoes.





Farm Stand Hours: Thursday-Sunday 12pm-5pm 802-259-2250

1966 Healdville Road, Mount Holly

www.plewfarm.com Pasture raised Chicken, Eggs

Pork, Grass Fed & Finished Beef Maple Syrup, Maple Cream Maple Almonds & Candy Dedicated to providing a local alternative to commercially produced factory food



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

www.mounthollyvtmuseum.org

Mount Holly Library

The Mount Holly Library has a new Librarian! Joe Galbraith has joined the Mount Holly Library as the new Director. Stop by and say hi! Joe has been a Librarian for over 35 years working in both academic and public libraries. He and his family are enjoying meeting their new neighbors and getting to know folks.

The Library is adding some interesting new titles to the collection. They include: "Ansel Adams' Yosemite: the Special Edition Prints" This book is a beautiful collection of prints that were chosen by Ansel Adams himself. All shot in one of his favorite locations, Yosemite National Park.

"Six Seasons: A New Way With Vegetables" by Joshua McFadden. It's a book of recipes that is sectioned by the seasons: Spring, Early summer, Mid-Summer, Late Summer, Fall and Winter

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

Don't forget to follow us on Facebook! (@mthollytownlibrary)





Library Hours:

Monday 10am - 6pm ~ Tuesday 9am - 1pm ~ Wednesday 2pm - 6pm ~ Saturday 9am - 1pm ~ Sunday 2pm - 4pm



Vermont is Getting Snow!

Like a lot of the Northeast, Vermont has seen a few false starts to our season this winter. We still need more snow and most of the state will get more Saturday night. If you take a look at the VAST trail map online you can see where trails are open (green for open and yellow for open using caution). When a trail is red it is closed so stay off it until the club can get the trail open for use. Often if they don't open when you may think they should, it can be because there are hazards on the trail, not enough snow to get a groomer out without suffering damage, etc.

You will also notice that some clubs may be out grooming, rolling or panning and it shows blue when you click on the "grooming" button on the map. But when you click the grooming button off the trail goes back to red. That means, yes the club is out, but they still have not opened the trail. Some groomers have GPS tracking so that is why you see the trail turning blue, but again still red, because the club is not ready to open the trail for a variety of good reasons. There are hazards out there, still open water bars in some

areas, etc

VAST clubs are made up of dedicated volunteers who want nothing more than to give you great trails to ride, so please thank them when you see them and have patience. We all want to get out there and ride.

Be safe, thank our volunteers and landowners. Without all of them, we would not have such an amazing trail system in Vermont. If you ride in many different club systems, consider joining those clubs too and support their events. Lastly, please use social media as a place of

(802) 952-9722

encouragement and positivity.

Ride Safely! Ride To The Right! Get a Grip By Keeping Your Hands on the Handlebars! Respect Landowners and STAY ON THE TRAILS!

Thank You. We hope you have a great adventure out there and great adventures can take time so look around and enjoy the beauty of VT.

Brandon Jenkins Owner



Mount Holly, Vermont

brandon@jenkinsbuild.com



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Wayne Jones
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East Wallingford VT 802-259-2521

Senior Stars Luncheon at Harry's Cafe

The next Senior Stars Luncheon will be at Harry's Cafe on Thursday, February 13th at noon, the day before Valentine's Day. Cafe doors open at 11:30 AM.

If you have a reservation, but find that you will not be able to attend, please call Carol Ballou at 259 2333 as soon as possible. There is a waiting list so she will probably be able to fill your place with another person. If you call by the preceding Monday, February 10th, you will not be charged the \$5.00 for the cost of the meal. If cancelling after the 10th, you will be charged unless your spot is filled by someone else.

BIG EYES BAKERY

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Gluten Free products
www.bigeyesbakery.com

Anyone on the waiting list for February who does not get to attend that luncheon is automatically placed at the beginning of the March list. If you are interested in the March luncheon and are not attending the one in February, <u>now</u> is the time to make your reservation by calling 259 2333.

For those attending the February luncheon, if you wish to also come in March, you will need to pay for that luncheon in advance. Bring the money with you on 2/13. Because there is a waiting list and those people will be first on the March list, people who arrive last to the February luncheon may find themselves on the March waiting list. We only have 40 places and there are more than 40 seniors who know just how good a luncheon at Harry's Cafe is!

Looking forward to a delicious meal and good company! Many thanks to Trip and Deb and their crew for making these luncheons possible!

Paul A. Faenza Animal Control Officer PO Box 248, Mount Holly, VT 05758 (802) 353-8347

- I am guided by the provisions of our ordinance which was updated in 2014 according to a model provided by the Vermont League of Cities and Towns.
- I conduct investigations in a fair and thorough manner. After receiving a complaint, I conduct an interview over the phone or in person as the situation dictates. I contact the Town Clerk to check on licensing, and other Town departments as necessary.
- If a dog is found running at large and/or secured by another party, I respond to the location (if I'm available) and remove the dog to my home, where the animal is secured in a large cage, given water and food. On occasion I have transported dogs to a veterinarian for treatment.
- If there is a collar with a license, I attempt to contact the owner for pickup. If I cannot contact the owner, the dog is removed to the Rutland County Humane Society in Pittsford for boarding
- If there is no id, I take a photograph of the dog and put it out on social media/newsflash etc. with the hopes that someone will recognize the dog. If I cannot identify the owner, the animal is removed to the Rutland County Humane Society in Pittsford for boarding. I have a relationship with the humane society, since I do not have a kennel at my home.
- If an owner is identified, they are sent a Dog Courtesy Warning in the mail (This is not in the ordinance, but a way for me to reinforce my message to the dog owner)
- If necessary, a citation can be issued.
- A written report is then completed.
- In cases of suspected Animal Cruelty, other steps are taken including notifying the Vermont State Police, State's Attorney, Veterinary Services and the Humane Society.
- For a potentially vicious dog, I follow the steps in the Town Ordinance, and notify the Select Board for their consideration of the matter.
- Most of the time, speaking to an owner about the Town Ordinance, and Vermont laws are usually enough to stop a reoccurrence of the event.



Reinbow Riding Center, a therapeutic equine program located in Shrewsbury, Vermont is looking for part-time help with administrative tasks. Top priorities are Grant Researching and Social Media management. Must be very organized and able to work independently. Flexible hours. Send resume and letter of interest to:

Lynn McDermott, 2161 Russellville Road, Shrewsbury, VT 05738 or email lynnmcd@vermontel.net

However sometimes dogs get loose at no fault of their owners, and it's not always a dog that's in someone else's yard. I've responded to cows, horses and pigs trampling through people's flower beds, lawns and fences.

People love their animals and don't want to see them hurt or hurting anyone or any other animal. I try to resolve these problems through communication with the parties concerned and I have had plenty of success in the past seven years.

Sometimes though we need to proceed more aggressively, and I have no problem doing that using our ordinance as my guide.

AND THE PHOTO JUDGING WINNERS ARE...

Shown in this issue of the Chit Chat are the photographs that won honors in the juried portion of the Mount Holly Photo & Calendar Competition in October. The event drew a record number of submissions and judges Stephanie Stouffer, Emily Clifford and Fra DeVine had a tough time deciding on winners. But decide they did, and the winning photographs and the photographers who took them (as previously announced) are: Grand Prize: "Frozen Dawn" by Patrick M. Rose; First Runner Up: "Sunset Fire & Ice" by Christina Thomson; Second Runner Up: "Lake Ninevah Outflow" by Gerald Rogell; Third Runner Up: "Early Morning Light- Winter" by Carol DeVine. In the 5 year to 12-year-old group the winners were: First Place: "Restored 1820's Barn on Winter Morn" by Matteo Anderson; Second Place: "Show Me Your Salamander Face" by Alexa Thomson; Third Place: "Monarchs Love Lunch" by Oliver Thomson. In the 13 year to 19-year-old group the winner was: First Place: "Fall Beauty" by Aislynn Kelley. There were no other qualifying entries in this category. In the adult category the winners were: First Place: "Bird Dog in Retirement" by Leah Knoll; Second Place: "Pines in the Mist" by Patrick DeVine; Third Place: "Serene Village" by Breege Tomkinson. Congratulations to all the winners and thank you to everyone who submitted photos for the 2019 judging.

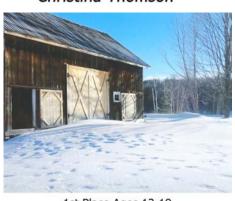
As all of these photographers know, the annual Mount Holly Photo & Calendar Competition is in two parts. The first is the judging, (see winners above), and the calendar balloting which is done by the general public during the annual Mount Holly Cider Days celebration in October. A list of the photographs going into the 2021 calendar, and the photographers who took them, will be found in the next issue of the Chit Chat.



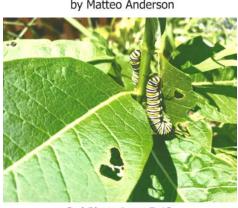
Grand Prize Winner: "Frozen Dawn" by Patrick M. Rose



First Runner Up:
"Sunset Fire & Ice" by
Christina Thomson



1st Place Ages 12-19
"Restored 1820's Barn on Winter Morn"
by Matteo Anderson

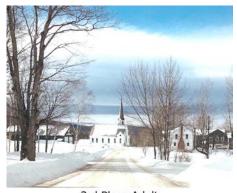




2nd Runner Up:
"Lake Ninevah Outflow"
by Gerald Rogell



2nd Place Ages - 5-12
"Show Me Your Salamander Face"
by Alexa Thomson



3rd Place Adult "Serene Village" by Breege Tomkinson



3rd Runner Up
"Early Morning Light- Winter"
by Carol DeVine

3rd Place Ages 5-12 "Monarchs Love Lunch" by Oliver Thomson



2nd Place Adult "Pines in the Mist" by Patrick DeVine



1st Place Ages 13-19 "Fall Beauty" by Aislynn Kelley



1st Place Adult
"Bird Dog in Retirement"
by Leah Knoll

Mount Holly Community Association

Once again, we rang in the **New Year** with a fantastic **fireworks display on Star Lake!** The Snow Flyers outdid themselves this year with a **truly impressive show and we can't thank them enough for working so hard all year to raise money to pay for this grand display!** There **was a** huge crowd huddled around the bonfire and throughout the lake front festively decorated with dozens of strings of lights. Many thanks to Madeleine Fay, Eric Manley, and Wyatt Manley for helping to "light up the night" with these beautiful lights! A special thanks goes to Mary Alberty, who coordinated this effort and, as always, cleaned up everything the next day...thanks so much Mary! It was an evening to remember and a wonderful one to share with 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 Community Room on the lower level of the Library & Community Center Building, which now has a permanent and reliable source of water with our new well! Currently, it is used on a weekly basis by the Play Group, the Mount Holly Folk Group, Bone Builders, and the Art Group. It has also been rented on many occasions for birthday parties, showers, and other events. It is an ideal spot to host a party for up to 50 people. If you are interested in using the room, please contact Jennifer Burrows (jenniferburrows@msn.com) or Linda Miller (lindaddmiller@gmail.com) to check on the schedule and make the arrangements.

In advance: this year the **Spring Mud Fling** will be held on Saturday, April 4th. Rocking and rolling and dancing your feet off is absolutely the best way to shake off the mud season blues and get energized for spring! Be sure to look for details on this exciting event in the March Chit Chat!

This will be our last call for **membership in the MHCA** for the 2019 – 2020 year. Reminder letters will be sent out to a number of people who were members last year, but had not signed up for this year as yet. The MHCA is *your* community association and it needs your support to carry on its work sponsoring events for the entire town and to maintain the beautiful, historic building that houses the library and community room. Membership forms are available in the general store and the library. Thank you for your support!

A Look Back and Ahead

Down time, for Reinbow Riding Center, also known as winter, gives us time to reflect on our previous season. The 2019 season turned out to be one of our best years ever and a large part of that is due to the support we enjoy from out extended communities in south-central Vermont. Not only did we expand our season to include programs for four area schools, and individual riders from other schools, but also the support we enjoyed from our extended communities contributed in large part to this success.

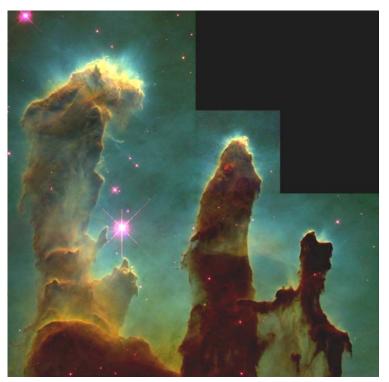
As a non-profit service-oriented organization we must raise the funds that allow us to provide these services to children and adults regardless of their ability to pay. Your contributions whether financial, your time, items for our Silent Auction or in-kind services, are all greatly appreciated and help us continue to raise the funds we need. So where does the funding come from and where does it go?

Although we charge a per lesson fee, it does not fully fund the cost of a lesson and we need to make up the shortfall some other way. That means applying for grants and seeking other sources of financial support as well as beginning to plan for Summer Palooza 2020. Last year with your assistance we were able to raise about \$12,000 as a result of Summer Palooza and our Silent Auction. Thank you.

Some other sources of RRC funding is as follows: United Way has helped us fund our ongoing school programs for Rutland County schools and the Congregation of Notre Dame helped us fund the Ludlow School program. A grant from Carris Reels in Rutland helped fund our program for children of military families (Vermont National Guard families) and Rutland Regional Medical Center and GE Aviation in Rutland helped provide funding for the additional horses we need for the program.

Thank you Mt. Holly for the Bottle Fund. Bottle money, as we call it, is earmarked for special projects or unexpected expenses that always seem to crop up. For an example, an additional saddle or other equipment we need for the program, but has not been budgeted for. As most of the other funds raised go toward providing lesson, there are times we need to access a rainy day fund, and the refundables you drop off at our bottle shed at the Mt. Holly Transfer Station, have allowed us to establish and maintain that fund.

Looking ahead here's to another and better program year, and to all of you that help us do it. If anyone has any good fundraising ideas give us a shout. Email: programs@reinbowridingcenter.org or call 802-236-2483



Spirit In The Sky

THE FIRST TIME WE MEET GOD IN THE BIBLE, WE MEET HIM AS AN ARTIST. Out of the flurry of the Creator's imagination, the majestic heavens and this pretty blue planet burst into existence and teem with diversity and beauty. Could God have easily spoken a mono- chrome cosmos into being? Certainly. Picture an all-gray universe with gray planets, gray animals, gray-on-gray rainbows in a gray-tinged sky. Even oranges would be called "grays". Graytopia could've been efficient and functional from an engineering perspective. Why then make our multi-hued universe? Why the color spectrum, red strawberries, orange oranges, and yellow lemons? Why mandarinfish, peacocks, and chameleons? What was the artist thinking when He designed the giraffe? Well, as Genesis repeats seven times, "God saw that it was good". Evidently, God cares about more than efficiency and functionality. He also cares about beauty...even if two thirds of it is hidden beneath the sea.

I can almost hear God's voice booming over a magenta sunset, "That's go-o-o-d!" He made the aesthetic declaration even *before* He made Adam and Eve. It follows then, that something can truly be beautiful even if no human is around to behold and declare it so. Beauty, then, isn't merely something we as humans *dream up* (tho' thankfully we can); it's also something we can *discover*, something beyond and even before us.

That means when the Hubble satellite started relaying space pictures back, there was nothing arbitrary or artificial when we collectively exhaled, "Beautiful!" When humans first beheld the somber towering gas pillars of the Eagle Nebula- with their speckles of pink fire and wisp sea-green auras-we did not *fabricate* beauty. We *found* it. They were beautiful long before Hubble left our atmosphere, and they would stay beautiful even if we all went blind tomorrow.

Why? Well, in a biblical view of the universe, it's because God cares about beauty and declares things beautiful even when we cannot. Beauty then, is not merely in the eye of the beholder -you and I- but in the eye of the Beholder. Therefore, we enter the world not just to impose our ever-changing ideas of beauty on some aesthetic void. Beauty is already there, and it'll impose itself on us, and refashion our constructs into something more noble and towering and true, if we dare let it. That's where all the creative names for animals came from, as well as the soaring magnificence of houses of worship and imaginative music that has filled them creatively worshiping the creative God creatively.

When we come to Jesus, we learn that glowing nebulae, rainbows, the flavor of watermelon and coffee beans were His idea (in



the creative collaboration with the Father and the Spirit). He who took on created flesh spent most of His career working with the wood from trees He'd created. Then with two beams and some nails the Eternal Artist fashioned a sacrificial bridge between heaven and earth. The blood on that wood, like this world, is not some cosmic accident, but the gift of a magnificent Artist. *Pastor Glenn*

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NITKA'S NOTES FROM THE STATE HOUSE

By Senator Alice Nitka

It's that time of year when committees are receiving numerous reports and studies that were formulated or completed during the summer months in response to requests in bills. One such report addressed suspensions of driver licenses. The numbers were shocking even when distilled and clarified. In 2019, there were 49,500 suspensions in effect for persons with a Vermont address on their license. However, some persons had more than one suspension; in fact, as many as ten in one case I saw. This occurs as one could be cited for many violations such as driving while under the influence, driving with a suspended license, failure to have insurance and a myriad of other violations. A breakdown of some violations includes underage 21, alcohol with failure to report or complete the Diversion Program 3,343; underage 21, marijuana, failure to report or complete Diversion 318; civil DUI suspensions, under 21 years, 1,032; criminal DUI Convictions 25,216; nonpayment of traffic violation 132,404 and others. There are fines, surcharges, points on one's license and of course insurance costs. The surcharges are sometimes higher than the fines and they can't be changed by the judge. If you make it to the stage of having done everything in preparation for getting your license back, you then must pay a reinstatement fee before you receive it. Ways are being explored to try to get more individuals back to licensed driving and insured.

The Public Safety Department visited the Appropriations Committees seeking \$1.2 million in the Budget Adjustment Bill due to an estimated shortfall in their 2020 Fiscal Year budget. The highest portion of the cost was for Dispatcher shift coverage at \$431,286 which was down from \$764,201 in 2019. They are authorized for 62 Dispatchers but would be better served by 70 which would bring them up to the standard. As many employers are having a hard time recruiting employees in the tight labor market so are the State Police. They need thirty new recruits every year to keep up with retirements and replacements. Presently there are 15 recruits in the class at the Police Academy and the program is offered twice a year. There are 334 total positions in the force. There are 289 officers fully trained and 280 available presently. The pay for a starting officer with benefits and no experience is approximately \$85,000 and the salary is in the 50,000 dollar range. With experience the salary is higher. The police cruiser situation we're told is in "good shape" this year so that may be a place to save a few dollars. An item for which we are not likely to receive reimbursement was for the detail assigned to the Vice President during his visit which cost \$35,700. In 2018 the cost for the visit was \$82,922. The state did get a lot of free advertising from the visits so hopefully some tourism benefits.

Feel free to contact me at the State House at 1-800-322-5616, on weekends at 802-228-8432 or anitka@leg.state.vt.us

Musings from Montpelier By Logan Nicoll

The session has begun. As of this writing we're two weeks in but compared to last year it's obvious already that things are going to happen a lot faster this year. Because there are not as many new faces to start the session, we're not starting off with as much of an introductory period.

As I think I made clear last year I sometimes get frustrated with the way the State House is portrayed in the paper and on the news, even our local sources. They seem to make mountains out of molehills and sometimes even molehills out of mountains. Currently this is exemplified by the limited coverage of the Budget Adjustment Act (the BAA) and the over-emphasis on bills that have very little chance of being discussed, let alone ever seeing a vote.

With all the chaos and nonsense at the national level it's worth noting once again that we live a very fiscally responsible state. We pass balanced tri-partisan budgets year after year. In the state the budget works on a July 1-June 30 Fiscal Year, so this being around the midpoint of the fiscal year the biggest discussions so far are around the BAA. Which is essentially reviewing and revising the budget to account for higher or lower than expected revenues and expenditures. Some of the bigger aspects of this have gotten some coverage but as a whole this is what we've been focused on. I serve on the House Human Services committee, so while we are not involved in the budget or budget adjustment directly, we do give comments to the House Appropriations committee on the issues we deal with most frequently. To start the session this has meant taking testimony on a few programs that are not using as much money as they did last year, and a few that are using more than they did last year.

As far as legislation outside of the budget we are just starting to lay out our priorities in my committee and the other committees are doing the same. Last year my committee worked on a wide variety of issues, but we spent a big chunk of our time on Child Care. There is more to be done with Child Care and specific issues I still hope to address that we did not last year, but this year one of our larger focuses will be Older Vermonters. Current trends project that by 2030 nearly 1 in 4 Vermonters will be over 65. Obviously there are a lot of things we are doing in the State House to turn those trends around, but my committee is also working to prepare for that and make sure Vermont has systems in place to support our seniors.

Obviously Paid Family Leave and minimum wage are monster issues we worked on a lot last year but were unable to reach an agreement between the Senate, which as a body prioritized minimum wage increases; and the House, which prioritized starting a Paid Family Leave program. Because we put so much time into those bills last year and nearly reached a deal, they are still top priorities and will probably be voted on before you read this article. I supported the versions of both that came out of the House last year and support the minimum wage bill that I've seen so far but I am currently struggling with where the Paid Family Leave bill has ended up. I will dive into my thoughts on these bills more next month but as always please call, email or stop by a coffee hour if you want to talk about anything.

Next coffee hours will be:

Monday, Jan. 27, 7:30-10am at Pierce's Monday, Feb. 3, 7-10am at Belmont General Store

Monday, Feb. 10, 6-9am Sweet Surrender Monday, Feb. 17, 7:30-10am at Pierce's Monday, Feb. 24, 7-10am at Belmont General Store Monday, Mar. 2, 6-9am Sweet Surrender

Logan Nicoll, State Representative Ludlow, Mount Holly, Shrewsbury Inicoll@leg.state.vt.us 802-345-8430





Mount Holly Town News

The following Minutes of the Select Board and the Planning Commission are "DRAFT" until approved at their next meeting. NOTE: Most Select Board and Planning Commission meetings are covered by Okemo Valley TV. The videos can be viewed at their website, www.okemovalley.tv Computers with internet access are available at the Town Library.

Mount Holly Special Select Board Meeting - December 27, **2019 - Minutes**

Present: Select Board: Mark Turco (chair), Ron Tarbell, Jennifer

Matthews

Town Officials: David Johnson, Clinton Woolley

Members of Public: Brian Buffum (Chief, Mount Holly Volunteer Fire Department), Morgan Collins, Craig Hutt Vater (Principal, Mount Holly School), Craig Jewett (Otter

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

Creek Engineering), Annette Lynch, Joe McDonald, Candace Neary, Don Richardson, Rhonda Rivers, Andrew L. Salner, Patricia M. Salner, Richard Spiese (VT Department of Environmental Conservation), Kelly Tarbell, Ray Tarbell, David Venter

before the meeting.

1. Call to Order by chair Mark Turco at 3:00 p.m.

All stood for the **Pledge of Allegiance.**

- 2. Consideration of any changes and/or additions to the agenda None were necessary.
- 3 & 4. PFAS Contamination, Mount Holly School Well Water, Information Session & Discussion with Question & Answer Period -Mark Turco introduced Richard Spiese from the VT Department of Environmental Conservation, Waste Management & Prevention Division. Mr. Spiese noted he had visited Mount Holly many years ago to help with the underground tank removal and kerosene leak at the Mount Holly General Store. He was also the individual sent from the State to do the initial testing in North Bennington which led to the discovery of wide-spread PFOA contamination.

Mr. Spiese explained that the molecules in PFAS are remarkable from a scientific perspective in that they are tightly bound and difficult to break apart. They get into the water and spread while repelling water. These chemicals are found in 1000s of products from food wraps to water-repellant

clothing to floor wax and cleaning chemicals to fire-fighting foam. They are also found in our bodies, taking two-to-four years to eliminate. Drinking contaminated water will raise the numbers of PFAS in the body.

Mount Holly Animal Control Officer

Faenza. He handles all calls concerning domesticated and farm animals, including Animal Cruelty concerns. For more TOWN OF MOUNT HOLLY

Regular Select Board meetings are

held on the second Tuesday of the

month at 6:00 pm in the Town Office.

Items to be included on the Agenda

are due by Noon the Wednesday

A PERMIT IS REQUIRED FOR OUTDOOR BURNING

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The Mount Holly Animal Control Officer is Constable Paul information or to make a report please call (802) 353-8347 or email pfaenza47@yahoo.com

Mr. Spiese explained that the VT Drinking Water Standard for PFAS is 20 ng/l; the federal standard is 70 ng/l. The Mount Holly School tested at 323 ng/l. Other schools in the area, including Thetford Academy, Killington Mountain School, and Grafton Elementary School, have also tested above the guidelines. He stated that if the school's well is contaminated, it has probably been so for decades. The source of the PFAS contamination may be from fire-fighting foam or the school's septic tank or some form of soil contamination. There

is no way to know when the contamination began, but it has probably been there for some time. It may take months (or more) to pinpoint the source of the contamination.

Within the next week, Mr. Spiese stated his department will start contacting homeowners in the area to take water samples. The two streams on either side of the school property should serve to contain the contamination with no further migration. Homeowners who may want to test for PFAS on their own should document all their time and costs in the

investigation of the contamination. Private testing costs \$200-300 per sample. Mr. Spiese recommended that the school and Mount Holly Volunteer Fire Department talk with their insurers about coverage for water sampling and site cleanup. Once the source of the contamination is determined, the responsible party for that contamination is responsible for all contamination remediation costs, including water sampling, water treatment, and site management and clean-up.

These costs can run into the hundreds of thousands of dollars. State funds, loans, and/or forgiveness of costs involved with clean-up may be possibilities.

Mount Holly Listers Hours

The Listers are at the Mount Holly Town Office most Tuesdays 10:00am-2:00 pm or by appointment. Please call 802-259-2391 for any questions.

Mount Holly Town Office Will be **CLOSED**

Monday, February 17th, 2020 for Presidents Day

Mr. Spiese said that through interviews with the parties involved and others, his department will put the pieces together and connect the dots to identify the source of the contamination.

Mr. Spiese noted that PFAS are found nation-wide as well as in Europe, Australia and other countries. DuPont and 3M are the main manufacturers of the chemicals. The six New England states are currently working together to identify the best and safest chemicals for use in cleaning our schools.

Craig Jewett from Otter Creek Engineering is working with the Mount Holly School. He explained that the State has a response plan that must be followed in incidents of contamination with cost effectiveness as part of the best solution. He stated that solutions to contaminated drinking water might be: a) consolidated water systems; b) drilling a new source; or, c) a treatment system, which is probably the cheapest and quickest remedy. At the Mount Holly School, the cost for a dual granular activated carbon filter system would run \$25-30,000.

Mr. Spiese said information about water testing, the process, and the clean-up will be readily available and shared town-wide.

5. **Adjourn** – Ron Tarbell made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:10 pm, seconded by Mark Turco, unanimously approved. Respectfully submitted: Jennifer Matthews Minutes Approved: ___1.14.2020__

Mount Holly Special Select Board Meeting - January 7, 2020 Minutes

Present: Select Board: Mark Turco (chair), Ron Tarbell, Jennifer Matthews

Town Officials: Susan Covalla, Carol Garrow-Woolley, David Johnson, Lori Norton, Clinton Woolley

Members of the Public: Morgan Collins, Peter Collins, Barbara Falco, Anthony Falco, Bret Harlow, Barbara Hazelton, Steve Hazelton, Craig Hutt Vater, Mike Martin, Gary Norton, Susan Poirier, Brenda Reed, Rouri Roytvayn, Vicki Seward, Mary Surething, Kelly Tarbell, Linda Tarbell, Ray Tarbell, Amy Turco, Dave Venter, Kristin Veysey, John Wood, Denise Young

- 1. Call to Order by Chair Mark Turco at 6:00 pm.
- 2. All stood for the **Pledge of Allegiance.**
- 3. Changes and/or additions to the agenda Jennifer Matthews mentioned concerns about the wells in the area, in particular that of the town office and for the rescue squad and fire department, given the PFAS contamination found at the Mount Holly School. She stated she had heard from Richard Spiese from the VT Department of Environmental Conservation in response to her question about testing the wells. Mr. Spiese replied that one of the potentially responsible parties for the contamination, or the State, is responsible for the testing; we (theTown, rescue & fire) do not need to set-up the testing. Mr. Spiese said he would be in Mount Holly on January 13th to test the wells in the vicinity of the school.
- 4. **Mount Holly Volunteer Rescue Squad Budget Request** Jennifer Matthews explained the reason this item was on the agenda was due to the receipt of a letter by the Mount Holly Select Board from Ludlow Municipal Manager Scott Murphy. Mr. Murphy wrote that the letter was necessary due to the large number of calls Ludlow Ambulance Service (LAS) was responding to in Mount Holly because Mount Holly Volunteer Rescue Squad (MHVRS) was not responding to the calls for EMS care. Attached to the letter was a proposed Ambulance Agreement contract between Ludlow Ambulance Service and the Town of Mount Holly for service by LAS in response to calls unanswered by MHVRS. The contract spells out that the Town of Mount Holly would be billed monthly for the LAS EMS service in the amount of \$500 per call for a primary ambulance to respond. Ms. Matthews spoke with Mr. Murphy and learned that LAS had responded to 19 calls in Mount Holly between January 1st and December 10th. If the contract had been in effect, this would translate into

19 calls at \$500 apiece for a total of \$9,500 on top of \$15,000 MHVRS receives from Mount Holly taxpayers. Ms. Matthews expressed her concern about the number of missed calls and the potential added expense for Mount Holly taxpayers.

John Wood introduced himself as a MHVRS member who lives in Shrewsbury. He stated MHVRS thought a letter between Select Boards was a bizarre way to address the situation of LAS responding to calls in Mount Holly. He explained that MHVRS is an all-volunteer squad with a 79% call response rate. He said in FY 18-19 the number of calls, usually during the day, responded to by LAS was nine according to MHVRS records, so there is a discrepancy in the numbers. He explained that MHVRS thought LAS was trying to generate income and was the only service double-dipping by billing the patient's insurance and the Town; Rutland Regional Ambulance Service, Wallingford and others do not do this. He also said the staffing challenges for volunteer organizations are statewide and nationwide with money not being the answer to address either coverage or staffing.

Ms. Matthews asked if MHVRS had talked or met with LAS. Mr. Wood said they had not as this was all so new. Mark Turco urged them to meet with LAS.

Bret Harlow stated that MHVRS pays Rutland Reginal Ambulance Service a stipend to help cover calls. He thought this would have been a better course for LAS to follow. He continued that Ludlow was not in the same District, District 10, as Mount Holly and that they are under no obligation to respond to calls here. He stated that the MHVRS Board met and voted unanimously to recommend the Select Board reject the current LAS proposal.

Ms. Matthews pointed out that LAS had responded to 19 calls in Mount Holly. She asked who would respond to those calls in the future if not LAS. Mr. Wood responded that it would be either #1 Regional or #2 Wallingford, as both are in the same district with





BOYS & GIRLS AGES 9-14

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26TH
11AM
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LUDLOW

For More Information Call: Paul Faenza 353-8347 or Terry Thayne 228-7206 mutual aid agreements. He also said that Regional has paid staff and Wallingford is an all-volunteer squad with both facing staffing challenges, so they may or may not respond to Mount Holly.

Ms. Matthews noted the figures the Select Board had received from the State through the SIREN program shows 81 calls for Mount Holly with 42 or only 51.9% of those calls responded to by MHVRS. She asked about the discrepancy in numbers from the near 80% call response rate given by Mr. Wood and others as opposed to the State figure of 51.9%. Kristin Veysey responded that she started keeping a call record in March which showed a response rate of 72% through June 30th, and a rate of 78% from July first through December 31st. Discussion followed on reasons why the discrepancies might exist.

Ms. Matthews reiterated the importance of EMS care to the community and her concern about missed calls. She asked how the staffing challenges were being addressed. No easy answers, Vicki Seward stated. Mr. Wood read from correspondence from Ray Walker, the head of EMS in the State, who stated that the days of volunteer EMS squads are numbered. Mr. Wood said there is a lot of time devoted to training and that with a volunteer squad, a 100% response rate is not possible as people have jobs and families and cannot respond during the day except on occasion. He again read from Mr. Walker's correspondence that EMS is an essential service to towns as critical as the road crew but there are no volunteer snowplow drivers. Mr. Walker also wrote that volunteerism is no longer sustainable 24/7 365 days a year and that towns must prepare for the days with no volunteers and begin to think about collaborating with other towns facing the same issues.

Ms. Matthews asked Steve Hazelton, who had been referred to several times by Mr. Wood, if he had any thoughts on the situation. Mr. Hazelton explained he had been a resident of Mount Holly for three years now, had been the EMS liaison between EMS services and Rutland Regional Medical Center for about thirty years until 2010, and had instructed many EMS courses. He noted he had not been involved in EMS for the past ten years. He stated that volunteerism is tough nowadays, and he thought volunteer EMS services were a dinosaur that did not yet know it was extinct. He added that quality EMS costs money, and there were no easy answers to the current challenges around staffing and coverage.

Ms. Matthews asked about any steps being taken, any conversations had, the future envisioned for MHVRS given the unanimous agreement over the difficulty of maintaining volunteer EMS squads.

Brenda Reed spoke of the new programs Ms. Veysey had initiated around scheduling, electronic calendars, better communications. Ms. Veysey spoke of the stipends now being given and her aim of a consistent 80% response rate. Ms. Seward stated she was on the District 10 Board and that recruitment and retention were always on the agenda and both were statewide and nationwide challenges.

Mark Turco stated he would talk with the Town of Ludlow about the letter and these issues. Ms. Veysey will talk with LAS, and she will talk with Regional and Wallingford about stepping up coverage with response no longer coming from Ludlow. It was agreed that the LAS proposal would be declined.

Ms. Matthews thanked MHVRS for their efforts and dedication in service to the Town. Mr. Wood stood to point out the years of service by various squad members, ranging from four to thirty years. There was a round of applause and a thank-you from the Select Board.

5. Mount Holly School Request – Craig Hutt Vater introduced himself as the Principal of Mount Holly School and thanked the Select Board for a few minutes of time to discuss a potential partnership between the school and the town regarding transportation. He explained that the school budgeting process had been challenging with the need to cut about \$380,000 in expenses in order to not exceed the State threshold, and it appeared that school bus service for both Ludlow and Mount Holly might need to be eliminated, a situation nobody wants. He explained that Ludlow had carried the school transportation costs in its municipal budget for some years but would no longer with the new unified school district. Mr. Hutt Vater said he had attended the Ludlow Select Board meeting the previous evening to discuss the idea he was presenting here about partnering with the Marble Valley bus system out of Rutland and the Current bus system out of Bellows Falls to provide school transportation wrapped into a municipal transportation system for both towns and partially funded through both towns' budgets. He explained further that this transportation model had the potential to raise additional revenues for both the schools and the towns, as the more riders transported translated into more State transportation aid received. He also said that Vail might be interested in this partnership too as resort transportation.

Kelly Tarbell asked if this idea had been presented to the School Board. Mr. Hutt Vater said no, but it was on the agenda for the meeting tomorrow evening. Ms. Tarbell also asked if the School Board had decided to cut transportation. Mr. Hutt Vater replied that decision had not been made; he was here on his own accord, discussing an idea he thought had merit and needed to be discussed immediately given the deadline for town and school budgets.

Ron Tarbell and Mark Turco asked if any numbers were available for the financial costs to the town, as it was budget night. Mr. Hutt Vater replied he could have a cost-benefit analysis done in a few days if there was interest in pursuing this idea from both towns. Mr. Turco stated it was difficult to express interest in an idea without the associated costs for taxpayers.

Peter Collins said he thought the school budget should be approved by the School Board and the town budget by the Select Board as they are two separate entities. He said that mixing the two was a slippery slope, questioning what other school costs might be wrapped into the town budget in the future. He stated that school-related issues and costs should be in the school budget only. Misters Turco and Tarbell agreed. Mr. Turco stated that moving some school costs into the town budget would misrepresent school costs. Mr. Tarbell asked where it would stop. Mr. Hutt Vater responded that a number of school expenses had been removed from town budgets (rubbish removal, mowing), and this proposal could create revenue for the schools and towns, approaching it as a one-year pilot program. He noted that the Ludlow Select Board had voted to pursue the proposal further by obtaining a financial analysis. He was asking the same of the Mount Holly Select Board, not for a yea or nay on the idea. Mr. Collins reiterated his statement that town and school budgets should be separate, to do otherwise is opening Pandora's Box. Mr. Turco said he had received lots of calls with callers expressing that same sentiment.

There were questions about what would happen to the Mount Holly bus, Ludlow busses and the bus drivers under this proposed system. How would children be transported on field trips without a school bus? Would children be safe on the Bus or the Current, and could parents trust their children would be safe not knowing who else may be onboard the bus. Mr. Hutt Vater noted there had been no problems for the children in Ludlow riding the municipal busses or in Burlington with a similar system.

Annette Lynch stated she found this to be an exciting idea that could create a regional transportation system, but it would take joint planning and an enormous amount of time to determine feasibility.

Mr. Turco agreed. He reiterated his belief that school costs should be in the school budget and town costs in the town budget; they should be kept separate.

Ms. Tarbell asked how revenue would be generated. Mr. Hutt Vater explained that more ridership translated in to more State transportation aid which could offset the \$148,000 for school transportation in the school budget. He further explained that about 25 kids rode the bus in Mount Holly with some families who did not have a car, others who had a car sometimes. With no bus service, some families might move out of town. With lost enrollment comes the loss of the equalized student rate of \$15,000 per pupil.

Raymond Tarbell stated that the Select Board needed to decide whether the town was paying the bill or the school. He thought school expenses should be in the school budget with no reason to combine the two.

Mr. Hutt Vater stated that if Ludlow moved the school transportation costs out the municipal budget in to the school budget, it would mean a huge amount of money would need to be cut for teachers, supplies, etc. to absorb that transportation cost. Ron Tarbell asked what happened to the savings from closing Black River. Mr. Hutt Vater said that \$255,000 was not as much as anticipated.

There was discussion about Act 46 and the bad choices it presented, the number of busses in Mount Holly and Ludlow, the non-profit status of the Marble Valley bus and the Current, and Killington resort's partnership with Marble Valley.

Mr. Hutt Vater explained that if school transportation costs are in the municipal budget in Ludlow, they need to be in the municipal budget of Mount Holly. This is necessary to stay below the State threshold and to avoid the penalty that would be assessed if the school budget is above that threshold amount. School budgets incur the penalty, town budgets do not.

Mr. Turco asked about what fat had been trimmed in the school budget so there was no need to hide school transportation costs in the town budget. Mr. Hutt Vater disagreed with that assessment, stating the proposal was being discussed in a number of public meetings.

Ms. Matthews made a motion to give Mr. Hutt Vater another week to provide the Select Board with additional details and costs associated with his proposal, seconded by Mr. Tarbell. Ms. Matthews and Mr. Tarbell voted for the motion; Mr. Turco voted against it.

There was additional discussion on the need to keep the school and municipal budgets separate, the high cost of living in Vermont and the high taxes here.

- 6. **FY'21 Budget Work Session** Select Board members with Town Treasurer David Johnson and Town Clerk Sue Covalla along with Road Foreman Clinton Woolley went line-by-line through the proposed budget for fiscal year 2021. Some items were increased slightly due to raises or increased costs; a few were actually decreased; and a large number of items were left unchanged, budgeted at last year's amount. A couple of items to highlight on the revenue side are the large increase in Interest Income to be received due to a change in banks to one offering a higher interest rate, and the continued strong sales of Solid Waste Labels. On the expense side, the Garage Bond Interest Expense continues to decrease, and the Reappraisal Reserve Fund increased as the Town nears the need for a town-wide reappraisal. Several social service requests had not yet been received. Final budget numbers will be reviewed at the next Select Board meeting on January 14th.
- 7. Executive Session: Title 1 V.S.A. S 313(a)(3) Executive Session was not necessary this evening.
- 8. **Adjourn** Ron Tarbell made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 pm, seconded by Mark Turco, unanimously agreed. Respectfully submitted: Jennifer Matthews Minutes Approved: <u>1.14.2020</u>

Planning Commission Meeting Minutes - January 20, 2020

Present: Peter Berger, Nicole Lewis, Jim Seward, Clinton Woolley, Gabrielle Macklin-Bickford, OkemoTV Peter called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

The minutes from December 16, 2019 were reviewed and accepted by motion, second and vote (5-0).

Old Business: Beardmore subdivision Mylar reviewed and signed ~ Election of officers will be postponed until further notice ~ Planning Commission Clerk position opportunity will be posted in the Chit Chat

Wastewater System and Potable Water Supply Permits: Barker – Fowler Brook Road ~ Kenyon/Smith – intersection of Old Turnpike Road and Little Lane ~ DiPiazza – Okemo Way ~ Misencik – Summit Road

Building Construction Registrations: Amatniek – Lake Ninevah Road, remodel of interior, energy upgrades, addition of a mudroom: approved ~ Chlodnicki – Bowlsville Road, two bedroom house: approved

Other: Act 250 Notice re: renovation of the Base Lodge and Administration Buildings in the base area of Okemo Mountain Resort; upgrades to the Quantum Four and Green Ridge Ski lifts; construction of approximately 1,400 lineal feet of ski trail

The meeting adjourned at 7:32 PM by motion, second and vote (5-0). Respectfully Submitted, Nicole Lewis, Planning Commission Secretary

Planning Commission Public Hearing Minutes - January 20, 2020

Present: Peter Berger, Nicole Lewis, Jim Seward, Clinton Woolley, Gabrielle Macklin-Bickford, Kelly Beerman, OkemoTV Peter called the hearing regarding the proposed Ninevah Foundation/Rose subdivision to order at 6:30 PM.

Motion made to accept the Mylar for the Ninevah Foundation/Rose subdivision, second and vote (5-0).

The meeting adjourned at 6:36 PM by motion, second and vote (5-0). Respectfully Submitted, Nicole Lewis, Planning Commission Secretary

Happy S Valentine's Day

Planning Commission Clerk Needed

Planning Commission is looking to hire a part time clerk. Here are the particulars:

- 6-10 hours per month
- usually one night time meeting monthly plus filing and correspondence
- hourly salary to be negotiated
- contact the planning commission at the town office if interested 259-2391



Exchange Student Introduces Indonesia to Ludlow Rotary

At its weekly meeting, the Ludlow Rotary Club heard Tunjung, an exchange student from Indonesia currently sponsored by both the Ludlow and Chester Rotary Clubs, described what life in Indonesia is like.

Tunjung presented a slide presentation that covered the many facets of Indonesia. These include the many languages spoken in this nation of over 19,000 islands, its beautiful islands, the many people who compromise the nation, and cultures of the nation. She also described the music of Indonesia as well as its foods and educational institutions.

Currently enrolled at Green Mountain High School in Chester, Tunjung, pictured above during her presentation, has found life in Vermont to be quite different from Indonesia - in particular, the weather. Ralph Pace (802)228-7239 ralphcpace@gmail.com

Mount St. Joseph Academy Open House on Feb.13

Mount St. Joseph Academy will hold an Open House for prospective students and families from 5 pm to 7 pm on Thursday, February 13th, 2020.

The Open House will include Student-Led Tours and Teacher-Student Presentations. Families will be greeted by a student ambassador who will lead them through a guided tour of the school. Faculty and staff will be on-hand to answer questions and share insights into joining the MSJ family.

Mount St. Joseph is located at 127 Convent Avenue in Rutland, VT. If you have any questions about the Open House or would like to schedule a Shadow Day, please contact the school at 802-775-0151 or email our Enrollment Coordinator Bill Bruso at wbruso@msjvermont.org.

MSJ at a Glance

- More than 95% of Mount St. Joseph Academy graduates go on to College.
- MSJ welcomes students of all faiths.
- MSJ offers a variety of AP courses, including English, History, Biology, Calculus and Chemistry.
- Mount St Joseph utilizes a Traditional Grading system
- Financial assistance is available, based on need.

Notes from the Occupational Therapy Desk Two Rivers Supervisory Union, Ludlow Vermont Whitney Haber,

MOTR/L, Stephanie Alexander, COTA/L, Robin Varga, COTA/L

The digital age has made screens more accessible and portable than ever. Although the full implications of screen time exposure on young kids whose brains are still developing is not yet known, there is concern that screen use can affect cognitive and language development, lead to problems in school and make some mental health disorders worse.

Because of these concerns, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) created guidelines in 2016 for parents to limit children's screen time.

- Avoid screen time for children younger than 18 months, with the exception of video chatting.
- From 18-24 months, introduce digital media by watching quality programming like PBS Kids or Sesame Workshop with children.
- For ages 2 to 5, limit screen time to 1 hour per day and watch quality programming with kids.
- For ages 6 and up, limit media use and device type, and ensure media use does not interfere with sleep and physical activity.

A new study from Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center published in JAMA Pediatrics showed concerning evidence that brain structure may be altered in kids with more screen use. Researchers looked at brain MRIs in 47 preschoolers and found that screen time over the AAP's recommendations was associated with differences in brain structure in areas related to language and literacy development.

At this stage, children "require face-to-face interaction," said Anderson to reach developmental milestones including building language and social skills.

Excerpted from: "Screen time and kids: New findings parents need to know" New research finds screen use can affect cognitive and language development. By Dr Angela Ryan Nov 4, 2019. https://abcnews.go.com/Health/screen-time-kids-findings-parents/story?id=66751520 Robin Varga, COTA/L whitney.haber@trsu.org, stephanie.alexander@trsu.org, robin.varga@trsu.org

"It is **a child's** "**job**" or "occupation" to **play** to develop physical coordination, emotional maturity, social skills to interact with other **children**, and self-confidence to try new experiences and explore new environments."-AOTA

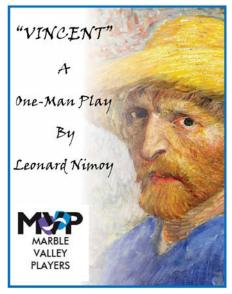
Rutland Region Chamber of Commerce January Greeting From Mary!

Happy New Year Chamber Members and Friends,

We hope all is well and you enjoyed the holidays. I look forward to the fun family gatherings and appreciate the time we all spend together, but I do love January's quiet nature and time to plan for the upcoming year and the great expectation of what is to come.

Here at the Chamber we are excited about so many great things kicking off the New Year. From the Legislative Breakfast Series kicking off February 2nd with Gov. Phil Scott; Real Rutland Feud on February 22nd capping off Winterfest, Chamber Indoor Golf Tournament on March 7th and our Annual Business Show in April.





Marble Valley Players Present "VINCENT"

The Marble Valley Players present "Vincent", a one-man play written by Leonard Nimoy, based on the play "Van Gogh" by Phillip Stephens and on letters written between Vincent Van Gogh and his brother Theo.

This multi-image dramatic staging received rave reviews when it toured with Leonard Nimoy playing the one extraordinary role. The excitement and color of Van Gogh's life and art enhance this production through the projection of images that fill the stage as the story unfolds. They add impact to the words being spoken and provide an art education in themselves. As the Variety critic put it, "The actor doesn't have the stage to himself. He plays against the celebrated artist's brilliant paintings projected on a large screen."

Director Mikki Lane (Mamma Mia) is thrilled to bring this show to the local stage. As a longtime fan of Van Gogh's work, it has been a dream of hers for over 30 years! "Vincent" stars Frank Wright (Les Misérables) and Jamie Willis (Mamma Mia) who will each take the stage for three of the 6 performances. (Fans should note that Jamie will perform on Jan.30, Feb. 1 and Feb. 7. Frank's performances are on Jan.31, Feb. 6 and 8.) Both Frank and Jamie bring their unequalled talents to the stage as they individually embody Theo, the loving, passionate, and brilliant man so cherished by his brother Vincent.

Following the Saturday performances, the director and cast will engage in a "Talk Back" with the audience, featuring Carol Berry. Carol is an art educator and has been studying the art and life of the artist Vincent Van Gogh for over twenty years. She has been giving lectures for the Vermont Humanities Council's First Wednesdays' program and leading retreats and workshops. She has also written articles and two books on Vincent Van Gogh which highlight his compassion and his spirituality. Her books, "Vincent Van Gogh; His Spiritual Vision in Life and Art" and "Learning from Henri Nouwen and Vincent Van Gogh; A Call to A Compassionate Life, InterVarsity Press", will be available to view and purchase.

"Vincent" will be performed on January 30, 31 and February 1 at The Sparkle Barn, 1509 US Rte. 7 South in Wallingford and on February 6, 7 and 8 at the West Rutland Town Hall Theater, 35 Marble St. in West Rutland. While appropriate for all audiences, the show is best suited for adults and children ages ten and up. All show times are at 7:00 p.m. Tickets will be available at the door for \$15.00. Please arrive early for Sparkle Barn performances as seating is limited and this venue is not handicap accessible.



Ninevah Foundation Community Snowshoe Hike February 22nd @ 10:00AM

Join us for a FREE guided snowshoe hike on Saturday February 22nd beginning at 10:00AM in Mount Holly, VT. This will be a one-mile guided hike on one of Ninevah Foundation's public trails. Kelly Beerman, Conservation Director, will lead the hike through a forested area protected by the Vermont Forest Legacy Program. Come learn more about our lands and trails on this fun, casual community snowshoe!

To register for this event and for more details where to meet up for the hike, please email Kelly Beerman at kelly@farmandwilderness.org with the subject line: SNOWSHOE HIKE RSVP or call 802-422-2068 and leave your contact information. Adults and children of all ages welcome! Snowshoe rentals are available from Ninevah Foundation for \$15 per pair, but sizes and quantities are VERY limited and not guaranteed upon registration. Please inquire about rentals in your email to register for the hike.

Aside from snowshoes, you will need to dress warmly in layers, wear a pair of warm, comfortable boots, your own waterbottle filled with water, and bring any energizing snacks to fuel your hike. If weather conditions are not favorable for the event, we will reschedule the hike for the following Saturday February 29th.

Other Area Businesses with Snowshoe Rentals:

Black Dog Sports (Killington): http://blackdogdeals.com/rentals/ or (802) 422-4281
First Stop Board Barn (Killington): https://www.firststopboardbarn.com/pages/snowshoerentals-1 or (802) 422-9050

Totem Pole ski Shop (Ludlow): https://www.totempoleskishop.com/rental.htm or (802) 228-8447



Mount Holly Community Association Membership Drive 2019 - 2020

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

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

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

WESTON PLAYHOUSE ANNOUNCES 2020 WALKER FARM MUSIC SERIES

Weston Playhouse Theatre Company presents its Walker Farm Music Series, back for its second year. Join nationally recognized musicians at Walker Farm on February 1, February 22, and March 14 at

7:30 pm and rock out with friends new and old. Music Curator, Jed Hughes, has joined forces with Weston to put together a series of eclectic, exciting events. All Walker Farm Music shows are "Pay What You Will" events, letting you determine the price option that makes the most sense to you while supporting live performance in Weston and creating opportunities for others to attend. This concert series is sponsored by RK Miles, Marvin Windows & Doors, JJ Hapgood, Vermont Foam Insulation, and Four Seasons Sotheby's.

In the line-up is Carrie Nation & The Speakeasy, a high-energy blend of brass, folk, and punk with an emphasis on songwriting and live shows. Blazing mandolin and trumpet solos careen over churning drums, acoustic guitar, and standup bass, while gravelly vocals deliver thought provoking lyrics. Established in 2007, CNS has proven a dedication to both entertainment and improvisation through their unique live shows that flow in and out of a variety of tempos and sonic feels. Over the past 11 years, CNS has performed their eclectic brand of 'brass n grass" to thrilled crowds at fests, clubs, and basements in 49 states and 8 countries. Check them out on February 1.



Sugartone Brass Band, coming to Weston on February 22, has been funkin' up the brass band scene in New York City for over a decade. The band got its start in a basement studio in Brooklyn, NY the summer of 2002. In 2003, they started their first residency on the Upper West Side of Manhattan at the Gin Mill on Amsterdam Ave. In 2007, Sugartone released its first album,

Bar & Grill

SUNDAY BRUNCH Every Sunday 10 am - 2 pm

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

Hours:

5pm-9pm **Monday** Tuesday Closed Wednesday 5pm-9pm **Thursday** 5pm-9pm **Friday** 12 noon - 9pm Saturday 12 noon - 9 pm

Sunday Brunch: 10 - 2 pm

Sunday Regular Menu: 12 noon - 9 pm

CLOSED TUESDAYS

492-3433

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

"Live in Brooklyn." Sugartone continued its Upper West Side residency in 2008 at Jacques-Imo's restaurant, a cafe fashioned after the famous Jacques-Imo's restaurant in New Orleans and in 2010 Sugartone moved to a new restaurant on the famous Restaurant Row in Midtown Manhattan, called Bourbon Street Bar and Grill. Sugartone is New Orleans brass through and through, and they're bringing it all the way to our sweet spot in Vermont this winter.

Finishing the series on March 14 is Upstate, who first emerged from New York's Hudson Valley in 2015 with their critically acclaimed debut, 'A Remedy.' The Poughkeepsie Journal raved that the group "need[s] nothing more than their voices to channel rhythm and stoke your emotions," while Chronogram hailed their "infectiously sunny organic stew," and The Alt called them "toe-tapping, contagious, and fun." The album earned the band festival performances from

Mountain Jam to FreshGrass, as well as a slew of national headline dates and support slots with everyone from The Felice Brothers and Phox to Marco Benevento and Cory Henry.

All concerts will be catered by MKT: Weston, well-known to last year's attendees as well as summer ticket-holders. They will provide a varying menu of fresh and local small entrees, snacks, desserts, Vermont craft beer, and wine.

Walker Farm Music is presented at Walker Farm on February 1, February 22, and March 14 at 7:30 pm. Reserve your tickets by visiting westonplayhouse.org/wfm.

The Weston Playhouse Theatre Company is a non-profit organization supported in part by funds from the National Endowment for the Arts and an ever-growing family of individuals and organizations who believe in the impact that the performing arts makes on its community. Aug 2019 - Feb 2020

Ludlow Rotary Raising Funds for Australian Fire Victims – Both Human and Animal!

The Ludlow Rotary Club has committed funds in support of Australian Fire Relief. These funds will support both the people and wildlife devastated by the fires. In addition, throughout town you will find Rotary donation boxes. Please consider supporting our effort. ALL donations are tax deductible. 100% of the funds will go to Australia. Checks should be written to Ludlow Area Rotary Charitable Foundation (LARCF).

Donations may also be mailed to:

Ludlow Rotary Club PO Box 216 Ludlow, VT 05149

Questions: Kim Lampert 802-779-7194

E-mail kimberlylampert@bensonschevy.com_

The devastation in Australia will have an International affect upon many industries and trade in textiles, consumables, energy (oil, coal) and mining. "The economic growth of Australia is primarily dependent on the mining and agricultural sectors as the two sectors contribute 12% of the nation's GDP. The country is ranked as one of the world's largest exporters."

12.5 million acres have burned. An estimated 1 billion animals have died and many injured. 24 lives lost and more missing

We appreciate our communities' support of the Ludlow Rotary Club and our joint effort for Australian Fire Disaster Relief. THANK YOU.

Given the enormity of the fires now threatening all of Australia, the Ludlow Rotary Club (LRC) has initiated efforts





About 12.35 million acres of land have burned across Australia (AP 1/7/2020)

〇

Please Help the Ludlow Rotary Club Help the People and Animals of Australia!

Your donation to the Ludlow Area Charitable Foundation (LARCF) is 100% tax deductible

100% of your donation will be used for these efforts.

Ludlow Rotary Club PO Box 216 Ludlow, VT 05149



"Service Above Self"



Ecologists estimated last week that nearly 8,000 koalas — about one-third of the population in their primary habitat — are believed to have died since the fires began.

to raise funds to help the Australian people and the millions of injured and dislocated animals in that country.

According to Mark Huntley, LRC President, "We will be joining Rotary International in raising funds to help the be leagued Australian people and animals begin to recover from the devastating fires currently engulfing that nation". He noted that the LRC's fund raising effort would be in concert with Rotary International's program to provide assistance, Rotary International Brush fires Appeal.

The local club will donate \$2,000 to this fund split equally between humanity and wildlife rescue. All funds collected will be divided the same way.

The LRC Rotarians plan to distribute "drop-boxes" to many area stores and businesses so that additional funds will be secured for this effort.

Huntley indicated that "we suspect that everyone has been concerned

about loss of life and property resulting from these fires in Australia and

wants to find some way to help that nation recover and rebuild from this tremendous calamity". He noted that he, like many others, were particularly overcome by the plight of the animals like the koalas and kangaroos that we have become attached to.

In addition to the LRC donation and the drop-box collections, interested people may also send checks to the Ludlow Rotary Club's tax-exempt organization. The mailing address for such contributions is: Ludlow Area Rotary Charitable Fund, Inc. (LARCF), PO Box 216, Ludlow VT 05149. This is a 501 (c) (3) organization so all contributions are tax-deductible.



Black River Good Neighbor Services



To the Editor,

We at Black River Good Neighbor Services offer our sincere thanks to all who made this season's annual holiday food and gift distribution possible. Each year individuals at BRGNS collect food and toys during December and distribute them to deserving families throughout the area. This distribution dates back to well

before the creation of BRGNS, but our staff and volunteers are proud to have continued the tradition for over 30 years, and to serve our clients in this manner. While this project is a centerpiece of the Black River Good Neighbor Services' program and has grown substantially over the years, we all wish that it wasn't needed.

Our staff and volunteers packed and then distributed dinners and toys to many community residents who would otherwise have a bleak holiday. On December 19th some 30 volunteers packed boxes and then on December 21st twenty-five teams of volunteers gathered at Fletcher Farm and fanned out across the area, carrying boxes and bags to almost 90 households with over 200 individuals including more than 40 children.

Thanks go first to Krey Kellington and Jane Pixley, for coordinating overall distribution and volunteers. In all we delivered nearly \$7,000 worth of food and toys to people in Ludlow, Cavendish, Proctorsville, Plymouth, Mount Holly, and Belmont.

The process begins early in the year, but gears up in earnest with the annual Stuff-a-Bus in Ludlow. Thanks go to all who worked at the Stuff-a-Bus, including Chris Barlow and the town of Ludlow, the folks at Mountainside House and the House at Twenty Mile Stream, the volunteers who handed out food lists, and importantly to all of those who donated food or money at the event.

Collection of toys this year was coordinated by Kay O'Hare, Fern Melvin and Arlette Marshall who deserve a special thanks. Toys and additional food were donated by Ludlow Rotary, Heritage Family Credit Union, United Church of Ludlow, Annunciation

Church, Ludlow Garden Club, Friends of the Library, St. James Methodist Church of Proctorsville, Ludlow Women's Club, Ludlow Town Employees, Berkshire Bank, Cavendish Baptist Church, People's Bank, LaValley's, Ludlow Elementary School, Cota and Cota, and Tyson Ladies Aid, all of whom deserve deepest thanks.

Thanks go to Okemo for donating turkeys, to those neighbors who spent their evening packing food boxes, to the many delivery drivers, and to numerous individuals who gave cash, which was used to buy perishable and non-perishable food items.

Lastly, the Fletcher Farm School gets special thanks for donating space for all of this to happen. This is truly a community effort and the BRGNS' officers, staff and clients

deeply thank all of the many individual volunteers and donors who make this program possible each year. We sincerely hope that we haven't missed thanking anyone who participated.

Lou Krefski, Board President - Audrey Bridge, Executive Director



Happy New year ~ Sharing some UPLIFTING news...

Thank you Karen, Scott, Emelia & Max McCalla, as well as, mentors, community members & sponsors, parents and others...For your well rounded dedication, enthusiasm, organization, and foresight for our area's youth.

Congratulations on your top honors taken at the December 8th.Vermont State Championships @ Norwich University: https://www.norwich.edu/news/2057-norwich-to-host-fifth-annual-first-lego-league-championship

See more at the 12/8 post here: https://www.facebook.com/RutlandAreaRoboticsVT/

Youth participants learned a lot about these 6 core values: Discovery, Innovation, Impact, Inclusion, Teamwork, & Fun....As they went on to create solutions to 3 area "real time" improvement potentials for: Bus Shelters, Additional Airport Solar, and Solar Crosswalks & Bike Boxes.

Gracious Professionalism: Gracious Professionalism is part of the ethos of FIRST. It's a way of doing things that encourages high-quality work, emphasizes the value of others, and respects individuals and the community.

With Gracious Professionalism, fierce competition and mutual gain are not separate notions. Gracious professionals learn and compete like crazy, but treat one another with respect and kindness in the process. They avoid treating anyone like losers. No chest thumping tough talk, but no sticky-sweet platitudes either. Knowledge, competition, and empathy are comfortably blended.

In the long run, Gracious Professionalism is part of pursuing a meaningful life. One can add to society and enjoy the satisfaction of knowing one has acted with integrity and sensitivity.

These are the stories we need to hear more of... With Deep Appreciations for Myles' & Other Participants Experiences, Lisa M. & Joseph P. Donohue, Thrive Center of the Green Mountains

Marble Valley Players Theater Calendar

January 30, 2012 at 7:00PM - "Vincent", a one-man play written by Leonard Nimoy

A multi-image dramatic staging with Jamie Willis playing the one extraordinary role. The excitement and color of Van Gogh's life and art enhance this production through the projection of images that fill the stage as the story unfolds. They add impact to the words being spoken and provide an art education in themselves. Directed by Mikki Lane. A Marble Valley Players production. Tickets \$15 at the door at The Sparkle Barn, 1509 US Rte. 7 South in Wallingford.

January 31, 2012 at 7:00PM - "Vincent", a one-man play written by Leonard Nimoy

A multi-image dramatic staging with Frank Wright playing the one extraordinary role. The excitement and color of Van Gogh's life and art enhance this production through the projection of images that fill the stage as the story unfolds. They add impact to the words being spoken and provide an art education in themselves. Directed by Mikki Lane. A Marble Valley Players production. Tickets \$15 at the door only at The Sparkle Barn, 1509 US Rte. 7 South in Wallingford.

February 1, 2012 at 7:00PM - "Vincent", a one-man play written by Leonard Nimoy

A multi-image dramatic staging with Jamie Willis playing the one extraordinary role. The excitement and color of Van Gogh's life and art enhance this production through the projection of images that fill the stage as the story unfolds. They add impact to the words being spoken and provide an art education in themselves. Directed by Mikki Lane. Following this performance, the director and cast will engage in a "Talk Back" with the audience; featuring Carol Berry, author, art educator and authority on the art and life of Van Gogh. A Marble Valley Players production. Tickets \$15 at the door only at The Sparkle Barn, 1509 US Rte. 7 South in Wallingford.

February 6, 2012 at 7:00PM - "Vincent", a one-man play written by Leonard Nimoy

A multi-image dramatic staging with Frank Wright playing the one extraordinary role. The excitement and color of Van Gogh's life and art enhance this production through the projection of images that fill the stage as the story unfolds. They add impact to the words being spoken and provide an art education in themselves. Directed by Mikki Lane. A Marble Valley Players production. Tickets \$15 at the door only at the West Rutland Town Hall Theater, 35 Marble St. in West Rutland.

February 7, 2012 at 700PM - "Vincent", a one-man play written by Leonard Nimoy

A multi-image dramatic staging with Jamie Willis playing the one extraordinary role. The excitement and color of Van Gogh's life and art enhance this production through the projection of images that fill the stage as the story unfolds. They add impact to the words being spoken and provide an art education in themselves. Directed by Mikki Lane. A Marble Valley Players production. Tickets \$15 at the door only at the West Rutland Town Hall Theater, 35 Marble St. in West Rutland.

February 8, 2012 at 700PM - "Vincent", a one-man play written by Leonard Nimoy

A multi-image dramatic staging with Frank Wright playing the one extraordinary role. The excitement and color of Van Gogh's life and art enhance this production through the projection of images that fill the stage as the story unfolds. They add impact to the words being spoken and provide an art education in themselves. Directed by Mikki Lane. Following this performance, the director and cast will engage in a "Talk Back" with the audience; featuring Carol Berry, author, art educator and authority on the art and life of Van Gogh. A Marble Valley Players production. Tickets \$15 at the door only at the West Rutland Town Hall Theater, 35 Marble St. in West Rutland.



and More: Room to be Wild Presented by Susan Morse of

Bobcats, Bears, Moose, Mink

The Shrewsbury Conservation Commission,

Wallingford Conservation Commission and generous private donors

invite you to an event of celebration and education Free and Open to the public

> Presented by Susan Morse of Keeping Track, Inc. Thursday, January 30, 2020 (Snow date: February 6, 2020)

6:30 p.m. Shrewsbury Mountain School 300 Mountain School Road Shrewsbury, VT 05738

For more information contact:

Connie Youngstrom at:
(802)492-3502 or conniey@vermontel.net

All photographs @ Susan C. Morse



Ludlow Rotary Hears About New Dog Park

The Ludlow Rotary Club (LRC) featured a discussion of the newly-developed dog park on West Hill at its recent luncheon meeting at DJs Restaurant.

Nick Miele of the Ludlow Park and Recreation and Bonnie Tucker, a member of the Dog Park Committee, discussed the creation of the park for the benefit of local residents and their canine friends. They described how the new facility will function and the manner of its operation.

They noted that that the dog park would cost about \$20,000, half of which would come out of the town's general fund with the remainder raised by contributions.

The dog park is part of Ludlow's plans to renovate West Hill for greater recreational use.

Pictured above, from left to right, are Bonnie Tucker, Nick Miele, and Scott Murphy, Ludlow's Municipal Manager and a member of the LRC.

Shriner Hospital For Children



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



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

to locate a hospital near you. Or call 800-237-5055 in the U.S. or 800-361-7256 Canada – Past Potentate Bob Ferguson, Cairo Shriners, Rutland

Mount St. Joseph Academy Open House on Feb.13

Mount St. Joseph Academy will hold an Open House for prospective students and families from 5 pm to 7 pm on Thursday, February 13th, 2020.

The Open House will include Student-Led Tours and Teacher-Student Presentations. Families will be greeted by a student ambassador who will lead them through a guided tour of the school. Faculty and staff will be on-hand to answer questions and share insights into joining the MSJ family.

Mount St. Joseph is located at 127 Convent Avenue in Rutland, VT. If you have any questions about the Open House or would like to schedule a Shadow Day, please contact the school at 802-775-0151 or email our Enrollment Coordinator Bill Bruso at wbruso@msjvermont.org.

MSJ at a Glance

- More than 95% of Mount St. Joseph Academy graduates go on to College.
- MSJ welcomes students of all faiths.
- MSJ offers a variety of AP courses, including English, History, Biology, Calculus and Chemistry.
- Mount St Joseph utilizes a Traditional Grading system
- Financial assistance is available, based on need.

Community Health Clinics – February 2020

February Blood Pressure/Foot Care Clinics

Wednesday, 2/05/2020, Wallingford, Wallingford House, 10:30am Thursday, 02/06/2020, Rutland, Parker House, 10am Thursday, 02/06/2020, Rutland, Bardwell House, 12:30pm Wednesday, 02/26/2020, Rutland, Godnick Adult Center, 12:30pm



The cost of the foot clinic is \$10. Please contact 802.775.0568 to find a clinic near you. No appointment necessary.

Cholesterol Screening: Wednesday, 02/05/2020, Rutland, Rutland office of VNAHSR, 8:30am

The cost is \$30. Call 802.775.0568 for more information.

Bereavement Support Meetings: Every Tuesday at 6pm at Grace Congregational Church. The Reverend Andrew Carlson, office chaplain for the Rutland VNAHSR office, will facilitate. Call

802.770.1613 for more information.

Bereavement support meetings are free and open to the public.

Ostomy Support Meeting: The Vermont Ostomy support meeting will be held in February at the VNA & Hospice of the Southwest Region, 7 Albert Cree Drive, at a date and time to be determined. For more information contact Kate Lawrence, MSN, RN, CWOCN, ET/WOC NURSE at 802.770.1682 or email kate.lawrence@vnahsr.org.

BONE BUILDEDS

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



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

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

	ng the Chit Chat to you every month. OT wish to receive the Chit Chat
Donation amount \$	_ Tax Deductible We have Federal tax exempt status.
	Email

Sign Up for the **Mt. Holly NewsFlash** to get all that is happening locally in our Town, our Schools and the local area just email to

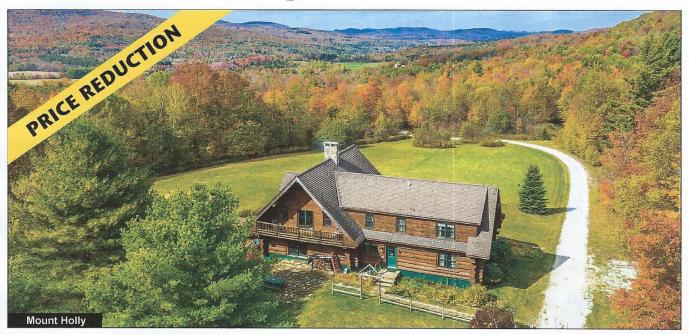
mthollynewsflash@gmail.com

And request to be placed on the list. News item deadlines are 6:00 am & 6:00 pm

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



Artisan Log Home on 56 Acres









This beautiful log home is constructed in a style considered to be "Scandinavian Scribed". These massive logs were hand-peeled! The 5 bedrooms, 4 baths and 50+ acres make this home a special Vermont Retreat for you. The details are unique - many areas of birch bark trim throughout the house. The views are amazing - and the sunsets will win your heart. Enjoy your own groomed trails, a zip line, camping areas with a fire pit and a beautiful waterfall. There is an old artist studio on the property and at least one beautiful 2nd house site to create your own family compound. This home can provide many opportunities for your needs, with enough space for multiple families to enjoy at the same time, or a possible Airbnb. Being sold furnished minus a few personal items. Just 8 miles to Jackson Gore & Okemo Mountain Resort! MLS: 4781021

Engel & Volkers Okemo 126 Main Street, Ludlow, VT okemo.evrealestate.com • 802-975-0338







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Who's Got It Locally?

Who's Got It Locally?						
Artists & Architects		Kevin Smith, Garden Service & Lawn Mowing	259-3964			
Alistair McCallum Landscape Photographs & Paintings	259-2318	Noreen's Petals & Greens	236-8188			
Spectrum Photography – John Miller	259-3060	Salt Ash Nursery - The Balsam Barn – Scott Crawford	259-2146			
Bakeries - Catering - Restaurants - Stores	237 3000	Health Care Providers	237 21 10			
Harry's Café, Trip & Deb Pearce III www.Harryscafe.com	259-2555	Dr. Joseph P. Donohue – Chiropractic Care, Thrive Center	446-2499			
Mojo Café – John & Jodi Seward mojocafevt@yahoo.com	228-6656	Massage Therapy/Bodywork, Thrive Center of Green Mtns	446-2499			
The Rustic Rooster – Donna & Greg Ganzer	492-3433	Lisa Donohue MA, LMT ~ Linda O'Brien MT	446-2499			
www.vtrusticrooster.com		Home Management Services				
Bed & Breakfast		Belmont Country Gardens Property Management	259-2364			
Clifford Country Bed & Breakfast <u>www.cliffordcountry.com</u>	259-2269	Mowing & Plowing Jon Lienhard				
Building & Repairs - General Work		Country Home Management, Richardson/Rivers 259-3662	228-7086			
AW Carpentry-Remodeling*Building*Portable Sawmilling	259-3699	Jenkins Builders <u>brandon@jenkinsbuild.com</u>	952-9722			
Cutting Edge Carpentry – Curt Marechaux Cell	236-5559	1 1 2 2	- 236-8104			
Earl (Tersh) Runner Carpentry – Superior Woodworking	492-3388	Yankee Home Management, Keith Hawkins	259-3064			
Grey Goose Chimney Sweeps	492-3549	Interior Design				
Jenkins Builders – General Contractor <u>brandon@jenkinsbuild.cor</u>		Rose of Sharon Designs – Sharon Napier Design Consultant 860)-214-3911			
Ted Stryhas Builder	228-7327	Maple Syrup				
Wright Construction – Brett Wright	259-2094	Green Mtn. Sugar House	228-7151			
Church Listings		Plew Farm 1966 Healdville Rd, Mt. Holly www.plewfarm.com				
Annunciation, Ludlow, Mass Sat 4:30 pm, Sun 8 an & 11 am		Smith Maple Crest Farm www.Smithmaplecrestfarm.com	492-2151			
Holy Name of Mary, Proctorsville, Mass Sun 9:30 am	220 2451	Marketing & Promotional Services	262.0501			
Rev Thomas Mosher <u>abvmludlow@comcast.net</u> Belmont Village Baptist Church-Worship 9:30am, Coffee Hour 10	228-3451	Express Copy Inc., Don Reiser H 259-2722	362-0501			
Pastor Glenn Davis <u>vbch.weebly.com</u>	259-2440	print@expresscopyinc.com Metal Fabrication				
E. Wallingford Baptist – PS 9:15-10:00 am SS 10 am, Worship 1		Wayne Jones Metal www.waynejonesmetal.com	259-2521			
Pastor Kevin Miner	259-2831	Mount Holly Email	239-2321			
First Baptist Church, Wallingford, SS 11am Prayer Meeting Wed		Kevin Plew – mthollynewsflash@gmail.com	259-2250			
Pastor Dave Bentley	446-2020	Painters	237-2230			
Lighthouse Independent Baptist Church, Rutland SS 11am & 3pn		MRS Unlimited Visions LLC Interior/Exterior Painting –Melissa	259-3989			
Until May 11am & 6pm	1 ₇₇₉₋₀₃₀₀ (I LUV)	Plumbing & Heating				
Ludlow Baptist Church, 9:30 am SS, 10:30 am Music Fellowship			2-975-0369			
11 am WS, 6:30 pm Evening PS, Wed 6:30 pm PM & BS		masterplumbingheating@gmail.com				
	3-439-0803	Tailored Plumbing tailoredplumbingheating@gmail.com 80:	2-417-1647			
St. Patrick's, Wallingford, Mass Sun 9 am		Real Estate Sales				
Rev Msgr Bernard Bourgeois christthekingprsh@gmail.com	446-2161	Coldwell Banker Lifestyles,	228-5678			
Wilderness Friends Meeting (Quaker) Sundays 10 am	YOURS		0-559-9334			
Shrewsbury Library, Cuttingsville	259-2803	•	2-975-0338			
Engineering			2-236-5431			
Krueger Engineering- Arthur G. Krueger, P.E.	492-3653	Kelley Real Estate, Don Eatmon, Broker/Owner H 259-2646	228-5333			
Equipment For Hire & Snow Moving	242.2525	Don@KelleyRealEstate.com	2 2 1 5 500 5			
Beardmore Excavating <u>beardmoreexc@gmail.com</u>	342-3507		2-345-7886			
Flander's Excavating & Firewood Norton's Property Management – Logging*Land Clearing*Snowp	259-2147		2-345-6581			
*Brush Hogging*Mowing & Care Taking 802-353-6289 Cell	259-3108	Ty Murray Ty@KelleyRealEstate.com H 259-3014 Cell 802 Fax 802-228-5343 www.KelleyRealEstate.com www.OkemoVal	2-777-8047			
Russ Garrow –Lawn Mowing*Brush Hogging*Garden Tilling*Sn		Roofing	iey.com			
*Care Taking	259-3167	Buddy System Roofing Contct Buddy	259-3989			
Farm Fresh Products	237 3107	New Roofs/Roof Repairs & Replacement – Slate/Wood/Asphal				
	-259-2250	Security				
1966 Healdville Rd, Mt. Holly		Countryside Alarms – Mike Blais www.countrysidealarms.com	259-2213			
Smith Maple Crest Farm, Grass-Fed Beef Cuts Fresh/Frozen	492-2151	Septic System Design				
www.Smithmaplecrestfarm.com		Krueger Engineering – Arthur G. Krueger, P.E.	492-3653			
Sugar Hill Berry Farm www.sugarhillberryfarm.com	259-2155	Therapeutic Riding				
Food Shelf			492-2226			
Black River Good Neighbor Services – Krey Kellington	228-3663	Tree Services				
<u>Funeral Homes</u>		G.M. Tree Tech & Landscaping, Greg McKirryher	259-8733			
Clifford Funeral Home	773-3010	Volunteer Services				
Garage, Repair & Wrecking		Belmont/Mt. Holly Food Co-op, Tanger H 259-2344 W				
Belmont Motor Works LLC - Harley-Davidson, Small Engine	259-3178	Black River Good Neighbor Service	228-3663			
Snowmobile, ATV, Aluminum Welding & Metal Fabrication		Woodworking, Cabinets & Furniture				
Garden & Landscape, Lawn Mowing		Chesters Custom Woodworking <u>ccw@vermontel.net</u>	259-3232			
Belmont Country Gardens Quality Custom Stonework & More	259-2364	www.chesterscustomwoodworking.com	250 2251			
Frost Hill Farm Seasonal Peony Wedding Flowers	259-2716	Stone Creek Workshops <u>www.stonecreekworkshops.com</u>	259-2254			



