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46/4

Mount Holly Chit Chat

June 2020

Church Listings, back page "Who's Got It Locally?"

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

Mt. Holly Museum – Open Sat & Sun 2 - 4 pm www.mounthollyvtmuseum.org

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

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

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

Town Lister's Hours: Tues 10:00 am – 2:00 pm or by appointment 802-259-2391

Town Garage: 259-3179

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

TRANSFER SITE: Wed. 4 pm – 7 pm & Sat. 8 am – 2 pm

1st

Brigham Young, Mormon Leader 1801

2nd Mt. Holly Community Association Meeting, Library

7:00 pm

US Citizenship Granted to All American Indian's 1924

3rd *Astronaut Ad White 1st American to Walk in Space 1965 ~ Sally Priesand, 1st USA Woman Rabbi 1972*

4th Fire Dept. Business Meeting, Fire Station

7:00 pm

5th

1st Hot-Air Balloon Flight 1783

6th

D Day Normandy 1944

8th

Rescue Squad Meeting, Rescue Squad Building

US Bill of Rights by James Madison 1789

7:00 pm

9th

Mt. Holly PTSA Meeting, MH School

Community Guild Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont

Select Board Meeting, Town Office

10th

LMHUUS Meeting,

Fire Dept. Ladies Auxiliary Meeting, Belmont Fire Station

ODD Fellows Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont

Fire Dept. Drill, Fire Station

11th

Largemouth & Smallmouth Bass Catch & Release Ends

12th

FREE FISHING DAY ~ Largemouth & Smallmouth Bass Season Opens

Sat 13th

Flag Day ~ 1st Non-Stop Transatlantic Flight 1919 ~ US Army Founded 1775

Sun 14th

Mount Holly Planning Commission, Town Office

7:00 pm

Mt. Holly Town Library Meeting, Library, Belmont

Bunker Hill Day 1775

6:30 pm

18th

Fire Dept. work night, Fire Stations

Sally Ride 1st US Woman in Space 1983

7:00 pm

Sun 21st

Summer Begins / Summer Solstice ~ Father's Day

22nd

Rescue Squad Meeting, Rescue Squad Building

GI Bill Signed into Law 1944

7:00 pm

Pledge of Allegiance Recognized by Congress 1942

23rd

Community Guild Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont

9:00 am

24th

ODD Fellows Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont

7:00 pm

25th

Fire Dept. Drill, Fire Station

Korean War Began 1950

7:00 pm

26th

Korean War Ended 1953

Sat 27th

Helen Keller 1880

* * * * *

Emergency Services

Mount Holly Fire Dept.	259-2700	or	911	Poison Control	(802) 658-3456
Mount Holly Fire Warden ~ Jim Seward	786-3408		259-2211	American Red Cross	802-773-9159
Mount Holly Rescue Squad	775-3133	or	911	Game Warden – Tim Carey	802-773-9101
Mount Holly Constable Paul Faenza		C	802-353-8347	Health Officer - Tim Bickford	779-6429
Animal Control For Mt. Holly	C text only 353-4492	H	802-259-3976	Vermont State Police	773-9101

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

chitchat@vermontel.net

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



Donation Thank Yous: Robert Beardmore (Master Plumbing & Heating) (Beardmore Excavating) * Richard & Linda Huck * Chris Colm * Jon lienhard (Belmont Country Gardens Property Management) (Belmont Country Gardens Quality Custom Stonework) * Catherine Carrara (Shrewsbury Historical Society) * Brigid & Paul Faenza (Big Eyes Bakery) * Wayne Jones (Wayne Jones Metalworking) * Gail Beardmore (Engel & Volkers Okemo Woodstock) * Freda Durgin * Taffy Hyypa & John Palatine (Sugar Hill Berry Farm) * Charles Conroy (Custom Builders of Belmont) * Marcia & John Puro * Dr. Joseph & Lisa Donohue (Thrive Center of the Green Mountains Chiropractic Care) (Thrive Center of the Green Mtns Massage Therapy/Bodywork) * Steve Flanders (Flanders Excavating & Firewood) *



June Birthdays: 1st -Torey Surething * Mary Morgan * Walter Surething 4th -Johnathan Davis * Emily Colburn Freedman 5th - Diane Perry 6th -Jason Turco 7th -Kristin Veysey 8th -All Labozzo 9th -Barry Gagner * Mary Ann Farley * Molly Gagner 10th -Jennifer Turco * Alex & Beth Lee * Steve Hazelton 11th -Amber Nye 13th -Dylan Pierro * David Crossman * Shannon Labozzo 16th - Timothy Ryan * Zak Delphia 19th -Stephanie Bussino (2000) 20th - Andrea Kilroe 22nd -Roger Garrow 24th -Natalie Brown 29th -Candace Neary * Helen Graham 30th -Ted Garrow



June Anniversaries: 6th -Maurice & Ann Doucette (56th) (1959) 12th -Clinton & Carol Woolley 14th -Mike & Mary Beth Dawley 50th (1969) 17th - Barb & Tony Falco 18th -Bill & Marnie Dassler (50th) 2016 20th -Donald & Jean Gates

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

Local Post Office Hours

Mount Holly		802-259-2796
Window	Mon – Fri	8:00 am – 10:00 am
	&	2:45 pm – 4:45 pm
Lobby Hours:	Mon – Fri	8:00 am – 4:45 pm
	Sat	7:30 am – 10:30 am
Belmont		802-259-2790
Window	Mon – Fri	7:30 am – 9:30 am
	&	2:45 pm – 4:45 pm
	Sat	7:30 am – 10:30 am
Lobby Hours	Mon – Fri	7:30 am – 4:45 pm
East Wallingford		802-259-2829
Window	Mon – Fri	7:00 am – 11:00 am
	Sat	7:00 am – 10:00 am
Lobby Hours	Mon – Fri	7:00 am – 4:45 pm
Cuttingsville/Shrewsbury		802-492-3585
Window Hours	Mon – Fri	7:30 am – 10:30 am
	&	11:30 am – 2:30 pm
	Sat	8:00 am – 11:00 am
Lobby Hours	Mon – Fri	7:30 am – 5:00 pm
	Sat	7:30 am – 11:00 am
Ludlow		802-228-7436
Post Master:	Dawn Howlett	
Lobby Hours:	Mon – Fri	6:30 am – 5:30 pm
	Sat	6:30 am – 11:00 am
Window Hours:	Mon – Fri	8:30 am – 5:00 pm
	Sat	8:30 am – 10:30 am



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 TVT news, events, and issues; op-eds and essays; poems, jokes, recipes, nature observations, reviews, obituaries, remembrances. Include name, address, and phone number. Anonymous articles will not be accepted. Mailed copies should be camera-ready, i.e., ready to be scanned into the paper. Contact the editor for further information. Contact the editor for inclusion in the coming month's announcements of birthdays, weddings, anniversaries, graduations, retirements, and other milestones.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



David D. Sheldon Jr.

David D. Sheldon Jr., 59, died May 3, 2020, at St. Vincent's Hospital in Worcester, Massachusetts. He fought a long battle with multiple health issues over the past four years. He was the man with nine lives because he always beat the odds; however, COVID-19 was unprecedented. He was born in Rutland on May 17, 1960. The son of Gayle (LaMoria) and David D. Sheldon Sr., he was predeceased by his parents and a niece, Stacy Johnson. David was a 1978 graduate of Rutland High School. He served in the U.S. Army from 1981-1990 where he was an Animal Care Specialist and a member of the Army/Air Force Rodeo Team at Fort Hood, Texas. After the service, he became an LNA, licensed in his home state of Vermont. He was a member of St. Peter Church and a former member of Weare, New Hampshire, American Legion Post 65 and was a member of the Groovy Gallopers 4-H Club as a teen. He enjoyed horse and bull riding, hunting, fishing, motorcycling and collecting guns. Surviving is his daughter, Shilo-Rae Sheldon of Tavares, Florida; two stepdaughters, Courtney Sorapuru of Tavares, Florida, and Jessica Wood of Seminole, Florida; his former wife, Karen Sorapuru of Hinesville, Georgia; three sisters,

Irene Johnson of Mount Holly, Carol Horton-Owen of Rutland and Sheila Stone of Poultney; two uncles, many nieces, nephews and cousins. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be sent to Rutland County Humane Society, 765 Stevens Road, Pittsford, VT 05763. A graveside service and a celebration of life will be held at a later date. Arrangements provided by the Clifford Funeral Home.



Harold F. "Pete" Doolittle, Jr

Harold F. "Pete" Doolittle, Jr. died May 6 from Lewy Body Disease and complications from COVID-19. Born on November 25, 1941, Pete met his wife Lory (Lorena Chaney) in 4th grade in Lakewood, Ohio. Married in 1963, the couple lived and worked abroad for several years before settling in the U. S. In 1985 Pete and Lory purchased their first home in Vermont in Ludlow. In 1992, the couple moved to Bowlsville Road in Mt. Holly. Pete became active on the board of Spring Lake Ranch. Lory joined the board of the Mt. Holly Community Historical Museum. Pete eagerly embraced Vermont life and enjoyed caring for his Vermont properties. Land preservation became one of the couple's goals and they were able to preserve acreage of their Bowlsville Road property and also help with the conservation of other land parcels in town. Pete is survived by his wife of 57 years and children Andrew (Tove), Peter (Steffany) and grandchildren Kierst, Kathryn, Odin, Cole, Sam

and Annie. A celebration of life will take place for Pete when such gatherings are again possible.

Black River Independent School

We are incredibly excited to announce that Ludlow's Black River Independent School has officially hired Andrew Fersch as Head of School and has started the process of enrolling students for the 2020/2021 school year. Andrew is a veteran teacher who previously founded and led an independent The Penn Program. This year will find somewhere around a dozen students creating a new vision for community education, carrying on Ludlow's storied educational history while charting a new path forward. We're excited to get started and have three specific things to share:

1. Please watch Andrew Fersch's [video introduction](#) and feel free to go to his website to learn more about the work he has done. Additionally, we were featured in the Saturday edition of the [Rutland Herald](#).
2. If you are interested in enrolling for the 2020/2021 school year, please complete our [Enrollment Form](#), or send any questions to Andrew at Andrew@blackriveris.org. We are looking for thoughtful and enthusiastic young people who are dedicated to Black River IS being a success.
3. In order to offer the young people of the community the best experience possible, we still need your help. If you're willing and able to donate money to support this vision for innovative, community-based, and tuition-free education for our local students, please visit our [Start-Up Campaign](#). If you'd like to donate time to volunteer, please contact Andrew directly.

After years of planning and preparation, we're finally ready to open the doors and get to the real work of educating the young people of this community. Thank you for your support and we can't wait to work with you.

Sincerely, The Black River Independent School Committee, Sean Williams –Chair, Pat Pullinen –Vice Chair, 820-546-1365, www.blackriveris.org P.O. Box 485, Ludlow, VT 05149



BLACK RIVER
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL

school in New Hampshire called

*** Hall Rental in Belmont ***

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

Notice: All invited

Mechanicsville Cemetery

Monthly Volunteer clean up schedule;

1st Tuesday of each month

May 5, 6 pm June 2, 8 am

July 7, 6 pm Aug 4, 8 am

Sept 1, 6 pm

Please bring tools for the job

Mount Holly Community Association
Membership Drive
2020 ~ 2021

Although we regret the cancellation of
Our summer events, we trust you will continue your support
Needed now more than ever for
The maintenance of our historic Community Center Building
Please join today!!

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

Letter from the Co-Presidents of the Mount
Holly Community Association...

This year, with the impact of COVID-19, the Mount Holly Community Association (MHCA) is facing new challenges, along with the rest of the world, as we adapt to unprecedented circumstances. We think it's wise to focus on the health and safety of our community and surrounding communities, not to mention maintaining compliance with Governor Scott's orders, and so we must cancel our summer events...Mount Holly Day, Music on the Green, the Garden Tour, and Cabaret. Although we are quite sad about these decisions it is providing us with opportunities to think about event ideas in general and how we might partner with other organizations for the good of our community. We plan on revisiting our fall events calendar later this summer to determine what we may or may not be

able to do.

The down side of canceling events includes missing out on time spent together, seeing your neighbors, friends, and sharing Mount Holly's special vibe and beauty with others, who love our neck of the woods, but may not live here. For MHCA it also means a significant loss of revenue to help maintain the upkeep of the historical building that houses our community center and library. We began restoration in 1997, and with the addition of a new well last year, it is nearly complete. However, it is essential that we continue to build the ongoing support to maintain this wonderful structure as we wait until we can resume the variety of activities this space supports.

The MHCA *membership* (which runs from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021) is so very important. It is our main revenue stream for the Association. Our building and ability to provide community events depends on the support of people like you through membership donations. We are ever grateful for the ongoing support we have received, but this year your contribution is even more vital. Now more than ever, our community needs us, and we need you!

Thank you for your consideration, we wish you safety, health and peace during these challenging times. Very sincerely yours, Jennifer Burrows, Co-President, Linda Miller, Co-President

Mount Holly Community Cares Task Force

The Mount Holly Community Cares Task Force and its roster of 50+ volunteers have been very busy this past month! The *Food Support Program* is moving ahead with four initiatives. In addition to the meat provided each week to Black River Good Neighbors and the food boxes distributed to Mount Holly Families, the food support committee is planning *Fill a Food Box*, a one day food drive, on Saturday, June 27th. The donations from this drive will supplement the food shelf housed in the Village Baptist Church basement that supplies a portion of the food included in the food boxes. Details on this initiative can be seen in the flyer on this page. Also, there is an effort underway to solicit frozen dinners that will be distributed to families on June 19th just before Father's Day. If you would like to help with either of these initiatives, please contact the email address above.

The other huge project underway is the *Community Garden*, which has made great progress since last month. For those of you who have ridden down Rte. 155, you will certainly have noticed opposite the old Blue Spruce Inn the beautiful raised beds that have been constructed and filled with top soil and compost...all ready for planting! Many thanks to Robert Beardmore for the donation of the top soil, to Casella's for the compost, to the Ludlow Rotary for a donation of \$500 to fund the cost of other materials and to Craig Tomkinson, who also made a financial contribution to support this amazing project. All of their contributions are greatly appreciated!

The volunteers have been amazing. So many people signing up to deliver the meat to Black River Good Neighbors, to oversee the food drive on June 27th, to prepare entrees for the frozen dinners, to constructing and filling the raised beds for the Community Garden...the list goes on and on! Please know how very much we appreciate all of your efforts. If you would like to volunteer for any of these initiatives, please contact us at the email address above. Thank you!

Last, but not least, if you know of anyone in Mount Holly who is in need of assistance in any way, please let us know, or tell them to contact us at the email address above. We are here to help make life a bit easier in these difficult times. Mount Holly, VT, 802-245-3490
mthollycommunitycares@gmail.com
mounthollycommunitycares.org

Mount Holly Community Cares

A coordinated and cross organizational task force dedicated to addressing the immediate and ongoing needs of the Mt Holly community during the COVID-19 pandemic.



WE HAVE 48 VOLUNTEERS NOW!
IF YOU NEED SOMEONE TO PICK UP YOUR
GROCERIES OR OTHER TASKS, PLEASE LET
US KNOW!

**DISTANCE
MAKES US
STRONGER**

EMAIL : MT HOLLYCOMMUNITYCARES@GMAIL.COM
FACEBOOK MESSAGE US
CALL US : (802) 245-3490
WWW.MT HOLLYCOMMUNITYCARES.ORG
ALL REQUESTS ARE CONFIDENTIAL!

Mount Holly Town Library to begin limited "curbside" service

Beginning Wednesday May 20th, the Library will make it's collection available to the community again. You can access the collection the following way:

1. Go to the library website at <https://mounthollytownlibrary.wordpress.com>
2. Scroll down the opening page and click on the link for the "catalog"
3. Search through the collection to find material you wish to check out.
4. Email us your request at mthollylibrary@gmail.com . You can request up to three items at a time.

Pick up and return of materials will work as follows: Pick up days are Wednesday from 4pm to 6 pm. Material will be checked out to you, placed in a bag with your name on it.

Pick up is only on Wednesday from 4 pm to 6 pm

Return of materials is Saturdays from 10 am to 12 Noon. There will be a return box in the foyer for you to place your returns. Please do not return items to the book drop or attempt to return items other than Saturday 10-12.

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

MOUNT HOLLY COMMUNITY CARES WANTS TO

Thank the Community for your Generous Donations to The Fund for Food Support in Mount Holly

Financial donations made at Belmont Store have supported Black River Good Neighbors and we have packed supplementary food boxes for 14 local families along with starting the plans of setting up an additional Community Cupboard. Non-perishable items can be donated at the Village Baptist Church. Meat and other items can be arranged via email.

Financial donations are taken at The Belmont Store.

email : mthollycommunitycares@gmail.com for more information



MOUNT HOLLY COMMUNITY CARES

FOOD DRIVE

Looking for:
Canned Beans
Canned Vegetables
Rice
Pasta
Pasta Sauce
Peanut Butter
Macaroni and Cheese Boxes
Fruit Cups
Dry Cereal
Jelly or Jam

**JUNE 27TH
9-4 PM**

VILLAGE BAPTIST CHURCH GREEN

Please bring non perishable items to the gazebo and green. Please wear a mask and respect social distancing. All food will be distributed to local families in need.

Mthollycommunitycares@gmail.com

Vermont Home Gardener: May Planting Notes

Sunny, warmer days in Zones 4 & 5 make the garden real in early May. While there are several plants that can be seeded outdoors now, don't be tempted to start working your soil if it is still wet. If you still insist on tilling your garden (I do not) it is very important to wait until the soil has drained and dried enough to be crumbly, not gooey or sticky. If you have raised beds (see previous article) you can get started a little sooner because of better drainage, warmer soils & no tilling needed. See the list of seeds to plant outdoors and indoors now, plus the inside story of "Gutter Peas" at

Vermonthomegardener.com

We have a welcome break in the weather and early planting can begin. Some ambitious gardeners already have put in peas, onion sets, greens, and carrots. It's time to go ahead with early herbs & vegetables but be careful not to get ahead of the season just yet and don't work that soil if it's still very wet. This week's issue has a list of what can be safely sown now, how to get the best germination of seeds in cool soil, and some suggestions for transplants. Read the whole story and subscribe (Free) at

VermontHomeGardener.com

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\$25.00 Per Yard Plus Delivery

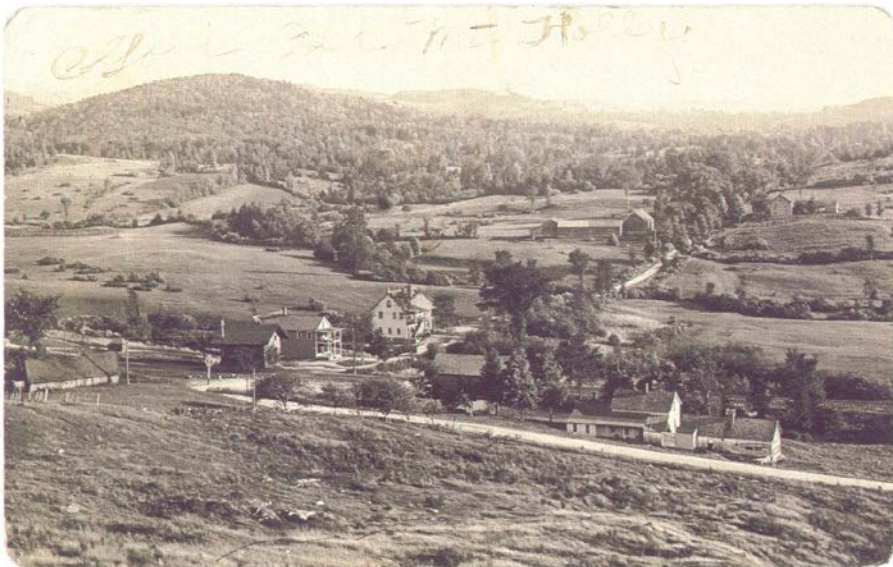
802-342-3507

MOUNT HOLLY RR & SCHOOL LOT

The photograph in the May issue is looking southeast toward the Mount Holly railroad station near the yellow blinking light. The road in the bottom right is Route 103 that had been completed in 1920. The RR station is now gone but the general store (post office) and the large house remain. The large field to the left of those buildings is the location of our elementary school, the town office and our fire and rescue.

Heading south up the hill toward Belmont is the home of Ron and Karen Blodgett that was owned by his grandparents, Carl and Nellie Fish. The buildings across the road are the site of Joe Turco's home and shop today.

The buildings at the bottom right near the state



Custom Builders of Belmont Inc.

P.O. Box 171

Belmont, VT 05730

Charlie Conroy

cjconroy@vermontel.net

30+ Years Experience

highway were owned by Mike Lane, one of Mount Holly's last Civil War Veterans when he died about 1932. He can be seen in some of the photographs taken during the Decoration Day ceremonies that are in the albums at our Community Historical Museum.

Dennis Devereux

The big house across the brook from the post office on the left side of Belmont Road was a blacksmith shop built by William Martin around 1913 which later his son Alfred Martin had his carpenter work shop in the 50's - 60's.

Got Bees?

Warmer weather can cause honeybee colonies to form swarms and go looking for a new home. If you see a mass of honeybees hanging somewhere in the open like on your house, a tree or shrub, or anyplace else, this might be a swarm. They are not aggressive and should not be disturbed or harmed. If you call me as soon as you first see them, I will come to collect them from your property, no charge. I am a beekeeper in Mount Holly and love to collect those homeless honeybees. Call Jim Corven of Fenn Farmstead & Gardens at 802-259-2311.

Grow your own groceries

MOUNT HOLLY VICTORY GARDEN

Grow groceries for those in need



FIND US AT:

THE CORNER OF RT 155 AND FOWLER BROOK RD
for inquiries email:

mthollycommunitycares@gmail.com

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TREE STUMP GRINDING

Beardmore Excavating Inc.

802-342-3507



*They said we need to wear masks
so I got out my Halloween mask again,
but I couldn't find one big enough for Cutie*

dig himself out of that same fence would tour the neighborhood and then back under the fence he'd come. This same dog also figured out he could go through window screens. Up on the living room chair he'd leap and then over the chair back through the screen. This usually happened when I was at work. My neighbors would bring him back and put him on the porch.

When my brother was just a toddler he would pull his metal peddle tractor (they were metal in those days) over to the fence of his outdoor play area, climb up on the seat and manage to get over a four foot fence. If we didn't catch him he usually headed for the rhubarb patch or the apple trees. Years ago a colt I raised would somehow get out of the pasture—we never did figure out how, the fence was never broken so he probably went under it or over it. He would walk up three concrete steps into the back shed just outside the kitchen. The shed was not much bigger than a small pantry, which was okay when he was a youngster and could turn around in there, but by the time he was 2 he had to back out the same way he walked in. To get our attention he used to butt his head on the kitchen door or paw the wooden floor. At that same time I had a sweet bay mare that was so adept at opening deadbolts and other stall door latches, we had to rig a small overhanging cover over the deadbolt so she couldn't get her mouth on it.

This reminds me of a paint mare that made it her goal in life to always find the best grass outside the pasture. She used to graze under the fence reaching as far as she could until she stretched the wire so far it snapped. Fence was single strand electric wire in those days and it was not pleasant when you got shocked. Think she was immune? Nope, but she figured out that she wouldn't get a shock through her mane and that's what she put against the fence wire. Her mane grew so thick the wire never came in contact with her skin.

What brought these memories to mind--horses and sheep. There is always one or two horses in a herd that manage to escape the pasture on a regular basis. In this case the two are mother and daughter Fonda and Sabre and this spring they were at their best, or worse, depending on how you look at it. On top of that, there were sheep and lambs everywhere. Put one group in and another group would find a way out, and mamas and babies were not always on the same side of the fence. What a bleatingly fun spring!!

Look for us on Facebook, Twitter @ReinbowRiding and Instagram @reinbow_riding_center

Sometimes the Grass is Greener on the Other Side;

Sometimes It's Just the Other Side

More Musings from Reinbow Riding Center

What a difference a month makes, or does it? Well I believe we are beginning to make our way toward that rainbow—or should I say Reinbow. While some other riding centers in our state have been opening, we are taking a more cautious approach and are tentatively looking at July for our opening. Our top priority is the safety of our clients, volunteers and staff. This may call for a reduced and limited schedule. So please keep watching our website for information and updates, and anyone wanting to be a rider, please get your paperwork done ASAP. Anyone that would like to volunteer with the program please do the same. These forms can be found on the website or obtained by calling us at 802-236-2483 or email your request to programs@reinbowridingcenter.org

Musings: Horses, cows, sheep and especially goats are always looking for greener pastures even in stick season and the dead of winter. Where there is a fence, there is always that curiosity to find out what's on the other side. How many of you like to open doors, look over walls or between shrubbery to see what is on the other side. Me too! Animals are no different. I've had horses, dogs and even my brother that would go to extreme measures to escape the confines of their play areas. Now this is understandable when the grass is greener on the other side of the fence—particularly when speaking of grazing beasts—but besides curiosity, why would they figure out how to get out and then turn around and go right back in?

I've had 2 German Shepherds that were so athletic they could climb a 4-foot chain link fence and run around to the front door begging to come in. If they got no response, they would climb the fence to get back in. A collie mix that used to

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MT. HOLLY, VT

Keith Hawkins
PRESIDENT

Mount Holly School Sixth Grade Graduation

Friday, June 12th at 4pm

Ceremony outside at school for graduates and their families only, followed by a vehicle parade throughout the community. Please join us along the parade route. Let's show our graduates how proud our community is of them by lining the route and cheering our graduates on.

Please be sure to stay physically distanced by a minimum of six feet and wear masks. Decorations along the route are encouraged.

Parade Route: From school to Rte 103 down to Shunpike Rd back to the blinking light. Rte 103 down to Rte 155 to Healdville with a finish at the green in Belmont.

CoVID-19 Agonistes

Who would have ever thought that a force majeure would be a force invisible? No blizzard, earthquake, hurricane, or tornado. No epic flood; no titanic iceberg. Just something so small you need a very good microscope to see and a virologist degree to recognize. (Although, the assigned avatar – a sphere covered with menacing hooks – has certainly imprinted itself in the minds of lesser mortals.) And yet this invisible slice of RNA has engendered illness and death; fear and rolling waves of anxiety, and a steady state of worry, where the simplest chore can become a minefield of do's and mostly don'ts.

I'm told – we're told –those of us of a certain age are told - that since we are essentially unessential, the best, most supportive thing we can do is to stay inside. Stay away. Stay out of the way. This feels damning without even the faintest of praise. But, for the most part, we do. Venturing forth rarely and even then after going through a check list that would make a NASA Astronaut proud; mask?/yes; hand sanitizer?, (and oh, my poor, raw hands)/yes. Money/credit card? Oh right, still need them. Hat?/yes. *But wait...why a hat? I don't normally wear a hat. But the virus might get on your hair! Really? That doesn't sound right. Well, what about that tiger in NY who got sick. But that's a TIGER. With fur, not hair. And anyway, his fur didn't get sick, the tiger did! NO hat! Different glasses because regular glasses fog up too easy/yes. Keys/yes. Oh, ok. Hat/YES.*

And then since I so rarely go to a grocery store these strange days, when I do get there it as if I have never seen one. Look, a store! Fruit! Vegetables! Crackers! Stuff! People! People wearing masks. One way traffic in the aisles. Stand 'here' marks on the floor. *'Does that person look sick? Was that a cough? Why am I buying this? I have 2 at home. Ah yes, but it is here now and what about later? And how is later going to BE, anyway? I really shouldn't daydream in a grocery aisle these days.*

And the decontamination process on returning home? Is it even necessary? Experts seem to disagree on this as much as anything. One said, "Do what you are comfortable with." Actually, I would be

comfortable immersed in a drum of Purell, but that seems impractical...if only for the fact that Purell has become a rarer find than a unicorn juggling rolls of toilet paper.

And the thing is, through all of this, the one thing that could make most of us feel re-assured and less anxious...the company of family and friends... is unavailable. Verboten. In the current climate, we are a danger to ourselves and to others; a human hand grenade. With the pin partially pulled we must exert all our discipline and common sense, all our counter-intuition to keep the pin in place and prevent exploding virus droplets from landing on others. Like the virus itself, the anxiety it induces is as much about others as us.

And yet, many of us are so lucky; lucky to live in a mostly rural state where the now famous curve has been flattened to something resembling a modest knoll. Most of us can just walk out the door and be physically distanced without even trying, not marooned in a city echoing with ambulances, the occasional balcony serenade and not much else. We watch the trees go to bud and shrug off the last bit of snow. We watch the birds return unburdened by anything other than the need to build a nest.

So, we continue to do what we can even as restrictions ease just the tiniest bit. We wear that mask, and refrain from hugs and handshakes...much as we miss them. We do what we can to support those in our community whose jobs and schools have been pulled out from underneath them in the most brutal fashion. And we wait; for science and medicine and our own sacrifices...from the smallest to the largest...to restore us to relative safety in an ever changing environment. We wait for time to pass and hope to arrive. -Susan Presson



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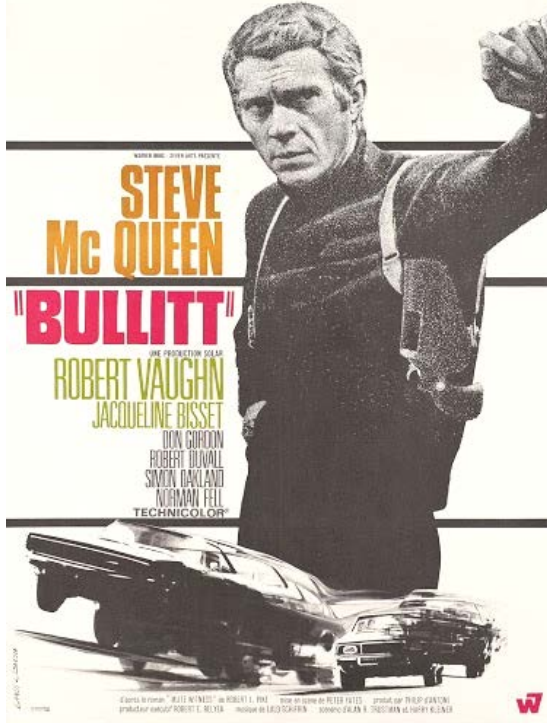
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Dangerous Pursuit

Do you recall the greatest car chase scene in cinematic history in the 1968 action film, *Bullitt*? It essentially did for movie car chases what *Star Wars* did for sci-fi films. No cheap rear-screen projections for close-ups or post-production speed ups. No need, because those muscle cars really were gunning through 14 blocks of the actual hilly streets of San Francisco at over 110 mph! A recent visit to the Bay area (to visit our grandkids) brought it all back. And who played detective Frank Bullitt, doing his own stunt driving in that Ford Mustang 390 GT? That's right, the "King of Cool", Steve McQueen.



His legacy lives on in a new generation as his image is ubiquitous in culture (especially hipster culture). For boomers like me, we can't forget seeing McQueen in the original of *The Great Escape*, the role that propelled him to superstardom. Recently, Greg Laurie did a documentary on the man who, until late in his life, struggled to find meaning in life and suffered because of it. Few people know *this* part of the story.

McQueen was born to an alcoholic mother and a father he never knew. His mom divorced numerous times so Steve had a lot of stepfathers, some of whom were abusive. When he was young, Steve literally ran away from home and joined the circus for a time. (Who *does* that? *Steve McQueen*.) He later got arrested and actually served some time on a prison chain gang (a la *Cool Hand Luke*).

Steve was invited over to the house of Sharon Tate. On his way, he met a girl and ran off with *her* instead. That night the Manson family killed everyone at the party. Later he found out that he was on Charles Manson's hit list by name.

Chasing harder and harder after every pleasure imaginable, McQueen found an incredible vacuum, a yawning chasm in his heart, a lack of purpose rooted in the absence of functional, involved parents. He spent his whole life avoiding his mom and searching for a "stand in" *father*- someone to love him. He tried *everything* to fill the void. He had the best cars money could buy (he even tried to buy the Bullitt car). He had the most beautiful women at his beck and call, booze and drugs galore until it all ran dry. He finally decided to search for more than *this* world could offer.

In his never-ending pursuit of the next thrill, he signed up for flying lessons in a bright yellow WW II training plane he'd bought. He could only find one guy who

could teach him to fly it. Stunt pilot, Sammy Mason, had the answers that McQueen had been looking for. As they spent hours in the cockpit together, Steve noticed Sammy's unique inner peace. "Sammy, what is it about you?", Steve asked. "What's your secret?" Sammy said, "Steve, it's my relationship with Jesus Christ." Steve was intrigued and asked if he could attend church with him. So Steve started showing up with Sammy at Ventura Missionary Church. In the small town of Santa Paula, people were friendly to Steve but it wasn't like the Hollywood he'd walked away from. They kinda left him alone and he loved that small town he was living in. Pastor Leonard DeWitt, upon learning who Steve was, told his congregation, "Don't bother him." And they let him be. Eventually, Steve had some questions and asked to meet the pastor for an hour or so. "Well, you've answered all my questions, Pastor, thank you", he said. "Am I born again? Yes... I became a Christian a number of weeks ago when you gave the opportunity for people to believe in Jesus." After that Steve grew spiritually, inviting family and friends to join him at church. He was changing, becoming a different man altogether. His new found faith was key in dealing with what was to come. About 6-8 months later, he discovered that he had an aggressive form of cancer. But Steve McQueen had begun a dangerous pursuit of the God who'd made him. He asked for Billy Graham to come visit him. Billy actually gave him his personal Bible from which he shared the Good News of Christ's love and resurrection. As Steve's son, Chad, said in a recent interview, "I think Dad was finding his way to go to the next place. I remember, he'd wake me up at 7am to go to church, which *never* happened before he got ill. So I think he was looking for peace."

So, 50 yr. old Steve McQueen, the "King of Cool", went from an operating table to meet His Savior. (How cool is *that*?) He died clutching Billy Graham's Bible. In the end, Steve chased after God with reckless abandon until God, "the Hound of Heaven", finally found *him*. He nearly missed it, but his life was radically changed. How about you? PG



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Big Eyes Bakery Update

Big Eyes Bakery is now open for curbside pickup every Saturday from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. To place an order for pickup, please call 802-228-2400 Tuesday thru Friday. All orders must be prepaid with a credit card. The deadline is Fridays at 3:00 PM. Our menu options are limited, please visit our website and Facebook page for updates. We thank you for all your support and look forward to reopening in the near future. Please stay safe, wash your hands and wear a mask. Brigid & Paul Faenza

Despite Covid-19 FOLA Offers Free Musical Event Featuring Susan Haefner

While Covid-19 has changed much in our regular life style, FOLA (Friends of Ludlow Auditorium) has decided that it would not stop it from presenting a planned musical concert featuring Susan Haefner and her guest, Lisa Brigantino.

So on Saturday, May 30 at 7 PM, FOLA presents "An Evening with Susan Haefner" on the Internet. The concert will be streamed on Okemo Valley TV's You Tube channel and televised on its community access channel (Comcast channel 1076 & VTel channel 166). It will be permanently archived for viewing on Okemo Valley TV's website and You Tube channel. Premiere viewing on May 30 at 7 PM is available via the internet on our You Tube channel and on TV on our community access channel (www.okemovalley.tv).

During the Premiere viewing on May 30, viewers will have a chance to "chat" with Susan who are viewing the concert from the YouTube web site.

Access to the concert will be via the following internet addresses: www.YouTube.com/OkemoValleyTV

www.OkemoValley.tv (May 30 Premiere at 7 PM) and www.OkemoValley.tv/SusanHaefner (following the May 30 Premiere)

According to Haefner, "This will give us a chance to bring some great and happy music into the lives of the viewers. Both Lisa and I are really looking forward to singing songs that will temporarily make the virus disappear and hopefully bring a smile to the viewers face".

Scott Stearns, FOLA chairman, added, "We may not be able to present this concert in the Heald Auditorium but we definitely want the public to have a chance to hear the great music of Susan Haefner. We hope everyone will just sit back and relax to this great musical event."

Susan Haefner is a professional actor, director, teacher and Broadway veteran, and is now proud to call Vermont home. She has appeared in over 25 productions at Weston Playhouse, as well as in many plays at Northern Stage in White River Junction and Shaker Bridge Theatre in Enfield, NH. Recently Susan appeared as Rosemary in *Tenderly: The Rosemary Clooney Musical* at Playhouse on Park in West Hartford, CT. This was Susan's fourth time in the role, which she originated at Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park.

Susan's Broadway credits include *State Fair*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie* and *42nd Street*. Tours include *Billy Elliot* (national tour and Toronto) and *Damn Yankees* with Jerry Lewis (national tour and London's West End). Susan has also appeared regionally at Milwaukee Repertory Theatre, La Jolla Playhouse, Asolo Repertory Theatre, New London Barn Playhouse, Barter Theatre, Weston Playhouse and Florida Studio Theatre. She received her MFA from Florida State University/Asolo Conservatory for Actor Training. Susan is a proud member of Actors' Equity Association. www.susanhaefner.com.

Special guest Lisa Brigantino is an award-winning singer-songwriter, composer, multi-instrumentalist, music director and accompanist. Her original songs span numerous genres and she also composes for TV, film, advertising, theater and more. Lisa has performed her original music at a variety of venues and notable festivals in the US. She has released three full length albums of original music, her latest being the critically-acclaimed album *I'll Waltz Before I Go*, an eclectic collection of her songs ranging from Folk to Rock, Old-Time, Americana and more.

Lisa was an original member of Lez Zeppelin, the world's first all-girl Led Zeppelin tribute band and toured internationally with the band for a number of years playing bass, mandolin and keyboards at A list venues and festivals around the world. She left the band in 2009 to focus on her original music. www.lisabrigantino.com.

The entire program is sponsored by FOLA in conjunction with the assistance of Okemo Valley TV studios. For information about the concert, call 802-228-7239 or visit the FOLA web site at www.fola.us.



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**State Representative Ludlow, Mount Holly,
Shrewsbury**

The legislature has now started meeting remotely. For the last few weeks certain committees have been meeting to discuss issues related to the current crisis and on Thursday, April 23rd, the House officially met for the first time. This is a difficult and stressful time, but I continue to be grateful for the way we are coming together for our neighbors and friends to help find our way through this crisis. New technology presents challenges for some and it has taken some adjustment. But with our new normal there is also a level of transparency that is not generally available. Obviously, the state house belongs to all Vermonters and everyone is always welcome to attend any committee meeting or floor session, but for our area that means at least 3 hours of driving so it is not accessible for everyone. Now each chamber and committee has its own YouTube channel where you can watch us live while we are meeting or watch past meetings. <https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/streaming/>

For now, we are only working on bills that are direct responses to the current crisis. When the Governor declared a State of Emergency it gave him significant authority, but there are certain powers that lie with the legislature and it has required us to learn these new systems quickly so we can continue to pass legislation to get through this crisis. On Thursday the House passed four more bills in response to the crisis, they are related to remote judicial procedures, leniency for the Governor and the State Treasurer to transfer money between special funds, and granting the Commissioner of Taxes the ability to share tax information with the Department of Labor which will assist with the processing for the added unemployment benefits passed at the federal level.

Obviously the biggest question for a lot of people right now is unemployment benefits and trying to get through to somebody on the phone lines to file a claim or sort out an issue with their claim. Unfortunately, I don't have much to add beyond what has been in the news already. The Governor's actions last week cleared a lot of the issues that were outstanding and got a lot of checks in the mail but there remains a lot of work to be done and a lot of Vermonters still struggling and without the benefits to which they are entitled. For years Vermont had historically low unemployment and has been putting off replacing the very outdated computer systems that handle our unemployment insurance database. And now we are paying for that delay. If you are still having trouble trying to get through, please give me a call and let me know. We are continuing to work on different ways to address this issue and recently created a new process for legislators to be able to funnel constituent issues to the Department of Labor, so I may be able to help get your claim processed faster. I also would like to know how many people are still having problems in our area.

As always please call me if you have any questions on any of this or any other topic. I get a lot of emails these days but the fastest way to get an answer is always just to give me a call. I am really missing my coffee hours, so I am working on setting up a virtual "coffee hour", but my schedule still changes a lot week to week, so I don't have a reliable timeslot available at the moment. Stay Safe, Logan Nicoll, 802-345-8430, logannnicoll@gmail.com lnicoll@leg.state.VT.us

Brandon Jenkins
Owner

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Now each chamber and committee has its own YouTube channel where you can watch us live while we are meeting or watch past meetings.

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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 Select Board Meeting - May 12, 2020 - Minutes - Zoom Meeting: 700 733 635

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

Turco

Town Officials: Peter Berger, David Johnson, Gabrielle Macklin-Bickford, Jon McCann, Lori Norton, Peter Perrino, Don Richardson, Jim Seward, Brigid Sullivan, Andy Tanger, Clinton Woolley

Members of the Public: Jim Corven, Ted Crawford, Fra Devine, Annette Lynch, Stephen Michel, Donna Seward, Ron Unterman, Dave Venter

Regular Select Board meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm in the Town Office. Items to be included on the Agenda are due by Noon the Wednesday before the meeting.

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

1. **Call to Order** by Mark Turco at 6:31 pm.

2. All recited the **Pledge of Allegiance**.

3. **Changes and/or additions to the agenda** – Jennifer Matthews asked to add a letter from Ted Crawford under **New Business**. It was agreed to do

so.

4. **Approval of April 14, 2020 Minutes & Special SB Meeting Minutes of April 22, 2020** – Jeff Chase made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Turco, unanimously approved.

5. **Reorganization (continued from 3.10.2020 meeting)**

a. **Select Board Chair** - No motions put forward.

6. **Reports**

a. **Highways & Transfer Station – Clinton Woolley**

i) **Update** – Mr. Woolley reported: Household Hazardous Waste Collection day possible in June; composting containers available through RCSWD; structure grant work with July first start date; no news on paving grants; excavator here for next month with eight culverts to replace and ditching work; Healdville Road potholes to be fixed, especially at railroad crossing.

ii) **One-Ton Truck** – Discussion ensued about truck models, years, shift patterns, bodies, availability and costs of approximately \$57,000 for the truck and body with an additional \$10,000+ for plow and sander. Additional information will be gathered for Special SB Meeting next week.

iii) **Plow Bills – Plymouth & Wallingford** – Currently billed at \$3,200 and \$2,500 respectively. Discussion ensued about sand usage and pricing. Billing amounts will remain the same this year with \$100 increase next year.

b. **Treasurer – David Johnson**

i) **Monthly Income & Expense Report** – Mr. Johnson stated there was not much to report. He noted the Forestry Receipts (\$8,500) was the largest outstanding revenue item; the final State Aid for Roads payment had been received; more funds were received than budgeted for the State Reappraisal Funds category. With Mr. Johnson's wording, Ms. Matthews made a motion to transfer the extra \$178.50 from the State Reappraisal Funds to the Reappraisal Fund, seconded by Mr. Chase, unanimously approved.

Mr. Johnson continued, noting the following: the Solid Waste Labels Sold continue to be over budget; all town report and election costs are under budget; the Casella bill for April has been received and solid waste expenses remain within the budgeted amount with 10 more tons of waste and three more tons of zero-sort disposed of this year compared to last year; the final State Education Fund bill of \$385,000 is less than the \$399,509 remaining in the budget; highway expenses and diesel fuel are all under budget.

ii) **Delinquent Tax Report/Tax Sales** – Peter Perrino reported that five more payments and another \$7,000 had been received. Discussion ensued about the number of delinquent taxpayers and tax amount outstanding, whether or not to delay tax sales, any COVID-19 effect, and approximate time table for next round of tax bills to go out. It was agreed Mr. Perrino would delay tax sale notifications until June first.

Mount Holly Animal Control Officer

The Mount Holly Animal Control Officer is Laura Swartz. She handles all calls concerning domesticated and farm animals, including Animal Cruelty concerns. For more information or to make a report please call Home (802) 259-3976 or Cell text only 802-353-4492.

iii) **Waive Late Filed Homestead Declaration Penalty** - Mr. Johnson explained this has been the policy in the past and he recommended continuing the policy. Ms. Matthews made a motion to waive the penalty for late homestead declaration filers, seconded by Mr. Turco, unanimously approved.

7. **Planning Discussion with the Mount Holly Planning Commission** – Peter Berger, Nicole Lewis, Gabrielle Macklin-Bickford, Jim Seward,

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Clinton Woolley – Ms. Matthews opened the discussion by again expressing her concerns about the threat that Vail Resorts could pose to our community given the fact it is a publicly traded company worth over \$6 billion answerable to its shareholders with no ties to Vermont. She stated she was concerned that our town plan as is does not have the strength to safeguard our town, but that we could take steps now to protect our community and what is important to us and what we value.

Peter Berger explained the process the Planning Commission followed in writing the town plan, using State criteria and input from the Rutland Regional Planning Commission (RRPC) and the community. He stated one objective was to retain sovereignty for the town. He went on to say that given the current trend towards state and regional priorities over those of individual towns, he considered the town plan to have little weight and no teeth, and with no zoning, he stated the town had even less control. He stated the use of ambiguous language was deliberate.

Gabrielle Macklin-Bickford pointed out Criterion 8 of the Act 250 Criteria, which states that any development projects should not have an undue adverse impact on aesthetics, scenic and natural beauty. She stated the District Commission looks to the community standards stated in the town plan to determine this.

Ms. Matthews pointed out Criterion 10, which looks at regional and town plans, in particular at specific vs. ambiguous provisions in the plans. What is the specific policy of any provision? The specifics hold more weight.

Andy Tanger spoke of a recent VT Digger article about how the Town of Bennington with specific provisions in its town plan was able to prevail against a large solar development proposed in town. It might be worth looking at the Town of Bennington's plan for specifics.

Annette Lynch spoke of the enormous weight town plans are given by the courts as long as they are specific. Looking at the provisions for forest fragmentation and the connectivity of wildlife corridors, those areas must be specified in the town plan and explained why they are valued. Any development that could harm those areas must also be specified. She added that this is our town plan and our values, which with specifics would not be defied by any regional board.

Jon McCann spoke as a RRPC representative and explained when any project is reviewed, the regional planning commission determines if the project conforms to the town plan and the regional plan. The Commission looks for specifics in town plans, as ambiguous language holds no weight and therefore gives the town no say in any proposed development. He added that the town plan is the only tool a town has to communicate its desires to the Act 250 Board with concrete specifics needed. Ms. Macklin-Bickford added that in her experience, the Act 250 Board wants to work in conjunction with towns, but to do so, the town plan must have clear standards spelled out.

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.

"I'll protect you, you protect me."

- **Stay home** as much as possible, go out only for essentials.
- **Wear a face covering** when you go out around others.
- **Keep 6 feet** away from others.



In response to a question about the bear corridor from Dave Venter, Mr. McCann explained that the recently conserved parcel of land here in Mount Holly had additional protections on it; just being land in the state forest does not protect from development. The Okemo ski area is on state forest land, which is leased by the ski area from the state.

Ms. Matthews asked what are considered the scenic vistas, open spaces, prime agricultural soils, and scenic roads in town? Where are they located? Why are they important and why do we value them? She stressed the need to be specific and concise in detailing these.

The Select Board asked the Planning Commission to return to the June 9th Select Board meeting with an update of how they plan to address these concerns.

8. Ongoing & Old Business

a. **EID Grant Program Update** – Mr. Chase stated the Town could apply for funds for the community composting project through this grant, which is a three-page application due on June first. Mr. Chase is talking with the Rutland County Solid Waste District, the Agency of Natural

Resources and others on best composting methods. He added that a free 20-hour consulting program on the design of the composting facility is available through the State.

b. **Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Update** – Don Richardson stated that due to the cool spring, the EAB migration will probably start in early June. Ludlow plans to begin its ash tree inventory next week. The most immediate EAB concern is roadside ash trees. He will continue to update the Select Board with information and on best methods for a town-wide inventory.

c. **VTrans Grant for Local Bypass Mitigation – Bridge #7 on VT Route 155 – Update** – Ms. Matthews reported that the State was still planning to proceed with the project. The VT Route 155 road closure is scheduled for mid-July with Bazin Brothers Trucking as the contractor for the culvert replacement. Grant to be signed.

d. **Local Hazard Mitigation Plan** – Mr. Chase reported he had spoken with Steffanie Bourque at RRPC about an initial meeting to discuss an overview of the plan process. He will contact the others who have expressed an interest in working on the plan to set-up that meeting.

e. **Other** - There was no other ongoing and/or old business.

9. New Business

Ted Crawford's Letter – Mr. Crawford had submitted a letter to the Select Board raising some concerns. He read from a

document, which had not been submitted to the Select Board, raising three issues: how could a Select Board member come to do the admin work for the Select Board, was this a conflict of interest, and does the Select Board act as a whole? Discussion ensued about past Select Board members doing the admin work, their compensation, the Selectboard Clerk job description, financial oversight, any conflicts, budget constraints, the Open Meeting Law, Select Board process and minutes. No actions were taken, but the discussion will be revisited at the June 9th Select Board meeting.

a. **Delta Dental Insurance Renewal** – Ms. Matthews explained that the renewal on the dental insurance for staff had been received. There is no increase in the premium rates for the coming year. Ms. Matthews made a motion to continue with Delta Dental Insurance for this next fiscal year, seconded by Mr. Turco, unanimously approved.

b. **Slow Children Sign Request – Shunpike Road** – Mr. Chase stated he had received a letter about speeding cars on Shunpike Road. Mr. Turco stated the Town did not purchase ‘slow children’ signs as the Town then assumes responsibility for the speeders. He said individuals could purchase and put up their own signs.

c. **S.344 - Municipal Tax Rate & Penalties: COVID-19 Temporary Provisions** – Ms. Matthews reported on the legislation that had currently passed both the VT House and Senate giving Towns the right: to revise the date property taxes are due; to reduce or waive penalties, fees, and interests; and to adjust the property tax rate for the coming year. With tax bills due to be mailed in mid-August, this is an option available to the Town if needed.

d. **Other** - There was no additional new business.

10. **Announcements/Other Business**

a. **Appointments** to be made @ June 9th Meeting for July first to June 30, 2021 terms:

- Rutland Regional Planning Commission Representative & Alternate

- Rutland Region Transportation Council Representative & Alternate
Notice for these upcoming appointments will be on the Town website and in the *Chit Chat*.

b. **Other** – Green-Up Day will be on May 30th with a Google Docs sign-up sheet on both the Town website and Facebook page.

11. **Review & Sign Orders** – to be signed one Select Board member at a time at the town office.

12. **Executive Session: Title 1 V.S.A. S 313(a)(3) – personnel** –Ms. Matthews made a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss personnel matters at 8:43 pm, seconded by Mr. Turco, unanimously approved. Ms. Matthews made a motion to exit Executive Session at 9:11 pm, seconded by Mr. Turco, unanimously approved. No actions were taken.

13. **Adjourn** at 9:11 pm. Respectfully submitted: Jennifer Matthews

PLANNING COMMISSION VACANCY

Concerned about Mount Holly's Future?

Interested in Planning?

Willing to Learn, or Background in Planning?

Please send a Letter of Interest to the Mount Holly Select Board by June 8th @ Noon.

Please state your qualifications and your interest in the position in the letter.

Letter can be emailed: mounthollyselectboard@gmail.com,

or mailed: PO Box 248, Mount Holly 05758.

For more information, check the Town of Mount Holly website
<http://www.mounthollyvt.org/town-services/planning-commission/>

Term runs until November 2022.

Town Of Mount Holly NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS

Agreeably to the provisions of Title 32, Section 4111 Vermont Statutes Annotated, notice is hereby given that the undersigned Listers within and for the Town of MOUNT HOLLY have this day completed the abstract of individual lists of persons, co-partnerships, associations, and corporations owning taxable property in said Town on the first day of April 2020, and that they have this day lodged the same in the office of the clerk of said town for the inspection of tax payers; that on the 29th of MAY 2020 between the hours of 10:00 am and 4:00 pm; and 30th of MAY 2020 between the hours of 9:00 am and 12:00 pm, the undersigned Listers will meet at the Mount Holly Town Office in the Listers Office in said Town, to hear grievances of persons, co-partnerships, associations or corporations aggrieved by any of their appraisals or by any of their acts such Listers who objections thereto in writing shall have been filed with them as prescribed by statute, and to make such correction in said abstract as shall upon hearing or otherwise be determined by them; and that unless cause to the contrary be shown the contents of said abstract will, for the year 2020 become the Grand List of said Town and of each person, co-partnership, association or corporation therein named.

Due to health threat caused by the Coronavirus (COVID-19) and recommendations based on public health, we will not be holding face-to-face grievance hearings this year. If you wish to grieve, you MUST submit a grievance in writing by the 28th day of May 2020. You are entitled to state the grievance in a hearing. To do so, you must provide a phone number where we can reach you for a phone grievance.

Given under our hands at Mount Holly in the County of Rutland this 7th day of May 2020. Listers of the Town of Mount Holly, Carol Garrow-Woolley, David Johnson, Mary Surething

Planning Commission Virtual Meeting Minutes - May 18, 2020

Present: Peter Berger, Nicole Lewis, Clinton Woolley, Jim Seward, Gabrielle Macklin-Bickford, David Johnson, OkemoTV

Peter called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

The minutes from April 20, 2020 were reviewed and accepted by motion, second and vote (5-0).

Building Construction Registrations: Moore/Davis Family Trust – Blackberry Lane, 20x30 cabin: approved

Landman – Shunpike Road, wood shed: approved (Peter will sign off on registration form tomorrow)

Wheeler – Route 155, 28x20 solar panel pavilion: approved (Peter will sign off on registration form tomorrow)

Subdivision: Smith/Kenyon - rec'd at town office 5/5/2 - needs to be reviewed with checklist: Clinton and Jim will stop in to the Town Office prior to May 22 to review plat using the checklist - hearing needs to be scheduled for June 22 - abutting landowners need to be contacted in writing – list is on plat: Gabrielle will send out the letters - hearing notice needs to be posted at town office & both post offices - Process for Jim and Clinton to review the plat by May 22, hearing to be scheduled for June 22, and Gabrielle to send out the letters to abutting landowners, accepted by motion, second and vote (5-0)

Town Plan: The Selectboard has tasked the Planning Commission with amending the Town Plan to include more specific language regarding the protection of natural locations/areas in Mount Holly. A concern raised by Peter is that this type of amendment could in effect resemble the type of restrictions that are typically imposed by regulations of zoning, which has historically been rejected through a majority vote by Mount Holly residents. The League of Cities and Towns has indicated that it is not necessary to name specific locations in a Town Plan. Gabrielle will communicate the following proposed next steps, in writing, to the Selectboard: the Planning Commission is willing to revisit the Selectboard's request when it is again conducting meetings in person, and prior to this would like to have an in-person conference with the members of the Selectboard to clarify expectations.

Correspondence: The Planning Commission regretfully accepts the letter of resignation submitted by Peter Berger.

Other: Clinton and Jim will prepare documents prior to the June meeting. Nicole will submit the meeting minutes to the Chit Chat prior to the 22nd of the month.

The meeting adjourned at 7:51 PM by motion, second and vote (5-0). Respectfully Submitted, Nicole Lewis, Planning Commission Secretary

Rutland Regional Planning Commission Alternate Needed

A resident is needed to represent our town at the monthly Rutland Regional Planning Commission (RRPC) meetings when our RRPC Representative is unavailable.

The ideal candidate will have an interest in local and regional planning and a willingness to participate in Regional Board meetings with Mount Holly's best interests in mind. This individual must also be willing to work closely with our RRPC Rep.

The most important qualification is a desire to serve our town. Whether a pro or a newbie to planning, your desire to serve and to represent Mount Holly, while learning along the way, are what counts. (The helpful staff at RRPC and a variety of free trainings and workshops will also be available to help you out.)

Our RRPC Representative & Alternate are our voices in regional planning decision-making. Our Rep & Alternate are also our link to new initiatives, opportunities and resources that might be of benefit to the town.

The ideal candidate will be available to attend at least one meeting a month. The Regional Board meets at 7:00 pm on the third Tuesday of each month (except for the months of July, August, and December) at the Opera House in Rutland. The Mount Holly Select Board meets at 6:30 pm on the second Tuesday of each month at the town office; a report on the Regional Board meeting, and any pertinent information for the town, will be on the agenda. Interested individuals should send **a letter of interest** with their qualifications to the Mount Holly Select Board, either by mail to PO Box 248, Mount Holly 05758, or by email to mounthollyselectboard@gmail.com to be received **by noon on Monday, June 8th**. The Select Board plans to appoint the RRPC Alternate at its next meeting on June 9, 2020.

COVID-19 updates for May - From Jeff Chase Mt Holly Emergency Management Director

Over the past month the following has changed in the Vermont:

1. COVID-19 cases in Vermont increased since May 1 by 65 (879 cases as of May 1st and 944 cases as of May 20th). As if May 20th there were 54 deaths in the state. Total case count to date in Rutland County is 50.
2. The State of Emergency has been extended to June 15th.
 - Quarantine rules are still in place for residents and non-residents coming to Vermont (14 days at home)
 - Some interaction with friends and family is allowed - https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/Safely_Connect_with_Friends_and_Family_FINAL.pdf
3. Phased Restart of the Economy which allows some non-essential businesses to start back up:
 - Outdoor retail
 - Low or no contact professional services
 - Libraries with curbside pickup
 - Farmers markets
 - Manufacturing, construction, and distribution operations
 - Outdoor recreation
 - Indoor retail with reduced store occupancy and cashless transactions and curbside pickup encouraged
 - Drive-in Operations such as movie theaters, restaurants, religious services, and other gatherings with vehicle distancing of 6' apart
 - Lodging, Campgrounds, and other Accommodations may accept reservations from Vermont Residents or from outside residents that have met the 14 day quarantine requirement
 - Restaurants with outdoor dining
 - For more up to date information on the phased



<https://accd.vermont.gov/news/update-new-work-safe-additions-stay-home-stay-safe-order>

4. Testing is more readily available - <https://humanresources.vermont.gov/popups>
5. The Governor encourages the use of masks - <https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/COVID-19-VDH-mask-guidance.pdf>
6. We have beat modeling trends for COVID-19 spread, while neighboring states have seen exponential growth of COVID-19 cases.

As Governor Scott lifts COVID-19 restrictions it is important to protect both yourself and others in the community by wearing cloth face coverings. It is also important to wash your hands or use hand sanitizer frequently while out in public. Finally, while lifted restrictions may mean more frequent outings in public, it is still critical to maintain social distance (6 feet or more) from others.

Our community's efforts on staying home and staying safe have done a great job keeping our community safe and healthy, but your continued diligence is crucial to keeping Vermont's number of COVID-19 cases one of the lowest in the United States.

Help stop the spread of COVID-19 by wearing cloth face coverings, washing your hands, and maintaining social distance.

For more information how to prevent spread of COVID-19 please see:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/cloth-face-coverings-information.pdf>

Invitation To Bid Ford F-350 dump

The town of Mt. Holly would like to offer this 2011 Ford F-350 XL dump truck up for bid with 97,500 miles along with a 9' fisher snow plow. The truck can be seen at the town garage the Minimum bid is \$12,000. Bids must be sent in a sealed envelope to the following address: **Town of Mt Holly PO Box 248 Mt Holly, VT 05758.**

Attention: Select Board Truck bid on the outside of the envelope. **Deadline will be July 7th.**



RCSWD Compost Bins & Containers

20%-40% off retail costs!!

More info: rcswd.com/compost-bins-containers
(802) 775-7209 x206



SOILSAVER COMPOSTER

In-district*: \$40
Out-of-district: \$50



KITCHEN SCRAPER

In-district*: \$14
Out-of-district: \$20



GREEN CONE DIGESTER

In-district*: \$120
Out-of-district: \$140

*Mount Holly residents are in-district

FREE BOOKS CAN HELP TODDLERS COPE WITH THE CORONAVIRUS

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

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

After launching in 1995, the program grew quickly. At first, books were only distributed to children living in the Tennessee county where Dolly grew up. So far, over 134 million of these free books had been mailed to children living in the United States, Canada, United Kingdom, Australia and the Republic of Ireland. Imagine the excitement the currently-registered 1,551,000 children feel receiving these gifts.

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

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

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

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

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

Dolly Parton's IMAGINATION LIBRARY Official Registration Form

Privacy Statement: This information will not be used without your permission for any purpose other than those related to the Imagination Library. PLEASE PRINT

1st Preschool Child's FULL Name _____

Child's Date of Birth ____/____/____ Sex: M F Phone _____

2nd Preschool Child's FULL Name _____

Child's Date of Birth ____/____/____ Sex: M F Phone _____

Parent/Guardian's Name _____

Child's Home Address _____

ADDRESS

TOWN/CITY

POST CODE

Postal Address _____

(if different)

ADDRESS

TOWN/CITY

POST CODE

Email Address _____

"This child is a resident of **an eligible area.**" _____

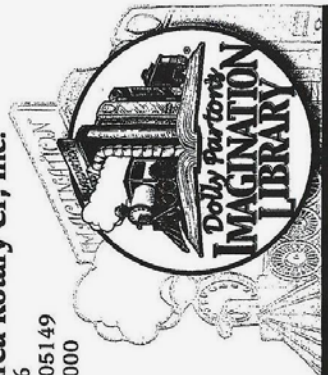
SIGNATURE OF PARENT/GUARDIAN

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: Date Received: _____ Group Code: _____

Sign up your child today!
Simply fill out the above form and mail to:

Ludlow Area Rotary CF, Inc.

P.O. Box 216
Ludlow, VT 05149
(802) 228-4000



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Letter to Editor,

We found Ms. Ward's regrettable poem about Bernie Sanders offensive. It is obvious that she has never attended one of Senator Sanders town meetings held around the state. Bernie's first announcement at every meeting is, "If anyone has a problem and needs assistance, see me or a member of my staff tonight." While canvassing for Bernie many Republicans related stories about how Bernie helped their families; they adore him. On April 9th Senator Sanders organized a telephone town hall with Governor Scott, Senator Leahy and Representative Welch to answer questions about the pandemic since they are concerned about the welfare of the people of Vermont, unlike Donald Trump who downplayed the pandemic and now over 85,000 people have died.

Personally we are astonished that people in our community voted for Trump, a candidate who openly mocked a disabled man; praised white supremacists; disparaged veterans, the military and scientists; detailed his depravity toward women on tape; encouraged violence and bullying at his rallies; and showed a lack of compassion daily-this is the person Ms. Ward thinks will make America great. Trump is unfit to be president and to represent the party of Lincoln. Since he does not believe in science, he pushed scientists aside during a pandemic and made his own declarations like the following: *"I see the disinfectant that knocks it out in a minute, one minute. Is there a way we can do something like that by injection inside? Or almost a cleaning, 'cause you see, it gets in the lungs and it does a tremendous number on the lungs. So it'd be interesting to check that."*

How do decent, caring people still support a man who makes statements like the above and who has made us the laughingstock of the entire world by displaying his ignorance and arrogance? Yet Ms. Ward castigates Bernie for having a lake house that he bought with the earnings of his book, not Trump who was given \$413 million from his father's business and is well known for his dealings with others and his bankruptcies. Bernie earned his money—it was not given to him nor did it come from shortchanging working people. Marcy and Andy Tanger



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

No Spring Rummage Sale, But Food Shelf Still Open

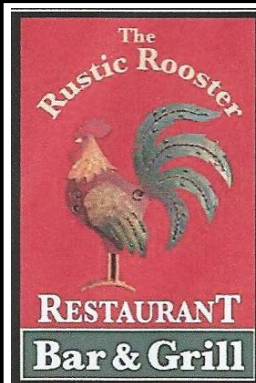
At its most recent meeting, the Black River Good Neighbor Services board of directors made the painful decision to cancel the Spring 2020 rummage sale and to concentrate on providing food and

financial assistance to neighbors in need. "These sales have been a mainstay of our fundraising for over 12 years," said Lou Krefski, board president, "but we are in strange times that call for some otherwise unwanted choices." He explained that even though the sale may have occurred after Vermont businesses reopen, the preparation work takes weeks before the sale. "We should have been working on the preparation already," said Krefski. "Our volunteers put in an amazing number of hours to sort and price donations, and to arrange merchandise; but we simply can't do that right now."

Also, since there will be no rummage sale, and since the thrift store is closed, the organization is not accepting donations at this time.

A decision on the Fall sale will be made later this summer, and the board hopes that it will happen as scheduled in September.

Meanwhile the food shelf is open for assistance Monday through Friday from 10:00 to 3:00 for anyone who needs help. Even though the program is running with normal hours, it is running with different procedures. Anyone needing food or financial assistance should first call 802-228-3663 and set up an appointment with Krey or Audrey. Food boxes will be ready for pick up at the appointed time.



SUNDAY BRUNCH

Every Sunday

10 am – 2 pm

Outdoor Fire Pit

Take Out Available

Free Wi-Fi

Reservations Not Required

Hours:

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



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Ludlow Ambulance Service describes Impact of Covid-19 on its Service at Rotary Meeting

At its recent online meeting, the Ludlow Rotary Club (LRC) heard from Stephanie Glover, Deputy Chief of the Ludlow Ambulance Service (LAS), about the impact Covid-19 has had on its service. This discussion was all the more significant to Stephanie since she suffered the first case of Covid-19 in Vermont.

One of the key impacts on LAS was the need to move out of its headquarters on West Hill, which is also the home of the Ludlow Police Department, to implement the "social distancing" requirement mandated by the Governor's actions. Additionally, to protect both patients and LAS staff, LAS staff members wore personal protective equipment and masks; patients were required to wear masks.

Individual LAS members stored their basic gear separately so that each one of them was protected from using the gear used by another member.

In introducing Stephanie to LRC members attending the Zoom-based meeting over the Internet, Ludlow Municipal Manager noted she "has been doing a very good job during difficult and unique times. One of her strength has been organizing the LAS staff and managing them effectively during the coronavirus crisis. She has been working closely with Police Chief Billings helping us coordinate our response and preparedness for this critical health emergency."

Stephanie indicated that they "were optimistic that the end is near" but that LAS was preparing for "a second wave of Covid-19 cases in the fall and winter".

During the discussion following Stephanie's presentation, a LRC Rotarian offered her insights on the impact of the virus crisis from her home in St Augustine, FL where she was preparing her home for subsequent rental use if permitted by the state of Florida. She offered the following comparison of Covid-19 activity in FL compared to VT:

"While staying in our home in St Augustine FLA in St John's County with a population of more than 250,000 with roughly 900 confirmed cases and 4 deaths as of 5/12. We drove route 95 from VT to Fla. Rest areas were open, we wore masks and gloves at all stops. No problems and light traffic made for an easy drive. We are here now as the state of FLA has begun to open. Beaches, restaurants, retail all open with social distance guidelines. Restaurants and stores must keep occupancy at 25% of capacity. Outdoor patios tables must be 6 ft apart and we noticed some have screwed the tables into the decking to keep people from being able to move tables and seating. No seating at bars is allowed. We see some people wearing masks in grocery stores etc but not many. Vacation rentals are not allowed although the hotels are open. Since AirBNB and other rental sites such as VRBO and Home away platforms are still up and running we are seeing some of our neighbors still renting. Vermont has ordered those platforms to shut down until June 15th. Here in Fla those platforms are still up and running and accepting reservations although there is a state mandate on Vacation rentals. Hoping they open it soon as our home is fully booked for the summer beginning May 29th. We are hoping for the best as we get our home ready for the busy summer rental season but plan to adhere to the state mandate."



Black River Good Neighbor Services

FOOD SHELF

Serving Mt. Holly, Belmont,
Ludlow, Cavendish, Proctorsville
and Plymouth

As a network partner of the Vermont Food Bank, we serve people in need within our communities, striving to make the experience as pleasant and dignified as possible.

BRGNS Food Shelf is a USDA and Commodity Supplemental Food Program distribution site.



Food Shelf
Hours:

Monday-Friday
10 AM – 3 PM

Call: 802-228-3663
to schedule your
food pickup

37B Main Street
Ludlow, VT 05149
802-228-3663
www.brgn.org

#OkemoValleyStrongerTogether

Okemo Valley Chamber expands its COVID response for the region

The Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce (OVRCC) is a resource for the business community in the towns and villages in South Central Vermont that they service. Businesses in Andover, Baltimore, Cavendish/Proctorsville, Chester/Gassetts, Grafton/Cambridgeport, Landgrove, Londonderry, Ludlow, Mount Holly/Belmont, Plymouth/Tyson, Shrewsbury/Cuttingsville, Weathersfield/Ascutney, & Weston can look to the chamber for help so that #OkemoValleyStrongerTogether is a reality.

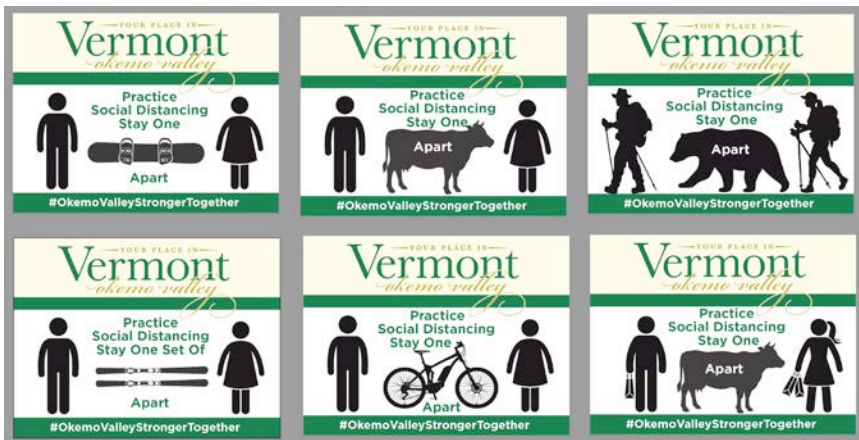
Good news for many of our members and other businesses in the region is that on **Monday, May 18**, Vermont retail stores will be able to reopen at 25% capacity under the condition that they abide by the state's coronavirus operation guidelines. For those who are not yet fully operational, the chamber compiled a list of members offering online shopping opportunities during this COVID-19 Pandemic. The public is invited to help support these businesses by shopping online as well as purchasing gift cards or gift certificates from them. Visit the Chamber's [website](https://yourplaceinvermont.com/online-shopping) and click on the post with the shopping bags or follow this link: <https://yourplaceinvermont.com/online-shopping>

As our economy is starting to reopen, the chamber recently partnered with [Awesome Graphics](#) to create special **Okemo Valley safety & educational signage** for their employees and customers. (See attached samples). They are offering a discount to fellow chamber members. Contact them at 802-773-6143 to order yours.

The Okemo Valley Chamber is taking additional steps to help support the region during these challenging times. OVRCC is now offering open access to its member eNews for all businesses within Okemo Valley for this Summer. The member eNews is a critical source for COVID updates, future events, and other information in the region. Although there is no obligation, new chamber members who are interested in joining OVRCC now will not be invoiced for their membership dues until August. All chamber members in good standing at that time will be included in the next issue of [Okemo Valley Magazine](#). Businesses wishing to join the chamber can do so right online here: www.yourplaceinvermont.com/join-the-chamber/online-application/

Other ways the chamber has been supporting their members and the regional business community, is with the creation and maintenance of an updated **COVID-19 Resources** button on their website. Here is this link to many valuable business resources: <https://yourplaceinvermont.com/covid-resources/>. The chamber also continues to update a list of members and others offering food take-out, grocery providers and farm stores here: <https://yourplaceinvermont.com/support-okemo-valley-members-offering-food-pick-up-delivery/>. In addition, there is a community resources information page on the chamber's website which is also continually updated as well. For more info, go to: <https://yourplaceinvermont.com/community-resources-needs-during-covid-19/>

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



Update from Fletcher Memorial Library

Thanks All!! We have available, daily under cover at the rear entrance, book, audio books, and movies for you to take. We do not want the items back. Staff has been busy inventorying our collection - @ 10,000 items so far – and now onto the Youth Collection. Orders have been received and there will be plenty of New items to borrow!

We are awaiting Governor Scott's "turning of the spigot" to reopen the library. We are not retail. Once that happens, we will be able to give you a date as to when we are re-opening. The REAR door will be the ONLY entrance. Returned items are to be placed into a box inside the door. Masks are REQUIRED to continue into the library. HAND SANITIZER will be provided and MUST be used BEFORE you exit the air lock. Social Distancing will be in place. Certainly this will be a different library experience, but not forever. Lastly, the book shelves will be closed to the public. Sorry, I know this is a hard one. You may search our on-line catalog and there is a choice to look at the books on the self in a specific area. I think this will help. We are happy to speak with you to assist in any way that we can. Staff and volunteers will be available to assist you as well. Be Well – Stay Safe, Jill Tofferi, director, Fletcher Memorial Library, 88 Main Street, Ludlow, Vermont 05149, 802-228-8921 www.fmlnews.org

ATTENTION

OPENING DATE TBD

Please **DO NOT** put Returns in the Drop Box

Downloadable Books & Audio Books
Ancestry Search - and so much more @
www.fmlnews.org

Staff is available daily to take your calls &
assist with online services.
Please contact us by Phone or e-Mail.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!!

LOTS of NEW BOOKS and AUDIOS HAVE ARRIVED!!
Please watch social media, print media, our phone
message & outdoor signs
for RE-OPENING DATE.

Senator Alison Clarkson's Legislature Update

The COVID-19 crisis is challenging all of us, but it is particularly challenging for those already at risk in Vermont. 'Stay Home, Stay Safe' assumes two things – that you have a home and that it is safe. Sadly, for too many Vermonters this is not the case. And so Vermont's government, along with its non-profit housing community, has stepped in to provide additional help.

COVID-19 has magnified the need for safe, affordable housing, and Vermont doesn't have enough of it. In Windsor County we have very low vacancy rates and very expensive rents. Low-income Vermonters are often more vulnerable – not only to the health consequences of this pandemic but to its economic fallout. They have higher levels of underlying health conditions and far less financial security.

At the moment, Vermont has about 1,600 homeless families and individuals being housed in motels and hotels around the state. In the Upper Valley we have about 120 homeless households, which translates to about 195 individuals (14 of whom are children) being sheltered in 5 different motels in 125 rooms. To put this in perspective – in a normal winter, the Upper Valley Haven might be sheltering anywhere from 60-70 people. In mid-March, the state extended the Motel Voucher program in response to the COVID-19 crisis. As a result, the Haven was able to meet the demand for housing not just those who were homeless, sheltered and unsheltered, but also those who were housing insecure (i.e. are people who were couch surfing, sleeping in cars or doubling up). The Haven has been the conduit

for coordinating this safe housing, helping distribute food, and helping secure the support services many of these people need to stabilize their lives.

This pandemic has brought into sharp relief the fact that housing is health care. One of the success stories of this COVID-19 crisis is the fact that by acting swiftly, the Housing Community (the state with a host of housing and social service non-profits) managed to move the homeless population from congregant housing to motel rooms where they could live safely, maintaining physical distance. As a result, to date, NOT a single homeless person in Vermont has had the corona virus. This is good news for all of us. In Boston, 1/3 of its homeless population has been sick with COVID-19, both a tragedy for those

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CHIMNEY CLEANING * STAINLESS STEEL
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(802) 259-3622

falling ill and an infection hot spot putting everyone at greater risk. And, as a further benefit, a number of those Vermonters who were precariously housed have been helped into permanent housing.

We have an opportunity now to act further on what we know – that public health is improved with safe housing. The opportunity to leverage some of the federal COVID 19 financing into permanent housing for Vermonters is a real option. We can expand rental assistance to prevent new people from becoming homeless as the crisis strikes more and more of us. We can house families who have lost their homes in temporary housing or motels. More permanently, we can incentivize rehabilitation of unused houses and the building of new affordable housing. We could buy some of these motels, facing their own financial challenges, and renovate them to house families.

The Affordable Housing Community has created a proposal to invest \$106.5 million of the federal COVID 19 money into this work – creating a bridge from homelessness to permanent housing. They propose to spend \$70 M to create new housing, and \$36.5 M for the next 9 months to help prevent future outbreaks of COVID 19 by ensuring safe and healthy homes for more Vermonters. It anticipates expanding support services to meet the increased needs of these vulnerable populations and builds capacity in the housing community to provide these services. The local jobs created by this housing investment could also play a significant role in Vermont's economic recovery.

I appreciate hearing from you. I can be reached by email: aclarkson@leg.state.vt.us or by phone at 457-4627. To get more information on the Vermont Legislature, and the bills which are being debated now, those which have been proposed and

June 2020 Mount Holly Chit Chat Inc



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Todd Durgin
1596 Summit Road
Mount Holly, Vermont 05758

Horses On The Road

IT'S THE LAW Title 23§1127
That horses have the right-of-way
On all roads.

Horse owners and riders are asking that you slow down.
Give the horse some extra room, and proceed with caution.

There are many things that frighten a horse:

- The sounds of different road conditions.
- Water puddles or if it's raining.
- Maybe you hit a big pothole with your vehicle.
- Stones on a dirt road – the sound of them hitting your vehicle, or when they fly out from the tires.
- Maybe you are pulling a trailer and the items in it are making loud noises.

Things like these can cause even the best-trained horse to become afraid and make unexpected movements – SOMETIMES JUMP INTO THE ROADWAY!

WE SHARE THE SAME ROADS. SO PLEASE PASS THE WORD ON.
SLOW DOWN AND GIVE A HORSE AND RIDER
SOME EXTRA ROOM FOR SAFETY.

THANK YOU

FROM THE
VERMONT
HORSE COUNCIL

www.vthorsecouncil.org



passed, visit the legislative website: legislature.vermont.gov
21 www.mounthollyvt.org chitchat@vermontel.net



Shriner Hospital For Children

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



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

Free Online Lyme Disease Prevention Curriculum for Children in Vermont

May is Lyme & Tickborne Disease Awareness Month. With Vermont children schooling and playing at home, tick bite prevention is extremely important.

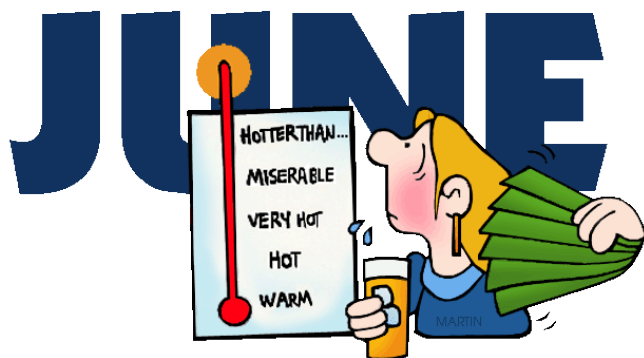
Students can learn about tick bite prevention and how to identify signs and symptoms of a tickborne illness with one of three interactive curriculums for children in elementary, middle and high school.

Vermont consistently ranks among the highest states in the USA for incidence of Lyme disease. According to the CDC children between 3-14 are at highest risk of contracting Lyme disease.

Instructions about how to access the *Global Lyme Alliance Lyme Prevention Curriculum* and links are available online at www.VTLyme.org, or at www.globallymealliance.org.

Tick-bite prevention and early diagnosis will help Vermont's children stay healthy and can prevent long-term health complications from a tickborne disease. VTLyme.org encourages educators and parents to help young children access this free prevention curriculum, and to consider giving older students extra credit for completing the short and informative online workbook.

Many Vermonters know about Lyme disease symptoms such as joint pain, fever, and a "bulls-eye" rash, but children may have a unique presentation of tickborne illnesses that can include vision problems, headaches, stomachaches, sudden anxiety, light and sound sensitivity, lethargy, and irregular rashes. The Vermont Department of Health's 2014 Lyme Surveillance Report showed less than half of Vermont children with confirmed cases of Lyme disease had a "Bulls-Eye" rash that year. Other tickborne diseases present in Vermont may have different symptoms and treatments than Lyme disease.



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

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

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

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

Name

Address

Phone Email

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

mthollynewsflash@gmail.com

And request to be placed on the list.

News item deadlines are 6 am & 6 pm

Also Check

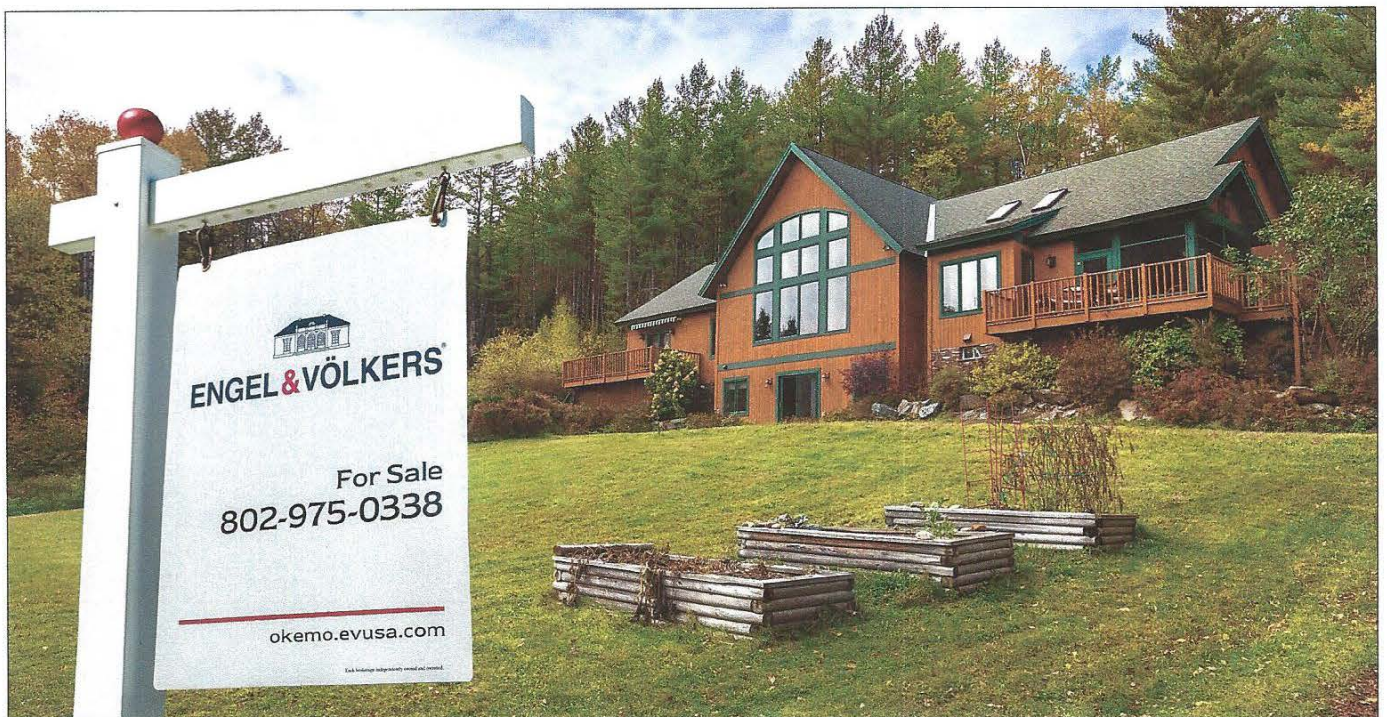
www.mthollynewsflash.blogspot.com

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

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The world deserves to see it. You deserve to sell it.

Our region is thriving! People are selling and buying homes. We have been working with wonderful partners to make it through these trying times safely. Both prudently & diligently, we have been able to continue property transfers. So much so that we need more properties to sell. We have buyers actively looking and we anticipate even more.

Now is the time to list your property with us.... and we've been sharpening our EDGE. Engel & Völkers provides Extensive Domestic & Global Exposure (EDGE™) designed to maximize exposure of your listing to qualified, targeted buyers locally and around the world. Through the most highly trusted strategic online and mobile marketing partners, our worldwide network and our white-glove professionalism, we will market your property with the utmost care and competency.

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Who's Got It Locally?

Artists & Architects

Alistair McCallum Landscape Photographs & Paintings 259-2318
Spectrum Photography – John Miller 259-3060

Bakeries - Catering - Restaurants - Stores

Harry's Café, Trip & Deb Pearce III www.Harryscafe.com 259-2555
Mojo Café – John & Jodi Seward mojocafevt@yahoo.com 228-6656
The Rustic Rooster – Donna & Greg Ganzer 492-3433
www.vtrusticrooster.com

Bed & Breakfast

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

Building & Repairs – General Work

AW Carpentry-Remodeling*Building*Portable Sawmilling 259-3699
Cutting Edge Carpentry – Curt Marechoux Cell 236-5559
Earl (Tersh) Runner Carpentry – Superior Woodworking 492-3388
Grey Goose Chimney Sweeps 492-3549
Jenkins Builders – General Contractor brandon@jenkinsbuild.com 952-9722
Summit Home Services LLC- Todd Durgin H: 259-3000 C: 236-7075
Electrical & Home Maintenance
Ted Stryhas Builder 228-7327
Wright Construction – Brett Wright 259-2094

Church Listings

Annunciation, Ludlow, Mass Sat 4:30 pm, Sun 8 am & 11 am
Holy Name of Mary, Proctorsville, Mass Sun 9:30 am
Rev Thomas Mosher abvmludlow@comcast.net 228-3451
Belmont Village Baptist Church-Worship 9:30am, Coffee Hour 10:30
Pastor Glenn Davis ybch.weebly.com 259-2440
E. Wallingford Baptist – PS 9:15-10:00 am SS 10 am, Worship 11 am
Pastor Kevin Miner 259-2831
First Baptist Church, Wallingford, SS 11am Prayer Meeting Wed 7 pm
Pastor Dave Bentley 446-2020
Lighthouse Independent Baptist Church, Rutland SS 11am & 3pm
Until May 11am & 6pm 779-0300
Ludlow Baptist Church, 9:30 am SS, 10:30 am Music Fellowship,
11 am WS, 6:30 pm Evening PS, Wed 6:30 pm PM & BS
Pastor Jerry Scheumann jfscheumann@gmail.com 603-439-0803
St. Patrick's, Wallingford, Mass Sun 9 am
Rev Msgr Bernard Bourgeois christthekingprsh@gmail.com 446-2161
Wilderness Friends Meeting (Quaker) Sundays 10 am
Shrewsbury Library, Cuttingsville 259-2803

Engineering

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

Equipment For Hire & Snow Moving

Beardmore Excavating beardmoreexc@gmail.com 342-3507
Flander's Excavating & Firewood 259-2147
Norton's Property Management – Logging*Land Clearing*Snowplowing
*Brush Hogging*Mowing & Care Taking 802-353-6289 Cell 259-3108
Russ Garrow –Lawn Mowing*Brush Hogging*Garden Tilling*Snow Plowing
*Care Taking 259-3167

Farm Fresh Products

Plew Farm (meat, eggs, maple) www.plewfarm.com 802-259-2250
1966 Healdville Rd, Mt. Holly
Smith Maple Crest Farm, Grass-Fed Beef Cuts Fresh/Frozen 492-2151
www.Smithmaplecrestfarm.com
Sugar Hill Berry Farm www.sugarhillberryfarm.com 259-2155

Food Shelf

Black River Good Neighbor Services – Krey Kellington 228-3663

Funeral Homes

Clifford Funeral Home 773-3010

Garage, Repair & Wrecking

Belmont Motor Works LLC - Harley-Davidson, Small Engine 259-3178
Snowmobile, ATV, Aluminum Welding & Metal Fabrication

Garden & Landscape, Lawn Mowing

Belmont Country Gardens Quality Custom Stonework & More 259-2364

Frost Hill Farm Seasonal Peony Wedding Flowers 259-2716
Kevin Smith, Garden Service & Lawn Mowing 259-3964
Salt Ash Nursery - The Balsam Barn – Scott Crawford 259-2146

Health Care Providers

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

Home Management Services

Belmont Country Gardens Property Management 259-2364
Mowing & Plowing Jon Lienhard
Country Home Management, Richardson/Rivers 259-3662 228-7086
Jenkins Builders brandon@jenkinsbuild.com 952-9722
Seiple's Property Management 802-236-8104
Yankee Home Management, Keith Hawkins 259-3064

Interior Design

Rose of Sharon Designs – Sharon Napier Design Consultant 860- 214-3911

Maple Syrup

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

Marketing & Promotional Services

Express Copy Inc., Don Reiser H 259-2722 362-0501
print@expresscopyinc.com

Metal Fabrication

Wayne Jones Metal www.waynejonesmetal.com 259-2521

Mount Holly Email

Kevin Plew – mthollynewsflash@gmail.com 259-2250

Painters

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

Plumbing & Heating

Master Plumbing & Heating Inc. 802-975-0369
masterplumbingheating@gmail.com
Tailored Plumbing tailoredplumbingheating@gmail.com 802-417-1647

Real Estate Sales

Coldwell Banker Lifestyles, 228-5678
John Napier jnapier@cblifestylesre.com 860-559-9334
Engel & Volkers, Okemo - Woodstock Gail Beardmore 802-975-0338
Gail.Beardmore@evusa.com (Mobile) 802-236-5431
Kelley Real Estate, Don Eatmon, Broker/Owner H 259-2646 228-5333
Don@KelleyRealEstate.com
Alex Eatmon Alex@KelleyRealEstate.com Cell 802-345-7886
Lisa Kelley Lisa@KelleyRealEstate.com H 259-3112 Cell 802-345-6581
Ty Murray Ty@KelleyRealEstate.com H 259-3014 Cell 802-777-8047
Fax 802-228-5343 www.KelleyRealEstate.com www.OkemoValley.com

Roofing

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

Security

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

Septic System Design

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

Therapeutic Riding

Rienbow Riding Center Home 259-2282 Barn 492-2226

Tree Services

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

Volunteer Services

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

Woodworking, Cabinets & Furniture

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

