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47/11

# Mount Holly Chit Chat

January 2022

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

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

Mount Holly Museum-Open Jul & Aug Sat & Sun 2-4pm [www.mounthollyvtmuseum.org](http://www.mounthollyvtmuseum.org) 802-259-2460 [ddevereux@vermontel.net](mailto:ddevereux@vermontel.net)

Town Library: In-Person with Mask Sat 9-1, Mon 9-1, Tue 1-5, Wed 2-4, P.O. Box 93, Belmont, VT 05730 Call 802-259-3707

Town Office Hours: Mon. to Thurs. 8:30 am – 4:00 pm Closed Fri. & Holidays Phone 802-259-2391

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: 802-259-3179

Burn Permits: Call Fire Warden ~ Jim Seward 802-786-3408 or 802-259-2211

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

## January 2022

1<sup>st</sup> New Year's Day ~ Ellis Island Opens 1892 ~ Emancipation Proclamation Issued by Pres. Lincoln 1863

4<sup>th</sup> MH Snow Flyers Meeting Via Zoom 6:00 pm

Mt. Holly Community Association Meeting, Library 7:00 pm

Mount Holly Conservation Commission 7:00 pm

6<sup>th</sup> Fire Dept. Business Meeting, Belmont Fire Station 7:00 pm

*Pan Am Airway Plane completes 1<sup>st</sup> Around-The-World trip by a commercial aircraft New York, NY 1942*

10<sup>th</sup> Rescue Squad Meeting, Rescue Squad Building 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting UN General Assembly 1946 7:00 pm

11<sup>th</sup> Community Guild Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont 9:00 am

Mt. Holly PTSA Meeting, MH School 4:30 pm

Select Board Meeting, Town Garage & Zoom 6:30 pm

12<sup>th</sup> LMHUUS Meeting, 6:00 pm

ODD Fellows Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont 7:00 pm

13<sup>th</sup> Fire Dept. Drill, Mt. Holly Fire Station 7:00 pm

16<sup>th</sup> *Operation Desert Storm Persian Gulf War Begins 1991*

17<sup>th</sup> *Benjamin Franklin 1706 ~ Martin Luther King Jr Day ~ Full Wolf Moon*

19<sup>th</sup> Mt. Holly Town Library Meeting, Library, Belmont *Robert E. Lee 1807* 6:30 pm

Mount Holly Planning Commission, MH Town Office & Via Zoom 7:00 pm

20<sup>th</sup> Fire Dept. Work Detail, Fire Stations 7:00 pm

23<sup>rd</sup> *Briton Elizabeth Blackwell 1<sup>st</sup> woman to Receive MD degree in USA 1849 ~ National Pie Day*

24<sup>th</sup> Rescue Squad Meeting, Rescue Squad Building 7:00 pm

25<sup>th</sup> Community Guild Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont 9:00 am

*American Airlines 1<sup>st</sup> Scheduled Transcontinental Flight 1959*

26<sup>th</sup> ODD Fellows Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont 7:00 pm

27<sup>th</sup> Fire Dept. Drill, Fire Stations *Vietnam War Ends 1973 ~ Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart 1756* 7:00 pm

28<sup>th</sup> *US - Vietnam Cease Fire 1973*

\* \* \* \* \*

## Emergency Services

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

Send ARTICLES to: Diana Garrow, 3379 Shunpike Rd., Mt. Holly, VT 05758 Phone 802-259-2314 or E-Mail to

[chitchat@vermontel.net](mailto:chitchat@vermontel.net) Check out Mt. Holly Web Site [www.mounthollyvt.org](http://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:** Gail Beardmore (Engel & Volkers Okemo Woodstock) \* Don Eatmon (Kelley Real Estate) \* Ted & Sue Crawford \* Barbara Hawkins Fairbanks \* David Martin \* Glenn Kreig \* Community Healthe Center of The Rutland Region \* John Miller (Spectrum Photography) \* Charles Conroy (Custom Builders of Belmont) \* Audra & Ryan Harter \* Sharman & Robert Ludwick Jr. \* Alice Nitka \*



**January Birthdays:** 2<sup>nd</sup>- Tony Falco 4<sup>th</sup> - Jamie Ludwig 6<sup>th</sup>- Seth Rosen 8<sup>th</sup> - Andrew Flanders \* Dannielle Bussino 11<sup>th</sup> -John Ryea 15<sup>th</sup> -John Wasilewski 17<sup>th</sup> - Lori Cole \* Robert Keen 19<sup>th</sup> - Rick Ludwig \* Benjamin Taylor \* Lisa Bussino 20<sup>th</sup> - Eric Ludwig 23<sup>rd</sup> -Thomas Osbourne \* Jeff Columb 27<sup>th</sup> -Hannah Teter 28<sup>th</sup> -Chris Lombardi \* Jahnava Jenkins 30<sup>th</sup> -Brian Keen 31<sup>st</sup> - Jennifer Parker \* Cole Tarbell \* Tiffany Taylor

**January Anniversaries** 15<sup>th</sup> - Kyle & Nancy Perry 24<sup>th</sup>- Armand & Debby Bernagozzi

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

## Local Post Office Hours

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



## Mount Holly Chit Chat, Inc.

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

### BOARD of DIRECTORS:

**PRESIDENT:** 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 22<sup>nd</sup> By 6:00 pm of each month for the following month. Send to [chitchat@vermontel.net](mailto: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.
<b>Business Card:</b>	\$15	\$40	\$75	\$115	\$150
<b>Quarter Page:</b>	\$30	\$80	\$150	\$225	\$300
<b>Third Page:</b>	\$45	\$125	\$225	\$350	\$450
<b>Half Page:</b>	\$75	\$200	\$375	\$550	\$750
<b>Full Page:</b>	\$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.

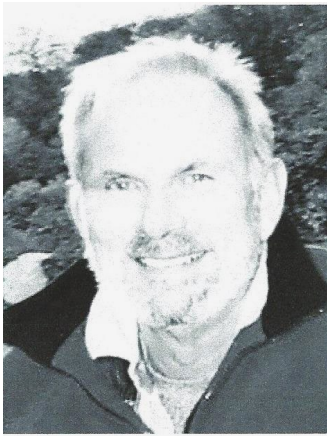
**CIRCULATION:** The Mount Holly Chit Chat is delivered to every residence in Mount Holly and mailed to out-of-Town property owners as well as other folks with Mount Holly ties.

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



### Donald H. Schweisthal

Donald Herman Schweisthal, 82, of Belmont, Vermont, passed away peacefully in his sleep at home, on Nov. 20, 2021. He was born in Aurora, Illinois, on Nov. 15, 1939, to Herman and Agnes (Morrisette) Schweisthal. As a young man, he was a seminarian at Saint Meinrad Seminary in Indiana. He served in the U.S. Army, attending the Army Language School in Monterey, California, where he became fluent in Russian. He spent his time in service overseas as a Russian linguist. Upon his return to civilian life, he briefly studied

theology at the University of Chicago. In search of his calling, he sought reflective solitude at the Weston Priory. He found his heart was at home in Vermont – ruggedly beautiful, self-sufficient, resilient and independent. He was a carpenter, electrician, draftsman, and he worked as a soils analyst for the State of Vermont Department of Transportation until he retired. He had a quiet, gentle and unassuming demeanor that belied his sharp wit, dry humor, intense passion and immeasurable intellect. A lifelong learner, he had a voracious appetite for knowledge and was a student of philosophy, theology, economics, history, culture and life. Although the chapters of his life could fill volumes, he was content to live simply in Vermont for more than five decades. He was preceded in death by his parents; his infant daughter, Naomi; his lifelong companion, Virginia Maurelli; and his sister, Judith Votisek. He leaves two daughters, Lisa (Ted) Preister, of North Dakota, and Ruth (Robert) Kenney, of Montana; two granddaughters, Kayla Gilchrist and Helaena Preister; sister, Janet Stoppenbach; numerous nieces and nephews; and honorary family, Pieter Bohen (and family) and Tom Sapp. Memorial services will be held on Dec. 2, 2021, 1 p.m., at the Village Baptist Church in Belmont, Vermont. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial donations be made to The Mount Holly Town Library, P.O. Box 93, Belmont, VT 05730, honoring his love for books.



### Rosemary "Babe" LeBrun

On Monday, Dec. 6, 2021, Rosemary "Babe" LeBrun, 88, beloved mother of Karen, Teri, Liz and Barb, finally went to join her husband, Norman, whom she had missed for the past year. Rosemary was born on June 28, 1933, the daughter of Ida Mae McCue and Michael Angelo Rizzo, in Uniondale, New York. She married Norman LeBrun on Dec. 19, 1959. They moved all over during his years of service in the Air Force before settling down in Mount Holly,

Vermont, where they built a home and raised their daughters. They became frequent fixtures at the Black River High School games while their daughters attended school and continued after they all had graduated. In their retirement years, they were frequently seen walking in the town of Ludlow, having coffee at the Cafe at Delight, and taking trips to the casinos. Rosemary was predeceased by her parents; her husband, Norman; and sister, Mary Dunnder. She is survived by her brothers, John (Joan), Jimmy and Mickey; sister, Fanny Scanlon; daughters, Karen Main (Paul), Theresa, Elizabeth (Edward) and Barbara; grandchildren, Steven, Danielle, Rachel, Tyler and Kalinen; great-grandchildren, Lily, Autumn, Ezra, Lucey and Molley; and a great many cousins, nieces and nephews. There are no calling hours. Burial and a celebration of Rosemary's life will be in June 2022 in the Pleasant View Cemetery in Ludlow, Vermont. Memorial contributions may be made to The Feline Connection, P.O. Box 567, Rutland, VT 05702 or online at <http://www.thefelineconnection.org>.

### Bone Builders

Monday & Thursday Mornings  
9:00 am

Odd Fellows Hall  
For Weights and more information  
Call Judy Nevin 802-259-2443

## Christmas Eve & Christmas Day & New Year's Mass Schedule & Services

### St. Patrick's in Wallingford

4:00 pm Christmas Eve

10:00 am Christmas Day

9:00 am New Year's Day

&

### Christ The King in Rutland

4:00 pm & 7:00 pm Christmas Eve

7:30 am & 10:00 am Christmas Day

5:30 pm New Year's Eve

10:00 am New Year's Day

&

### Immaculate Heart of Mary in Rutland

4:00 pm & 8:00 pm Christmas Eve

8:00 am Christmas Day

8:00 am New Year's Day

&

### Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Ludlow

5:00 pm & 9:00 pm Christmas Eve

10:00 am Christmas Day

4:30 pm New Year's Eve

10:00 am New Year's Day

&

### Belmont Village Baptist Church

7:00 pm Christmas Eve Service

With Christmas Carols & Readings

**January**





## Through the Eyes of the Students: A Message of Support From Our Trailblazers!

During this holiday season and on the eve of a new year, please take a moment and listen to the students of our community as they reflect upon what is now possible for their futures.

Their voices are a powerful reminder of how a community can positively impact the lives of children when we create a learning environment that is inclusive and personalized. So, ask yourself these questions:

-When was the last time you heard children speak with so much pride about their personal growth and commitment to learning?

-When was the last time you witnessed youth advocating for the support of their new school's approach to teaching and learning?

[Through The Eyes of ESBR Students](#) video was edited by Wyatt Benoit, an 11th grader, and the script was written entirely by the students featured in it.

The Expeditionary School at Black River (ESBR) is a "recognized" independent school – it is a cost-efficient and family-centered learning community. In its second year of educating local students, it has been 100% philanthropically funded; it receives \$0 from the state Education Fund. Because the school wants to secure its long-term future operation and be accessible to more students, the Board realized it could not rely only on charitable donations. So, ESBR applied to the state to transition

from "recognized" to "approved" status on July 20, 2021.

"Approved" status is required, so that state Education Fund dollars can follow students from school choice towns who want to attend ESBR. These monies will be a source of predictable annual funding to ensure the retention of existing staff and to allow for the recruiting of new staff.

With 2022 about to start, there is still no clarity regarding the timing of the approval of the ESBR status change. To ensure that there is NO gap in funding while the state approval process is completed, ESBR is fundraising now for the next school year. ESBR needs to secure the funds now to confidently be able to communicate to the public that it will be open for the 2022-2023 school year.

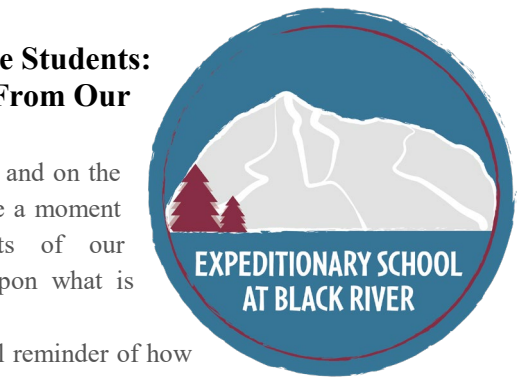
The attached video is a reminder of what is at stake. There are local students relying on all of us to stay dedicated to the vision and belief that we can do better at educating our children.

By making a financial contribution to the school's sustainability, your investment supports not only the Trailblazers in this video, but their families, the community at-large and all the future students to come.

## TO THE MOUNT HOLLY COMMUNITY



**FROM ALL OF US AT MOUNT HOLLY  
VOLUNTEER RESCUE SQUAD**



## Belmont Village Baptist Church



*Christmas Eve Service*

*December 24<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm*

*Christmas Carols &  
Readings*



Donate Here: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/expeditionary-school-at-black-river-year-3> Go Fund Me page. Expeditionary School at Black River, P.O. Box 485; 43 Main Street, Ludlow, VT 05149 [esblackriver.org](mailto:esblackriver.org)

## Flanders Excavating & Firewood

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**Mt. Moriah Lodge #96 December 2021,  
Trestleboard**

**Next meeting Tuesday 1/11 8PM**

Brother Ralph Nichols, Past Master of 5 different lodges including King Solomon's Lodge #45 in Bellows Falls and St. Johns Lodge of Springfield, has passed away. Brother Ralph filled the roll as sea captain for many degrees around the district over the course of many years. His funeral service is on December 11, 2021, at 2 PM at St. Paul's Lodge, 119 River St., Alstead, NH 03602. Donations can be made to The Gary Sinise Foundation-Giving to Veterans in need.

This is a good time for everyone to consider becoming a life member of Grand Lodge. For anyone under 60 yrs old, the cost is \$400 and anyone over 60, it's \$200. This offer ends on December 31<sup>st</sup>.

There will be a \$20 increase in your dues this year to cover the cost of the grand Lodge assessment increase. The assessment was raised this past June to reflect on this year's dues.

Rick Boise has looked at the lodge building electrical issues that need to be addressed. He will be at this meeting to give us an estimate of the cost to make these changes to bring us up to code with the State.

Training for Wardens was launched in September and will continue until the end of the year.

Brother Earl Miller has found a place to live in Florida and is enjoying the warm weather. Fraternally, Dennis Start,

WM - Buster Seward, Sec'y

**LIFE MEMBERSHIPS**

Secretaries:

This message is intended to clarify life membership applications and rules:

Masons from age 18 up to and including 59 will be charged \$400 for a Grand Lodge Life Membership. Masons 60 years of age or more will be charged \$200.

These charges are good through April 1, 2022, as the annual reports are due on April 10, 2022. This will enable the Grand Lodge to change the brother's status before you mail in your annual report.

Life memberships after April 10, 2022, will be raised to \$800 for the younger mason and \$400 for the 60 year and up. To apply for a life membership, have the brother write a check to:

Grand Lodge of Vermont with the appropriate amount and mail it to the Grand Lodge of Vermont; 49 East Rd.; Barre, VT 05641. Please indicate in the memo field that the check is intended for Life Membership.

Upon receipt here at the office, the brothers request will be processed, and membership status changed to Life Member.

Brethren all: these charges are a steal. Treat yourself with a Christmas present that will give you great returns for every year following.

I wish you all the Peace of Christmas and the Hope of a better 2022. Earl J. Washburn, Grand Lodge Secretary

**Expeditionary School Winter Events 2021-2022**

The Expeditionary School at Black River is honored to announce several festive winter events in the coming weeks and months with a little something for everyone during this holiday season.

Stemwinder and William Raveis VT Properties have partnered together on a signature cocktail whereby each establishment will donate a dollar for every drink sold of the libation, christened 'Thyme for a Sparkler,' from now until March 31st, 2022.

On Thursday, January 27th, 2022 at 7pm, Vermont's own renowned comedian Rusty Dewees "The Logger" will host his Vermont-flavored stand up at Calcutta's Restaurant located at the Fox Run Golf Club. Tickets are \$75 and include a light dinner, proceeds will benefit ESBR. A cash bar will also be available courtesy of Calcutta's. Visit [esblackriver.org](http://esblackriver.org) for tickets, which can also be purchased at the door on the night of the event.

Finally, a captivating performance hosted by our own ESBR students will be presented on Saturday, January 29th, 2022 at 3pm at the Ludlow Town Hall Heald Auditorium. The performance, titled We Are Nature, is possible thanks to a Vermont Arts Council Grant whereby ESBR was able to contract local Broadway artist Susan Haefner for a second year in a row. The event will also tie in local businesses, stay tuned for more details.

ESBR extends a heartfelt thank you to the above establishments for their support, as well as to this community for its faith in local education. Below is a link to a students video of which they wrote, performed, and directed with the help of BRIC and OVTV; please take a moment to watch Through the Eyes of Students. A link to our new GoFundMe page follows. Any and all contributions help significantly.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V7wXytoYwY8&feature=youtu.be>

[Fundraiser by Expeditionary School at Black River : Expeditionary School at Black River Year 3 \(gofundme.com\)](https://www.gofundme.com/fundraiser-by-expeditionary-school-at-black-river)

If you would like to learn more about the school or get involved, please contact Suzy Buckley, Chair of the Board, at [suzy@esblackriver.org](mailto:suzy@esblackriver.org) or Kendra Rickerby, Head of School at [kendra@esblackriver.org](mailto:kendra@esblackriver.org). Please visit our website [www.esblackriver.org](http://www.esblackriver.org). Donations can be made on the website or by mailing a check to P.O. Box 485, Ludlow, VT 05149.



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The use of the Hall in Belmont is scheduled by contacting Carol at 802-259-2791, or at [tcg2791@yahoo.com](mailto:tcg2791@yahoo.com). You may also leave a message with Dennis at 802-259-2460, or at [ddevereux@vermontel.net](mailto:ddevereux@vermontel.net).



## Attention Dog Owners

In accordance with [Vermont State](#) law, all dogs aged 6-months and older must be registered by April 1st each year. If you become the owner of a dog after April 1st, you will need to license the animal within 30 days. Dog licenses are available at the Town Clerk's Office. A current rabies certificate and payment is required.

MOUNT HOLLY DOG OWNERS: ALL DOGS MUST BE REGISTERED BY APRIL 1, 2022, NEUTERED DOGS- \$11.00 UNNEUTERED DOGS - \$15.00 MUST HAVE CURRENT RABIES CERTIFICATE TO REGISTER

## Writers Workshop, Free

We will convene at my home on Sunday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> from 10 until 12. All are welcome. I only ask that you send me your email address before arriving. (I already have some.) I need the addresses for a head count and in the event that I need to cancel due to weather or health. Email: [connor@ohio.edu](mailto:connor@ohio.edu) Phone: 259-2773 Address: last house on Old Tiffany Road.

This is a private home. You must be vaccinated, and you should have a mask handy. I'll be monitoring the variants. Any level of expertise is fine. It will be fun, really. I will have coffee, tea, and snack food on hand. The exercises will focus on point-of-view which is applicable whether you are working on fiction or non-fiction.

## Reinbow Riding Center

Another season at Reinbow Riding Center has come and gone, a very successful season. Even with the move to a new location we were able to give over 285 lessons serving riders from Rutland, Windsor and Bennington counties. Now comes the hard part as we spend the winter searching for and writing grants and meeting with organizations and companies that might be willing to sponsor our programs so anyone, regardless of their ability to pay, can take advantage of our therapeutic horsemanship program. We kick off the fundraising this month with our Annual Appeal. Please send donations to Reinbow Riding Center, P.O. Box 395, Shrewsbury, VT 05738. Thank you to all who support our efforts past and future.

Please watch our website: [reinbowridingcenter.org](http://reinbowridingcenter.org), and follow us on Facebook, Twitter @ReinbowRiding and Instagram @reinbow\_riding\_center. Contact us at [programs@reinbowridingcenter.org](mailto:programs@reinbowridingcenter.org) or 802-236-2483.



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## Mount Holly Community Association

### Light The Tree

There was a Santa sighting on the Belmont Village Baptist Church Green Friday December 17th and although his reindeer were resting up for the big night, he arrived in style via the Belmont fire truck and his chauffeur Brian Buffum. The MHCA joined forces with Mount Holly PTSA to celebrate the lighting of the tree in the gazebo and host Santa's visit to our little mountain town. Santa sat in the rocker at the gazebo as the children lined up to tell him what they wanted for Christmas, enjoyed hot chocolate and gifts from jolly ole Saint Nick. The PTSA handed out maps of local homes that light up the Night with their decorations. It was a brisk evening, so the hot chocolate was a warm welcome for approximately 30 kids and parents.



MHCA would like to extend many, many thanks to Scott Crawford at the Balsam Barn for donating the Christmas tree that this year graces the Gazebo on the village green. Scott has been a supporter of our Christmas celebrations for many, many years and we are indebted to him for his generosity. Additional thanks you's to Brian Buffum for bringing Santa to Belmont and Fra Devine for making arrangements with the big guy to fit us in his schedule.

Lastly a big Merry Christmas to Santa who made many youngsters night with his presence! Ho Ho Ho!

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, the latest of which is repairs to the old slate roof of the library and community room. This additional income is what contributes to being able to maintain a vibrant community association for our town.

Membership is what pays for the operating expenses of the MHCA, so it is essential that this continue to be a strong, ongoing source of income. Membership flyers can be found in the Belmont Store, the post offices, and the town office. Please join today!

Reminder...don't forget to pick up your Mount Holly calendar for 2022! They are almost gone, so take the opportunity to pick one up at the General Store, or the town office. This is a great fund raiser for the MHCA...half of the proceeds for the calendar go directly to support the activities we sponsor each year. Therefore, that half is also tax deductible!

As this year comes to a close, we look back and are so thankful for the many gatherings we hold dear from Mount Holly Day in early summer to the fireworks on New Year's Eve at Star Lake, all of these events make us understand how very important the MHCA is to our community. We look forward to this spring and with great hope to taking up all of these activities once again. In the meantime, we hope everyone stays safe and healthy, especially at this time year!



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



# FML News

Fletcher Memorial Library  
January - 2021

## WELCOME 2022

### Happy New Year to ALL!

With the New Year comes new adventures. At FML, we constantly strive to offer improved patron experiences and new services. Coming Soon - an additional downloadable Audio and e-Book platform. This, provided by the VT Department of Libraries, and at no cost. I cannot wait to try it out! More info to follow.

In December, we brought back a service. We are borrowing a random selection of large print books - different titles - every 3 months from the ABLE library at the VT Dept. of Libraries. The ABLE library offers home delivery to those hearing and sight impaired. Please let us know if you would like an application. Zero charge for lg. print, braille or audiobooks delivered to your home.

Hoping to hold our 1st book discussion since 2019. The title will be *The woman they could not silence : one woman, her incredible fight for freedom, and the men who tried to make her disappear* / Kate Moore. (Not just a woman's read)

I met Kate, author of *Radium Girls*, in NYC at my annual publishing/library event. I was captivated by *Radium Girls* and could not wait to read the above. I had Kate's email and contacted her to express my review - what a fantastic Book - I listened to it - Kate was the reader.

Bonus if there is enough interest in this title, Kate will Zoom into our book discussion for 30 minutes. WOW!

Book and audio available at FML. Date TBD.

## Important Dates:

January 1 / (CLOSED Dec 31st)

January 15 - 17 (CLOSED MLK)



Don't forget to check out all of the resources on our Youth Library page!

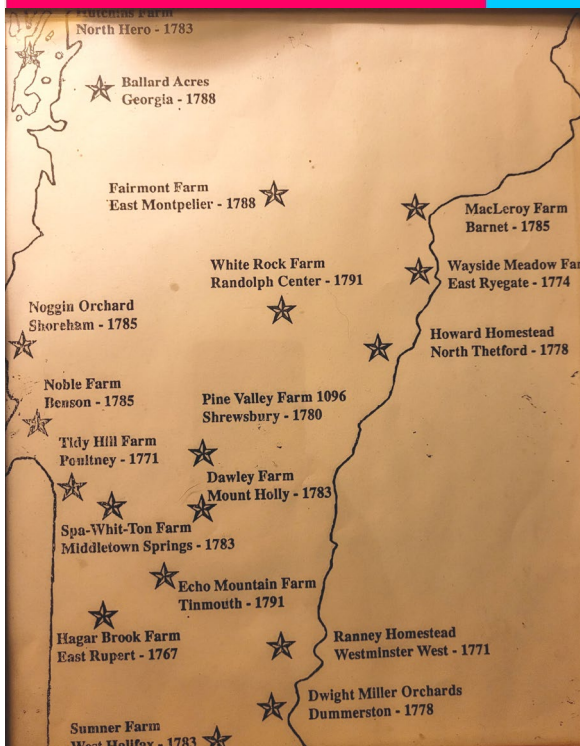


Thank You for Your

Continued Library Support

Past, Present and Future!

Fletcher Memorial Library is a 501 (c)3 organization  
[www.fmlnews.org](http://www.fmlnews.org) 802-228-8921



## MARKING THE END OF AN ERA IN MOUNT HOLLY

I would like to recognize two notable events concerning the Dawley family in the last several months. The first is the passing of the last World War 2 veteran who was born in and enlisted from Mount Holly. Richard Dawley died in July and was probably best known for his mechanical ability to fix anything. He was a quiet soft-spoken man who was quick to smile and enjoyed visiting. Richard was proud of his community and being a descendant of the first male child born in Jackson's Gore. He was happy to share the latter distinction with many of us.

The other event is the loss of most of the Dawley Farm that includes the original homestead site. This marks the selling of the last early farm in Jackson's Gore. In 1989 the Dawley Farm was presented a Certificate of Recognition for being one of the last still being farmed after 200 years by the same family beginning before Vermont became a state. Richard's son Michael and family continue to own a portion of the property, but the site of the original buildings will no longer be in the Dawley family.

Submitted by Dennis Devereux

## Certificate of Recognition

Presented to

*Dawley Farm*

During the 200th anniversary observance of the signing and ratification of the U.S. Constitution, the U.S. Department of Agriculture is pleased to recognize the vital contribution of farm families to the growth and strength of this great Nation. Your farm has been recognized as having been in the same family since the birth of the U.S. Constitution.

1989

Secretary of Agriculture







## Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department

Green Mt. Conservation Camp  
1 National Life Drive, Davis 2  
Montpelier VT 05620  
[www.vtfishandwildlife.com](http://www.vtfishandwildlife.com)

[Phone] (802)-522-2925  
[Fax] (802)-828-1250  
[tdd] (802)-828-3345



Dear DFW License Agent:

The Green Mountain Conservation Camp program (GMCC) is an educational and fun experience for Vermont youth between 12 and 16 years old. Youth participating in the camp program learn about forestry, wetland ecology, orienteering, outdoor safety skills, spin and fly-fishing, hiking, archery, wildlife ecology, firearm safety, and basic outdoor first aid. We have sessions available for youth to choose a separate boys or girls week at both basic and advanced levels. The cost to attend GMCC for one week is only \$250.00, and tuition assistance is available. Our hope is that you would be willing to share our GMCC information with your patrons and staff. Enclosed, please find a GMCC flyer and a work weekend flyer that we would appreciate you putting up in your school letting kids know about the GMCC program.

**Registration for the summer of 2022 will begin on January 3rd, 2022.**

## LIGHT THE NIGHT IS HERE!

HOSTED BY THE MHCA

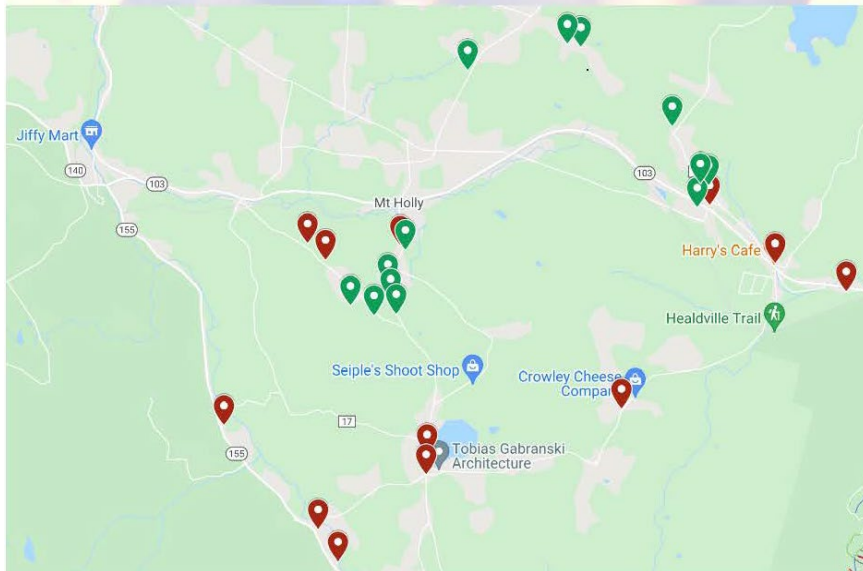
Dates and time to view lights are:

Dec 24th to Dec 26th 5pm to 8pm

**Google Map is below.**

**A digital link can be obtained by emailing [mounthollyptsa@gmail.com](mailto:mounthollyptsa@gmail.com)**

Any questions email [mounthollyptsa@gmail.com](mailto:mounthollyptsa@gmail.com)



As we did last year, we are again having parents entering their child's GMCC applications via ANR Online at: <https://anronline.vermont.gov/?formtag=GMCC>

We ask that you encourage everyone to apply using ANR Online. As always if you have parents/guardians without internet and/or computer access, you can have them call Jan Finn at the new phone number for GMCC: (802)-522-2925 to request a paper copy of the application.

Enclosed, please find a GMCC flyer and a work weekend flyer that we would appreciate if you put up in your store letting people know about the GMCC program.

If you have any questions, you can contact us at: [www.FWgmcc@vermont.gov](mailto:www.FWgmcc@vermont.gov) or call (802)-522-2925.

I appreciate your help in spreading the word about the Green Mountain Conservation Camp program. Sincerely, Ali Thomas, Education Manager, VT Fish & Wildlife

**Green Mountain Conservation Camp, Vermont Fish & Wildlife Dept., 1 National Life Dr., Davis 2, Montpelier, VT 05620**

Edward F. Kehoe Camp – May 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>, 636 Point of Pines Road, Castleton VT & Buck Lake Camp – May 21<sup>st</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>, 1051 Buck Lake Road, Woodbury, VT For questions and registration information please contact:

Hannah Phelps at 802-249-4199

[hannah.phelps@vermont.gov](mailto:hannah.phelps@vermont.gov)

Applications are available online at

[www.vtfishandwildlife.com](http://www.vtfishandwildlife.com)



**Pick Your Own Berries**

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East Wallingford, Vermont 05742  
802-259-2155

[www.sugarhillberryfarm.com](http://www.sugarhillberryfarm.com)

Call or check Facebook for days/times open

## YANKEE HOME MANAGEMENT



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and Maintenance

[yankeehomemanagement.com](http://yankeehomemanagement.com)

**802-259-3064**

**Keith Hawkins**  
PRESIDENT

**MT. HOLLY, VT**

## Venturing into the Unknown

*"Life is a book in volumes three –  
The past, the present, and the yet-to-be.  
The past is written and laid away,  
The present we're writing every day,  
And the last and the best of volume three  
Is locked from sight – God keeps the key."*

We are living in a world that is light years away from our world of Yesterday. We are living in difficult and troubled times.

To many folks, this New Year will bring suffering, sorrow and untold sadness. Many will be called to walk through the "valley of the shadow of death". In this New Year, some will stand beside a grave, blotting hot tears of bereavement, hearing those words, "Dust to dust, ashes to ashes." Millions of others, wandering aimlessly in life's struggles, will be filled with inner fears and frustrations and fail to realize their cherished dreams, hopes and ambitions. This New Year coming is a venture into the unknown and we are all going to have to rethink our lives. Like Ebenezer Scrooge, we all have an opportunity to take spiritual inventory of our lives to see if our spiritual resources are sufficient for the demands of the coming days of trial, temptations and sorrow. In the midst of all this, there is but one hope– the hope that Jesus is coming again. Without that hope, we cannot face the future.

First, as we face 2022, what we need is a new relationship with the God who made us and realize how much He loves us. Whatever our ethnic, religious, sexual, or political background, He offers us a glorious life with Him forever and a satisfying, abundant life *here and now*. Jesus insisted that we can enter into this experience with God by being, to use His words, "born again." In declaring Himself to be the Truth, Jesus eliminated forever the possibility of anyone ever saving themselves by respectability, outward honor or charitable works. In admitting our need and our own deep-rooted selfishness we can become recipients of this new birth. Can you picture old Scrooge on Christmas morning, dancing with joy that there is still time to redeem the future? Then he sets out with a new spirit within him to begin changing his world.

Do you want to change the world? Then give Jesus the key to your life now, at the beginning of this New Year, and live a life dedicated to Him.

Second, as we cross the threshold of this next year, we need a new sense of time's importance. One of God's most cherished gifts to us is time. Billy Joel said it in *This Is The Time*, "Sometimes it's so easy to let a day slip on by, without even seeing each other at all". How much time do we waste? The Bible says, "So teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom" and "redeem the time, because the days are evil". Time is the dressing room of eternity. We have merely this tiny slice of time in which to prepare for and make a difference for eternity.

Any one of us can squander time by idleness and by unprofitable conversations and excessive attachments to worldly amusements. But we can redeem time by employing it wisely, by building our character, by meditating on God's greatness and on His Word. In the UK there is an Oxford sundial with this Latin inscription: *Pereunt et imputantur*; ... "The hours perish and are laid to our charge." Someday we will give an account of our time. Allow me to ask, "What are you going to do with the 12 months that are laid out before you?" Let's both put some thought and prayer into *that!* Pastor D



# HAPPY NEW YEAR

### GRASS FED / GRASS FINISHED BEEF

KNOW WHO RAISED YOUR MEAT, COME TO THE FARM FOR YOUR

- |                   |                     |                |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| * GRILL STEAKS    | * GROUND BEEF       | * KABOB MEAT   |
| * RIB STEAKS      | * SAUSAGE           | * BRISKET      |
| * SEASONINGS      | * TALLOW            | * MEAT BOXES   |
| * ROASTS          | * BACK & SHORT RIBS | * MARROW BONES |
| * PREMADE PATTIES |                     |                |

### OUR OWN VT MAPLE SYRUP ALL GRADES AVAILABLE

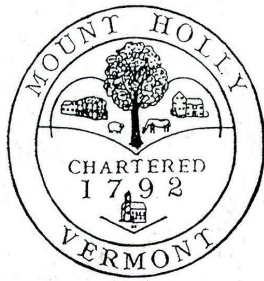
- |                |                      |                   |
|----------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| * GALLONS      | * MAPLE CREAM        | * MAPLE DRESSINGS |
| * HALF-GALLONS | * MAPLE CREAM CHEESE | * MARINADES       |
| * PINTS        | * COOKIES            | * MAPLE SUGAR     |
| * HALF-PINTS   |                      | * MAPLE CANDIES   |

SHOP IN PERSON, CALL US, EMAIL OR ORDER ON-LINE TO BE READY FOR A QUICK PICKUP AT OUR FARM STORE. CURBSIDE AVAILABLE JUST ASK. APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE AS NEEDED.

FALL STORE HOURS: ..... SAT, SUN, MON 10 AM - 5 PM  
WEDNESDAY, THURS & FRI 10 AM - 6 PM  
SMITHMAPLECRESTFARM.COM 802 - 492 - 2151







## 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](http://www.okemovalley.tv). Computers with internet access are available at the Town Library.

### Mount Holly Select Board Meeting December 14, 2021 Minutes

**In-Person with Zoom Meeting: 268 110 0320**

**Present: Select Board:** Jeff Chase, Jennifer Matthews, Mark Turco (Chair)

**Town Officials:** Phil Crane, Dennis Devereux, Carol Garrow-Woolley, Diana Garrow, Russ Garrow, David Johnson, Phil Leonard, Jon McCann, Christine Pratt, James Seward, Brigid Sullivan, Mary Surething, Andy Tanger, Clinton Woolley

**Members of the Public:** Paul Barton, Zena Gates, Anna McGee Hanson, Marianne McGee, Stephen Michel, Jeb Porter, Donna Seward, Amy Turco

**To Contact Mt. Holly Town Road Crew, call the Town Garage at 802-259-3179**

**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.**

needed this evening.

4. **Approval of November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Meeting Minutes** – Mr. Turco made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Jeff Chase, unanimously approved.

#### 5. Reports

##### a. Highways & Transfer Station Update –

i) **Monthly Update - Clinton Woolley** reported there were lots of trees down. He also said that the Select Board needs to make a decision about Saturday hours on Christmas at the transfer station. It was decided to close the transfer station on Christmas Day and set the hours on Sunday, December 26<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm. The transfer station will be open its regular hours on New Year's Day.

ii) **Summit Road Construction Drawings Review & Posting Date for Construction Bid** – Jeff Chase reported the contractors' bid package on the project has been received from Otter Creek Engineering (OCE). The package includes all necessary information, drawings and permits. The project will be advertised before Christmas; it will be posted to the VT Bid System website; and calls will be made to contractors. OCE will handle the bid opening on January 13<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 pm, the compilation and management of the bids, and their contractor recommendation for a cost of \$4,500. With a 10% grant match, the cost to the Town will be \$450. Mr. Chase recommended this process given the size of the project, OCE's expertise, and to avoid any conflict of interest given his work.

iii) **Better Back Roads Grant** – Jeff Chase reported that the stormwater and road erosion inventory are in good shape, so he and Mr. Woolley looked at a riverbank stabilization project on Freeman Brook Road for this grant. Mr. Chase still has some work to do on the grant before finalizing the application for submission; the grant is due on Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup>. The project cost is \$25-30,000 with a 20% match.

Jennifer Matthews noted that \$2B will be coming into Vermont over the next five years through the **Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act**. Of that money, over \$1B will flow through VTrans with \$324.3 million for highways and bridges. There will be 26 competitive grant programs. Grant funds to keep our roads and bridges in the best shape possible will save taxpayers money, if the grants are pursued by the Town. Funding should start flowing next summer.

#### 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

##### b. Treasurer – David Johnson

i) **Monthly Income & Expense Report** – Mr. Johnson reported: transfers for the year were made to the Solid Waste Equip Fund (\$1,000), the Asset/Equip Fund (\$65,000), the Culvert Repair Fund (\$10,000), and the Bridge Repair Fund (\$7,500); the PILOT Program payment of \$14,976 has been received from the State and includes the newly-acquired property on VT Route 155; the State Current Use payment of \$51,117 has also been received; the Solid Waste Labels Sold amount of \$14,060 is through November 30<sup>th</sup> and the amount is now half of what was budgeted; Solid Waste Hauling & Disposal Expense of \$23,677 includes Casella's November bill, and disposal is at 135 tons this year versus 152 tons last year; the

first payment of \$407,000 was made to the Statewide Education Fund; the first half of the Garage Bond Interest Expense (\$6,345) has been made; transfers for Fire Department Support of \$26,750 and for Rescue Squad Support of \$15,000 were made in November.

c. **Mount Holly Planning Commission Update** – Jon McCann reported the Planning Commission: wrapped up and approved the Bolalek subdivision; continues to work on the town plan; has invited the Boards of the Mount Holly Volunteer Fire Department

#### 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: 802-786-3408

Home: 802-259-2211

Leave a phone number where Jim can call you back.

Do not burn until you have spoken to him.

**SAFETY FIRST ALWAYS**

and the Mount Holly Volunteer Rescue Squad to collaborate on writing the utilities and facilities part of the town plan. Mr. McCann also reported that the AT&T cell tower should be operational in the second quarter of 2022.

**d. Mount Holly Conservation Commission Update** – Ms. Matthews reported that Annette Lynch could not be with us this evening, but she wanted the Select Board to know that the Conservation Commission is moving ahead with its work, and there will be a full report in January.

**e. Rutland Regional Planning Commission (RRPC) Update** – Jon McCann reported that Barbara Noyes Pulling gave a presentation on Act 76 regarding clean water service providers for the Champlain Basin, which mainly impacts those to the west of Otter Creek. He also reported that Shrewsbury added river corridor protection to its flood hazard area regulations in order to receive

### Select Board Administrator 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; grants administration; maintaining files and documents. Flexible weekdays and hours, 10-15 hours per week to start. Proficiency with computers and Microsoft Word, Excel, and email required. Compensation dependent upon experience. Additional information at: [mounthollyvt.org/announcements-bulletin-board/appointments-openings/](http://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](mailto:mounthollyselectboard@gmail.com)

### Mount Holly Transfer Station:

**CLOSED** on Christmas Day, December 25<sup>th</sup>

**OPEN** on Sunday, December 26<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm

**OPEN** on Saturday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, 8:00 am to 2:00 pm

**OPEN** on Sunday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9:00 am to 12:00 Noon

Happy Holidays! May They be Merry! Happy New Year!

additional FEMA funding in the case of any damage.

**f. Rutland Region Transportation Advisory Committee Update** – Clinton Woolley reported the meeting focused on the VT Route 22A project.

**g. Rutland County Solid Waste District Update** – Clinton Woolley reported they finished work on the annual budget, which is now ready for a vote.

### 6. New Business

**a. Shade Tree Preservation Plan Update** – Phil Crane reported on the continuing work to the Plan, a plan prescribed by Statute with a required set of elements. To begin, a shade tree must be

located in whole or in part in the public right-of-way (ROW) or a public place, provided the tree was planted by the municipality or is designated as a shade tree per the Plan. There are very few trees planted by the municipality, so they are surveying the trees in town (Maple Hill Road, the Star Lake recreation area, the roads in and out of Belmont) to put together a list of possible trees to designate as shade trees. Their present focus is on which of these trees to include, along with a plan to plant new trees and a program to maintain designated shade trees, all of which will require a small commitment of funds annually. A formal plan with some financial support will facilitate access to outside funding to further support the Plan. A draft of the Plan will be presented to the Select Board in January with a public meeting on it proposed for early to mid-March. A current challenge is all the lovely maple trees planted along town roads (Shunpike & Hortonville, for example) which are not in the ROW, but should still be protected.

**b. Star Lake Bottom Barriers** – Phil Leonard asked the Select Board to agree to submit an application on behalf of the Town for two bottom barriers to be used in the swimming and boating areas of Star Lake to control vegetation and improve recreational opportunities. The barrier is a rubber/plastic sheet with stiffening material which deprives the vegetation (milfoil, lily pads, others) of light so the vegetation does not grow. Discussion ensued on cost, donations, use of Lake Ninevah's barrier, installation by divers, effective use of bottom barriers in Lakes Rescue and Pauline. Mr. Turco supported the plan as long as cost is minimal. Ms. Matthews remarked on the number of residents who are interested in seeing Star Lake "reclaimed." She whole-heartedly endorses the plan and expressed her appreciation to the Conservation Commission for its time and effort on this project. Mr. Chase asked Mr. Leonard to complete the needed application and bring it to the next Select Board meeting along with a plan for the project. Mr. Leonard also asked about regular testing to monitor the water quality at Star Lake.

**c. Mount Holly Volunteer Rescue Squad ARPA Funds Request** – Anna McGee Hanson introduced herself as a MHVRS Board member and an EMT. MHVRS's list of items and ARPA funds request are to help squad members better respond to and transport more COVID-positive patients, and to help them and their firefighter drivers protect themselves from COVID. Items like the Envo N95 masks, which are washable and reusable, are a way to do this. She also asked for consideration of hazard stipends for both squad members and drivers who have been responding to emergencies during the past two years regardless of the patient's vaccination or COVID status. In response to a question from Ms. Matthews, Ms. McGee Hanson stated the cost of the items would be about \$4,200. In response to a question from Mr. Turco, she said she will send a spreadsheet of the items with costs. The Select Board will review the list of items to be sure they qualify for ARPA funds use. If they do, the Select Board supports the use of ARPA funds for purchase of the items. Paul Barton thanked fire and rescue for their service to the community.

**d. A/V Technology for Hybrid Meetings (ARPA Funds)** – Patrick Cody of Okemo Valley TV described the options available to us: a basic system with a single camera going straight to Zoom with a couple of mics, \$4-5,000; a middle tier system outfitting

### Mount Holly Town Office

**Will be CLOSING At Noon**

**Thursday December 23<sup>rd</sup>. 2021**

**In Observance of Christmas**

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO EVERYONE**

**CLOSED**

**Monday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022 for**

**Martin Luther King's Jr. Day**



## Mount Holly Town Auditors Request For The Town Report

Mount Holly Town Auditors are requesting of all organizations who **submit articles and or budgets for the Mount Holly Town Report** to have your articles typed single spaced and mailed or dropped off or e-mailed to: [mthollyauditors@gmail.com](mailto:mthollyauditors@gmail.com) or to the Town Office no later than **January 6, 2022**. Anything received after that date will not appear in the Town Report. All articles mail to the Town Office at the following address: **Mount Holly Town Office, Attn: Auditors, P.O. Box 248, Mt. Holly, VT 05758**

If you have any pictures of your organization or the Town of MT Holly that have occurred in town this past year and wish to have them included in the Town Report, please send them to us for our consideration. We can scan the photo and return it to you. For more information, call the town office and leave a message for one of the Auditors. Thank You, The Mount Holly Town Auditors

just the town office with two robotic cameras, mics, switcher/mixer, and a wall-mounted display, installed with warranty, \$11,000; and an upper tier system with connectivity between buildings, \$20,000. Discussion ensued about these three options, the need to change internet service providers (from Comcast to VTEL), the different megabyte plans and costs, and phone systems. Select Board members decided to outfit the town office only looking at the basic or middle tier system. Amy Turco will gather quotes for a VOIP system. Mr. Cody will gather quotes on the two A/V options under consideration.

e. **Municipal Planning Grant (MPG) Award** – Ms. Matthews announced that the Town of Mount Holly was awarded a MPG for 2022, fully funded at \$20,000 with a \$2,000 match, for a total project cost of \$22,000. Ms. Matthews expressed her appreciation and congratulations to Annette Lynch, who wrote and gathered all the documentation for the grant. Mr. Chase made a motion to accept the grant, seconded by Ms. Matthews, unanimously approved.

f. **Health Insurance & HRA Renewals** – Ms. Matthews noted we need to approve the health insurance and HRA renewals for the coming calendar year. After a sizeable rate increase last year, BlueCross BlueShield actually lowered their rates this year. Mr. Chase made a motion to renew the same BlueCross BlueShield health insurance plan and the HRA plan with a \$650 per person contribution for town employees for 2022, seconded by Mr. Turco, unanimously approved.

g. **Mask Mandate – Municipal Properties** – Ms. Matthews introduced the topic noting the Governor turned the mask question over to municipalities, which is unfortunate given the contentious nature of the issue. She noted the large increase in COVID cases (1,000+) over the weekend; do we want to take this precautionary step? Discussion ensued about the reasons to wear masks, the pros and cons of doing so, vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals, municipal vs. other properties, and enforcement measures. Mr. Chase and Mr. Turco stated they did not think a mask mandate was necessary. Ms. Matthews again noted the increasing infection and death rates as well as the new variants. She asked if a mask recommendation could be agreed upon so as to protect town staff, employees, residents and visitors, and to safeguard everyone's health. Mr. Turco and Mr. Chase agreed with her suggestion of a mask recommendation for municipal buildings.

h. **Board of Adjustment** – tabled until the January meeting.

i. **Planning Commission Appointments – Two Terms to November 2024** – Mr. Chase made a motion to appoint Jim Seward to a three-year term on the Planning Commission, seconded by Mr. Turco, unanimously approved. Mr. Turco made a motion to appoint Stephen Michel to a three-year term on the Planning Commission, no seconds.

j. **Other** – There was no other New Business this evening.

### 7. Ongoing & Old Business

a. **Traffic Safety Plan Update** – Mr. Chase reported the traffic study report just came in from Devon Neary at the Rutland Regional Planning Commission. Mr. Chase thought it best to review the data and a draft of an ordinance with Mr. Neary at the January meeting. Discussion ensued about various pieces of the data collected, the need for the enforcement of an ordinance, a contract with the sheriff's department or VT State Police, and costs. Andy Tanger suggested any enforcement costs be listed as a separate item on the warning so as to avoid the whole budget being voted down. Mr. Turco will reach out to Constable

Paul Faenza about the police presence in town.

b. **Junk Ordinance Enforcement** – A citation will be issued to the owners of a property on VT Route 103, as the property stands in violation of the Junk Ordinance. The Select Board will write a letter to the health officer asking him to do a thorough health investigation of the same property. The health officer was called into the Blue Spruce House and found black mold from floor to ceiling. A letter has been sent to the State concerning this.

c. **National Opioids Settlement – sign participation forms** – Mr. Turco signed the forms.

d. **Retail Cannabis** – The Select Board agreed last month to put an item on the ballot so residents could vote yea or nay on retail cannabis in town. An informational session about retail cannabis will be held at the February Select Board meeting scheduled for Tuesday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 6:30 pm.

The Select Board set the budget meeting for Tuesday, January 4<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 pm.

e. **Other** – There was no other Ongoing & Old Business this evening.

8. **Citizen Comments** – Zena Gates asked about the status of the Green Mountain Power (GMP) project in her area. Mr. Turco suggested contacting GMP for an update.

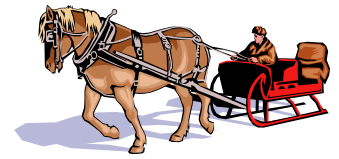
9. **Announcements/Other Business** – Carol Garrow-Woolley announced the town office would close at noon on Thursday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>.

## 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.

THE CONSENT OF  
CANDIDATE FORM MUST BE  
SIGNED AND TURNED INTO  
THE TOWN CLERK BY  
JANUARY 24, 2022, TO RUN  
FOR AN OFFICE ON THE  
MARCH BALLOT

10. **Review & Sign Orders** – To be signed by Select Board members.  
11. **Executive Session: Title 1 V.S.A. S 313(a)(3) – personnel** – Not needed this evening.  
12. **Adjourn** – Meeting adjourned at 8:26 pm. Respectfully Submitted: Jennifer Matthews



## PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBER NEEDED

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

The Select Board plans to make the appointment to the Planning Commission at its January 11<sup>th</sup> monthly meeting.

Interested individuals are encouraged to apply.

Please send a Letter of Interest to the Mount Holly Select Board to be received by January 10<sup>th</sup> @ Noon.

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

Letter can be emailed: [mounthollyselectboard@gmail.com](mailto:mounthollyselectboard@gmail.com),  
or mailed to: The Select Board, 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 Term runs to November 2024.

- a. Subdivision proposals
- b. Building Construction Registrations
  - i. Nicholas Turco – 797 Branch Brook Rd, accepted
  - ii. Richard & Laurel Darling – 1925 Belmont Rd, accepted
  - iii. John & Deborah Hunter – 337 Alpine Dr, accepted
  - iv. DC Knipes – 144 Crabapple Lane, accepted
- c. Wastewater system and potable water supply permits: None
- d. Email / Other - Email from Hayk Arustamyan Re: Lot#3 at 459 Okemo View Ln – asking what building regulations or limitations exist

6. Unfinished business

- a. Building Construction Registrations review process and form:
- i. Add FHA and stormwater

1. Planning Commission has been asked to add the FHA and stormwater permits to the check box of permits that may be required. One reason is when the AO reviews and accepts the BCRs, it would be of interest to the AO if there is a statement that the type of construction requires a permit from the FHA regulations. The permit is something the AO would issue if needed. Stormwater is something the state is becoming more interested in. Stephen asked does the form have the septic permit, wastewater permit, and water permit from the state as check boxes? Andy responded that at a previous meeting there was discussion about adding something that indicates applicant has either applied or received and if received they provide copies of state permits. Change was not made. By unanimous consent, PC will add FHA and Storm Water permit to the permit section.

2. PC resolved to add wastewater during last month's meeting, but did not decide on change. Brigid suggested adding if new add permit number. Jim stated that if it had been applied, but had not come through there would not be a permit number. For proposed wastewater system, if new, change "describe example" to "permit number". Andy brought up issue that applicant may not yet have a permit or permit number, but would only have an application number. Change to "application or permit number". By unanimous consent, Jon will change it from "describe example" to "project ID".

3. Brigid requested more specificity in the description. Where it reads "describe the structure" add "example: garage".

ii. Review by AO

1. Town attorneys have reviewed the Building Construction Registration ordinance and the forms. Suggestions sent to the Select Board in a letter. Planning Commission has been asked to no longer sign and review the forms, but to have the Administrative Officer do it. One reason for this is if there are any problems with handling or PC involved in assessing/collecting fees at the moment there is no appeal process. Appeals of PC decisions and actions at the moment go to the Environmental division of the Superior Court. If there are appeals of decisions or actions taken by the Administrative Officer they go to the Board of adjustment. Mount Holly does not currently have a Board of Adjustment, which is required by law. There will be discussions in the next few months about what this will look like, and who will sit on the board. Jon stated this is why the PC should not be handling BCRs in the future. The Select Board will ultimately decide who fills the seats on the Board of Adjustment. Jim stated he would still like to know the locations of the BCRs as he is on the Fire Department. Jon stated that it would still be okay review the BCRs as long as

## **Mount Holly Planning Commission Town Office & Remote Electronic – Regular Meeting Minutes Wednesday October 20, 2021**

Commission Members Present: Jon McCann (Chair), Jim Seward (Vice Chair), Stephen Michel, Brigid Sullivan, Andrew Schulz  
Also Present: Renee Sarmento (Clerk)

1. Jon McCann called the meeting to order at 7:27pm
2. Changes to agenda
  - a. Municipal resolution for municipal planning grant added to 7d
3. Approval of minutes
  - a. The minutes from September 15th regular meeting and October 6th special working meeting were approved as distributed. All aye, and one nay by Stephen.
4. Reports & Announcements
  - a. Clerk report: none
5. Correspondence

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**Kevin Hollebeek**



the PC is not making the decision. Motion made by Andy and seconded by Jim to make the Administer Officer accept the BCRs instead of the Planning Commission. This was unanimously agreed.

2. AO stated they would be fine with reviewing and accepting applications. AO will report on accepted BCRs during regular meetings in addition to scanning and uploading them to the Google Drive.

b. Utilities and Facilities plan: Fire department

i. Specifics on the letter to the board. Jon emailed draft of letter to PC members. Brigid stated it was a broad ask of information regarding hydrants, station locations. Jon stated there is a map, but looking for information on which hydrants are functional. PC members reviewed the letter and letter was approved as written – Chair will sign and Clerk will mail it to the fire department.

7. New business

a. Planning for Organizational Meeting / Rules of Procedure revisions

i. Jon gave a reminder and asked about planning for the organizational meeting that will be held in November. Any revisions for rules or procedures will be completed during this meeting. There are two seats on the Planning Commission up for reelection.

ii. Stephen asked if anyone had any thoughts on changing positions. There was no comment on changing positions. Jon mentioned discussing hybrid meetings.

b. Crown Point Road / Ray Farm tours

i. Stephen reported Dennis agreed to take on one or two historical tours of the town that could also include members of the public. The Crown Point Road tour would be on one day and the Ray Farm tour would be on another day. Dennis would like to plan this before hunting/rifle season which begins during the second week of November. Andy stated he would be interested, but he might be heading south by then. The Planning Commission is interested in the Crown Point Road tour.

c. ARPA meeting: Tuesday, October 26th at 6:30 pm

i. The Select Board is hosting an ARPA meeting with Eric Hall from the Regional planning commission who is a state expert in ARPA rules. Jon asked if PC members would like to officially participate as a Select Board/Planning Commission meeting. Brigid stated she thought the Planning Commission should officially participate. The meeting will be hybrid. Stephen stated he has no objections. Jim stated he did not object but was unsure if he could attend. There was unanimous support from the Planning Commission members for responding to the Select Board that the PC is interested in the ARPA meeting being a PC meeting as well.

d. Municipal resolution for municipal planning grant

i. PC received a request to sign a resolution in support of the Municipal Planning Grant. Unanimously in favor of signing the municipal resolution for the municipal planning grant.

8. Public comments: none

9. Upcoming meetings

a. November 17 – Regular meeting / Annual Organizational meeting (2 terms begin)

b. Town plan work meeting - November 3rd at 7pm. Discussion will be about Rescue and facilities and utilities.

10. The meeting adjourned at 8:20pm For the Commission, Renee Sarmiento, Planning Commission Clerk



## Mount Holly Planning Commission Town Office / Remote Electronic – Special Work Meeting Minute Wednesday November 3, 2021

Commission Members Present: Jon McCann, Stephen Michel, Jim Seward, Andy Schulz, Brigid Sullivan

1. Jon called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

2. No changes to agenda.

3. Town Plan Revisions

a. Facilities & Utilities Plan

1. Fire Department - The Fire Department was sent a letter requesting information developed at the last meeting.

2. Cemeteries

a. Mechanicsville and Hortonville cemeteries and a couple others are still private. Packer Cemetery has asked to become a Town Cemetery and there are 3 others that are town owned. Steven is asked to follow-up on ownership change for Packer Cemetery. No other ownership changes since the last Town

plan. All should be mapped and list the maintenance responsibility in the plan. Tarbellville, Belmont Rd, one other on 155, and one each on 103 and Shunpike Road are all done by Dennis Devereux, and a Town cemetery committee. There are additional private family cemeteries on private land such as Tarbell family cemetery. Note the concern about state road plowing damage to stones at Tarbellville Cemetery in the new plan.

b. Define who is the town committee.

3. Rescue

a. Assess the adequacy of the facilities and equipment similar to inquiry sent to MH Fire dept board.

b. Maintenance of existing facilities plus a question about whether there is anything else they would wish us to know.

c. Last Town plan did not have an adequate description of Rescue.

d. Resolved, to authorize the Chair to send similar, tailored letter to Rescue and all other similar organizations.

4. Library



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MLS



a. Invite them to draft language including usage of library, volume of use, internet access. Library should also be included in the communications section of the Town Plan. Include copies of last 2 Town Plans for them to adapt (2008, 2018) Ask what has changed, future plans, unmet facility needs, personnel and equipment requirements. Relationship to school library (explore details of school library in Education section.)

5. Solid waste

a. Transfer station: Ask what has changed, future plans, unmet facility needs, personnel and equipment requirements. The Select Board directs the transfer station with Highway foreman as solid waste coordinator.

b. No sewer information in the 2018 plan. 2008 has one section. Add info about sewage disposal into the Town plan. Belmont is limited by lack of septic disposal capacity. Needs further exploration, however, this will not be part of the letter on Solid waste. Any future septic or solid waste discussion will need to acknowledge the superseding State requirements. The Health Officer is supposed to inspect any failed septic systems or unauthorized systems.

6. Electricity and telecommunications

a. Broad band serves 98.6% of homes with high-speed access. Among the best broadband in Rutland County and the State. This will impact development pressures. <https://publicservice.vermont.gov/content/broadband-availability>

b. Need to add language about the new cell tower in town. Downs Rachlin Martin had been coordinating. Jon will reach out to find out if they know anything about completion plans. Hope to be able to determine uncovered areas of MH.

c. Add more library service here;

d. Add more about electric resilience; business capacity; backup power systems; duration and frequency of outages (reference Hazardous Mitigation Plan).

e. Policies and Recommendations should be included in this section – to be addressed later in our process.

7. Public Buildings and public land

a. Use 2018 List of Town owned buildings,

b. aSpecify Star Lake rather than just boat access. Triangle at Healdville and Lake St. is also town owned.

c. No public playground, park or trails (horses/bikes/hiking), child facilities. No town forests. Lack of public facilities often raised by new families.

d. That completes the Utility and Facility portion of the town plan.

4. Public comments: None

5. Upcoming meetings

a. Regular meeting: November 17, 2021, 7:00pm

6. Adjourned at 8:03pm, For the Commission, Brigid Sullivan

**Mount Holly Planning Commission - Town Office & Remote Electronic – Regular Meeting Minutes Wednesday November 17, 2021**

**Commission Members Present:** Jon McCann (Chair), Brigid Sullivan, Andrew Schulz

**Also Present:** Renee Sarmento (Clerk), Bob Garrow, Phil Leonard, Annette Lynch, Stephen Michel, Jim Seward

1. Jon McCann called the meeting to order at 7:01pm

**2. Changes to agenda:** no changes

3. Approval of minutes - The minutes from October 20th, 2021 regular meeting were approved as distributed

4. Reports & Announcements

a. Microphone purchase was approved by the Select Board. It has either been ordered or will be ordered soon, and will hopefully arrive by the next meeting. Okemo offered to lend their microphone if it does not arrive in time.

b. No new information on the status of the cell tower. Jon reached out to DRM legal team to request an update. Notice of a storm water permit has been received for the cell tower.

c. Clerk: no report

5. Correspondence

a. Subdivision proposals

i. Robert Garrow – 2136 Old Turnpike Rd.

1. 26.58 acre parcel. Seeking subdivision into 16± acre lot with house (to convey) and undeveloped 10± acre lot (to retain).

2. 16 acre lot is already on the market with a possible buyer.

3. No building plans or septic design exist for 10 acre lot.

4. Jon shared “When subdividing land into two or more parcels, a Wastewater System and Potable Water Supply Permit is required prior to subdivision.” <https://dec.vermont.gov/sites/dec/files/permit-handbook/sheet02.pdf>

5. Jon explained the sketch plan review process and what is required.



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6. Jon stated there are requirements for the final plat, and to move forward with a public hearing we would need to satisfy requirements of the subdivision checklist.
  7. Jon stated the provided survey doesn't seem to meet the requirements for a final plat. Mr. Garrow stated he did not understand why all of the things on the checklist are necessary to retain a lot. Jon stated the minimum to divide property is to have a final plat that meets the requirements and to have a State approved Wastewater and Potable Water Supply Permit.
  8. Brigid advised Mr. Garrow that he may seek a deferral of permit for the undeveloped lot.
  9. Andy elaborated to make sure Mr. Garrow understands that the State and Town requirements are entirely separate, and the State has a requirement that when subdividing property, you have to go through state procedures. State has a deferral of permit where if no development is planned you can avoid engineering requirements by putting something in the deed or land records stating that any future owner would have to go through the engineering requirements before they build. The Town has similar provision that also allows you to avoid engineering requirements as long as there is no other use of the land. Town also requires something be put in the land records that would put a future owner on notice that they would have to go through it. Mr. Garrow stated he would not have a problem with that, but he is concerned about the timeline. Jon stated Mr. Garrow would have to start with the State.
  10. Other missing items needed on the checklist: Lots numbered/identified, contour lines, each lot has to have highway access (indicate how access would be provided to the lot), septic design if there is one such as if state says there needs to be a replacement system area it would need to be shown on the final plat, wetlands/beaver pond, streams, and signature block.
  11. Brigid asked about line on map – Bob clarified that is a fence line.
  12. State permitting has not been satisfied. Local review requires State permit or deferral.
  13. Commission offered to schedule a special meeting as soon as State permit/deferral has been obtained, in consideration of the applicant's timeline.
  14. Mr. Garrow was presented with the State's "Subdivision of Land" guide.
- b. Wastewater system and potable water supply permits



i. Beresin & Bell – Lake Ninevah Rd – WW-1-3489

1. Harold Beresin and Jennifer Bell – does not give address for the site location. It is a new system on Lake Ninevah Road. Andy stated he has seen the site. This looks like a new residence. Jon is trying to find out more information about the Commission receiving these as a result that all permits be recorded in the land records. Received by the clerk when they are recorded as required, but Commission does not receive it when the permit is issued as is suggested by our presence on the document carbon copy/service list. Jon has contacted the permit approver and is waiting for a response. This will be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

c. Email / Other

i. Stormwater runoff from construction sites general permit 3-9020 (CGP) notice of intent for telecommunication facility permit ID 9309-9020 applicant Raymond Tarbell, town: Mount Holly, status

in review. No other information available. If Commission wants to look into it, it can be done at next meeting.

#### 6. New business

a. Guest: Annette Lynch, Chair of the Conservation Commission

i. Annette stated that the Conservation commission just over a year old. Current commissions have currently taken on one particular project to focus on. Looked at what Vermont statute allows Conservation Commission to do. No tasks are mandatory—all “may” rather than “shall”. The first thing that it says is one job of Conservation Commission is to identify and inventory the 9 types of town resources that should be conserved. Things which would be valued by the residents. One category of resource will be reviewed each month over the next 9 months. Started with making a list of items in each of these inventories. After the inventory a special study may be done, if necessary. Statute states Conservation Commission works with Selectboard and Planning Commission, and any private organizations (such as the Mount Holly Conservation Trust). There is no authority to do anything, but to gather information and reach understanding of conservation status. The Conservation Commission is able to perform an advisory environmental evaluation for the Planning Commission or for Environmental Board or court, if requested. If Planning Commission needs more expertise than Conservation Commission possesses we can discuss what kind of people to have on retainer to do that type of work. Since a need for such services can come up quite suddenly, it would be important to have someone on some sort of retainer that could be called up on short notice.

ii. Annette stated that the Conservation Commission also helps increase public understanding of the work and need of conservation. For example, the iNaturalist program where people can take photos and get information immediately about plants or animals. Each year the Conservation Commission will make a report including the importance of forest fragmentation. It is important to be able to report to the town the number of acres in core forest areas and number of acres lost – and consider mitigation to retain land in core forest. Probably most important piece of public understanding Conservation Commission could do.

iii. Annette stated that the Conservation Commission also may conserve land – looking at state like MA a lot of land in conservation. Town does not have that here. Instead of looking at a whole property there might be a place for protecting smaller sensitive pieces of the environment. For example, a small 2-acre wetland – to acquire the small area and land around it as a preserve. May be a donation to the town.

iv. Annette raised the idea to have a Conservation Commission member regularly sit in on Planning Commission meeting or to have someone on both boards.

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v. Annette stated that someone is working on shade trees and status of Star Lake. And people are updating Arrowwood maps.

vi. Annette provided a copy of inventory for historic resources.

vii. Annette asked for folks including Planning Commission to look at the list to see what might not fit, and things that are missing on the list – ex. Roads (Crown Pointe Road)

viii. Annette stated that their focus in December will be historical resources

ix. Add agenda for next working meeting – to coordinate with CC

7. Unfinished business

a. Town Plan: Utility & Facility Plan

i. Review letters

1. During the last working meeting Jon was authorized to draft and send letters. Letters were drafted. Jon read aloud the letter addressed to Rescue Squad. Andy offered suggestions regarding letter: wonder if should be a number 4 – anything else not captured by 1, 2, 3. Question – is it fair to assume rescue and other organizations have a timeline to replace or upgrade equipment – questions sound like it assumes there is – replace “what is” in 1C and 2A to “is there” a replacement or upgrade plan and if there is what it is. Brigid stated – 3C would be if you need more people have you considered a strategy, or if there is a shortage of personnel – if there is a shortage – if you have additional need what strategies have you considered? Stephen suggested

the addition of when Commission would like the response. Such as “we would appreciate if you could respond with your comments/suggestions by the end of January.” Andy will email proposal for item 4.

2. Want to send letters to the library,

a. Elements – adapt the letter, collection for book, physical facility, digital, any other innovative ideas,

b. Someone needs to sit down and talk about solid waste

c. Jon will draft and email letter for the library.

ii. Brigid asked if there is a budget for the Commission – if need to have as far as assistance in writing the plan and having someone on board. What is the budget? Talked about if Commission wants to do maps for meetings – that can rack up dollars/trips to staples, mailing items. If we do have needs it is time to start thinking about it because budget will be being drafted soon. Put on agenda for next month – needs for next year.

1. Stephen commented that in the year Commission finishes town plan there will be a need of money for printing, and money for dry hydrants. Maps that have been done are difficult to read because they are so small. Want to have at least one copy of a large map in the Commission office that are legible. Not sure what year this should be in the budget. Andy suggested having maps online so people can view. Jon agreed it should be online, but also have a paper copy in the office. Will discuss budget in the next meeting.

8. Public comments: None

9. Upcoming meetings - December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Regular meeting / Annual Organizational meeting (2 terms begin)

~~a. Town plan work meeting – December 1, 2021 at 7pm (Andy may have difficulty joining due to being on the road).~~ (Cancelled due to holiday)

10. The meeting adjourned at 8:20pm For the Commission, Renee Sarmento, Planning Commission Clerk



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### Special Christmas Week film, “Little Women”, on Dec. 29

FOLA will screen the classic film, “Little Women” at the Heald Auditorium in Ludlow’s Town Hall on Wednesday, December 29 at 5 PM.

Little Women is a 2019 American coming-of-age period drama film written and directed by Greta Gerwig. It is the seventh film adaptation of the 1868 novel of the same name by Louisa May Alcott.

It chronicles the lives of the March sisters—Jo, Meg, Amy, and Beth—in Concord, Massachusetts, during the 19th century. It stars an ensemble cast consisting of Saoirse Ronan, Emma Watson, Florence Pugh, Eliza Scanlen, Laura Dern, Timothée Chalamet, Meryl Streep, Tracy Letts, Bob Odenkirk, James Norton, Louis Garrel, and Chris Cooper.

The film, through flash backs, details the lives of the four sisters, their goals, ambitions, loves, and problems in the classic manner that has delighted readers and viewers for many years.

The film garnered six Academy Award nominations, including Best Picture, Best Actress (Ronan), Best Supporting Actress (Pugh), Best Adapted Screenplay and Best Original Score, and won for Best Costume Design. It also earned five British Academy Film Award nominations, with a win for Best Costume Design, and two Golden Globe Award nominations.

On review aggregator website Rotten Tomatoes, the film has an approval rating of 95% based on 425 reviews, with an average rating of 8.6/10. The website’s critic’s consensus reads: “With a stellar cast and a smart, sensitive retelling of its classic source material, Greta Gerwig’s Little Women proves some stories truly are timeless.”

As with all FOLA movies, the event is free and open to everyone; donations are appreciated. In keeping with the town policy on Covid-19, masks are required for those not vaccinated and recommended for those vaccinated. For information, (802)228-7239 and <https://fola.us>.



## Dear Friend of Rutland Welcomes,

As you know, Rutland Welcomes is gearing up to welcome people from Afghanistan into our community. While there are some differences between now and 2016, some things remain the same. *Notably, we are once again relying on you - our amazing community - to help our new neighbors have what they need to make Vermont their new home.*

To that end, we have recreated the list of things each family will need when they arrive. You will surely recognize the list - maybe you even remember what you donated last time! Be assured, your previous donations were well received, they went first to the three families from Syria who now live in Rutland City and then to families in need in Rutland County and Vermont. Anything remaining was safely stored behind the Coop in anticipation for the time we could start welcoming people into our community again. *And we are happy to say - that time has now arrived!*

### HERE IS THE FULL SCOOP

#### WHAT CAN YOU DONATE?

We have created a Google Spreadsheet ([HERE](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1JdcWEL-B7P4DsEPOBeLu4qnNY5YxSjO7CpHEzgkPH3w/edit#gid=0) is the link) <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1JdcWEL-B7P4DsEPOBeLu4qnNY5YxSjO7CpHEzgkPH3w/edit#gid=0> so you can see, in real time, what items we need for our new neighbors.

Once you decide what you want to donate, type your name, email, phone, and the **quantity** of each item you want to donate, *directly on the spreadsheet*. We will use this spreadsheet to keep track of what we need and what is already promised.

It is fine if you are not able to donate the entire quantity requested of any item(s). Just type in the quantity you are committing to on the spreadsheet.

If you see an item only partially committed to, feel free to add your name and quantity to that item. Some items will require more than one person to fulfill the quantity needed.

If you prefer, you can email me directly and I will input the information into the spreadsheet.

AT THIS TIME, PLEASE DO NOT DONATE ANYTHING THAT IS NOT ON THIS SPREADSHEET.

#### WHERE WILL YOU DELIVER YOUR DONATIONS?

Thanks to the Rutland Co-op, you can bring your donations directly to the Co-op, anytime the store is open.

Please make sure your NAME and an ITEMIZED LIST of your donations is taped to your donations.

When you get to the Co-op, connect with a staff person and tell them you have items to donate to Rutland Welcomes.

A staff member will take your donations and bring them to the designated areas we have set up for storage.

#### WHAT ABOUT LARGER ITEMS?

We currently DO NOT have storage for larger items such as dishes, pots and pans, lamps, furniture, etc.

Therefore, for those items (indicated in RED on the spreadsheet) we are asking you to commit to what you can donate *but hold on to the items until they can be delivered directly to a family*. Thank you for making this adjustment with us.

#### CAN I DONATE GIFT CARDS?

Yes! We need lots of gift cards for various stores around Rutland.

You can bring your donated gift cards to the Co-op or you can mail them to Carol Tashie, 242 Creek Road, Wallingford, VT 05773.

#### CHECKS?

Yes! Checks should be made out to "Bridge to Rutland" with a line in the memo stating RUTLAND WELCOMES. "Bridge to Rutland" is a 501(c)3 so your checks are tax deductible.

Checks should be mailed to Carol Tashie, 242 Creek Road, Wallingford, VT 05773.

Please do not bring checks to the Co-op.

Money from your checks will be used to support our new neighbors in Rutland County.

#### DONATIONS TO USCRI?

Donations can also be made directly to USCRI through their website. <https://refugees.org/uscri-vermont/>

These donations will be used to support all of the work of USCRI but cannot be designated for use specifically in Rutland.

#### WHAT ABOUT CLOTHES?

We DO NOT have the capacity to accept donations of clothes. Every family will have different wants and needs and should get the clothing that is right for them.

To that end, the Open Door Mission in Rutland has generously offered to make sure that all recent arrivals can get the clothes they need, free of charge, from the Mission store.

Therefore, we encourage you to donate clothing (as well as items not on our spreadsheet) to the Open Door Mission to thank them for their generosity.

When you donate items to the Mission, they WILL NOT be saved for our new neighbors; instead, they will be sold at the Mission store. When our new neighbors arrive, they will be able to get whatever they need from the Mission store.

Please do not ask the Mission to store any clothes or other donations for Rutland Welcomes. They do not have the capacity to do this. Thank you.

**Thank you so much for helping to support our new neighbors! Feel free to share this request widely!**  
Carol Tashie, Pat Hunter, Stephanie Jones for Rutland Welcomes

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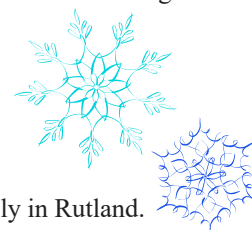
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### Ludlow Rotary Helps BRGN's Toy Drive

In keeping with the spirit of Christmas, the Ludlow Rotary Club (LRC) collected toys for Black River Good Neighbors Service (BRGN). Pictured above are Krey Killington, BRGN Director, and Art Randolph, LRC President, as they display some of the toys collected in support of the annual BRGN's Christmas Food Basket program. The program prepares food baskets, normally with whole Turkeys or Chickens, for area families. When the families involved have children, toys are included to make it a truly Merry Christmas. The LRC has been helping BRGN in this annual effort for a number of years.

### Christmas Arrives In Ludlow's Heald Auditorium

Seems like Christmas has arrived in Ludlow Town Hall's Heald Auditorium as three members of FOLA gathered in the auditorium to erect the annual Christmas tree on



the stage. Thanks to David Almond, Darlene Remy, and Kevin Kunst, the tree was decorated for the season. Why not visit the auditorium to see their final decorations!

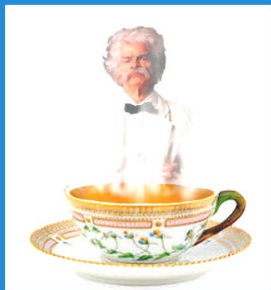
### Little Yellow House Studio Celebrates its 2021 Season

Little Yellow House Studio® Events presents on-demand viewing to celebrate the Studio's 2021 season. Pay-what-you-wish between now and January 5, 2022 and stream recordings of all 2021 online events.

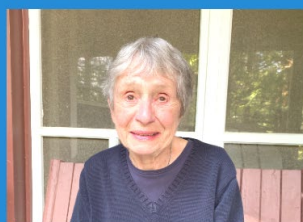
Events include *Tea & Twain* starring Ron Crawford as Mark Twain, *Spotlight Tuesday* conversations with actors Barbara Lloyd and Reva Stover, a filmed play workshop of *Hungry for Paint* written by Reva Stover, and *Out of Control*, singer/songwriter Eva Rainforth's latest album release celebration. Also included in the streaming package is bonus footage of the soundcheck for *Blue Skies Cabaret*, a live concert recently held at the Ludlow Auditorium with Susan Haefner and Lisa Brigantino.

### Little Yellow House Studio 2021 Season Now Streaming

Tea & Twain  
with Ron Crawford



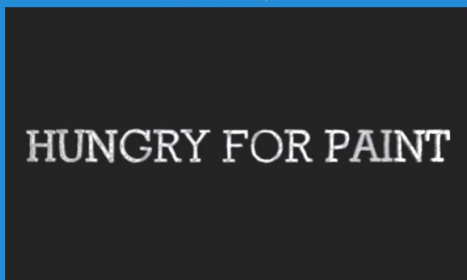
Spotlight Tuesday  
with Barbara Lloyd



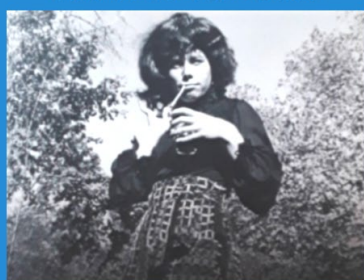
Spotlight Tuesday  
with Reva Stover



Hungry for Paint  
Filmed Play



Eva Rainforth  
"Out of Control" album release



It's been a joy to work with Susan Haefner and Little Yellow House Studio and to offer this year end streaming retrospective," says Brigantino, Little Yellow House Studio Artist and Managing Director. "Being part of the Studio has given me the opportunity to wear a variety of hats and remain creative, engaged and grounded through these challenging times."

"We are so pleased to be celebrating Little Yellow House Studio's first full year in existence," says Haefner, Little Yellow House Studio founder and Executive Artistic Director. "The Studio started as a way to help artists and community stay connected during the pandemic, but we already have exciting plans in the works for 2022. Thanks to everyone who has been part of the journey."

The recordings will be available between now and January 5, 2022, and are "pay-what-you-wish," with a recommended ticket price of \$15 for access to all the events. Visit the Little Yellow House Studio [Events Page](#) for more information and to purchase tickets. Upon purchase, password protected links will be provided for viewing. For more information about Little Yellow House Studio, visit: <https://littleyellowhousestudio.com>.



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*links are live at the online Chit Chat*

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To learn more about our services, or to refer a patient, visit [www.shrinershospitalforchildren.org](http://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



## Vermont Council on Rural Development Unleashing the power of Vermonters to create a better future

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At VCRD we believe in the power of Vermonters to create a better future, town by town, and every day we see local residents stepping up to help their communities achieve great things!

For over 20 years, VCRD has been helping communities identify and then act on priorities and transformative projects for the future. As we respond to the impacts of COVID-19 and prepare for historic Federal investments in infrastructure, this work is more important than ever. Your contribution will support our continued efforts to advance the rural economy and strengthen communities throughout the state.

**Please donate today at [vtrural.org/content/support-us!](http://vtrural.org/content/support-us!)**

**#GivingTuesday** is an annual global event that celebrates generosity in all its forms. Thanks for all you do to make your community and Vermont a better place! Sincerely, Brian and the team at VCRD, Brian Lowe, *Executive Director*



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

**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** \_\_\_\_\_

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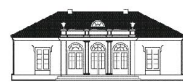
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Gerry Wilkins Art Studio Open Call Ahead 802-259-2046  
Spectrum Photography – John Miller 802-259-3060  
Stone Creek Workshops Pottery [www.stonecreekworkshops.com](http://www.stonecreekworkshops.com) 802-259-2254

## Catering - Restaurants - Stores

Harry's Café, Trip & Deb Pearce III [www.Harryscafe.com](http://www.Harryscafe.com) 802-259-2555  
Mojo Café – John & Jodi Seward [mojocafevt@yahoo.com](mailto:mojocafevt@yahoo.com) 802-228-6656

## Building & Repairs – General Work

AW Carpentry-Remodeling\*Building\*Portable Sawmilling 802-259-3699  
Cutting Edge Carpentry And Paint Works – Curt Marechaux Cell 802-236-5559

## Church Listings

Annunciation, Ludlow, Mass Sat 4:30 pm, Sun 8 an & 10 am  
Rev Thomas Mosher [abvmludlow@comcast.net](mailto:abvmludlow@comcast.net) 802-228-3451  
Belmont Village Baptist Church-Worship 9:30am, Coffee Hour 10:30  
Pastor Glenn Davis [vbch.weebly.com](http://vbch.weebly.com) 802-259-2440  
E. Wallingford Baptist – PS 9:15-10:00 am SS 10 am, Worship 11 am  
Pastor Kevin Miner 802-259-2831  
First Baptist Church, Wallingford, SS 11am Prayer Meeting Wed 7 pm  
Pastor Dave Bentley 802-446-2020  
Lighthouse Independent Baptist Church, Rutland SS 11am & 3pm  
Until May 11am & 6pm 802-779-0300  
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](mailto:jfscheumann@gmail.com) 603-439-0803  
Rutland Jewish Center [office@rutlandjewishcenter.org](mailto:office@rutlandjewishcenter.org)  
Rabbi Shemtov [rabbishemtov@rutlandjewishcenter.org](mailto:rabbishemtov@rutlandjewishcenter.org) 802-773-3455  
St. Patrick's, Wallingford, Mass Sun 9 am  
Rev Msgr Bernard Bourgeois [christthekingprsh@gmail.com](mailto:christthekingprsh@gmail.com) 802-446-2161  
Wilderness Friends Meeting (Quaker) Sundays 10 am  
Shrewsbury Library, Cuttingsville 802-259-2803

## Community Health & Health Care Providers

Calm Moments Message Studio – Irene Berry 802-228-7772  
Community Health – <https://www.chcrr.org> Medical, Dental, Pediatrics  
Behavioral Health – Patient Access Center 802-779-9159  
Express Care Rutland - 802-773-3386  
Dr. Joseph P. Donohue – Chiropractic Care, Thrive Center 802-446-2499  
Massage Therapy/Bodywork, Thrive Center of Green Mtns 802-446-2499  
Lisa Donohue MA, LMT ~ Linda O'Brien MT 802-446-2499  
Massage Therapy Belmont – Robin Nelson 802-353-4356

## Engineering

Krueger Engineering- Arthur G. Krueger, P.E. 802-492-3653

## Equipment For Hire & Snow Moving

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## Farm Fresh Products

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[www.Smithmaplecrestfarm.com](http://www.Smithmaplecrestfarm.com)  
Sugar Hill Berry Farm [www.sugarhillberryfarm.com](http://www.sugarhillberryfarm.com) 802-259-2155

## Food Shelf

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## Funeral Homes

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## Garden & Landscape, Lawn Mowing

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Kevin Smith, Garden Service & Lawn Mowing 802-259-3964  
Salt Ash Nursery - The Balsam Barn – Scott Crawford 802-259-2146

## Garage Mechanic

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Welding/Metal Fabrication Dealer Parts Unlimited/Drag Specialties,  
V-Twin, MFG & More

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Ted Stryhas Builder Inc. 802-228-7327

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## Maple Syrup

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Smith Maple Crest Farm [www.Smithmaplecrestfarm.com](http://www.Smithmaplecrestfarm.com) 802-492-2151

## Marketing & Promotional Services

Express Copy Inc., Don Reiser H 802-259-2722 802-362-0501  
[print@expresscopyinc.com](mailto:print@expresscopyinc.com)

## Masonry

Farrand Masonry –Angus Farrand [farrandmasonry@gmail.com](mailto:farrandmasonry@gmail.com) 802-417-1657

## Metal Fabrication

Wayne Jones Metal [www.waynejonesmetal.com](http://www.waynejonesmetal.com) 802-259-2521

## Mount Holly Email

Kevin Plew – [mthollynewsflash@gmail.com](mailto:mthollynewsflash@gmail.com) 802-259-2250

## Painters

MRS Unlimited Visions LLC Interior/Exterior Painting –Melissa 802-259-3989

## Plumbing & Heating

Master Plumbing & Heating Inc. 802-975-0369

[masterplumbingheating@gmail.com](mailto:masterplumbingheating@gmail.com)

Tailored Plumbing [tailoredplumbingheating@gmail.com](mailto:tailoredplumbingheating@gmail.com) 802-417-1647

## Real Estate Sales

Coldwell Banker Lifestyles, 802-228-5678  
John Napier [jnapier@cblifestylesre.com](mailto:jnapier@cblifestylesre.com) 860-559-9334  
Cummings & Co. Lisa Kelley [lisa@cummingsvt.com](mailto:lisa@cummingsvt.com) 802-345-6581  
Engel & Volkers, Okemo - Woodstock Gail Beardmore 802-975-0338  
[Gail.Beardmore@evusa.com](mailto:Gail.Beardmore@evusa.com) (Mobile) 802-236-5431  
Kelley Real Estate, Don Eatmon, Owner/Broker 802-228-5333  
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Ty Murray [Ty@KelleyRealEstate.com](mailto:Ty@KelleyRealEstate.com) Cell 802-777-8047  
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## Septic System Design

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[kevin@belmontseptic.com](mailto:kevin@belmontseptic.com)

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## Therapeutic Riding

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## Tree Services

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## Volunteer Services

Belmont/Mt. Holly Food Co-op, Tanger H 802-259-2344 W 802-259-2899

## Woodworking, Cabinets & Furniture

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[www.chesterscustomwoodworking.com](http://www.chesterscustomwoodworking.com)

