



Mount Holly Chit Chat

51/2

April 2025

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

Mount Holly Community Association – Contact MHCavT@gmail.com www.MHCavT.org

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

Mt. Holly NewsFlash Town email sign up at newsflash@mounthollyvt.org Check Out www.mthollynewsflash.blogspot.com

PC Administrator Office Hours: Tues 2 -3 pm or by Appointment 802-259-2391 administrative.orriger@mounthollyvt.org

Town Library: Sat 9-1, Mon 10-2, Tue 1-5, Wed 2-4, Call 802-259-3707 <http://mounthollytownlibrary.wordpress.com>

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

Town Treasurer's Office Hours: Mon 10:00 am – 3:00 pm Wed 12:30 pm – 4:00 pm and by Appointment 802-259-2391

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

Town Garage: 802-259-3179

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

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



1 st	MH Conservation Commission, MH Town Office	<i>All Fools' Day</i>	6:00 pm
2 nd	MH PTG Meeting, MH School	<i>World Autism Day ~ Hans Christian Anderson 1805</i>	6:00 pm
3 rd	Fire Dept. Business Meeting, Belmont Fire Station	<i>Washington Irving 1856</i>	6:00 pm
4 th		<i>NATO Est 1949 ~ Martin Luther King Jr Assassinated 1968</i>	
5 th		<i>Booker T. Washington 1856</i>	
6 th		<i>Persian Gulf War Ends 1991</i>	
7 th		<i>Metris System 1795</i>	
8 th	Community Guild Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont		9:00 am
	Select Board Meeting, Town Office & Zoom		6:00 pm
	Mason Meeting, Mt Moriah Lodge, E. Wallingford		7:30 pm
9 th	LMHUUS Meeting,		6:00 pm
	ODD Fellows Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont	<i>Civil War Ends 1865</i>	7:00 pm
10 th	Fire Dept. Drill, Fire Station		7:00 pm
11 th		<i>Persian Gulf War Official Cease Fire 1991</i>	
	<i>Jackie Robinson 1st African-American Major League Baseball Player, 1st Base for Brooklyn Dodger 1947</i>		
12 th		<i>Passover Begins ~ Full Pink Moon</i>	
13 th		<i>3rd Pres Thomas Jefferson 1743</i>	
14 th		<i>Pan-American Day 1890 ~ Titanic Struck Iceberg 1912</i>	
15 th	<i>Leonardo Da Vinci 1452 ~ America's 1st School for Deaf Est. 1817 ~ Tax Day ~ Titanic Sank 1912</i>		
16 th	MH Town Library Meeting, Library, Belmont	<i>Wilbur Wright 1867</i>	6:30 pm
	MH Community Association Meeting, Library		7:00 pm
	MH Planning Commission, MH Town Office & Via Zoom,		7:00 pm
17 th	Fire Dept. work night, Fire Stations		7:00 pm
18 th		<i>Paul Revere Midnight Ride 1775</i>	
19 th		<i>Revolutionary War Began 1775</i>	
20 th		<i>Easter</i>	
22 nd	Community Guild Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont	<i>"Easter Seals" 1919 ~ Earth Day</i>	9:00 am
23 rd	ODD Fellows Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont	<i>Administrative Professionals Day</i>	7:00 pm
		<i>William Shakespeare b&d 1564-1616</i>	
24 th	Fire Dept. Drill, Fire Station		7:00 pm
25 th		<i>National Arbor Day 1872</i>	
26 th		<i>John James Audubon 1785</i>	
27 th		<i>18th Pres Ulysses S. Grant 1822</i>	
28 th		<i>5th Pres James Monroe 1758</i>	
29 th		<i>Holocaust Remembrance Day Est 1979</i>	
30 th		<i>Vietnam War Ends 1975</i>	
31 st	Fire Dept. work night, Fire Stations		7:00 pm



Emergency Services

MH Fire Dept. Chief Bill Austin 910-915-5954	802-259-27700	911	Poison Control	(802) 658-3456
MH Fire Warden – Jim Seward	802-786-3408	802-259-2211	American Red Cross	802-773-9159
Ludlow Ambulance Service Non-Emergency	802-228-2880	911	Game Warden – Tim Carey	802-773-9101
MH Constable	NONE		Health Officer – Chad Farrar	802-342-1366
MH Animal Control Officer Adam Karle	Cell	802-236-3656	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 Check out Mt. Holly Web Site www.mounthollyvt.org

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

Donation Thank Yous: Greg Durgin (Belmont Motor Works) * Jon & Amy Rae Lienhard (Belmont Country Gardens Stone Work – Belmont Gardens Property Management) * Kevin & Pattie Plew (Plew Farm) * Mike & Maria Blais (Countryside Lock & Alarms) * Millicent & Jim Johnson (Mt. Holly Dairy Aire Farm) * Ninevah Farm & Wilderness Foundation * Robert & Sharman Ludwick * Rebecca Bates (Wirenuts Electrical) * Patrick Angstadt (Riverwood Lawn Care) * Susan LeBlanc & Tim & Wendy Dawley * Buddy Batchelder (Buddy Systems Roofing) * Melissa Batchelder (MRS Unlimited Visions Interior/Exterior Painting) * Zena Gates * Ted Stryhas (Ted Stryhas Builder) * Wayne Jones (Wayne Jones Metal) * Gail Beardmore (Engel & Volkers Okemo Woodstock) *



April Birthdays: 1st-John Seward 3rd-Samantha Freedman 4th-Carol Pike 5th-Amanda Surething 8th- Bob Garrow * Jeff Carrara 9th-Eliza Hudak * TJ Milks 12th-Jean Palmer * Carlos Bickford * Tobi Macey 14th-Mallory Flanders * Melissa Garrow-Kent 16th-Jamie Carrara 17th-Noah Koponen 18th-Robyn Lewis * Todd Bussino Sr 21st-Alexander Bussino * Melissa Perry 22nd-Kai Lewis 24th-Vincent Turco * Eric Holt Jr * Eric Holt Sr * Beverly Stearns * Randy Hawkins 25th-Jeff Keller 26th-Nicolas Turco * Samantha Norton 27th-Mary Ellen Jacobs * Micah Lewis 28th-Danielle McMahon * Lisa Hendee 29th-Cassie Wilkins * Ian D.F. Miller



April Anniversaries: 12th-Steve & Nicole Lewis (2015) 16th – Dick & Nancy Tilton 18th-Randy & Tammy Hawkins

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

New Phone Numbers

Mount Holly		802-219-1426
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		1-877-854-7062
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		802-245-6403
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		802-230-1996
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 Post Master		– 802-245-6281



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. 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. Primary attendant is Kevin Plew and backup attendant Stu Berry at stumberry1@gmail.com . Email items to newsflash@mounthollyvt.org www.mthollynewsflash.blogspot.com



Chad M. Woodard

Chad Woodard was born August 6, 1976, died unexpectedly at his home on February 26, 2025.

He was predeceased by his father, Brett Woodard.

He is survived by his wife, Jaska Hill, his sons Tristan Woodard, Logan Hill and Codi Woodard, his mother, Sandra Brooks, his brother Scott Waterhouse and his niece, Skyye Mijka, as well as many aunt's uncles and cousins.

He was an automotive mechanic and enjoyed building cars and building and racing Enduro cars.

He also enjoyed hunting and fishing whether alone or with his sons or friends. There are no services planned at this time.



John Joseph Serravezza

John Joseph Serravezza, 82, of Mount Holly VT, changed his address to Heaven on March 16th, 2025. He passed peacefully at home with his loving wife and son at his side.

He was born August 8th, 1942 in the Bronx, NYC, NY. The second of five children to Flora Carucci Serravezza and William Serravezza.

He attended high school at Mount Saint Michael Academy before Fordham University. In 1961 he was initiated into Company D, eighth regiment of the National Society of Pershing Rifles where he continued to be an avid member throughout university life attaining a Bachelor of Philosophy in 1964.

He hoped to make a career for himself in the US military, but due to an accident that cost him his right ear's hearing, he was unable to join the officer corps.

Instead, he joined his father in the family business, Art-Lore Inc. He traveled the country as a salesman and the world in search of decorative art and accessories to sell to furniture showrooms and designers.

He later bought the business with his partner, Jay Citron. John was an accomplished artist and skilled craftsman who established Art-Lore as the premier source for high end framed art in the USA. He reintroduced bench-made hand finishes and oil canvas antiquing from previous centuries. When asked where and how he learned these proprietary techniques you'd often hear T.S. Elliot paraphrased "Only those who will risk going too far can possibly find out how far one can go." He was completely self-taught.

John leaves behind his loving wife Carol, of 42 years, his beloved son Jeff and his wife Monika along with their two children, Evelyn and Luca of N. Salem NY, and his son Marc of Denver CO.

He is survived by 4 siblings: Joan Brainard of Johns Creek

GA, Ann Clinchy of the Colony TX, Flora Serravezza of Atlanta GA, and William (Bill) Serravezza and his wife Elizabeth of Atlanta GA.

Mr. Serravezza is also survived by his niece Dr. Kimberly Serravezza of Decatur GA, Marissa Helm of McKinney TX and Stephanie Moseley of Atlanta GA and one nephew, K.C. Clinchy of Dallas TX



John was a gourmand of Italian cuisine. He could never decide whether Art-Lore customers came to his High Point NC showroom for his soul quenching framed art or for his famous lunches and dinners.

John was an avid dog lover who was met beyond that Bridge with loving kisses from Beau Geste, Duke, Kodiak, Tippy and Liberty Belle.

A celebration of life will be held later this Summer. If you want to make donations in his memory, please consider East Wood Animal Clinic in Rutland VT c/o Dr. Bruce LeGallias or VNA Hospice in Rutland VT.

PLEASE JOIN US IN A
celebration

OF THE LIFE OF

PHILIP JOHN BLYSKAL

November 14, 1949 - July 13, 2024

SATURDAY, MAY 24, 2025

OPEN HOUSE 1-5 PM | MEMORIAL 1:30 PM

2062 BELMONT ROAD, BELMONT, VT 05730

(Bring a picnic blanket or lawn chair; cooler weather may prevail)

LODGING

VRBO/AIRBNB rentals or B&Bs are available in the surrounding towns including Mount Holly, Belmont, Weston, Ludlow, Wallingford or Cuttingsville/Shrewsbury
Condo rentals are available at Okemo Mountain (www.okemo.com)

*Recommended Hotel: Main & Mountain in Ludlow
(www.mainandmountain.com or 802-242-1608)*

MEMORIAL GIFTS

*Please contribute in Philip's memory to
Mount Holly Community Association (www.MHCAVT.org) and/or
Mount Holly Museum (www.mounthollyvtmuseum.org)*

RSVP BY MAY 4, 2025

*at philipjbmemorial@gmail.com
or on FaceBook (scan code)*



March 2025, Mt. Moriah Lodge #96

Trestleboard

Next Meeting Tuesday 04/08th 7:30PM

Just a quick reminder to the Brothers coming to the meetings this winter the water has been shut off.

We will have our installations of officers this meeting. The lodge will keep the same officers as last year. Dave Seward will remain Worshipful Master, James Goss Sr. Warden, Dennis Start Jr. Deacon, Dave Johnson Treasurer, Buster Seward Sec'y, James Heald Sr Deacon, Pat Start Jr. Deacon Chaplain Bob Blaisdell.

The district will hold the Sap Bucket Degree again this year on April 5th.

Dues payments can be sent to: 42 Sugar



Mount Holly Community Association Presents

Mt Holly Art Exhibit

Sunday, May 25th

10 am to 5 pm

Community Center Room

Celebrating Local Talent and Community

Percentage of proceeds donated to the Penny Coldwell Youth Art Fund

Free Entry ~ Refreshments Served

Mount Holly School

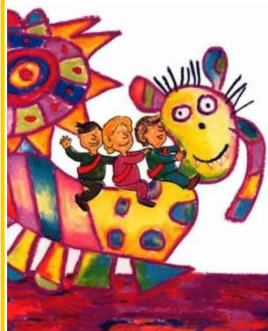
KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Tuesday, May 13, 2025

3:00—4:00 p.m.

By Appointment

(802) 259-2392



For children who will be 5 years old
on or before August 31, 2025

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.

2460 or ddevereux@vermontel.net for a site visit. Mount Holly
Town Cemetery Commissioners: Dennis Devereux, Paul Nevin,
Chet Gates, Jr.

*** 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.

Hill Rd. E. Wallingford, Vt. 05742

Second Degree date for Dana Hart needs to be
established Fraternally, David Seward W.M - Buster Seward
Sec'y

Fletcher Memorial Library Book Discussion

Fletcher Memorial Library in Ludlow invites you to a book
discussion on April 10th from 10:30 to 11:30 at 88 Main Street,
Ludlow.

Author Barbara Kingsolver and her family abandoned the
industrial-food pipeline to live a rural life—vowing that, for one
year, they'd only buy food raised in their own neighborhood,
grow it themselves, or learn to live without it.

Part memoir, part journalistic investigation, *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle* is an enthralling narrative that will open
your eyes in a hundred new ways to an old truth: You are what
you eat.

Since the book is chock full of recipes, you may want to
make one of the dishes to share at the discussion. Bring a
Friend! Shawn Kershaw

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 with lots
available for sale is the Packer Cemetery. The large
Mechanicsville Cemetery in Belmont is a private association.

If interested, please contact me with a message at 802-259-

Flanders Excavating & Firewood

Complete Site Work Start To Finish

All Aspects of Excavating:

Roads ~ Clearing Lots ~ Septic Systems ~ Ponds

Fully Insured – Call Steve @ 802-259-2147

Flanders.excavating@gmail.com

Firewood – Cut, Split & Delivered

Dear Editor

I was married in 1960 but home has always been where I grew up in Belmont, down the lane and over the bridge to Balestra Yule Tree Farm.

Home was where mom and Dad loved to have people stop by. The coffee was always perking on the stove and there was always something good to eat. We would sit around the table in the big kitchen and talk for hours.

For 100 years our family called it home. Dad came there at age 8 with his parents and younger brother from the Alps in Italy. He lived there and worked the land until he passed on, at age 84. Mom came at 18 and never left until she became ill at 90.

One room was always special to us because Dad picked stones in the fields to build the hearth, barn boards on the wall and a beam in the ceiling where someone had carved the date on over 200 years ago when the house was built. This room was always called Dad's room.

As young girls we would walk to the store, post office, lake and school. In the summer on Tuesday Night we would go to the square dances at the Odd Fellows Hall. This was very special to us. We couldn't wait for them to begin.

Belmont School has been gone for years. I went there until I was twelve and then started high school at Black River. St. Mary's church which I went to every Sunday and got married there is also gone. I still have glorious memories of this.

About 15 years ago our realtor called, we had an offer on the property. Someone who loved Belmont as we did. We felt in our hearts we were doing the right thing when we agreed to sell it to them. We thought they would like the historical house and barn as we did. To our dismay, the day of the closing before the ink was dry heavy equipment was moving in and the next day the barn was down. A few days later big equipment was knocking down the house starting with the hearth in Dad's room.

Our hearts were broken, tears were shed and we had many sleepless nights. What we still have is beautiful memories. Belmont is still a beautiful village.

Out of our family of 4 girls, there is my youngest sister and I left. Now we are making wonderful memories of our families. Annette Balestra West (My father nicknamed me Sugie and I have always been called that)

Memories of Home

Bone Builders

Monday & Thursday Mornings

9:00 am

Community Room MH Library

For Weights and more information

Call Judy Nevin 802-259-2443

MOUNT HOLLY TOWN LIBRARY NEWS APRIL 2025



It's Spring. The days are longer and the temps are creeping up.

That means that our book drop is open 24/7 for returns

We will begin taking donations again on May 1st

- No text books Hard covers in good condition
- No magazines or encyclopedias
- No paperbacks please No VHS tapes

The Library is pleased to announce that we now have a library pass for the Vermont Institute of Natural Science (VINS), available for checkout. Ask at the desk. Remember that we also have passes to Vermont State Parks, Vermont State Historical Sites and the Granite Museum in Barre.

Our movie for April is Local Hero with Burt Lancaster and Peter Riegert.

Soundtrack by Mark Knopfler of the band Dire Straits. 7PM April 17th

We will be getting a selection of book titles from Oprah's Book Club, Reese's Book Club and Jenna's Book Club. If there is a title in that group that we don't have, let us know.

We are always in need of volunteers to help us fill hours at our service desk. Shifts are 2 hours long. No experience needed. If you think you can help out, email us at mthollylibrary@gmail.com Mount Holly Town Library, 26 Maple Hill Road, Belmont, VT 05730 802-259-3707 mthollylibrary@gmail.com <https://mounthollytownlibrary.wordpress.com>



Mount Holly Transfer Station

SPRING/SUMMER HOURS

Begin

WEDNESDAYS, 4 pm to 7 pm

SATURDAYS, 8 am to 2 pm

Last Sunday is March 30th

First Wednesday is April 2nd

Closed Sunday April 9th

REMINDER: STICKERS ONLY, NO CASH

Mount Holly Community Association and
Green Mountain Neighbors
are delighted to present

Vermont Master Gardener and author of
The Vermont Home Gardener

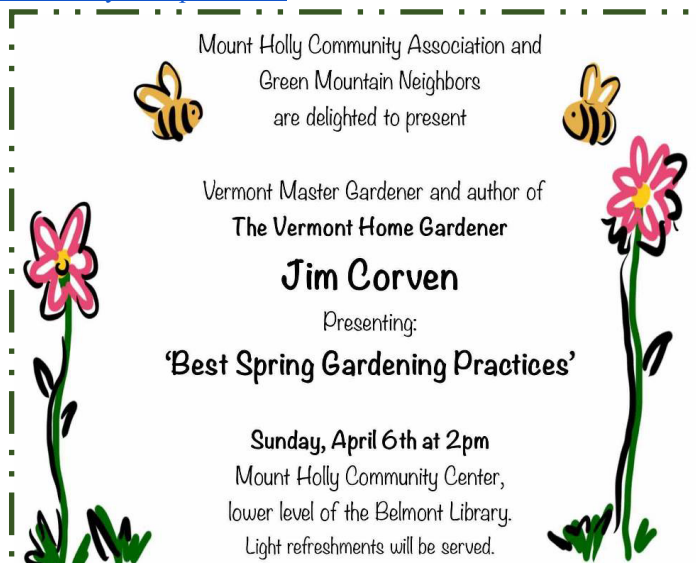
Jim Corven

Presenting:

'Best Spring Gardening Practices'

Sunday, April 6th at 2pm

Mount Holly Community Center,
lower level of the Belmont Library.
Light refreshments will be served.



News from the Mount Holly Community Association

April showers bring May flowers but first it brings the dreaded MUDD SEASON (it always seems like it should be a double D when one speaks of mudd season). So to celebrate the dirtiest season of the year in this fourth month of 2025 we have four mud quotes and jokes for your amusement:

1. If mud aint flyin you aint tryin! (Came off a t-shirt design)
2. He who slings mud loses ground - Adlia E. Stevenson
3. What do you call a chicken who crosses the road, rolls in mud, and crosses back again? A dirty double crosser

Mud Jokes - Upjoke.com

4. What do you do when your foot gets stuck in the mud? Call a toe truck - Che Lewis

Thank you's: One of the recent warm spells turned a mountain of plowed snow into a melting glacier that made its way under the door into the community room just in time to start flooding the Bone Builders class. **Thank you Kevin Hollebeek & Jake Bania** for coming to the rescue and removing snow and ice from in front of the community center door!! We can not thank you enough for removing this formidable problem!!

In the spirit of community we would like to acknowledge and thank **Leah Knoll**, one of your MHCA Board of Directors, for assuming the helm for Clean Up Day in Mount Holly. Thank you to the outgoing Zarress (it should be a word even tho Webster's appears to disagree) **Marianne McGee** who dutifully served her community for many years as our town coordinator.

Upcoming events:

Best Spring Garden Practices: MHCA, in conjunction with Green Mountain Good Neighbors, brings you a talk with Jim Corvan, Mount Holly's resident expert and regular garden practices contributor to the news flash and chit chat. Join us on **April 6th at 2pm at the community center**. Light refreshments will be provided. Bring your questions, ideas, and paper and pencil (or your favorite electronic device) to take notes as Jim shares his wealth of gardening knowledge and important aspects of spring preparation.

Spring Mud Fling Dance: We are excited to have **The Better Blues Band** help us rock in mud season **Saturday, May 3rd**. There is something for everyone as The Better Blues Band plays rock, blues and funk to get your feet and body gyrating to rhythms of sounds. The doors at the **ODD Fellows Hall will open at 7pm and music starts at 8pm. Tickets are \$12.00 in advance or \$15 at the door**. Please send your check to MHCA PO Box 93 Belmont, Vt 05730 or use the QR code to scan and pay.



This is a BYOB event and feel free to bring snacks or dessert to share ("sharing is caring" as our wee ones remind us). Come celebrate the beginnings of spring with us and spend a fun evening hanging around with your neighbors, friends, and maybe you might even meet some new folks from our little mountain community.

Pop up Gallery Show Sunday, May 25: This new event continues to honor our departed friend and board member Penny, as we support her legacy through the Penny Coldwell Youth Art Fund. We are looking for local artists, we know you are out there, who would like to share their talents for show or purchase.

Contact Zhenia Dickinson Hadar for details at zhadar@hadarfamilay.com. This new event will be open from 10am-5pm in the community center (lower level of the library) and corresponds with Vermont's bi-annual Open Studio Tour weekend.

Music on the Green series starts July 3rd: Thursday evenings thru August. We have a number of individuals and groups who bring their unique musical talents to the Belmont Village Baptist Church green. **Music starts at 6:30pm;** make it an evening picnic if the mood strikes you. Sit back, relax, and visit with friends as you listen to local musicians entertain you for a magical summer evening in the mountains.

Projects on the horizon: This past month we met with Jackson Evans of the Vermont Preservation Trust to discuss the stained glass windows in the library. The windows have been on our radar for the last few years noting the need for repair and maintenance. Mr. Evan's outline next steps in considering the preservation of these old historic windows. The Board voted to have a formal assessment completed, a required process, to move forward with applying for a grant to help offset the costs of having the windows repaired. We will keep you posted as we move forward in this project.

And that, our beloved chit chat readers, is the news for this month from your dedicated team of MHCA Board of Directors. Be well, be a good neighbor, and be patient as you navigate thru yet another season of the oozing brown stuff that can't make up its mind if it's in a state of freezing or thawing. Linda Miller & Jennifer Burrows



The choice is MSJ



Mount St Joseph Academy is now accepting applications for the 2025-26 school year



Be a Mountie for a Day, any day, every day. Schedule a time to visit MSJ and have your student spend a day with us.

Tuition is free for students from "sending towns"

&

Generous scholarships are awarded to defray the cost of tuition

Give us a call to learn more. 802-775-0151

Go to www.msjvermont.org to apply online

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





Vermont Home Gardener: April Gardening

April showers bring May flowers. Snow drops and crocuses have been showing since the mid-March snow melt and daffodils are soon to blossom. This means gardeners have lots to do to get the season started. Along with early pruning and seed starting there is the necessary clean-up and garden preparations. In this article we will cover details of these renewing tasks and offer a couple thoughts about why we garden.

Seed Starting

Onion seeds were sown (indoors) in early March. Late March through mid-April is the best time to start peppers (sweet or hot), tomatoes, and cabbage. Broccoli, cauliflower and many annual flowers (zinnias, snapdragons, cosmos, marigold, etc.) seeds can be started in mid to late April. Johnny's Seeds has a very helpful [seed starting calculator](#) online that covers every vegetable and flower you might plant. You simply enter your spring frost free date (May 22 in Mount Holly) and the table tells you when to start the seeds and when to transplant them. [Here is a good video](#) about starting your own seeds. Also, join me at 2:00 PM on Sunday, April 6 in the Mt. Holly Community Center for a discussion about seed starting and other spring gardening ideas.

Spring Pruning

What can I do outside now? When the snow is gone use the nicer days to your advantage and get your pruning and cleanup work done. Pruning is best done while woody plants are still dormant, before their buds swell (usually about mid-April). In general, prune out all dead, diseased or damaged stems and branches. Make your pruning cuts of side branches close to the main stem, just outside the enlarged "collar" or just outside lateral buds so they can grow new branches. This is a great time to manage shape & size by cutting off those drooping or too long branches and downward growing branches. [UVM Extension has a helpful videos online](#) to show the basics of good pruning practices. A few of my own suggestions:

Raspberries & Blackberries – cut out all the old canes that fruited last season plus any short, spindly canes at ground level. Also, you can cut back young canes to 5-6 ft. to reduce floppiness or excessive height. If you have an everbearing variety that tried to bear a second fall crop you should cut those canes down just below the lowest old fruit bunches as they won't repeat fruiting on that top area.

Blueberries – cut out any dead or damaged stems or branches. In mature bushes (over 5 years old) select a mix of young and mature healthy stems to leave and thin out over-crowded branches to allow sunlight and air flow through the bush. This year's flower buds are already set on blueberries so don't shorten saved stems or you may remove this season's berries.

Apple & Pears – remove all dead or damaged branches and any "suckers" (branches growing straight up from the main trunk or side branches. Remove branches that cross another branch, grow downward or head centrally. After pruning, apply a dormant oil spray covering all surfaces well (especially the buds) from the ground up to the top to smother over-wintering insect pest eggs. Do this on a calm day when the temperature is above 40. I'll repeat this application after the leaf buds swell and again after they just open but *before* blossoms open to get most of the larvae hiding in the bark and buds.

Hydrangeas – in Mount Holly we mostly have smooth or panicle hydrangeas that bloom on new wood. (Big white blossoms) They don't require pruning, but you'll get bigger blossoms if you cut all of last year's canes back to the ground. I leave a number of strong young canes (straight and gray colored) for early greening and to provide support for new canes that will grow.

Do not prune forsythia, rhododendron, spiraeas, clethras, viburnums, or lilacs until after they have finished blossoming (except to remove dead or damaged branches). Their flower buds are already present on last year's wood and pruning them now would remove this year's blossoms!

Lawns - Despite the commercial push for chemical lawn fertilizers and weed killers in the spring, this is not the best time to feed your lawn. Spring fertilization stimulates top growth (more mowing!) at the expense of root growth. This results in overgrowth early in the season and a lawn that will require extra watering in late summer. Spring is a good time to apply limestone if your soil pH is lower than 6.5. This prepares your soil for fall feeding, which stimulates strong root growth and healthier grass.

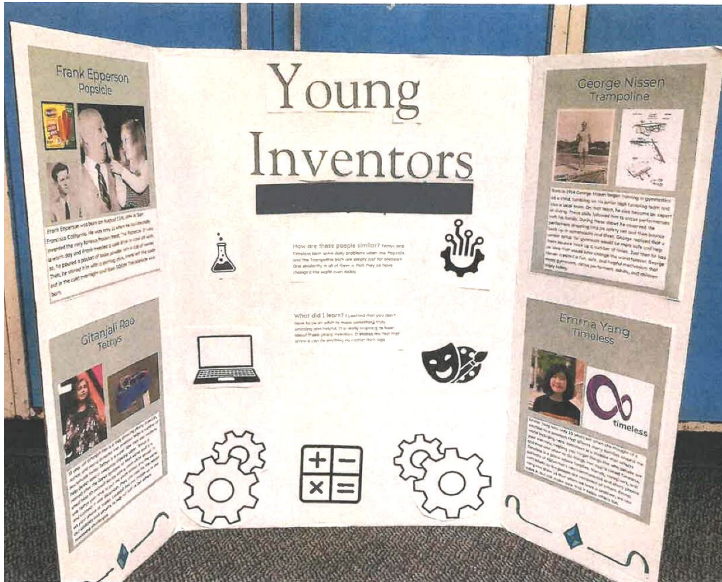
Composting is always a good idea and one of the most important and beneficial things any gardener can do. Compost is good for your soil and plants, keeps climate warming carbon out of the atmosphere, and reduces the waste volume going to landfills.

I garden because I enjoy growing plants for flowers and for healthy food. It is a great satisfaction to bring in food & flowers that we grew ourself. My preference is that we do this using organic practices for a healthier environment and foods. Do you also buy organic foods when you can? If you feel that organic foods tend to be too expensive to buy all the time, you might consider at least avoiding non-organic foods in the [Dirty Dozen](#) to reduce your intake of chemical pesticides.

Questions or Comments? Contact Jim Corven mounthollygardener@gmail.com
Read all Gardener articles at <https://Vermonthomegardener.com>

Wonder-ing about the World at Mount Holly School by Darcy Gibney

Have you ever wondered about something and then took the time to find out the answer? Third and Fourth Grade Students at Mount Holly School recently shared their “Wonder Projects” with the school community.



What is a Wonder Project? Ms. Dunne, one of two teachers in grade three and four at MHS, explains, “A wonder project is a chance for students to research a topic they are curious about and then find a way to share that learning.” Students work on their projects for a week and then present their projects to other students and teachers and even parents.

Wandering around the two classrooms admiring the displays on a variety of topics and listening to the “expert” students, it is easy to take for granted all the hard planning, research and effort that went into the projects.

Wonder projects this term included topics such as the History of Donuts, Snowmobiling, Owls, and Young Inventors. A fourth grade student, tells how he got the idea for his recent wonder project on *Fast Food*, “I went to Taco Bell the night before (I had to decide) and I got the idea.” He says he wanted to find out “who invented fast food, when, and why.” He says, about what surprised him in his research, “I thought fast food was around for much longer than it has been.”

The students are gaining valuable skills that can transfer to other areas of learning as they grow and progress on to higher grades. According to Mrs. Dunne, they are learning “time management and organization skills.” In addition, they are finding out how to “find quality sources of information, communicate effectively in writing and speaking, and produce quality work.”

A third grade student says of her “History of Gummy Bears” wonder project “I thought of something I liked.” She continues, “I liked telling everybody the sizes (of gummy bears), and where they’re made, and who makes them.”

“I am so inspired by our students! Their depth of knowledge and understanding is so impressive”, remarks Principal Craig Hutt Vater. “The hard work, creativity and skillful design demonstrated in the projects exceeds what most people think nine and ten year old students are capable of.”

All students enjoy coming to see the wonder project presentations, but for the younger students the projects are a source of inspiration. Back in their own classrooms, students are abuzz about what they saw. A second grade student says he’s “already starting to think about what my wonder project will be next year!” For students at Mount Holly School, the world of learning is wonder-ful.



Green Up Vermont

Join statewide volunteers to remove litter from Vermont's roadsides!

Together we keep Vermont clean.
Together we have made history.

Vermont holds the 2024 Guinness world record title for
“The Most Pledges Received for Trash Clean Up in 24 Hours”

Be proud, Vermonters, be proud!

Let's do it again, on
May 3, 2025.

Come to the gazebo on the Belmont Green
8am-12 to pick up bags and register your clean-up zone.

Contact town coordinator Leah Knoll for more information
or early bag pick-up: leahknoll@yahoo.com or 259-4137

Mt Holly PTG Presents

BI-ANNUAL AUCTION

A NIGHT AT THE RACES



All proceeds
benefit the
Students of Mt
Holly Elementary
School

Experience a fun evening of horse race themed FUN-draising!

Dress to impress!

Live & Silent Auction

APPS + DESSERTS + BEER + WINE

Purchase Kid made hats and Fascinators the night of!

Event Sponsorship: Jockey \$250; Granstand \$500; Triple Crown \$1000

Sat April 26th, 2025
6pm to 9pm

ODD FELLOWS HALL
BELMONT, VT

Purchase Tickets
in advance \$20
Night of \$25



Scan QR Code for Ticket purchasing
OR email: mthollyptg@gmail.com

A Kingdom Not Of This World

Most of us hope for good government. We vote, we serve, and we speak out for causes we believe are fair and just. But political solutions remain powerless to change the condition of our hearts.

Many of Jesus's followers anticipated a Messiah who would bring a vigorous political response to Rome and its heavy-handed oppression. Peter was no exception. When Judas led a band of Roman soldiers to arrest Jesus, Peter had three problems as he panicked with his sword drawn: First, he was sleepy (and I have *deep* appreciation for him at this juncture!) Secondly, he was *angry* (as the wrestling coach said, "If you get your opponent angry then you can whip him 'cuz a man who's angry is never completely under control.") Thirdly, Peter was a fisherman... and *fishermen* make poor swordsmen (I guess, unless you're a *swordfisherman*!) So he took a swing, aiming for the head of the high priest's servant, but he *missed*, lopping off his ear instead.

Jesus halted Peter's one-man war, saying, "Peter, put your sword away! Shall I not drink the cup the Father has given me?" The Master graciously restored the ear to its rightful place so that it would not appear as "Exhibit A" at His trial, implicating violent resistance. Hours later, Jesus would tell Pilate, "My kingdom is not of *this* world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jewish leaders."

The Lord's restraint in that moment, as His life hung in the balance, astonishes us when we ponder the scope of His mission. On a day yet in the future, He will lead the armies of heaven into battle. In the book of Revelation, John wrote, "With justice he judges and wages war."

But as He endured the ordeal of His arrest, six illegal trials, and crucifixion, Jesus kept His composure and His Father's will in view. By embracing death on the cross, He set in motion a chain of events that truly transforms hearts. And in the process, our Strong Conqueror defeated death itself. One recovering alcoholic father expressed Christ's conquering power this way, "The Bible says that Jesus turned *water* into *wine*. In my case, He turned wine into *food* on the table and *clothes* for my kids." Let's not be looking for political solutions to the social ills of our day. Salvation will not arrive on Airforce One. Only the Risen One can unleash His power to help you conquer whatever it is you are facing right now. Why not pray, "Your kingdom come, Your will be done?" Here's wishing you a joy-filled celebration of our risen Conqueror's resurrection! *Pastor Glenn*





Mount Holly School

PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION

Wednesday, May 14, 2025
8:15 a.m.—3:00 p.m.
By Appointment
(802) 259-2392

For children who will be 3 years old on or before August 31, 2025

Please bring the following:

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

You will be able to see our inside and outside classrooms.
Boots recommended!

Ms. Cristy, Ms. Devin and Ms. Siri will all be on hand to answer questions and provide important information about the program.

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Keith Hawkins
PRESIDENT

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LMH School Budget Vote April 22

The Ludlow Mount Holly Unified Union School District Board voted unanimously at its March meeting to resubmit the budget to voters on Tuesday, April 22. The vote will take place at the Ludlow Town Hall and Mount Holly Town Office from 10 AM to 7 PM or by advance voting.

The Board recognized that the budget would require taxes to increase but noted that almost all of the increase was for items beyond their control. Spending will increase by \$1,341,057 (15%), with much of the increase attributable to tuition for middle and high school students and for special education costs. In addition, the tax rate will increase because of the determination by the State that property values in Ludlow and Mount Holly have risen more rapidly than in the rest of the

State and because of the unavailability of a prior year surplus of \$497,895 used to reduce taxes in last year's budget.

Since the closure of Black River High School, the district must pay tuition for high school and middle school students to the public or private schools they choose to attend. This year's budget included 141 students with an average tuition of \$18,857, for a total cost of \$2,658,875. The projection for next year is 144 students with an average tuition of \$22,370 for a total of \$3,222,317, an increase of \$517,651.

Special education costs are projected to increase by \$372,330. State and federal law requires the district to pay for students' Individual Education Plans (IEP) after they have been determined to need extra assistance. The district cannot unilaterally modify a student's IEP. Teachers and principals are now working on a plan to provide less expensive assistance to help students before they have been formally assessed as needing an IEP. They hope that this plan will reduce future special education costs but it will take several years to gain those savings.

The budget approved by the Board also included two new teachers to enable both schools to have one teacher for each grade. The district aims to have class sizes between 13 and 18, but the fifth and sixth grades in Mount Holly are projected to have 23 students while Ludlow will have 20. Combining the grades would result in larger classes than desired while separating them would create smaller classes than desired. Superintendent Layne Millington explained that many of these students have not recovered from the disruptions caused by COVID. Many students are struggling with mental health issues that are not being addressed outside of the schools. The cost of these teachers, including benefits is \$200,000 and causes an additional 2% increase in property taxes. The Board voted unanimously to add these two teachers, as members agreed that the benefit to the students was worth the small additional cost.

Other budget increases include \$117,010 in benefits, primarily for health insurance costs that are set by the State and a contingency to cover salary increases that are being negotiated.

Public meetings will be held in early April in Ludlow and Mount Holly to answer any questions about the budget. Many details are also available on the schools' website, trsu.org. Or you can email me with any questions: david@davidsmartin.net. David Martin, School Board Member

Solid Waste Stickers ORDER FORM

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

STICKERS REQUIRED AT TRANSFER STATION

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 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 .75 cents for return mail.

Name _____

Address _____

_____ Stickers @ \$3.00 each = \$ _____

Postage/handling \$ _____ .75

Total Enclosed \$ _____

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

Attention High School Seniors

- The Mount Holly Community Guild awards two scholarships to graduating seniors who are going to continue their education. If you wish to apply for a scholarship, please contact Judy Nevin (jbnevin@gmail.com or 802-259-2443) for an application. Applications are due April 30.

The Vermont State Legislature

Hello once again from the Vermont Statehouse. I am writing this on Saturday, March 22nd, and we have now officially passed the halfway point of this year's session. Yesterday marked the so called "crossover" date. This is the date by which all bills have to have left the original committee of jurisdiction in one chamber. Then, if that bill gets passed on the floor of that chamber, it moves across to the other chamber and it goes through the same process.

So far, only 4 bills have been passed by both the House and Senate and 3 have become law. H 31, An act relating to claim edit standards and prior authorization requirements Is now law. H 35, An act relating to unmerging the individual and small group health insurance markets is also now in statute, and H 78, which allows municipalities to use the Australian ballot system in local elections if approved is also now law.

The fourth bill, H 141 is the Budget Adjustment Act. This is normally just a true up of the year's current fiscal budget and does not usually include any additional spending. The Governor has vetoed this bill. The letter which he sent to the Legislature made two points:

1. Given growing uncertainty around federal funding and the potential for significant funding cuts to critical programs, spending additional general funds in the budget adjustment for expenses that are not time sensitive is irresponsible. These new spending proposals should be considered as part of the FY26 budget to be weighed against other initiatives that may have been reduced due to federal budget cuts.
2. Expanding the free "hotel/motel program," moves us backwards, reversing important progress made towards reforming this failed program, agreed upon by the Administration and Legislature just last year. After nearly five years of experience, we know this approach is far too expensive and fails our constituents, communities and taxpayers.

The bill was up for a vote this past week, but the House has postponed it. Hopefully, there are further discussions to come to find a solution. If the House sustains the veto, it will not move over to the Senate. I did vote not to approve the bill when it left the Senate.

There are also bills in both chambers regarding the Clean Heat Standard. Many legislators have heard from constituents about repealing Act 18 which contains this provision. There were bills introduced in both chambers but neither have moved to the floor yet. There was some late movement yesterday in both the Senate Natural Resources and Appropriations Committees, but nothing yet has advanced to the floor.

This has been the slowest pace of any legislative session since I have been in office. There has not been any significant progress made on the reform to our educational system which seemed to be the most important issue in the campaigns during the last election cycle. The administration has proposed one plan which would reduce the number of school districts to 5 and includes a foundation formula which would fund each district with a set funding level. So far, the House Education committee has not come up with any sort of corresponding plan. The Senate Education Committee has developed a plan with more districts than 5 but so far nothing beyond that. It is my belief that we need to tackle the governance issue and the funding issue this session which will leave still lots of work to be done next year. Still to be addressed are minimum class sizes, school choice, and how individual "wards" will be established. I think we all need to remember that as recently as 25 to 30 years ago, Vermont had 115,000 students and full schools. We now allocate 30% of all Vermont State spending to 83,000 children. And the trajectory of student enrollment continues to decline. Estimates from the District Administration Project indicate that Vermont will suffer another 9% decrease in K-12 enrollment by 2030, and we will have only 77,000 full time students by that year. We absolutely have to make progress on this quickly. The House Ways and Means committee voted on Friday to buy down next year's property tax shortfall by \$77 million. What was expected to be a 6% increase in property taxes will be reduced to something closer to 1% if the Senate and Governor agree with that plan.

I would also note that next year's fiscal year budget is still not clear. According to Rep Jim Harrison who is a member of the House Appropriations Committee, "The House Appropriations Committee has its work cut out. There are an estimated \$300 million in spending requests over and above the Governor's budget proposal from various advocacy organizations and independently elected state

officers like Treasurer, Attorney General and Sec of State, as well as from other House committees. Appropriation members will need to remove a dollar of the Governor's plan each time a dollar is added for one of the recommended adds it wants.

In addition, this will be done in the backdrop of what spending changes in Washington might mean for the state as over 36% of state revenue comes from the federal government. As an example, last week the Agency of Agriculture learned that a \$1.7 million federal grant to support local foods in school cafeterias was eliminated."

I will continue to work hard to avoid any new taxes or fees. If you want to reach me, you can call my landline at 773-1365 or email me at bcollamore@leg.state.vt.us I do live in Montpelier during the week so I can only do return phone calls on weekends. It is a pleasure serving as one of the 3 Rutland County Senators. Sen Brian Collamore

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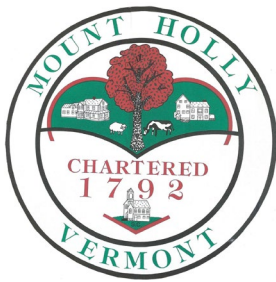


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right on Lincoln Hill Red Barn on Right.**

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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.

Mount Holly Planning Commission Town Office & Remote Electronic – Regular Meeting Minutes Wednesday, January

15th, 2025 7:00 P.M.

Commission Members Present: Jon McCann (Chair), Jim Seward (Vice Chair), Andrew Seward, Andrew Schulz (Secretary via Zoom), Stephen Michel

Also present: Faith Tempest, Alissa Chronert, David Tilly, Ron Unterman, Kathy Leber, Abe Leber, Michael Chronert (via zoom)

Regular Select Board meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:00 pm in the Town Office. Items to be included on the Agenda are due by Noon the Wednesday before the meeting.

TOWN OF MOUNT HOLLY

A Permit Is REQUIRED for OutDoor BURNING

BURN PERMITS

May be obtained from

THE MOUNT HOLLY FIRE WARDEN

Jim Seward

Pager: 802-786-3408

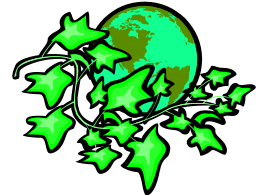
Home: 802-259-2211

Leave a phone number where Jim can call you back.

Do not burn until you have spoken to him.

SAFETY FIRST ALWAYS

1. **Chair** called the meeting to order at 7.01 pm
2. **Changes to agenda:** none
3. Approval of minutes
 - a. **The minutes of the regular** meeting held on 18th December 2024 were approved without objection.
4. **Reports & Announcements**
 - a. **Administrative Officer**
 - BCRs received from:
Cole: Cole Road, 12'x20 Shed on skids
 - b. **Planning Commission Chair**
 - i. **Chair attended VLCT** wastewater funding training and hopes the video will be available shortly. One relevant aspect for the PC is DEC Clean Water State Revolving Fund which can give access to funding for feasibility studies.



- ii. **Cavendish** is now writing their first sub-division bylaw, assisted by their regional planning commission. Cavendish is similar to Mount Holly in having no zoning so there may be opportunities to share information or learn from them regarding updating Mount Holly's sub-division regulations.
- iii. **The Garrow Act 250** amendment application is still pending, awaiting further information
- iv. **School Board meeting** – Chair will contact
5. **Correspondence**
 - a. **Subdivision proposals**
 - i. **Enman/LePage/Kivi LLC BLA:** AO had received an application for a boundary line adjustment. She deemed the application complete and was therefore forwarding it to the PC for their consideration. She noted that although the Town's subdivision regulations are unclear on authorities regarding BLA approvals, she gave her opinion that the PC should look favorably on the application.
 - ii. **Chair asked** for clarification that Ms Chronert had spoken to the District Public Water Supply Supervisor Meredith Maskell, and the District Act 250 Coordinator Quin Mann. She confirmed she had.
 - iii. **The Chair shared** a resolution with the PC members giving the AO the authority to approve the BLA. Commissioner Andrew Seward proposed PC approve the resolution; seconded by Commissioner Jim Seward. The Chair noted that the application does not contain abutter information for properties on the other side of Belmont Road and Tarbellville Road. Commissioner Michel asked for clarification of a clause in the resolution stating that the DEC had “approved” the BLA when in fact they only exempted the BLA from additional wastewater requirements. The Chair suggested substituting “exempted” for “approved” in the resolution. Commissioner Michel also asked why the resolution was necessary. The Chair responded that the resolution gave the AO authority to approve the BLA administratively. It will still be required to notify abutters, publicise the BLA and allow a 15 day comment period. Following that the AO would be able to issue approval and allow the documents to be recorded.
 - iv. **The Chair asked** for comments from the floor but none were forthcoming. The Chair moved to modify the motion to reflect the one word substitution, seconded by Commissioner Andrew Seward. There being no further discussion, the resolution was approved unanimously.
6. **New Business:**



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Shrewsbury VT. 05738

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Grass-fed Beef & More

Sirloin Steaks	Pork Sausages
Beef Roasts	Pork Chops
Short Ribs	Ground Pork
Ground Beef	Ham Steaks
Ribeyes	Chicken Breasts
Briskets	Local Eggs
Sauages	(as avail)

Fall in love with shopping local at our small farm store!



a. **Subdivision regulations revision process.** Chair noted again the possibility of learning from/ working with Cavendish. The Chair moved that the PC formally begin the revision process, seconded by Commissioner Andrew Seward, passed unanimously. Commissioner Michel suggested that the PC organizes a joint meeting with Cavendish PC. The Chair proposed that the process goes ahead without special meetings but this can be reconsidered if needed. Chair asked the AO to try to find out which towns have no zoning (also check RRPC). Also noted that towns with zoning may have subdivision chapters which may be helpful.

7. Unfinished Business

a. **None**

8. **Public Comments:** Abe Leber noted it was good to see government working. The Chair noted that the Municipal Planning Grant Housing study has started, and asked if anybody who might be interested in particular issues such as housing for seniors might be interested in participating in a reference group.

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

Tempest, Planning Commission Clerk

In draft form until approved on 19th February 2025

A video recording of this meeting can be found at: <https://okemovalley.tv/mount-holly-planning-commission-115>

Special Select Board Meeting Mount Holly Town Office February 25, 2025 4:00 pm

Attendance: Diana Garrow, Mark Turco, Jeff Chase (via Zoom/phone), Caitlin Boyle.

1. **Call to Order** at 4:03 pm

2. **Employee Compensation**

a. **Executive Session 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)** for deliberation on “the appointment or employment or evaluation of a public officer or employee.” Mark Turco made a motion to enter Executive Session for reasons of evaluating an employee. Diana Garrow seconded; unanimously approved.

The Board discussed raising the pay rate for the current Assistant Treasurer, who will be training a new Assistant Treasurer in the coming weeks. The Board also discussed the pay rate for emergency road crew pay, for crew hired temporarily during major storms or weather events (e.g. snow storms or flooding).

b. Mr. Chase made a motion to increase the rate of pay for the current Assistant Treasurer to \$25/hour; Diana Garrow seconded; unanimously approved (Mr. Turco with reservations).

c. Mr. Turco made a motion to set the rate of pay for emergency road crew at \$24/hour; Diana Garrow seconded; unanimously approved.

3. **Adjourned** at 4:20 pm Respectfully Submitted By Caitlin Boyle, Select Board Clerk

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.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION

At the MOUNT HOLLY TRANSFER STATION

Saturday, April 12th & June 21st, 2025

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.)

9. Upcoming meetings

a. **Public Hearing Cole subdivision** 19th February 2025 6.30pm

b. **Regular meeting:** 19th February at 7:00 pm

10. **Meeting adjourned** at 7.37pm. For the Commission, Faith

Mount Holly Animal Control Officer

The Mount Holly Animal Control Officer is Adam Karle. He handles all calls concerning domesticated and farm animals, including Animal Cruelty concerns. For more information or to make a report please call Cell (802) 236-3656

Town of Mount Holly Annual Meeting Minutes, Mount Holly Elementary School 150 School St, Mount Holly, VT 05758 -March 3, 2024 at 6 pm

Moderator Andrew Tanger called the meeting to order and noted that no state legislators were in attendance this year. Mr. Tanger noted that Robert Rules are the order of business for the Town Meeting except where Vermont Law takes precedence, and reviewed those rules for attendees. He noted that this is a duly warned Town Meeting, and that polls are open between 10 am and 7 pm on

Open Call to Mount Holly Artists

The Mount Holly Community Association will hold a one day pop up gallery on Sunday, May 25th; 10-5 in the Community Center.

We invite Mount Holly artists to submit 1-3 original works of any medium.

Artists can choose to share their works for viewing purposes only or can list their work for purchase donating a percentage of sales to the Penny Coldwell Youth Art Fund

Contact Zhenia Dickinson Hadar for details at zhadar@hadarfamilly.com.

Let's Celebrate Local Talent and Community!

Board Chair Mark Turco noted that the FY2026 budget did not take into account possible cuts to federal reimbursements or revenues signaled by President Trump, and that voters should expect that the budget may need to increase in future years to accommodate such cuts. Resident Brigid Sullivan asked about the increase to the highway employee budget; Ms. Karle noted that these costs are due to pay raises for current employees and changes made to the employees' health benefits packages.

Article 4: Asset/Equipment Fund \$80,000 for fiscal year 2025-2026. No discussion.

Article 5: Mount Holly Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. Operating Budget of \$87,600 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and Vehicle Replacement Fund \$75,000, for a total of \$162,000. Fire Department Captain Bob Beardmore thanked the Town's residents, taxpayers, volunteers and members for their support, and noted that the department's vehicles are in need of replacement, but that the current funds are not sufficient to replace current vehicles with new.

He noted that the department will be developing a future long-range plan to allow for vehicle replacement. Brigid Sullivan thanked the department for their long-term thinking, and Kelly Tarbell thanked the department for stepping into the shoes of the former Mount Holly Volunteer Rescue Squad.

Article 6: Mount Holly Town Library. \$12,000. Joe Galbraith, the Mount Holly Town Librarian, noted that the library has increased its public programming, including adding a monthly classic film series in addition to its annual showcase of the Manhattan Short Film Festival. He reminded voters that the Library also lends out Vermont State Park passes, passes to state historic sites and passes to VINS, in addition to lending books. He invited the public to enjoy the Library's range of free offerings.

Article 7: Mount Holly Chit Chat \$2,000. Dennis Devereux, President of the Board of the *Chit Chat*, noted that funding for the *Chit Chat* is funded by donations, advertising revenue and an annual allocation from the Town, which helps to cover equipment replacement and rising printing costs as the newsletter completes its 51st year in print.

Article 8: Community and Social Services. \$8,635. No discussion.

Article 9: Mount Holly Community Historical Museum. \$2,500. Stephen Michel, Board Chair for the Museum, noted that the museum typically spends between \$10,000 and \$15,000 annually. Last year, it applied for a grant from the Preservation Trust of Vermont to do an engineering evaluation of the Blacksmith Shop building; engineers found water damage and structural issues, with costs to repair estimated at \$130,000. The museum will be applying for additional state grants to support the cost, and will also launch a community fundraising effort. He thanked the community for their ongoing support.

Article 10: Mount Holly School Afterschool Program. \$6,500. Julie Goraj, site coordinator for the Mount Holly Afterschool Program, thanked the town for its past support. She explained that the program receives support from the Town of Mount Holly, a 21st-Century Grant, and parent fees, and as a DCF-licensed program, it receives state funding for subsidies for families. The program operates September through June, Monday through Friday, from school dismissal until 5 pm. Activities include fort-building, bike riding, sledding, scooters, pick-up sports, an open library program, arts and crafts, Lego robotics, tutoring, programs from Farm and Wilderness/Ninevah Foundation, and self-directed or enrichment programs in pottery, theater, crochet, chess and STEM. She noted that the program is vital for Mount Holly families and provides much-needed quality after-school care and enrichment for the town's children.

This year, forty-seven students are enrolled across grades pre-K-6; 27 come every day.

The moderator noted that before proceeding to Article 11, the body of attendees should decide whether they wished to allow comments regarding the school budget. Bob Herbst moved to allow discussion of school issues; Brigid Sullivan and Marc Miller seconded; upon a voice vote, there were no objections to allowing discussion of school issues.

April 2025 Mount Holly Chit Chat Inc.

March 4 for voting by Australian Ballot.

Article 1: To elect all Town Officers as the law permits. The moderator asked if any candidates for office wished to speak. No speakers presented themselves.

Article 2: To act on the Town Officer's Report. Bob Herbst made a motion to accept the report; seconded by David Venter; unanimously agreed.

Article 3: Town Budget for fiscal year 2025-2026 (General Fund \$582,685; Highway Fund \$532,950; Total \$1,115,635). Kevin Plew asked where funds

come from when the Town's budget is overspent; Town Treasurer Elizabeth Karle noted that expenses incurred over and above the budget come from either allocated or unallocated reserve funds or from additional revenues raised in any given year. Ms. Karle also noted that in FY2025, much of the budget overspend was a result of costs related to emergency flooding. Mr. Plew asked how the Town is preparing for future emergencies and suggested that reserve funding needs may be more significant in the future. Select



● Ludlow-Mount Holly Unified Union School District Board President Kelly Tarbell made comments regarding the school budget on the ballot. She noted that the school budget on the ballot has increased for the 2026 school year, and that this higher budget reflects rising costs across the economy, and across all schools, including rising costs for supplies and utilities. She noted that the majority of the budget cannot be negotiated or influenced at the local level by the LMHUUSD board, as it is either regulated or determined by the state, or determined by existing contracts. She explained that the small portion of the budget that is controlled locally seeks to balance community needs with student needs, without closing school buildings or compromising the local educational experience for students. She asked that residents not vote “no” on the school budget simply to send a message to Montpelier regarding state education funding structures or policies, but to register citizen responses to the Governor’s proposals for educational change at the state level, via calls and letters to the statehouse or via public information forums. Ms. Tarbell urged voters to vote for what they think is right for the community, and to think about voicing concerns or opinions regarding the Governor’s education proposal via direct citizen communication, rather than by voting down the local budget.

● Resident Brigid Sullivan asked whether the proposed school budget included the hiring of two additional teachers. Ms. Tarbell noted that the budget does include funding for two additional teachers at Ludlow Elementary School, which would allow that school to have one teacher per grade, rather than multi-age classrooms. She noted that the addition of two additional teachers would replace teachers lost via retirement in the last year, rather than increasing the overall faculty by two. Ms. Sullivan asked how many students are enrolled in each school. Mount Holly School Principal Craig Hutt Vater, and others, noted that enrollment is currently 79 in Ludlow and 99 in Mount Holly.

Article 11: All Other Business. The moderator asked whether there was any other business.

● Resident Dennis Devereux noted that there are a range of activities planned in celebration of Vermont’s 250th anniversary in 2027.

● Resident Bob Herbst noted that the Governor has proposed a redistricting of schools across the state. He shared that as a 25-year veteran of the school board, he urged residents to contact their legislators and let them know that if they are going to propose “monumental changes,” that those changes need to be funded by the state; historically, this has not been the case.

● Select Board Chair Mark Turco asked attendees to acknowledge all of the residents who have contributed to the Town this year, including first responders, emergency services, volunteers and the Town’s road crew.

● David Venter asked attendees to give a show of hands of who received the school board’s annual report.

Adjourned at 7:04 pm. Respectfully submitted, Caitlin Boyle, Select Board Clerk

Select Board Meeting, Mount Holly Town Office 6:00 pm MARCH 11, 2025 MINUTES

Attendance: Mark Turco, Diana Garrow, Jeff Chase, Caitlin Boyle, William Notte, Carol A Garrow Wooley, Dennis Devereux, Zena Gates,

Upcoming Events March 26th - April 19th Spring Raffle is BACK!

Enter for a chance to win GIANT chocolate bunnies or Wally’s Corner Mystery Baskets. Tickets available for purchase at Wally’s Corner.

**April 13th 2pm-3:30pm
Learn Embroidery with Lauren**

Our host, Lauren Escott, will be teaching embroidery for beginners. Any skill level is encouraged to join.

**May 31st 10am-11am
Let’s Pot Succulents**

Learn tips for keeping succulents thriving in your indoor or outdoor garden. We’ll mix soil & plant succulent cuttings in mini stoneware planters made by Paula Van Valkenburgh of Shrewsbury.

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Christine Pratt, James Seward, Stephen Michel, Donna Seward, Lester Laypert, June Capron, Elizabeth Karle, David Johnson, Katy & Phillippe Crane (Zoom), Andy Schults (Zoom).

1. **Call to Order** – Meeting was called to order at 6:02pm.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

3. **Consideration of any changes and/or additions to the agenda.** Agenda items 6D (Mount Holly Planning Commission Report - Jon McCann) and 8B (Approve 250th Vermont Statehood Town Resolution) were scratched from the agenda. 6D, no new report to give at this time. 8B, approved at previous meeting.

An informational update on T-Mobile adding antennas to existing Monopine Cell Tower was added to announcements.

4. **Approval of February 7th, 11th, 25th Minutes.** Diana Garrow made a motion to approve all minutes; Mark Turco seconded; unanimously approved.

5. **Reorganization**

a. **Select Board Chair:** Diana Garrow made a motion to reappoint Mark Turco; Jeff Chase seconded; unanimously approved.

b. **Tree Warden:** Mark Turco made a motion to reappoint Phil Crane; Jeff Chase seconded; unanimously approved.

c. **E911 Coordinator:** Diana Garrow made a motion to appoint Ann Hansen; Jeff Chase seconded; unanimously approved.

d. **911 Measuring Responsibilities:** Mark Turco made a motion to appoint David Johnson; Jeff Chase seconded; unanimously approved.

e. **RCSWD Representative & Alternate:** Jeff Chase made a motion to appoint Clinton Woolley as the representative and Chad Farrar as the alternate; Diana Garrow seconded; unanimously approved.

f. **Designated Employee Representative:** Diana Garrow made a motion to appoint William Notte; Jeff Chase seconded; unanimously approved.

g. **Newspaper of Record:** Diana Garrow made a motion to redesignate the Vermont Journal; Mark Turco seconded; unanimously approved.

h. **Assistant Town Clerk:** Mr. Chase made a motion to reappoint Diana Garrow, Nancy Connor, Susan Covalla, and Ann Hansen; Mr. Turco seconded; unanimously approved.

i. **Assistant Town Treasurer:** Mark Turco made a motion to appoint David Johnson and Dawn Augustine; Jeff Chase seconded; unanimously approved.

j. **Set Day & Time of Regular Select Board Meeting:** Mark Turco made a motion to keep the meeting time as the second Tuesday of the month at 6:00 pm; Diana Garrow seconded; unanimously approved.

k. **Set Public Posting Places for Warnings:** Mark Turco made a motion to select the Mount Holly Post Office and Belmont Post Office; Jeff Chase seconded; unanimously approved.

l. **Signer for SB Orders and Authorizations:** Mark Turco made a motion to reappoint Diana Garrow; Jeff Chase seconded; unanimously approved.

6. Reports

a. **Highways & Transfer Station Report,** Clinton Woolley: March 30th is the last Sunday and April 2nd is the first Wednesday as the Transfer Station switches to summer hours.

Highway Dept. had to purchase a small generator.

b. **Treasurer Monthly Income & Expense Report,** Elizabeth Karle: We are two-thirds through the fiscal year. Town's cash balance will be depleting with upcoming payments to the Mount Holly School and the state. Town is seeing steady progress in receiving payment for delinquent taxes.

Town has received funds for Beaver Meadow and this is a separate line item on the town balance sheet.

Town will need to have a single audit at the close of the year to demonstrate proper use of FEMA funds.

c. **Listers' Report,** David Johnson: The remainder of notices to people with property that needs to be appraised will be sent the following day. Inspections start April 1st. Up to seventy-four property visits required this year.

d. **Mount Holly Planning Commission Report,** Jon McCann. Struck from agenda.

e. **U.S. Forest Service Update,** Martha Barnes (District Ranger), Steve Philick, and Stacy Stratton: Mount Holly is one of twenty-one towns in the Manchester District. The Forest Service is attempting to visit each town select board to give updates on forest land and active projects in their area. Pending funding two snowmobile bridges on Corridor 7 will be replaced this summer, bringing the total number of bridges replaced in the last few years up to four.

West River Timber Sale has been planned. The forest is lacking young growth. Some harvesting occurred over winter.



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Planning spring burning in Beaver Meadow and Tarbellville.

7. New Business

a. **Set Spring/Summer Transfer Station Hours.** Summer hours were discussed during 6a.

8. Ongoing & Old Business

a. **Review Quotes for Limb Removal on Howland Farm road.** Town only received one proposal for this job, despite requesting additional. Proposal received from G.M. Tree Tech. Proposal recommends removing entire tree, not just limb. Proposal also includes removal of a second tree on Cy Parker Road where a culvert needs to be located.

b. **Approve 250th Vermont Statehood Town Resolution.** Struck from agenda.

9. **Citizen Comments.** No speakers.

10. Announcements/Other Business

a. **Information was shared in regards to T-Mobile** adding antennas to a 10' extension of existing Monopine Cell Tower. No action is needed in regards to this on the part of the town.

b. **Rabies clinic** at the town office will be on March 22, from 9am to noon.

11. **Review & Sign Orders** Nothing to be signed.

12. **Executive Session: Title 1 V.S.A. S 313.** No executive session needed.

13. **Adjourned at 6:44 pm.** Submitted by William Notte, Select Board Clerk

Ludlow Rotary Hears Fire Dept New Equipment needs

At its recent weekly meeting, the Ludlow Rotary Club (LRC) heard from Ben Whelan (pictured above), Ludlow Fire Chief, and that department's need for new equipment. Whelan discussed the normal life of the



various types of equipment needed by Ludlow to deal with fires and property protection. Currently, the department needs to replace aged and, sometimes, non-operative equipment used to fight fires. He presented a slide show that highlighted the new equipment needed as well as the cost and delivery time of it.

A key point in his discussion was the length of time between ordering new equipment and its actual delivery, normally a two-to-three-year period.

The Ludlow Fire Department will be requesting Ludlow to approve the purchase of several important pieces of equipment. Whelan explained the cost of the replacement devices. He estimated that the MSRP for the new gear will be \$4,097,039. He indicated that, through discounting, sale of current equipment, and financing arrangements, this price could be reduced to \$3,079,550, a savings of 1,017,489.

Notice Dog Owners

Dog Licensing will begin Thursday Jan 2, 2025, they must be paid by April 1st, each year. If your dog is no longer living please call the Town Clerk at 802-259-2391 so she can remove them from the list. The registration fee remains the same and must be paid on or before April 1st, 2025.

Please note this is a State of Vermont Law

NEUTERED / SPAYED

On or Before April 1, 2025, = \$11.00

After April 1, 2025, = \$13.00

UNNEUTERED OR UNSPAVED

On or Before April 1, 2025, = \$15.00

After April 1, 2025, = \$19.00

ANIMAL LICENSE

Town of Mount Holly, Vermont

NO.

THIS CERTIFIES that _____, the undersigned, is the owner or keeper of an animal kept at _____

Telephone: _____

and described as follows: **NAME** _____ **AGE** ____ **YRS** ____ **MOS** ____

SIZE: ____ **SEX:** ____ **COLOR:** ____ **BREED:** _____

AND IS THE ANIMAL DESCRIBED IN

EXPIRATION RABIES VACCINATION CERTIFICATE NO. _____ **DATE** _____

SIGNATURE OF

DATED: _____ **OWNER OR KEEPER:** _____

In reliance on the above certificate and the payment fee of \$ _____ the animal above described is licensed for the period ending 2026.

DATED: _____ **MOUNT HOLLY TOWN CLERK**

Dogs and Hybrids must wear a collar with license tag attached thereto.

If you use this form, please send a copy of the Rabies Verification Certificate


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"Music on the Mountain" Festival Supporting Divided Sky Foundation Returns for 2nd Year

Held at base of Okemo Mtn after Foundation's "Fun(d) Run" 5k on May 17

Tickets go on sale Thursday, March 6 at 10 a.m. CT / 11 a.m. ET at:

musiconthemtn.com



THE PHOENIX

The Phoenix Presents proudly announces the 2nd Annual "Music on the Mountain," a substance-free music and arts festival which benefits the Divided Sky Foundation, a Ludlow, Vermont-based recovery center co-founded by Phish's Trey Anastasio. This year's event will feature a weekend's worth of activities celebrating recovery at the bucolic Jackson Gore Resort on Okemo Mountain. The festival will take place from 1-7 p.m. ET on May 17th after the Divided Sky Fun(d) Run which gets underway at 9 a.m., with additional special events scheduled throughout the weekend. The festival and weekend are family-friendly and will offer activities for kids and adults alike, with local arts vendors, food trucks, and the splendor of Vermont's Green Mountains as the backdrop.

The day will culminate with a one-of-a-kind super jam, "Divided Sky All-Stars," featuring Anders Osborne, Daniel Donato, Karina Rykman, Natalie Cressman (of Trey Anastasio Band) and Vermont's own Russ Lawton, Ray Paczkowski (of Trey Anastasio Band, Soule Monde and LAMP). The young Vermont guitarist, Evan Jennison will kick off the festivities, followed by the powerhouse female bassist, Karina Rykman with her full band, and a set from Vermont's own Soule Monde. Then the inimitable 15-piece ensemble the Sun Ra Arkestra, pioneers of "Afro Futurism" since the 1950s, will take the stage and transport festival goers to the stratosphere before the Divided Sky Allstars close out the day.

A variety of additional activities are planned, and festival-goers and supporters of Divided Sky Foundation are encouraged to spend the full weekend at the Jackson Gore Resort. On Friday evening, Divided Sky Foundation will host "Minstrels and Mocktails"—an intimate dinner concert gathering of friends and supporters featuring special musical guests and the experiential cuisine of Ludlow's premiere restaurant, The Downtown Grocery. Tickets are very limited. For more information or to reserve a spot for this special dinner, [visit this link. https://www.eventbrite.com/e/friends-of-divided-sky-minstrels-mocktails-dinner-tickets-1256488463819?utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-term=listing&utm-source=cp&aff=ebdsshcopyurl](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/friends-of-divided-sky-minstrels-mocktails-dinner-tickets-1256488463819?utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-term=listing&utm-source=cp&aff=ebdsshcopyurl)

Immediately following the dinner, from 8 to 10 p.m., The Phoenix will welcome guests with the Campfire Jam—an acoustic "in-the-round" concert where Anders Osborne and Daniel Donato will be joined by songwriter Steve Poltz. The Campfire Jam is free of charge but requires advanced registration, as there is limited capacity.

On Saturday morning, the 4th Annual Divided Sky Fun(d) Run will kick off the day with a spirited 5k race, a live local band, vendors and an awards celebration all leading up the fun-filled festival in the afternoon. Additional activities throughout the weekend will be announced. All events are family-friendly, and parents of children under 18 will be required to complete a waiver upon entry to events at Jackson Gore. Guests are encouraged to bring chairs, picnic blankets, and refillable water bottles and enjoy the sights and sounds of **Music on the Mountain**.

"We're so excited to partner with The Phoenix again for the Fun(d) Run and Music on the Mountain right here in beautiful Ludlow where our retreat is located" says Divided Sky Foundation Co-Founder and Program Director, Melanie Gulde. "We are becoming part of the local landscape as a community of people in recovery who gather each year to celebrate music, health, and sobriety. I am grateful to be in the company of so many like-minded, mission-based individuals."

Through this event and others produced by Phoenix Presents, the organizers hope to create a movement to provide more sober inclusive music events and festivals.

"As a person in recovery, I understand how valuable it is to individuals in early sobriety to have access to an inclusive, welcoming, and supportive community where they can begin to build a solid foundation for their new sober lives. At the Divided Sky Residential Recovery Program, our mission is to deliver supportive and compassionate programming with dignity and respect for individuals and their families affected by addiction. We do this by offering a safe environment for men and women to build the foundation necessary to live a productive, healthy, and sober life." – Trey Anastasio, Divided Sky Foundation Co-Founder. <https://www.musiconthemtn.com/>

SCHEDULE OF WEEKEND EVENTS:

Fri, May 16 - Divided Sky Foundation hosts **Friends of Divided Sky "Minstrels & Mocktails" Dinner** - **Location:** The Downtown Grocery, 5:30-8 p.m. - Limited tickets available: <https://tinyurl.com/dsfdinner>

Friday, May 16 - *The Phoenix Presents* - **Campfire Jam:** An Intimate Performance featuring **Anders Osborne, Daniel Donato** and **Steve Poltz** - **Location:** Jackson Gore Resort, 8-10 p.m. - Ticketed (free) Registration required, limited availability: [click HERE https://dice.fm/partner/dice/event/avobad-campfire-jam-16th-may-jackson-gore-resort-ludlow-](https://dice.fm/partner/dice/event/avobad-campfire-jam-16th-may-jackson-gore-resort-ludlow-)

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Sat, May 17 - Divided Sky Fun(d) Run - 5k race and walk, 9 a.m. | Vendor Village and Post-Race Events, 9:30 a.m. | Post-Run Awards, Live Band and Celebrations, 10:15 a.m.

Location: Jackson Gore Resort at the base of Okemo Mountain - Register: <https://tinyurl.com/dsfr2025>

Sat, May 17 - The Phoenix Presents - Music on the Mountain - "A Concert Celebrating Recovery" - Benefiting Divided Sky Foundation with "Divided Sky All-Stars" featuring Anders Osborne, Daniel Donato, Karina Rykman, Natalie Cressman, Russ Lawton, and Ray Paczkowski. Plus full band performances by The Sun Ra Arkestra, Soule Monde, Karina Rykman + Evan Jennison - **Location:** Jackson Gore Resort at the base of Okemo Mountain, 2-7 p.m. Tickets available: [click HERE https://dice.fm/partner/the-divided-sky-foundation-corporation/event/dkw7x6-music-on-the-mountain-17th-may-jackson-gore-resort-ludlow-](https://dice.fm/partner/the-divided-sky-foundation-corporation/event/dkw7x6-music-on-the-mountain-17th-may-jackson-gore-resort-ludlow-)

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ABOUT THE PHOENIX: The Phoenix is harnessing the power of connection to build a movement that changes how we look at substance use disorder and recovery in this country and beyond. Founded in 2006, The Phoenix is a transformational nonprofit that fosters a free sober active community for individuals recovering from substance use, their supporters, and those who choose to live a sober life. Since launching programs in Colorado, over 400,000 people have joined The Phoenix community globally. By leveraging the intrinsic power of physical activity and social connection, participants build confidence and find the support they need to live productive and fulfilling lives in recovery. The Phoenix events are free to anyone with at least 48 hours of continuous sobriety. This includes family members and friends of anyone in recovery and allies and supporters of the recovery community. The Phoenix helps individuals rise from the ashes of addiction and pursue lives full of hope. For more information about The Phoenix movement, visit www.thephoenix.org/movement or download The Phoenix app.

ABOUT DIVIDED SKY FOUNDATION:

Divided Sky foundation provides educational and introspective programming that fosters a sober and productive foundation for individuals affected by addiction. By offering a diverse collection of recovery strategies—anchored in the 12 Steps, Emotional Sobriety, and mindfulness—we support individuals as they construct and utilize the tools necessary to thrive in long-term recovery. The residential recovery program sits on a hill in the Okemo Valley and provides guests the opportunity to learn and grow indoors and out, implementing natural surroundings into the recovery experience. Their team provides knowledge and skills derived from a range of recovery programs. The Divided Sky Foundation strives to instill hope in their guests with workshops and programming that help to envision a life not only free from substances but a life where they can thrive and flourish.

<https://www.dividedsky.org>



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Final Tally

ARTICLES CONTINUED

Article 5. (Town Warning) Does the Town vote to the Mount Holly Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. an operating budget of \$87,000.00 for the 2025 - 2026 fiscal year, and Vehicle Replacement Fund of \$75,000.00 for a total of \$162,000.00 to be raised by tax?

Article 6. (Town Warning) Does the Town vote \$12,000.00 for the Mount Holly Town Library, to be raised by tax?

Article 7. (Town Warning) Does the Town vote \$2,000.00 for the Mount Holly Chit Chat, to be raised by tax?

Article 8. (Town Warning) Does the Town vote \$8,635.00 for the Community and Social Services, to be raised by tax?

Article 9. (Town Warning) Does the Town vote \$2,500.00 for Mount Holly Community Historical Museum, to be raised by tax?

Article 10. (Town Warning) Does the Town of Mount Holly vote to fund the Afterschool Program at the Mount Holly School in the amount of \$6,500.00 in FY 2025 - 2026, to maintain state grant funding, to be raised by tax?

LUDLOW MOUNT HOLLY UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

Article 1: Shall the voters of Ludlow-Mount Holly Unified Union School District approve the School Board to expend \$10,153,619.00, which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? The Ludlow-Mount Holly Unified Union School District estimates that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in per pupil education spending of \$15,766.93 which is 23.31% higher than per pupil education spending for the current year.

337 = 196 + 141
339 = 158 + 181

RIVER VALLEY TECHNICAL CENTER

Article 1: Shall the voters of the River Valley Technical Center School District approve the sum of three million, four hundred eighty thousand, one hundred twenty-nine dollars (\$3,480,129) to defray current expenses for the ensuing fiscal year and to pay outstanding orders and obligations?

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OFFICIAL BALLOT
ANNUAL TOWN AND SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING
MOUNT HOLLY, VERMONT
MARCH 4, 2025

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

- Use BLACK Pen to fill in the oval. DO NOT USE PENCIL.
- To vote for a person whose name is printed on the ballot, fill in the oval to the right of the name of that person.
- To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write the person's name in the blank space provided and fill in the oval to the right of the write-in line. Please use block letters and stay within the box provided for write-ins.
- Do not vote for more candidates than the "VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN #" for an office.
- If you make a mistake, tear, or deface the ballot, return it to an election official and obtain another ballot. DO NOT ERASE.

FOR TOWN MODERATOR	FOR CEMETERY COMMISSIONER	FOR AUDITOR
1 Year Term Vote for not more than ONE	3 Year Term Vote for not more than ONE	3 Year Term Vote for not more than ONE
ANDREW TANGER 296	DENNIS DEVEREUX 298	TIFFANY AUSTIN 273
(Write-in)	(Write-in)	(Write-in)
FOR TOWN CLERK	FOR DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR	FOR LMHUUSD SCHOOL BOARD
1 Year Term Vote for not more than ONE	1 Year Term Vote for not more than ONE	3 Year Term Vote for not more than TWO
CAROL GARROW-WOOLLEY 297	PETER PERRINO 283	DAVID MARTIN MOUNT HOLLY 275
(Write-in)	(Write-in)	(Write-in)
FOR TOWN TREASURER	FOR TRUSTEE OF PUBLIC FUNDS	FOR LMHUUSD SCHOOL BOARD
1 Year Term Vote for not more than ONE	1 Year Term Vote for not more than ONE	1 Year Balance of 3 Year Term Vote for not more than TWO
ELIZABETH L L KARLE 282	DAVID H JOHNSON 290	KATIE KLECZKOWSKI 217
(Write-in)	(Write-in)	(Write-in)
FOR SELECTMAN	FOR LISTER	FOR LMHUUSD SCHOOL BOARD
3 Year Term Vote for not more than ONE	3 Year Term Vote for not more than ONE	2 Year Balance of 3 Year Term Vote for not more than ONE
DIANA GARROW 291	MARY SURETHING 285	JENNIFER MICHALKE 242
(Write-in)	(Write-in)	(Write-in)

TOWN ARTICLES

Article 3. (Town Warning) Does the Town vote the following budget for fiscal year 2025 - 2026 to be raised by tax?

A. General Fund (net) \$582,685.00

253 YES
66 NO

B. Highway Fund (net) \$532,950.00

269 YES
50 NO

Article 4. (Town Warning) Does the Town vote \$80,000.00 for the Asset/Equipment fund for the fiscal year 2025 - 2026 to be raised by tax?

247 YES
67 NO

OFFICIAL BALLOT

Ludlow-Mount Holly Unified Union
School District
April 22, 2025

INSTRUCTIONS FOR VOTERS: If you
favor the Article, make a cross (X) in
the YES square. If you oppose the
Article, make a cross in the NO square.

ARTICLE 1

Shall the voters of Ludlow-Mount Holly
Unified Union School District approve the
School Board to expend **\$10,153,619.00**,
which is the amount the school board has
determined to be necessary for the ensuing
fiscal year? The Ludlow-Mount Holly Unified
Union School District estimates that this
proposed budget, if approved, will result in
per pupil education spending of
\$15,766.93 which is 23.31% higher than
per pupil education spending for the current
year.

☒

YES, I approve of the Article.

☐

NO, I do not approve of the Article.



WARNING

LUDLOW-MOUNT HOLLY UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

Voting By Australian Ballot

LUDLOW TOWN HALL and MOUNT HOLLY TOWN OFFICE

Tuesday, April 22, 2025
10:00am to 7:00pm

The legal voters of Ludlow-Mount Holly Unified Union School District, consisting of the towns of Ludlow Town and Mount Holly, are hereby warned to meet at the respective polling places on Tuesday, the 22nd day of April for the purpose of voting by Australian ballot. The business to be transacted to include:

Article 1: Shall the voters of Ludlow-Mount Holly Unified Union School District approve the School Board to expend **\$10,153,619.00**, which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? The Ludlow-Mount Holly Unified Union School District estimates that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in per pupil education spending of **\$15,766.93** which is 23.31% higher than per pupil education spending for the current year.

Approved at a Duly Warned Meeting on March 12, 2025.

Board of Directors:

Kaitlyn Benson (Ludlow)

Katie Kleczkowski
Katie Kleczkowski (Mount Holly)

Julie McKenzie
Julie McKenzie (Mount Holly)

Kelly Tarbell
Kelly Tarbell (Mount Holly)

Jamie Dickey (Ludlow)

David Martin
David Martin (Mount Holly)

John Michalke
John Michalke (Ludlow)

Ulla Cook
Ulla Cook, District Clerk

Received, filed and recorded 3/18, 2025





Notes From the Mount Holly Conservation Commission

Are you one of those people who gaze out on Star Lake and bemoan the way it looks? Think about how it 'used to be'? Wonder how it could be? Well, there is actually something you can do about it. As spring springs upon us, the MHCC needs volunteers to lend a hand...literally... in pulling both native and invasive weeds from around the boat launch and beach area. Such work will make our planned installation of bottom barriers much more effective. Going forward we hope to be able to add some level of mechanical harvesting to open other waterways through the Lake, but hand pulling is absolutely crucial to improving Lake Access and enjoyability. So, PLEASE look for notices in the Newsflash and other sources as to when this much needed work will take place. We look forward to seeing you.

The MHCC is awaiting news on our grant application to the AARP Foundation. If successful, this money will be a financial spring board to improvements around the beach area including a possible playground, increased shade, and improvements in overall accessibility. This grant also hinges on community involvement.

In partnership with the Mount Holly Community Association, we hope to have a date soon for a community meeting to gain input from residents regarding their hopes for Star Lake as well as other recreational opportunities in the town.

The next MHCC meeting will be on April 1, (no Foolin'), 6pm at the Town Office. Zoom access will be posted on the warning notices at both the Belmont and Mount Holly post offices, as well as the Town Office. Susan Presson

FAIR HOUSING PROJECT Know-Your-Rights Workshop



WHAT WILL WE COVER?

WHEN & WHERE?

-  **FAIR HOUSING**
-  **TENANTS' RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES**
-  **STRATEGIES FOR FINDING RENTAL HOUSING**

**SATURDAY,
APRIL 12**

11AM-12:30PM

Fletcher Memorial

Library

88 Main Street, Ludlow, VT

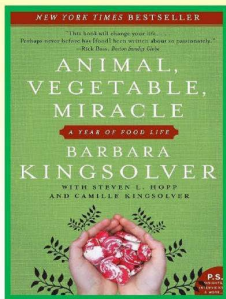


Scan to RSVP
Walk-ins Welcome!

cvoeo
Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity

Contact us: fhp@cvoeo.org (802)660-3456 ext 110

"Friends" of Fletcher Memorial Library Presents



Animal, Vegetable, Miracle
by Barbara Kingsolver

**Please join us for a book
discussion on
Thursday 4/10 at 10:30
Bring a Friend!**

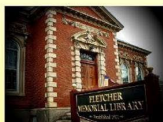
Author Barbara Kingsolver and her family abandoned the industrial-food pipeline to live a rural life—vowing that, for one year, they'd only buy food raised in their own neighborhood, grow it themselves, or learn to live without it.

Part memoir, part journalistic investigation, *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle* is an *enthralling narrative that will open your eyes in a hundred new ways to an old truth: You are what you eat.*

Since the book is chock full of recipes, you may want to make one of the dishes to share at the discussion.

Copies Available

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



Open to the Public
88 Main Street
Ludlow, VT



WRITERS GROUP @ FLETCHER MEMORIAL LIBRARY

MONDAY, APRIL 7TH

from 5:00 to 6:30 pm

Hosted by Catherine Martin

Are you interested in sharing your work and receiving feedback from other writers? Join us.

**BRING 3 PAGES SINGLE
SPACED OR 6 PAGES
DOUBLE SPACED TO SHARE**

Fletcher Memorial Library 88 Main St., Ludlow, VT 05149

For more information: 802-228-8921

Help Us Protect 49 Acres of Wildlife Habitat in Mount Holly



The **Mount Holly Conservation Trust (MHCT)** is working to protect a vital 49-acre parcel of land near the end of Greendale Road, surrounded by the Green Mountain National Forest—and we need your help!

This remarkable landscape, featuring pristine forests and wetlands, provides critical habitat for beavers, moose, deer, bears, and countless other species.

Beyond its ecological importance, it offers a unique opportunity for public recreation, including hiking, fishing, hunting, birdwatching, cross-country skiing, and snowshoeing. Protecting this land ensures both wildlife conservation and continued access to these cherished outdoor activities for generations to come.

This Matters Now More Than Ever.

The conservation and protection of public lands face growing challenges due to changing policies and reduced funding for key programs. **Without action, we risk losing opportunities to preserve our local natural spaces.** It's important to come together as a community to safeguard the wild places we value for future generations.

This parcel is at risk of development, which could permanently disrupt the delicate ecosystem and limit public access. By purchasing and conserving it, we can ensure that future generations will enjoy its beauty, wildlife, and recreational opportunities.

We Need to Raise \$110,000

To safeguard this land, we need to raise \$110,000. These funds will cover the cost of purchasing the property and other necessary expenses to protect it forever.

How You Can Help

Your tax-deductible contribution—big or small—will make a real difference in preserving this special place.



Donate Online: Visit mounthollyconservationtrust.org/donate/

Donate by Mail: Send checks to Mount Holly Conservation Trust, PO Box 85, Belmont, VT 05730

Learn More: Contact us at info@mounthollyconservationtrust.org or call Brigid at (802)259-2274

The Mount Holly Conservation Trust is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, and all donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

At a time when conservation efforts are under threat, let's stand together to protect this land, our community, and our future.

Thank you for your support!



Calling All Gardeners!

Plans are underway for the 18th Annual Mount Holly Garden Tour on July 19th.

Please consider sharing the fruits of your labor with friends and neighbors by joining this charming community tradition.

Please contact Leah Knoll to join the fun leahknoll@yahoo.com or 259-4137



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Mount Holly, Vermont

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Ludlow Area Rotary Club Seeking 2025 Scholarship Applicants

In keeping with its annual goal of rewarding qualified high school seniors, The Ludlow Area Rotary Club (LRC) is encouraging eligible seniors to apply for scholarships to help meet their goals for higher education following graduation from high school this year.

The LRC has awarded over \$290,000 in scholarships in the past to students seeking financial assistance for college and advanced trade programs.

Graduating seniors who reside in the LRC area towns of Ludlow, Cavendish, Plymouth, and Mt Holly who plan on pursuing higher education are invited to apply for these scholarships. Such applications may

be obtained through the Guidance Office of the student's high school. They need to be submitted by May 1, 2025 to Timothy Faulkner, Chair of the Ludlow Rotary Scholarship Committee, PO Box 216, Ludlow, VT 05149.

Recipients are selected on the basis of the following criteria: scholastic achievement, financial need, realistic goals, extracurricular activities, and community service.

The scholarships available are:

- Daniel E. Kesman Memorial Scholarship
- Robert W. Kirkbride Rotary Scholarship
- Ralph D. Hogancamp Vocational Scholarship
- Joseph Girouard Scholarship

Daniel Kesman and Ralph Hogancamp were legendary members of the Ludlow Rotary, which is celebrating its 99th year of service to the community in 2025. Robert Kirkbride was an active member of the Ludlow Rotary for more than 60 years – an amazing record. Jay Girouard helped make the annual Rotary Penny Sale a success.

Applications for these awards are available through the school Guidance Officer and should be submitted to the LRC by May 1, 2025. Awards will be presented at the school's annual award night program. By Ralph Pace

Weston Theater Company Unveils Spirited 89th Season

Join the Weston community with a Pick Your Price Subscription to Season 89! Perks include first choice on premium seating and the ability to pick your ticket price. Renewal subscriptions go on sale **March 2** and new subscriptions are available on **March 26**. Single tickets can be purchased online and by calling the Weston Box Office at 802-824-5288 beginning on **April 16**. And, be on the lookout for new family ticket packages. Discounted tickets are available to students and children, and a limited quantity of VTix for Vermont residents who hold a Vermont ID.

Weston Theater Company builds on and enhances the unique assets of its Vermont village campus to produce a diverse, entertaining, and challenging season of live professional theater and high-impact events; enrich the theater-going experience with education and outreach programs for all ages; and make significant contributions to the American theater through training programs, play development, and retreats. It is a non-profit organization supported in part by funds from the National Endowment for the Arts and an ever-growing family of individuals and organizations who believe in the impact the performing arts make on its community. **Learn more at**

westontheater.org

Ludlow Rotary Hears from Paula Vanguilder and Bridgette Willis, Neighbors Together

Paula Vanguilder, Chairman of the Ludlow group Neighbors Together addressed the Ludlow Rotary Club (LRC) at its recent weekly meeting. The group offers support to the local community in the form of mental health and addiction recovery support, cooking classes led by local chefs, snacks for school children, fresh flowers for seniors at the Gill home and many more goodwill outreach efforts. The group originated during the flood of 2023 when Paula and Shannon Barton saw an opportunity to help flood victims. Co-chairman Bridgette Willis joined the effort as have several others since its inception. They have continued doing good deeds around the community since.

The group's mission states it is to create a welcoming and inclusive space where individuals and families can come together to learn, grow, and thrive. Through programs, activities, and community services, we strive to foster connection, well-being, and empowerment for all. Committed to diversity and accessibility, we aim to be a hub of support and enrichment that strengthens the bonds of our neighborhood and enhances the quality of life for everyone.

Mom Prom is their upcoming event to be held on March 15. Information about it as well as the group is available on their Facebook page or by emailing them at Neighborstogether25@yahoo.com By Brigid Sullivan

April 2025 Mount Holly Chit Chat Inc.



Always Negotiating For My Client's Best Interests

"Sue's negotiation skills were also outstanding. She expertly navigated multiple offers and helped us secure the best possible price for our home. Her professionalism and tact in handling negotiations were truly commendable, and we felt that she always had our best interests in mind."

Client Review



Sue Starr-Adams, REALTOR® 802-236-8028
e: susan.starr-adams@exprealty.com
w: susanstarradams.exprealty.com



On Common Paths, with EOL Doula Tracie Lynne

Advanced Planning
End-of-life discussions should not wait until the end of life. As an end-of-life Doula, supporting individuals as they make tough and final decisions is one of my top priorities. Too many times, these decisions take place in highly charged emotional states, needing a quick response, with little time to think. This is why it is important to talk about advanced planning before the cluttering thoughts and chaos of the situation creep in. Discussing end-of-life decisions with a calm mind and an open heart can be meaningful, intimate and allow you the presence of peace.
Did you know?
Advanced planning is an ongoing process, and

SERVICES PROVIDED

- Advance Care Planning to assist with Advanced Directives and other legal documents
- Companionship and Respite
- Professional and Community Resource Referrals
- Medical Advocacy
- Legacy Projects and Life Review
- Sitting Vigil
- Post Passage Bereavement Support





CONNECT WITH ME

WithGraceEOLdoula@gmail.com
 Call or text 802-236-8696
 please leave a message


WITH GRACE
End of Life Doula Care



The essence of Doula care is to provide non-medical, non-judgmental support and guidance to individuals and families through times of critical transformative life change.



“Break out the Champagne, 2026 is here!”

“No it ain’t!”

Well the 2026 Mount Holly Calendar is!

Call (802) 259-3947 or email mthollyphotos@gmail.com to arrange pickup.

It will also be available at the Mount Holly Town Offices starting in July.

Calendar sales help support the many activities of the Mount Holly Community Association.

it is all about you. Everyone can benefit from having Advanced Directives in place, not just at the end of life. Accidents, unexpected medical events, or worsening medical conditions can leave one unresponsive or unable to make decisions. Without an Advanced Directive, who will make decisions for you?

You have choices. Who would you like to assist with making decisions to ensure they are carried out (your agent)? Who should NOT be making decisions? Where would you like to receive your care – at home, a nursing facility, or a hospital? What about treatment options, medications, palliative and hospice care? What is important to you?

Plans might change as circumstances do; what is important is to start and then continue making choices and having conversations along the way. After all, these are your wishes about your health care; to be listened to and honored.

The goal here is to feel as in control of your experience as possible. By setting intentions clearly and sharing them appropriately, “doing things well” will be the felt outcome. Proper filing will be necessary to make your decisions active. Again, it is ok to change your mind as circumstantial changes occur.

Everyone benefits from having an Advanced Directive in place. This should happen before a serious medical event, diagnosis, or any other mental or physical event occurs, leaving one unable or unwilling to make decisions.

As an EOL Doula, I do not make decisions, sign, or hold responsibility for these documents.

Each state has their own requirements for proper filing, and signatures must be provided and witnessed to be validated.

I will sit with you as support to help review your plan, ask tough questions, listen, and hear your voice. Do not hesitate to reach out, and always remember, we walk “On Common Paths.”

I will be here and ready to support you along the way. Edited by Staisia Daisy, Tracie Bickford, Case Manager, Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging, 143 Maple St, Rutland, VT 05701 tbickford@svcoa.net (802) 772-78



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Cameron Mackintosh and Disney's Mary Poppins

Three shows: Friday, May 9 @ 7PM Saturday, May 10 @ 1PM & 7PM

Tickets: Adults: \$15 + tax/fees Children under 18/Seniors over 65: \$12 + tax/fees

One of the most popular Disney movies of all time is capturing hearts in a whole new way: as a practically perfect musical! Based on the books by P.L. Travers and the classic Walt Disney film, Cameron Mackintosh and Disney's Mary Poppins delighted Broadway audiences for over 2,500 performances and received nominations for nine Olivier and seven Tony Awards, including Best Musical.

The jack-of-all trades, Bert, introduces us to England in 1910

and the troubled Banks family. Young Jane and Michael have sent many a nanny packing before Mary Poppins arrives on their doorstep. Using a combination of magic and common sense, she must teach the family members how to value each other again. Mary Poppins takes the children on many magical and memorable adventures, but Jane and Michael aren't the only ones upon whom she has a profound effect. Even grown-ups can learn a lesson or two from the nanny who advises that "Anything can happen if you let it."

Mary Poppins is an enchanting mixture of irresistible story, unforgettable songs, breathtaking dance numbers and astonishing stagecraft. This show is a perfect opportunity to showcase a strong, iconic female performer, as well as unique special effects and illusions.

To Purchase Online: <https://www.paramountvt.org/event/rutland-youth-theatre-presents-mary-poppins/>
<https://www.paramountvt.org/> Box Office Open for purchases, Fridays, 11 AM - 6 PM, and ahead of ALL shows.

RYT will also have fundraising opportunities to contribute onsite to this wonderful endeavor. Come out and revel in the talents of our local youth! 🐦 🐦 🐦 In Service, L.M. Donohue, MA, LMT RYT Parent Volunteer www.instagram.com/thrivecentervt



★ Attention Parents! ★

We're planning for the Bi-Annual Auction – Night at the races and want to know if childcare is needed!

If having a safe and supervised childcare option would help you attend, please let us know. This will help us determine if we should arrange childcare services.

📅 Event Date: April 26th, 2025

📍 Location: Mount Holly Community Center

🕒 Time: 5:45 to 9:15pm

Please inquire by **April 1st** to let us know if you'd be interested in childcare.

Your feedback is important—thank you!

CONTACT
mthollyptg@gmail.com

The Sugar Maple Tree

By Charles Reese

I awake from winters slumber
As my sap begins to flow
My buds will shortly sprout
While my limbs begin to grow

I watch the many animals
That start to come around
To some I am a gym
While others lay quite sound

The birds will make their nest
In my many boughs
The weave each little nest
With great skill it's quite a show

I've stood the test of time
As the seasons come and go
When summer comes I'll be
The shade that you love so

There used to be some children
Who would climb my sturdy limbs
They'd play all day around me
Their joy to me were hymns



When fall comes to pass
I put on my favorite suit
With reds oranges and yellows
The owl will even give a hoot

My sap is what I'm famous for
It taste so sweet when boiled down

I tell you just one sip of it
Will make a smile right from a frown

Now When my days are through
My journey still goes on
I may become a bedstead
Or a table for someone

Someone may yet use me
For a ceiling or a floor
You see my wood is prized
For many things even a door

But now I will just stand here
For everyone to see
The majesty and wonder
Of me the Sugar Maple tree

The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere

April 18, 1775



Failed Wastewater Systems ...The Dos and Don'ts

Don't ignore the problem! It will not go away and may make a small simple problem into a large and costly one.

Do conserve water until the repair is complete.

Don't attempt to repair a failing system yourself.

Do hire a licensed designer or engineer to evaluate the system and if needed assist in applying for a permit.

Don't bury the problem area under more soil, this will not make the problem go away and may cause additional issues.

Don't redirect the water to a ditch, storm sewer, stream, abandoned well, or any other body of water or hole in the ground. It is illegal and can cause a serious environmental and health hazard.

Do fence off the area where wastewater is surfacing to keep people and animals away from untreated wastewater.

Do place hay bales around the area to redirect water back into the problem area and away from surface water.



Rev. 2-2025

WHO WE ARE

About Us

We are the Drinking Water & Groundwater Protection Division for the State of Vermont's Agency of Natural Resources, Department of Environmental Conservation. We work with landowners, designers, and engineers permitting potable water and wastewater systems, protecting Vermont's land and water for all. Our focus and mission is to protect human health and the environment while encouraging innovation in design. Please contact your local Regional Office for assistance..

Regional Office Contacts

Montpelier: 802-828-5034 Springfield:
802-289-0603 Rutland: 802-786-5900
St Johnsbury: 802-751-0130 Essex:
802-879-5656

Web: www.septic.vt.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider. To file a discrimination complaint, for questions, free language services, or requests for reasonable accommodations, please contact ANR's Nondiscrimination

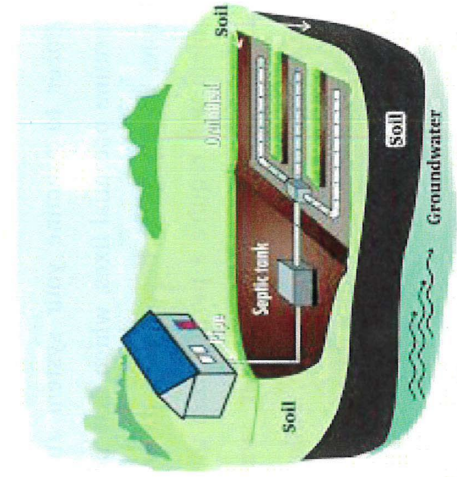
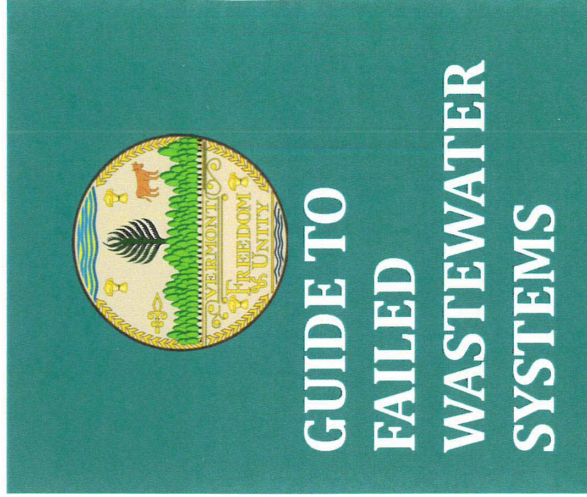
Coordinator at

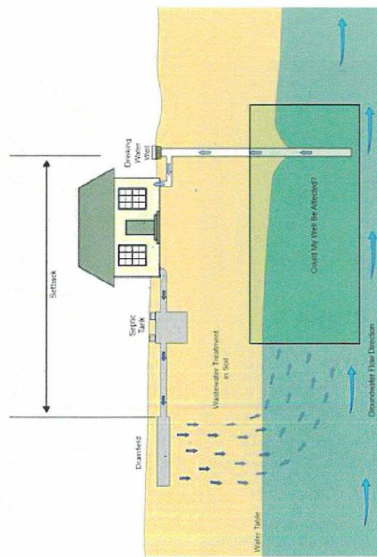
ANR.CivilRights@vermont.gov or visit

ANR's online Notice of Nondiscrimination.



Respect. Protect. Enjoy.





So, you think your wastewater system may be failed?

Wastewater systems (often referred to as septic systems) can fail for a wide variety of reasons, not all of them controllable. If you suspect you have a failed system, contact a VT State Licensed Designer or Engineer to examine your system and determine potential fixes, which may be simple. Anything beyond a minor problem will require a permit from the Vermont State Drinking Water and Groundwater Protection Program. Failed system permits will specify a date for the new system to be installed.

How to Prevent a Wastewater System from Failing

- ✓ Conserve Water – Utilize low-flow plumbing fixtures and be water aware, particularly in the Spring or after a major weather event.
- ✓ Repair or Replace leaking plumbing fixtures – One sink dripping once every second is adding over 5 gallons to your system every day!
- ✓ Maintain proper landscape on and around your system – wastewater disposal areas (leachfields) should be covered with grass and devoid of trees. Surface water, such as water from downspouts and driveways should be diverted away.
- ✓ Pump your tank regularly – Pumping out solids from a septic tank prevents clogs to the leachfield from forming. Additives have not been shown to be an effective replacement.
- ✓ Limit what goes into the System – don't use it as a trash can or dispose of harmful chemicals.
- ✓ Do not drive or build on any part of your wastewater system!
- ✓ Inspect the wastewater system routinely – check for signs of problems in the system before failure occurs.

Signs of a Failed Wastewater System

- Wastewater backing up into your toilets, tubs, or sinks.
- Slow-draining fixtures, especially following a weather event.
- The smell of sewage, particularly when accompanied by soggy ground or water discharging over the ground or in a nearby ditch, even if the discharge is not constant.
- A flashing light or beeping alarm in the house or yard indicating a pump is not working or the level in a tank is too high.





3350 ROUTE 155 | MOUNT HOLLY

Congratulations to Both Seller, Buyers and Listing Agent Alex Eatmon

Thinking about Selling? Call or Text Alex Eatmon at 802-345-7886



Route 100 | Weston

33.5+/- Acres

Roughed in Driveway - Power on Site

Stream Frontage

Call or Text Ty Murray 802-777-8047



Kingdom Road | Plymouth

45+/- Acres

Lakes Region between Killington and Okemo

Call or Text Ty Murray 802-777-8047



Route 155 | Weston

5+/- Acres - Owner Terms Possible

Driveway to Potential House Site

Stream Frontage

Call or Text Ty Murray 802-777-8047



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

www.KelleyRealEstate.com

72-B Pond Street | Ludlow

802-228-5333



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

Maple Hutch for Sale

70 inches tall 54 1/2 inches wide. \$200. Call Paul 802-259-2443

Community Health

Community Health's Alzheimer's support group has moved to a new location.

The group meets at 4p on the second Tuesday of each month. The

new location is: Community Health North Main, 231 North Main St, Rutland

Caregivers and family members of Alzheimer's and dementia patients are welcome to share feelings, thoughts, and experiences with other caregivers.

Join our support group.

For more information message kbathalon@chcrr.org or call 802-465-2255



*Calm Moments
Massage Studio*

101 Main Street, Ludlow, VT

1.802.228.7772

www.calmmomentsmassage.com



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

Flanders.excavating@gmail.com

Sign Up for Mt. Holly NewsFlash

to get all that is happening locally in our Town just email to:

newsflash@mounthollyvt.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

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



VERMONT ENERGY
VEEP
EDUCATION PROGRAM



NEW HAMPSHIRE
NHEEP
ENERGY EDUCATION PROGRAM

VLITE
Vermont Low Income Trust for Electricity

Explore the
Greenhouse Effect

Citizen Science

**MODELING
CLIMATE CHANGE**

MONDAY, APRIL 21ST

AT 5:30PM

AT FLETCHER MEMORIAL
LIBRARY

Hands-On

Join us and conduct a hands-on exploration of the science of the greenhouse effect. Learn how greenhouse gases work & affect Earth's climate.

Free and Open
to the Public!

Fletcher Memorial Library 88 Main St Ludlow, VT 05149
802-228-8921 www.fmlnews.org

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.

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

Name

Address

Phone Email



81 Tarbellville Road, Mount Holly, VT

Historic Elegance & Refined Village Living

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Gail Beardmore
Gail.Beardmore@EVrealestate.com



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Mendi Michael
Mendi.Michael@EVrealestate.com

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Who's Got It Locally?

Artists & Architects

Stone Creek Workshops Pottery www.stonecreekworkshops.com 802-259-2254

Birth & Postpartum Doula & Skilled Birth Attendant

Summers Williams summers@rootsinvermont.com 717-919-4455
www.rootsinvermont.com

Building & Repairs – General Work

Burn Permits

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

Catering - Restaurants - Stores

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
Wilderness Friends Meeting (Quaker) Sundays 10 am
Shrewsbury Library, Cuttingsville 802-259-2803

Electrical Services

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

Emergency Services

Ludlow Ambulance Service Non-Emergency # 802-228-2880 911
Stephanie Grover NRP Chief Cell 802-380-2635 sgrover.las@tds.net
MH Vol Fire Dept. Chief Bill Austin 910-915-5954 911

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

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

Clifford Funeral Home 802-773-3010

Garden & Landscape, Lawn Mowing

Belmont Country Gardens Quality Custom Stonework & More 802-259-2364
Salt Ash Nursery - The Balsam Barn – Scott Crawford 802-259-2146

Garage Mechanical

Belmont Motor Works Harley Davidson, Adventure Touring & URAL Sidecar
Motorcycles, Small Engine Repair, Welding & Metal Fabrication 802-259-3178

General Contractors

Wright Construction Company info@wrightconstruction.com 802-259-2094
Ted Stryhas Builder Inc. 802-228-7327

Health & Community Health Care Providers

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
uthrive@vermontel.net

Home Management Services

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

Maple Syrup

Green Mtn. Sugar House 802-228-7151
Plew Farm 1966 Healdville Rd, Mt. Holly www.plewfarm.com 802-259-2250
Smith Maple Crest Farm LLC Grassfed Beef & VT Maple 802-492-2151
2450 Lincoln Hill Rd, Shrewsbury, VT 05738 www.Smithmaplecrestfarm.com
Wally's Corner – Stewart Maple Syrup hello@wallyscorner.com 802-772-0507

Marketing & Promotional Services

Express Copy Inc. Casey Smith & Mike Harrington 802-362-0501
print@expresscopyinc.com

Masonry

Farrand Masonry – Angus Farrand farrandmasonry@gmail.com 802-417-1657

Massage Therapy

Calm Moments Message Studio – Irene Berry 802-228-7772
Massage Therapy/Bodywork, Thrive Center of Green Mtns 802-446-2499
Lisa Donohue MA, LMT ~ Linda O'Brien MT 802-446-2499

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

Master Plumbing & Heating Inc. John Diekel 802-975-0369
requests@masterplumbingandheating.com 24/7 Emergency 802-747-1280
Tailored Plumbing tailoredplumbingheating@gmail.com 802-417-1647

Real Estate Sales

Cummings & Co. Lisa Kelley lisa@cummingsvt.com 802-345-6581
Engel & Volkers, Okemo - Woodstock Gail Beardmore 802-975-0338
Gail.Bearmore@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
Don Eatmon Don@KelleyRealEstate.com 802-228-5333
Ty Murray Ty@KelleyRealEstate.com Call or Text 802-777-8047
Alex Eatmon Alex@KelleyRealEstate.com Call or Text 802-345-7886
Lorien Kelly Lorian@kelleyrealestate.com Call or Text 732-670-8001
www.KelleyRealEstate.com www.OkemoValley.com

TPW Real Estate, John Napier jmn@tpw.com 802-228-9400 x 1309860-559-9334

Roofing

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

Security

Countryside Alarms – Mike Blais www.countrysidealarms.com 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

Volunteer Services

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

Woodworking, Cabinets & Furniture

Chesters Custom Woodworking cw@vermontel.net 802-259-3232
www.chesterscustomwoodworking.com

