



48/10

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

"PRSR STD"

U.S. Postage

PAID

Permit No. 8

Mt. Holly, VT 05758



# Mount Holly Chit Chat

**December 2022**

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

**Mount Holly Community Association** – Contact [MHC AVT@gmail.com](mailto:MHC AVT@gmail.com)

**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)

**Mt. Holly NewsFlash** Town email sign up at [mthollynewsflash@gmail.com](mailto:mthollynewsflash@gmail.com) Check Out [www.mthollynewsflash.blogspot.com](http://www.mthollynewsflash.blogspot.com)

**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

## December

1 <sup>st</sup>	Fire Dept. Business Meeting, Fire Station	<i>Rosa Parks Bus Boycott 1955</i>	7:00 pm
2 <sup>nd</sup>		<i>Special Education Day</i>	
5 <sup>th</sup>		<i>AFL-CIO Founded 1955</i>	
6 <sup>th</sup>	Mt. Holly Community Association Meeting, Library		7:00 pm
	Mount Holly Conservation Commission		7:00 pm
7 <sup>th</sup>	Planning Commission., <b>Public Hearing</b> , Town Office & Zoom		6:00 pm
		<i>Full Cold Moon ~ Pearl Harbor Day 1941</i>	
8 <sup>th</sup>	Fire Dept. Drill, Fire Station		7:00 pm
Sun 11 <sup>th</sup>		<i>UNICEF Founding 1946</i>	
12 <sup>th</sup>	Rescue Squad Meeting, Rescue Squad Building		7:00 pm
13 <sup>th</sup>	Community Guild Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont	<i>US National Guard Founded 1636</i>	9:00 am
	Mt. Holly PTSA Meeting, MH School Library, via zoom <a href="https://trsu.zoom.us/j/8691397037">https://trsu.zoom.us/j/8691397037</a>		6:00 pm
	Select Board Meeting, Town Office & Zoom		6:30 pm
14 <sup>th</sup>	LMHUUS Meeting,		6:00 pm
	ODD Fellows Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont		7:30 pm
15 <sup>th</sup>	Fire Dept. work night, Fire Stations	<i>Alexandre Eiffel 1832 ~ Bill of Rights Day 1791</i>	7:00 pm
16 <sup>th</sup>		<i>Ludwig van Beethoven 1770 ~ Boston Tea Party 1773 ~ Battle of the Bulge Began 1944</i>	
Sat 17 <sup>th</sup>		<i>Wright Brother's 1<sup>st</sup> Powered Flight Kitty Hawk, NC 1903 ~ Operation Just Cause 1989</i>	
Sun 18 <sup>th</sup>		<i>13<sup>th</sup> Amendment Abolishes Slavery 1865 ~ Hanukkah Begins</i>	
20 <sup>th</sup>		<i>US Space Force 2019</i>	
21 <sup>st</sup>	Mt. Holly Town Library Meeting, Library, Belmont	<i>Landing of The Mayflower 1620</i>	6:30 pm
	Mount Holly Planning Commission, MH Town Office & Via Zoom	<i>Winter Solstice</i>	7:00 pm
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Fire Dept. Drill, Fire Station		7:00 pm
Sat 24 <sup>th</sup>		<i>Kit Carson 1809 ~ USAF Began Strikes of Laos 1964</i>	
Sun 25 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Merry Christmas</b>	<i>Christmas</i>	
26 <sup>th</sup>	Rescue Squad Meeting, Rescue Building	<i>Hanukkah Ends ~ Kwanzaa Begins</i>	7:00 pm
27 <sup>th</sup>	Community Guild Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont		9:00 am
		<i>George Cayley Father of Aerodynamics 1773 ~ Louis Pasteur 1822</i>	
28 <sup>th</sup>	ODD Fellows Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont		7:00 pm
29 <sup>th</sup>	Fire Dept. work night, Fire Stations		7:00 pm
Sat 31 <sup>st</sup>	<i>Panama Canal Turned over to Republic of Panama 1999 ~ Official End WWII 1946 ~ New Year's Eve</i>		

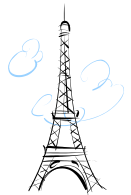
\* \* \* \* \*

## Emergency Services

MH Fire Dept.	802-259-2700	or	911	Poison Control	(802) 658-3456
MH Fire Warden – Jim Seward	802-786-3408		802-259-2211	American Red Cross	802-773-9159
MH Rescue Squad Non-Emergency	802-259-6001	or	911	Game Warden – Tim Carey	802-773-9101
MH Constable	<b>NONE</b>			Health Officer – Chad Farrar	802-342-1366
MH Animal Control	Cell 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:** Laura Doig \* Elizabeth & Adam Karle \* Tracie & Joseph Galbraith \* Pamela Plumb \* Rhonda Rivers \* Michael & Barbara Caputo \* David Seward \* Stephanie Stouffer \* James & Jeanmarie Fitzgerald \* Town of Mount Holly \* Jonni Huntley \* Anna McGee & Erik Hanson \* Kevin & Patti Plew (Plew Farm) \* Don & Robin Eatmon (Kelley Real Estate) \* Nick & Palma Cassone \* John & Lindy Germano \* Angelina Tommola (Remington for VT Campaign) \* Lee Monroe & Hank Schwartz \* Audra & Ryan Harter \* Dennis Devereux \* Susan Roddy & Glenn Fuller \* Gail Beardmore (Engel & Volkers Okemo Woodstock) \* Mem & David Morrissey \* Tim Martin (Tim Martin Construction) \*



**December Birthdays:** 3<sup>rd</sup>-Archie Bussino (1942) 4<sup>th</sup>-Shawn Palmer 5<sup>th</sup>-Mary Beth Jacobs 6<sup>th</sup>-Nikita Abrae Howard 8<sup>th</sup>-Zachary Taylor \* Heather Graham (1999) 9<sup>th</sup>-Carol Skarzynski 10<sup>th</sup>-Madeline Veysey 16<sup>th</sup>-Heather Jacobs \* Erin Devereux 16<sup>th</sup>-Shane Pearson 18<sup>th</sup>-Alec McCallum 19<sup>th</sup>-Lia Wortman \* Jon Lombardi \* Ryan Graf \* Sarah Devereux \* Fay Freeman 22<sup>nd</sup>-Leslie Colm 23<sup>rd</sup>-Kateri Collins 24<sup>th</sup>-Christopher Colm \* Joshua R. Wasilewski 27<sup>th</sup>-Richard Lee 30<sup>th</sup>-Jennifer Bussino Graham (1981) 31<sup>st</sup>- A.J. Labozzo



**December Anniversaries:** 11<sup>th</sup>-Joe & Donna McDonald (1976)

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
	Sat	7:30 am – 5:00 pm
		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
Wallingford Post Master Denise Young – 802-446-2140		



## 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>Classified</b>	\$ 2	\$ 5.50	\$10	\$ 15	\$ 20
<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.

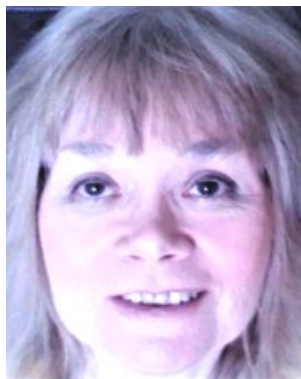
**INTERNET:** Each month's edition is published on the Mount Holly Town website: [www.mounthollyvt.org](http://www.mounthollyvt.org)

**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.





### Elena Syria Tobin

Elena S. Tobin, 81 of Rutland, VT died Thursday, October 27, 2022 at Mountain View Center in Rutland. She was born in Rutland on April 25, 1941, the daughter of Waino and Elma (Kangas) Syria. Elena grew up in Mt. Holly, VT and graduated from Black River High School and Rutland Business School. She worked in various office positions, as a substitute teacher, and as an LNA.

Elena was a talented artist and exhibited in many art galleries. She enjoyed tent camping, hiking, photography, gardening, sewing, and baking. Elena had a large garden and knew what vegetables her neighbor friends liked and would drop off vegetables to them. Every year she made her famous zucchini bread that she gave to neighbors "in lieu" of a Christmas card. Elena loved to swim daily in Glen Lake and would challenge her daughter to go earlier and end the season later each year. She made a game of "I see the lake first" each time. Elena was proud of her Finnish nationality and had lots of "SISU" (courage). She battled and beat cancer and suffered from Dementia for 16 years however she did it with the best smile and

attitude. Elena was an avid member of the Relay for Life for many years.

Elena is survived by her daughter Elisa Steves, son-in-law Michael Steves, grandson Ean Kearney, and granddaughter Elaina Kearney all of Rutland, VT, stepdaughter Jennifer Kourt of Fort Gibson, OK, her brother Gene Syria of Mt. Holly, best friend Betty Merlin of Mount Holly, and many special cousins, nieces and nephews.

A graveside service was held on November 3, 2022 at the Pleasant View Cemetery in Ludlow. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society.



### Constance Wheelock

Constance (Connie) Ann Wheelock, 87, died October 26, 2022 at Oakdale Nursing Home in Boylston, MA. She was born February 26, 1935 in Marietta, OH the daughter of Clinton and Geraldine (Hanna) Wagner. Survivors include her two daughters, Gerri Pinney and husband Robert of Rutland, VT, Sharon McGowan and husband Patrick of Princeton, MA, a son Robert Link and wife Deborah of Hot Springs, VA, 15 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

Connie was predeceased by her husband Forrest Wheelock, two daughters, Tami Fredette and Karen Buskey and a son Thomas

"Ron" Link. A graveside service will be at a later date.

### Mount Holly Volunteer Rescue Squad

Mount Holly Rescue is looking for new members to join our squad. If you are interested please reach out to us at [mhvrs@mhvrs.org](mailto:mhvrs@mhvrs.org) or 802-369-6001. We have funds available to cover the class for prospective members.

### Bone Builders

Monday & Thursday Mornings  
9:00 am  
Odd Fellows Hall  
For Weights and more information  
Call Judy Nevin 802-259-2443



## FML News

Fletcher Memorial Library  
December - 2022

**Wishing Happy Holidays to ALL!**



### Important Dates:

**CLOSED:**  
Dec 23 & 26: Christmas  
Jan 2: New Year's Day

### Public Hours:

**Monday–Friday 10AM to 5PM**  
*Please - if you feel ill - Do Not visit FML*  
*Curbside Service Available (Please Call)*

### YOUTH SERVICES:

*Please Check our Web Site*

### Announcing FML's 1st ANNUAL "Love Your Library" Online Auction

All proceeds enable the continuation of enhanced services such as our Downloadable e-Books and Audio books, Pass Program, Technology needs, New Patron Catalog, and more. Funds are never used for operating costs.

**AUCTION DATES: February 2, 2023 - February 16, 2023.** Details for an end of the auction Open House with last minute bidding TBD.

**DONATION IDEAS:** New items, small antiques and collectibles, gift certificates for lodging, golfing, skiing, restaurants, weekend getaway packages, exotic vacation, - use your imagination and support our local business while donation to our Auction. Win - Win!

**DONATIONS ACCEPTED:** Now through Jan27, 2023 M-F 10AM - 5PM

*The Auction is brought to you by our new Friends 2.0 & Staff*

[www.fmlnews.org](http://www.fmlnews.org) - 802-228-8921 FML is a 501 ( c ) 3 non-profit



## Hello to all Transfer Station Users!

As some of you know, and some may not, the recycling shed for returnable cans and bottles at the transfer station directly supports Rainbow Riding Center's programs. In past years we have used these funds to do things like make an impromptu trip with a horse companion to a local school when the school couldn't find the transportation to come to us.

While this funding has been a boon, the logistics are a bit tricky right now, and we're looking for help keeping the cans moving from the recycling shed to either Brewfest in Ludlow or Olivia's in Rutland. Both stores allow us to drop off items, which they then sort and count for the program. (You can always choose to donate any returnable you may have for drop off.)

If you're someone who thinks they can assist, please reach out to me via phone or email and I can share more info. Thank you in advance for considering! Liz Karle, Executive Director Rainbow Riding Center phone: (413) 652-5440 [Lizkarle@rainbowridingcenter.org](mailto:Lizkarle@rainbowridingcenter.org) [www.rainbowridingcenter.org](http://www.rainbowridingcenter.org)

## Flanders Excavating & Firewood

### Complete Site Work Start To Finish

#### All Aspects of Excavating:

*Roads ~ Clearing Lots ~ Septic Systems ~ Ponds*

**Fully Insured – Call Steve @ 802-259-2147**

[Flanders.excavating@gmail.com](mailto:Flanders.excavating@gmail.com)

**Firewood – Cut, Split & Delivered**



## The Expeditionary School at Black River Embarks Upon Place-Based History Coursework

As part of the Expeditionary School at Black River's (ESBR) commitment to integrating place-based historical connections into their expeditionary learning experience, students, teachers, parents & grandparents visited the von Trapp Family Lodge in Stowe, Vermont on Monday, October 24.

The trip was made possible by support from the VELA Education Fund Micro Grants program, who recently accepted ESBR's proposal *Expeditionary Schools: an atlas of place-based community connections*. During the 2022-23 school year, ESBR will use this grant to travel to a variety of historical locations across Vermont.

Our first expedition was to the Trapp Family Lodge because one of our students is visiting from his home country of Germany. We set out on an official expedition to learn about the Second World War and the importance of building community from the perspective of the family who inspired the classic Rodgers and Hammerstein production *The Sound of Music*.

Following the path, the family took on their first tour of the former dairy farm, ESBR's Trailblazers lived up to their nickname as they hiked up a steep hill to the chapel of Our Lady of Peace, carrying fresh apples from the orchard to the flock of sheep grazing on the other side of the hill. We discovered that the chapel, Our Lady of Peace, was built by Werner von Trapp, who served in the 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division during WWII. When he returned home to Stowe, he decided to build this chapel and carried every stone by hand up the same path ESBR's trailblazer hiked that day. Werner, and his brother Rupert, after their father refused to work for the Nazis regime, arrived in Vermont to then be drafted into the U.S. Army. Hearing about their role in helping bring an end to a World War they initially escaped was an engaging way to participate in history class. From the beauty of the property, we were reminded that during terrible times connection with the natural environment provides a way forward.

In addition to learning about the von Trapp family and how they became part of their new community in Vermont, students learned about the nature around them as they hiked, studying ecological primary succession and learning about the history of the Abenaki

peoples as they walked through stands of birch and tamarack. After lunch the trailblazers walked to the site's sugar shack and learned how to identify the now-leafless sugar maples along the way. To finish the day, we reviewed the process of maple sugaring and sampled some of the maple syrup made onsite.

In our third year of operation, ESBR continues to be funded primarily by charitable donations such as the one that made this field trip possible. For additional information regarding the school's efforts to be approved to accept public funds from school choice communities such as Mt. Holly and Ludlow, please contact the Head of School, Kendra Rickerby at [info@esblackriver.org](mailto:info@esblackriver.org). She wrote the grant mentioned above and is proud to be co-authoring this article with Lorien Strange, who is on track to be a member of ESBR's graduating Class of 2025. Co-Author's Kendra Rickerby & Lorien Strange

## YANKEE HOME MANAGEMENT



Property Management  
and Maintenance

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

**802-259-3064**

**MT. HOLLY, VT**

**Keith Hawkins**  
PRESIDENT



## Mount Holly Snow Flyers

The Mount Holly Snow Flyers have been busy working on the trails for the upcoming season. Everyone is getting anxious for the rapidly approaching season. We all hope Mother Nature treats the snowmobiling community better than last year.

Our club's major project has been clearing downed trees and storm debris. Most of our trails have currently been de-brushed leaving us in great shape for the upcoming season.

Those of us who work on the trails during the off-season get a close-up look at just how rough the trails can be. The groomers certainly work their magic making trails as smooth as possible. We are fortunate to have a few sections of our trails that are naturally smooth. Thank you to all those who groom and keep the trails passable.

We have a couple upcoming events planned (weather dependent). Our club will once again sponsor the New Year's Eve Fireworks in Belmont at Star Lake. We had another successful event at the Cider Days with the raffles and donations. A huge thank you to those who manned our tent. We'd like to thank the businesses and sponsors who donated to this event.

We are planning a club SnoRodeo for Saturday, February 11, 2023, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. This event will include food/refreshments, a ride/drive in the Tucker, snowmobile games, club Yeti raffle and more! The location will be well-marked as time nears.

We are saddened to report that the Belmont Store is currently CLOSED. This means NO GAS for those traveling from far distant points. We are working on some type of plan to have some gas available to those in need, but it will not be a gas station; more for an emergency way to get fuel as the closest gas would be in Ludlow some 15 - 20 miles away.

At this time, we'd like to thank Steve Forrest and his family along with Mike McAtee for all they have done to make the club successful. We wish them well in their future endeavors and truly appreciate their club efforts.

All this would not be possible without the landowners that allow local clubs and VAST access to their property for the trail system we have today. THANK YOU LANDOWNERS! We remind all riders to always keep your hands on your machine and ride with respect.

Please visit our website at [www.mounthollysnowflyers.org](http://www.mounthollysnowflyers.org) for more club news, updates and trail reports. Like us on Facebook and Instagram - share your adventures with us!

Our club meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Zoom options are available also. All members are

welcome to attend meetings. Kimberly Lampert, Secretary

### The Writers Group

The Writers Group will meet again in the Mount Holly Library on December 5<sup>th</sup> at 1:30. Our focus will be on dialogue. All are welcome. Thank you. Happy holidays. [connor@ohio.edu](mailto:connor@ohio.edu) Joan Connor

### Crowley Cheese is Seeking Holiday And Full Time Help

#### Job Opening

Crowley Cheese is seeking part time or full time help with cheese packaging and shipping during the Holidays, and cheese making help after the New Year. If interested please call us at **802-259-2340** and ask for Galen.

Galen Jones, Crowley Cheese •  
Crowley Ln, Mount Holly

December 2022 Mount Holly Chit Chat Inc.



### Notice Dog Owners

Dog Licensing will begin Tuesday Jan 3, 2023 calendar year which must be paid by April 1<sup>st</sup>, each year. If your dog is no longer living please call the town clerk at 802-259-2391 so she can remove them from the list.

The registration fee remains the same and must be paid on or before April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023

Male or female      Neutered or Spayed = \$ 11.00 per dog  
Male of female      Unneutered or Unsprayed = \$ 15.00 per dog

The registration fee will increase after April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 to

Male or female      Neutered or Spayed = \$ 13.00 per dog  
Male of female      Unneutered or Unsprayed = \$ 19.00 per dog  
Checks should be made payable to: Town of Mount Holly



[www.mounthollyvt.org](http://www.mounthollyvt.org)

[chitchat@vermontel.net](mailto:chitchat@vermontel.net)



# Community Lunch

**ROAST PORK**

**Thursday, December 1st**  
Serving at Noon  
**Ludlow Community Center Cafeteria**  
37 Main Street, Ludlow

*Chef: Vicki Mastroianni*  
*Food Provided by:*  
*Black River Good Neighbor Services*

*All are Welcome, Free of Charge.*

esblackriver.org

If you would like to learn more about the school or get involved, please contact Gary Blodgett, Chair of the Board, at [gblodgett@esblackriver.org](mailto:gblodgett@esblackriver.org) or Kendra Rickerby, Head of School at [krickerby@esblackriver.org](mailto:krickerby@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.


## Beardmore Excavating



(802) 342-3507

Robert Beardmore, Jr. P.O. Box 101  
[beardmoreexc@gmail.com](mailto:beardmoreexc@gmail.com) Belmont, Vermont 05730

Visit us on Facebook



**PLEW FARM**  
Mt Holly, Vermont

*Pasture Raised*

Farm stand hours:  
12pm-5pm  
Wednesday-Sunday  
802.259.2250

1966 Healdville Road, Mount Holly  
[www.plewfarm.com](http://www.plewfarm.com)  
*dedicated to providing a local alternative to commercially produced factory food*  
visit our farm stand for beef, pork, chicken, eggs, maple syrup & products, produce, honey, cheese, cider, dairy, gifts, baked goods & more

## ESBR Giving Tuesday Matching Challenge

The Expeditionary School at Black River is excited to announce that a generous anonymous donor will match up to \$10,000 for the ESBR Giving Tuesday 2022 Campaign. This is exciting news as another generous anonymous donor has already offered matching funds up to \$2,000 thus bringing the total matching funds up to \$12,000! This offer is only good for Giving Tuesday 2022, and as of the submission of this Press Release a total of \$2,962 has already been raised! Funds continue to help keep the school in operation and offer students a unique learning experience:

"I appreciate getting to do things I never thought I'd do – silver fabrication, basket weaving and field trips have unlocked thoughts about my potential," Grade 9

"I like that we get outside and are not always on devices." Grade 7

"I like that when I work with my dad at his plumbing company, I get credit for what I am learning there." Grade 9

ESBR is grateful for the Matching Challenges from these generous donors, as well as the support from the Community and supporters near and far. More information may be found about ESBR at the website




# A.C.T. CHRISTMAS PARTY

**Saturday, December 17th**

**FREE ADMISSION!**  
EVERYONE IS INVITED



**Santa will be there from 2pm - 8pm to hand out FREE gifts to all children!**

**FREE BUFFET**  
From 4 PM - 7 PM

**We are proud to host many of our Local Fire Departments to add to the fun of the day!**

Location:  
Calcuttas  
87 Fox Lane  
Ludlow, VT 05149



[assistingchildrentoday.org](http://assistingchildrentoday.org)

For more information, please call 413-636-9028 or email at [info@assistingchildrentoday.org](mailto:info@assistingchildrentoday.org)



## The Light Shines in Darkness

*"In the bleak mid-winter / Frosty wind made moan / Earth stood hard as iron, / Water like a stone..."*

So begins the famous poem by C. Rossetti originally published in 1872 under the title "A Christmas Carol." Friends and Neighbors, winter is indeed upon us—the days grow shorter, darker, and colder. For many of us, this season is indeed "bleak". The wind chills us to the bone, the signs of life characteristic of our beloved and majestic Green Mountains have disappeared, and the sunny days of Summer and the golden hues of Autumn have been replaced with the cold, gray gloom of our long Vermont winters. Unfortunately, for many of us our moods can reflect the season around us. Some, like Scrooge or the Grinch may have their hearts turn as cold and as hard as the iron ground beneath us. Others, driven indoors by the frosty wind and treacherous roads, may find themselves in increasing isolation, and in turn loneliness and despair. But amid winter's darkness, lights shine! They festoon our eaves and encircle our trees. Where drab despair once was, they remind us of *hope*... they turn sadness to *joy*... stone-cold hearts "grow three sizes" in *love*... and families and whole communities gather with *peace* and good will. Christmas does that.

One of my favorite Christmas traditions is caroling. I remember a few occasions as a child—when the Mount Holly Baptist Church still stood within eyesight of my front porch—when we would set out by car and on foot to sing songs of the season to our neighbors about the town. Despite the frigid and dark nights at people's doorsteps, I remember the warmth in my heart and the cheery faces of those who came to their doors (or sometimes merely peaked through their curtains) to hear us sing. More recently, I've had the pleasure of taking the carols to the residents of the Gill Home in Ludlow. There's the same warmth, the same love, the same light brightening the countenances of all; but something is missing. Some of the images of Christmas that always bring a smile to my face when they "dance in my head" are carolers on downtown street corners, often dressed in their best Victorian suits, and Charlie Brown and his friends gathered around a transformed twig of a tree singing "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing". That's what was missing. As Linus said, "That's what Christmas is all about, Charlie Brown." In darkness, light shines.

While caroling does have deep roots, it's quite a novel invention—born of the renaissance (how fitting a name!) and the enlightenment (two for two!) of the 15<sup>th</sup> through 17<sup>th</sup> Centuries. Of course, the traditions do stretch back farther... to the ancient Anglo-Saxon custom of Wassailing, where celebrants would trek from door to door, sing, and exchange a hot mulled cider for gifts. During the Middle Ages, with the spread of Christianity throughout Europe, these songs would combine the dancing origins of the "carol"—with its simple, popular, and contemporary form—with the joyful lyrics of the Nativity of Christ. The custom of the *wassail* (lit. "Good health to you") found new expression. The ages were not so dark anymore.

This Christmas season, let us share our hope, our joy, our peace, our love, and our light with you all. Join us Sunday mornings at 9:30 if you'd like to know what "Christmas is all about" as I preach a series of messages about the child who is "God with Us". Join us for our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 7:00 p.m. Come join us on the darkest day of the year to light our Christmas Tree on the village green. Let us warm your ears and hearts with songs, and your mouths and bellies with a hot beverage (cider, tea, hot cocoa, etc.), a cup of soup, or some sweet Christmas treats. Let us share our gifts with you!

-Jeremiah

# Carols on the Green

Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, 6-8 P.M.  
Belmont Village Green, Church St.

- Hot Beverages, Soups, & Snacks
- Tree Lighting
- Christmas Carols

Hosted by the Village Baptist Church of Mt. Holly, VT

*"...and caroling out in the snow..."*





## PHOTO WINNERS FOR THE 2024 MOUNT HOLLY CALENDAR

The public balloting every year to determine which photos from all the photos submitted to the annual Mount Holly Photo & Calendar Competition is an exciting highlight of the Mount Holly Cider Days celebration in. The 2022 Cider Days competition was no exception. The weather was very agreeable, resulting in close to 250 people casting ballots for the photos they wanted to see in the 2024 calendar. Once again, the competition to get into the calendar was fierce.

There were just so many exceptional entries to choose from. So, here, in alphabetical order by last name, are the winners of the public balloting for the 2024 calendar:



***"Good Morning Belmont"***  
by Dawn Augustine



***"Tulip Garden"*** by Stephanie Burch



***"Festive Farmall"*** by Tracie Burns



***"Sugar Time"*** by Susan Covalla



***"Red, White & Flag"*** by Mary Ellen Hart



***"Frozen Leaves"*** by Leah Knoll



***"Sunshine & Shadow"*** by Mary Leonard



***"Fall Afternoon"*** by Rachael Ludwig



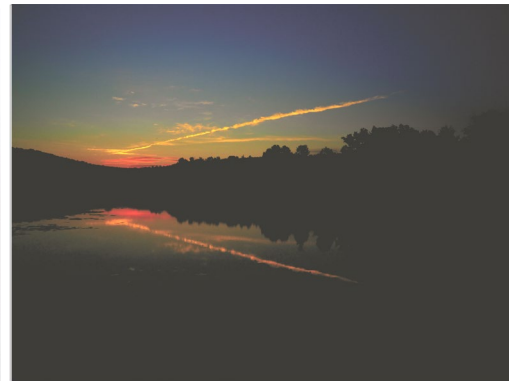
***"Now...I See You"*** by Will Osburn



***"Making Waves"*** by Susan Presson



***"Misty Day"*** by Gerald Rogell



***"Sunrise at Star Lake"*** by Patrick Rose





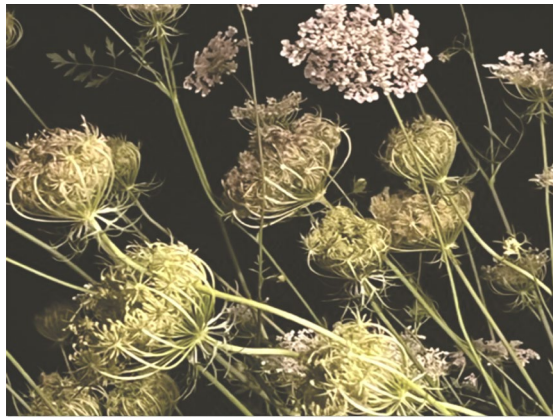
**"Afternoon Delight"**  
by Renee Sarmiento



**"Farm & Garden"** by Sheila Wickham



**"How Are Ewe Today"** by John Wincze



**"Night Lace"** by Susan Hamilton

In this issue of the *Chit Chat*, you can see all of the chosen photos. To view these photos in color, please go to [mounthollyvt.org/chit-chat/](http://mounthollyvt.org/chit-chat/), the online edition of the *Chit Chat*, and of course be sure to buy the 2024 calendar when it goes on sale in late June. If you're wondering where these winning photos will be used in the calendar you will just have to buy one. But remember, all

proceeds from sale of the calendars help support the many activities of the Mount Holly Community Association.

So, congratulations to the photographers chosen for the 2024 calendar and thank you to everyone who participated.

## Shop Small This Holiday Season at "Wally's Corner"

Located at 5304 VT Rt 103, Cuttingsville, VT 05738

We are open 5 days a week, Wednesday-Sunday 11am-6pm

This December marks the 1 year anniversary of Wally's Corner joining this wonderful community. We are so honored to have been welcomed into this area and are happy to provide the community an extra place to shop gifts for all occasions. Some of the highlights we're carrying this holiday season are:

- Gift Baskets
- Jigsaw Puzzles
- Embroidered journals & unique handmade paper art
- Locally-made pottery
- Succulents & other potted plants
- Hand-crafted clay face masks & black soap

# WALLY'S CORNER

Gift Shop

◆ Handmade and Local Goods

◆ Artisanal Foods

◆ Gardening and Home Decor

◆ Antiques, Toys, and More!

5304 VT Route 103, Cuttingsville, VT 05738

Hours: Wednesday-Sunday 11am-6pm

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

[hello@wallysvt.com](mailto:hello@wallysvt.com)

(516) 522-4174

## MSJ is now Tuition FREE for students from "sending towns"



## Mount St Joseph Academy is now tuition free to students from "sending towns"!

Mount St. Joseph Academy is now a school choice option for students who reside in a "sending town" which are towns that are without its own public high school.

List of area sending towns include:

Mount Holly, Ludlow, Belmont, Rutland Town, Ira, Middletown Springs, Wells, Mendon, Chittenden, Pittsfield, Rochester, Stockbridge, Danby, Mount Tabor, Pawlet, Landgrove, Weston, Rupert, Peru, Dorset, Manchester, Sunderland

Applications are being accepted now.

Go to [www.msjvermont.org](http://www.msjvermont.org) to apply online

**Mount St. Joseph Academy. A Place to Belong!**







### SAVE THE DATE: DECEMBER 4, 2022

The Mount Holly Historical Museum "Festival of Lights" preparations are in full swing. We are excited to have our first Community fundraising event after a two year gap on December 4, 2022.

The evening's auction will be led by a local, star auctioneer. The live auction will feature fine donated gifts from local businesses plus the perennial favorite Christmas wreaths made by local Community craftspeople. In addition, this year we would like to extend an invitation to the wider Community.

To discuss donations, please contact Steve Michel ((802) 259-2049 or [SteveM@gmail.com](mailto:SteveM@gmail.com)). An emailed photo of your item would be helpful. The evening promises to be filled with foods and festivities and, most important, a welcome Community gathering after two long years.



**THE BEST FOR YOUR FAMILY**



## SMITH MAPLE CREST FARM

**VT MAPLE SYRUP & GRASSFED BEEF**

**Why pay Market Prices when you can come to the farm!**  
**Quality food makes a memorable gift!**  
 100% Grassfed grass finished beef  
 and our Vermont Maple Syrup  
**Farm Store Hours**  
 Wednesday thru Monday - 10 am - 5 pm  
**CLOSED Tuesday - Call for appointments**

**Directions From:**  
 Rutland: Left off VT RT 103 just 2.5 miles - on the right  
 Cuttingsville: Just 2.1 miles up Town Hill Rd, right on Lincoln Hill

2450 Lincoln Hill Road, Shrewsbury VT. 05738  
[SmithMapleCrestFarm.com](http://SmithMapleCrestFarm.com)    802-492-2151    [maplecrest.info@gmail.com](mailto:maplecrest.info@gmail.com)  
**We Ship Syrup All Over The USA**



GIFT CERTIFICATES  
AVAILABLE



## What? No Room?

Most of us recall educator Leo Buscaglia as the *cheerleader of life*. He tells how, many years ago, he sold everything to make enough money to go off and live in Asia. One Christmas he found himself in Bali. This was before all the big hotels and modern tourist “busy-ness”. There was nothing then but the beautiful creatures, wonderful scenery and clean, pure water. He was in a tiny village called Ubud finding himself, for the first time, in a non-Christian country on Christmas Eve. He’d been staying in the home of this native family, desperately trying to explain Christmas. He said, “When you just tell the simple story of Christmas to someone who’s never heard it, it’s just incredible! Here’s this young couple traveling back to their hometown and while they were there...I imagine, standing in line, filling out government forms, the time comes for Mary to deliver her baby. Now, Joseph had tried to get them a hotel room, but the clerk had said they were all booked up and when Joseph tried to explain that his wife was great with child, the clerk said, ‘Don’t tell *me*, I just *work* here.’ And so they found a filthy stable where an exhausted Mary was able to at least lie down and she brought forth her firstborn son and laid him in a manger, which is a feeding trough for animals.” He went on to describe angels, shepherds and wisemen and they *loved* everything about it. They thought it was the most wonderful thing they’d ever heard. It’s interesting that the one thing that was absolutely incomprehensible to them was, “What do you *mean* they wouldn’t let Mary in at the inn?” In Indonesian culture the door is always open and a stranger is always welcome.

“Well, there was no *room* at the inn.”

“So what does that have to do with it? How much room does a woman take? There’s *always* room at the inn. Wasn’t there room on the *floor*?”

Leo said, “Try explaining *that* some time.” He found himself making all kinds of excuses, “Well, they didn’t *know* that she was carrying the Savior, Jesus inside her.”

“What difference does *that* make?” They kept harping on that, as they’d be going about their business, they’d turn and say, “I can’t understand why they wouldn’t let her *in*?”

He told them too about Christmas trees and tried to describe a pine tree to folks only familiar with tropical plants. After a lovely dinner he came out into the starry night and found they’d cut down a palm tree and put clay candles all around it. They shouted, “*Mairy Chreest-mus!*” Leo just sat down like a fool and cried. They thought they’d hurt his *feelings*.

And then because he’d explained that Christmas was a time of exchanging gifts they began giving him batiks and carvings and the only thing *he* had in his pack were things *they* didn’t have, such as soiled t-shirts and underwear that had been washed a thousand times, but he *gave* and they *loved* it! Here they were taking off their lovely batiks for *his* underwear. But, even as they later put him on a bus to Djakarta one of the kids said, “I *still* don’t understand why you didn’t let her *in*.”

It never stopped. There never *was* any room for Jesus in this world. And as sad as that was, it is a statement that still resounds today. Any room for hospitality at *your* house this season? More importantly, is there room in *your life* for him? *Pastor Glenn*

\*\*\*\*\*



### Town of Mount Holly Planning Commission

## Notice of Public Hearing December 7, 2022

The Mount Holly Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing at 6:00 PM on December 7, 2022 at the Mount Holly Town Office and via Zoom to consider a Flood Hazard and River Corridor Bylaw.

### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84003321805?pwd=bjV5cERYXJCc0dyVE9HVXFuZHRnZz09>



+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)  
Meeting ID: 840 0332 1805  
Passcode: 469224



The draft bylaw and a link to the hearing notice will be available at the Town Office and posted on the web:  
<https://www.mounthollyvt.org/planning-commission/flood-hazard-area/>

If you wish to make a public comment but do not have the ability to comment remotely during the meeting, please email your comment(s) in advance of the hearing to Mount Holly Planning Commission at [planningcomm@mounthollyvt.org](mailto:planningcomm@mounthollyvt.org) or mail to Mount Holly Planning Commission at P.O. Box 248 Mount Holly, VT 05758

## Reinbow Riding Center

Tis the season and Dale is dashing through the snow pulling a one-horse open sleigh so we can wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving today and Happy Holidays as we close out another year.

Finishing the season at Reinbow Riding Center brings a sigh of relief because we all get a short vacation, and the horses get a long winter vacation. But soon the work of planning, fundraising and prepping for our 2023 season begins. Starting with our annual fundraising appeal and a new website that will be up and running in the next few weeks, we'll spend the winter developing new programs, improving on-going programs, seeking more volunteers and writing grants to provide funding for all we want to



was the night before Christmas, he lived all alone,  
in a one bedroom house made of plaster and stone.  
I had come down the chimney with presents to give,  
and to see just who in this home did live.  
I looked all about, a strange sight I did see,  
no tinsel, no presents, not even a tree.

No stocking by mantle, just boots filled with sand,  
and on the wall pictures of far distant lands.  
With medals and badges, awards of all kinds,  
a sobering thought came to my mind.  
For this house was different, so dark and so dreary,  
the home of a soldier, now I could see clearly.

The soldier lay sleeping, silent, alone,  
curled up on the floor in this one bedroom home.  
The face was so gentle, the room in such disorder,  
not how I pictured a United States soldier.  
Was this the hero of whom I'd just read?  
Curled up on a poncho, the floor for a bed?

I realized the families that I saw this night,  
owed their lives to these soldiers who were willing to fight.  
Soon round the world, the children would play,  
and grownups would celebrate a bright Christmas day.  
They all enjoyed freedom each month of the year,  
because of the soldiers, like the one lying here.

I couldn't help wonder how many lay alone,  
on a cold Christmas eve in a land far from home.  
The very thought brought a tear to my eye,  
I dropped to my knees and started to cry.  
The soldier awakened and I heard a rough voice,  
"Santa don't cry, this life is my choice;

I fight for freedom, I don't ask for more,  
my life is my God, my country, my corps."  
The soldier rolled over and soon drifted to sleep,  
I couldn't control it, I continued to weep.  
I kept watch for hours, so silent and still,  
and we both shivered from the cold evening's chill.

I didn't want to leave on that cold, dark, night,  
this guardian of honor so willing to fight.  
Then the soldier rolled over, with a voice soft and pure,  
whispered, "Carry on Santa, it's Christmas day, all is secure."  
One look at my watch, and I knew he was right.  
"Merry Christmas my friend, and to all a good night."

By Lance Corporal James M. Schmidt

120097

do when the grass is green again.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank everyone that lent a hand this season—especially our cadre of dedicated volunteers who continue to go above and beyond to help us provide our services. We welcome two of our volunteers—Patricia Vogel of Belmont and Stacey Synott of Shrewsbury—to the RRC Board and can't wait to put them to work. Also thank you to Alexandra Yuster and Faith Tempest for providing a wonderful location—Stonewall Farm—for our program.

Please visit our website: [reinbowridingcenter.org](http://reinbowridingcenter.org), and follow us on Facebook and Instagram @reinbow\_riding\_center. Contact us at [programs@reinbowridingcenter.org](mailto:programs@reinbowridingcenter.org) or 802-236-2483 to inquire about lessons. For information about opportunities to volunteer with us contact [janetupton@reinbowridingcenter.org](mailto:janetupton@reinbowridingcenter.org).

## Minstrels By William Wordsworth

The minstrels played their Christmas tune  
To-night beneath my cottage-eaves;  
While, smitten by a lofty moon,  
The encircling laurels, thick with leaves,  
Gave back a rich and dazzling sheen,  
That overpowered their natural green.

Through hill and valley every breeze  
Had sunk to rest with folded wings:  
Keen was the air, but could not freeze,  
Nor check, the music of the strings;  
So stout and hardy were the band  
That scraped the chords with strenuous hand.

And who but listened?-till was paid  
Respect to every inmate's claim,  
The greeting given, the music played  
In honour of each household name,  
Duly pronounced with lusty call,  
And 'Merry Christmas' wished to all.



# 'Twas The Night Before Christmas



'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse. The stockings were hung by the chimney with care, In hopes that St Nicholas soon would be there.

The children were nestled all snug in their beds, While visions of sugar-plums danced in their heads. And mamma in her 'kerchief, and I in my cap, Had just settled our brains for a long winter's nap.

When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter, I sprang from the bed to see what was the matter. Away to the window I flew like a flash, Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash.

The moon on the breast of the new-fallen snow Gave the lustre of mid-day to objects below. When, what to my wondering eyes should appear, But a miniature sleigh, and eight tinny reindeer.

With a little old driver, so lively and quick, I knew in a moment it must be St Nick. More rapid than eagles his coursers they came, And he whistled, and shouted, and called them by name!

"Now Dasher! Now, Dancer! Now, Prancer and Vixen! On, Comet! On, Cupid! On, on Donner and Blitzen! To the top of the porch! To the top of the wall! Now dash away! Dash away! Dash away all!"

As dry leaves that before the wild hurricane fly, When they meet with an obstacle, mount to the sky. So up to the house-top the coursers they flew, With the sleigh full of Toys, and St Nicholas too.

And then, in a twinkling, I heard on the roof The prancing and pawing of each little hoof. As I drew in my head, and was turning around, Down the chimney St Nicholas

came with a bound.

He was dressed all in fur, from his head to his foot, And his clothes were all tarnished with ashes and soot. A bundle of Toys he had flung on his back, And he looked like a peddler, just opening his pack.

His eyes-how they twinkled! His dimples how merry! His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry! His droll little mouth was drawn up like a bow, And the beard of his chin was as white as the snow.

The stump of a pipe he held tight in his teeth, And the smoke it encircled his head like a wreath. He had a broad face and a little round belly, That shook when he laughed, like a bowlful of jelly!

He was chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf, And I laughed when I saw him, in spite of myself! A wink of his eye and a twist of his head, Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread.

He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work, And filled all the stockings, then turned with a jerk. And laying his finger aside of his nose, And giving a nod, up the chimney he rose!

He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle, And away they all flew like the down of a thistle. But I heard him exclaim, 'ere he drove out of sight, "Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good-night!"



A bundle of Toys he



## Clement Clarke Moore Miniature Biography

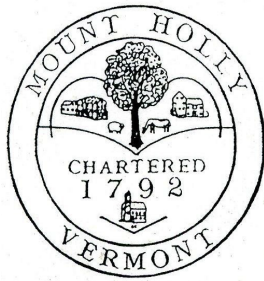
Clement Clarke Moore (1799 - 1863) came from a prominent family and his father Benjamin Moore was the Bishop of New York who was famous for officiating at the inauguration of George Washington. The tradition of reading 'Twas the night before Christmas poem on Christmas Eve is now a Worldwide institution and tradition.

Clement Clarke Moore (1779 - 1863) wrote the poem 'Twas the night before Christmas also called "A Visit from St. Nicholas" in 1822. It is now the tradition in many American families to read the poem every Christmas Eve. The poem 'Twas the night before Christmas' has redefined our image of Christmas and Santa Claus. Prior to the creation of the story of 'Twas the night before Christmas' St. Nicholas, the patron saint of children, had never been associated with a sleigh or reindeer!

Clement Moore, the author of the poem 'Twas the night before Christmas, was a reticent man and it is believed that a family friend, Miss H. Butler, sent a copy of the poem to the New York Sentinel who published the poem. The condition of publication was that the author of 'Twas the night before Christmas was to remain anonymous.

The first publication date was 23rd December 1823 and it was an immediate success. It was not until 1844 that Clement Clarke Moore claimed ownership when the work was included in a book of his poetry.





## 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.

### Select Board Meeting @ Town Office November 15, 2022 ~ MEETING MINUTES

#### Present:

**Select Board:** Jeff Chase, Diana Garrow, Mark Turco (Chair)

**Town Officials:** In Person: Caitlin Boyle, Dennis Devereux, Carol Garrow-Woolley, David Johnson, Steven Michel, Christine Pratt, James Seward, Brigid Sullivan, Phil Crane, Clinton Woolley. Via Zoom: Jon McCann

**Members of the Public:** In Person: Paul Barton, Donna Seward, Zena Gates. Via Zoom: Barbara Hazelton, Steve Hazelton, Jessica Metcalfe

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

Turco noted a request to add an update re: the Back Roads Grant and an item regarding Junk Ordinance complaints and updates. Jeff Chase noted an additional item regarding updating Town representatives to the Rutland Regional Emergency Management Committee.

**4. Approval of October 11, 2022 minutes.** Diana Garrow made a motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Jeff Chase, unanimously approved.

#### 5. Reports

**a. Highways & Transfer Station Update – Clinton Woolley:** Mr. Woolley reported that he attended a Road Foreman’s conference. No notable updates on the Transfer Station

i. Summit Road Culvert Update: Jeff Chase received the signed contract today from the engineering company and received the stored materials invoice in the amount of \$88,894, to be added to next week’s orders.

ii. Diana Garrow noted that on Belmont Road the speed limit signs go from 40 mph to 25 mph, without a transition. Jeff Chase noted that the Town could install a “reduce speed” advisory to assist in the transition.

Mr. Woolley noted that if additional speed limit signs were added, this would require a modification of the current Traffic Ordinance.

iii. Mr. Chase noted that the Vermont Better Roads Grant Program offers a grants-in-aid opportunity from the state Agency of Transportation, and there may be Town needs this grant could address. Mr. Woolley noted that there are some spots on Perry Road that could use some stabilization, and that this might be a candidate for the grant program.

**b. Treasurer Monthly Income & Expense Report – David Johnson**

i. Monthly Income and Expense Report: Mr. Johnson noted that

as of this week, there are

\$167,108.64 in outstanding delinquent taxes; this is the lowest delinquent tax amount the

Town has had in the last ~15 years. The quarterly payment of state aid has been received. Solid waste label sales are slightly under the same time as last year; this might be accounted for by the fact that the Belmont Store has not purchased stickers since October (due to its closure in November). Mr. Johnson noted that if the Selectboard wished to continue to retain the Sheriff for speed enforcement, there is room in the Town budget to cover ongoing costs of enforcement. All local social service agencies, the *Chit Chat*, the Mount Holly Historical Museum and the Town Library were all paid in October. This month’s Zero Sort hauling and disposal charges have exceeded previous credits received from Zero Sort this year. The blower repair was significant, so the Town has used about half of the budget for vehicle/equipment repairs and maintenance for the year.

ii. Investment Bank Account: Mr. Johnson recommended putting the Rescue Squad’s reserve fund in an account within the Community Bank Subaccount, in order to take advantage of the interest rate increase (from .5% to 1.75%) offered by the Credit Union of Vermont. Diana Garrow made a motion to make this shift as recommended; Mark Turco seconded; unanimously agreed.

**c. Mount Holly Planning Commission Update – Jon McCann:** The Commission is proposing to update and expand the Town’s FHA Regulations based on a model prepared by the Vermont

Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). There will be a hearing on December 7, 2022 at 6 pm at the Mount Holly Town Office and via Zoom to consider a Flood Hazard and River Corridor Bylaw.

**December 2022 Mount Holly Chit Chat Inc.**

**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.**



### 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**



i. One Three-Year Term Ends November 2022: Letters of interest for the open spot on the

Planning Commission were received by the Selectboard from current Planning Commission Chair Jon McCann and from former Planning Commission member Steven Michel. Multiple letters of support were received for both candidates. Both candidates made brief remarks. Jeff Chase made a motion to appoint Jon McCann to the open position; Diana Garrow seconded. Unanimously approved.

ii. Diana Garrow requested that the Planning Commission share website updates or permit application updates with the Selectboard before making them available to the public, so that the Selectboard can review and understand updates prior to their publication or distribution. Mr. McCann agreed.

iii. Flood Hazard Area Updates: The Planning Commission is proposing to update and expand the Town's FHA Regulations based on a model prepared by the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and approved by FEMA. The model involves very few changes to regulation of activities within the special flood hazard area that is already defined. The model includes new provisions governing development in river corridors. Adding these provisions to Mount Holly's regulations will allow the Town to receive a 40% increase in disaster relief funding from the State (from 12.5% to 17.5% of the Town's costs), for a total of 92.5% of combined State and federal reimbursement, during FEMA-declared disasters. More information can be found at <https://www.mounthollyvt.org/planning-commission/flood-hazard-area/>.

#### **d. Mount Holly Conservation Commission Update – Phil Crane**

i. Mr. Crane reported that the MHCC is updating the scenic roads mapping for the Town Plan. He also noted that divers have not yet come to remove the bottom barrier from Star Lake. The MHCC would like to submit a proposal for funds from the Vermont Urban and Community Forestry program, which if received would provide outside funding for the care and maintenance of trees planted along the roads of Mount Holly. This opportunity is called "Communities Caring for Canopy" and the MHCC would like the Selectboard's input on their proposal, as it includes a commitment of a 50/50 match from the Town in the form of in-kind labor and services, and/or monetary funds. The Selectboard requested that the MHCC prepare a draft proposal for the grant for review.

#### **6. New Business**

a. **Vermont Diesel Emissions Reduction Financial Assistance Program:** The Selectboard noted that it won't pursue this program's support at this time.

#### **7. Ongoing & Old Business**

##### **a. ARPA Funding Requests**

i. A/V Equipment for Town Office: Patrick Cody at Okemo Valley TV is seeking quotes from vendors to upgrade A/V at the Town Office ( a previously approved funding request.) Jeff Chase will pass along those quotes to the Selectboard for

review once they are received.

ii. Oddfellows Hall Renovations: Dennis Devereux noted that efforts are continuing.

iii. Dennis Devereux added that many Town buildings that host public meetings do not have defibrillators; ARPA funding could cover this expense. Mr. Turco noted that some research should be done regarding whether certification is required or recommended once defibrillators are installed. Diana Garrow noted that ARPA funds might also be used to update the smoke and carbon monoxide detectors in the Town Office.

**b. FY22 Municipal Planning Grant:** Jeff Chase noted that The Town of Mount Holly applied for and received a Municipal Planning Grant from the State of Vermont Agency of Commerce and

Community Development. The Select Board contracted with [Community Roots, LLC](#), led by

Melissa Levy, to identify and understand community concerns related to housing, economic development, and public infrastructure. A survey has been created to collect data to help steer the grant objectives. Surveys will be collected through November 30th and are available online and at the Town Office. More information is available at

<https://www.mounthollyvt.org/planning-commission/municipal-planning-grant>.

December 2022 Mount Holly Chit Chat Inc.

## **SELECT BOARD SEEKS LISTER**

The Mount Holly Select Board seeks a new Lister to serve on the Board of Listers beginning in August 2022.

The primary responsibility of the Board of Listers is to determine the fair market value of town properties. Listers must understand appraisal methods and property assessment administration. Listers are paid, and the commitment is roughly six hours per week.

Candidates must be registered voters in Mount Holly, and will also have good computer and internet skills.

Please send Letter of Interest to the Mount Holly Select Board with your qualifications.

### **CONTACT:**

[mounthollyselectboard@gmail.com](mailto:mounthollyselectboard@gmail.com)  
PO Box 248, Mount Holly, VT 05758

### **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.

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

**KEITH Hawkins**  
president



Mount Holly, Vermont

802 558.3082

## 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

cost of up to an additional \$2,500. Diana Garrow seconded; unanimously approved.

**e. Openings:** There is an opening on the Board of Listers; an opening for Constable; and an opening for Town Treasurer. There are also two open seats on the Conservation Commission.

Mark Turo encouraged interested candidates to inquire with the Selectboard.

**f. Junk Ordinance Update:** Letters have been sent to three property owners who are not currently in compliance with the town Junk Ordinance. An additional complaint has been registered regarding one of these properties; Selectboard Clerk Caitlin Boyle will send an additional letter to the tenants at the property in question.

**g. Rutland Regional Emergency Management Committee:** Mark Turco made a motion that the two existing members of the REMC (Jon McCann and Jeff Chase) continue in their roles; Diana seconded; unanimously agreed.

**8. Citizen Comments** (None)

### 9. Announcements/Other Business

**a.** Town Office will be closed on Wednesday, November 23 and Thursday, November 24, 2022, in honor of Thanksgiving.

**b.** Jeff Chase asked that residents fill out the Community Survey; the deadline is November 30.

### 10. Review & Sign Orders

**11. Executive Session:** Title 1 V.S.A. S 313(a)(3) – personnel (if needed)

**a.** Executive session needed. Diana Garrow made a motion to go into Executive Session; Mark

Turco seconded; unanimously approved.

**12. Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm. Caitlin Boyle, SBCA

## Mount Holly Planning Commission Town Office & Remote Electronic – Special Work Meeting Minutes Wednesday October 5, 2022

Commission Members Present: Jim Seward (Vice Chair), Bridgid Sullivan, Andrew Schulz, Andrew Seward (joined meeting in progress)

Also Present: Renee Sarmento (Clerk), Stephen Michel, Phil Crane,  
Absent: Jon McCann (Chair)

1. Vice Chair called the meeting to order at 6:05pm
2. Changes to agenda: None
3. Town Plan Revisions
  - a. Recreation

- i. Commissioner Sullivan referred to Chair stating at a previous meeting that it might be nice to have trails labeled. This may be something that should go into the Town Plan. Commissioner J. Seward stated there will be a large logging operation done on Healdville Trail. Commissioner Sullivan stated she thought it would also be occurring in the National Forest.

- ii. Commissioner Sullivan stated the Town Plan should

reference resources available in Ludlow (youth team sports, tennis courts, skate park). Commissioner Schulz stated the plan should be aspirational and if not seeking to do X it is because X is available nearby.

- iii. Phil Crane, representative of Conservation Commission stated a lot of yesterday's discussion was devoted to recreation and scenic roads. Phil reported there were five points that the Conservation Commission agreed with that were previously discussed by the Planning Commission. They included: designate parking areas for trails (i.e. Healdville Trail), access to playground at Mount Holly School and potential to have an area for young children to use during school hours (Star Lake area?), use of Star Lake in the winter for activities such as ice skating, consider recreation committee appointed by the Select Board.

**b. Scenic Roads**

- i. Phil Crane stated Conservation Commission does not have formal input at this time, but they will be generating guidance and making a list of appropriate roads based on various things. Overlap of scenic roads with the shade tree plan. There is a scenic road law that gives guidelines on what to do. Scenic roads could include paved roads, but gravel scenic roads should not be paved. Scenic roads do not need views necessarily.

**December 2022 Mount Holly Chit Chat Inc.**

## 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: [monthollyauditors@gmail.com](mailto:monthollyauditors@gmail.com) or to the Town Office no later than **January 4<sup>th</sup>, 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





# SELECT BOARD SEEKS CONSTABLE

The Mount Holly Select Board seeks a new Constable to serve the Town of Mount Holly beginning October 1, 2022.

The Town Constable is an elected position; a new Constable will be appointed to serve until Town Meeting elections in March 2023. Roles include the responsibility to:

- serve civil or criminal processes
- destroy animals / kill injured deer
- assist the health officer
- serve as a district court officer
- remove disorderly people from town meeting

Competitive candidates will have prior law enforcement experience and training.

Please send Letter of Interest to the Mount Holly Select Board with your qualifications.

## CONTACT:

mounthollyselectboard@gmail.com  
PO Box 248, Mount Holly, VT 05758

- ii. Commissioner Sullivan stated criteria for scenic roads is needed, and read section from Shrewsbury plan regarding scenic road designation.
  - iii. Discussion of roads with scenic views/potential scenic roads. Commissioner Sullivan recorded a list of potential scenic roads to include in the plan suggested by the commissioners (Straight Rd which now has views, views from top of Hedgehog Hill, Belmont Rd. from Tiffany Rd to town, Patch Brook Rd. behind Lake Ninevah is in Plymouth, flats on 103 is beautiful, down the hill on 103, and views toward Ludlow, Beaver Meadow Rd, Cy Parker Rd, Hen Farm Rd, Greendale Rd)
  - iv. Commissioner Schulz stated first step should be to develop list of scenic roads and then decide what recommendations regarding development/regulation should be made. State will control wetlands.
  - v. Commissioners reviewed roads previously included in the Town Plan (Shunpike Road, Maple Hill Road, Old Turnpike Road, Healdville, Packer Cemetery, Hedgehog Hill Road). What does scenic mean? Scenic roads could include paved roads, but gravel scenic roads should not be paved.
  - vi. Discussion of regulations to consider: keeping stone walls intact, setback requirements, driveway design, establish buffer between road and development to maintain forested appearance, encourage protection (unless a safety risk) and planting of shade trees, protections for land owners who want to keep trees but don't prohibit them from removing, regulation about conserving trees on scenic roads that would apply to anyone who subsequently purchases the property. Ninevah prohibits cutting trees unless tree poses risk to person or property. Residents can petition town for inclusion as a scenic road designation.
4. Public comments: None
  5. Upcoming meetings
    - a. Regular meeting – October 19, 2022
    - b. Special Meeting - November 2, 2022
  6. Meeting adjourned at 7:13pm For the Commission, Renee Sarmiento, Clerk - In draft form until approved on November 2, 2022





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

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

**Mount Holly Planning Commission Town Office & Remote Electronic – Regular Meeting Minutes** Wednesday October 19, 2022

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

**Also Present:** Renee Sarmiento (Clerk), Stephen Michel, Jessica Metcalfe, Jeff Chase

1. Chair called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.
2. Changes to agenda:

Remove 6 a, Transportation Plan with guest Ethan Pepin (RRPC) – to be rescheduled

3. Approval of minutes
  - a. September 21st special meeting minutes were approved as distributed.
  - b. August 21st, 2022 regular meeting minutes were approved as distributed.
  - c. October 5th, 2022 special meeting minutes were approved with a correction made following a suggestion by Commissioner Schulz to change “Ninevah prohibits cutting trees unless tree poses risk to person or property.”, to “Some communities prohibit cutting trees unless tree possess risk to person or property.”
4. Reports & Announcements
  - a. Administrative Officer
- i. Email sent to Kyle Medash asking for input on two potential cases of development in an FHA.
- b. Planning Commission Chair
- i. Chair reported that there was a tragedy at the recent Rutland Regional Planning Commission regular meeting. Longtime RRPC staff member Steven Schild had a medical issue and passed away.

*Wayne Jones Metal*

## All Metals

Sheet - Plate - Structural - Fabrication  
CNC Plasma - Oxy Fuel Burn Table  
Equipment Repair  
Light Machining  
Sand Blasting  
Polishing

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

*Wayne Jones*

1759 RT 103 N  
East Wallingford VT 802-259-2521



# SELECT BOARD SEEKS TREASURER

The Mount Holly Select Board encourages candidates to run for the office of Town Treasurer.

The Town Treasurer is an elected position, voted into office at the annual Town Meeting elections in March 2023.

Roles include the responsibility to keep the town's financial accounts, investing town money, keeping a record of the taxes voted, paying the bills when orders to do so are properly submitted, and interacting with other town officials to insure that the town finances run smoothly.

Competitive candidates will have prior accounting, bookkeeping or treasurer experience.

Please visit the Town Office to inquire about requirements for running for the office.

## CONTACT:

mounthollyselectboard@gmail.com  
PO Box 248, Mount Holly, VT 05758

Board purchase a computer and printer for the Planning Commission not more than \$1500. Commissioner Andrew Seward seconded the motion. **Unanimously approved.**

1. Commissioner Schulz asked if the computer would be able to be accessed remotely. Chair asked what might be done remotely. Most common uses are for scanning, printing, and meeting videos. It would be helpful to print from outside the office. For example, if needing to print materials to be ready for meetings. Will be looked into further.

2. Mr. Michel asked if laser printers scan. Chair stated there are all-in-one printer/scanners. Mr. Michel asked how the computer could be connected to the town network. Chair explained possible ways this could take place.

3. Commissioner Andrew Seward stated for security purposes you should not be able to log on to the network from outside the office.

7. Unfinished business

a. Flood Hazard and River Corridor Bylaw (guest Jeff Chase)

i. Planning Commission has draft of an ordinance that is based on the 2022 DEC model that was discussed with Kyle

ii. Chair reported Shrewsbury had held two public hearings. One for an update to their flood hazard area ordinance, adding river corridor protections, and the other was related to changes to their zoning ordinance. Chair noted that their public notice was very descriptive of the changes they had made. Chair attended both hearings. There was a good question regarding the definition of junkyards.

iii. Chair had sent around information to the Planning Commission from FEMA about the Otter Creek Discovery Report. Town was informed in 2019. The discovery process has proceeded and there is now a discovery report. The end result will be new FIRM panels for Mill River and related drainages.

iv. Chair referred to last month's talk about the Kiosk - now have 40 years of land records online.

v. Chair's term is expiring.

5. Correspondence

a. Subdivision proposals: None.

b. Building Construction Registrations

i. Isidro, 2012 Hortonville Road, post and beam wood shed

ii. McLellan, 1199 VT Route 103N, Garage

iii. Koponen, 169 Stewart Road N, Guest cabin

iv. Johnson, 2762 Shunpike Rd, Tiny house to be used as office

v. Watson, 21 Okemo View Lane, 3 Bedroom, 3 1/2 bath house

c. Wastewater system and potable water supply permits: None.

d. Email / Other: None

6. New business

a. Transportation Plan with guest Ethan Pepin (RRPC) - will be rescheduled

b. Recommend purchase of new computer and printer

i. One option is an all in one computer

ii. Printer would be helpful. (laser/black and white)

iii. Commissioner Sullivan made a motion to recommend the Select



## THE NEW LEARNING PROJECT

CHOOSING TO EXPERIENCE OUR POTENTIAL

MUSIC LESSONS -- Guitar, Piano, and more  
RED CROSS COURSES -- First Aid, CPR, Lifeguarding  
SWIMMING INSTRUCTION  
(More services at website)

STUDIO IN CUTTINGSVILLE VT  
www.TheNewLearningProject.com  
TheNewLearningProject@gmail.com  
802.492.3208

Marcos Levy

Instructor with over 30 years  
of Experience



Custom Builders of Belmont Inc.

P.O Box 171  
Belmont, VT 05730

Charlie Conroy  
cjconroy@vermontel.net

30+ Years Experience



- iii. Chair recapped previous discussion with Barbara Noyes-Pulling and Kyle Medash regarding FEMA funding: FEMA provides 75%, State ERAF provides up to 17.5% if river corridors are included. Another incentive is that by adopting this bylaw we are told we will get preferential treatment for other grant funding.
- iv. Commissioner Andrew Seward stated he would like more information on who would be affected by the new river corridors.
- v. Chair stated that the Local Hazard Mitigation adopted by the Select Board in 2021 includes the recommendation to add this kind of protection.
- vi. Commissioner Schulz spoke about changing weather patterns and said he does not see a downside to pursuing this.
- vii. Jeff Chase wanted to see the river corridors on a map. Chair pulled up map with river corridors. Discussion on how many properties would be affected and benefit of added protection.

## Conservation Commission Openings

The Conservation Commission is actively pursuing several projects to enhance and preserve our town's natural resources. These include improving Star Lake's recreational facilities, protecting trees on public land and rights of way, identifying and improving a broad range of recreational opportunities in Mount Holly, and aiding the Planning Commission in the revised Town Plan by updating the inventory of natural and cultural resources.

There are two open positions on the commission for individuals interested in aiding in these or other projects. For further inquiries, contact Phil Crane, Chair (259-3824).

Letters of interest should be directed to the Mount Holly Selectboard at [mounthollyselectboard@gmail.com](mailto:mounthollyselectboard@gmail.com) or by mailing the Town Office, PO Box 248, Mount Holly, VT 05758



**Skip buying just "stuff"**  
**Give a memorable gift of our**

**Pure VT Maple Syrup,  
Maple Sweet Treats &  
Grassfed-Grassfinished Beef**

**Gift Cards Available**

**Farm Store hours**  
**Wed thru Mon 10 am- 5 pm**  
**Closing @ 3 pm on 12/24**  
**Closed 12/25/22 & 1/1/23**

**2450 Lincoln Hill**  
**Shrewsbury VT 05738 | 802-492-2151**

- iii. Jeff Chase spoke about how federal funds would be easier to access with a bylaw like this in place.
- ix. Discussion of draft bylaw based on DEC model. Chair provided copies to Commissioners and guests. Review of changes proposed. Chair reviewed changes made to the model.
- x. Mr. Michel asked about conditional use permits and stated our existing regulations do not include them. Mr. Michel stated it seems this would make things harder as conditional use review has similar requirements for a subdivision hearing (newspaper notice etc.). Chair explained that our current regulations do include conditional use review and approval, and read from the text describing conditional use permit requirements. Mr. Michel asked why are certificate of occupancy is required. Chair replied that it is needed to ensure compliance with the terms of the permit.
- xi. Outstanding questions will be answered by Kyle Medash next week.
- xii. Chair proposed the Commission make the draft bylaw the subject of the next special meeting and invite landowners directly affected by the change.
- xiii. Chair proposed taking action on the reporting form. Reporting form is a required part of any public notice. Chair read the form aloud. Commissioner Sullivan moved approval of the reporting form. Commissioner Schulz clarified if move forward with the bylaw, this would be the form used, not approving anything else. Discussion had about the reporting form and its purpose/when it is used. Commissioner Schulz seconded the motion. **Unanimously approved.**
- xiv. Chair proposed the Commission move forward with a special meeting and then a public hearing and will get a list of property owners affected by river corridors. Chair will produce a map for people to see if they are affected.
- xv. Commissioner Andrew Seward made a motion to approve the draft bylaw

### Crowley Cheese is Seeking Holiday And Full Time Help

#### Job Opening

Crowley Cheese is seeking part time or full time help with cheese packaging and shipping during the Holidays, and cheese making help after the New Year. If interested please call us at **802-259-2340** and ask for Galen.

Galen Jones, Crowley Cheese •  
Crowley Ln, Mount Holly


**Mount Holly Dairy-Aire Farm**

**1004 Hortonville Road Mount Holly**  
**Open Monday - Saturday 9 am - 3 pm**  
**802-259-2386**  
**pappynmammy@vermontel.net**

**Local - Mount Holly Produced**

**Fresh Raw Milk,**  
**We are a Tier 1 State Inspected Farm**  
**Fresh Cage Free Eggs, Fresh Cage Free Poultry**  
**Homemade Baked Goods**

**Visit Us On Facebook**

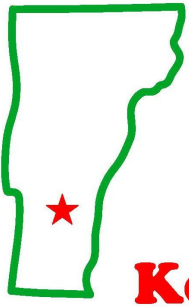


with the condition there is a special meeting held to hear from affected property owners before a public hearing. Chair seconded the motion. **Unanimously approved.**

- 8. Public Comments: none
- 9. Upcoming meetings
  - a. Working meeting November 2nd at 7:00pm (1st Wednesday)
  - b. Regular meeting – November 16th, 7:00 pm (3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday)
- 10. Meeting adjourned at 9:10pm. For the Commission, Renee Sarmento, Planning Commission Clerk. In draft form until approved on November 16, 2022



# Belmont Septic Design



Soil Test Pits /  
Design-Permitting  
802.733.2561

kevin@belmontseptic.com

**Kevin Hollebeek**

June 24, 2008.

The purpose of the FHA Regulations is to:

1. Minimize and prevent the loss of life and property, the disruption of commerce, the impairment of the tax base, and the extraordinary public expenditures and demands on public services that result from flooding and other flood-related hazards; and
2. Ensure that the design and construction of development in flood and other hazard areas are accomplished in a manner that minimizes or eliminates the potential for flood and loss or damage to life and property; and
3. Manage all flood hazard areas as required by state law; and
4. Make the Town and individuals eligible for federal flood insurance and other federal disaster recovery and hazard mitigation funds as may be available.

These regulations only apply to areas that lie within FEMA-designated "special flood hazard areas."

In short, our current FHA regulations protect us from flooding-related hazards in areas prone to flooding and make us eligible to receive state and federal disaster relief, currently up to 87.5% of costs.

## Proposed Updates

The Planning Commission proposes to update and expand the Town's FHA Regulations based on a model prepared by the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and approved by FEMA. The model involves very few changes to the regulation of activities within the special flood hazard area already defined.

However, the model includes new provisions governing development in river corridors. Adding these provisions will allow the Town to receive a **40% increase in disaster relief funding from the State (from 12.5% to 17.5% of the Town's costs)**, for a total of 92.5% of combined State and federal reimbursement, during FEMA-declared disasters.

As per State law and the DEC model regulation, the new provisions would regulate development within State identified river corridors. "River corridors" include both larger rivers and also those streams that have a watershed area between ½ and 2 square miles. These provisions apply to the river corridor areas as mapped by the State and, where not mapped by the State, to a default setback area 50 feet from the top bank. The State maps are available in the Town Office and linked from the Planning Commission website.

In the future, FEMA and the State will update the flood maps for Otter Creek/Mill River, West River, and Black River/Branch Brook. Once those maps are done, we will be required to update our FHA regulations. The changes to our FHA regulations proposed by the Planning Commission will give us a headstart on this process.

## How does this affect you?

By managing development in the specified river corridors, the proposed regulation would reduce the risk of damage to property and personal injury resulting from structures and objects being washed downstream in extreme flooding. Also, the additional State disaster relief available to the Town would reduce the cost of recovery to Town taxpayers.

The regulation of development within these river corridors will not affect your property unless you are planning a new development within a "river corridor." Otherwise, the proposed inclusion of the river corridor provisions would not apply to you at all.

If your property lies within the special flood hazard area, any development is already required to be permitted under our existing FHA Regulations regardless of whether we adopt the proposed update.

This updated bylaw will offer you additional protection for your property from upstream hazards. It will also reduce the cost to the Town (paid by taxes) in the event of another FEMA-declared disaster.

## Proposed Flood Hazard and River Corridor Bylaw

The Town of Mount Holly is considering updating and expanding the Town's existing Flood Hazard Area (FHA) Regulations. The principal change would be to manage development within specifically identified river corridors. This would further reduce the risks of injury and damage to people and property from flooding and erosion and entitle the Town to additional State relief funds following FEMA-declared disasters.

This update was recommended by the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan adopted by the Select Board in February 2021, and its advantages were affirmed by the Select Board at its October meeting this year.

## Existing FHA Regulations

The Town of Mount Holly adopted our current FHA Regulations on



**JOHN NAPIER**  
REALTOR®

O. 802-228-5678

C. 860-559-9334

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

[jnapier@cblifestylesre.com](mailto:jnapier@cblifestylesre.com)

156 Main Street  
Ludlow, VT 05149



Each office is independently owned and operated.



## Planning Commission Public Hearing

**Time:** Wednesday, December 7, 6:00 PM

**Location:** Town Office & Zoom

**Zoom link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84003321805?pwd=bjV5cERYXXJCc0dyVE9HVXFuZHRnZz09>

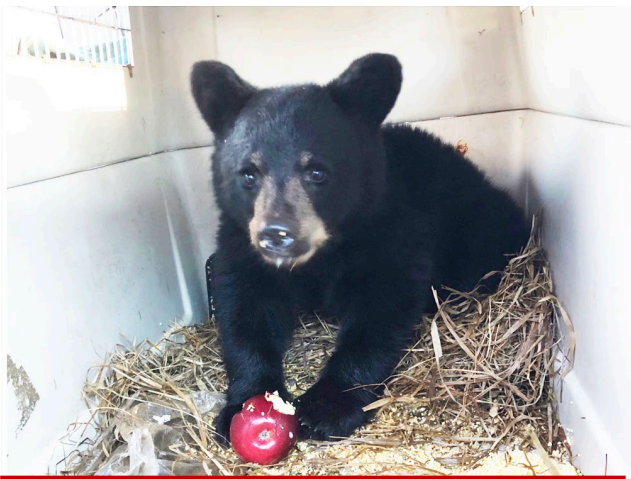


If you are unable to attend the meeting, please email your thoughts or questions to: [planningcomm@mounthollyvt.org](mailto:planningcomm@mounthollyvt.org)

## More information

The draft bylaw and a link to the hearing notice will be available at the Town Office and posted on the website: <https://www.mounthollyvt.org/planning-commission/flood-hazard-area/>





*'This cub was abandoned near Springfield VT and is going to a wildlife rehab facility in New Hampshire; photo by Ali Kenyon.'*

## Notes from the Mount Holly Conservation Commission:

### Bear, There and Everywhere....

It seems like there have been a high number of sightings of black bears in Mount Holly over the past summer and fall. So, as part the Mount Holly Commission's efforts to keep track of our natural resources, including these impressive mammals, we reached out to Commission member and local wildlife expert, Peter Smith, to get some 'bear' facts.

#### Q: So, are there more bears around than in the recent past?

A: The current bear population is higher than it has been at any time in the last 150 years. When the forests were cleared to make way for farming, bear habitat shrunk, and it has taken a long time for reforestation to provide the necessary habitat. Estimates are that the state wide population is between 4500 and 6000.

#### Q: Bear mothers sometimes have more than one cub. Is that common?

A: Multiple births are common, with females giving birth to from 1 to 4 young. The cubs generally are born in late January or February and stay with their mothers through the first winter, leaving before the following breeding season, which is in June and July.

#### Q: What do bears eat?

A: Bears eat a highly varied diet; they eat tree leaves, grasses, and other vegetation found near wetlands, particularly in the spring. This is often when bears create problems with bird feeders, garbage and compost, since food is especially scarce at that time. During summer months, everything from insects to fawns to bee hives and berries become food sources, eventually giving way to apples and, as fall settles in, beech nuts and acorns, which are essential for putting on fat before winter dormancy. If necessary, bears will travel considerable distance to find those nuts.

#### Q: Are bears dangerous to people?

A: Generally bears do not pose a threat to people. However, having said that, females are VERY protective of their cubs. If they perceive a threat to the cubs they can become aggressive. The recent attack in Stratton, VT is a case in point. The female with a cub was, in her mind, protecting her cub, initially from a dog that chased the cub up a tree and then when the woman came out, she was perceived as the threat and attacked.

#### Q: When will bears go into their winter dens?

A: Food availability controls that timing. If nuts and other fall foods are available, they will continue feeding into December. If their food is scarce they will head for their dens by mid-November, entering their period of dormancy, which is different from true hibernation.

#### Q: Bears don't hibernate?

A: No. Hibernation involves a significant drop in body temperature from about 100F to the 40s as in bats, chipmunks, woodchucks, jumping mice and others hibernators. In bears, temperature stays very close to normal, though respiration and metabolism do slow considerably, temperature doesn't. Therefore they can be easily roused, unlike hibernating species. Bears generally emerge from this dormant period in March and April.

*'Mother bear and her cubs' feasting on apples in Mount Holly.'*





# Champlain Timbercraft<sup>LLC</sup>

**TIMBER FRAME  
Construction & Restoration**

## 802-779-6138

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





**TAILORED PLUMBING**  
24 Hour Service

**BENJAMIN TAYLOR**  
Master Plumber ~ EPA Certified  
[tailedplumbingheating@gmail.com](mailto:tailedplumbingheating@gmail.com)

802-417-1647

3322 VT Route 103S  
Mount Holly, VT 05758  
PLUMBING, HEATING, A/C ~ REPAIR AND NEW  
CONSTRUCTION



## WESTON THEATER COMPANY PRESENTS

### JOE ICONIS & FAMILY AND FIFTH ANNUAL WINTER CABARET

Weston Theater Company presents two special events for the holiday season starting with **A WESTON WINTER CABARET**, back for its fifth year at Walker Farm. Join Weston Young Company alumni on **December 3 & 4 at 7:30 PM** for two fabulous evenings filled with seasonal music and mayhem. This fun, festive show directed by special guests, Cabaret Maestro **Tim Fort**, and returning cabaret veteran **Piper Goodeve**, is sure to get you into the holiday spirit! This event is a benefit for the Weston Young Company program.

After last December's hit show, **Joe Iconis** returns to Weston for the holidays to present **A VERY VERMONTY CHRISTMAS WITH JOE ICONIS & FAMILY** on **December 16 & 17 at 7:30 PM** and **December 17 at 4:00 PM**. With direction by **John Simpkins**, you can expect an intimate and irreverent winter's night full of Iconis originals, holiday standards, and yuletide surprises. Join Joe and his merry band of troublemaking elves for an unforgettable rock'n'roll Christmas.

**A WESTON WINTER CABARET** features seven former Young Company members with music direction by Weston alum and Cabaret veteran, **Jake Turski** (vocal director for Royal Caribbean Productions, faculty at Cap21 Conservatory/Molloy College and AMDA in NYC).

The cast includes **Allie Seibold** (Weston: REALLY ROSIE, THE MUSIC MAN; Regional: SEE WHAT I WANNA SEE at Arc Stages; International: The Orchestra Japan in Disney on Classic and Honky Tonk Angels). **Seth Eliser** (Weston: RING OF FIRE, ONCE, PUMP BOYS AND DINETTES; Regional: PUNK ROCK GIRL world premiere, GODSPELL at PCLO). **Devin Johnson** (Weston: WEST SIDE STORY, MAMMA MIA!, PETER AND THE STARCATCHER, 42<sup>nd</sup> STREET; Regional: CRAZY FOR YOU at Riverside Theatre, OLIVER! at Paper Mill Playhouse). **Bella Muller** (Weston: WEST SIDE STORY, ANNE OF GREEN GABLES); National Tour: AN AMERICAN IN PARIS, Television: MARVELOUS MRS. MAISEL). **Grace Martini** (Weston: ANNE OF GREEN GABLES, WEST SIDE STORY, THE PHANTOM TOLLBOOTH, OKLAHOMA!, Film: MIRRORBALL, Television: EVIL on CBS). **Alex Tan** (Weston: REALLY ROSIE, ANNE OF GREEN GABLES, THE MUSIC MAN, and WEST SIDE STORY). **Sage Jepson** (Weston: SEUSSICAL, AN ILIAD; Regional: RENT at Seacoast Repertory Theater).

**A VERY VERMONTY CHRISTMAS WITH JOE ICONIS & FAMILY** welcomes the Weston return of **Joe Iconis**, author of **BE MORE CHILL** and **LOVE IN HATE NATION**. He has been nominated for a Tony Award, two Drama Desk Awards and a Lucille Lortel Award and is the recipient of an Ed Kleban Award, Jonathan Larson Award and Richard Rodgers Award. He recently released a 40+ album titled "Album", featuring many of his frequent collaborators. Joe has brought his "Joe Iconis and Family" concert to Weston for several years, including 2017, 2018, and 2021.

**A WESTON WINTER CABARET** will be held at **Walker Farm** on **December 3 & 4 at 7:30 PM**. **A VERY VERMONTY CHRISTMAS WITH JOE ICONIS & FAMILY** will be held at **Walker Farm** on **December 16 at 7:30 PM** and **December 17 at 4:00 & 7:30 PM**. Reserve your tickets to the performances by visiting [www.westontheater.org/events](http://www.westontheater.org/events).

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

### *Ludlow Rotary Hears About New Bike Path*

Charlie Rimer spoke to the Ludlow Rotary Club's recent meeting about the new bike path being considered in Ludlow. Rimer, the manager at Tygart Mountain Sports shop in Ludlow, is one of the coordinators for LAST - Ludlow Area Sport Trails.

He outlined the scope and objectives of the project. The initial phase of the trail will concentrate on lands currently part of or abutting playground property of Ludlow Elementary School and former Black River High School. Additional properties are being investigated to extend this starting area.

LAST is also working with Ludlow Snow Crouchers to utilize some of the area VAST (Vermont Association of Snow Travelers) trails with the project in an effort to get some of its trails connected to the initial start-up bike trail.

The long term objective of LAST is to cover the length of the town with a bike trail. Rimer noted that this may include properties adjacent to Dorsey Park and the reservoir system. All of these objectives, while being considered in the long term project, are secondary to the development of the project behind the school. The trails would be for all ages, abilities, and also plans to build an adaptive trail too.

Funding for the project will depend basically on donations and grants. Rimer did indicate that some of the project's goals were partially funded with a matching grant. He also stated that he did not believe the state would be involved in the project short of possible Act 250 requirements.

The Ludlow Rotary Club normally meets weekly for lunch. Interested persons are welcome to attend these meetings. Information may be obtained from any Ludlow Rotarian or by contacting Kevin Barnes at 802-558-0479 or [ludlowrotary@gmail.com](mailto:ludlowrotary@gmail.com).

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

*St. Patrick's in Wallingford*

*11:00 am Christmas Day*

*11:00 am New Year's Day*

*&*

*Christ The King in Rutland*

*4:00 pm & 7:00 pm Christmas Eve*

*7:30 am & 9:30 am Christmas Day*

*4:00 pm New Year's Eve*

*7:30 am & 9:30 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*

## Fletcher Farm School Thanks You

The Society of Vermont Artists and Craftsmen, Inc., the organization that owns and operates the Fletcher Farm School for the Arts and Crafts, would like to take this opportunity to thank the local communities for their ongoing support.

This past summer was our first full post-COVID season, and we were encouraged by the return of students who participated in our workshops. Because of your support, we were able to offer scholarships to 53 local children so that they could take part in our Young Artist program and attend classes. This year we were able to accommodate all the children who applied.

Our Gift and Craft Shop was open, providing a place for members and instructors to sell their work, and we were able to offer two Art and Craft Festivals in July and August. We shared our August festival with the Tyson Ladies Aid summer bazaar and chicken barbecue. To help raise funds to support the school, we held a Fabric and Craft Supply Sale.

At present, we are working on plans for our 2023 season, which will run from April through the end of October. We plan to continue our Young Artist classes and our scholarship program. You can help support our scholarship fund by purchasing raffle tickets for the Spring Beauty quilt, the Art Deco Swans rug, or the Royston Turquoise Silver pendant. The raffle will run through November 30.

Although we have tried very hard to keep our tuition prices low, inflation has hit our school as it has everyone else, but we will do our best to keep any tuition increases to a minimum.

We value our communities' involvement with the school and we appreciate the feedback we receive from you. If there is any workshop in particular you would like to see us offer, please let us know and we will do our best to make it happen. And if you would like to teach here, please contact us. Our website has a list of the subjects for which we are seeking instructors.



## "OVRCC 350" Membership Campaign

*Building Community One Business at a Time*

The Board of Directors of the Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce recently approved a new organization-wide membership development campaign, "OVRCC 350", with a goal to reach 350 members in the next two years. The chamber currently has approximately 300 members. Those interested may sign up online here: <https://www.yourplaceinvermont.com/online-application/>

This effort is engaging the whole Okemo Valley Chamber organization in retaining and recruiting new members, involving not only the Executive Director, Member Services Director, Membership Committee, and Board of Directors, but also the entire OVRCC Membership. This plan was developed with feedback expressed from board and committee members and ongoing efforts of the organization. This work will begin right away and run through the 4th Quarter of 2022 with additional campaigns to be scheduled for 2023.

Current chamber members are encouraged to invite their existing vendors, customers, affiliates, family & friends to become members of the Okemo Valley Chamber if they are not already. They can also recruit them to join by inviting them to Chamber Mixer or a local coffee talk to learn more about the organization.

Some of the benefits Chamber members enjoy include: co-op marketing/publicity, discounts from fellow members, savings with dental & vision insurance programs, discounted local Epic Merchant Passes, networking & advocacy, and special chamber events.

All employees of regular chamber member businesses are also considered as chamber members. Chamber member businesses can offer some of these chamber member benefits to potential employees as a competitive advantage in recruiting and retention.


The chamber has a variety of membership categories: **business** (based on number of employees), **non-profit** (organizations or municipalities), **entrepreneurial** (home-based & farms), and **individual** (for retirees & second homeowners). There is also an affordable **affiliate** category of membership if different business in different categories or locations under the same ownership.

In order to be considered for regular membership in the Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce, a business or organization must maintain a professional license or be registered with the Vermont Secretary of State, and/or have a Federal Taxpayer ID. The business or organization must support the Chamber, embody the spirit of the Chamber's Mission Statement, and demonstrate a desire to promote and support the activities of the Chamber.

We are very grateful to all our current members and welcome new members to join our organization. With a goal of #350 members, we will be an even stronger chamber for the Okemo Valley region! For more info contact us at [info@yourplaceinvermont.com](mailto:info@yourplaceinvermont.com) or 802-228-5830.



*Building Community One Business at a Time  
Now is a great time to consider joining your chamber!*



**TIM MARTIN**  
CONSTRUCTION

*Tim Martin*  
Owner

206 VT R5E 103 South  
Mount Holly, VT 05758  
CELL: (802) 236-7007

EXCAVATION~NEW CONSTRUCTION~REMODELING  
~GENERAL CONTRACTING~

FOUNDATIONS	HOMESTEADS	ADDITIONS
SEPTIC SYSTEMS	TINY HOUSES	WINDOWS
ROADS	HOMES	DOORS
PONDS	BARNs	KITCHENS
TRAILS	SHEDS	BATHS
LAND CLEARING	CABINS	STAIRS
FIELD RESTORATION	OFF-GRID	WOODWORK
RETAINING WALLS	GARAGES	SIDING
LANDSCAPE INSTALATION	DECKs	

*"Give us a call, we do it all"*



## State Representative Ludlow, Mount Holly, Shrewsbury

Thank You! I am so grateful and honored for the opportunity to continue to represent you in Montpelier. I spent a few hours at each polling location on Election Day and was able to connect and say hi, thank you for all your support, but sorry if you were hoping to connect and I missed you.

I do regret I was not able to finish the article I was working on about the process of amending the VT constitution on time for last month's edition, but with the decisive votes for both amendments on our ballots I suppose it was not all that necessary anyway.

The new legislative session begins January 4<sup>th</sup>. This marks my third term in Montpelier and I can easily say that each year I have served has been incredibly unique. And this session again is poised to present many new challenges and opportunities. Phil Scott was re-elected Governor with broad support across the state, but Vermonters also elected 104 Democrats to the House of Representatives, as well as 5 Progressives and 2 Independents who tend to vote with the Democrats on most issues, giving us a roughly 111 vote veto-proof majority for the next session. This significantly changes the power dynamic in Montpelier from last session and I am excited for all that we will be able to accomplish for Vermonters.

My priorities this session are similar to those I ran on in 2018 and have held throughout my time in office, although fatherhood may have shifted their order. My top issue and goal for this session is healthcare. I continue to question the "All-Payer Model" that we have been investing so much money into and not seeing any actual benefits from, and would like to see us move towards guaranteed healthcare for all Vermonters. Drug policy reform is next on my list and inextricably linked to our healthcare efforts. Too often we see people arrested for drug possession and released within weeks or months still suffering from addiction. I intend to continue to fight to change that model. Clearly what we are doing isn't working and we need to do something different, my proposal is to get them out of our correctional facilities and into treatment programs to end the cycle.

I also have a handful of other issues that I have taken on over the past four years that I will continue to work on and lobby for. I will be introducing bills to allow happy hour drink specials in Vermont again, allowing third party vendors like "Instacart" or "Uber" to deliver alcohol, embedding workforce development specialists within our Recovery Centers, and creating a voluntary pension system for volunteer firefighters. As always I would love to hear from you on these or any other issues, call or text me anytime. Please DO NOT email. And thank you again for continuing to put your trust in me, Logan Nicoll, State Representative Ludlow, Mount Holly, Shrewsbury

### News from MHCA

We hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving! Despite having an extended warm fall, winter appears to have finally arrived and the holiday season is rolling right along into this month. Mark your Calendars for two seasonal events:

**Holiday festivities with Santa December 16th from 4-6pm**

**New Year's Eve fireworks at Star Lake 8pm**

MHCA is busy making plans with Santa and his helpers (near and far) to once again make a stop in Belmont at the village green joining us in our outdoor holiday festivities. We've heard that Santa's reindeers will be resting for their big night and rumor has it that he has made arrangements with our beloved volunteer firefighting crew to give him a lift into town; we love those guys! Our near and dear story reader, Barbara Pollata will kick off the celebration with a reading of Twas the Night before Christmas as we light the holiday tree. Bring your singing voices to help ring in some holiday cheer. Hot chocolate and cookies will be served while we await Santa's arrival with his big ole red sack of presents for the youngins.

MHCA will join the Snowflyers New Year's Eve mountain lake fireworks serving hot beverages for the bonfire night sky light show. The fire will be lit at 8pm and the fireworks go off with a bang at 9pm. It may not be the aurora borealis but it certainly is an epic way to end one year and ring in the next. Many thanks to the Snowflyers for sponsoring this event and highlighting why Mount Holly is such a special place to choose to call home.

We encourage everyone to participate and support their local community organizations and events. Small towns are the backbone of Vermont and we know that we are VT strong! The Mount Holly Community Association cannot express how fortunate we are to have partners and individual members and volunteers who help make our events possible each year as well as maintain our community center. Please check out our website [mhcavt.org](http://mhcavt.org) for ongoing classes and meetings happening this winter. New to the schedule are yoga and ecstatic dance! Stay active and connected at our community center!

MHCA Board of Directors wishes you a warm & happy holiday!!

### MOUNT HOLLY TOWN LIBRARY NEWS DECEMBER 2022



The Board of Trustees and Volunteers of the Mount Holly Town Library wish everyone a healthy, safe holiday season.

Thank you to everyone for your continued support.

Thank you to our wonderful volunteers, who make it possible for us to do what we do.

- The library will be closed 12/22/22 – 12/26/22 and 12/31.
- Don't forget: The library has adult and kids snowshoes available for checkout!

Mount Holly Town Library  
26 Maple Hill Road  
Belmont, VT 05730  
802-259-3707

<https://mounthollytownlibrary.wordpress.com>  
[mthollylibrary@gmail.com](mailto:mthollylibrary@gmail.com)



**SUE STARR-ADAMS**  
Call or Text  
802-236-8028



**TY MURRAY**  
Call or Text  
802-777-8047



**ALEX EATMON**  
Call or Text  
802-345-7886

# Happy Holidays!



**When it's Time to Buy or Sell...Choose  
Kelley Real Estate!**

Visit our website for all Vermont mls listings

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

**802-228-5333**

**We've Moved!**

**Stop by the New Office**

**72-B Pond Street | Ludlow**

Next to Riverside's Ludlow Veterinary Clinic

Don Eatmon Broker/Owner



**JILL LAWRENCE**  
Call or Text  
802-591-3751



**NORA SYLVIA**  
Call or Text  
978-793-2033



**JOHN TOLOSKY**  
Call or Text  
802-356-5556

## NEW LISTING

**680 Government Road | Mount Holly**



**Off The Grid...Spectacular Views**

website link:

<https://bit.ly/3Uvon8W>

## NEW LISTING

**76 Depot Street | Wallingford**



**Three Bedroom Antique  
Village Home**

website link:

<https://bit.ly/3XgSTFj>





## Shriner Hospital For Children

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

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



### Covid Vaccine Check - Stay up to date with your Covid-19 vaccine

The [CDC](https://www.cdc.gov) recommends Covid-19 primary series vaccines for everyone ages 6 months and older, and Covid-19 boosters for everyone ages 5 years and older.

What is the status of your Covid vaccine and vaccine boosters? In Rutland County about 86% of eligible people have received at least one dose but that number drops to 56% for fully completed vaccinations, according to the [Covid-19 Vaccine Dashboard](#) by the Vermont Department of Health.

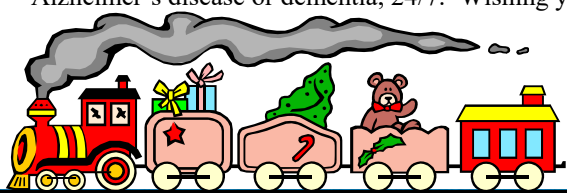
Talk to your [Community Health](#) provider if you have questions about the timing for the second dose in your primary series or about the boosters. Check our website [www.chcrr.org](http://www.chcrr.org) or call 888-989-8707 or 802 779-9169.

### Community Health Tip for Caregivers During the Holidays

The stress of caregiving during the holidays can take a toll on both the caregiver and a person diagnosed with Alzheimer's or dementia, as well as family and friends. Community Health ([www.chcrr.org](http://www.chcrr.org)) and the Vermont Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association ([www.alz.org/Vermont](http://www.alz.org/Vermont)) suggest:

- Adjust expectations. Don't expect to keep every holiday tradition.
- Be familiar with stages of dementia. Be patient when having a conversation.
- Give useful and enjoyable gifts like comfortable clothes, family photos or treats.
- Find a support group to help you manage caregiving.

The Alzheimer's Helpline **800-272-3900** is a unique resource for caregivers, family and anyone who needs information about Alzheimer's disease or dementia, 24/7. Wishing you safe and happy holidays from Community Health!



Calm Moments  
Massage Studio

101 Main Street, Ludlow, VT

1.802.228.7772

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



### BONE BUILDERS

Join BONE BUILDERS  
Free weights and lessons  
No age limit Good Company  
Great way to improve Balance  
And Strength  
Call Judy at 802-259-2443



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

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

**Check here if you DO NOT wish to receive the Chit Chat** \_\_\_\_\_

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

Name .....

Address .....

Phone ..... Email .....

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

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

And request to be placed on the list.

News item deadlines are 6 am & 6 pm

**Also Check**

[www.mthollynewsflash.blogspot.com](http://www.mthollynewsflash.blogspot.com)

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

**For Sale:** Firewood –  
Cut, Split & Delivered.  
Call 802-259-2147

[Flanders.excavating@gmail.com](mailto:Flanders.excavating@gmail.com)



View participating locations:  
[www.okemo.evrealstate.com/blog](http://www.okemo.evrealstate.com/blog)





# Who's Got It Locally?

## Artists & Architects

Alistair McCallum Landscape Photographs & Paintings 802-259-2318  
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

## Burn Permits

Fire Warden – Jim Seward Pager 802-786-3408 Home 802-259-2211

## 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  
[ybch.weebly.com](http://ybch.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 11 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

## Engineering

## Equipment For Hire & Snow Moving

Beardmore Excavating [beardmoreexc@gmail.com](mailto:beardmoreexc@gmail.com) 802-342-3507  
Flander's Excavating & Firewood 802-259-2147  
Hawkins Excavation Driveways, Ditching, Septic, Ponds, Etc 802-558-3082

## Farm Fresh Products

Mt. Holly Dairy-Aire Farm Raw Milk, Fresh Eggs, Baked Goods 802-259-2386  
Plew Farm (meat, eggs, maple) [www.plewfarm.com](http://www.plewfarm.com) 802-259-2250  
1966 Healdville Rd, Mt. Holly  
Smith Maple Crest Farm LLC, Grassfed Beef & VT Maple 802-492-2151  
2450 Lincoln Hill Rd, Shrewsbury, VT 05738 [www.Smithmaplecrestfarm.com](http://www.Smithmaplecrestfarm.com)

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

## Fire Warden

Jim Seward Pager 802-786-3408 Home 802-259-2211

## Firewood

Flanders Firewood Cut Split Delivered 802-259-2147  
[Flanders.excavating@gmail.com](mailto:Flanders.excavating@gmail.com)

## Food Shelf

Black River Good Neighbor Services – Krey Kellington 802-228-3663

## Funeral Homes

Clifford Funeral Home 802-773-3010

## Garden & Landscape, Lawn Mowing

Belmont Country Gardens Quality Custom Stonework & More 802-259-2364  
Kevin Smith, Garden Service & Lawn Mowing 802-259-3964  
Salt Ash Nursery - The Balsam Barn – Scott Crawford 802-259-2146

## Garage Mechanical

Belmont Motor Works LLC Parts/Service MTC, ATV, Sm Engine 802-259-3178  
Welding/Metal Fabrication Dealer Parts Unlimited/Drag Specialties, V-Twin  
MFG & More  
William H Johnson Automotive Services 802-259-2498  
2370 Healdville Rd. Belmont, VT

## General Contractors

Wright Construction Company [info@wrightconstruction.com](mailto:info@wrightconstruction.com) 802-259-2094  
Ted Stryhas Builder Inc. 802-228-7327

## Health & Community Health Care Providers

Calm Moments Message Studio – Irene Berry 802-228-7772  
Community Health – <https://www.chcr.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

## Home Management Services

Belmont Country Gardens Property Management 802-259-2364  
Mowing & Plowing Jon Lienhard  
Yankee Home Management, Keith Hawkins 802-259-3064

## Maple Syrup

Green Mtn. Sugar House 802-228-7151  
Plew Farm 1966 Healdville Rd, Mt. Holly [www.plewfarm.com](http://www.plewfarm.com) 802-259-2250  
Smith Maple Crest Farm LLC Grassfed Beef & VT Maple 802-492-2151  
2450 Lincoln Hill Rd, Shrewsbury, VT 05738 [www.Smithmaplecrestfarm.com](http://www.Smithmaplecrestfarm.com)

## 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.Bearmore@evusa.com](mailto:Gail.Bearmore@evusa.com) (Mobile) 802-236-5431  
Kelley Real Estate, Don Eatmon, Owner/Broker 802-228-5333  
[realtor@KelleyRealEstate.com](mailto:realtor@KelleyRealEstate.com)  
Ty Murray [Ty@KelleyRealEstate.com](mailto:Ty@KelleyRealEstate.com) Cell 802-777-8047  
Sue-Starr Adams [sue@kelleyrealestate.com](mailto:sue@kelleyrealestate.com) 802-236-8028  
Alex Eatmon [Alex@KelleyRealEstate.com](mailto:Alex@KelleyRealEstate.com) Cell 802-345-7886  
Nora Sylvia [nora@kelleyrealestate.com](mailto:nora@kelleyrealestate.com) 978-793-2033  
John Tolosky [john@kelleyrealestate.com](mailto:john@kelleyrealestate.com) 802-356-5556  
[www.KelleyRealEstate.com](http://www.KelleyRealEstate.com) [www.OkemoValley.com](http://www.OkemoValley.com)

## Roofing

Buddy Systems Roofing Contact Buddy 802-259-3989  
New Roofs/Roof Repairs & Replacement – Slate/Wood/Asphalt/Metal

## Security

Countryside Alarms – Mike Blais [www.countrysidealarms.com](http://www.countrysidealarms.com) 802-259-2213

## Septic System Design

Belmont Septic Design – Kevin Hollebeek C 802-733-2561 H 802-259-3898  
[kevin@belmontseptic.com](mailto:kevin@belmontseptic.com)

## Therapeutic Riding

Rienbow Riding Center Home 802-259-2282 Barn 802-492-2226

## Tree Services

G.M. Tree Tech & Landscaping, Greg McKirryher 802-259-8733

## Volunteer Services

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

## Woodworking, Cabinets & Furniture

Chesters Custom Woodworking [ccw@vermontel.net](mailto:ccw@vermontel.net) 802-259-3232  
[www.chesterscustomwoodworking.com](http://www.chesterscustomwoodworking.com)



Merry Christmas