

Send ARTICLES to: Diana Garrow, 3379 Shunpike Rd., Mt. Holly, VT 05758 Phone 802-259-2314 or E-Mail to <u>chitchat@vermontel.net</u> "The views and opinions expressed in the enclosed articles are solely those of their authors and are not necessarily those of the Chit Chat, its staff, or its board of directors. The authors are solely responsible for the content of their articles."

Donation Thank Yous: Betty Jean Cram * Ken Saccardo (Home Maintenance Local Handyman) * Zena Gates * Rebecca Bates (Wirenuts Electrical) * Keith Hawkins (Yankee Home Management / Hawkins Excavation) * Greg Durgin (Belmont Motor Works) * Robert & Sharman Ludwick Jr. * Lyn Roberts & Ted Hall * Craig Tomkinson * Gregory Higgins * Mary Nortunen * Dr. Joseph & Lisa Donohue (Thrive Center Chiropractic Care – Massage Therapy/Bocywork) * Jeff & Mary Smith (Smith Maple Crest Farm) * Joan Connor *



May Birthdays: 3rd-Karl Parsells III * Lois Miller 5th-Debby Bernagozzi * Olivia Beardmore-Turco 10th-Amy Taylor 16th-Heather Garrow * Chad Getchell 17th-Hilary Swezey-Hurst 19th-Allison Bussino (2013) 20th-Patrick Chadburn 24th-Greg Herbst * Christopher Jacobs * Jordan Devereux 26th-Karen Blodgett * Brigid Sullivan * Austin Turco * Amy Turco 30th-Jeffery Columb II *

Linda Roberts **31**st-Tom Veysey * Beth Hart



<u>May Anniversaries</u>: 3rd–Donna & Rick Lee 16th–Jack & Kathleen Koponen 17th-Bill & Mary Ellen Jacobs 18th-Dennis & Fern Melvin * Jeff & Lucy Columb (1985) 23rd-Peter & Raye Lin Collins 28th-Steve & Maria Howard * Jim & Kathy Heald

55 yrs 2021 **30**th–Douglas & Lynnette Devereux 50 yrs 2020 **31**st-Sarah & Zak Delphia

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 <u>chitchat@vermontel.net</u> 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 Lob	by Open 24/7	802-259-2790				
Window	Mon – Fri	8:00 am – 12:00 pm				
P.O. Bo	ox Mail Available	e After 10:00 am	•			
	Sat	8:00 am – 10:45 am				
East Wallingfor	rd	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				
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 Pos	t Master Denise `	Young – 802-446-2140				

Mount Holly Chit Chat, Inc.

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

BOARD of DIRECTORS:

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

SUBMISSIONS: Deadline is 22nd By 6:00 pm of each month for the following month. Send to <u>chitchat@vermontel.net</u> 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. 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 required as they look great on the Town website.

LETTERS to the EDITOR: email; 300 word limit; include name, address, and phone number of person submitting article and are printed at editors' discretion. Letters are subject to editing for reasons of space and clarity.

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. 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.Primaryattendant is Kevin Plew and backup attendant Stu Berry atstumberry1@gmail.comEmailitemstonewsflash@mounthollyvt.orgwww.mthollynewsflash.blogspot.com

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Robert Merton Cram

Robert "Bob" Merton Cram died at his home at the age of 83 on March 30, 2024. He was born in Vergennes, Vermont at a midwife's home on Main Street on July 12, 1940. He was the son of Robert George and Nellie (Wrisley) Cram.

In the late 1940's he attended the one room Hemingway school house on South Hill in Ludlow, Vermont. He attended Maybrook and Wallkill, New York schools. His first job at 18 years was running a road grader. He worked on bridge construction at many places in Vermont.

Bob Cram's property maintenance – excavating – lawn care – snow removal – light trucking and also welding. He built several houses. His first auto body shop was in Ludlow where Cumberland Farms is on Main Street. He then had an auto body shop in Healdville, Vermont.

He was a Director and member of the Black River Valley Rod and Gun Club. Also a member of the Weston Rod and Gun Club. Also ran the Let's Go Fishing Program. Was a member of the Moose Lodge 679 in Springfield, Vermont. Did lots of Hunting. He had a fishing camp in Altmar, New York and fished the Salmon River near Altmar.

He is survived by daughters Ruth Ann Palmer, Janet Cram, Robin Holland and April Dyke and by his sister Mary Nortunen of Mount Holly and Betty Jean Cram of Wallkill, NY and his brother John Charles of San Francisco, CA, and fourt3een grandchildren and twenty great grandchildren. He is also survived by very special friends Robi Bisson and Wayne Wallis.

He was predeceased by his father Robert George Cram, mother Nellie (Wrisley) Cram, sisters Martha Birdsall and Joyce Rullan, Sons Robert and John Allen and daughter Veronica.

<u>Penny Coldwell Memorial Art Exhibition</u> Do you own a Penny Coldwell original artwork?

Please consider loaning it for this important upcoming event.

The Mount Holly Community Association is organizing an exhibition of Penny's work in honor of her role as a founding member of MHCA and an important creative force in our community. The exhibition will begin on the day of Penny's Celebration of Life on 18 May and run through 26 May.

Paintings, drawings, sculptures, quilts, and other craft items are all welcome, given the diversity of Penny Coldwell's creative interests. Exhibitors should plan to bring their pieces to the Community Center on 15 May, and to retrieve them 26-28 May.

If you have a piece you are willing to include, please contact MHCA Board Member Alex Yuster via email before 5 May at <u>alexandra.yuster@gmail.com.</u> If you are able, please include a photo of the piece.

While not required, exhibitors are welcome to include a reflection related to Penny and/or the submitted work of up of 100 words or less, which will be displayed alongside the piece.

Please also feel free to write to Alex with any questions you may have.



Reino Koitto

Reino was born May 4, 1931, in Mount Holly, VT, to John and Tilda Koitto. He was raised in Mount Holly and completed the 8th grade. He worked the family farm until he joined the United States Air Force on May 31, 1950. He served with the 809th Supply Squadron out of MacDill Air Force Base during the Korean War, and earned the Korean Campaign Ribbon, National Defense Service Medal, and Good Conduct Medal. He was honorably discharged on May 30, 1954, and returned to



Join us in community to celebrate the life of Penelope (Penny) Coldwell

Saturday, May 18th at 4 o'clock Odd Fellows Hall in Belmont, Vermont •ceremony & potluck supper •live music and dancing in the spirit of community, please BYOB and bring a dish to share!

Vermont. He worked at the Springfield Country Club, National Survey Company, and as a carpenter with Tucker Construction before becoming employed at General Electric where he stayed until his retirement in 1992. He was very proud of the fact that he quickly moved up the ranks and became a toolmaker with an 8th grade education. In

his spare time, Reino enjoyed being outdoors, working in the woods as well as hunting and fishing. Following their move to Florida, Reino was one of the early members of the Chuluota Sportsmen Club where he went shooting at the gun range almost every week until about a month prior to his death. Reino and Elizabeth are survived by their son and daughter-in-law, Reino and Joanna Koitto, of Orlando; daughter, Nancy Koitto, of Orlando; nieces, Beth Oconitrillo (Gerardo), and Karen Caime (Jim); nephew, Donald Koitto; three grandchildren, Dawn Geiser-Cesh, Chris Geiser (Jenny), and Roy Geiser (Nancy); six great-grandchildren and relatives in Finland, Sweden, Australia, and Canada. Reino is predeceased by his sisters, Helmi "Penny" Butler and Daisey Victory, his brother, Arveed Koitto, and half-sister, Signe Seppanen. A burial will be at the Pleasant View Cemetery in Chester, VT, at a later date. Donations can be made in their names to the American Macular Degeneration Foundation, American Heart Association, or the Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation. Arrangements are under the care of Gendron Funeral & Cremation Services Inc. located at 135 N Lime Avenue, Sarasota, FL 34237. 941-365-1767 www.gendronfuneralhome.com

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Kenneth Sydney Brown (11/15/1954 -1/16/2024)

Sid lost his 15-year battle with cancer and fought till the last day of his life. Sid was born in Minto, Canada, the youngest of three children born to Ken and Bertha Brown. Sid moved to the US at the age of five and became a naturalized citizen. He went to school in Norwalk, CT where his family had become permanent residents. Sid's parents opened Brown's rental store in the 1960s and both parents worked and ran the store. Sid was raised at the store and was there almost every day after school learning how to fix things and building muscle cars. At 14 he was sent to military school in Canada but after one year, he ran away and was taken in by a veterinarian where he stayed for several weeks. He returned home and graduated years after from St. Luke's Academy in Wilton, CT with honors. After graduation, while working at the family store with his entire family, he took some business courses at night.

Sid then headed for the open road. He started Hobo Trucking Company which lasted a few years and got to tour the country enjoying his favorite thing -- meeting new people and listening to their stories. He liked to talk to everyone -- young and old. He would say that you can always learn something from anyone. Sid loved adventures

and traveling always brought new ones.

Sid's capability to fix anything mechanical amazed all who witnessed him fix "unfixable" things! When someone needed his help he was in his happy place. He loved to teach you how it worked and how he fixed it. If you could make it through the lesson you could probably rebuild it yourself. After a few years of trucking, he went back to Brown's rental where he got involved with the American Rental Association (ARA). He became president of the ARA representing all of the northeast rental operators in the US. One trip brought him to Vermont. He fell in love with VT so much that he moved to Weston, VT and opened a car repair shop in Londonderry. He married Janis in Peru on the horse farm that she worked on. Sid's son, Kyle, was born while he was living in South Derry.

Sid also played hard. He loved his Harley, his boat, barbecue parties, good food, music and friends. Sid made immediate and forever relationships.

Sid, a Master Mechanic and welder, returned to Norwalk, CT to run Brown's rental. He purchased a lake cottage in North Salem, NY and through the lake's coop, he became a Board Member and very involved with the health of the lake. During this time he worked at Decker Tools in Bedford Hills, NY. He continued working towards his goal of living in Vermont and finally moved back in 2016 when he purchased his Mount Holly, VT home and retired. He enjoyed every day "home" as he called it.

Sid is survived by his wife Janis, his son Kyle, mother-in-law Granny, and his three nephews John, Greg, and Jason Kurtzman. He will be missed by many. There will be a celebration of life on August 3rd 2024 at his home in Mount Holly. In lieu of flowers, go help someone with something you know how to do but maybe they don't. Keep the help coming.

A few friends sent nice thoughts.

Sydney is a man that I have cherished as a friend. We have been friends for



The Black River Valley Rod & Gun Club will hold its Annual Kid's Fishing Derby on Saturday, May 11 2024. Sign up begins at 8:30 am and fishing starts at 9 am. All children up to 15 years of age are eligible to participate. The fishing derby will be held at Cook's Pond located on Rod & Gun Club Road in Ludlow, Vermont. Prizes will be awarded and refreshments served.



some 37 years quite a long time! I can't quite describe him in other words. He was kind, helpful, diligent, generous, courteous, loyal and probably some other adjectives. Nobody didn't like Sidney Brown! I still love him deeply and regret the loss of a dear friend. We who knew him will carry him in our hearts forever. Farewell, adieu. You are remembered. Dennis

Sid--always a smile, helpful, generous, can fix anything from a tool to a barn that's tipping. Amy

Sid Brown was a very kind and capable man who was always ready to lend a helping hand. You never felt that he believed himself to be inconvenient whenever you asked for his assistance. He was a good friend. When he and Janis left this area, I missed them both a great deal. Dr Bill

Sid inspired me. His courage and backbone are more than I could ever hope for. Don

My friend of 46 years. The most kind and considerate man you will ever meet. An encyclopedia of knowledge. Always willing to help me. A great husband, father, and my friend. Deb

The best most loving and thoughtful son-in-law anyone could ever hope for always there and happy to help me with any problems such as my car house snow long or anything else that needed fixing. Plus, I have to mention his killer shrimp cocktail sauce. Grannv

What can you say about your best friend of 48 years together. We laughed that to share our love we had to learn to listen, hear and respect each other's views, not try to change the other's mind and agree to disagree. It sure made voting day interesting. We loved each other deeply. I will miss him and cherish my memories of his witty

companionship and love forever. Janis



Maple Grove Cemetery

East Wallingford, Vermont





Residents and Neighbors are Welcome To Come and Wander The Grounds

Many Lots Available 1 Person \$600 - 2 Person \$1,200 Ask about Cremation Lots For More Information Call 802-259-2810

Attention High School Seniors

The Mount Holly Community Guild gives two scholarships to graduating seniors who live in Mount Holly, to be used to continue their education. If you are interested in applying for one of these scholarships please contact Judy Nevin at <u>jbnevin@gmail.com</u>. All applications need to be in by May15.

Mount Holly Student Wins Vermont Daughters of the American Revolution



Essay Competition Mount Holly School fifth grader Oliver Ellis, 11, was selected as both the Ann and the Vermont Story chapter State winner of the 2024 Daughters of the American Revolution American History Contest. The annual writing Essay competition is open to students in the 5th through 8th grades. Entrants submit their essays to their local chapter, where winners from each grade are

are then submitted to the Vermont State

winners'



Higgins Backacre Apiary 455 Sawyer Hill Rd. Mt.Holly, VT 05758 802-259-2964

Contest Chairman for further judging. Oliver's essay was selected as the winning essay at the Vermont State level. He will now represent Vermont at the divisional level, whose winners go on to the national competition.

selected. Chapter

Suppers For Mount Holly Organizations



Settings Start 5:00 pm At

The Odd Fellows Hall, Belmont All You Can Eat - Served Home Style Adults - \$15 & Children Under 12 - \$8 Children 5 and Under no charge

May 25 th	Colfax Lodge – Baked Ham
June 15 th	MHVFD - Roast Beef
July 4 th	Odd Fellows - Chicken BBQ 11:30 am (\$12.00)
After	Town Parade Step off at 11:00 am
July 27 th	Mt. Moriah Masons - Baked Ham
Aug 17 th	MHVFD - Baked Ham
Aug 31 st	Historical Museum - Roast Pork
Oct 12 th	Colfax Lodge – Baked Ham
	Eat In or Take Out,
Wit	h Take Out meals starting at 4:45 pm
	More Info Call 802-259-2460

Got Bees?

essays



Warmer weather can cause honey bee colonies to Swarm and go looking for a new home. If you see a big new mass of honeybees (<u>not</u> wasps or hornets) hanging in the open from your house, a tree branch or shrub, or anyplace it might be a honeybee swarm. They are not aggressive and should not be disturbed or harmed! Call



me as soon as you see them and I will come by to collect them from your property in Mount Holly, no charge. Call or text Jim at Fenn Farmstead & Gardens at 781-307-0394.

Green Up May 4, 2024

8:30am on the Green for bags and road assignments until 12:30ish

Bags: these will be available on the Town Office porch starting 4/29.



<u>Please note these bags are only for Green Up and</u> <u>should not be used for personal trash.</u> These rules help us to be able to Green Up every year with supplies and help at no cost to the town. Please be sure to thank the town crew for picking up the bags, wouldn't we all hate

to have to drop them off at the transfer station. Thanks Guys! 😳 The Facebook page is Mount Holly Green Up Day

There is a pinned post, please comment on this post with the road you are doing. This will help others see what is covered and available. You can reply to your comment when done cleaning to provide the number of bags and people that I need to report to the State of Vermont. Don't forget to get all those names in for the world record!

This year the State is trying to get a Guiness Book of World Record. The information is posted on Facebook and with the poster at Town Hall, Post Offices, and any other convenient places I can find. The Plew Farm has surprises for us as well, stay tuned for details.

Notes: Using gloves is a very good idea and do not touch anything you believe to be dangerous, please report to me or appropriate authorities.

Be aware of the poisonous plants to protect yourselves, spring has sprung so these may be blooming and around already.

I know not everyone does Facebook hopefully you do email! ^(C) Contact: <u>mariannewmcgee@gmail.com</u>

<u>Please be sure to let me know which road(s) you did, how many people and how many bags.</u> This is crucial information for the state and yearly funding.



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Writers' Group Meeting

The Writers' Group will meet again at the Mount Holly Library on Monday, May 6th at 2 PM. No particular agenda, but bring your May baskets. connor@ohio.edu

Silk Screen Possum Family Print

I have this wonderful silk screen print available, Possum Family, by Walter Inglis Anderson, printed by Carolyn Fournier Anderson. FREE. It is huge, 2 feet by 6 feet. I took it to the framer, but the size is a challenge. I do not have the space, but It would be

wonderful in a public building. school? Α With a piece of plexiglass it could be mounted to the wall with brackets. It is really wonderful. If you are interested, let me know. connor@ohio.edu (802) 259-2773. - Joan Connor



April 2024, Trestleboard Mt. Moriah Lodge #96 Next Meeting Tuesday 5/21/24 7:30PM

Brothers, We have some Brothers who have a different chair in the Lodge for the ensuing year. Many thanks to PGM's George Deblon and Earl Washburn for

installing everyone.

Pat Start- JD David Seward – WM Jim Goss – SW Ed Wilson – SS Dennis Start – JW Fay Freeman – JS David Johnson - Treasurer Bob Blaisdell – Chaplain Stanley Seward – Secretary Dennis Wilson - Marhall The Sap Bucket Degree was held on April 6th, with approximately 31 Brothers attending. Some Brothers who joined in were from Connecticut. Fraternally, David Seward, WM & Buster Seward Sec'y



The Mount Holly Conservation Commission **Presents!** Mount Holly Energy Fair

Saturday, June 15, 1:00 until 5:00 pm Mount Holly Community Center (26 Maple St, Belmont, VT)

SAVE The DATE! Save Energy! Save \$\$\$! The Mount Holly Conservation Commission is organizing a community Energy Fair for Saturday, June 15 and we would like to invite you to join us to learn about home energy savings.. The purpose of the Fair is to inform our community of the opportunities, technologies, and services available for home energy efficiency and cost savings.

TREE STUMP GRINDING Beardmore Excavating Inc. 802-342-3507

The event will take place at the Mount Holly Community Center (26 Maple Hill Rd., Belmont, VT) from 1:00 until 5:00 pm and there is no charge to attend. A free ticket to the Mount Holly Volunteer Fire Department dinner will be provided to participants. There will be exhibits and talks about home energy audits, weatherization, heat pumps, solar energy, electric vehicles, energy rebates, and free LED bulbs. Bring the kids to enjoy some special hands-on energy activities! Sponsors include the



State of Vermont, Aubuchon Hardware, Efficiency Vermont, Drive Electric, Green Mountain Power, Same Sun Solar, Net Zero Energy Resources, NeighborWorks, Bensons Chevrolet, Renewable Energy Vermont, Rutland Regional Solid Waste District. and others.

The fair is funded by a Municipal Energy Resilience Program (MERP) mini grant from the State of Vermont to the Mount Holly Conservation Commission.

Updates will be coming soon from the MHCC regarding the Ash Borer Mitigation Program.

And remember to check out the the Mount Holly Biodiversity Project at for all the latest https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/mount-holly-biodiversity sightings in Mount Holly of resident birds and visitors, including; Northern Flicker, White Throated and American Tree Sparrows, Wilson Snipe, Turkey Vulture, Kinglets, Purple Finch, House Finch, and Goldfinch. Migrants to watch for during late April and May include Common Loon, Bald Eagle, Hawks and all the warblers enroute to nesting areas in Canada. And watch out for bandits!

May 2024 Mount Holly Chit Chat Inc

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The News from MHCA

Is it over yet...have we had enough snow, rain, and mudddd? Of course we have, but you all know...here, in Vermont, it ain't over until Mother Nature says so. Let's hope she will consider our prayers and thoughts of sunshine and warmer temperatures for the month of May!

We hope that those of you who braved the mud and weather had a great time at the Spring Mud Fling. We had a great turn out and the energy was high. Folks came from all around and as far away as Barre and Windsor! The Board of Directors wish to express our heartfelt thanks to the band, Frydaddy, for making the event a night to remember and for everyone who came out for our favorite spring dance!!

Upcoming MHCA events:

Artist in our midst - the Board of Directors has decided to highlight visual artists living in our community. We are planning to turn our community room into an art gallery once or twice a year to show off the creativity of folks living in and around Mount Holly. We are kicking off the first event by honoring one of our beloved and former MHCA Board

Member's, Penny Coldwell. The gallery opening will be a part of Penny's celebration of life May 18th and will remain on display thru May 25th during library hours. Stop in the library and head down the back steps to the lower level to see a retrospective exhibit of her work. We should also note that her artwork is on permanent display in two other locations in Belmont; the lending library, located next to the ODD Fellows Hall, was painted by Penny as well as the The Woolly Mammoth painting housed in the Historical Museum.

Music on the Green - Mark your calendars for Thursday evenings at 6:30pm in July and August. In case of rain the concerts will take place in the library. Board member Mary Alberty has coordinated a great line up for the 2024 series!

Current events at the community center:

Yoga - offered every Wednesday and Saturday mornings. Classes are anatomy informed and focus on finding ease and strength in movement. Some kind of previous yoga experience is recommended and participants will need their own mat. For more information please contact Tish at <u>galleytish@gmail.com</u>

Green Mountain Neighbors (GMN) is hosting two events this month. Monday May 13th from 1-3pm is an afternoon of games with your neighbors, and on Monday May 20th at 1pm, Jim Corven will be discussing seasonal garden ideas including: soil preparation, transplanting tricks, home composting and more. There will be soil test sample materials available. Jim is encouraging folks to bring extra seedlings (veggies or flowers) or seeds to trade or exchange. He made



a special point to say "do not dig up plants from your garden to exchange"...Come find out why! Please feel free to send your gardening questions ahead of time by going to vermonthomegardener.com and click on the "contact us" - or - just come to Jim's talk with your list in hand.



Ken Saccardo • Belmont, Vermont Call or text: 603-401-8122 Lastly, in this month's meet your Board of Directors series, we are highlighting Linda Miller, a long time board member who made Vermont her home thirty five years ago. Linda moved, to our brave little state, for her work with GE after being laid off while working in Massachusetts. Linda began at GE in the Apprenticeship Program and held various positions making and designing tools for aircraft engines as well as being a supervisor. Her work was very technical, involving precise measuring tools that ensured parts were spinning the way they should inside the engines; the layman's version, according to this writer, is that she made sure the plane did not fall from the sky while you were flying. Two years ago Linda hung up her steel toed boots after 40 years with GE deciding it was time to retire and start life's next grand adventure.

During our interview it became evident that Linda has always been community minded; she participated in and eventually

Bone Builders

Monday & Thursday Mornings 9:00 am Community Center Under the Library For Weights and more information Call Judy Nevin 802-259-2443

coordinated some of GE's volunteer programs, has been on the Board of Mount Holly Elementary Schools' Parent Teachers Group (when her children were younger), and later was recruited to join the MHCA Board. When asked why she decided to accept the invitation to join the Board of Directors (some 13 years ago), Linda reflected that she thought "the Board would be a good opportunity to

meet people and get involved in activities outside of the school;

being a part of the Board gives me a feeling of belonging and purpose". Currently Linda serves as the Co-President and has her hand in most of the events. She is an avid gardener, and together with her 3 children and 2 grandsons, grows and forages a lot of the family's food. Linda enjoys kayaking, skiing, and traveling, which she has made a priority since retiring. When Linda was asked about something that most people may not know about her she shared a few interesting things...

- 1. she loves easter jelly beans the kind with REAL pectin,
- 2. she was a junior lifeguard by the age of 10 for a local swim club.
- 3. has now lived longer in Vermont than anywhere else.

We are lucky to have Linda be a part of MHCA. She has sunk her roots deep in our community and is invested in making it a special place for those who live here.

And that, our friends, is the MHCA news for May. We will leave you with 5 wishes for this fifth month of the year.

> May you be peaceful May you be astounded by the beauty of nature May you spread kindness May you hold hope for the world May you be courageous and bold in whatever you do





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4+ Cards add \$ 5ea.

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Any questions reach out to MthollyPTG@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.

(802) 259-2392

Mount Holly School

KINDERGARTEN

REGISTRATION

Wednesday, May 29, 2024

3:00-4:00 p.m.

By Appointment

For children who will be 5 years old on or before August 31, 2024

Please bring the following:

1. A birth certificate 2. All immunization records 3. Residency documentation 4. Complete online pre-registration form

Families are invited to meet with Mrs. Craver and hear all about what kindergarten has to offer.

> Students Currently enrolled in the MHS preschool program will not need to register again for Kindergarten.

PTG UPDATE:



- . Wed 5/1 PTG MTG School Library & Via Zoom
- . Sun 5/5 Cinco De Mayo All Ages! 1 to 3pm at the Mt Holly Elementary School
- . We are looking for help refreshing the School Gardens the first week in June If you interested please reach out.
- We are looking for ideas from our students for an upcoming spirit week. Please reach out with your ideas.

mthollyptg@gmail.com

May 2024 Mount Holly Chit Chat Inc

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www.mounthollyvt.org

chitchat@vermontel.net



THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS

To Celebrate Our Volunteers during Volunteer Appreciation Week, April 24, Reinbow Riding Center would like to dedicate this poem to all past, present and future Volunteers. Without their assistance we could not provide an oasis of calm and learning to the individuals that come to

Reinbow bringing with them many different challenges—what went before.

If you would like to volunteer and experience the joy and satisfaction helping to make a child's day better, please join us Saturday, May 11, for our Volunteer Orientation Clinic beginning at 10:00 a.m. We are located at Stone Wall Farm, 892 Tarbelville Rd. in Belmont. More information is available on our website: reinbowridingcenter.org or email: janetupton@reinbowridingcenter.org



BUYA BOUQUET

HELP YOUR COMMUNITY



Make a difference in your community with a Bloomin' 4 Good Bouquet. Each specially marked bouquet purchased at our selected Hannaford will send our organization a \$1 donation to help us further our impact.

hannaford.2givelocal.com Bloomin' 4 Good Program





www.mounthollvvt.org

The Volunteer and The Child

To Reinbow Riding Center they come Bringing what went before They come from near and far Some from schools and homes Some with expectation, some with trepidation.

At Reinbow an eager child Tentative at first, finds a friendly face Who speaks in soothing tones A Volunteer has made a connection.

Names are exchanged And trust begins The eagerness returns What went before falls away The Volunteer has made a connection.

The child, and the Volunteer together Glide through introductions and rules Excitement builds, nervousness too

Horses are presented, excitement returns What went before has fallen away The Volunteer has made a connection.

Eagerness and nervousness all mixed up Horses are big but gentle The Volunteer guides the grooming The child finds pleasure What went before falls away The Volunteer has made a trusting connection.

What comes next, a very big step Horses are big and high It's time to get on top

Encouragement in gentle tone Slow and steady as you go The Volunteer has made a trusting connection.

Trepidation returns It's a long way down Movement is scary The Volunteer stays by the child's side.

Amazement and joy Are soon displayed What went before has fallen away.

Soon disappointment arrives It's time to go home A Volunteer has made the connection. Janet Upton

Flanders Excavating & Firewood

Complete Site Work Start To Finish

All Aspects of Excavating: Roads ~ Clearing Lots ~ Septic Systems ~ Ponds

Fully Insured – Call Steve @ 802-259-2147 <u>Flanders.excavating@gmail.com</u>

Firewood – Cut, Split & Delivered



Country Antiques for the Home and Garden

> Ed and Sylvia Smith 853 Shunpike Rd. Mt. Holly, Vt 05758

sssbkeeper@vermontel.net We buy old and interesting country items. Please call us at 802 259-2406.

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MOUNT HOLLY TOWN LIBRARY NEWS May 2024

The Library now has a family pass to the Vermont Granite Museum in Barre! The pass can be checked out for up to 7 days and it will admit a family to the museum and grounds. Find out more about Vermont's history by visiting the granite museum.



The Library book drop is open again! It is available for book returns 24/7. Mount Holly Town Library, 26 Maple Hill Road, Belmont, VT 05730 802-259-3707 <u>mthollylibrary@gmail.com</u>





ATTENTION MOUNT HOLLY GARDENERS! May I plant a seed?

As you are envisioning your garden, please consider participating in The 17th Annual Mount Holly Garden Tour It's a Perennial Favorite and a fun way to show off the Fruits of your Labor! The Tour will be on Saturday, July 27th 2024

> For more information, contact Leah Knoll 908-256-3912 or leahknoll@yahoo.com





Solid Waste Stickers **ORDER FORM**

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 \$3.00 per sticker.

Transfer Site Hours of Operation:

Spring/Summer – Saturday, 8:00 am – 2:00pm; Wednesday, 4:00 pm - 7:00 pmFall/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 selfaddressed, stamped envelope or add .70 cents for return mail.

Address

Stickers (*a*) \$3.00 each = \$

Postage/handling

\$

Total Enclosed

Make Checks Payable to **Town of Mount Holly** P.O. Box 248, Mount Holly, VT 05758



MOUNT HOLLY VOLUNTEE

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

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

There are many things that frighten a horse:

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

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

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

THANK YOU

FROM THE VERMONT HORSE COUNCIL



www.vthorsecouncil.org

Senator Brian Collamore for the Mt. Holly Chit Chat on April 22nd, 2024

As I write this, the Vermont Legislature has only three weeks remaining in this session. The General Assembly is scheduled to adjourn on Friday, May 10th, 2024. Still to be passed are the budget and other so-called money bills, including the Transportation Bill and the Capital Bill. Most of the policy bills have now either been passed or left on the wall in various committee rooms. However, many of them that did pass out of committee also include appropriations which could mean some of the programs included in them will not get funding and they will not be able to take effect. It is not yet clear how many of the bills that do get passed that have additional taxes or fees or surcharges in them will face a gubernatorial veto. There is a veto session scheduled for



June 17 and 18^{th} .

The other big issues still to be decided as this is written are the Yield bill and school budgets. The Yield bill will be critical in determining exactly what local school budgets look like. That bill must pass before the final formula for school funding is completed. Most of you are no doubt aware that 30% of original school budgets failed this year and even some budgets have already been voted down a second time. If a school district has not passed a budget by the start of the next fiscal year, the district will have to borrow money (up to 87% of the previous fiscal year's budget) in order to operate the schools.

We did make some progress on bills that will affect public safety including making it a crime for someone to get into your vehicle and

look for items to steal. Until this bill passes, believe it or not, it is not a crime. We also will make it mandatory for a judge to consider a person's past criminal history in order to decide on conditions of release.

Unfortunately, we have not passed (yet) any Act 250 reform legislation nor any meaningful housing legislation. The two issues are related because of the lack of housing for folks who want to move here and live here and the regulatory challenges of developing enough housing to make that possible. I hope in the next two weeks or so, we are able to come together and pass a bill which will address the Act 250 challenge and also a bill which will allow developers to begin building our much-needed housing stock.

Rep Butch Shaw from Proctor/Pittsford also wanted me to remind folks that Green Up Day is just around the corner on Saturday, May 4th. It is important for all of us to get involved and help beautify our local communities. This effort can be a huge town wide effort and I urge you to contact your town clerks or managers to find out how you can assist and cleaning up our local roadsides after the winter snow has melted. It's a fun way to spend a Saturday with your neighbors. I bet you did not know how much money is spent by the State of Vermont "picking trash" off the side of our state and Interstate highways. This year's

Transportation Program includes an appropriation of \$2 million for our state highway employees to spend their valuable time and resources cleaning up. Last spring these dedicated public servants removed 601 tons of trash from our roads. Just think how many more miles of paving highways we could do if people were more respectful of our environment! Please let's do our part on Green Up Day!

I want to close by thanking many readers who have reached out to me and let me know their thoughts. I deeply appreciate hearing from constituents. We may not always agree with each other 100% of the time but I do take pride in listening and getting back to people. We have a wonderful County with many different points of view, and I enjoy representing the 27 towns!

If you want to contact me, please email me at <u>bcollamore@leg.state.vt.us</u> or call my home phone at 802-773-1365.



May 2024 Mount Holly Chit Chat Inc



Mount Holly Town News

CHARTERED 17,92

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, <u>www.okemovalley.tv</u> Computers with internet access are available at the Town Library.

Select Board Meeting Town Office April 9, 2024, 6 pm MINUTES

Zoom).

Attendance: Mark Turco (Chair), Jeff Chase, Diana Garrow, Carol A Garrow-Woolley, Clinton Woolley, David H. Johnson, Dennis Devereux, Stephen Michel, Christine Pratt, Donna Seward, James Seward, June Carpon, Zena M. Gates, Kevin Plew, Philippe Crane, Barbara Hazelton (via Zoom), Stephen Hazelton (via Zoom), Andy Shulz (via

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

Call to Order at 6:30 pm
Pledge of Allegiance
Consideration of any changes and/or additions to the agenda. Mark

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.

Turco noted they would add an item under Reports: Conservation Commission Update and an Old Business item: Highway 71. 4. Approval of March 13 Minutes. Diana Garrow made a motion to approve the minutes as drafted; Mark Turco seconded; unanimously approved.

5. Reports

a. Highways & Transfer Station Update - Road Foreman Clinton Woolley noted that the Transfer Station is implementing spring hours. The new truck has arrived to the seller, and Mr. Woolley asked the Select Board to consider whether the Town should purchase the new truck without a trade-in, in order to have a back-up vehicle on hand. He noted that the annual state paving grant has been submitted, and the annual state structures grant is in progress. Diana Garrow noted that hazardous waste collection will take place at the Transfer Station on Saturday.

b. Treasurer Monthly Income & Expense Report - Town Treasurer Elizabeth Karle noted that delinquent tax payments continue to be collected; the Town is down to \$63,000 total due. The Town closed on

the MCRF Loan. The Town's FEMA reimbursement continues, and the Treasurer has submitted approximately \$300,000 worth of reimbursements thus far; federal projections are that reviews will take approximately three weeks. Regarding income and expenses, interest income is currently ahead of budget projections, and the Highway Department budget is at ~93% of the total at ³/₄ of the way through the year, which makes sense in light of weather conditions and early summer road material purchases. Kevin Plew asked about how resilient the Town budget is in the event of a major disaster or emergency; Mr. Turco noted that the Select Board has been increasing the budget slowly each year, to increase the Town's resiliency. Ms. Karle noted that the Town's decision to

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.

mark ARPA funds for general operations also supports resiliency.c. Lister's Update - Lister David Johnson that Town records are being converted to

CAMA and the Listers have only two roads' worth of records to convert; they are ahead of schedule.

d. Mount Holly Planning Commission Update. Tabled.

e. Fire Department Update. Tabled.

f. Conservation Commission Update - Phil Crane noted that the Commission is planning a town-wide energy fair on June 15, helmed by Jim Corven. The

Commission is also continuing its ash borer mitigation efforts; he believes the Commission earned more than they spent, or close to it; Ms. Karle will confirm. In his role as Tree Warden, Mr. Crane noted he would like to spend some expense on fertilizing the Town's shade trees and would present a proposal next month. Ms. Garrow inquired about whether property owners have been asked for permission prior to fertilization; Mr. Crane confirmed this.

6. New Business

a. Reappoint Emergency Management Director (EMD). Mr. Turco made a motion to reappoint Jeff Chase as EMD; Diana Garrow seconded; unanimously approved.

b. Reappoint Rutland Regional Transportation Advisory Committee Rep & Alternate. Jeff Chase made a motion to re-appoint Clinton Woolley as representative and to appoint Chad Farrar as alternate.

c. Reappoint Rutland Regional Planning Commission Commissioner and Alternate. Diana Garrow made a motion to re-appoint Jessica Metcalf as the Commissioner and Jon McCann as alternate.

d. Review and Sign Rutland Regional Public Works Mutual Aid Agreement. Mr. Turco made a motion to adopt the agreement as written; Jeff Chase seconded; unanimously approved. e. Complete RRPC Public Works Designated Officials

TOWN OF MOUNT HOLLY A Permit Is REQUIRED for OutDoor BURNING

BURN PERMITS May be obtained form THE MOUNT HOLLY FIRE WARDEN Jim Seward Pager: 802-786-3408 Home: 802-259-2211

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

> Transfer Station Spring/Summer Hours

The last Sunday will be April 7, 2024 9:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

The first Wednesday will be April 10, 2024. 4:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M. Wednesdays 4:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M. Saturdays 8:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.

Form. Mr. Turco made a motion to submit as drafted; Diana Garrow seconded; unanimously approved.

f. Adopt Local Emergency Management Plan (LEMP). Mr. Chase made minor additions to the current plan, per state recommendations, and listed those updates. Diana Garrow noted minor updates for the contact list. Mr. Chase made a motion to approve the plan as drafted; Diana Garrow seconded; unanimously approved.

g. Readopt Town Alcohol and Drug Testing Policy. Diana Garrow made a motion to readopt the policy; Mr. Turco seconded; unanimously approved.

h. Approve Budget for Dog Census (Stipend, Postage, Office Supplies). Diana Garrow noted that the Town would like to set aside a budget to pay a resident to conduct telephone reminders for residents re: dog licensing and to perform necessary mailings to complete the Town's dog census and to improve rates of dog licensing. Mr. Turco made a motion to approve a \$500 total budget for the scope of work; Diana Garrow seconded; unanimously approved.

i. Set Annual Transfer Station Closure for Easter. Diana Garrow proposed that the Town adopt a general policy of closing the Transfer Station on Easter Sunday. Mr. Johnson noted that the Town might consider offering the three hours as paid time to Transfer Station attendants, since they will otherwise lose the work. Diana Garrow made a motion to approve the Easter closure and to designate the day as a paid holiday for attendants; Mark Turco seconded; unanimously approved.

j. Discussion Re: Discontinuing Town Highway 71: Kevin Plew noted his request to discontinue the Class Four road designated as Highway 71, which has no historic value, nor any existing uses or snowmobile trails. The road is .06 miles (~300 feet). Mr. Woolley noted that the Town generally does not wish to give up Class Four roads. Mr. Plew asked about the benefit of keeping the road's current designation. Dennis Devereux asked whether the road reverts to the property owner that owns both sides of the road. Mr. Plew noted that, in theory, the road would become part of his property, per the last survey done, but that he does not currently use that part of

SELECT BOARD SEEKS ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

The Mount Holly Select Board seeks an Animal Control Officer.

This is a paid position.

Roles include enforcing the Town's dog Ordinance; conducting investigations; Responding to animal complaints; Supporting the Town's dog census, and Coordinating with the Town Health Officer and Town Clerk.

A full job description can be found at The Town Office.

Interested candidates should send a Letter of interest to the Select Board (information below).

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

the farm. He is concerned about the road being gated by another property owner in the future, if the road becomes a right-of-way to another private property. Mr. Turco noted that his preference would be to hold the road as a Class Four road; Diana Garrow noted

item re: the Town's Class Four Roads Policy.

CLOSED **Mount Holly Town Office** Monday May 27th In Observance **Of Memorial Day**

7. Ongoing & Old Business

a. Approve Allowance for Road Crew Uniforms. Clinton Woolley noted that the Foley uniform service contract has ended and employees' remaining uniforms will be picked up on April 16. Mr. Woolley expressed continued interest in employees receiving a stipend to purchase their own clothes. The current annual cost of the uniform service is \$2,400/year. The Select Board discussed setting a per-employee annual stipend, to equal the current cost of the

her agreement. Jeff Chase noted that the conversation overlaps with another agenda

uniform service, less an allowance for the purchase of a washer/dryer and laundry detergent. Jeff Chase noted that the Personnel Policy should be updated accordingly. Jeff Chase made a motion to set a \$600 annual uniform stipend per employee, with additional costs paid by the Town out of the existing budget; Jeff Chase seconded; unanimously approved.

b. Review Class Four Roads Policy. Jeff Chase noted that the policy was drafted in accordance with a model policy. The Select Board discussed the proposed policy language re: a resident wishing to improve a Class Four Road. Mark Turco made a motion to adopt the policy as drafted; Jeff Chase seconded; unanimously approved. c. Review Bids for Veterans Monument Repair. Mr. Turco noted that there was not a line-item for monument repair; Mr. Chase added that the cost might have to fall under the cemetery line item. Two bids were received, from Angus Ferrand (who submitted options for full replacement and repair) and Cody Surething (who submitted an option for repair with a bluestone cap). Mr. Turco noted that the Select Board would table its decision after receiving an apples-to-apples quote from each bidder, as each contractor had proposed a slightly different approach and materials and the bids aren't easily compared. .

d. Homeland Security Grant - 25KW Mobile Generator Purchase. The grant has been approved; Jeff Chase is pricing

BRANCH BROOK

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generators for purchase. The generator would be for the Town Office or Library, as there is one at the Town Garage already. A related issue to consider is that the school is currently named as an emergency shelter, but this may need to change in the future, as the school budget is not controlled by the Town, and it is not an ideal location given that students are there in the academic year and the school is closed in summer. Tabled until May meeting

and the school is closed in summer. Tabled until May meeting.

8. Citizen Comments

a. Dennis Devereux noted that he has identified some volunteers to support cemetery mowing and maintenance and continues to seek additional interested volunteers.

9. Announcements

a. Rabies Clinic - April 13, 2024, 10-12 pm

b. School Budget Revote - April 23, 2024, 10 am - 7 pm

c. Town Office Closed to Public on Day Prior to Election Day

10. Review & Sign Orders

11. Executive Session: Title 1 V.S.A. S 313(a) - Review Transfer Station Applicant

12. Adjourn at 7:38 pm. Respectfully Submitted By Caitlin Boyle, Selectboard Clerk



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Custom Builders of Belmont Inc. P.O Box 171 Belmont, VT 05730 Charlie Conroy 30+ Years Experience

cjconroy@vermontel.net

TOWN CEMETERY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are looking for a few volunteers to mow or trim in our town cemeteries. Most are small and no longer active, so nice and quiet. Towns are required to provide some maintenance, so they need to be trimmed about 3 times between June and October. The only town cemetery currently being used is the Packer Cemetery that recently came over to the town. The large Mechanicsville Cemetery in Belmont is a private association.

If interested, please contact me with a message at $\underline{802-259-2460}$ or $\underline{ddevereux@vermontel.net}$ for a site visit.

Mount Holly Town Cemetery Commissioners: Dennis Devereux, Paul Nevin, Chet Gates, Jr.



Wayne Jones Metal

All Metals

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

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

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION At the MOUNT HOLLY TRANSFER STATION

Saturday, April 13th & June 22nd, 2024 8:00 am to 10:00 am only

The following items are typical of the household chemicals collected through the Household Hazardous Waste program. These materials may be dropped off at the scheduled event in Mount Holly or delivered to the HHW Depot at the Rutland County Solid Waste District's Gleason Road Transfer Station. The Gleason Road HHW facility is now open by appointment only.

Appointments must be made 24 hours in advance.

Kitchen/Bathroom Aerosol Cans Bug Sprays Floor Care Products Metal Polish Furniture Polish Oven Cleaners Drain Cleaners Bathroom Cleaners Tile Cleaners Disinfectants Toilet Bowl Cleaners Nail Polish Remover Fluorescent Light Bulbs Degreasers Mercury Thermostats Cooking Oil

Garage/Workshop Waste Oil Antifreeze Gasoline Brake Fluid Roofing Tar Auto Body Repair Pro. Automatic Trans. Fluid Other Oils/Cleaners Paint (Latex, Lead & Oil Based) Paint Thinner Paint Stripper Varnish & Stains Driveway Sealer Glues/Adhesives Grout Caulk Tubes

Garden/Miscellaneous Chemical Fertilizer Fungicides Herbicides Rat Poison Insecticides/Pesticides Artists' Paints, Mediums Dry Cleaning Solvents Fiberglass Epoxy Gun Cleaning Solvents Moth Balls Household Batteries Photographic Chemicals Pool Chemicals Rock Salt Muriatic Acids Propane Tanks (less than 20 lbs.)





Ludlow Rotary Collecting Eclipse Glasses for S.American Children

The Ludlow Rotary Club (LRC) has announced that it will be collecting the special glasses used to observe the recent solar eclipse.

According to Kim Lampert, LRC Treasurer, these glasses will provide children in South America and elsewhere as a valuable tool for students, and people in general, to use during the October 2024 annular eclipse which will occur in Latin America.

The glasses may be dropped off at three convenient locations in Ludlow which will include:

- · Benson's Chevrolet, Inc. 25 Pond St
- M&T Bank 213 Main St and
- Fletcher Memorial Library 88 Main Street

People unable to drop them off at these locations may also use the LRC's Penny Sale on Saturday, April 27 at the Ludlow Gymnasium starting at 6 PM.

Members of the LRC will collect glasses through April 30. For additional information, contact Kim at 802-228-4000. Note: Photo attached (no restrictions found on internet) - poor resolution. Ralph Pace

FOLA Announces New Schedule

FOLA (Friends of Ludlow Auditorium) has announced its first new

schedule for 2024 following the well-received – and attended, Blue Jay Way Band Musical in March. In announcing the initial plans for the new season, Jim Alic, FOLA President, noted that "we've finally reached the point where we can look beyond Covid". He added that this initial schedule would be greatly enlarged in the coming months as people show an interest in returning to the Heald Auditorium.

times of the events that have been scheduled."



Rapsis to provide the musical background.

According to Stearns, future programs will likely include more musicals, some movies, plus new events co-produced with local organizations.

filing dates for the involved positions.

These events and future new events for the year are available at https://fola.us.

Pictured above is Emil Jannings from the silent movie, "The Last Laugh". The film is the story of the demotion of a wellrespected doorman at a major hotel who ended up having the last laugh. Ralph Pace

Ludlow Rotary Club hears from Ludlow Town Manager, Brendan McNamara

On the anniversary of his appointment as Ludlow Town Manager, Brendan McNamara addressed the Ludlow Area Rotary Club on matters affecting the Town and Village. In a lively and interactive discussion, McNamara briefed the Rotarians on the status of municipal infrastructure, such as the wastewater treatment plant and sports fields reconstruction, the reopening of local businesses and repairs and improvements to area roadways.

With his first Town and Village meetings behind him, McNamara said he is now anxious to substantively address the significant issues ahead, including settling flood related matters with FEMA, addressing issues related to the proposed merger of the Ludlow Town and Village, and school and athletics challenges in light of declining student populations.

McNamara urged area resident involvement, and welcomed residents to make their voices heard on matters affecting the Ludlow area communities. He thanked everyone for the tremendous support he has enjoyed in his first year in the position, especially in the aftermath of the July 2023 flood.

In other business at the meeting, Rotarians discussed the upcoming 66th Annual Penny Sale. Supporting businesses should supply their prizes to a club member or deliver to Cota and Cota by Monday, April 15 for full publicity in the evening's program.

The Ludlow Area Rotary Club meets on Tuesdays at DJ's Restaurant in Ludlow. If you are interested in more information on the club or are interested in joining please contact Kevin Barnes, Membership Chairman at (802) 228-8877, to receive an invitation to a meeting. Attached photo courtesy of Kevin Barnes



Scott Steans, FOLA's Program Director, indicated that plans are already underway for new events. "But we wanted to let the public know of the dates and

Since this is a major political year, the schedule calls for two Candidate Forums where voters can hear directly from the candidates as to why they should be elected. A Primary Election candidates' Forum is scheduled for Thursday, July 18 at 7 PM. A General Election Forum will be conducted on Thursday, October 10 at 7 PM.

The format and candidates for these events will be announced following the

Stearns also noted that FOLA's annual Silent Movie Festival would be returning to the auditorium on Saturday, August 24, starting at 7 PM. The silent movie selected is the classic film, "The Last Laugh", and will feature the return of Jeff



Ludlow Rotary Prepares for 66th Annual Penny Sale

The Ludlow Rotary Club is at it again. The final stages are in place for the 66th Annual Penny Sale. This annual event will be held on Saturday, April 27, 2024, at the Black River High School auditorium in Ludlow. The Penny Sale starts at 6:00 p.m. and admission is free!

The Penny Sale is currently one of the largest fundraisers undertaken by the Ludlow Rotary Club. The proceeds are used for college scholarships for area high school students living in Cavendish, Ludlow, Plymouth and Mt. Holly. In addition to the scholarships the proceeds are used for local school events and community projects such as the Cavendish/Proctorsville Greven Field,

LPC-TV, Black River Valley Senior Center, Apple Blossom Cotillion, Mountainside House, Black River Museum, Black River Good Neighbors, the Rotary International Youth Exchange program as well as other worthy causes.

The prize list is long. Over 400 prizes totaling more than \$25,000 in value will be given away during the evening! To name just a few of the donated

prizes: bicycles, ski passes, local restaurant gift certificates, power tools, Red Sox tickets, home maintenance items, theatre tickets, gas cards, fire safety items, propane grill cylinders, garden tools, maple products and the all-time favorite – cash! We will also have a swap table available for those of you who may want to swap your prize with another winner.

Our club is celebrating its 97th Anniversary this year and we will be giving away to the first 85 kids a free gift! Come help celebrate our 97 years of community and international service!

Our cash raffle of more than \$1000.00 is always exciting. You do not need to be present to win the cash raffle but an additional \$25.00 will be added to the winning ticket if present. Rotarians will be out and about selling raffle tickets at Shaw's and elsewhere in Ludlow on weekend afternoons from now until the evening of the Penny Sale. Raffle tickets are \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00.

The prizes for the Penny Sale have been donated by area businesses and the Ludlow Rotary Club is grateful for their generosity. Mark your calendars now for Saturday, April 28, 6:00 p.m. the Black River High School auditorium in Ludlow. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. Refreshments will be available.

For some, this "Mud Season Event" is an annual tradition. So, if this is your first Penny Sale or your 66th, we hope to see you for this fun-filled evening. Again, a special thank you to all the businesses for your generous donations and participation.

If you have any questions, please contact Kim Lampert at 228-4000 or <u>www.ludlowrotarycom</u>. Remember, admission is FREE! Visit our web page at <u>www.ludlowrotary.com</u> to see our club's projects and events! The Ludlow Rotary club meets weekly at DJ's Restaurant and is celebrating our 97th year!

Pictured above from last year's Penny Sale is Rotarian Tome Harris as he auctions off one of the hundreds of gifts provided to those attending the annual Penny Sale. Ralph Pace



Ludlow Rotary Club Hosts International Exchange Students at Okemo Mountain Resort

In early March International Exchange Students and their Rotary International sponsors gathered for the weekend at Okemo Mountain Resort for snow sports and building international friendships. The students, who are studying in southern Vermont and New Hampshire for the school year, had a great time skiing, snowboarding and riding the Mountain Coaster courtesy of Vail's Epic



Promise grant program. The program supports local communities where Vail resorts are located.

This weekend has become a tradition with the Okemo Mountain Resort where staff arrange for lunches, ski and board rentals, and lessons for the students. This year students were from Brazil, Belgium, Paraguay, Venezuela, Romania, Croatia, Germany, Peru, Japan, Netherlands, France and Spain. Program leader, Jim Rumrill commented that many students find this weekend to be one of their favorite experiences during their exchange year. The Romanian student received pre-trip orientation from a Rotarian in her home country who felt the Okemo Resort weekend was the highlight of her Rotary exchange more than 20 years ago. The memories and friendships formed this weekend last a lifetime for the students.

The Youth Exchange Program ski weekend in March was a great success due to the Okemo Mountain Resort staff who help make it so successful.

Anyone interested in learning more about being a Rotary youth exchange student is invited to contact Jim Rumrill, Chairman at (802) 380 2766 to receive information about the program. Brigid Sullivan 802 558-1416

May 2024 Mount Holly Chit Chat Inc

Vermont Home Gardener ~ May Gardening: When to Plant?

This is the time of year when we can plant <u>some</u> things in the ground. Some seeds can go in early, other seeds & plants need to wait for warmer days. How do we know what to plant when? In April and early May most soil is still too wet to dig or till unless you have raised beds. Let's look at several ways to determine when it's OK to plant seeds or put out transplants. Also, a few words about the benefits of <u>not</u> mowing lawns in May and what good are wasps.

Frost Free Dates. Climate change has affected our growing season but we still need to pay attention to the basics of temperatures. Most plants can't take a real "frost" (when the air is still) or "freeze" (when there is a breeze) so they need to go in after danger has passed. That is tricky since we can't be sure what the weather might bring this month but we do know the average dates based on years of historical weather records. At higher elevations like Mount Holly the safe planting date is *about* May 30 and at lower elevations of Wallingford, Shrewsbury, or Ludlow that is about May 24. These are averages and best guesses, not absolute rules! Remember that it's not important that your plants go in on the earliest dates possible. If you would like recommendations for specific plants, then you can use one of several online guides or printed tables for our area.



The <u>University of Vermont Extension/Master Gardeners</u> program has an excellent website that includes planting schedules based on agricultural zones plus details about spacing, depth, number of seeds. This

website is very extensive and has many links to good resources for all kinds of useful gardening information. This should be your basic Go To place for reliable information. Note that depending on your exact location, we are in either zone 4 (higher elevation) or 5 (lower



elevation).

<u>Johnny's Seeds</u> has a calculator that uses your zip code/hardiness zone and to tell you when to start seeds indoors and the earliest dates to transplant outside by plant. They also have a great calculator for repeating or succession plantings so you can plan for harvests throughout the growing season. Enjoy salad greens, beans, broccoli, etc. all summer long instead of getting too much in July and then having none. We can grow salad greens all summer long and well into late fall!

The <u>Old Farmers' Almanac</u> has a similar table plus they include planting by the moon information. An added feature of the Almanac is that clicking on the name of the plant opens a growing guide for that specific plant. Very convenient.

I like the old fashioned "natural" way to determine local planting dates based on observing nature's signals yourself. ("You can see a lot

by observing", Yogi Berra) I first encountered this practice among the Mayan farmers in Central America where they use natural events as signals to determine when to clear land, when to burn, when to plant, and when to expect pests. We can do something similar by using our own local natural events for an indication of when to plant. Scientists refer to these chronological events as Phenology. Here is a list of suggestions that you can use in your garden, wherever you are located:

Earliest times to plant...

Peas & onion sets Lettuce, beets, carrots, spinach Transplant broccoli, cauliflower, kohlrabi, cabbage Potatoes Beans, cukes, squash Tomatoes Corn Peppers, melons, eggplants

Is when...

forsythia or daffodils begin blossoming first lilac leaves, dandelions in bloom dandelions in full bloom lilacs in peak bloom lily of the valley blooming or apple blossoms oak leaves are dime size (young) irises in full bloom

Using these planning tools can take the guesswork out of planting and make gardening more productive and enjoyable. I tend to be conservative and plant a little later than the earliest dates. Delayed planting of squash and cucumbers, for example, can also avoid the main hatching of cucumber beetles and thereby reduces pest damage.

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If you haven't grown your own **potatoes** yet, this is a good year to begin. <u>Potatoes</u> do very well in our climate and local soils and taste far better than store bought spuds. I've had really good luck with <u>French Fingerling</u> potatoes and highly recommend including some in your garden. They're productive and delicious. Be sure you plant only certified seed potatoes to avoid the diseases that can be in store potatoes meant for eating.

A great conservation idea is called "*No Mow May, let the pollinators play*". The idea is very simple and makes sense. Avoid mowing your lawn in the month of May so that those early wildflowers (dandelions, clover, etc.) can blossom and provide early nectar for pollinators. At least don't mow areas with abundant dandelions and clover blossoming. These flowers are the first available major food for many wild



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



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

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

List of area sending towns include:

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

Applications are being accepted now.

Go to www.msjvermont.org to apply online Mount St. Joseph Academy.a Place to Belong ! pollinators, including honeybees and bumblebees, and gives them a spring boost. It also gives you a valid excuse to delay mowing! If you like this idea, you can extend the benefits by mowing less lawn all summer and converting some areas to pollinator gardens. After May when I find a patch of later flowering plants in the lawn I avoid mowing there until they have finished blossoming. At the very least, raise your mower blades to 4-5 inches to mow higher. That results in healthier grass with deeper roots too. More information is available at the Vermont Agency of Agriculture website. In support of wasps. Again, I want to

remind readers that wasps. Again, I want to remind readers that wasps are one of your best allies in garden pest prevention. Wasps are *beneficial* predators and play a vital role in keeping leaf eating bugs under control. The really good news is that fewer than 2% of wasps are the stinging "social wasps"-that we avoid (yellow jackets, paper wasps, baldfaced hornets). These stingers are the familiar wasps that build (and protect!) their nests in the ground or hanging above ground and will

sting if threatened. Unless they are located near human activity, wasps should not be harmed and be appreciated for their benefits of keeping nature in balance.

Of course, honeybees and bumble bees are also critical for plants as pollinators but are not predators of other insects. Bees are not

aggressive and rarely will sting unless directly threatened. How can you tell the difference? Bees are hairy, wasps are not.

Early spring is the time to watch for nest building near your home. If you quickly remove new small nests and they will move elsewhere. There is no need to kill them with poisons! Most importantly, 98% of all wasp species will not sting you but will provide great insect control around your home and garden. They are even believed to attack Emerald Ash Borer, a new serious tree pest in Vermont. Encourage their presence with small flowering plants such as fleabane, Queen Ann's Lace, asters, mints, milkweeds, tickseed (Coreopsis), goldenrod, white clover, and boneset.

Compost happens. Keep improving your soil with homemade compost.





Save the Date All are welcome!



The Mount Holly Conservation Trust (MHCT) is excited to invite the public to the

Dedication of the 449-acre Doolittle Parcel

in Mount Holly and Weston that was recently conserved as a new Wildlife Management Area.



Friday May 31, 2024 2:00 PM

At the Doolittle Parcel



(location details below)

Rain or Shine!

The tentative speaker list for this event includes:

- Christopher Herrick, Commissioner of Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department (VFWD)
- Will Duane, Land Acquisition Coordinator, (VFWD)
- Chris Bernier, Wildlife Biologist, (VFWD)
- Tim Morton, Stewardship Forester, Vermont Department of Forest, Parks, and Recreation
- Doolittle Family
- Mount Holly Conservation Trust Chair

The entrance to the property is just west of Slawson Road on the north side of route 100 in Weston. Please follow the QR code or this <u>link</u> for a map of the location. Signs will be posted on Route 100 on 5/31 directing attendees to the location.





Remembering a special Veteran on **MEMORIAL DAY!**

Clean Energy Group Celebrates Solar for All Funding Awards

Today Earth Day 2024, the US Environmental Protection Agency and the White House <u>announced</u> \$7 billion in funding to bring the benefits of solar to lowincome households and disadvantaged communities. The Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund Solar for All funding awards are a flagship component of the Inflation Reduction Act, heralded as a generational opportunity to fundamentally shift the clean energy market and create long-term savings and wealth-building opportunities for people who have historically been excluded from access to renewable energy. President Biden will deliver remarks at 2:15pm ET today, available via <u>livestream</u>.

Clean Energy Group is thrilled to be a Solar for All awardee, as a partner organization in the Community Power Coalition, led by <u>Inclusive Prosperity</u> <u>Capital (IPC)</u>. The Community Power Coalition is a multi-state coalition focused on increasing capacity and deployment of mission-driven, community-based solar developers.

Clean Energy Group will provide technical assistance related to deploying community solar paired with battery storage, with an emphasis on delivering cost-savings to low-income households and energy resilience to underserved communities. Read a press release from IPC on this funding announcement here.

"For vulnerable households that depend on electricity for their health and security, the solar and battery storage systems resulting from Solar for All could act as a literal lifeline during times of emergency," said **Marriele Mango**, project director for Clean Energy Group's energy resilience initiatives.

"Through our participation in the Community Power Coalition, Clean Energy Group is excited to support community-led

resilient power installations that improve health outcomes, increase energy security, and reduce energy burdens, while creating a more reliable and resilient grid."

"Solar for All is a transformational opportunity to expand on work that Clean Energy Group has been championing for over a decade," said Clean Energy Group President and Executive Director **Seth Mullendore**. "As a member of the Community Power Coalition, we will continue our work with communitybased partners in marginalized communities, where we have advanced solar and battery storage development at over 300 community-serving facilities across 32 states and Puerto Rico."

Today, Earth Day 2024, is a celebratory moment for the entire clean energy field. Clean Energy Group congratulates all of the Solar for All awardees and applicants for their hard work and dedication to building a strong, equitable, and inclusive clean energy future.

About Clean Energy Group

Clean Energy Group is a leading national, nonprofit advocacy organization working on innovative policy, technology, and finance strategies in the areas of clean energy and climate change. CEG promotes effective clean energy policies, develops new financial tools, and fosters public-private partnerships to advance clean energy markets that will benefit all sectors of society for a just transition. CEG's energy storage policy work is focused on the advancement of state, federal, and local policies that support increased deployment of energy storage technologies for resilient power, health, environmental justice, and climate benefits. For more information, visit <u>www.cleanegroup.org</u>. **Fletcher Memorial Library Presents**



The Language of Flowers

Memorial Day Tribute

"Our debt to the heroic men and valiant

women in the service of our country can

never be repaid. They have earned our

undying gratitude. America will never

forget their sacrifices."

- President Harry S. Truman

By Vanessa Diffenbaugh

Book Discussion on Mon 5/13 @ 6PM

The Victorian language of flowers was used to express emotions: honeysuckle for devotion, azaleas for passion, and red roses for love. But for Victoria Jones, it has been more useful in communicating feelings like grief, mistrust and solitude. The Language of Flowers is a heartbreaking and redemptive novel about the meaning of flowers, the meaning of family, and the meaning of love.

Copies Available

Please Join Us www.fmlnews.org 802-228-8921



Open to the Public 88 Main Street Ludlow, VT

chitchat@vermontel.net



What can be recycled in the recycle kits.

Adapters Cable Boxes Cables/Power Cords Calculators Cell Phones Copiers DVD/CD/VCR Players **DVRS** Desktops **Digital Cameras Digital Cards Digital Clock** Equipment **Expansion** Cards etc.) Fax Machines **GPS** Devices

Gaming Systems Hard Drives Home Phones Keyboards Laptops/Notebooks Memory/RAM Mice Modems Monitors (LCD/CRT) MultiFunction Devices Navigational Devices Navigational Devices Networking/Telecom Office Phones Phone Systems

Power Supplies Printers Processors Remote Controllers Routers Scanners Servers Shredders Smart Phones Smart Watches Solid State Drives Stereos Stereos Switches Tablets Televisions (LCD, CRT.

Wireless Cards Wires

What can't be recycled in the recycle kits.

- Adhesives Aerosol Cans Automotive Fluids Batteries Butane Lighters Devices Containing Mercury Gas Line Trimmer Glue Sticks
- Hazardous Materials Lava Lamps Light Bulbs Liquid Household Chemicals Medical Waste Mercury Thermometer Non-Electronic Material Paint



Personal Hygiene Power Blowers Pressurized Canisters Smoke Detectors Soda Streams Spray Chemicals Tapes (LTO, Cassette, VHS or Beta) Trash





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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

A Prescription for Produce

The referral period is open until the end of May for the 2024 Farmacy Project. Community Health is again partnering with the Vermont Farmers Food Center (VFFC) to distribute fresh produce to those with diet-related health conditions. VFFC's Farmacy Project emphasizes two core elements - free fresh produce prescriptions for individuals and families and support for new and emerging Rutland farmers.



How can you resist the thought of fresh Vermont produce for 15 week through the summer months? The referral period is open now until May 31. Contact your Community Health primary care provider or care manager for more information. Call the Community Health Patient Access Center at 802-779-9169 or read more about the Farmacy Project on VFFC's website at https://www.vermontfarmersfoodcenter.org/farmacy_project_Carolynn Hondo Fedor

FREE Packing Materials

Do you use e-bay or need packing material? I have a lot of peanuts and bubble wrap and air pockets for FREE if you could use them. Please contact Chris at 802-259-2529 and leave a message if interested, I will get back to you. I would love to find them a home instead of the dump. They are clean and from a smoke free home. We are no longer selling on e-bay.

News



BONE BUILDERS

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



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

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

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

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	Email

Sign Up for Mt. Holly NewsFlash

to get all that is happening locally in Town just email our to: newsflash@mounthollvvt.org

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 at stuberry1@gmail.com



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