

News Items DEADLINE
The 22nd By 6 pm Each Month



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September 2023

Administrator Office Hours: Tues 10-11 am or by Appointment 802-259-2391 administrative.orriger@mounthollyvt.org

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

Mount Holly Community Association – Contact MHCAVT@gmail.com

Mount Holly Museum–Open Jul & Aug Sat & Sun 2-4 pm www.mounthollyvtmuseum.org 802-259-2460 ddevereux@vermontel.net

Mt. Holly NewsFlash Town email sign up at mthollynewsflash@gmail.com Check Out 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-Sun & 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

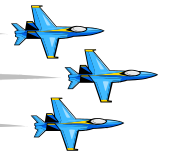
Town Lister's Hours: Tues 10:00 am – 2:00 pm or by appointment 802-259-2391

Town Garage: 802-259-3179

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

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

1 st	Black Bear Early Season – Gray Squirrel ~ World War II Began 1936	
2 nd	Baked Ham – Historical Society Odd Fellows Hall V-J Day 1945 Japan Signs Surrender	5:00 pm
4 th		
5 th	Mt. Holly Community Association Meeting, Library	7:00 pm
	Mount Holly Conservation Commission	7:00 pm
6 th	Mt. Holly PTSA Meeting, Mt. Holly School	6:00 pm
7 th	Fire Dept. Business Meeting, Belmont Fire Station	7:00 pm
10 th	Grandparents Day ~ World Suicide Prevention Day	
11 th	Rescue Squad Meeting, Rescue Squad Building Patriot Day 2002	7:00 pm
12 th	Community Guild Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont	9:00 am
	Select Board Meeting, Town Office & Zoom	6:30 pm
13 th	LMHUUS Meeting,	6:00 pm
	ODD Fellows Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont	7:00 pm
14 th	Fire Dept. Drill, Fire Station Star-Spangled Banner written by Francis Scott Key 1814	7:00 pm
15 th	POW/MIA Day ~ Rosh Hashanah Begins	
17 th	Rosh Hashanah Ends ~ US Constitution Day 1787 ~ Ladies Auxiliary VFW Est 1914	
18 th	Operation Uphold Democracy 1994 ~ US Air Force Est 1947	
19 th	Chit Chat, Annual Meeting, Town Office	7:00 pm
20 th	Mt. Holly Town Library Meeting, Library, Belmont	6:30 pm
	Mount Holly Planning Commission, MH Town Office & Via Zoom	7:00 pm
21 st	Fire Dept. work night, Fire Stations	7:00 pm
23 rd	Baked Ham – MHVRS Odd Fellows Hall Fall Begins/Autumnal Equinox	5:00 pm
24 th	Hare & Rabbit Season ~ Gold Star Mother's Day ~ Yom Kippur Begins	
25 th	Yom Kippur Ends	
26 th	Community Guild Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont George Gershwin 1898	9:00 am
	1st Televised Debate between Presidential Candidates Richard M Nixon & John F Kennedy 1960	
27 th	ODD Fellows Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont	7:00 pm
28 th	Fire Dept. Drill, Fire Station	7:00 pm
29 th	VFW Est 1899 ~ Harvest Moon	
30 th	Ruffed Grouse (Partridge) Season	



* * * * *

Emergency Services

MH Fire Dept.	802-259-2700	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	911	Game Warden – Tim Carey	802-773-9101
Mount Holly Constable	NONE		Health Officer – Chad Farrar	802-342-1366
MH Animal Control For	C text only 802-353-4492	H 802-259-3976	Vermont State Police	802-773-9101

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

"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 You's: Karin Lanzelin * Ben & Amber Taylor (Tailored Plumbing & Heating) * Craig & Janet Hayman * Jim & Kathy Heald * Sheila Wickham * Don & Robin Eatmon (Kelley Real Estate) * David Johnson * Joan Connor *



September Birthdays: 1st-Adam Frey 2nd-Mark Turco Sr 4th-John Taylor Jr 7th-Caleb Nye 8th-Sarah Hawkins-Delphia 10th-Felicia Turco Clark * Dustin Miller 12th-Vera Conroy * Charles Conroy 13th-Joey Carrara 14th-Todd Bussino Jr (1983) 19th-Julia Hoeh * Heather Deem (1977) 22nd-Laurel Darling 24th-Eleanor Nowosad * Nicole Lewis 26th-Peter Herbst 29th-Ryan Flynn * Kenny Hart (1964) 30th-Eliza Tarbell



September Anniversaries: 3rd-Douglas & Darlene Stocker 6th-Murray & Betty Merlin 14th-Mike & Melinda Pearson (1996) 15th-Richard & Laurel Darling 21st-Daniel & Linda Fitzgibbon * Jane Harrington & Susan Horsman 26th-Benjamin & Amber Taylor

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

Local Post Office Hours

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

Belmont 802-259-2790
 Window Mon – Fri 7:30 am – 9:30 am
 & 2:45 pm – 4:45 pm
 Sat 7:30 am – 10:30 am
 Lobby Hours Mon – Fri 7:30 am – 4:45 pm

East Wallingford 802-259-2829
 Window Mon – Fri 7:00 am – 11:00 am
 Sat 7:00 am – 10:00 am
 Lobby Hours Mon – Fri 7:00 am – 4:45 pm

Cuttingsville/Shrewsbury 802-492-3585
 Window Hours Mon – Fri 7:30 am – 10:30 am
 & 11:30 am – 2:30 pm
 Sat 8:00 am – 11:00 am
 Lobby Hours Mon – Fri 7:30 am – 5:00 pm
 Sat 7:30 am – 11:00 am

Ludlow 802-228-7436
 Post Master: Dawn Howlett
 Lobby Hours: Mon – Fri 6:30 am – 5:30 pm
 Sat 6:30 am – 11:00 am
 Window Hours: Mon – Fri 8:30 am – 5:00 pm
 Sat 8:30 am – 10:30 am
 Wallingford Post Master Denise Young – 802-446-2140



Bone Builders

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



Mount Holly Chit Chat, Inc.

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

BOARD of DIRECTORS:

PRESIDENT: Dennis Devereux V. **PRESIDENT:** David Venter
SECRETARY: Terri Isidro **TREASURER:** Diana Garrow
DIRECTORS: Heather Garrow, Christine Pratt, Kevin Plew
MANAGING EDITOR: Diana Garrow
ASSISTANT to the EDITOR: Heather Garrow

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

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

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

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

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

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

	1 Mo.	3 Mo.	6 Mo.	9 Mo.	12 Mo.
Classified	\$ 2	\$ 5.50	\$10	\$ 15	\$ 20
Business Card:	\$15	\$40	\$75	\$115	\$150
Quarter Page:	\$30	\$80	\$150	\$225	\$300
Third Page:	\$45	\$125	\$225	\$350	\$450
Half Page:	\$75	\$200	\$375	\$550	\$750
Full Page:	\$125	\$325	\$625	\$1025	\$1250

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

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

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

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

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

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

Mt. Holly NewsFlash: Mount Holly's Town email system. Primary attendant is Kevin Plew and backup attendant Stu Berry. Email items to mthollynewsflash@gmail.com www.mthollynewsflash.blogspot.com



Angelo Centini

Angelo Centini, 91, of Mt. Holly, Vt. passed away peacefully July 30, 2023 at his home. He was born in the Province of Lucca, Italy July 24, 1932 the son of Leonildo and Quintilia Centini. On July 3, 1954 he married Bessie (Phakias) Centini in Jackson Heights Long Island, New York. Angelo enjoyed gardening, camping, fishing, singing and music, but most of all, his family. Surviving are his wife Bessie of Mt. Holly, Vt. two daughters Linda Marie Roberts and husband Brian of Mt. Holly, Vt. and Susan Bartolomeo and husband Roy, Sr. of Fairfield, CT. Four grandchildren, Roy Bartolomeo, Jr., David Guerrero, Felicia Rosenkrans and Vincent Guerrero. One great granddaughter Lily Isabella Rosenkrans. Funeral services will be held Saturday August 5, 2023 at 11:00am at The Church of the Annunciation in Ludlow, VT. Visiting hours were held Friday August 4, 2023 from at Clifford Funeral Home in Rutland, VT. Burial will follow in Pleasant View Cemetery in Ludlow, VT. In lieu of flowers contributions may be made to Mt. Holly Ambulance or to Mt. Holly Fire Department.

Our family would like to thank everyone who attempted (Mother Nature, unfortunately, had her own agenda) or attended the wake and funeral from near and far. Seeing so many attend and respectfully coming to share Pop's memories warmed our hearts.

Your condolences, sympathy cards, donations to the local charities, and heartfelt eulogies were amazing and a wonderful tribute to Dad. Words cannot express how grateful we are for all of your support, love, prayers and gratitude during these difficult times. We find comfort with our family and friends. We will keep Dad's legacy alive through his wife, Bessie of over 69 years and family Susan, Roy Sr, Linda, Brian, Roy Jr, Lauren, David, Mary, Vincent, Tyler, Felicia, Dave and Lily.

As Pop would say "I enjoyed my long life, loved my wife and family and cheers with a little espresso to all of you!"♥☐ Bessie Centini and Family

**Maple Grove Cemetery
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Notice;
**Mechanicsville Cemetery
 Annual Meeting**
Place: Odd Fellows Hall, Belmont VT.
Date: October 18, 2023
Time: 6:00 PM

Notice: All Invited
Mechanicsville Cemetery
Monthly Volunteer Clean Up Schedule

1st Tuesday of each month 2023
Sept 5, 6 pm **Oct 3, 8 am**

Suppers For Mount Holly Organizations



Settings Start 5:00 pm
At
The Odd Fellows Hall, Belmont
All You Can Eat - Served Home Style
Adults - \$12 & Children Under 12 - \$6



Eat In or Take Out,
With Take Out meals starting at 4:45 pm
More Info Call 802-259-2460

Aug 26th Spaghetti Supper Benefit Chase Family
 Sept 2nd Historical Museum - Baked Ham
 Sept 23rd MHV Rescue Squad - Roast Ham
 Oct 7th Colfax Lodge - Roast Pork





Retirement Party

For
Les Deyette
Town Road Crew
Celebrating
25 3/4 Years

Saturday September 9th
2:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Mount Holly Town Office
50 School Street

*Come join us
 For Snacks,
 Beverage and cake*





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and Water Line Burial/ General Dirt Work



Benjamin Turco

1269 Branch Brook rd

Mount Holly, VT 05758

Phone: (802)770-8964

branchbrookexcavating@gmail.com

Treating Ash Trees

The Select Board ordered the necessary injectors and the first batch of insecticide. They have arrived and treatment has begun. It will take several weeks for everyone to inject their trees but there is no great rush. If you asked for Tim's help he will contact you to confirm which trees you want to treat and to arrange a time. Otherwise, Phil Crane or Dave Martin will contact you to arrange a time for you to borrow the injectors and receive the insecticide. Following treatment we ask that you pay Tim directly for his help, at the rate of \$1.25 per injection and write a check for \$4 per injection made out to the Town of Mount Holly.

If you did not make a reservation but would like to treat your trees please email us at mounthollycc@gmail.com

*** Hall Rental in Belmont ***

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

The Writers' Group

The Writers' Group will meet again on Monday, September 11th at 1 PM in the Mount Holly Library. I hope that your homes have all dried out a bit. We will be working with Judy's suggestion that we write a memoir/personal essay which omits the 'I'. Looking forward to seeing you after the hiatus. Thank you. connor@ohio.edu

Mount Holly Snow Flyers

Unfortunately, due to circumstances beyond our control, we have been forced to CANCEL the September 22nd Mount Holly Snow Flyers Golf Tournament.

We were looking forward to seeing everyone at this fun event. We will send an update when and if we reschedule the tournament with a new date.

Trail Work
Day is still
scheduled for
Saturday

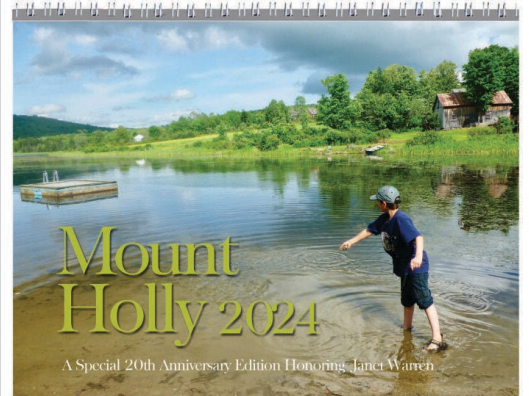
September 23rd. Meet at the Belmont Green at 8:30 AM. The club will provide breakfast sandwiches and coffee.

Please reply to this email as RSVP if you plan to attend this trail work day so we can schedule the work teams and required equipment. Thank you for volunteering. Email to reply to: mounthollysnowflyers@gmail.com Mount Holly Snow Flyers www.mounthollysnowflyers.org

Thank You Mount Holly Community Guild

I would like to thank the Mount Holly Community Guild ladies for the beautiful creation of the quilt I recent won from your raffle. It truly is a treasure. I am so happy to support you and all you provide for our community. Many Thanks, Kevin Stillwell

The 2024 Mount Holly Calendar is on sale at the Mount Holly Town Offices



Get them while they last because we don't print a lot of them. And the best part is they help support all those wonderful activities put on by your Mount Holly Community Association.

The 2024 Mount Holly Calendar is dedicated to its founder, the late Janet Warren.

Wally's Corner @ The Olde Barn

We've got some **BIG** news. **HUGE. GIGANTIC!** Are you **READY?** The home of Stewart Marketplace is soon to become the new home of Wally's Corner. That's right, you read that correctly. Wally's Corner is moving into the Olde Barn! You'll be able to shop all of your favorite marketplace goods along with all of the eclectic gifts you'd expect to find at Wally's Corner starting mid-September. We'd love to welcome everyone to our **Grand Opening weekend, 9/29-10/1**. There's lots to celebrate with the Tap to Table Festival happening 10/1, so come down to partake in the goings-on here in Cuttingsville! Now in the same parking lot as Rustic Rooster & the Cuttingsville Post Office, find us at 5444 VT Route 103, Cuttingsville VT 05738.



We sell Local & Handmade Goods,
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Reinbow Riding Center

At Reinbow Riding Center it's not just about getting on a horse and learning to ride, it's about the special relationship that develops between human and horse. The process starts when the two are introduced to each other. This is an important first step for any friendship. In the photo above Tommy learns how to gently introduce himself to Fonda as RRC instructor Mary Jane Osborne explains that a slow gentle approach is the best. Next Tommy gives Fonda a good grooming and a little one on one time with lots of special rubs and scratches in her favorite places. All this gentle attention is relaxing for both Fonda and Tommy as they become friends. One does not have to be on a horse to benefit from the gift of friendship they share with us.

At Reinbow Riding we strive to meet the needs of every individual that participates in our programs, mounted or unmounted. For more information about Reinbow Riding Center and our mission please check out our website: reinbowridingcenter.org and follow us on Facebook or Instagram @reinbow_riding_center. Contact us at programs@reinbowridingcenter.org or 802-236-2483 to inquire about our programs and lessons. For information about opportunities to volunteer with us contact janeupton@reinbowridingcenter.org.



TREE STUMP GRINDING

Beardmore Excavating Inc.

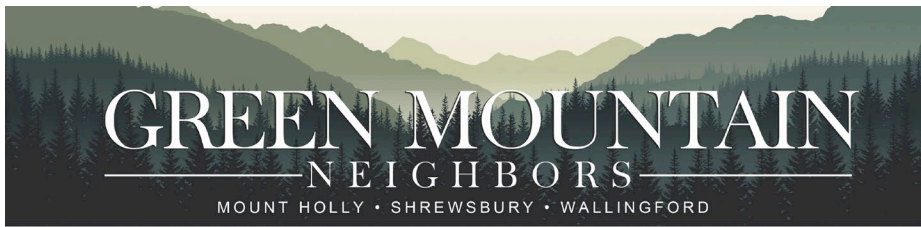
802-342-3507



(802) 342-3507
Robert Beardmore, Jr. P.O. Box 101
beardmoreexc@gmail.com Belmont, Vermont 05730



802-259-3064
MT. HOLLY, VT
Keith Hawkins
PRESIDENT



which is included with this message.

Expect to see and hear more about us in our towns of Mount Holly, Shrewsbury, and Wallingford because we'll be holding individual town meetings where you can learn firsthand what we have been planning and developing based on your expressed needs. These meetings will be an opportunity for us to hear in person what you would like us to offer.

The Mount Holly meeting (though it's open to residents of each of our towns) will be at the Community Center in Belmont at 4:00 p.m. September 26. We'll have a demo of the software program that will facilitate your requests for volunteer help. (Don't worry, the program was designed to be very user friendly.) We'll also share examples from other villages of ways they've been able to help their

Yes, Green Mountain Neighbors, or GMN, the group that has been working toward helping us remain in our homes (if we want!) as we become less able to do stuff that we've always taken for granted, is alive and kicking. We are now officially a 501(c) 3 corporation!! And we have a board of directors, officers, and a logo –



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communities. And most of all, we'll want your input!

We plan to start operations in early 2024.

If you have questions, please contact Kathy Leber at kleber@vermontel.net

Thank You from the Community Guild

The Community Guild thanks those who supported our efforts to raise funds for community service organizations and scholarships for graduating high school seniors.

The winners of our first raffle of the year are:

- Quilt** - Kevin Stillwell **Hand woven basket** - June Capron
- Tea basket** - Shawn Bendig **Doll** - Linda Miller

PTG UPDATE!

As we head back to school we wanted to make sure you were in the know about upcoming PTG Events:

- **Wed 8/30 Opening Day Coffee and Q&A 8/30**
- **Wed 9/6 6pm First mtg of the year:** In person and via zoom <https://trsu.zoom.us/j/8691397037>
- **Sun 10/3 Tap to Table:** Look for ways you and your students can help! ASP will also be hosting Kid Craft days!
- **Sat & Sun 10/7 to 10/8 Cider Days:** Get ready, our biggest fundraiser is right around the corner!! More to come!

Feel free to email with any questions or if you want to help: mthollyptg@gmail.com

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admin@masterplumbingandheating.co Ludlow, Vermont 05149

**Mount Holly Chit Chat
Annual Meeting
September 19th, 2023
7:00 pm
Mount Holly Town Office
September 2023 Mount Holly Chit Chat Inc**



**SUGAR HILL
berry farm**

www.sugarhillberryfarm.com
802-259-2155
3237 Sugar Hill Road, East Wallingford, VT 05742

PICK YOUR OWN BLUEBERRIES
call or check Facebook for days and times open

News from MHCA...

"Just like that summer falls into September" - Anonymous

Well we wrapped up another summer season. We had a very well attended garden tour with over 80 tickets sold and finished up Music on the Green. Thank you to all the gardeners who showered us with color and the musicians who entertained us in July and August. We love summers in Vermont!

Now, we transition our musical melodies to a night at the **Cabaret**. Please join us **Sunday September 3rd at 8pm** in the Mount Holly Library for an intimate evening of acoustic improvisational jazz. Alexa Fila's beautiful voice and Joe Solomon's nibble fingers on the stand-up bass are certain to be crowd pleasers. Both artists have long musical careers in the Big Apple, NYC and graciously share their talents with our Mount Holly community. There is no cost but feel free to make a donation. Dessert and beverages will be served by MHCA volunteers.

Next on the fall events listing is our **Calendar Photo Contest**. Yes you still have time to let your inner artist snap that perfect picture of Mount Holly and enter it in our contest, [deadline September 25th](#). The contest preview and judges choice awards will be held **October 1st, 2-4pm** at the community center. Join us for treats both visually and for your tummy! Voting for your favorite picture will happen during Cider Days. You can also purchase a Mount Holly calendar for yourself, your friends, your family, favorite boss....at any of our events. Are you ready for the holidays? It's a perfect gift!

Speaking of the Big Apple, MHCA has our own Big Apple celebration on the horizon. Of course you already have **Cider Days** on your calendar, right? **October 7 & 8th** is our biggest event of the year when we celebrate the ole traditional community apple pressing. Although we don't press all the neighbors apples anymore we do press a whole lot of apples, serve up the best apple pie, apple crisp, and cider - all served with Mount Holly love! Come check out and support your local artists, non-profits, our local petting zoo.. We should note that **vendor applications are due by August 31st**.

Continuing with the Cider Days update...

Under the "let the fun begin" category, contest squares for the Cow Plop, featuring the most beautiful heifer with a wry sense of humor (like waiting to poop during her cow plop debut until she got loaded up to go home 2021) can be purchased at the town transfer station (times will vary) during the month of September. If you miss us at the transfer station email us at mhcavt@gmail.com to purchase a square. The winning square will get \$100; that could be as much as a 10 to 1 payoff - a worthy investment on all fronts! But wait- there's more! Just by purchasing a square (don't think you have to limit yourself to one square, share the love!) you automatically get entered into a raffle for one of three prize baskets donated by our vendors. We love our supporters!

Lastly, in our meet your Board of Directors series, this month we bring you one of our only home grown VT ladies, Lisa Kelley. Lisa grew up in Vermont and landed in Mount Holly when she and her husband Chris, at the encouragement of her father in law, decided to buy the Belmont General Store in 1999. With three children in tow, they settled into their life as store owners and became part of the village fabric. They loved being a central part of the community and Lisa wanted to know more about what was happening in town, which led her to joining the Board. Lisa has actually been on the Board twice and has served in every officer position; currently she coordinates and organizes everything to do with our vendors for Cider Days.

Lisa is one of those amazing women who juggles family, business and community involvement. After 11 years of running the general

store, she and Chris decided to sell the business and venture into new directions. Lisa had been at the hub of town life while managing the store, along the way someone suggested she might consider real estate and that thought percolated. When the store sold - off she went to become an agent. Fast forward to 2021 and what has she accomplished....well besides helping others buy and sell their homes, our own Lisa Kelley was voted the #1 real estate agent in Vermont! OK - that's like a major feather in your career cap!!

Something that was fun and surprising to learn about Lisa while interviewing her was that she graduated from the Culinary Institute of America and, a woman after my own heart, loves Häagen-Dazs coffee ice cream.

Well folks, that's the news from MHCA, we do hope you enjoy reading it and plan on joining us for our upcoming events! Just in case you lose your chit chat and are panicking about dates, remember you can always get event information on our website at mhcavt.org

MOUNT HOLLY TOWN DOMOCRATIC COMMITTEE

The Mount Holly Town Democratic Committee will meet
Tue., September 12th, 2023 at 6 PM.

Location: Community Room at Mount Holly Town Library,
26 Maple Hill Rd., Belmont VT 05730

This is a caucus for the required biennial party reorganization.

Order of business:

Formation of town committee

Election of officers

Election of delegates to state committee

Other business

For additional information contact Andy Tanger, town chair
atanger@vermontel.net 259-2344



SEPT. 25TH*

is the deadline for
entries into the 2023
Mount Holly
Photo & Calendar
Competition!

Entry forms are at the Mount
Holly Town Offices (5 School
St.) or ask for them online at
mhcavt@gmail.com
mthollyphotos@gmail.com

Anyone, resident or non-resident, can enter up to three photos of
Mount Holly into the annual Photo & Calendar Competition. See
entry forms for all details. The competition is an activity of the
Mount Holly Community Association (MHCA) and all proceeds
from calendar sales go to support the many activities of the
MHCA.

(*It's also the day before my birthday. I'm just saying...)

219th Anniversary Party
Sun, Sep 3rd, 2023. 1-3 p.m.
on the Village Green
food* *games* *music

*The Harvest truly is plentiful,
but the Laborers are few...
send out laborers into His Harvest...
to gather Fruit for eternal life.*
(Mt 9:37-38; Jn 4:36)

Pastor Jeremiah Johnson
jeremiah.c.johnson@icloud.com

32 Church St. (P.O. Box 72)
Belmont, VT 05730
(802) 259-2959

Legacy & Labor

“Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.”¹ We know this to be true and that’s why every one of us has probably misquoted this at some point. It has become axiomatic. We use it as a warning because we are all teachers—whether parents, grandparents, or pastors—and we care about the legacy we leave for future generations. As John Wayne said in one of my favorite movies², “Every man wants his children to be better’n he was.” That’s the legacy we hope to leave them and the harvest that we labor for. We pass on what we have learned—both our successes and our failures. Successes, so that our children may be encouraged, stand on our shoulders, and reach higher. Failures, so that they may avoid our mistakes, and when necessary, correct what we couldn’t. This is part of what makes a family or a community; our shared history is also our shared identity—we labor together to build the former and to maintain the latter.

For the past three months, I have been preaching through The Acts of the Apostles and we have found encouragement in the legacy left for us by St. Luke as we’ve seen Christ fulfil his promise to “build his church” through the labor of His Apostles—their witness and their trials. This last week we saw the early church explode beyond the confines of Jerusalem into the nearby towns of Samaria. As we did so, we also saw encouraging parallels in the history of our own church here in Mount Holly... and we were reminded that we have an **anniversary** right around the corner!

We are all indebted to my cousin Carroll Tarbell, for the legacy he left us in writing his *History of Mount Holly, Vermont*. In it he records that our church was first organized on September 6, 1804 when 23 members from the First Baptist Church of Wallingford were sent here to plant a church. Here they found six others who had been meeting in the cabin of Deacon Ichabod Clark. And so, our church began with 29 members. Growth was slow at first, but change came in 1811-12 when the Reverend Daniel Packer was ordained as pastor. In the context of the Second Great Awakening, and under Rev. Packer’s leadership

and labor, our small church grew from 29 to almost 500! In one generation, our church had become the largest in the state of Vermont and had planted churches in East Wallingford, Shrewsbury, and Plymouth. In 35 years, Rev. Packer had baptized over 1,600 people, all while maintaining a farm. A tiny mustard seed had grown into a mighty oak.

Our most recent generation, by comparison, is a sharp contrast to the first. Instead of a Great Awakening, we have been in what has been coined “The Great Dechurching.”³ In the past 35 years or so, more people have left the church than were added in the First and Second Great Awakenings combined! And there are lessons to be learned and bridges to repair.

There is hope, of course, because we know that spring follows winter. There are seasons for planting and seasons for harvest. The one will follow the other as long as the earth endures. History does repeat itself. Whether that is good or bad depends on the legacy we remember and that which we pass on.

Come join us this Labor Day weekend to celebrate our heritage, to remember our past, and to hope for our future. **All are invited!** If you have a part in our history, come share it. If not, let us share it with you. Our story is not yet over; will you come and help us write the next chapter?

-Pastor J.

LOVE TOGETHER
GROW TOGETHER
SERVE TOGETHER
WORSHIP TOGETHER



¹ George Santayana, *The Life of Reason* (1905).

² *The Cowboys* (1972).

³ Jim Davis & Michael Graham, *The Great Dechurching* (2023).

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Change

All our rivers have changed. They’ve been changing imperceptibly with time, but now the changes are easily observable! Change, in a river, a person or a society, can be constructive or destructive; but whatever its nature, change occurs everywhere and throughout time.

People hate change, or so I hear. But the change we generally resist is the kind that we think will make our situation worse rather than better. We eagerly change to a higher paying job or happily move to a better house. So, it’s not change in *general* we avoid, but *painful* change that involves loss— sometimes physical, emotional or psychological—due to conflict, distance, differences or death.



Change starts in the womb. About the time you get used to floating in amniotic fluid you are suddenly forced to breathe air. Next, you adjust from breast to bottle, then solids, not to mention numerous other “changes” (ie. diapers). Then the transition from home to school. High school is a major change... then moving from independence to an unconditional commitment to an imperfect person. Changing our selfishness is the hardest part; *children* being the greatest training in adapting and coping with change. (Teens, empty nesting, etc.) The Mamas & the Papas sang, “We both knew people sometimes change/ And lovers sometimes rearrange/ And nothing’s quite as sure as change...” Our relationships change as we move to new places,

experience illness and ultimately face death. Even the cells in our bodies are always changing and replacing. This is especially noticeable with our skin— we shed and regrow outer skin cells about every 27 days. (*Skin deep? Fat is only deep skin !* :)

Yes, change is the one certainty in our world. The line from “Abide with Me” is so true: “Change and decay in all around I see.”

But the hymn writer immediately adds, “O Thou who changest not, abide with me!” We need to abide in that unchanging nature of God’s love and His care when all around us is societal chaos.

By faith in Jesus Christ we can have a relationship with the unchanging God who states, “I, the Lord, do not change.” He is our firm foundation, who can give us confidence and security in this changing world. He is the *still point* in a moving universe. I’ve found that it’s in the process of change and upheaval that my relationship with God grows stronger, more intimate and spiritually satisfying. So altho’ we are caught up in the swirling tide of time and the stormy seas of change, we can rest our souls on the everlasting arms that will *never* let us go.
Pastor G

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Solid waste stickers are required on all bags disposed of in the compactor.

Stickers can be purchased in advance at the Town Office Monday– Thursday, 8:30 am–4:00 pm or by mail. Cost \$2.00 per sticker.

Transfer Site Hours of Operation:
Spring/Summer – Saturday, 8:00 am – 2:00pm;
Wednesday, 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Fall/Winter – Saturday, 8:00 am – 2:00 pm;
Sunday, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Order Solid Waste Stickers by Mail:
Complete form, enclose your check with a self-addressed, stamped envelope or add 63 cents for return mail.

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MOUNT HOLLY TOWN LIBRARY NEWS

September 2023



It's that time of the year again folks! The annual Manhattan Short Film Festival returns to the Mount Holly Town Library. We are going to have 3 showings of all 10 of this year's finalists:

Sept 30th at 7 pm

Oct 4th at 7 pm

Oct 5th at 7 pm

All showings will take place downstairs in the Community Room, Suggested donation of \$5.00

This year's Manhattan Short Film Festival wraps up as Cider Days kicks off!

That also means the Cider Days Book Sale,

Sat and Sun Oct 7-8 10-3

We are accepting donations of books in good condition for our annual Cider Days Book Sale. PLEASE NO paperbacks, magazines/newspapers, encyclopedias, text books.

Mount Holly Town Library
26 Maple Hill Road
Belmont, VT 05730

802-259-3707 mthollylibrary@gmail.com

Come, Little Leaves

by George Cooper

"Come, little leaves,"
Said the wind one day,
"Come to the meadows
With me and play;
Put on your dresses
Of red and gold,
For summer is past,
And the days grow cold."

Soon as the leaves
Heard the wind's loud call,
Down they came fluttering,
One and all.
Over the meadows
They danced and flew,
All singing the soft
Little songs they knew.

Notes from the Mount Holly Conservation Commission.

Water, water, everywhere but is it safe to drink? Recent flooding and ongoing heavy rains may have impacted wells in our area. Fortunately, free water testing is available to make sure your water is still safe to use. Contact the VT Health Dept. at 802-338-4724 and request a water testing kit. The kits, which will come with instructions, can then be returned to the Multi Agency Resource Center at the Asa Bloomer building in Rutland for testing. Find more information here:

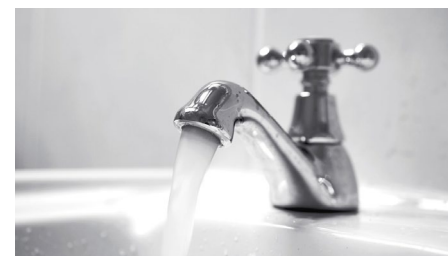
<https://www.healthvermont.gov/emergency/public-health-preparedness/emergency-drinking-water-testing-private-wells-and-springs>

At Star Lake, two bottom barriers were installed on Aug. 12. This is year 2 of 10 under our permit to have them in the water. Ultimately this should work to reduce the weeds, both invasive and native, around the swimming area. Look for information in next month's Chit Chat regarding the Conservation Commission's Star Lake events planned for Cider Days in October.

It should be noted that the water quality of Star Lake has not been tested this year...so should the sun ever come out, proceed...and swim...with caution.

Ash Tree Preservation Initiative update

Our ash tree treatment program has not gone as planned. We had planned to work with a local individual to inject the ash trees of the interested property owners, but that has not worked out. We are currently relying on individuals to inject their own trees. Fortunately, these delays will not reduce the efficacy of the treatment since no Ash Borers have been reported in Mount Holly...yet. We would like to remind interested people that you can get more about DIY treatment by sending an email to mounthollycc@gmail.com



SPAGHETTI SUPPER

Saturday, AUGUST 26, 2023

At the Odd Fellows Hall

37 Lake Street, Belmont, VT 05730

Starting at 5:00pm



Benefit



BETH CHASE & FAMILY

For Medical & Travel Expenses

Spaghetti Supper

Plain Sauce & Meat Sauce, Tossed Salad, Bread,
and Desserts

Take outs Available Starting at 4:45pm

Suggested Donation Adults \$10.00

Suggested Donation Children 12 Yrs. & Under \$5.00

More Info Call 802-259-2791

State Representative Logan Nicoll of Ludlow, Mount Holly, Shrewsbury

It's been a crazy few months. On the legislative side of things, we adjourned back in May (feels like years ago now). We went back for a veto session for one day on June 20th to take up five of the bills the Governor vetoed from our regular session, H.217 – our childcare bill, H.305 – a bill related to the office of professional regulation (OPR), H.494 – the budget, H.386 – a charter change for the Town of Brattleboro that allows 16 and 17 year olds to vote in town elections and H.509 – a charter change for the City of Burlington that allows non-citizens to vote in city elections. We overrode the Governor's veto on all of those, which I agreed with and supported. I think I've mostly talked about my support for these issues before, and where I disagree with the Governor, but:

-On the charter changes, H.509/H.386, my primary motivating factor is that town/city in both cases voted strongly in favor of these things, I'm not sure how I feel about it if it was in my town, but as long as it's constitutional, I think towns should be allowed try these things when they want.

-On the OPR bill, H.305, the Governor opposes this bill because it raises registration fees for various professions regulated by the Office of Professional Regulation, but we set up our budget/government in a way that the fees should fund the administration of those programs, when we're in an inflationary period those programs costs increase and they become underfunded and start to cut into the general fund, which means we have less money for other state programs. It's just good governance to keep revenues tied to their expenses. I have similar feelings about the transportation bill and the budget.

On the childcare bill, H.217, the governor opposes it because it adds a payroll tax of 0.44%, of which 0.11% will be paid by employees and 0.33% will be paid by employers. In my committee we heard often from employers who said their biggest problem is lack of employees or losing employees because they have children with no access to affordable childcare. Some of them even asked us to increase taxes on businesses to fund childcare because on net it would be better for them if we increase the affordability and availability of childcare.

On the budget, H.494, I think I was clear on this before and it's similar to my comments on H.305, but the Governor and the legislature disagree on about 3% of the budget, put another way we agree on ~97% of the spending in the budget. Looking at just where he disagrees, it's spending on universal school meals, increased funding to adult day care and other critical service providers, and to some extent the fee increases in state agencies like at the DMV. Again, we structure these fees in a way that the expense is tied to the revenue. Fees at the DMV help fund road/bridge construction. In his veto message the Governor made note of the fact that the T-fund and the General Fund missed their revenue targets, but he also disagrees with the way we propose we restructure fees so that doesn't happen. To me it sounds like he's complaining about the problem that we've proposed a way to fix.

We also completed a few other bills we hadn't finished when we adjourned in May, including an emergency extension to the hotel/motel housing program for the unhoused which the Governor signed, and a bill that would make changes to the beverage container redemption system, which the Governor has since vetoed.

During the veto session I was disappointed we did not take up the bill which would increase pay for members of the legislature, the Governor vetoed it and we did not have the votes to override. I really enjoy this work, but as my family grows I find it increasingly difficult to put in the time this position requires, especially during periods you're not paid at all, like June-December. I was aware of this when I was first elected and it was something I wanted to work on from my first days in the legislature, but has been reinforced by how my life has changed since I was first elected. There are very few legislators with young children, and even less from small towns, further from Montpelier. I continue to think the compensation is a major factor in that and if we were able to increase legislative pay it would allow more young people and otherwise just people who are not wealthy to run for this office; voices that are currently under-represented amongst ALL political parties in Montpelier.

I have heard that there may be some people who had a hard time trying to connect me during the session. I sincerely apologize, at one point during the session some out of state political organizations started signing up all our public email addresses for hundreds of right-wing newsletters and registering us for free speaking events. I basically gave up on my official legislative email and started putting a new gmail account I created at the bottom of these letters. Please use that email to contact me going forward and apologies if I missed you.

RepLoganNicoll@gmail.com



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Pastor / Elder

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Mount Holly Town News

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

Select Board Meeting, Town Office August 8, 2023, MINUTES

Attendance: Billy Austin, Caitlin Boyle, Jeff Chase (Select Board), Philippe Crane (via Zoom), Dennis Devereux, Chad Farrar, Sam Farrar, Diana Garrow (Select Board), Russ Garrow, Joan Garrow, Carol Garrow-Wooley, Zena Gates, Anna McGee Hanson (via Zoom), Barbara and Steve Hazelton (via Zoom), David H. Johnson, Elizabeth Karle, Jon McCann, Lori Norton, Gary Norton, Christine Pratt, Donna Seward, James Seward, Andy Shulz (via Zoom), Faith Tempest, Mark Turco (Select Board Chair), Cash Woods, Clinton Woolley.

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

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

1. **Call to Order** at 6:30 pm.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Consideration of Any Changes to the Agenda.** None.
4. **Approval of July 11th Minutes.** Diana Garrow made a motion to

approve the minutes as written; Mark Turco seconded; unanimously approved.

5. Reports

a. **Highways & Transfer Station Update:** Road Foreman Clinton Woolley noted that he and Jeff Chase spoke about reclaiming Belmont Road between Gates Road and Teer Road. The exact scope can be adjusted to fit the existing budget. Mr. Woolley also got winter sand bids from Pike Industries and Casella Construction. Sand is \$8.30/ton; Pike’s bid is \$1,690, delivered. Casella’s bid is \$1,670, delivered. Mr. Woolley also spoke with Hubbard’s to remove the steel from the Transfer Station. Mr. Turco made a motion to purchase Pike sand at \$8.30/ton, for a total of 4,500 tons of sand, and to utilize local trucking; Diana Garrow seconded; unanimously approved.

b. **Paving FY24 RFP:** Mr. Chase noted that the scope will include July 9th storm repairs.

i. Grant in Aid FY23 (MRGP Stormwater Improvements): New scope due to storm damage; will create RFP for \$31K. Deadline for work completed: 9/30/23

ii. Grant in Aid FY24 (MRGP Stormwater Improvements): Select Board signed for \$21K.

c. **Treasurer Monthly Income & Expense Report:** Town Treasurer Elizabeth Karle noted that tax bills were sent and tax payments are coming in. The Town’s payment to the school has not yet gone out. Two payments have been received from the state for Current Use and for the first quarter of state aid. The second quarter of state aid will come early, to help towns with flood expenses. Ms. Karle anticipates receiving that by next month. General expenses do not include anything out of the ordinary, but there is a new category in the expense reporting for storm damage repair.

d. **Listers’ Report:** Lister David Johnson reported that there were four grievances; one was reduced; two others had questions that could be answered by the Listers; there are no appeals for the Board of Civil Authority.

e. **Mount Holly Planning Commission Update:** MHPC Chair Jon McCann noted that the Commission is drafting the Town Plan and is on track for an October hearing for the Planning Commission. There is also an upcoming meeting for the Belmont Village Plan. Mr. McCann noted that the Town may be interested in pursuing another Municipal Planning Grant; one possible area of work for this grant could be a housing study and policy development regarding short-term rental regulation.

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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.

f. **Mount Holly Conservation Commission Update:** No update this month.

6. New Business

a. July 9th Storm Recovery

i. **Infrastructure Repair Update:** Mr. Woolley noted that everything is close to being resurfaced. Completed major repairs include: Freeman Brook Rd (stacked rock wall built in two locations); Freeman Brook (river realigned); Lushes Acres Rd (road rebuilt; some work remaining); and Beaver Meadow Brook (stacked rock wall built). Mr. Chase suggested putting out an RFP for remaining repairs, with bids

requested on a unit basis.

ii. **Major repairs remaining include:** 1) Healdville Road Slope Failure - Ongoing; 2) Paving Patches; 3) Road Surfacing; 4) Continue Swale Repairs (re-establish, seeding, rock lining, etc); 5) Shunpike Rd Culvert Replacement - Sizing/ANR Permit; 6) Belmont Road / Star Lake Culvert - Need Hydraulics Study and Engineering 7) Beaver Meadow Rd Large Diameter Culvert Replacement - Need Hydraulic Study; 8) Sawyer Hill Rd Large Diameter Culverts - Engineering; 9) Star Lake Dam - Repair Small Erosion Sites - Confirm with state repairs based on their inspection; 10) Lushes Acres Overflow Culvert - Sizing/ANR Permit; 11) Church Street/Maple Hill Culvert - Jet

iii. **FEMA Public Assistance Update:** The deadline for individual assistance is the first week of September; once the deadline passes, there is no recourse. The town has applied for assistance with FEMA to cover storm damage costs and is waiting to be assigned a state and FEMA representative. We are documenting and tracking all storm related expenses/tasks in anticipation of reimbursement up to 92.5%.

iv. Vermont Emergency Management (VEM) Hazard Mitigation Program - Flooded Property Buyout: This program buys homes that have been flooded; Mr. Chase will draft a letter for property owners that may be affected.

v. **Lessons learned from Highway, Town Office, Fire, Emergency Management:** Emergency Management Director (EMD) Jeff Chase noted that having additional cots on hand for the shelter would be a good idea for future emergencies. He noted that photo documentation has also proven critical; an app that automatically geo-locates each photo could be helpful in the future. Ms. Garrow also noted that better options for quickly contacting school officials quickly could be in place. Mr. Turco noted that, all things considered, the Town had an amazing response; he thanked Mr. Chase for his work as EMD; offered kudos to all the individuals who supported emergency efforts during the week of and weeks after the flood. Fire Chief Billy Austin also noted that the Fire Department is not fully handicapped accessible. He also noted that the FD is interested in writing a grant to better prepare for emergency water rescue operations, if necessary in the future. Mr. Turco also noted a desire to expand the list of contractors and emergency service providers, for quick reference and use during the next emergency.

b. **ARPA Request: Storage Container for Emergency Management Supplies:**

c. **Camper Ordinance:** The Select Board is considering adopting a camper ordinance; the clerk has provided a range of example ordinances for the Select Board to consider. Mr. Turco noted that the Planning Commission is welcome to look into the issue as well; the Clerk will share information

d. **Fuel Bids:** The Clerk will solicit bids for heating oil and diesel from area vendors. Bids will be opened at the next regular meeting.

e. **Reappraisal Notification.** The Town has received a Reappraisal Order Notification from the state and is required to sign the response. Mr. Turco noted that the Town has considered hiring NEMRC for the reappraisal. Mr. Turco made a motion to ask NEMRC for a proposal to complete the town reappraisal; Diana Garrow seconded; unanimously approved.

f. **Highway Department Hiring:** The town will hire Chad Farrar for the new position.

g. **Transfer Station Fees:** Mr. Johnson noted that the fees have been at \$2 since 2004. Mr. Chase shared a report of area towns. RCSWD is \$3; Rutland Town is \$3; Wallingford is \$4; Weston is \$4; other area towns are also at \$2. Mr. Chase that due to inflation and desires to keep the tax rate low, the Town might consider a higher transfer station sticker fee. Mr. Woolley suggested the Town might consider putting solid waste removal out to bid; the Select Board agreed to do this. Ms. Karle noted that the town currently has a \$139,600 budget for solid waste removal; income is \$28,000 from transfer station stickers. Mr. Turco made a motion to increase sticker fees to \$3/bag for a 30 gallon bag, starting September 1; Diana Garrow seconded; unanimously approved.

h. **Municipal Planning Grants:** Potential Application Ideas (Deadline Nov 1, 6pm). Mr. Chase noted that the town could proceed with a grant application to conduct a housing study, as referenced in Item 5.e.

i. **Emergency Personnel and Compensation Rates:** Mr. Turco made a motion for the Town to compensate emergency personnel, using DOL average rates, for

TOWN SEEKS TRANSFER STATION ATTENDANT

The Town of Mount seeks a transfer station attendant to serve as an occasional back-up employee when the Town's regular attendants are unavailable.

Candidates should be able to lift up to 50 pounds; provide friendly support to guests; and to be available on short notice during Transfer Station hours.

Send letters of interest to the Select Board at mounthollyselectboard@gmail.com; via mail at PO Box 247, Mount Holly, VT 05758; or by delivering a hard copy to the Town Office.

CLOSED

Mount Holly Town Office
Closed Sept 4th, In Observance
Of Labor Day

Mount Holly Seeks Animal Control Officer

The Select Board seeks a new Mount Holly Animal Control Officer. For more information or to submit a letter of interest, email mounthollyselectboard@gmail.com.

purposes of FEMA reimbursement; Diana Garrow seconded; Jeff Chase recused himself.

j. **Veteran Monument Maintenance:** Dennis Devereux noted that the veteran monument is in need of repair; a notice will be sent to the Chit Chat.

k. **Junk Ordinance Complaint:** The Clerk will reach out to the Town attorney to determine whether sending a letter of notification to the property owner will impact the property's current tax sale.

l. **Traffic Ordinance Complaint:** The Clerk will send a note to the resident to follow up. Mr. Chase will ask the Sheriff's Office to visit the

road during enforcement hours.

m. **Culvert Complaint:** The Clerk will send a note to the resident to follow up.

7. **Ongoing & Old Business**

a. **ACO Search Update:** The position remains open; interested parties are invited to apply.

b. **Dog License Registration Update:** Christine Pratt began with a list of 105 unregistered dogs in June; there are now only 10 remaining on the list. Residents who have not yet registered their dogs, or whose previously registered dogs have passed away, are asked to call the Town Clerk.

c. **Final Approval of Amended Countryside Alarm Quote.** Signed by Select Board.

8. **Citizen Comments**

a. Lester Lampert noted a complaint regarding water and road

damage at his property.

9. **Announcements**

a. The Town Office is closed Wednesday, August 16 for the Battle of Bennington.

b. Residents are invited to join a meeting regarding the Belmont Village Plan at the Community Center, August 16 at 5 pm.

c. There will be a retirement party for Les Deyette on Saturday, September 9 at 2 pm at the Town Office.

10. **Review & Sign Orders**

11. **Executive Session:** Title 1 V.S.A. S 313(a)(3) – personnel (if needed). Diana made a motion to enter Executive Session; Mark Turco seconded; unanimously approved.

12. **Adjourned** at 8 pm.



Mount Holly Volunteer Rescue Squad

Over a year ago, Mount Holly Volunteer Rescue Squad began investigating how to allow donations to the squad to be tax deductible. The process requires that we end the existence of the current organization and create a new 501c3 nonprofit organization, named Mount Holly Rescue. All assets, facilities, equipment, members, and officers will transition from the old to the new organization. The IRS has approved this transition, and the next step will be to obtain licensure as a new service from the State of Vermont. That step requires a Public Notice, shown below. If you have any questions please email anna@mhrescue.org

PUBLIC NOTICE

Mount Holly Rescue has identified the need for an Ambulance Service to operate in the Town of Mount Holly and is applying for licensure by the Vermont Department of Health. This service proposes to begin operation on January 1, 2024 within the geographic boundaries of the Town of Mount Holly and the village of East Wallingford. In accordance with 24 V.S.A. Emergency Medical Services Statute, public comments are invited to be received by the department by September 8, 2023. Address comments to: Vermont Department of Health Office of Public Health Preparedness and EMS PO Box 70 Burlington, VT 05402-0070

Planning Commission - Town Office & Remote Electronic – Regular Meeting Minutes Wednesday, July 19th, 2023 7:00 P.M.
Commission Members Present: Jon McCann (Chair), Jim Seward (Vice Chair), Andrew Schulz (Secretary), Brigid Sullivan

NOTICE

MOUNT HOLLY TAXPAYERS

2023 Real Estate Property Taxes 4% Discount is due **Thursday August 31st**

Partial Payments are allowed for that portion of The Discount of which the remainder is due by November 1st, 2023.

**Mount Holly
Republican Committee
Caucus**

Thursday September 14th, 2023
6:30 pm
Mount Holly Town Office

The Agenda for this Caucus is as follows:
I. Election of Town Committee
II. Election of Officers by the Town Committee
III. Election of County Committee Members
IV. New Business

More Info Call 259-2386

Also present: Stephen Michel

1. Chair called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm

2. Changes to agenda: None

3. Approval of minutes

a. The minutes of the special meeting held on 5th July, 2023 and the regular meeting held on June 21st were approved unanimously.

4. Reports & Announcements

a. Administrative Officer (submitted electronically)

i. BCRs have been received from:

- Gowing and Lobikin 788 Dawley Road N: Enclosure of carport and conversion of carport to livable space.
 - Covoto 1284 Healdville Road: Replacing old house (doublewide).
- ii. Copies of wastewater permits issued by ANR have been received for:
- Patch 1443 Summit Road: new wastewater system for a new single-family residence
 - Schaeffer 4163 Route 155: amended permit for replacement of existing failed system with increased flow.

Commissioner Schulz asked if the State is now forwarding wastewater permits to the Planning Commission (they were not previously). Chair explained that the Town Clerk receives the permits from the State for recording in the land records. Although the State's transmittal letter shows the PC as a cc, the State has not actually been sending them directly to the PC, and the State is not required to. The Chair confirmed that the AO worked with the Town Clerk to ensure that copies are given to her when they are received for recording.

b. Planning Commission Chair

i. Chair noted that he, Commissioner Schulz and Faith Tempest attended the VLCT training on duties of planning commissions, on short term rental issues and regulation, and on the responsibilities of Development Review Boards and Boards of Adjustment. On short-term rentals there were speakers from Woodstock, Dover and Killington. The Woodstock representative noted that any potential ordinance should have a clear purpose, should have a housing study as a basis to support it, and should define harms to be addressed. Features of Woodstock's requirements were noted including having a contact person available within 30 minutes or host/ property manager on site, alleviating concerns about ghost towns and who to call in cases of disturbance. Applicants (hosts/ property owners) must provide contact information; pay meals and room taxes; conform to occupancy limits and to caps on the number of days rental per year; and must provide a fire safety permit. Chair noted that since this training the State has put out guidance that short term rentals must have a State Construction Permit issued by the Department of Fire Safety. Commissioner Sullivan asked for clarification since often there is no construction involved. Commissioner Schulz clarified that these rentals convert a private residence to a commercial building and as such it must be inspected and conform to State requirements for public buildings. In the training, the representative from Dover also noted that fire permits should be recorded in the land records; they do not have a certificate of occupancy requirement; do not let the Zoning Administrator enter the property without permission; do require the local emergency contacts' details to be posted within the rental and that the contact be available within 30 minutes 24/7; they also require bear proof trash cans. The Killington representative noted that they have a very large number of short-term rentals - 3600. Along with similar measures to those in Woodstock and Dover, Killington also records any violations and unpaid fines in the land records, effectively placing a lien on the property until resolved. This avoids court cases and is a cost-effective way of enforcement. Killington also does not allow hotels (more than 16 units) in residential areas; and is enforcing occupancy limits. Revenues gained by the town from short-term rentals funds additional costs for the Fire Department. Management of the ordinance (identifying the rentals, ensuring payment of relevant fees and taxes etc) is contracted out, which also incurs a cost. Commissioner Schulz asked how many short-term rentals there are in Mount Holly and their effects. The Chair noted anecdotal evidence that short term rentals in town are driving up the cost of housing and making it difficult to find long term rentals. However, since this is anecdotal Chair suggested it would be helpful to conduct a housing study and that the Commission should look into what's involved in such a study. Chair noted that the last part of the training session focused on the Board of Adjustment, which would be useful for Mount Holly's BoA. Chair will share the video of the session with BoA members when it is available.

ii. Chair noted that the State is showing the ERAF (Emergency Relief and Assistance Fund) for the Town at the higher rate of 17%, due to the Town passing the Flood Hazard and River Corridor bylaw. The PC has received questions about what kind of funding is available for remediation. Chair will work with the AO and Jeff Chase to provide clear guidance. It is important that people document everything and register it on Vermont 211.

iii. Regarding the Wildlife Crossings Pilot Program grant opportunity, Chair noted that following discussions with the State, he discovered that the process was especially onerous and did not think he would be able to complete the application in time and so did not request the Select Board's endorsement. It could be considered next year if it is available. Commissioner Sullivan proposed that it would be easier to work with the State and apply through/with them. Chair agreed that it would be a good idea.

5. Correspondence

a. Subdivision proposals: None.

b. Email / Other: Chair noted an email from a person on Freeman Brook Road about any bylaws or ordinances related to building and subdivision regulations. The AO responded to the inquiry.

6. New Business: None.

7. Unfinished Business

a. **Town Plan Maps:**

i. Chair shared an updated [transportation map](#) intended to better show the distinction between different types of roads. The new



version uses the VTrans legend. This shows more detail including whether highways are passable, also state and town culverts and bridges. It also shows hydrologically connected roads – those which are highly liable to erosion, of which there are many in Town. Commissioner Sullivan asked why roads which are not open are listed as hydrologically connected. Chair responded that the State issued Municipal Roads Permit obliges the Town to certain types of repair on hydrologically connected roads; even if the road is untraveled or impassable, if it is a Class IV the Town is still obliged to maintain it; it may make more sense to identify these as legal trails. Chair proposed that since the map already has a lot of detail, parking should be shown on the recreation map. Commissioner Sullivan agreed that the map is much clearer. Chair noted that there is only one legal trail in Mount Holly noted on the map, but also that there is some data missing, including one other legal trail which is currently shown as a private driveway. Commissioner Schulz asked about the status of other trails such as the Healdville trail up Okemo Mountain, which is in Mount Holly. Chair noted that legal trails are Town rights of way. The Healdville trail is noted as a State Forest highway and thus not a Town right of way. Chair commented that the status of a portion of Sawyer Hill road is unclear (Class III or Class IV). Chair will research this to clarify. Chair noted that there is not a good source of information on new private roads which have been created from private drives. The State determines that a private road is any access which has more than three addresses on it. Chair also noted that some wetlands are not clearly marked, and will address this. Chair asked if the changes are clear enough. Commissioners Sullivan and Schulz agreed that they are, and noted that the legend does not include the streams shown on the map. Commissioner Jim Seward noted that it was not possible to add much more detail.

ii. Chair has started all the additional maps and hopes to have them available at the next meeting.

iii. Chair had shared the draft of the Town Plan. Main updated areas are Historic Sites. This draws largely on information from the State Archeologist. The section also notes buildings/ areas which are on State or National historic lists. Commissioner Schulz asked if we could include information on why these have been accorded such status. Commissioner Sullivan asked that all buildings on the National historic register be included. There are several properties on the State Historic Register, including almost all of Belmont Village. Chair asked if there are other elements to include in this section of the Plan, noting that several historic sites in the previous plan are no longer there. Commissioner Sullivan suggested adding information about the Museum as a repository of information on the Town. Chair asked Stephen Michel to provide information. One other section which requires additional work is that on Flood Resilience. Chair noted that the Town Plan text now makes reference to the Town Hazard Mitigation Plan which has action items which could then become action items for the Town Plan. This section also now has more information on funding sources for mitigation efforts, in particular if homeowners want to avoid repetitive loss there may be options to work with them to identify such funding. There is also more information on culvert replacement including upgrading. Regarding Emergency Management and Preparedness, Chair noted that there had been discussions previously about putting together an inventory of properties at risk which could be used both as support for evacuation if needed, as well as for identifying need to follow up after a disaster.

iv. Chair noted that by the time of completion of the Town Plan there will probably be a Belmont Municipal Plan, and it may be useful to make a link to it once there is more clarity on its contents.

v. Chair noted that the Education section will need more work. Commissioner Schulz suggested that School Board members may be able to add here.

vi. Chair noted that at the next meeting it will be clearer on the timing of the public hearings. The expectation is that the PC hearing will be in October.

8. Public Comments: None.

9. Upcoming meetings

a. **Special meeting:** 2nd August 7pm

b. **Regular meeting:** 16th August 7pm

10. **Meeting adjourned** at 8:51pm. For the Commission, Faith Tempest, Planning Commission Clerk

Planning Commission - Town Office & Remote Electronic – Special Work Meeting Minutes Wednesday, August 2nd, 2023 7:00 P.M.

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

Also Present: Faith Tempest (Clerk)

1. Chair called the meeting to order at 7:08pm.

2. Changes to agenda: None

3. Unfinished business:

a. Town Plan text: Chair introduced further changes to text of the Town Plan in the Education section. He had been able to speak to the School Principal to add additional information on school choice, the new bicycle track and the School's desire for more trails. Chair suggested that the town and School work with the local snowmobile club to consider the possibility of some kind of shared path. The School needs more space and is contemplating a renovation that would involve moving the playground equipment. Currently the playground equipment and school grounds are not open to the public during school hours. There may be opportunities when relocating the playground to allow more public access to it. There is also some encroachment by the School on neighboring private land which will need to be addressed in the longer term. The contamination of the School water supply means that the School needs to access water from the Town Garage, but work is still to be completed and may require additional testing to meet public water supply requirements. Chair will contact the facilities supervisor to clarify what is required to improve the supply. Commissioner Andrew Seward suggested that enrolment data in recent years be included in the Town Plan. The School is also an emergency shelter, but does not have all the necessary equipment, in particular an emergency power supply, and may need investments to fulfill this role. Commissioner Andrew Seward commented that additional school costs may accrue to Town taxpayers; the Chair noted that there are grants available for some items, including backup power systems. The Principal did note that the School has had difficulty recruiting

positions due to the limited housing availability. In the Town Plan section on Historic Sites, more was added on specific residences in the Town which are on the National Historic Register. Chair noted other sections have been added to the Plan including an inventory of significant natural features. Chair will share the draft of the plan with Fish and Wildlife for their comments.

b. The list of Town Plan Maps is now agreed and most of the maps have been prepared or drafted, except future land use. Chair had shared with Commission members the proposed maps of current land use and of wildlife habitat. The map of current land use shows residences, properties in the current use program, (i.e. properties with at least 25 acres in productive use), State lands and conserved lands. Chair asked if there should be more information; Clerk suggested businesses, but Chair noted that there is not an up to date inventory of such information, though he will try to work with the Town Clerk to update the E911 data. We will need to have more accurate E911 data going forward. Chair also noted that in the next plan it may be useful to add information on different housing types e.g. rentals, multi-family dwellings etc. Commissioner Schulz asked if the map title be changed to make it clearer that the map does not show how the land is being used today since it is limited to only a use value program map. Commissioner Sullivan also noted that the map shows in the main the lands that are currently kept in trust for productive use, but little else. Commissioner Andrew Seward suggested that properties in productive agriculture but not in the current use program could be identified through the FSA. The map of wildlife habitat and connectivity shows the degree of priority that the State attaches to wildlife habitat blocks and corridors. The National Forest and adjoining areas are the highest priority wildlife habitat and although the Forest is conserved, private property within this area would be a high priority for conservation. Lower priority areas within the Town may be more subject to fragmentation.

Chair noted that this information is used in Act 248 proceedings for solar energy siting. Chair proposed that it is better to use the data from the State; the existing 2018 Town Plan also uses this data set. The map also shows wildlife corridors identified in the Arrowwood study. Commissioner Sullivan noted that the State is currently trying to update and ground truth some related data. Chair asked if any changes should be made; Commissioners Andrew Seward and Andy Schulz asked for the legend to be clearer in terms of what the priority/value is of the identified blocks.

4. **Public comments:**
None

5. **Upcoming meetings:** Regular Planning Commission meeting, 16th August 2023, 7pm

6. **Meeting adjourned** at 8:32 pm For the Commission, Faith Tempest (Clerk)



MOUNT HOLLY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT



FRIDAY OCTOBER 6TH
SATURDAY OCTOBER 7TH

**Located at Windy
Acres Farm**

**2204 Old Turnpike Rd Mount
Holly, VT**

Tickets go on sale from

6:30PM - 9:00PM

First Wagon leaves at 7:00PM

\$10.00 for 13 & older

\$5.00 for children 12 and under

Refreshments will be on sale and a fire to keep warm by!!

Come out and support the fire department and enjoy a spooky ride.

Questions??? Call 802-259-2060

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One Month Until the 2nd Annual Whoopie Pie Festival

September 16 is the Second Annual Whoopie Pie Festival in Downtown Rutland! Join us and our community partners from 12:00-5:00 p.m. on Center Street and Merchants Row.

Sample whoopie pies from over a dozen bakers, watch Dream Maker Bakers assemble a 700-pound whoopie pie, enjoy live entertainment like The Red Trousers Show, eat

from food trucks, and much more!

T-Shirts are now available to order through Come Alive Outside. Early bird pricing is until August 24. Shirts will be for sale at the event as well.

This event is sponsored by Heritage Family Credit Union.

Seeking Whoopie Pie Festival Volunteers

We need your help to make the Second Annual Whoopie Pie Festival a success! Please sign up at the link below. There are almost 50 volunteer opportunities left that range from one-two hours. Descriptions for each volunteer job are listed on the website.

[VolunteerSignup - Online volunteer signup sheets - Rutland Whoopie Pie Festival signup sheet](#)

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BENEFIT Basket Raffle

*All funds raised will go directly to
Beth Chase and Family
for medical & travel expenses as she
undergoes treatments*

August 27, 2023
Mt. Holly Elementary School
150 School St.
Mt. Holly VT

DOORS OPEN AT 11:00
DRAWINGS AT 1:00

Tickets:
\$5 for each entry sheet
\$2 for each additional sheet
50/50 Raffle & Door Prizes
Refreshments available for purchase

BENEFIT Basket Raffle

August 27, 2023
Mt. Holly Elementary School
150 School St.
Mt. Holly VT

*Donate a basket in support of
Beth Chase and her family as she
undergoes treatments*

If you are able to donate please contact Gail Campopiano at 802-342-8178 to arrange pick up or drop off.

Baskets can also be dropped off to Carol Garrow -Wooley at the Mt. Holly Town Office M-Th
9am - 4pm

*Thank you to all who are able to help
Any donations are greatly appreciated.*



Group savings



Discounted pricing on fuel and home heating equipment

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

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Save **20¢** per gallon off heating oil

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Equipment**



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Mount Holly Oil & Gas Group

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

- **\$.20 cents** off per gallon of heating oil on the going price of the day you call in.
- **\$.45 cents** off per gallon of propane on the going price of the day you call in.

Remember to give our **group code number 6216** to be enrolled under our group. The cutoff date is December 31, 2023. **Call Irving Energy at 1-888-310-1924** to get signed up. Please have your Irving account number handy when you do and if you do not have an Irving account call the above phone number to get an account and then join the group.

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

Offers valid to residential customers who sign up on an automatic delivery basis and are members of Mt. Holly Oil and Gas Group in areas serviced by Irving Energy in Vermont by December 31, 2023.

Customers save \$350 off a new boiler, \$250 off a new furnace. \$200 off a new tankless water heater, or \$200 off a new oil tank.

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Tracy Messer of the Coolidge Foundation is introduced by Rotarian Tom Harris.

Tracy W. Messer, portraying President Calvin Coolidge, addressed the Ludlow Rotary Club at its Aug. 15 meeting. On the heels of the Centennial Celebration of his Aug. 3, 1923 Inauguration, the reenacted 30th President of the United

States told stories and recited from his biography.

One of the stories Messer told was that as President, Coolidge raised over \$10 million for the 1927 floods in Mississippi. However, many people were upset by his failure to come visit the devastation. Consequently, when Vermont flooded later that year, he did not come home because he had not gone to Mississippi. Instead, he sent the best engineer in the country, Herbert H. Hoover, to oversee repairs.

During his tenure, Coolidge oversaw economic prosperity of the Roaring 20's. Families installed indoor plumbing and electricity in their homes, and the 5-day work week was adopted as the national standard. Coolidge did not choose to run in 1928 as he wanted to get out after 6 years in office. Had he run and won again, he would have served 10 years and he felt that was too long for any one person to hold the office.

As Calvin Coolidge, Messer of the Coolidge Foundation, quoted the poem "Vermont is a state I love" in closing.

Anyone interested in learning more about joining Rotary is invited to contact Kevin Barnes, Membership Chairman at (802) 228-8877, to receive an invitation to a meeting.





Fleming Updates Ludlow Rotary on African Orphanage

At our August 1, 2023, meeting, the Ludlow Rotary Club was pleased to welcome back Robert Fleming and Amy Carst of Malayaka House, Entebbe, Uganda.

Robert's story is amazing, how as a tourist in Uganda 18 years ago he became aware of a pregnant young woman not comprehending her pregnancy. Robert took it upon himself to keep a watchful eye and help as he may. The woman had her baby girl and abandoned it in the bathroom of the hospital. Since Robert brought her in, the police told him to take the baby as no one would want the child. The next day, Robert was given another young child by the police. You see children are dispensable in Uganda and Robert, being American, was believed to be able to care for them.

Robert, a single person on vacation, did not know how to change a diaper or care for a child. He learned very quickly. Hence, his first baby girl was named Malayaka, (Angel) and the Malayaka house was "born". Many children have been welcomed here each with their own heart-wrenching story. All are well loved, cared for and educated at the best schools and onto university if the desire is there. Malayaka

House is their home, forever welcomed, and Robert is their "Uncle".

Fifty children have been so wonderfully cared for, and loved. They have an amazing sense of self and caring for each other. Robert, no longer, runs Malayaka House as it takes more than he to manage the day-to-day paperwork etc. Instead, Robert freely spends time with the children day to day, arranges for their education and welfare and focuses of public speaking and raising the funds continually needed to provide for the children.

All those years ago, perhaps 15, Rotary was introduced to Robert, his story and Malayaka House. The Ludlow Rotary Club was so impressed that it wrote and received a sizable Rotary District 7870 grant to assist with the installation of solar panels for Malayaka House.

The club was so touched by the kindness of Robert and his staff! A few Rotarians have visited Malayaka House. If you would like to learn more about this amazingly loving place, the full story, see the children and read about all of the success of Malayaka House, please visit <https://malayakahouse.com>.

At yesterday's meeting, Robert spoke of his mission. It is to provide a loving and safe home for the children left behind, meet their needs and provide the best education available for the kids.

Pictured above are Thomas Ray, LRC President; Rotarian Brett Wright; Robert Fleming, Malayaka House; Rotarian Geoge and Linda Thomson; and Amy Carst, Communications Director for Malayaka House.

Note: photos attached, photo of Robert Fleming, credit Kevin Barnes, a Rotarian; and group photo, credit Kim Lampert, a Rotarian



Ludlow Rotary Contributes \$13,000 and Personal Effort to Flood Recovery

"Unsurprisingly, many of our fellow Rotarians in the area have jumped in to help some of the many people and organizations in our communities adversely affected by the recent flooding". With this simple, yet heartfelt summary, Tom Ray, Ludlow Rotary Club President, indicated what the Ludlow Rotary Club (LRC) had done to date to assist in the vast recovery effort.

Thus far, the LRC has donated \$8,000 for dehumidifiers that were immediately needed by residents and businesses in the area. Following this, the LRC donated \$5,000 to the BRAT (Black River Action Team) to assist that group in its recovery program cleaning the river of debris.

In addition to checking that all of its members were safe and offering assistance to those who suffered from the ravages of the flood and mud-slides, the club members participated in a "clean up" at the Timber Inn Motel.

At the request of the Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce, the LRC offered to use its charitable fund so that the Chamber's fund-raising drive would be tax-deductible to donors. The LRC's Facebook site became a source of helpful information.

A number of other Rotary Clubs throughout New England have already sent contributions to the LRC as well as several area businesses and organizations in support of recovery relief.

Tom Ray indicated that much more needed to be done, noting "While substantial aid in the form of food, supplies, money and recovery assistance has been arriving, much more will be needed to restore the many homes, businesses and the landscape devastated by this storm. The Rotary Club of Ludlow, Vermont, has been coordinating with other civic organizations to provide relief and assistance".

LRC Treasurer, Kim Lampert, indicated that tax-deductible donations could be sent to the LRC's 501(c)(3) foundation. **The address is: Ludlow Area Rotary Charitable Fund (LARCF), PO Box 216, Ludlow, VT 05149**

All contributions will be directed to specific agencies providing relief to this devastating flood.



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Vermont Home Gardener: September Garden Tips

Rain or shine, our gardens are now heading into the season finale with tomatoes, beans, squash, and peppers leading the way! Crazy wet weather has been tough on some veggies and flowers this summer and there are some special techniques to keep plants healthy despite the saturated soils. It's also a good time to get a soil test so you know what is needed for next year. Tomatoes can still do well if you follow a few basic tips this month. Late summer pests & diseases are appearing too so let's be alert.

Got wet soils? The excessive rains have filled the soil with water and squeezed out vital oxygen that beneficial soil bacteria require to break down organic matter into plant nutrients. The result is that water soluble nutrients like Nitrogen and Potassium have been washed away and other nutrients are not available to plants. The resulting poor growth can be corrected with additional fertilization to replace the lost nutrients. This is especially important for perennials that need to store nutrients for next year but also for our annual vegetables and flowers that need food right now. I have been giving extra granular organic fertilizer directly to garden plants (tomatoes, peppers, squashes, broccoli, cauliflower, etc.) as well as side dressings of compost. Applied every 2 weeks this replaces the lost nutrients needed for growth and disease resistance. A quicker remedy is to apply foliar fertilizer so the leaves can absorb nutrients that the waterlogged roots are unable to get. More details below.

Soil Testing is a simple and important task we all should do this time of year. Fertilizing your soil without a soil test is like taking medications without knowing what, if anything, is wrong. Bad idea and possibly a waste. The University of Vermont Extension service provides good soil analysis and recommendations. Get their simple directions online (<https://www.uvm.edu/extension/agricultural-and-environmental-testing-lab?Page=soils.html>), mail in your dry soil sample in a clean plastic bag with \$15 and they will send you the information to make your garden or lawn better.

What to Plant in September? Seeds or transplants of lettuces, arugula, spinach, kale, & radishes will do well.

Late Season Tomato care. August & September conditions generally are good for a plant's growth, but some plant diseases appear now. Plant diseases can't be cured, only prevented and managed. Most important is disease resistant varietal selection, but that's a discussion for January when we select our seeds.

Disease *prevention* is the most effective strategy. Healthy plants can resist pests and diseases and healthy soil is the best way to have strong, healthy plants. Of course, healthy plants are more nutritious, so they contribute to our own good health too. Homemade compost supplemented with minerals like phosphate, calcium, and potassium, when indicated by a soil test (see below), are a great way to build healthy soil and reduce disease problems.

If your garden plants seem to be losing their vigor (slow growth, yellowed leaves, etc.), it's time to give them a nutritional boost. Foliar (leaf) feeding is quickly ingested and can extend the production of tired tomatoes, summer & winter squash, cucumbers, peppers, and many flowers that have used or lost the nutrients from the waterlogged soil this summer. Fish emulsion (available at most garden centers and online as a liquid concentrate) is a great fertilizer, best applied in the morning (when leaf pores, stomata, are open and can take in the food) and when no rain is expected. Spray it on with a tank sprayer or with a watering can with a sprinkler head.

You can also apply a commercial liquid organic fertilizer when watering. Got compost? Make a simple "compost tea" with a shovel-full of mature compost in a 5-gallon bucket and fill with water. Mix it well and repeat mixing a couple times for a day before watering your plants with this healthy probiotic tea. This provides a great boost of beneficial soil microbes plus some nutrients to feed your plants. Do not try to save it for more than a day or two, it can get pretty "ripe"!

Our next job is to regularly remove all diseased or yellowing leaves/branches from plants. An infected leaf can produce millions of spores that quickly spread over the surface of healthy leaves as well as inside the plant via sap. Cut them off and discard away from the garden, not in your compost. Continue to pinch off "suckers" and harvest ripe tomatoes, peppers, cukes, etc. so the plant's strength can go to new fruits.

Finally, tomatoes and peppers are really sub-tropical plants and don't know that winter is coming so they are still trying to grow. There are several things we can do right now to get the most out of them. Because it takes 50-60 days for a tomato blossom to grow into a ripening fruit, blossoms forming after Sept. 1 will not yield useable tomatoes but will take valuable energy away from the plant. Best practice is to snip off all newly formed blossoms after Sept. 1. Sad thing to do but it will direct more energy into the fruits already on the plant. Also, if your plants have outgrown their supports then cut off the terminal tips to stop excessive growth at the top.

Perennials. September is a good time to dig up and divide oversized perennials (hostas, lilies, etc.). They will have enough time to re-establish some root growth to withstand winter. Dig them out and cut them with your spade or garden knife into moveable clumps for transplanting. Be sure to put a couple tablespoons of rock phosphate (or bone meal) into the planting hole before placing the plant. This will provide a source of this root stimulating nutrient for years to come.

Thinking ahead... now is the time to order your **fall bulbs** for October-November planting. If you haven't grown **garlic**, this can be the year you start. Order "seed garlic" from a local farmer, Johnny's Selected Seeds, FEDCO, Maine Potato Lady, or other online sources for late October planting. Supermarket garlic may be treated to inhibit growth so doesn't make good seed.

Pest Alerts.

Snails & slugs love these wet conditions and continue to damage plants and are laying most of their eggs for next year. Control them with coffee grounds, beer traps, slug baits (Sluggo, etc.), diatomaceous earth (DE), and hand picking. Salt is inhumane so I use



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pruning shears,

Cabbage loopers on broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage, kale, etc. will be very active in the cooler, fall weather. This white or yellow-ish moth can be controlled with Bt (Dipel) and a butterfly net (if you're quick).

Get the Weeds! It's easy to let the weeds finally have their way in the garden. Do not stop now! Weeds are now producing their seeds for next year, and several years after that. Weeding now will yield benefits of reduced work in the future if you remove those plants, or at least the seed heads on top. It's an important goal, do not allow weeds to go to seed in your garden!

Make more Compost! This time of year we have an abundance of ingredients for the compost bins. Garden plants, grass clippings, fruit & veggie scraps, and autumn leaves (soon) all produce the best soil amendments.

Read all Vermont Home Gardener articles online at <https://vermonthomegardener.com/>



[Here is a comprehensive website](#) to all things compost.

Helping States Meet the Solar for All Challenge

The federal Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) has created the best ever opportunity to bring the advantages of solar to low-income households and disadvantaged communities. Up to now, residential and community solar installations have been financed and developed in ways that make it easy for households with above-average incomes to participate and benefit, but often leave lower-income households behind. New IRA tax credit provisions and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's landmark Solar for All program make it possible to right this imbalance. Through Solar for All, states will become key partners, deploying federal dollars and administering programs for low-income solar. However, they face serious challenges to carrying out those roles effectively.

A [new blog post](#) by CESA Executive Director Warren Leon explains how the Clean Energy States Alliance is leveraging its experience working with states, community groups and solar developers to help states across the country prepare for the Solar for All funding opportunity.

Resources that CESA has prepared for states include:

- [Community Solar for Low-Income and Disadvantaged Communities: Solar for All Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund Program Design Options for States](#)
- [Single-Family Home LMI Solar Program Request for Proposals Template: A Solar for All-Compliant Solar Program Design for States](#)
- [Single-Family Home LMI Solar Program – Program Design Guidance: A Solar for All Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund-Compliant Solar Program Design for States](#)
- The "IRA & BIL Opportunities and News" weekly newsletter, available exclusively to state and federal government employees. [Email Anna Ziai to subscribe.](#)

For more information and resources, visit CESA's [IRA & BIL Implementation webpage](#). [Clean Energy States Alliance www.cesa.org](#)



Wallingford Town Hall Concert Series

The Wallingford Town Hall Concert Series is gearing up for an autumn of music as wonderfully talented musicians are set to perform. Please mark your calendar for Gypsy Reel playing high energy stirring music rooted in the Celtic tradition on Wednesday, September 20th; The Survivors jamming to a variety of genres through the decades from the 60s up to the present will perform on Wednesday, October 11; and a special holiday concert that will lift your heart and spirit as Bells of Joy will take the stage on Wednesday, December 13th. All concerts begin at 7:00 p.m. with a suggested donation of \$15 per person with proceeds going to the performers. These concerts are only possible thru your support of local live music.

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We Know Just the Place.®

The Stand Up Shakespeare Company presents ONE FREE PERFORMANCE at the Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site in Plymouth, Vermont on Saturday, September 2nd, 12 NOON

Announcing: The 2023 annual “Shakespeare Alive! A Bard-Based Variety Show” returns for an all-new FREE performance It’s a delightful mélange of Bard-based entertainment for all ages! The STAND UP SHAKESPEARE troupe of professional actors and singers from New York City will share its talent, passion and creativity to amuse and amaze with the best of Shakespeare’s canon as well as Bard-based skits and songs. And, lo, verily, the show is always FREE! (Although donations are gratefully accepted.)

WHO IS STAND UP SHAKESPEARE? Stand Up Shakespeare is a collective of New York City-based actors who have become a veritable Vermont institution over a 23-year period. The beloved troupe travels to Killington and Plymouth each Labor Day weekend to present a new one-hour show made up of romance, tragedy, history and comedy, all based on the works of William Shakespeare.

Where: Union Christian Church, 43 Messer Hill Road, located on the Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site, 3780 Route 100 A, Plymouth Notch, VT 05056. The special matinee performance will be in the 183-year-old Union Christian Church (43 Messer Hill Rd.) with its perfect acoustics, on the President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site, 3780 Route 100 A in Plymouth Notch.

Stand Up Shakespeare is proud to be a part of celebrating the 100th anniversary of Calvin Coolidge’s presidency!

Stay on for the 18th Annual Plymouth Folk and Blues Festival, which begins at 2:00pm and runs until 5:00pm on Saturday, also Sunday during the same times. This event is also free, with donations appreciated.

For more information about the show and the Stand Up Shakespeare Company, contact Kate Konigisor at 917-406-1456 or kkonig@aol.com. Media inquiries contact Joan Pelzer at 917-670-7071 or joan@joanpelzersocial.com

The Calvin Coolidge Presidential Foundation is the official foundation dedicated to preserving and promoting the legacy of America’s 30th president. The Foundation was formed in 1960 by a group of Coolidge enthusiasts, including John Coolidge, the president’s son. It maintains its offices at the president’s birthplace in Plymouth Notch, Vermont. The Foundation seeks to greatly increase Americans’ understanding of President Coolidge and the values he promoted.

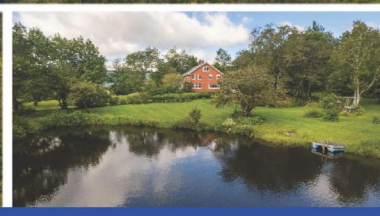
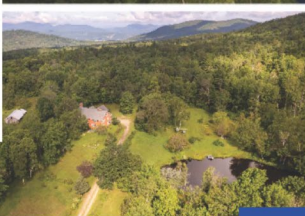
For more information on the Coolidge Foundation:

coolidgefoundation.org
Executive Director: Matthew Denhart; Phone: 802-672-3389; Email: mdenhardt@calvin-coolidge.org
coolidge.org Coolidge Ambassador/Administrator: Tracy W. Messer; Phone: 802-672-3389; Email: tmesser@calvin-coolidge.org

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Shriner Hospital For Children

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



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

Community Health Tip: Prevent Medicare Fraud

Each year, Medicare estimates that it loses \$60 billion as a result of fraud, errors and abuse. Community Health is partnering with the [Vermont Senior Medicare Patrol](#) and the [Community of Vermont Elders](#) (COVE) to help prevent, detect and report Medicare fraud.

The best way to protect yourself against healthcare and Medicare fraud is:

- Don't give out an personal information
- Report suspicious phone calls
- Ask your healthcare provider if you have questions or concerns about Medicare statements or billing

If you have any questions, or suspect fraud, call Vermont Senior Medicare Patrol at 802-229-4731 or toll free at 888-865-2683. *Carolynn Hondo Fedor*, Carolynnfedor@gmail.com 908-963-8540 calendly.com/carolynnfedor



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

Also Check

www.mthollynewsflash.blogspot.com

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

Kevin Plew is the primary NewsFlash attendant
and Stu Berry is backup attendant.

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

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

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

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Who's Got It Locally?

Artists & Architects

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Spectrum Photography – John Miller 802-259-3060
Stone Creek Workshops Pottery www.stonecreekworkshops.com 802-259-2254

Building & Repairs – General Work

AW Carpentry-Remodeling*Building*Local Affordable Lumber 802-259-3699

Burn Permits

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

Catering - Restaurants - Stores

Harry's Café, Trip & Deb Pearce III www.Harryscafe.com 802-259-2555
Mojo Café – John & Jodi Seward mojocafevt@yahoo.com 802-228-6656
Squeels on Wheels BBQ www.squeelsonwheels.com 802-558-9489

Church Listings

Annunciation, Ludlow, Mass Sat 4:30 pm, Sun 9 am
Rev Thomas Mosher abvmludlow@comcast.net 802-228-3451
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 603-439-0803
Rutland Jewish Center office@rutlandjewishcenter.org
Rabbi Shemtov rabbishemtov@rutlandjewishcenter.org 802-773-3455
St. Patrick's, Wallingford, Mass Sun 11 am
Rev Msgr Bernard Bourgeois christthekingprsh@gmail.com 802-446-2161
Village Baptist Church-Worship 9:30am, Coffee Hour 10:45 BS Tue 7 pm
jeremiah.c.johnson@icloud.com Pastor Jeremiah Johnson 760-845-6617
Wilderness Friends Meeting (Quaker) Sundays 10 am
Shrewsbury Library, Cuttingsville 802-259-2803

Cleaning Service/Housekeeper

Savannah - Cleaning Service call or text 802-417-0913

Electrical Services

Wirenuts Electrical LLC bbates@vermontel.net 802-353-4376 802-492-3406

Equipment For Hire & Snow Moving

Beardmore Excavating 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 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
Sugar Hill Berry Farm 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

Food Shelf

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

Funeral Homes

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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
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General Contractors

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Ted Stryhas Builder Inc. 802-228-7327

Health & Community Health Care Providers

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Community Health – <https://www.chcrr.org> Medical, Dental, Pediatrics
Behavioral Health – Patient Access Center 802-779-9159
Express Care Rutland - 802-773-3386
Dr. Joseph P. Donohue – Chiropractic Care, Thrive Center 802-446-2499
Massage Therapy/Bodywork, Thrive Center of Green Mtns 802-446-2499
Lisa Donohue MA, LMT – Linda O'Brien MT 802-446-2499

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Yankee Home Management, Keith Hawkins 802-259-3064

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Metal Fabrication

Wayne Jones Metal www.waynejonesmetal.com 802-259-2521

Mount Holly Email

Kevin Plew – mthollynewsflash@gmail.com 802-259-2250

Painters

Beardmore Painting beardmorepainting802@gmail.com 802-353-9493
MRS Unlimited Visions LLC Interior/Exterior Painting –Melissa 802-259-3989

Plumbing & Heating

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Real Estate Sales

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Gail.Beardmore@evusa.com (Mobile) 802-236-5431
eXp Realty Sue Starr-Adams susan.starr-adams@exprealty.com 802-236-8028
Kelley Real Estate, Don Eatmon, Owner/Broker Office 802-228-5333
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Lorien Kelly 732-670-8001
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New Roofs/Roof Repairs & Replacement – Slate/Wood/Asphalt/Metal

Security

Countryside Alarms – Mike Blais 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

Therapeutic Riding

Rienbow Riding Center Home 802-259-2282 Barn 802-236-2483

Tree Services

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

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