



46/9

**Current Postal Patron
Box Holder/Rural Route**

"PRSR STD"

U.S. Postage

PAID

Permit No. 8

Mt. Holly, VT 05758



November 2020

Mount Holly Chit Chat

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

Mt. Holly Community Asso – Contact Linda Miller at 802-345-1740

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

Town Garage: 259-3179

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

TRANSFER SITE: Sat. 8 am – 2 pm & Sun. 9 am – 12 pm

Oct 27th Mason Meeting, Mt. Moriah Lodge #96, E. Wallingford

31st

National UNICEF Day ~ Halloween

Nov 1st

All Saints' Day ~ Daylight Saving Time Ends

2nd

All Souls' Day ~ Only Flight of Howard Hughes "Spruce Goose" 1947

3rd

VOTE Election Day

Polis Open 10:00 am - 7:00 pm

Mt. Holly Community Asso. Meeting, Library

Mount Holly Conservation Commission

4th

Will Rogers Day Okla

5th

Fire Dept. Business Meeting, Belmont Fire Station

Snow Flyers Meeting, via ZOOM (Login check Club Website)

Sat 7th

Marie Sklodowska Curie 1867

9th

Rescue Squad Meeting, Rescue Squad Building

Berlin Wall Opens 1989

10th

Mt. Holly PTSA Meeting, MH School

Community Guild Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont

US Marine Corps Est. 1775

Select Board Meeting, Town Garage

11th

Mount Holly Planning Commission, Town Office

Veterans' Day

LMHUUS Meeting,

Fire Dept. Ladies Auxiliary Meeting, Belmont Fire Station

Signing WWI Armistice 1918

ODD Fellows Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont

12th

Fire Dept. Drill, Fire Station

13th

Robert Louis Stevenson 1850

14th

Dear Season Begins

17th

Fire Dept. Work Night, Fire Stations

18th

Mt. Holly Town Library Meeting, Library, Belmont

19th

Fire Dept. Drill, Fire Station

Gettysburg Address 1863 ~ Discovery of Puerto Rico 1493

Sun 22nd

John F. Kennedy 1917-1963

23rd

Rescue Squad Meeting, Rescue Squad Building

24th

Community Guild Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont

Mason Meeting, Mt. Moriah Lodge #96, E. Wallingford

25th

ODD Fellows Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont

26th

Sun 29th

30th



**Thanksgiving
Deer Season Ends
Full Beaver Moon**



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 Check out Mt. Holly Web Site www.mounthollyvt.org

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

Donation Thank Yous: Ben & Amber Taylor (Tailored Plumbing & Heating) * Alison & Rick Weintraub * Ann & Joe Koneval * Lory Doolittle * Helen Scarzello * Keith Hawkins (Hawkins Excavation) * Marianne McGee * Bill & Marnie Dassler * Nancy Dana Wilson * Joseph Hammond & JoAnn Crowley * Linda Carabus-Brown * Betsey McGee & Mark Pecker * Michael & Barbara Caputo * Maria Nitzsche * Alison Clarkson (Clarkson For The Senate) * Katie Flynn & Nick Marshall * Mike & Mary Beth Dawley * Alistar & Joan McCallum * Mary Gorman * Jill Tofferi (Fletcher Memorial Library) * Emily Jackson * Harry & Terry Eaton * Patrick & Jane Burns * Margo Coffey * Dick & Nancy Tilton * Dick McCormack (McCormack Campaign) * Fred Garrow & Gene Jennings * Barbara Oswald & Tom Pelsue * Don Eatmon (Kelley Real Estate) * Gail Nadok * Deb & Gordon Cheyne * Sal Mazzullo * Audre & Ryan Harter * Arthur & Nancy Beebe * Gerald Rogell * Alice Nitka (Alice Nitka For Senate) * Phyllis Hendee * Gini Marconi * George & Carol Gage * Robert Ludwick Jr. * William & Martha Parker * Janice Bamforth * Joseph Elwell (Paradise Cleaners LLC) * Glenda Baker * BJ & Joan Stewart * Ron Unterman & Dottie Finnerty * Hank Schwartz & Lee Monroe * Max Yaffee * Randy & Tammy Hawkins * Judy & Paul Nevin * Dr. Joseph & Lisa Donohue (Thrive Center Of The Green Mountains Inc.) * Armand & Ruth Fleury * Margaret Whyte * Jim & Kathy Heald *



November Birthdays: 2nd -Amanda Smith Frank * Linda Fitzgibbon 4th -David Davis * Keith Hawkins 5th -Bruce Turco * Victoria Turco * Richard Darling 7th -Bridger Lillard 8th -James Proctor * Dave Venter 14th -Daniel Fitzgibbon 17th -Matthew Alberty * Catherine Carrara * Candence Taylor 18th -Sally Bussino (1956) * Jason Bussino (2012) 19th -Chad Devereux * Barbara Gerdin * Brayden McEnany 20th -Melinda Dawley-Pearson 23rd -Donna Lee 24th -Josh Bussino (1992) 28th -Jessica Lee 29th -Joe Turco * Jeremiah Johnson * Maryanne Bolalek * Ronald Blanchard (1966) * Jeffrey Bussino Jr (1989)

November Anniversaries: 15th -Wayne & Lori Wheelock

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.

The United States Marine Corps was established on November 10, 1775, to augment naval forces in the Revolutionary War. The recruiting headquarters was set up by Capt. Samuel Nicholas in the Tun Tavern on Water Street in Philadelphia, which is considered to be the birthplace of the Marines.

After success in many campaigns, the Corps was abolished at the close of the Revolutionary War for reasons of economy. On July 11, 1798, Congress ordered the creation of the Corps, named it the United States Marine Corps and directed that it be available for service under the Secretary of the Navy.



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: Dennis Devereux **V. PRESIDENT:** David Venter

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

DIRECTORS: Heather Garrow, Christine Pratt, Kevin Plew

MANAGING EDITOR: Diana Garrow

ASSISTANT to the EDITOR: Heather Garrow

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Local Post Office Hours

| | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Mount Holly | 802-259-2796 |
| Window | Mon – Fri 8:00 am – 10:00 am & 2:45 pm – 4:45 pm Sat 7:30 am – 10:30 am |
| Lobby Hours: | Mon – Fri 8:00 am – 4:45 pm |
| Belmont | 802-259-2790 |
| Window | Mon – Fri 7:30 am – 9:30 am & 2:45 pm – 4:45 pm Sat 8:00 am – 10:45 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 |

will be on-hand to answer questions and share insights into joining the MSJ family. Light refreshments will be provided.

Mountie for a Day on Nov. 11

MSJ also welcomes area students to be a Mountie for a day on Wednesday, Nov. 11.

MSJ welcomes area students, currently in grades 7 and up, to visit Mount St Joseph Academy for a school day. Middle and High School-aged prospective students who are interested in learning more about MSJ are invited to meet our students, faculty and staff and to participate in our school day, from 8:00 a.m to 3 p.m. Lunch will be provided.

Mount St. Joseph Academy is located at 127 Convent Avenue in

Vermont Home Gardener

The Value of Leaves & Water

Leaves made the Green Mountains green all summer and now provide the beauty of autumn across the Vermont landscape. Next they are released from their trees to bring fertility and build soil. My key message is to use those rich leaves, do not remove or discard them as is so often the misguided custom. The second message this week is about the great importance of water to plants heading into winter. Let's look at why we should not rake away our leaves and how to prepare your perennials for winter with water. Read the full article at Vermonthomegardener.com

Got Garlic? Time to Plant!

I like to wrap up fall gardening with planting something. Garlic is an easy New England crop and it's great to have something to look forward to for next year already in the ground when winter arrives. Nothing compares with fresh garlic from your garden and now is the time to sow your garlic, along with many other bulbs that will be the first things up next spring. Let's look at a few tricks to have a successful garlic crop year after year using science and some old-time knowledge. Read the full article at www.Vermonthomegardener.com

Mount St. Joseph Academy Open House on Nov. 4

Mount St. Joseph Academy will hold an Open House and welcomes prospective students and families from 5 pm to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 4.

The Open House will include Student-Led Tours and Teacher-Student Presentations. Families will be greeted by a student ambassador who will lead them through a guided tour of the school. Faculty and staff

Kabbalat Shabbat Service

Nov. 6, Friday 7:30 pm

Nov. 13, Friday 7:30 pm

Shabbat Service

Nov. 21, Saturday 9:30 am Garfinkel bar mitzvah

Nov. 27, Friday NO SERVICE

Contact

Rabbi Ellie Shemtov

rabbishemtov@runtlandjewishcenter.org

New pandemic rules for October...

☒ When talking to strangers you have to be standing back-to-back (why are you talking to strangers anyway?).

☒ Anyone with a haute contour mask pays for coffee and donuts.

☒ Not filling out and returning the 2020 census forms is a 'no-no' (ok, so that may not have anything to do with pandemic).

☒ Buying a 2021 Mount Holly Calendar cures bunions! And maybe that isn't true but buying a calendar and returning your census forms can put you on the road to nirvana.*

On sale at the **Belmont Store** (with curbside delivery) and the **Town Office**. Or send a text to mthollyphotos@gmail.com for info about mail delivery or at home delivery (in Mt. Holly) (or anything else that's on your mind).



MT Holly Photo & Calendar Competition (802) 259-3947

*Only true if you also win the lottery.

Rutland, VT. If you have any questions about the Open House or Mountie for a Day, please contact Bill Bruso in Admissions at wbruso@msjvermont.org.

MSJ at a Glance

More than 95% of Mount St. Joseph Academy graduates go on to College.

MSJ welcomes students of all faiths.

MSJ offers a variety of Advanced Placement courses

Bill Bruso, *Enrollment Coordinator*, Mount Saint Joseph Academy, 802-775-0151 ext.2013 *Ride the Wave to Success*

www.msjvermont.org [Follow MSJ on Facebook!](#)



Flander's Excavating & Firewood

Complete Site Work Start To Finish

All Aspects of Excavating:

Roads ~ Clearing Lots ~ Septic Systems ~ Ponds

Fully Insured – Call Steve @ 802-259-2147

Firewood – Cut, Split & Delivered

Barn Preservation Association

Mount Holly Barn Preservation Association

On behalf of the Mount Holly Barn Preservation Association we want to thank all of you that participated in our Barn Tour fundraising event on Saturday, October 10th. I am pleased to say it was a great success! We had almost 40 carloads, and over 100 people attend --- all enthusiastically supporting preservation of Vermont Barns. We not only received many thanks from participants but the barn owners as well, since they thoroughly enjoyed sharing their barns with you. We hope you continue to enjoy many of Mount Holly's wonderful barns now available virtually through our new website, <https://vtbarnmuseum>. Again thank you for your generosity and support! Annette Lynch, President, Mount Holly

Independent School Draws Supporters With Successful Wine Event

The Independent School raised over \$12,000 at the Autumn Wine Tasting event held October 11th at the Echo Lake Inn. The Board of Trustees continues to drive fundraising efforts to further support the endeavors of the school. The event featured wine from Casarena Winery in Argentina as well as a silent auction featuring a week-long stay in a private villa in St. Barts. The event took place in a heated tent with social distancing guidelines in place. Many generous donors from the community made the event possible including: Andrew Pearce, Aubuchon Hardware, Blue Sky, Book Nook, Boot Pro, Cafe de Light, Castle Inn/ Spa, Clearlake Furniture, Cota & Cota, DJ's, Du Jour, Green Mountain Fire Place, Green Mountain Sugar House, Harry's, Homestyle Hostel, Killarney's, LaValley's Building Supply, Little Cricket Gallery, Liza Foley, Main & Mountain, Mangiamo's, Margo Marrone, Mojo's, Northern Ski Works, Okemo Valley Golf Course, Outer Limits Brewery, Robin Anderson, Singleton's, Sweet Surrender Bakery, Sydscompufix, The Cookster, Totem Pole, Tom's Loft, Vermont Country Store, Von Trapp, Wine & Cheese Depot, Russ Hurlburt Photography, Irene Berry Massage, Garvey and Garvey Property Services, McLaughlin Team Four Season Sotheby's Intl Real Estate, The William's Family ~ St. Barts Villa. The event would not have been possible without the support of Tom Gianola and his staff at the Echo Lake Inn.

If you would like to learn more about the school or get involved, please contact Sean Williams, Chair of the Board at sean@blackriveris.org or Kendra Rickerby, Interim Head of School at kendra@blackriveris.org. General inquiries can be made to TheSchool@blackriveris.org. Please visit our website www.blackriveris.org. Donations can be made on the website or by mailing a check to P.O. Box 485, Ludlow, VT 05149.

Join Bone Builders

Monday & Thursday Mornings
9:00 am

Odd Fellows Hall

For Weights and more information
Call Judy Nevin 259-2443

Snow Flyers Update

We hope everyone is doing well & staying safe during all this mess. Our first Trail Work Day was October 10th - we'd like to "Thank" those were able to help - every little bit helps, cause we have miles to go yet. The next scheduled Trail Work Days are October 24th & November 7th - meeting up at the Green in Belmont @ 8:30am & we'll go from there - weather permitting.

All TMA sales this season will be done on-line through the VAST website - if you are having issues reach out to one of us & we'll try to help.

At this time the New Year's Eve Fireworks look to be another victim of Covid. The Club web site is another source of information & to keep updated on club happenings.- the next club meeting will be November 5th @ 6pm via ZOOM (login info is on Club website) trails as well as election of officers will be the important topics. Mount Holly Snow Flyers

www.mounthollysnowflyers.org

Trestleboard Mt. Moriah Lodge #96

**Regular Meeting Tuesday 10/27th 8PM ~ Next meeting
Tuesday 11/24th 8PM**

Greetings Brothers,

Linda Griffin has sold her auction business to Mike Stark who will continue to have auctions here at the Lodge. Finishing details are about complete and we look forward to having Mike as a tenant.

Come in casual dress for the meeting, masks from home - hand sanitizer will be available.

I'm making a plea to all the brothers who haven't paid their dues. We need that money to help us keep our lodge going. Everyone who hasn't paid should have received a dues notice for the September 2nd meeting. Please send your

payment to Buster Seward, 4280 Sugar Hill Rd. East Wallingford, Vt. 05742. As soon as possible.

District No.4 is having their meeting this Friday night at Rutland Lodge, beginning at 6:30 PM. Let's support Jim Goss and that district by attending this meeting.

District No. 11 will have our meeting Saturday, October 23rd, beginning at 10AM at Olive Branch Lodge in Chester.

Andy Paczkowski sent word that there will be a District 11 Past Masters meeting at Olive Branch Lodge in Chester, beginning at 6:15 Thursday night.

We trust everyone has been healthy over the last month. Thank you. Fraternally, Earl Miller W.M. - Buster Seward Sec'y





MASTER
PLUMBING & HEATING

Robert Beardmore, Jr.
Office: (802) 975-0369
Fax: (802) 975-0413
masterplumbingheating@gmail.com

P.O. Box 354
126 Main Street, Unit D
Ludlow, Vermont 05149

and shot the suspect in the leg. Hayden was transported to Rutland City Hospital via a special train, and subsequently died from his injuries one week later. Vallento was arrested the following day at his home and charged with First Degree Murder. Sheriff Hayden was married with four children. He was a Prominent Member of the Masons, Odd Fellows and Knights Templar. Antonio Vallento was convicted after a jury trial of 2nd degree murder and sentenced to life imprisonment at Windsor. Paul Faenza, 1st Constable

Town of Mount Holly

Town Clerk's Office

NOTICE TO VOTERS

Dear Mount Holly Voter,

For the November 3, 2020 Presidential Election, you should have received an absentee ballot. The **Secretary of State's Office** mailed out the ballots September 29 to all current registered voters. This ballot also has on the reverse the local **Justice of the Peace** ballot. **This is the ballot you must use to vote, if you do not receive one you can fill out an affidavit stating that and I can issue another one.**

I strongly urge you to review the ballot, make your choices and return it to the Clerk's Office as soon as possible. **Make sure you put your ballot inside the envelope for the voted ballot and sign, date and seal it.**

The ballot may be returned to the Mount Holly Town Office in person, by mail or by having a friend or family member return it. I have a **drop box by the front door** of the Town Office you can put your ballots in if you want. **It is imperative that it be received by 7 PM on November 3, 2020. The polls will be open 10 am – 7 pm on November 3rd if you want to come in and put your ballot in the voting machine yourself.**

If you are not registered to vote and are a resident of the Town of Mount Holly, you may do so before the election by filling out a form I have at the town office or it can be mailed to you. OR you can go on-line to my voter page and register.

We are looking forward to a smooth and successful 2020 Election and with your help this can be achieved. Susan Covalla, Mount Holly Town Clerk, PO Box 248, Mount Holly, VT 05758, Phone (802) 259-2391 email: mthollytc@yahoo.com FAX (802) 259-2635

Reinbow Riding Center

The leaves are almost gone, there has been snow on top of some of our Green Mountains and the horses are getting their fuzzy winter coats foreshadowing the oncoming cold weather season. We usually have lots to tell you about how our season went—in general, better and better every year. But in these unusual times that didn't happen. We can however, positively report that the horses are fat and sassy and have really enjoyed the time off as you can see for yourself. From the right, Miss



YANKEE HOME MANAGEMENT
Property Management
and Maintenance
yankeehomemanagement.com

802-259-3064


MT. HOLLY, VT

Keith Hawkins
PRESIDENT

Constable Corner

This month I wanted to share some local constable history. We have had 27 law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty here in Vermont. One of those officers lost his life here in Mount Holly.

On July 18, 1908 Windsor County Deputy Sheriff Frank A. Hayden, who was also the Ludlow Town Constable responded to Mount Holly to serve a writ on Antonio Vallento aka "The Italian", regarding money he owed on a mortgage. Sheriff Hayden located the subject in a wood lot approximately ¾ of a mile from the Mount Holly Train Station. While attempting to handcuff the subject, Vallento picked up a double-sided axe and struck the sheriff three times, but not before Hayden pulled out his revolver



Custom Builders of Belmont Inc.
P.O. Box 171
Belmont, VT 05730

Charlie Conroy
cjconroy@vermontel.net

30+ Years Experience



Molly, Phoenix and Ryan belying up to a big big bale of hay—Thanksgiving came early for them.

Although this will be a difficult year for celebrating the Thanksgiving Holiday, we wish everyone the best.



The photograph in the October issue is the Odd Fellows Hall near our Star Lake. The building looks pretty much like it does today. Before it was used as the lodge hall the building was part of the Chase Toy Factory until it closed in 1889. The lower floor was then used as a creamery by Civil War Veteran William Lord. Mr. Lord had operated the first cheese factory in town in the Hortonville area. After his death in 1901, his widow sold the building in 1903 to the lodge members

that were meeting upstairs. The building to the left was also part of the Toy Factory operation as was the water powered sawmill to the right.

Mount Holly Community Cares Task Force

The Mount Holly Community Cares Task Force has continued its efforts to provide assistance to any of our neighbors in need of help.

The **Food Support** program continues its good work this month providing frozen dinners to families in town. We can't begin to thank the many "chefs" who have so willingly stepped up to cook some wonderful meals for this initiative. Special acknowledgement should be made of the tireless energy that Jo Bania has put into this program. Many thanks, Jo, from all of us in Mount Holly!


The Mount Holly Community Cares Task Force is beginning to discuss assembling Thanksgiving baskets for some of our friends and neighbors. As soon as plans for this have come together, we will let you know any way in which you can help. Thank you in advance for assisting with this effort!

The Community Garden, which has contributed so much to the food sharing that went on all summer and fall, is ready to be put to bed for the winter. Jo Bania will be coordinating this work, so if you would like to help her with it, please contact her at jo.bania@trsu.org. Thanks so much for pitching in!

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.



TAKE TIME

Take time to **WORK**
It is the Price of Success

Take time to **THINK**
It is the Source of Power

Take time to **PLAY**
It is the Secret of Perpetual Youth

Take time to **READ**
It is the Fountain of Wisdom


Take time to **WORSHIP**
It is the Highway to Reverence

Take time to be **FRIENDLY**
It is the Road to Happiness

Take time to **Laugh**
It is the Music of the Soul

Take time to **DREAM**
It is Hitching your Wagon to a Star

Take time to **Live**



7TH GENERATION FAMILY FARM



**SMITH
MAPLE
CREST
FARM**

Wednesday, Friday, Saturday & Sunday
10 am - 3 pm

MAKE THIS A CONSUMABLE CHRISTMAS - BUY LOCAL

WE CAN SHIP YOUR GIFT OF OUR VERMONT MAPLE SYRUP, MAPLE CANDIES, & SPECIALTY ITEMS TO YOUR LOVED ONES.

NO MORE GUESSING GIVE OUR FARM STORE GIFT CARD.

GET BACK TO TASTING THE REAL FLAVOR OF GRASSFED BEEF -

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| * STEAKS | * GROUND BEEF |
| * KABOB MEAT | * PREMAD BURGERS |
| * RIB STEAKS | * SAUSAGE |
| * SOUTHWEST SEASONING | * TALLOW |
| * BRISKET | |

SHOP IN OUR FARM STORE
2450 LINCOLN HILL, SHREWSBURY, VT 05738 802-492-2151
YOU CAN REQUEST CURBSIDE - ORDER VIA PHONE, EMAIL
MAPLECREST.INFO@GMAIL.COM OR USE OUR WEBSITE:
SMITHMAPLECRESTFARM.COM



*Happy Thanksgiving!
To You And Your Family*

Mount Holly Community Association

Well, Mother Nature did us a favor this year and held on to that beautiful foliage a little longer than usual...we are all grateful to her for some lingering color in these difficult times! All of us here at the MHCA hope that all of you are well and staying safe. We think about you often and miss all of you at all of the fall events that might have been.

We are happy to report that the **Community Room** is being used again! The Community Guild has begun having their meetings there every other Tuesday and the Mount Holly School is also making use of the room several times a week. The school is using it for parent education meetings, to host parent conferences, to use it as a testing site, and generally make use of the room as an extension of the school. Protocols for using the room safely have been set up and everyone is being especially careful to ensure the safety of all. If you would like to make use of the room, please contact Jennifer Burrows jburrows890@gmail.com.

Many thanks to the **Mount Holly Fire Department** for coming out when they were notified by a neighbor that there was an alarm going off in the Community Center building. The alarm was for the septic tank next to the building and it goes off when the tank is getting full and needs to be emptied. **For everyone's information**, we do have a fire alarm system in the building, which is connected to Countryside Lock & Alarm. If indeed there was a fire, the alarm would go to Countryside and they would contact the fire department. This is an essential service to have, since the building is not always occupied.

Currently, the MHCA is hard at work developing a **web site** that will provide a comprehensive picture of the MHCA, its history, sponsored events, and more. Stay tuned for an announcement about when the site will be launched and when we go live!

Despite our not being able to get together, please remember that your **membership in the MHCA** continues to be more important than ever! Among the many events sponsored by the Association (10 in total), four of them are fund raisers that have provided essential income to make all of the other events possible, as well as pay for essential building projects (e.g., the recently completed well!). This additional income is what contributes to being able to maintain a vibrant community association for our town. However, membership is what pays for the operating expenses of the MHCA, so **it is essential** that this continue to be a strong, on-going source of income. Membership flyers can be found in the Belmont Store, the Mount Holly Library, the post offices, and the town office. Please join today!

Last, but not least...don't forget to pick up the **Mount Holly Photo Calendar for 2021!!!** They are on sale (\$20) at the Belmont Store, or you can call Craig Tomkinson at 259-3947. You can also order them on-line at mthollyphotos@gmail.com.

Don't forget...these much loved calendars sell out really quickly, so be sure to purchase/order yours right away lest you lose out this year!

There is also the opportunity to purchase **the few 2020 photo calendars** that were left over from last year. On many levels, 2020 has been an historic year and worth having a Mount Holly calendar to remember it by. If you would like one, please send \$13 (sale price for the 2020 calendar) to "Mount Holly Photo Judging & Calendar Competition 2020 Calendar" PO Box 70, Belmont, VT 05730. One will be sent to you by return mail.

All of us at the Mount Holly Community Association wish all of you a very Happy, Healthy, and Safe Thanksgiving!!

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

FML News

Fletcher Memorial Library
November 1, 2020

Membership: PLEASE JOIN US!

Please visit our website. Click on the "Membership" tab at the top, fill out the form and then mail, e-mail or put in our drop box with the required supporting documents. That's It! Please call if you have questions. We are here to assist Mon. - Fri. 10AM - 5PM.

FML Staff Looks Forward to your Membership!

These Days of Covid-19: our temporary new "Normal"

Due to Covid-19, FML staffs' 21st ANNUAL SILENT AUCTION has been cancelled. Staff is disappointed as we look forward to seeing everyone and the excitement. Our annual fund raiser supports FML non-budgeted enhanced services and technology needs i.e. downloadable - audio books, ebooks, magazines, our loaner pass program, tech support and more. **We are Looking Forward to Your Support in 2021!**

Curbside Service Continues -

Please call us with your requests. We are happy to suggest titles and if it is not in our catalog, we will search VT libraries and get it. If you need a photo copy and are able to email it to us - we are happy to print the document then notify you for pick-up.

New Items arrive continually. The easiest way to peruse these titles is to go to our catalog. On the landing page, click the ICONS for Recently Returned, New Books or New Audio. You may always call - Happy to assist!

Be Well - Stay Safe - Wear Masks
PLEASE...

Many thanks for your support; Past, Present and Future.



We are unable to accept BOOK DONATIONS.

www.fmlnews.org ~ 802-228-8921



And then . . .



THIS HAPPENED!

Staff had a blast participating in this Community Event! - Thanks!

Important Dates:

November 3rd -
Get Out and VOTE
November 11th -
Veterans Day
November 26th -
Thanksgiving



FML CLOSED for THANKSGIVING
November 26th - 29th



Wayne Jones Metal

All Metals

Sheet - Plate - Structural - Fabrication
CNC Plasma - Oxy Fuel Burn Table

Equipment Repair

Light Machining

Sand Blasting

Polishing

www.waynejonesmetal.com

Wayne Jones

1759 RT 103 N

East Wallingford VT 802-259-2521

Mount Holly Town Library

Cooler weather is upon us once again and warm fires and good reads go together nicely. The Mount Holly Town Library has been busy adding lots of new titles for you to read. Here is a sample of some of the new books we have added to our shelves:

Jingle All the Way by Debbie Macomber * A time For Mercy by John Grisham * Elsewhere by Dean Koontz * The Searcher by Tana French * Magic Lessons by Alice Hoffman * Cardiff By the Sea by Joyce Carol Oates * The Book of Two Ways by Jodi Picoult * Squeeze Me by Carl Hiaasen

We've been adding new titles for the kids as well. Some of them are: Charlie and Mouse Outdoors by Laurel Snyder * Vote For Our Future by Margaret McNamara * Bones in the White House: Thomas Jefferson's Mammoth by Candace Ransom * Everest: the Remarkable Story of Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay by Alexandra Stewart

Check us out at <http://mounthollytownlibrary.wordpress.com> to see all the new titles we have added.

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

Indiana Jones and the Search for the Human Soul I recently re-watched the trilogy of the Indiana Jones movies.

They really have aged pretty well. The characters exhibit courage, humility, and integrity. At the beginning of Last Crusade, a youthful, Boy Scout Indie, taking back the Cross of Coronado ("It belongs in a museum") with an awkward, tongue-in-cheek attitude, spouts "Everybody's lost, but me." Ah, that's the Indie we know and love.

Through the adrenaline-laced adventures (reminiscent of the cheap, fun serial movies of the 30s and 40s) the Jones's' actually learn some fairly deep spiritual lessons. In instructing the clueless gov't agents about the Ark of the Covenant, Indy asks, "Didn't you guys ever go to Sunday School?" Many Biblical themes are woven throughout the films. The Ark is a mighty important symbol of the holiness of Yahweh and that same holiness He requires of those who would follow Him. (As Dr. Jones Sr. says, after slapping his son for misuse of the Lord's name, "That's for blasphemy!") Implication being, "I'm not sure I believe, Dad."

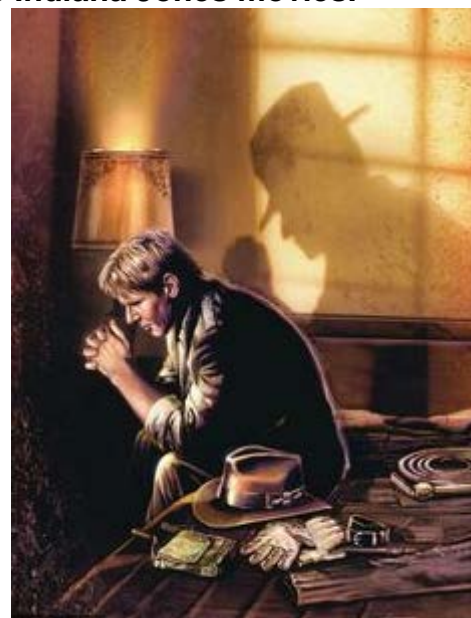
The darkest flick, the Temple of Doom, is symbolic of the place without hope where those apart from the One True God suffer for their sins. It depicts false religion at its worst:

pagan idol worship, and yet what modern idols do we bow to in our culture?

Indiana is my kinda guy.

Tough and forceful when necessary, yet loveable and heroic with a sense of humor also. At first, he appears to have no belief in Christ, but sees God's power, even with his eyes tightly shut, destroying the army of darkness around the Ark which was never intended to be opened.

It is in the Last Crusade where Indie finally begins moving toward what his father calls "illumination". (Perfect chemistry and casting having 007 be his dad- genius!) A father and a son have a past, so you care about their relationship. It's an archeological search for Indy's own identity and coming to accept his father, rather than about finding the Holy Grail. In the end they lose the grail and find each other. The search for the Father and the search for the Son are one in the same. When we find Jesus we know the Father. Eventually, through the passion, subtext and touches of spiritual significance, we see Indiana take God into his soul and trust in His help to overcome. He must cross a ravine where there is no visible bridge- the only way is a "leap of faith", which perfectly illustrates how we should trust God. His father's anxious plea, "You must believe, boy! You *must!*" is the message of the film. Our hero learns that our true treasures are those who walk with us, *not* objects we lust after. PG



New pandemic rules for November..

- ☒ Assume that everyone you meet is smiling at you from under their masks.
- ☒ At the supermarket don't go down the wrong way in a one-way aisle. If you do go down the wrong way and someone sees you walk backwards.
- ☒ If you haven't already done so, VOTE by Nov. 3rd. Short of buying a 2021 Mount Holly Calendar it is the most important thing you will do this year.
- ☒ Okay, so voting is a lot more important than buying a 2021 Mount Holly Calendar. But, purchasing a 2021 calendar is a great way to help support the activities of the Mount Holly Community Association.

The Mount Holly 2021 Calendar is on sale at the

Belmont Store

Mount Holly Town Office

Or send a text to mthollyphotos@gmail.com

for info about mail delivery or at home delivery (in Mt. Holly) (or anything else that's on your mind, except politics).



**MT Holly Photo & Calendar
Competition (802) 259-3947**

mthollyphotos@gmail.com



Offering a Wonderful Growth Experience for Children and Adults with Special Needs



rainbowridingcenter.org

Rainbow Riding Center

We live in a unique and strange time caused by a pandemic, Covid-19 has affected families, schools, businesses and more. It has also affected the Rainbow Riding Center. In 2019 we provided a record 225 individual and group lessons. In 2020 we provided none. The presence of Covid-19 in our communities and our concern for the health of riders, volunteers and staff resulted in a decision not to offer lessons.

Not opening meant no lesson income and the unavailability of our largest grant. The virus also forced the cancellation of our Summer Palooza Fundraiser. RRC had sufficient funds to meet this year's ongoing expenses but without our normally expected income, our resources have been depleted. This makes this year's annual fund drive critically important to meet all our ongoing obligations and provide the funds necessary to open and operate next year.

We are grateful to all of you who have generously supported the program over the years. We hope you are again able to help so we can continue to provide equine therapy to the children and adults who come to us with unique physical, emotional, and cognitive challenges. For them, equine therapy provides a treatment that significantly improves their lives in ways other treatment does not. This is our mission.

Despite being closed to lessons, we have not been idle. For all the kids (and parents) who did not want to hear the words *no horses*, we created activity bags to keep their minds and bodies active. We thank our

dedicated volunteers for their creativity and hard work in getting these out.

The RRC board also used the time to assess how we could better meet the needs of our participants and community when we do reopen. We came to realize that expected program growth meant our current Beaver Meadow Farm location in Shrewsbury would no longer be adequate. We are thankful for the support of Ludy Biddle, the farm's owner and our landlord, which has enabled RRC to grow.

Through our Program Director Mary Jane Osborne, we connected with a long-time supporter and farm owner in Belmont. After much discussion we have worked out the details for a free (\$1/year) five-year lease at Stone Wall Farm, with the option to extend, Rainbow Riding Center will need to contribute up to half of the cost of constructing a riding ring, install fencing and help with trail clearing, while the landowner will make upgrades to the barn, spring system and other improvements to accommodate RRC. While this is a huge commitment on the part of RRC (as well as the landowner), we felt it is essential. This will enable us to continue to serve those in need in the communities of Rutland and Windsor County.

You can help.



Become a donor.

Your donation will make a difference in a rider's life.

Please fill out the form below and mail to:

Rainbow Riding Center
PO Box 395
Shrewsbury, VT 05738

Or make your donation online at:
rainbowridingcenter.org

I would like to make a difference.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$2,500 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$5,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$_____ |

Sponsor a Rider.

Your sponsorship will make a difference in a rider's life by providing access to the magic that happens at RRC.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$400 | 8-week session |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$800 | Two 8-week sessions |

Donor Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

email _____

Phone _____

Check # _____ Cash _____

Pay by PayPal _____

The RRC Board, staff, volunteers and riders
thank you for your support!

802-236-2483



BIG EYES BAKERY

126 Main Street, Ludlow
(802) 228-2400

Currently offering curbside pickup every Saturday

Visit our Facebook Page @Ludlowbakery for menu options

Stay well Wear a Mask Wash Hands

We look forward to seeing you all soon!

www.bigeyesbakery.com

We are all extremely excited.

Thank you for whatever assistance you can provide Rainbow Riding Center. It is through your volunteering and your financial support that we can offer this unique therapy that has made a difference in the lives of many of our children and adult neighbors. Sincerely, Lynn McDermott, Board President



Before



there's no giving that up. When you are cooking for 40+ people, you need a chef's sized kitchen, which is where Jonni came in.

After the project was completed, she suggested we submit the project to this award as she's had experience judging for the Tri-State Chapter of the National Kitchen and Bath Association's competitions. The marketing coordinator at Wright jumped on the opportunity to get our name out there in the community, as we hadn't won an award since 2004. We figured it couldn't hurt to toss our hat into the ring.

From there, the submission preparation began! We staged the addition and took photos. We spent hours editing and days writing the submission and filling out forms, checking in with Jonni and Carl Lavallee II, Wright's project manager assigned to the job to make sure all the technical information was correct. We pulled out all the stops to put our best foot forward with the judges.

Keep in mind, we never actually thought we would win. We only submitted to one category, Addition over \$250,000, and we knew there were submissions from all over the country. That's what makes winning the Bronze so special. We got to represent our

teeny tiny company from Mount Holly, Vermont, of all places, in a national magazine.

Let's talk about the real winners of this award now. From designers to subcontractors to our amazing field team. Anyone who hammered a nail on this stunning addition deserves this recognition. We couldn't have won without each and every one of them and their dedication to producing beautiful work for people. A home is so custom and special, and we are truly grateful to our clients for putting their home in our hands and trusting us to make it perfect for them.

When we get a big residential job like this, we are thrilled because that means we get to be creative and challenge ourselves to design and build something that is totally custom to the personalities of the owners. As a contractor, you don't really get that with commercial or municipal jobs. It's very cut and dry what is to be built, but with residential clients there is some wiggle room to try new things and figure out unique ways

to meet the needs of the owners and their families.

We are so proud to show this award to past and prospective clients and share it with all of the amazing people who helped build this beautiful addition and submitted this award-winning project. We hope for many more in the future and look forward to decorating Okemo Valley, and the rest of Southern Vermont in homes that keep our clients and our environment in mind.

Wright Construction Company Award Article

In June, Wright Construction Company submitted a recent project to the Qualified Remodeler Magazine 2020 Master Design Awards...and we took home the Bronze!

Choosing to enter a nationwide contest was not something we had planned to do. What prompted the entry was a 7,500sf Post and Beam addition we built, and a new collaboration with local kitchen and bath designer, Jonni Huntley of Catamount Kitchens and Design.

This addition was for clients with a big family who needed big space to live and grow. Moving was not an option because their home faces Okemo mountain in Ludlow, Vermont and, honestly,

Exterior Left



Main Living



Visit us on
Facebook



Pasture Raised
PLEW FARM
Mt Holly, Vermont

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

1966 Healdville Road, Mount Holly

www.plewfarm.com

Pasture raised Chicken, Eggs
Pork, Grass Fed & Finished Beef

Maple Syrup, Maple Cream Maple Almonds & Candy

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

Brandon Jenkins
Owner

(802) 952-9722

Jenkins
Builders
jenkinsbuild.com

Mount Holly, Vermont

brandon@jenkinsbuild.com

State Representative For Ludlow, Mount Holly & Shrewsbury

Election Day! I have not been campaigning nearly as much as I had hoped to but will spend all day at the polls on Election Day (socially distanced) and hope to see you there if you have not yet voted. You should have received a ballot in the mail already and can fill that out and mail it in or drop it off in person any day the town clerk's office is open between now and Election Day.

The Governor has now acted on all the bills we passed during the September session, vetoing only one additional bill, H.926, which would have made changes to Act 250. He also allowed two bills to go into law without his signature, signifying that he did not completely agree with them but would not stand in the

Driveway Grading / Ditching
Site Work / General Excavation
New Lawns / Ponds
House Sites / Septic Installations
Land Clearing / Driveway Installations

KEITH Hawkins
 president



Mount Holly, Vermont

802 558.3082

bipartisan support 26-3. There was more opposition in the House side with many dissatisfied that the bill had lost a lot of its substance and was not the sweeping changes we all know are needed to Act 250 and were hoping to pass this year. But it still passed on vote of 93-56. From my perspective there was a lot of compromise in the Senate amended bill, but I was not surprised or upset by the veto. The Governor followed his veto by issuing an executive order to accomplish some of what would have been done by the bill with regards to trails and the Act 250 review process. While I mostly agree with the intent of the executive order, I think it sets a dangerous precedent about what can be done by executive order in the state.

While I am happy that S.54 was enacted I was disappointed by the Governor not signing the bill. I feel we made a LOT of compromises from the initial bill in areas that were important to him and there are parts of the bill I disagree with. But I voted for it accepting there were going to have to be compromises and I would have liked to see him more fully embrace the bill.

"The Turkey's Opinion"

"What do you think of drumsticks?"

I asked a barnyard bird.

He grinned a turkey grin and then

He answered me this word:

"They're good to eat, they're good to beat,

But, sure as I am living,

They're best to run away with

The week before Thanksgiving."

By Mr. Tom Turkey

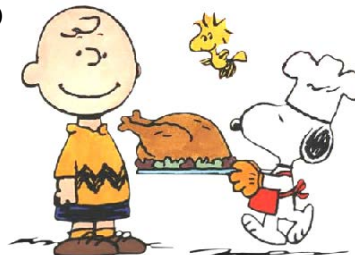
Submitted By,

Virginia Ward

Happy Thanksgiving!

2020

I am alarmed by the currently rising COVID cases and am redoubling my efforts to make sure resort towns are properly supported as we start getting results from a busy Columbus Day weekend and plan better for winter in our towns. Someday I still hope to resume my coffee hours but until then please continue to call my cellphone anytime, leave me a voicemail and I will call you back as soon as I can. Stay safe and stay strong! Logan Nicoll 802-345-8430



Cutting Edge Carpentry and Paint Works

Curtis Marechaux
 Mount Holly, Vermont
 Over 30 years of experience in all phases of remodeling.

(802) 236-5559
 Cuttingedgevt800@aol.com

way of them being enacted. The first was S.54, colloquially known as the Tax and Regulate bill, which will set up the system for selling cannabis products in the state. The second was S.119, which sets a statewide standard for law enforcement use of force.

With regards to H.926, it was a bill I supported and hope to see the issues it focused on more properly addressed in January. It started as a very ambitious bill, making substantive changes to Act 250 that everyone sees the need for to make the application and review process smoother and more clearly defined. Ultimately, with the pandemic and the more pressing legislative needs, the Senate felt they could not adequately deal with those more substantive topics this year. They pared down the bill to just a few of the more widely agreed upon provisions. It passed that Senate with broad

Smith Maple Crest Farm

Shrewsbury, Vermont

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

Try our new

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

Gift Certificates available

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



Mount Holly Town News

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

Mount Holly Special Select Board Meeting September 21, 2020 Minutes Zoom Meeting: 844 3526 9021

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

Town Officials: David Johnson, Jon McCann, Jim Seward, Clinton Woolley

Members of the Public: Ted Crawford, Stephen Michel, Robin Nelson

1. **Call to Order** by Mark Turco at 4:31 pm.

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**

line will make the necessary repair. Ted Crawford asked to move agenda items # 6-11 to the regular October meeting, where he thought they belonged. He stated few residents knew of this meeting or could attend at 4:30 in the afternoon. Ms. Matthews stated: the Planning Commission was eager to hire their new clerk and needed the Select Board to act on their recommendation to do so; Mr. Woolley's resignation had been in the Select Board office since September 9th and the Planning Commission needed all members appointed so as to help with the work on the Town Plan; Hubbard would like to pick up the metal pile next week, according to Clinton Woolley; and, Ms. Matthews had told Louise DeCormier she would ask the Select Board to address her inquiry about a 'Children at Play' sign at this meeting. She stated these items all needed to be addressed in a timely fashion. She also noted that the agenda for the meeting had been posted since Friday. Mr. Crawford stated that deciding items at a Special meeting was too easy and had never been done in the history of the Mount Holly Select Board. Mr. Chase suggested the Select Board meet twice a month on a regular basis in order to respond to items in town in a timely manner. Mr. Turco noted Mr. Crawford's concerns. He stated the Select Board would maintain the agenda as is for this evening.

4. Federal CARES Act Grant & Cott Contract – Jon McCann reported the Town had asked for about \$19,000 to digitize five years' worth of land records for on-line public access. The State had extra funds available and awarded the Town over \$29,000, which could be used to digitize additional years. First step in the process is to enter into a contract with Cott Systems, the company which will host the data and provide the scanner for the digitization project. Ms. Matthews made a motion to accept the Federal CARES Act grant funds and enter into a five-year contract with Cott Systems for the digitization and online hosting of the land records, seconded by Mr. Chase, unanimously approved.

5. Municipal Planning Grant Resolution – Ms. Matthews read through the resolution (attached) in support of the Town applying for the grant. Mr. Chase made a motion to sign the resolution, seconded by Mr. Turco, unanimously approved.

6. Planning Commission Clerk – New Hire Recommendation – The Select Board was in receipt of a letter from the Planning Commission recommending the hiring of Renee Sarmento as the Planning Commission clerk. Ms. Matthews made a motion to hire Ms. Sarmento as the Planning Commission clerk for a maximum of ten hours a month at a starting wage of \$15 per hour, seconded by Mr. Chase, unanimously approved.

7. Planning Commission Member Clinton Woolley's Resignation – Mr. Turco made a motion to accept Mr. Woolley's resignation with regrets, seconded by Ms. Matthews, unanimously approved.

8. Transfer Station Metal Pile Proposal – Mr. Woolley reported that Hubbard would pick up the pile and take everything in it with no fee. Mr. Chase made a motion to have Hubbard pick up the metal pile at no charge to the Town, seconded by Mr. Turco, unanimously approved.

9. Frost Hill Road – Private Water Line – Item not necessary per Mr. Chase.

10. Children at Play Sign – Yale Road – Ms. Matthews reported she had received a call from Louise DeCormier about having the

Town put up a 'Children at Play' sign along Yale Road. Mr. Turco stated the Town could not assume the liability for putting up such signs. Individuals can put up their own signs as long as they are not in the traveled portion of the road. Robin Nelson commented on the speeding cars on Belmont Road and other roads in town, and she expressed her concerns for children near those roads. Discussion ensued. Mr. Turco thanked Ms. Nelson for her input.

11. Susan Covalla Letter – Ms. Matthews said the item need not be

TOWN OF MOUNT HOLLY

A PERMIT IS REQUIRED FOR OUTDOOR BURNING

BURN PERMITS

May be obtained from
THE MOUNT HOLLY FIRE WARDEN

Jim Seward

Pager: 786-3408

Home: 259-2211

Leave a phone number where Jim can call you back.
Do not burn until you have spoken to him.

SAFETY FIRST ALWAYS

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

addressed per Ms. Covalla.

12. Executive Session: Title 1 V.S.A. S 313(a)(3) – personnel –Citing Statute, Mr. Chase made a motion to enter Executive Session for an employee evaluation, seconded by Ms. Matthews, unanimously approved. At 5:49, Mr. Chase made a motion to exit Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Turco, unanimously approved. No actions taken.

13. Adjourn – at 5:50 pm. Respectfully submitted: Jennifer Matthews

Mount Holly Listers Hours

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

Mount Holly Special Select Board Meeting September 29, 2020 Minutes Zoom Meeting: 830 2087 2645

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

Town Officials: David Johnson, Annette Lynch, Jon McCann, Don Richardson, Jim Seward, Brigid Sullivan

Members of the Public: Stephen Michel, Robin Nelson, Paul Nevin, Michael Smelser



NOTICE

MOUNT HOLLY TAXPAYERS

2020 Real Estate Property Taxes are due
Monday November 30, 2020

After November 30, 2020 an 8% Penalty and
1% per month Interest will be added.

Partial Payments are allowed.

Payments must be received at the Town Office or
be postmarked Nov. 30, 2020 (or earlier) to be
considered timely paid.

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 – None were necessary.

4. Select Board Meeting Site – Mr. Turco stated he had received multiple calls to return to in-person meetings with the town garage as a site which could support social distancing. He made a motion to hold the Select Board meetings in a public fashion at the town garage temporarily. Jeff Chase seconded the motion. Brigid Sullivan asked if the meetings would also be held via Zoom for those uncomfortable attending a large gathering. Okemo Valley's Eric Chatterjee said it was possible with some coordination. Robin Nelson asked what the problem was with an in-person meeting if all were wearing masks and practicing social distancing. Annette Lynch remarked that calling for a vote before any discussion was out of order. She stated that she was part of a group of residents who are more susceptible to the coronavirus and so she goes out infrequently, noting it is possible to catch the virus from those without symptoms who don't even know they are ill. She considered Zoom meetings to be a much safer option

and the only way residents susceptible to the virus could participate in town meetings. Mr. Chatterjee said having a Zoom option worked best for access by many groups. Stephen Michel stated there could be greater participation with a Zoom option. Jennifer Matthews reported on the Governor's press conference today during which he warned against complacency, especially in regards to large gatherings. There is concern about a second wave of the virus as temperatures grow cooler and people move indoors, causing greater susceptibility to the virus. She stated that she updates the coronavirus page on the town website just about every day and that the number of positive cases has been increasing every day for weeks in Vermont with positive cases now in Mount Holly. As an older resident and thus more COVID susceptible, and as a mom, Ms. Matthews stated she prefers to err on the side of caution when it comes to health & safety measures, just as the Select Board did at the start of the pandemic with all the health & safety measures put in place for town staff and at the town office. Paul Nevin said he was not a fan of Zoom as it lacked the personal touch, and he stated that the museum board and others in the State were meeting in person without any problems. Ms. Matthews added that the Governor extended the State of Emergency to October 15th and the VT League of Cities and Towns continues to

recommend that town boards and commissions meet remotely, again erring on the side of caution. Mr. Michel noted that some residents do not have access to Zoom and would like to participate in person. Jon McCann asked that the motion contain the rationale for the change and why the change was worth the health risk. He also stated that a town meeting really could not bar residents from attending (due to capacity limitations), so a hybrid model was probably best. Michael Smelser said that residents without computers or Zoom access could not participate in the meetings. Mr. Turco said he had received calls and a petition to return to in-person meetings, which is how this meeting transpired. Mr. Chase said his kids were in school with masks, temperature checks, and health questions required. He also said other towns were meeting in person, so he thought returning to in-person meetings was not off base. Additional discussion ensued about temperature checks, contact tracing logs, social distancing, health & safety requirements and guidelines, requests to return to in-person meetings and requests to stay with Zoom, lack of access to computers and/or online platforms, the Governor's State of Emergency directives. Ms. Nelson commented on the need for all to work together for the good of the community without conflict and to try to please everyone. Mr. Chatterjee recommended the Select Board have remote access available for meetings. More discussion ensued on how to make that happen. Mr. Turco made a motion to move to in-person meetings with Zoom availability, seconded by Mr. Chase. Mr. Turco and Mr. Chase voted in favor of the motion. Ms. Matthews explained her reservations to do so given the current State of Emergency, VLCT's recommendation for continued remote meetings, concerns about older residents and those with underlying conditions. Mr. Turco asked if that was a 'yea' or 'nay.' Ms. Matthews said it was in between as she found herself between a rock and a hard place as some in town wanted in-person and some wanted Zoom meetings. She thought it best to stick with Zoom so as to err on the side of caution. Mr. Turco

Mount Holly Town Office

Will be **CLOSED** the following dates:

Wednesday, November 11th, 2020 For Veterans Day

Thursday, November 26th, 2020 For Thanksgiving

Are you
concerned
about an
aging
loved one?

Mom, we need to talk.

It's important to discuss health care needs with an aging loved one before a crisis arrives. Knowing their preferences in health care can help eliminate frustrations when decisions need to be made. If you or a loved one needs in-home care, it's important to discuss your options with your physician, social worker or discharge planner, and ask for the VNA & Hospice of the Southwest Region.



800.244.0568 | www.vermontvisitingnurses.org

add the leaf blower purchase through the received grant award. Jennifer Matthews asked to add a road use request for the Mount Hilly Runners. It was agreed to add both under 'New Business, Other.'

4. **Approval of September 8th, 2020 Minutes & Special SB Meeting Minutes of September 21st & September 29th** – Jeff Chase made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Turco, unanimously approved.

5. **Reports:** a. **Highways & Transfer Station Update – Clinton Woolley**

i) **Road Salt Purchase** - Mr. Woolley reported he had received three quotes for road salt: American Rock @ \$74/ton; Appalachee @ \$74/ton, the supplier we have been using; and, Cargill @ \$68.50/ton. Ms. Matthews asked if he had checked with Shrewsbury on their experience with Cargill. Mr. Woolley said they were happy with them and he recommended using Cargill because of the lower price. Mr. Turco made a motion to use Cargill for road salt at a cost of \$68.50 per ton, seconded by Mr. Chase, unanimously approved.

ii) **Summit Road Culvert Replacement** – Culvert will need to be replaced sooner rather than later as it is in rough shape due to age and beaver activity. Mr. Woolley is waiting to hear from ANR in the hopes of at least replacing the old culvert with a new one until a more permanent repair can be made. Mr. Chase noted that VTrans has been contacted about performing a hydrological study in preparation for a grant to make the repair; grant availability is a couple of years out due to COVID delays.

iii) **Sawyer Hill Road Grant Application Update** – Mr. Chase submitted the grant on Friday for the project

b. **Treasurer – David Johnson**

i) **Monthly Income & Expense Report** – Mr. Johnson reported the tax payments were coming in better than last year at this time, which is reflected in the bank balance. Looking at the Profit & Loss, he noted that more taxes were paid early so more discounts were taken than budgeted; another \$30,201 payment has been received for the State Aid for Roads, which appears to be the quarterly amount; ballot item Social Service & Support checks to go out next week; Solid Waste Labels Sold figure of \$8,990 is about a third

said he would take that as a 'nay.' Discussion followed on how to set up the in-person and Zoom meeting and the various components involved to make that happen. Guidelines for in-person attendance – contact tracing log, temperature checks, masks, social distancing – will be drawn up. Select Board members and residents have the option to attend in-person or remotely. Ms. Sullivan said she thought this was a very accommodating solution. Mr. Turco stated the solution should accommodate everybody and make both sides happy. He thanked the Board for their input and he thanked everyone for attending.

5. **Adjourn** – at 7:09 pm. Respectfully submitted: Jennifer Matthews

Mount Holly Select Board Meeting October 13, 2020 Minutes

In-Person with Zoom Meeting: 898 6126 5487

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

Town Officials: Sue Covalla, Francis DeVine, Diana Garrow, Russ Garrow, Robert Herbst, David Johnson, Annette Lynch, Jon McCann, Lori Norton, Peter Perrino, Don Richardson, Jim Seward, Brigid Sullivan, Mary Surething, Laura Swartz, Carol Woolley, Clinton Woolley

Members of the Public: Paul Barton, Peter Berger, Ted Crawford, Dennis Devereux, Don Eatmon, Roger Garrow, Zena Gates, Barbara & Steve Hazelton, James Heald, Katie Hollebeek, Chris Kohut, Patti Kohut, Bill McGrath, Stephen Michel, Robin Nelson, Kevin Neubert, Gary Norton, Valerie Perrino, Christine Pratt, Donna Seward, Michael Smelser, Raymond Tarbell, Ron Tarbell, Jeff Teter, Amy Turco, Joe Turco

1. **Call to Order** by Mark Turco at 6:32 pm.

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

3. **Changes and/or additions to the agenda** –Mr. Turco asked to

ROAD ALERT!
SUMMIT ROAD
Failing Culvert
Please avoid travel on this portion of the road, if possible



SUMMIT ROAD CLOSURE
Tuesday, 10/27 – Wednesday, 10/28
For Culvert Replacement

Questions? Call the Town Garage, 259-3179

of budgeted amount while we are only through a quarter of the year; Solid Waste Disposal continues to run about 20 tons more than a year ago; Better Back Roads grant expense is for the man-size rock being used for ditching.

ii) **LMHUUSD Remittance Schedule** – Mr. Johnson provided a payment schedule which shows the monthly school payments through the last payment in June.

iii) **Outside Audit – Firms & Costs?** – Mr. Johnson has talked with O'Brien & Shortle in Rutland. He will have a cost estimate at the November meeting.

c. **Mount Holly Planning Commission: Town Plan Revisions Update** – **Jim Seward** reported they had worked on one section and were moving on to the next. Bob Herbst asked why the revisions were necessary. Ms. Matthews responded that the Select Board had concerns about the purchase of Okemo by Vail Resorts, one of the largest ski resort companies both here and abroad, and one with very deep pockets, long-range plans, and a very wealthy clientele. As it stands right now, the town plan leaves Mount Holly vulnerable to development as it lacks specificity.

With no zoning, the town is dependent upon the town plan to spell out what we want and don't want in our community, and specifics are necessary. Specificity is also needed in order to prevail in an Act 250 or court hearing. The specifics in the town plan are what safeguard our community. Ms. Matthews also mentioned the desire to keep Mount Holly affordable for young families and for the adult children who were raised here but now find it difficult to afford to live here. The Select Board agreed as a whole to ask the Planning Commission to review the town plan and to give it some teeth to protect our community. Discussion followed about environmental impact studies, the expense of expansion, and the location of the ski area on state forest land leased from the State. Don Eatmon commented on cancelled contracts and golf courses for sale. He stated that Ms. Matthews should recuse herself from the discussion as she lives on Branch Brook Road, the only access road if Vail does come over the mountain. He stated we went through rewriting the town plan two/three years ago, and what are we wasting our time for?

d. **Mount Holly Conservation Commission Update** – **Francis DeVine** reported the Commission has had two meetings so far and has focused on organization, a mission statement, and the development of policies and procedures. They plan to understand and catalogue Mount Holly's natural resources so as to be able to advise the Select Board and Planning Commission on the use of the town's natural resources. If the town is successful in receiving a Municipal Planning Grant, they plan to oversee the update of the Arrowwood inventory of natural resources, with the inventory serving as an aid in the work on the town plan. The Commission is exploring other grant opportunities, and it has established a committee to work on how to improve Star Lake. He noted the Commission meets the first Tuesday of every month, except for November when they will meet on November 2nd.

Mount Holly CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEMBER NEEDED

Are you interested in helping inventory and protect Mount Holly's natural resources, be they agricultural lands, forest blocks, wetlands, floodplains, and/or wildlife habitats, streams, lakes, ponds, open spaces, unique plant life areas, scenic & recreational resources and more?

Are you interested in assisting the Planning Commission on natural resource issues and planning as it tackles working on the town plan?

Are you interested in working to safeguard the natural resources we all so value here?

This is the new Commission in town and the appointee will be an integral part of getting the Commission up and running for the benefit of the community. Please refer to 24 V.S.A. 4505 for all the various roles and responsibilities a Conservation Commission can assume to help protect & enhance Mount Holly's natural resources.

If this sparks your interest, please send a Letter of Interest to the Select Board, PO Box 248, Mount Holly, VT 05758, or to mounthollyselectboard@gmail.com, to be received by Noon on Monday, November 9th. Please state why you are interested in the Conservation Commission position and your qualifications. Term runs until September 2021.

The Conservation Commission meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7:00 pm. Additional information available here: <http://www.mounthollyvt.org/conservation-commission/>

Any questions, please email the Select Board at the email address above, or call 802-259-2454.

Select Board Administrative Assistant Needed

Part time position assisting the Town of Mount Holly Select Board with day-to-day operations to include: reviewing and responding to mail, email, phone calls; reviewing and preparing invoices and staff time sheets for payment; preparing and posting meeting agendas and minutes; posting notices; researching issues and grant opportunities; maintaining files and documents. Flexible weekdays and hours, 20-40 hours per month. Proficiency with computers and Microsoft Word, Excel and email required. Compensation dependent upon experience. Additional information at: mounthollyvt.org/announcements-bulletin-board/appointments-openings/

Please send resume to Town of Mount Holly Select Board, PO Box 248, Mount Holly, VT 05758 or email to mounthollyselectboard@gmail.com

Resumes will be accepted until position is filled.

The Town of Mount Holly is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

e. **Rutland Regional Planning Commission Update** – Jon McCann reported that the Mendon town plan was approved. The Mendon AT&T cell tower project was revised from a 140' tower to a 90' tower with branches and approved with those revisions.

f. **Rutland Regional Transportation Council Update** – **Clinton Woolley** reported that the main topic of the meeting was the expanded train service to Burlington with stops in Middlebury and Vergennes.

g. **Rutland County Solid Waste District Update** – **Clinton Woolley** reported on RCSWD's difficulty disposing of the zero-sort materials as they cannot ship due to COVID. He is also working with Mr. Chase on a composting

TWO (2) PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBERS NEEDED

Concerned about Mount Holly's Future?
Interested in Planning, and in Working on the Town Plan?
Willing to Learn, or Background in Planning?

Please send a Letter of Interest to the Mount Holly Select Board
to be received by November 9th @ 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/>

Three-Year Terms run to November 2023.

operation for food scraps at the transfer station, as they now have to drive the collected food scraps to Rutland twice a month and it's costly.

6. New Business

a. Administrative Officer Appointment – Ms. Matthews noted the letter received from the Planning Commission, which states at their September 22nd meeting, they made a motion - passed unanimously - to nominate Renee Sarmiento for the Administrative Officer position. The position does not have a set number of hours, as the hours are dependent upon the work that comes in. Mr. Chase noted this was above and beyond the Planning Commission clerk hours and duties, and he

asked if the money was in the budget. Ms. Matthews explained that the subdivision fees cover the Administrative Officer costs, and at present there are two subdivisions with the fees outstanding and another subdivision in the works. Mr. Johnson said the fees go into the general fund. Ms. Matthews explained that according to State Statute, the Planning Commission recommends an individual for the Administrative Officer, and the Select Board then appoints that individual. Ted Crawford said there had been three or four Administrative Officers in the past and they had all stopped working because there was little to do. He stated that State Statutes treat us the same as Burlington and it is in the best interest of the Select Board to ignore State Statutes.

Mr. Turco asked if the proposed fees were the same as the current ones and asked if they had been approved by the Planning Commission. Ms. Matthews responded no. She went on to explain that the fees are to set by the Select Board as spelled out in the Town of Mount Holly Subdivision Regulations passed in 1998: "The Select Board shall review its established fees periodically to insure the fees are covering the cost of published public notices, holding of public hearings, and other expenses incurred in administering these Regulations." She noted the fees have not been adjusted in years, and that in a comparison with neighboring towns, the proposed new fees are still much lower. Mr. McCann explained the Planning Commission has approved one subdivision but not yet collected the fees as there is no published fee schedule. The subdividers want a letter with the Select Board approved fee schedule before paying any subdivision fees. Bill McGrath stated there is a pamphlet with the fees listed. Mr. Eatmon stated the Select Board must vote on the fees before changing them. Mr. Chase stated there was a lot of hostility in the room and the discussion about the fees was just a starting point. Mary Surething stated that one or two people on the Planning Commission and one or two people on the Select Board cannot run the town; the whole town should have a say. Mr. McCann again referenced the 1998 Subdivision Regulations. They state the Select Board, which Mr. McCann pointed out is the elected governing body elected by the townspeople, is to set the fees. He stated the Planning Commission needs the fees, whatever the amounts are, in writing. Ms. Matthews noted that the Subdivision Regulations also state that any change in fees shall have a 30-day notice.

Mr. Turco returned the discussion to the Administrative Officer, stating there was no funding in the budget for the position. Mr. Johnson pointed out there was funding for the Planning Commission clerk, none of which had been used in the first three months of the fiscal year, so there was some funding available. Mr. McCann noted that the work for the Administrative Officer varies greatly and most towns use the fees to cover that work. When there are more subdivision applications, there is more work and more fees. Conversely, when there are no applications, there is no work and no fees. Mr. Seward confirmed that the Planning Commission nominated Ms. Sarmiento for the Administrative Officer position, but he said if there was no money to pay her, she shouldn't be hired. Discussion followed about who does the hiring – the Select Board. Ms. Matthews made a motion to follow through on the Planning Commission's unanimous recommendation to appoint Renee Sarmiento as the Administrative Officer. No second. The item was tabled until next month.

b. Planning Commission Appointment – Two Letters of Interest have been received for a term on the Planning Commission running until November 2021: one from Stephen Michel, one from Brigid Sullivan. Stephen Michel said he was new to town, would like to contribute to the town, and he thought being on the Planning Commission was a good way to learn about the town. He was a New York State CPA. He is on the Board of the Museum and treasurer for the Springfield Area Child Cooperative. As to the town plan revisions, he will try to cooperate, listen and work with people. He has not read the town plan, he has no knowledge of the plan, and he has no background in town planning.

Brigid Sullivan said she had volunteered for many organizations in town, and she had written grants for the Museum, the Mount Holly Conservation Trust, and the MH Volunteer Fire Department. She has worked in public administration with years of experience in planning.

NORTHEAST CHIMNEY
SERVICE
GARY SKIDMORE
CHIMNEY CLEANING * STAINLESS STEEL
LININGS * CHIMNEY BUILDING * REPAIRING *
FACTORY BUILT INSTALLATIONS
MT. HOLLY, VT (802) 259-3622

Mr. Chase asked if either individual would re-apply in November when a couple of Planning Commission terms are ending. Ms. Sullivan replied yes. Mr. Michel said he would have to think about it. He added he would bring a neutral look to the town plan and would be open to any idea to improve the plan. Ms. Sullivan said she was available to assist.

Mr. Chase made a motion to appoint Stephen Michel to the Planning Commission term ending in November 2021, seconded by Mr. Turco. Mr. Chase and Mr. Turco voted yes; Ms. Matthews voted no. Ms. Matthews thanked Ms. Sullivan for her willingness to serve. Mr. Turco thanked her too.

i) **November 2020 – Two Terms Expire** – Mr. Turco stated there were two terms on the Planning Commission ending in November. Those who might be interested in the positions should submit Letters of Interest to the Select Board. Ms. Matthews clarified a couple of points made earlier. She said the two young women whose terms are ending in November and who are not seeking to be re-appointed are not leaving due to burn-out but for a variety of other reasons. She said she was sorry to lose the valuable perspective they brought to the table representing younger members with families in the community. She thanked both Nicole Lewis and Gabrielle Macklin-Bickford for all the time and effort they put into the Planning Commission. She stated that their departure is a tremendous loss to the Planning Commission, the Select Board, and to the community as a whole. Mr. Turco also thanked them.

c. **Conservation Commission Resignation** – Mr. Turco noted that one individual has resigned from the Conservation Commission. He made a motion to accept Jay Ummel's resignation, seconded by Mr. Chase, unanimously approved. Ms. Matthews said she would post the opening. Mr. Turco asked if we need to do that as originally there were to be only five seats. Ms. Matthews replied that the Select Board appointed nine individuals and had agreed to nine seats with a re-assessment of that number in a year's time. The Position will be posted.

d. **Permit Application Fee Schedule** – Mr. Turco said this was a continuation from the previous discussion. He said he needed to see the current fee schedule before agreeing to any changes. Discussion ensued about where the current fee schedule could be found. Mr. Seward said it was in the town office and he would pull it out for Select Board review. The Select Board will revisit the issue in November.

e. **Village of Belmont Road Concerns – Dennis Devereux** said these concerns have been discussed over the years:

i) **Lake Street Triangle** – He stated that the grassy area at the bottom of Lake Street was dangerous and he thought it should be removed for safety reasons.

ii) **Four-Way Stop?** – Mr. Devereux thought a four-way stop was necessary at the Belmont Store as cars on Tarbellville Road could not see well at the stop sign, and many from out of the area assumed and proceeded as if the intersection was a four-way stop. Both were dangerous. He said a red flashing light might be necessary.

iii) **Lower Speed Limit** – With the speed limit posted at 35 mph, many drive at 40-45 mph. He said many villages have lowered the speed limit to 25 mph and it might be a good idea to do that in Belmont. He also suggested looking at the speed limit on other roads, like Healdville with no shoulder, animals, driveways, and people walking and on bikes.




JOHN NAPIER
REALTOR®

O. 802-228-5678
C. 860-559-9334
www.CBLifestylesRE.com
jnapier@cblifestylesre.com

156 Main Street
Ludlow, VT 05149

 **COLDWELL BANKER**
LIFESTYLES

 Each office is independently owned and operated.



TAILORED PLUMBING
24 Hour Service

BENJAMIN TAYLOR
Master Plumber – EPA Certified
tailoredplumbingheating@gmail.com

802-417-1647 3322 VT Route 103S
Mount Holly, VT 05758

PLUMBING, HEATING, A/C – REPAIR AND NEW CONSTRUCTION

Discussion ensued on these ideas, both pros and cons. Mr. Chase said it would be best to set up a committee to study the issues. Mr. Turco said the Select Board will review the recommendations received from the committee. Mr. Devereux will draft a notice about the committee for the Chit Chat and town web site.

f. **Town Clerk Concerns – Sue Covalla** was concerned about how members of the Select Board were treating her as she was an elected official and not under the Select Board's control. She said the Select Board was making decisions about items that concerned her without asking her opinion. She said she had written a letter to the Select Board about her concerns. With the land record digitization grant, she said she should have been involved in the decision to pursue the grant and she should have

had the opportunity to read the contract, as the work involved fell on her shoulders in the midst of an election. She said she was very stressed by the grant, and she would like to have her concerns heard. Mr. Chase apologized to Ms. Covalla if she felt disrespected by the documents put out at the start of the pandemic to keep staff and community members safe. He said he was willing to help with the work for the grant. Paul Barton said all appreciated her service to the community. Mr. Chase asked what the Select Board could do to fix the situation. Ms. Covalla said she's an elected official and she is to work with the Select Board, and the Select Board should ask her opinion on things that concern her. Raymond Tarbell said the Select Board should not try to change everything and should try to work with and listen to the people. Ms. Matthews said to Ms. Covalla that we all appreciate all

the good work she is doing, including working on a holiday. She thanked her for being willing to tackle the grant and get the work done at a most inopportune time, and she thanked her for her willingness to do so. Mr. Turco also thanked Ms. Covalla.

g. **Concerned Citizens Comments** – A number of residents spoke on a number of concerns:

- Mr. Herbst spoke of the need to elect a Chair of the Select Board
- Paul Nevin spoke of the need to support and respect those who worked for the town
- Chris Pratt recommended the Select Board tell the Planning Commission which parts of the town plan they have concerns about and which parts the Planning Commission should work on

Discussion ensued about the steps necessary to approve a town plan: public hearings, Select Board approval, Rutland Regional Planning Commission approval.

- Mr. Michel said he thought it unfair for town employees to be called back from vacation to do work that was not an emergency and was scheduled to be done upon their return
- Mr. McGrath said that residents could start a petition to bring the town plan up for a town vote
- Mr. Crawford was displeased with the COVID-19 Guidelines for the in-person Select Board meeting: 6' social distancing, 25 person limit on attendance, not moving chairs. He said townspeople were tired of edicts and rules from the Select Board, and townspeople are smart enough to look after themselves. He also said that Select Board members cannot act alone; an administrative assistant is needed to do the work and then communicate with each Select Board member. Mr. Chase said he wrote the guidelines and had emailed them to the other Select Board members. Ms. Matthews said she understood the concerns expressed, but that Mr. Chase was only listing the health and safety requirements issued by the Governor and the VT Department of Health to keep us all safe during a pandemic. Those requirements include allowing only one person per 100' square feet, strict social distancing, and a mask mandate. She said the document was an attempt to follow those health and safety guidelines to keep everyone safe while trying to accommodate some residents' desire to have an in-person meeting.
- Mr. Barton said that more people had died from the pandemic than died in World War I, the Korean War, Vietnam, Desert Storm, and the current war on terror. Public officials work for the people and are to do the people's work.
- Mr. McCann thanked Mr. Chase for the extraordinary job he did to get this meeting off the ground. He said that the town Health Officer could be the one to deal with these health issues without the need for Select Board approval.
- Raymond Tarbell thanked the Select Board for having an in-person meeting.

- Zena Gates spoke of the need for in-person meetings for those without computers or access to Zoom. She asked how future meetings would be held. Mr. Turco said the Select Board would continue with in-person meetings and Zoom.

Mr. Turco thanked everyone for their comments.

h. **Other** – Mr. Turco said that the **grant for the leaf blower** was approved. Mr. Woolley said the State cost of the blower was \$5,600 with a 20% share, but he could purchase one for \$5,300. Mr. Chase made a motion to purchase the leaf blower, seconded by Ms. Matthews, unanimously approved.

Katie Hollebeek introduced herself as having lived in town for 10 years. She works at the hospital and started running to reduce the stress of the pandemic. She started **Mount Hilly Runners** and wants to expand the group to others in the area. She is planning a 5k fun run/walk/skip on the morning of October 31st from the Library down Straight Road to VT Route 155 and back. She will put signs up alerting drivers to the participants alongside the road; the road need not be closed. The Select Board saw no issues and wished her success with the event.

7. **Ongoing & Old Business**

a. **Emerald Ash Borer Inventory Update** – Mr. Chase reported that he, Don Richardson and Jim Corven had completed a training on how to do an inventory of ash trees and what to look for in the trees. The inventory will differentiate right-of-way trees, trees near utilities, and those privately-owned but near right-of-ways. There are infestations now in Londonderry and West Rutland.

b. **Select Board Admin. Assistant** – The revised job description and ad were reviewed. Mr. Turco made a motion to approve the job description and ad, seconded by Mr. Chase, unanimously approved.

c. **Other** - Ms. Matthews provided a brief update on the provisions



Full-Service Cleaning

Residential – Condo – Commercial

No Job Too Small

Serving the following Vermont areas:

*Belmont, Cavendish, Clarendon, Cuttingsville, Killington,
Ludlow, Mendon, Mount Holly, Plymouth, Proctorville,
Rutland, Shrewsbury, Wallingford, West Rutland*

Fully Licensed and Insured!

- One-Time Cleanings
- Move In / Out
- Deep Cleaning
- Party/Event Cleaning
- Vacation Turnovers

Customizable Services!

**Call us today for your
FREE Consultation!**

802-395-1114

Website

www.paradisecleanersvt.net

Email:

info@paradisecleanersvt.net

of **S.54/Act 164**, the retail cannabis bill which became law without the Governor's signature. Towns must opt in through a vote at an annual or special meeting to allow retail cannabis sales in their community. Towns have no say in whether cannabis growers, manufacturers, laboratories, or processors can operate in town. No taxing authority was given to municipalities.

8. Announcements/Other Business

a. **Reminder: Fall & Winter Transfer Station Hours, Saturdays 8:00 am-2:00 pm, Sundays 9:00 am-Noon**
b. **Reminder: Election Day, Tuesday, November 3rd – Polls Open 10:00 am-7:00 pm; Early/Absentee Ballots Must be Returned to Town Clerk by 7:00 pm on November 3rd**

c. **Other** – None.

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

10. **Executive Session: Title 1 V.S.A. S 313(a)(3) – personnel (if needed)** – Unnecessary this evening.

11. **Adjourn** – Mr. Turco adjourned the meeting at 9:00 pm. Respectfully Submitted: Jennifer Matthews



Gerry Wilkins Art Studio

GerryWilkins1959@gmail.com

267 Frost Hill Rd.

Belmont, VT 05730

Now Open LOOK On

Etsy, Facebook & Instagram

Call Ahead

H: 802-259-2046

C: 802-342-3966



Planning Commission Virtual Meeting Minutes - October 14, 2020 - 7:00 PM

Present: Jon McCann, Nicole Lewis, Jim Seward, Stephen Michel, Renee Sarmento, Okemo Valley TV

Jim called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

The Planning Commission welcomes Stephen Michel, who was appointed by the Select Board to the Planning Commission this week.

The minutes from September 9, 2020 were reviewed and accepted by motion, second and vote (3-0). The minutes from the special working meeting on September 22, 2020 were reviewed and accepted by motion, second and vote (3-0).

Building Construction Registrations: **Burtco Inc.** - Syria Road, 20x30 shed: accepted ~ **Yuster** - Tarbellville Road, new construction of 26x26 garage and finishing upstairs of existing building: accepted ~ **Barker** - Fowler Brook Road, new construction of 24x30 house with mound system: accepted ~ **Michel** - Maple Hill Road, new construction of 12x36 shed: accepted ~ **Karle** - Stanley Lane, 12x16 shed: accepted ~ **Litwhiler** - Hedgehog Hill South, new construction of 18x22 cabin with mound system: accepted ~ **Bolaleck** - Route 155, new construction of 25x15 storage shed/cabin with new water source: accepted ~ **Devereux** - Tarbellville Road, 12x20 shed with 16' porch: accepted

Other Correspondence: Jon contacted Downs Rachlin Martin to update the PC email address they have on file in order to keep the PC informed as an interested party regarding any developments with the cell tower.

Jon also updated PC email address to be kept in the loop with any Act 250 developments/updates.

Old Business: Administrative Officer/Clerk Position Update – Renee has been approved as the PC Clerk. The Select Board did not vote to appoint Renee to the role of Administrative Officer, citing a potential lack of funds in the budget to hire someone in this capacity. The treasurer has confirmed that the funds are available in the budget for this position. PC will seek SB approval of a permit application fee schedule that will ensure proper funding of this position going forward. This will be revisited at next month's SB meeting.

Grant Updates – Digitization Grant has been awarded. Municipal Planning Grant has been submitted. Decision by end of calendar year. Upon award, the Conservation Commission will assume responsibility for execution of grant plan.

Subdivision Fees Outstanding – Can be addressed once a fee schedule has been established.

New Business:

Fee Schedule – Jim will look further into whether there is a previously existing fee schedule, so that a formal recommendation of a fee schedule can be made to the Select Board for potential adoption. Agreed to add to next PC Special Meeting agenda.

Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Review – Reviewed and no suggestions or comments were made.

PC Member Re-appointments/Resignations Update – Nicole and Gabrielle's Planning Commission terms will be ending next month, and both have indicated that they will not be seeking re-appointment.

Tasks for PC Clerk – Gabrielle will be mentoring Renee in the duties.

Public Comments: No one from the public in attendance.

Town Plan Revisions: Set agenda for working meeting for 10/27/20 at 6:00PM – Continued work on "Vision" and "Land Use" sections. Link for commenting – https://docs.google.com/document/d/1oH8hyziMRg7fPSvCBVjfAh1GC5ujiPNemODUkmQ_Joo/edit?usp=sharing

The meeting adjourned at 9:14 PM by motion, second and vote (4-0). Respectfully Submitted, Nicole Lewis, Planning Commission Secretary

Maple Grove Cemetery East Wallingford, Vermont

A Lovely Historic Cemetery
Landscaped With The Charm Of Old
Majestic Maple Trees



Established More
Than 200 Years Ago

Residents and Neighbors are Welcome
To Come and Wander The Grounds

Many Lots Available

1 Person \$450 - 2 Person \$900

Ask about Cremation Lots

For More Information Call 802-259-2810

Okemo Valley Awarded Regional Marketing Grant

The Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce (OVRCC) was recently awarded a [Restart VT Regional Marketing & Stimulus Grant](#) from the VT Department of Tourism.

This successful application was the result of a regional collaboration with joint applications from other partners including the communities of [Chester](#), [Londonderry](#), [Ludlow](#) & [Weston](#).

Individual community grants of \$10,000 each were maximized to a larger \$40,000 project benefitting the entire Okemo Valley region.

These Regional Tourism Marketing Grant Awards are for organizations whose efforts and activities are related to economic recovery, consumer stimulus, marketing, or tourism related projects to support businesses that have suffered economic harm due to the pandemic. They are intended to enable local, regional, or statewide organizations to implement campaigns and initiatives that will increase consumer spending, support local businesses, and advance community recovery efforts.

The approved marketing plan submitted by OVRCC and partners includes: regional & local videos for visitors, expanded [Okemo Valley Magazine](#) distribution, a partnership with [Yankee Magazine](#), a new regional green graphical attractions map, a second homeowner postcard mailing, a new Valley Specials discount promotion, and various social media visitor campaigns. Working as a region, Okemo Valley is stronger together!

The Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce is a not-for-profit, member-driven association and the voice of 300+ businesses and the communities of South Central Vermont. OVRCC includes the Towns & Villages of **Andover/Simonsville, Baltimore, Cavendish/Proctorsville, Chester/Gassetts, Grafton/Cambridgeport, Landgrove, Londonderry, Ludlow, Mount Holly/Belmont, Plymouth/Tyson, Shrewsbury/Cuttingsville, Weathersfield/Ascutney/Perkinsville, & Weston** along the VT Scenic Route 100 Byway. OVRCC provides advocacy, support, and unified regional marketing to promote and enhance businesses in the region as well as the four-season economy. FOR MORE INFORMATION: *Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce* www.yourplaceinvermont.com 802-228-5830

Dear Diana Garrow and the staff and board of directors of the Mount Holly Chit Chat,

On May 13, 2019, Gov. Phil Scott formally signed the bill changing the name of the Columbus Day holiday to National Indigenous Peoples' Day to aid in the cultural development of Vermont's recognized tribes, such as the Abenaki people, and to rebrand the colonization and harm intertwined with Christopher Columbus' legacy. In reading the latest October 2020 Mount Holly Chit Chat, I was surprised to learn that this publication has not made this change and still notes the 2nd Monday in October as Columbus Day. This needs to be amended because we can no longer tolerate and accept the celebration of brutality in the name of colonization.

Respectfully submitted, Dianne Mazzullo, 4329 Route 103, Mount Holly, VT 802-259-3589



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

BRGNS Seeks Directors from Plymouth and Mount Holly

Black River Good Neighbor Services, Inc. is a Vermont corporation that qualifies under section 501(c)(3) as a charitable organization. It has

been such since the 1980s and operates under a board of local volunteer directors. BRGNS' service area covers Ludlow, Cavendish, Plymouth and Mount Holly, and directors are drawn from these four communities. Currently there are openings on the board for people from both Plymouth and Mount Holly and the board is recruiting interested individuals to fill those slots.

The board meets once each month for about an hour. Every board member is expected to attend these meetings. The board provides direction to the organization by setting goals, enforcing policies, determining strategies and enacting procedures for short- and long-term business continuation. Individual board members volunteer for a variety of jobs, but choose how much or how little volunteering they are willing to take on.

If you live in Plymouth or Mount Holly and are interested in helping BRGNS meet its goals, and if you can take some time to volunteer each month, the organization needs you.

For more information on the organization or on the board, please call board President Lou Krefski at 802-975-0008. If interested in joining the board, you can submit an email indicating your interest and explaining your background credentials to unkalou@msn.com. Or you can send a letter and resume to BRGNS at 37B Main Street, Ludlow, VT 05149.

Great Maple in Ludlow Park Offers Final Foliage Scene Before Removal

Pictured above is one of the most memorable foliage scenes in Ludlow's Veterans Memorial Park. This will be the last time its glorious foliage will be seen in Ludlow. Due to the rotting trunk, the town has decided to remove the tree before it becomes a hazard - but not until it has been allowed to show its magnificent foliage to everyone. Municipal Manager for Ludlow, Scott Murphy noted, "It's certainly beautiful this time of year and it's unfortunate it has to be taken down. However, we plan to plant a replacement next spring and look forward to new life". Ralph Pace ralphpace@gmail.com



ELECT EXPERIENCED LEADERSHIP!

~ VOTE EARLY & SAFELY before or on Nov 3rd ~



YOUR WINDSOR DISTRICT SENATE TEAM:
Alison Clarkson | Dick McCormack | Alice Nitka

MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER, WE'RE:

- > Helping Vermonters weather the Covid-19 crisis
- > Positioning VT for economic recovery
- > Investing in VT's infrastructure, downtowns, internet, and workforce
- > Supporting pre K-12 public education & protecting our state college system
- > Ending systemic racial and economic injustices
- > Protecting our VT environment & working landscapes
- > Working across party lines to make progress for Vermonters, honoring traditions of civility & respect

PAID FOR BY THE CANDIDATES, PO BOX 161, BETHEL VT 05132

FOLA Announces Planned Schedule For 2021 Season in Ludlow's Auditorium

While most of us are concerned about the here-and-now of Covid-19 and elections, FOLA has decided that it is time to think of the future, 2021 to be specific. Having learned how to present films during the coronavirus of the current year, the FOLA directors believe there is a need for planning for future entertainment of area residents and visitors.

In an effort to present a diverse and entertaining program, FOLA released its planned 2021 program schedule. According to FOLA Chairman, Scott Stearns, "this schedule is obviously dependent on the basic virus protocol and situation as it develops in the coming year". One of the high points of the coming year's programs will be a live musical concert by Susan Haefner and Lisa Brigantino singing pop songs. The program will also feature two beloved musicals, "Brigadoon" and "Meet Me in St. Louis".

Among the movies to be screened, FOLA will offer a Robin Williams series of three films. The initial film will be preceded by an introductory discussion of Williams by Rick Winston. The annual silent movie festival will feature "The Freshman", a comedy starring Harold Lloyd. Perennial favorite, Jeff Rapsis, will furnish the background music for the silent movie.

Kicking off the season, "A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood", a film about Mr. Rogers and his wonderful life both on tv and off. The Christmas season will feature the always popular "It's a Wonderful Life" followed by a special presentation of "Little Women". The full schedule is listed below. As noted by Stearns, this schedule is totally dependent on the Covid-19 protocol that may exist in Ludlow. For additional information, call 802-228-3238 or visit the FOLA web site at fola.us.



FOLA – 2021 Schedule:

Saturday January 9 – Film: A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood

Saturday March 20 - Film: Brigadoon

Saturday April 17 - Film Series: Robin Williams - Good Morning Vietnam

Saturday May 1 - Film Series: Robin Williams – Awakenings

Saturday May 22 – Musical Concert: Susan Haefner/Lisa Brigantino

Saturday July 10 – Film: The Peanut Butter Falcon

Saturday August 14 - Silent Movie Festival: The Freshman

Saturday September 25 – Film: Unforgiven

Saturday November 13 – Film: Meet Me in St Louis

Wednesday December 29 – Film: Little Women

Saturday February 6 - Film: Green Book

Saturday April 3 – Film Series: Robin Williams - Moscow on the Hudson

Saturday June 26 – Film: O Brother, Where Art Thou?

Saturday July 24 – Film: Shadow of a Doubt

Saturday August 28 – Film: Blinded by the Light

Saturday October 23 – Film: Sleepy Hollow

Saturday December 18 – Film: It's a Wonderful Life

Pictured above: Judy Garland and Tom Drake prepare for the World's Fair in St. Louis in the film, "Meet Me in St. Louis".

November 2020 Mount Holly Chit Chat Inc.

The Nite' Fore Deer Season



T'was the nite before Deer Season;
And cold in the shack.
The guns had been polished, and lay in the rack.
The Hunter were nestle, all snug in their beds.
With visions of "8 pointer", dancing in their heads.
I in my overcoat, gloves, boots and cap
Had just settled to a four-hour nap.
When out from the woods there arose such a clatter.
I sprang from my bedroll to see what was the matter.
Out of the door I flew like a flash;
Stumbled and fell; tripped over some trash.
The moon on the crest of the new-fallen snow
Gave the luster of mid-day to objects below.
When what to my wondering eyes should appear
But a little old man out jacking deer.
The flurries of snow made it fairly hard to see;
But he lay out a salt lick; and perched in a tree!
To the top of the tree, to the top of the limb
He seemed quite assured no deer could see him.
Back at the shack, I was turning around
When he fell from the tree, and sprawled on the ground.
He was dressed all in wool; from his head to his toe
And his clothes were all "soggy" with the water of snow.
A stock of a rifle he held in his hand.
It was then I whistled and shouted, "Get off my land!"
He said not a word, he went straight to his work.
Brushed off his clothing and turned with a jerk.
He ran like the wind right past our shack
And then he sped off in a new Cadillac.
But I heard him exclaim with a voice full of cheer
"What a miserable night to be out jacking deer!!!"
The moral is this: If you're going to jack a deer,
do it on your own land!!!

Submitted by Bob Buswell for the B.R.V. Senior Center
November Newsletter.

I received this from Gus Muguira from California in December
2007 and have kept it just for the November publication of the
Chit Chat.

An Army Of One

We no longer differentiate in an ultimate sense between the Army, National Guard, Reserve forces. Every energy – is bent – to the development of the Army of the United States. Our purpose is to think only of the American Citizen who is to be a soldier in that Army and to prepare in time of peace for duties in war. General John J. Blackjack Pershing – Mexican War – WWI

The elder General Wing, Commander of the 43rd Div. said he knew General Pershing, sitting in the mess hall of Co. B Ludlow 172nd talking to Capt. Billado and Lieutenant Harold Arthur, later to be our Governor of VT and all good friends of myself – Which is a long story back to 1923-1927.

Patriotism is easy to understand in America; it means looking out for yourself by looking out for your country. President Calvin Coolidge of VT 1872-1933 30th President of the United States (1923-1929)

Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

The purpose of the plan is assist the town in identifying all natural hazards facing the community, ranking them according to local vulnerabilities. Having this plan puts the town in accordance with the 2018 State Hazard Mitigation Plan. A team of 4 town members are working with Steffanie Bourque, Emergency Planner at the Rutland Regional Planning Commission, to draft the plan.

In the month of November we will be working on the final section, which is Mitigation Actions. These actions mainly will revolve around improvements to road infrastructure, such as ditches and culverts. The final draft of the plan will be available for public review and comment in early December and an overview will be provided at the December Regular Selectboard Meeting. More information will be in December's Chit Chat. If you have any questions please contact Jeff Chase at jeff@chasevermont.com.



The Confederate Flag

In July of this year the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Mark Milley, called confederate leaders traitors. Both my husband Andy and I agree since our ancestors fought in the Civil War. On July 3, 1863 Andy's Mennonite great grandfather described the roar of the cannons at the Battle of Gettysburg and on August 14 of that year he traveled to Lancaster, Pennsylvania to receive a blanket and \$17 for service to his country. He was following the tradition of his family since earlier generations of Andy's family had furnished the American revolutionary soldiers with supplies.

My great grandfather arrived in New York State and immediately enlisted to fight the confederate soldiers. Over 4,000 Vermonters also battled the confederacy at Gettysburg and many died, yet today people fly the confederate flag in Vermont—the flag that represents traitors and their values, the willingness to enslave others. Instead of supporting the confederacy, they should be proud of the Vermonters who were crucial in turning around the battle of Gettysburg and assisted in the Union forces success.

General George Mead, commander of the Army of the Potomac said "there was no individual body of men who rendered greater service at a critical moment than the comparatively raw troops commanded by General Stannard"— the Lieutenant Colonel of the 2nd Vermont Volunteer Infantry. Major General Abner Doubleday cried out "See the Vermonters go it!" Later he wrote, "I can only say that they performed perhaps the most brilliant feat during the war for they broke the desperate charge of Pickett, saved the day and with it, the whole North from invasion and devastation." It is so important to know the history of our state and our country. Marcy Tanger

OLD SAYINGS BY VETERANS

43rd Div. Winged Victory Division Newsletter put out by the Brown family for years.

Coffin Quotes

You have a rapport that you'll never have again there's no competitiveness no money values. You trust the man on the left and your right with your life. Audie Murphy, CMB most decorated soldier of World War II.

Resistance to tyrants is obedience to God. President Thomas Jefferson

An Irish Blessing

May your pockets be heavy, your heart be light and may Good Luck pursue you each morning and night.

Reflections on the Select Board Meeting October 13, 2020

Meetings of the Select Board are usually all business. But the Select Board meeting on October 13 was drama. Yet it was hard to follow the story line. This is my attempt.

Clearly people were worked up. Most seemed to find the Select Board wrong in directing the Planning Commission to update the Town Plan. Some said it was not necessary; others that the Planning Commission had done such a lot of work to produce a Town Plan in 2018 that they needed a break; others thought that change was not necessary, but if it was, it should be very gradual.

Another line of complaint was against the Select Board generally: residents did not know what was going on; the Board was creating division in Town; the Town belonged to all the people - not to the three persons sitting on the Select Board (until someone noted that the three Select Board members were elected by the Town's residents to do the Town's business).

Then one of the complainants brought up the Covid 19 rules for in-person gatherings in the Town garage. How dare one person make up rules that should have been the result of deliberation by all three Select Board members? The fact that the rules came from the State was brushed aside because the Town does not have to do what the State says. However, the complainant stopped abruptly, when it was revealed that the person who posted the rules was Jeff Chase and not Jennifer Matthews.

The third line of complaint seemed to be that the one woman on the Select Board was responsible for all the change, all the fault-finding with the Town Plan, and all the pushing of the Planning Commission to do additional work on the Plan. Those complaints were a bit muted, as Ms Matthews was present at the meeting on Zoom, which was a source of disappointment for one attendee who said "we wanted to yell at her".

Eventually, as everyone had said their piece and the meeting turned to other business, the majority of people left- apparently not interested in finding out "what was going on" in their Town's government.

Now, having described the Select Board meeting on October 13, I am going to draw on my nearly 20 years' experience in this Town's government and affairs to try to understand what actually happened.

I believe that the Tuesday night event was set in motion by some former Town leaders who were involved in writing the last (2018) Town Plan and who are understandably upset that the Select Board has found their Plan in need of more work. If they, with their followers, also believe that the Select Board acted without reason, we can understand their complaint that the Board is pushing the Planning Commission to do needless work.

But the Select Board believes that it has really good reasons to try to expand our Town Plan. The Vermont courts have made the town plan a legal instrument, through which towns can have a commanding say in their own future.

However, in order to exert this power, a town must be armed with a town plan that tells the courts exactly what the town wants. For years, Mount Holly has the goal of remaining a "scenic town". We may understand what that means. The court may not. Therefore, we need to spell out those things that make this a scenic town; for example: scenic views and roads; scenic lakes and shore lines; undeveloped ridgelines; a night sky we can see.

Nothing is really changed by putting some details into our Town Plan. Nothing may ever happen (as many in Town like to say); but a Town Plan that is specific about what "scenic" means to us is like an insurance policy against unforeseen threats. Understanding that the Select Board is trying to act in the Town's best interest should change the tactics of those who disagree with it. To convince the Select Board that its attempt to alter the Town Plan is wrong, surely requires that one has read our Town Plan.

Finally, I think that there is one additional aspect of this episode that needs attention. It was the woman on the Select Board who was the object of specific attacks and who was the one they wanted to "yell" at. There are many women in this Town- and I am one – who, while serving the Town in some capacity, have been the recipient of words or actions that can be called harassment or bullying and in some cases even intimidation. This kind of discrimination happens the world over, so there is no reason to think that it would not happen in Mount Holly.

Well I think it should stop!

Women, particularly young women, do not know what to do when attacked or demeaned or threatened. They do not feel encouraged to stay in the positions that they are filling so ably. And so the Town loses their talent and dedication.

We all need to call discrimination what it is, and call it out when we see it, and any hint of retaliation should be reported to the office of the Vermont Attorney General. Annette Lynch

A Thanksgiving Day Prayer

Lord,

We humbly ask Thy blessing

On the turkey and the dressing,

On the yams and the cranberry jelly,

And the pickles from the deli.

Bless the apple pie and tea,

Bless each and every calorie.

Let us enjoy Thanksgiving dinner.

Tomorrow we can all get thinner.

For all Thy help along the way

We're thankful this

Thanksgiving day.

We're thankful too, for all our dear ones,

For all the far away and near ones.

Although we may be far apart,

We're together in my heart.

Keep us in Thy loving care,

This is my Thanksgiving prayer.



Thanksgiving Day, annual national holiday in the United States and Canada celebrating the harvest and other blessings of the past year. Americans generally believe that their Thanksgiving is modeled on a 1621 harvest feast shared by the English colonists (Pilgrims) of Plymouth and the Wampanoag people. The American holiday is particularly rich in legend and symbolism, and the traditional fare of the Thanksgiving meal typically includes turkey, bread stuffing, potatoes, cranberries, and pumpkin pie. With respect to vehicular travel, the holiday is often the busiest of the year, as family members gather with one another. Thanksgiving Day is celebrated on Thursday, November 26, 2020.

Plymouth's Thanksgiving began with a few colonists going out "fowling," possibly for turkeys but more probably for the easier prey of geese and ducks, since they "in one day killed as much as...served the company almost a week." Next, 90 or so Wampanoag made a surprise appearance at the settlement's gate, doubtlessly unnerving the 50 or so colonists. Nevertheless, over the next few days the two groups socialized without incident. The Wampanoag contributed venison to the feast, which included the fowl and probably fish, eels, shellfish, stews, vegetables, and beer. Since Plymouth had few buildings and manufactured goods, most people ate outside while sitting on the ground or on barrels with plates on their laps. The men fired guns, ran races, and drank liquor, struggling to speak in broken English and Wampanoag. This was a rather disorderly affair, but it sealed a treaty between the two groups that lasted until King Philip's War (1675–76), in which hundreds of colonists and thousands of Native Americans lost their lives.

The New England colonists were accustomed to regularly celebrating "Thanksgivings," days of prayer thanking God for blessings such as military victory or the end of a drought. The U.S. Continental Congress proclaimed a national Thanksgiving upon the enactment of the Constitution, for example. Yet, after 1798, the new U.S. Congress left Thanksgiving declarations to the states; some objected to the national government's involvement in a religious observance, Southerners were slow to adopt a New England custom, and others took offense over the day's being used to hold partisan speeches and parades. A national Thanksgiving Day seemed more like a lightning rod for controversy than a unifying force.


Thanksgiving Day did not become an official holiday until Northerners dominated the federal government. While sectional tensions prevailed in the mid-19th century, the editor of the popular magazine *Godey's Lady's Book*, Sarah Josepha Hale, campaigned for a national Thanksgiving Day to promote unity. She finally won the support of President Abraham Lincoln. On October 3, 1863, during the Civil War, Lincoln proclaimed a national day of thanksgiving to be celebrated on Thursday, November 26.



The holiday was annually proclaimed by every president thereafter, and the date chosen, with few exceptions, was the last Thursday in November. President Franklin D. Roosevelt, however, attempted to extend the Christmas shopping season, which generally begins with the Thanksgiving holiday, and to boost the economy by moving the date back a week, to the third week in November. But not all states complied, and, after a joint resolution of Congress in 1941, Roosevelt issued a proclamation in 1942 designating the fourth Thursday in November (which is not always the last Thursday) as Thanksgiving Day.

As the country became more urban and family members began to live farther apart, Thanksgiving became a time to gather together. The holiday moved away from its religious roots to allow immigrants of every background to participate in a common tradition. Thanksgiving Day football games, beginning with Yale versus Princeton in 1876, enabled fans to add some rowdiness to the holiday. In the late 1800s parades of costumed revelers became common. In 1920 Gimbel's department store in Philadelphia staged a parade of about 50 people with Santa Claus at the rear of the procession. Since 1924 the annual Macy's parade in New York City has continued the tradition, with

huge balloons since 1927. The holiday associated with Pilgrims and Native Americans has come to symbolize intercultural peace, America's opportunity for newcomers, and the sanctity of home and family.




ATTENTION SOUVENIR HUNTERS:

We know that people collect the annual Mount Holly calendar because of its magnificent photos of Mount Holly, but who could have predicted that the 2020 Mount Holly Calendar would become a collectors item...for some of the wrong reasons? It's true, the 2020 calendar is being collected because of the year it represents. In case you've forgotten:
2020 The year of the Covid-19 Pandemic
2020 The year of the most contentious presidential election in recent times
(or maybe in U.S. history)

Be that as it may, we still have a few 2020 calendars left, and they're only \$10, the actual cost of printing. And as a special inducement the November 3rd date will contain the names of the president and vice president elected on that day.

Call 259-3947 to order yours or send a text to mthollyphotos@gmail.com Home delivery can be arranged (two or more copies = free delivery within Mount Holly. 100 or more copies purchased = free delivery anywhere in the world...sorry, we don't have 100 copies).





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



Mt. Holly Oil & Gas Group

I have been in contact with Irving Energy on behalf of the buying group and they are offering the same deal as we had last year.

\$.15 cents off per gallon of heating oil on the going price of the day you call in.

\$.30 cents off per gallon of propane on the going price of the day you call in.

Remember to give our **group code number 6216** to be enrolled under our group. The **cutoff date is December 31, 2020**. Call Irving Energy at 1-888-310-1924 to get signed up. Please have your Irving account number handy

Mount Holly Oil and Gas Group and Irving Energy have teamed up to offer you special discounted pricing on fuel and home heating equipment.

Fuel*

Save **15¢**
per gallon
off heating oil

Save **30¢**
per gallon
off propane

Equipment**



Boiler
Save \$350



Furnace
Save \$250



Tankless propane water heater
Save \$200



Oil tank
Save \$200

Plus, switch to Irving Energy and **SAVE 25¢** per gallon for the next year at Irving Oil gas stations!



Call us at 1.888.310.1924 or email homecomfort@irvingoil.com and mention code 6216 to receive your savings.

Offers valid to residential customers who sign up on an automatic delivery basis and are members of Mt. Holly Oil and Gas Group in areas serviced by Irving Energy in Vermont by December 31, 2020.
Customers to save \$350 off a new boiler, \$250 off a new furnace, \$200 off a new tankless water heater, or \$200 off a new oil tank? Offers cannot be combined with any other discount or promotional offer except Irving Rewards and are subject to change or termination without notice. Visit irvingenergy.com/newoffer to learn more.



Group savings



Discounted pricing on fuel and home heating equipment

when you do and if you do not have an Irving account call the above phone number to get an account and then join the group.

New customers to the group please contact me first so I can get you on the list at 802-259-2314. Diana Garrow, Manager, Mt. Holly Oil & Gas Group

BONE BUILDERS

Join BONE BUILDERS

Free weights and lessons

No age limit Good Company

Great way to improve Balance

And Strength

Call Judy at 259-2443



Happy Thanksgiving



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.

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

In The Heart Of The Okemo Valley



Kelley Real Estate

Agents are available to assist you
throughout the day, every day!

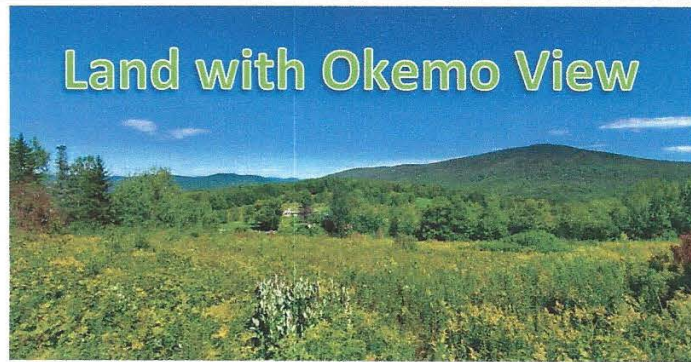
We have an extensive knowledge of the
communities in which we live and work
and are committed to providing both
our sellers and buyers the best service
in a personal and professional manner.

When it's Time to Buy or Sell...For
Personal and Professional
Service...Choose Kelley Real Estate!

Office: 802-228-5333

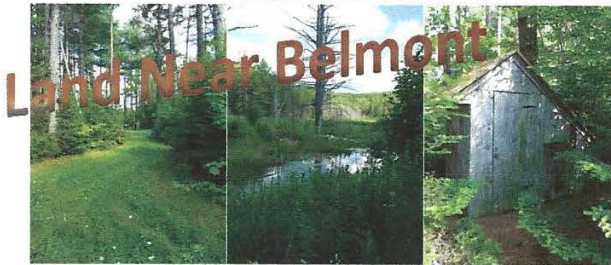
Office: realtor@kelleyrealestate.com

www.KelleyRealEstate.com



Land with Okemo View

It's all about the views...Or is it about the ponds and stone work? Driveway all the way up to a level spot where the frog pond flows down the stone sluice and waterfall into the larger pond. Upper stone patio with stone steps that open to a lower stone patio for swimming and campfires. Septic design for a 3-bedroom home. Parcel may be subdivided once. Owner is a licensed real estate broker. \$219,000 <https://bit.ly/31pfdkO>



Land Near Belmont

10.4+/- acres with driveway roughed in to potential house site. A drilled well and foundation, you are steps ahead...The Belmont area offers wonderful community and Star Lake, State Forest land is just a few feet down the road and VAST access. \$84,000 <https://bit.ly/3kfULdI>

Links are live at the online Chit Chat

Thinking about selling your Mount Holly Property? Now is the Time!

Don Eatmon Broker/Owner 802-228-5333 don@kelleyrealestate.com



Alex Eatmon

alex@kelleyrealestate.com

call or text

802-345-7886



Nora Sylvia

nora@kelleyrealestate.com

call or text

978-793-2033



Sean Williams

sean@kelleyrealestate.com

call or text

802-952-8055



Sue Starr-Adams

sue@kelleyrealestate.com

call or text

802-236-8028



Ty Murray

ty@kelleyrealestate.com

call or text

802-777-8047



**211 STANLEY LANE
MOUNT HOLLY**

**3 BEDROOMS
2 BATHROOMS**

1,600 +/- SQ. FT.

\$15,000 + DEPOSITS

DEC. 15, 2020 — APR. 15, 2021



WINTER IN VERMONT

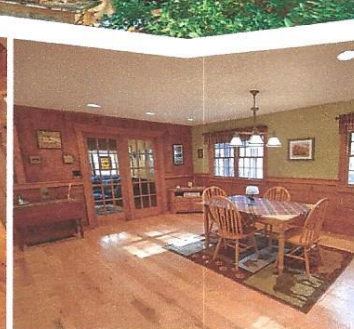
OKEMO SEASONAL RENTALS 2020—2021

**5503 ROUTE 155
MOUNT HOLLY**

**1 BEDROOM + LOFT
1 BATHROOM
1,248 +/- SQ. FT.**

\$13,000 + DEPOSITS

NOV. 15, 2020 — APR. 15, 2021



GAIL BEARDMORE
126 MAIN STREET · LUDLOW · VT · 05149
O: (802) 975-0338
M: (802) 236-5431
GAIL.BEARDMORE@EVUSA.COM

©2020 Engel & Völkers. All rights reserved. Each brokerage independently owned and operated, Engel & Völkers and its independent License Partners are Equal Opportunity Employers and fully support the principles of the Fair Housing Act.



ENGEL & VÖLKERS
Okemo

<https://okemo.evrealstate.com/Rent>

Who's Got It Locally?

Artists & Architects

Alistair McCallum Landscape Photographs & Paintings 259-2318
Gerry Wilkins Art Studio Open Call Ahead 259-2046
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

Building & Repairs – General Work

AW Carpentry-Remodeling*Building*Portable Sawmilling 259-3699
Cutting Edge Carpentry And Paint Works – Curt Marechaux Cell 236-5559
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

Church Listings

Annunciation, Ludlow, Mass Sat 4:30 pm, Sun 8 am & 10 am
Rev Thomas Mosher abvmludlow@comcast.net 228-3451
Belmont Village Baptist Church-Worship 9:30am, Coffee Hour 10:30
Pastor Glenn Davis vbch.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
Rutland Jewish Center office@rutlandjewishcenter.org
Rabbi Shemtov rabbishemtov@rutlandjewishcenter.org 773-3455
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

Beardmore Excavating beardmoreexc@gmail.com 342-3507
Flander's Excavating & Firewood 259-2147

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
Kevin Smith, Garden Service & Lawn Mowing 259-3964
Salt Ash Nursery - The Balsam Barn – Scott Crawford 259-2146

General Contractors

Wright Construction Company info@wrightconstruction.com 259-2094

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, Owner/Broker 802-228-5333
realtor@KelleyRealEstate.com

Ty Murray Ty@KelleyRealEstate.com Cell 802-777-8047
Sue-Starr Adams sue@kelleyrealestate.com 802-236-8028
Sean Williams sean@kelleyrealestate.com 802-952-8055
Alex Eatmon Alex@KelleyRealEstate.com Cell 802-345-7886
Nora Sylvia nora@kelleyrealestate.com 978-793-2033
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

Woodworking, Cabinets & Furniture

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

