



MOUNT HOLLY CHIT CHAT



51/8

October 2025

Church Listings, 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 2-4 pm 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.officer@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-Sun & Holidays Phone 802-259-2391

Town Asst. Treasurer's Office Hours: Mon 10:00 am –2:00 pm and by Appointment 802-259-2391

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

Town Garage: 802-259-3179

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

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



1 st	MH PTG Meeting, MH School	Deer Archery Season Begins	6:00 pm
	<i>American Control Of Panama Canal Handed Over to Panama 1979</i>		
2 nd	Fire Dept. Business Meeting, Belmont Fire Station	<i>Yom Kippur</i>	7:00 pm
	<i>California Redwood National Park Est 1968</i>		
3 rd	<i>Pres. Abraham Lincoln Designates Last Thursday in November as Thanksgiving Day</i>		
6 th	<i>World Cerebral Palsy Day ~ Full Hunter Moon</i>		
7 th	MH Community Association Meeting, Library		7:00 pm
	MH Conservation Commission, MH Town Office		6:00 pm
8 th	LMHUUS Meeting,	<i>The Great Chicago Fire 1871</i>	6:00 pm
	ODD Fellows Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont		7:00 pm
9 th	Fire Dept. Drill, Fire Station	<i>Leif Erikson Day 1964</i>	7:00 pm
11 th	Roast Ham Supper , Benefit Colfax Lodge #21, Odd Fellows Hall		5:00 pm
12 th		<i>Traditional Columbus Day 1892</i>	
13 th	<i>US Navy Est 1775 ~ The Cornerstone of the White House was laid by George Washington 1792</i>	<i>VT Indigenous Peoples Day</i>	
14 th	Community Guild Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont		9:00 am
	Select Board Meeting, Town Office & Zoom	<i>Cuban Missile Crisis Begins 1962</i>	6:00 pm
	<i>US Air Force Capt Chuck Yeager shatters the Sound Barrier in a Top-Secret Bell X-1 Rocket Plane 1947</i>		
15 th	MH Town Library Meeting, Library, Belmont		6:30 pm
	MH Community Association Meeting, Library		7:00 pm
16 th	Fire Dept. work night, Fire Stations	<i>Oscar Wild 1854 ~ National Boss's Day</i>	7:00 pm
19 th		<i>Revolutionary War Ended 1781</i>	
21 st	MH Planning Commission, MH Town Office & Via Zoom	<i>Dizzy Gillespie 1917</i>	6:30 pm
22 nd	ODD Fellows Meeting, IOOF Hall, Belmont		7:00 pm
23 rd	Fire Dept. Drill, Fire Station	<i>Beirut Barracks Bombing 1983</i>	7:00 pm
24 th	<i>Anna Edson Taylor 1st Person to Survive Going Over Niagara Falls in a Barrel 1901 ~ United Nations Day Est 1945</i>		
25 th	<i>Pablo Picasso 1881 ~ Operation Urgent Fury US Invades Grenada 1983</i>		
26 th	<i>Youth & Novice Deer Weekend ~ Gunfight at OK Corral 1881 ~ Erie Canal Opens 1825</i>	<i>Navy Day</i>	
27 th		<i>Statue of Liberty Dedicated 1886</i>	9:00 am
28 th	Community Guild Meeting, IOOF Hall	<i>"Black Tuesday" Starts Great Depression 1929</i>	
29 th			
30 th	Fire Dept. work night, Fire Stations		7:00 pm
31 st	<i>Magician Harry Houdini Dies 1926 ~ Mount Rushmore National Memorial Completed 1941</i>	<i>John Keats Poet b 1795 ~ National UNICEF Day ~ Halloween</i>	



* * * * *

Emergency Services

MH Fire Dept. Chief Bill Austin 910-915-5954 802-259-2700	911	Poison Control	(802) 658-3456
MH Fire Warden ~ Jim Seward 802-786-3408	802-259-2211	American Red Cross	802-773-9159
Ludlow Ambulance Service Non-Emergency 802-228-2880	911	Game Warden – Tim Carey 802-793-2776	802-773-9101
Mount Holly Constable NONE		Health Officer – Chad Farrar 802-259-3610	802-342-1366
MH Animal Control For 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

"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: Ed & Sylvia Smith (Country Antiques) * Freda Durgin * Dick & Nancy Tilton * Robin & Don Eatmon (Kelley Real Estate) * Linda & Bill McGrath * Patti & Kevin Plew (Plew Farm) * Marc Miller * Joan Connor * Judy Colvin * Sharon & Ron Godfrey * Ruth Fleury * Andrew Royce Sr * Lenny Crispinelli * Linda & Lester Lampert * Rick & Barbara Ludwig * Karin Lanzelin * Amy Lienhard & David Hartman * Andrew Seward * Sandy Montgomery * Louise Seward * Peter & Stephanie Smith * Donna & Joseph McDonald * Steven Scarzello * David & Deb Hoffer * Peter Coldwell * Susan Covalla * Raymond Sanderson * Kevin & Lee Winter * Chris Pratt & Jon & Jodi Seward (MoJo Café) * Chris Pratt * Cathy Chadburn * Wright Construction * Brian Gage * Susan Roddy & Glenn Fuller * Andy & Judy Leever * Gregory Higgins * Madeleine Fay * Susan Kilsheimer * Rick & Alison Weintraub * Samuel Fogel * Will & Sue Zabransky * John & Sharon Napier (TPW Real Estate) * Lory Doolittle * Patricia & Andrew Salner * Betty Jean & Murray Merlin * Bessie Centini * James C Maiden Jr * Sal Mazzullo * Pat Johnson * Georgiana Sorensen * Margo Coffey * Louis & Jane Toomey * Kevin & Lana Murphy * Susan Presson * Laurie Doig & Birgir Nilsen * Pat & Jane Burns * George Wood * Liz Flint * Nancy & Dan Connor * Terri Isidro * Emily Clifford Jackson * Dan Shelley * Richard & Denise Blake * Stephen & Lorraine Harrigan * Doug & Kris Long * Katherine Greeno * Kate Flynn & Nick Marshall * Brigid Sullivan * Annette West * Mary Ann Merkle * Barbara Oswald & Tom Pelsue * Betsy Hinckley * Alice Perry * Dale Brown & Linda Carabis-Brown * Carl & Kathy Mitchell * Gene Jennings & Fred Garrow * Fletcher Memorial Library * William & Martha Parker * Jim & Donna Seward * Patricia Brannin * The Augustine's * Betsey McGee & Mark Pecker * Bret Harlow * Margot Martell * Michael & Claire Poulin * Susan Dalby * John Whalen *



October Birthdays: 1st-Darica Cole Hains * Maxine Freeman 4th-Matt Lillard 8th-Lindsay Durgin * Janice A. Zlotnick * Callie Lewis 9th-Brian Buffum 11th-Jodi LaPenna-Seward * Barbara Hazelton 12th-Ryan Smith 13th-Shari Lewis 17th-Bill Devereux 20th-Bradley Jones 21st-Heather Pond 22nd-Danielle Lillard 23rd-Jessica McMahon 24th-Dennis Bussino (1966) * Cecelia Pearson 25th-Andrew Taylor 26th-Nathan Turco 27th-Joe Parker * Jessica Anthony * Connie Niles 28th-Steve Lewis 29th-Susan Marshall



October Anniversaries: 1st-Jim & Millicent Johnson (1977) 8th-Fay & Maxine Freeman (2016) 9th-Ron & Karen Blodgett * Ron & Kelly Tarbell 10th-Tom & Kristin Veysey * Gary & Lori Norton 18th-John & Amy Taylor 25th-Roger & Diana Garrow (1974) 31st-Jodi & John Seward

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.



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



Heidi B. Schenider, 1957-2025

Heidi Jean Braisted, formerly of Trumbull, Conn., and a resident of Mount Holly, Vt., passed away after years of declining health on June 11, 2025, surrounded by her daughters, at Rutland Regional Medical Center.

Heidi was born March 28, 1957, to Donald and Dolores (Hawley) Braisted, in Stamford, Conn. She was the fourth of six children. She graduated from Trumbull High School in Connecticut, in 1976. She moved to Mount Holly, Vt., in 1983, with her then husband and their two daughters. She worked in manufacturing for more than 25 years at Metromail and Experian in Rutland, Vt., before retiring early. She enjoyed gardening, the company of her cats, and spending time with her family. She enjoyed watching NASCAR, the Hallmark Channel, and was a longtime fan of General Hospital.

Heidi leaves behind her daughters Amy (Schneider) Pikkarainen (Scott) and Katie Schneider; granddaughters Brie, Jenna, and Ashlynn Pikkarainen; siblings Lisa Bernier (Thomas), Susan McGrath (Kevin), Eric Braisted (Catherine), and Kirsten Rousseau (Leon); nieces and nephews; and former sisters-in-law Beth and Janice Schneider. Heidi was predeceased by her brother Mark and her parents.

The family would like to thank the former members of the Mount Holly Rescue Squad, the staff at Rutland Regional Medical Center, Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center, and lastly Mountain View Center in Rutland, for her care the last two years. Thank you to Aldous Funeral Home for the handling of her cremation. Heidi requested that a funeral service not be held.

A Celebration of Life may be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in Heidi's name to the Foley Cancer Center or Rutland Heart Center, both at Rutland Regional Medical Center.

Mount Holly Elementary School

SOUPER KIDS

Warm soup in Works of Art!

Join us for our Biggest Fundraiser of the Year!
Saturday, Oct. 11 • 10 AM – 4 PM
Sunday, Oct. 12 • 12 PM – 4 PM

🍲 SUPPORT MT. HOLLY SCHOOL & PTG FUNDRAISING! 🍲
 STOP BY OUR TENT FOR FUN, FOOD, AND FANTASTIC STUDENT ART!

🎨 WHAT'S HAPPENING?

- 🍲 KID-PAINTED BOWLS & MUGS — BEAUTIFUL, ONE-OF-A-KIND KEEPSAKES
- 🍲 WARM SOUPS & HOT COCOA — PERFECT FOR CHILLY FALL DAYS
- 🍲 FRIED DOUGH — A SWEET TREAT YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS
- 🏠 BOUNCY HOUSE! — FUN FOR THE KIDS WHILE YOU SHOP!
- 🎨 COME SEE YOUR CHILD'S ARTWORK, SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL, AND ENJOY A FESTIVE DAY WITH THE COMMUNITY!

Everyone is welcome!



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

Notice: All Invited Mechanicsville Cemetery Monthly Volunteer Clean Up Schedule

1st Thursday of each month 2025
 Oct 2nd, 6 pm

TRUNK OR TREAT

ISO VOLUNTEERS FOR TRUNK-OR-TREAT!

WE'RE LOOKING FOR CREATIVE AND SPOOKY
 (OR SILLY!) SOULS TO HELP US OUT BY
 DECORATING A TRUNK FOR OUR TRUNK-OR-
 TREAT EVENT!

🕒 WHEN: 5:30-7:30 PM

📍 WHERE: LOCATION TBD

IF YOU LOVE HALLOWEEN, CANDY, AND SEEING
 KIDS LIGHT UP WITH EXCITEMENT, THIS IS THE
 PERFECT WAY TO GET INVOLVED. BRING YOUR
 BEST TRUNK-DECORATING IDEAS—WE CAN'T
 WAIT TO SEE WHAT YOU COME UP WITH!
 EMAIL MTHOLLYPTG@GMAIL.COM
 CALL/TEXT ANDREA 802-342-1991

Notice Mechanicsville Cemetery Annual Meeting

Place: Odd Fellows Hall, Belmont VT
Date: October 15, 2025
Time: 6:00 PM

Dear friends and neighbors

We may be enjoying a last taste of summer but the cool evenings and changing leaves tell the real story: Fall and our beloved Mount Holly Community Association flagship event, **Cider Days**, will soon be upon us.

If you're going to be around, why not be part of the action? We have plenty of fun volunteer slots still available.

Please let me know if you'd like to sign up for any of the following (and don't worry if you're a newbie - you'll have other experienced volunteers for company and we even have guidelines for each job).

Here are your opportunities:

Gazebo: merchandise sales (calendars/tee shirts/tote bags/aprons/etc.)

- Saturday: 11:00 - 1:00 pm; 3:00 - 5:00 pm
- Sunday: 11:00 - 1:00 pm; 3:00 - 5:00 pm

Food Tent: Cider/Apple Pie/Apple Crisp/Mac n Cheese sales:

- Saturday: 9:00 - 11:00 am; 3:00 - 5:00 pm
- Sunday: 11:00 - 1:00 pm; 1:00 - 3:00 pm; 3:00 - 5:00 pm

Photo Contest:

- Saturday: 1:00 - 3:00 pm; 3:00 - 5:00 pm
- Sunday: 11:00 - 1:00 pm; 1:00 - 3:00 pm;

When you respond, please be sure to include the position you want, as well as the specific day and time(s) you want to work. I will confirm that with you, as well as send you the guidelines for what is expected at each position, once these are updated by the folks in charge. If you cannot help out this year, please let me know that as well...that way I won't keep pestering you with emails to volunteer ☺ ☺ And if you already signed up and I included you in

error - sorrryyy!

Many, many thanks for stepping up for this most important event! Alex Yuster



HIKES INTO THE YALE FOREST

Hikes to be offered into the Yale Forest soon. Mount Holly is home to 462 acres that are part of Yale's Forestry program. The land was given to them in 1922 by the family of Joseph Bowen. He was a graduate of the Yale School of Forestry who was killed when shot down over France in World War one.

The hikes will be held from the middle of October until early November. They are moderate walks along an early road. Learn about the history of the area and visit the plaque that was placed in memory of the young pilot who did not come home.

The hikes are finalized a day or two ahead of time when more is known about the weather. Please leave a message at 802-259-2460 or ddevereux@vermontel.net if interested. There will be several opportunities to join the hour and a half trek.



Bone Builders

Monday & Thursday Mornings

9:00 am

Odd Fellows Hall

For Weights and more information

Call Judy Nevin 802-259-2443

September 2025, Trestleboard

Next Meeting Tuesday 10/07 7:30PM

NOVEMBER MEETING will be on the 4th 7:30PM

DECEMBER MEETING will be on the 2nd 7:30PM

MARK YOUR CALENDARS.

Congratulations to Dana Hart who completed the second step on becoming a Master Mason. He isn't able to take his 3rd degree on

November 7th that was decided upon at the last meeting. A new date will have to be set.

Olive Branch Lodge will hold District #11 Meeting in Bellows Falls on October 7th starting with supper at 6pm followed by the meeting at 7pm. Fraternally, David Seward W.M & Buster Seward Sec'y



Suppers For Mount Holly Organizations



Settings Start 4:45 pm

At

The Odd Fellows Hall, Belmont

All You Can Eat - Served Home Style

Adults - \$15 & Children Under 12 - \$8

Children 5 and Under no charge



Oct 11th Colfax Lodge – Baked Ham

Eat In or Take Out,

With Take Out meals starting at 4:45 pm

More Info Call 802-259-2460



Vermont Home Gardener: October Garden Tips

The dry, warm weather of September has helped gardens continue to grow and produce nicely as long as you were able to supply needed water. Weeds, of course, are happily growing and making seeds for next year so they need to be removed and used to make fertilizer. Speaking of next year, there is a new online program to help you plan for a more sustainable landscape called Plan It Wild that I'd like to introduce below. Also, let's remember that the best way to a healthy, productive garden is through healthy, fertile soil. October is a great time to get soil tested and start building soil fertility for next year. A great way to improve soil fertility is with compost and "weed fertilizer" that we can make at home, for free. Finally, as the leaves fall let's use this great, free resource of nature as a soil builder instead of raking & bagging.

If you would like to change your lawn dominated landscape into a rich, biodiverse environment with enhanced habitat diversity, more natural beauty, and easier yard care the **Plan It Wild** approach might help you. You can begin by completing the free online site evaluation to get your [Wildr score](#) for an idea of your yard's assets and needs for improvement. This self-assessment was developed with help from our own [Vermont Center for Ecostudies](#). The results provide you with a summary of your features and basic recommendations for improving your landscape, plenty of food for thought for the coming winter months!

Soil Fertility Fall is the best time to build soil but it's important to know what your soil condition is before adding anything. The key soil characteristics gardeners care about are soil pH (acidity), soil nutrients, and organic matter content. All of these are vital to healthy, productive soil and can be best improved before winter so everything will be ready in the spring.

Step 1: do a **soil test** to learn the health status of your soil. The test results will tell you what amendments will be most effective. Do not assume that adding some lime and fertilizer will work; it could be counter-productive and wasteful. I don't recommend using the inexpensive little soil test kits sold in stores. Soil testing is best done by a soil lab because their methods are more accurate, and they provide specific recommendations for the plants you want to grow.

The University of Vermont testing lab offers a basic garden/lawn soil analysis for just \$17 and includes pH, macronutrients, and other characteristics. Download their order form and instructions [HERE](#). Send them about ½ cup of air-dried soil in a sealed plastic bag and the completed order form. Results will come back by mail or by email within 1-2 weeks and provide recommendations for what and how much to apply. Follow their instructions for [How to Collect a Soil Sample](#), very important.

Step 2: Soils in New England tend to be acidic (we have acid rain!) and usually benefit from the application of agricultural limestone or wood ash. After you have the results of your soil test (step 1) you will know whether lime is called for, or not. Soil pH refers to the acidity of the soil. A pH of 7.0 is neutral, above 7.0 is alkaline, and below 7.0 is acidic. This is important because if the pH is too low or too high the plant can't get the nutrients that are in the soil. Most plants do best in slightly acidic soil, between 6.2 and 6.5. A common sign of acidic soil (low pH) is leaf "chlorosis" or yellowing.

Fall is the best time to apply limestone to gardens and lawns because the change of soil pH will take several months. Limestone applied now, if needed, will be well incorporated into the soil and have raised the pH by spring planting time.

Do not assume limestone will always help; there are two cases in which lime applications will have poor results: 1) the soil pH is already above 6.5 and raising it higher will reduce the availability of nutrients to your plants. 2) The plants that you are growing prefer acidic soil with a pH below 5.5. This includes blueberries, raspberries, elderberries, blackberries, rhododendrons, azaleas, holly, and most potatoes.

Step 3: Apply fertilizer, as called for by your soil test results. As an organic gardener I favor the regular application of compost to garden soil. Compost provides rich organic matter, beneficial microbes, good amounts of phosphate and potassium. Nitrogen is usually low in

compost but can be supplemented with animal manures (composted chicken or cow manure is best), green manures (legumes such as beans, peas, & clover), alfalfa meal, and organic granular fertilizers. Compost also acts as a great stabilizer of pH and will keep your soil acidity in the desirable range.

Weed Fertilizer. Do not stop weeding yet! Weeds are now producing their flowers and seeds for next year's generation. Weeds produce thousands of seeds per plant! Do not allow weeds to go to seed in your garden, turn them into fertilizer! Weeds are a rich source of mineral nutrients in a naturally balanced mix just right for your plants. Here's how: 1. Chop up enough weeds (leaves & roots) to fill a 5-gallon bucket, 2. Add a handful of mature compost or [leaf mold](#), 3. Add enough water to fill up to 3 inches from the top, 4. Mix well and cover the bucket with its top or a board to keep out rain & critters. This mix will begin fermenting and produce a rich "nutrient tea" full of minerals and beneficial bacteria for your garden soil. After 2-3 weeks store the liquid in gallon jugs for next spring. Add the remaining solids to your compost. To use, dilute the tea 10 to 1 and pour onto your favorite shrubs, perennials and gardens. Great weeds for this tea include dandelions, comfrey, stinging nettle, or any weed you have lots of. From the garden use carrot tops, bean/pea plants, and beet or radish greens. [Here is a good video](#) to help you get started. (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DKoKC0vGkPo>)

Got Leaves? Make Compost! Nature is now releasing leaves from trees to add fertility and build soil. It is pretty amazing that plants produce their own food by photosynthesis and then feed the soil around them for all the beneficial fungi and bacteria that they partner with. Compost those leaves into rich fertilizer instead of raking them.

Not doing compost? Mower shred all those leaves in place right on your lawn. Chopped up fine they will enrich your soil (no fertilizers needed!), add organic matter to hold moisture in dry spells, and suppress weeds. It's a win-win-win. **Read all articles at**

[VermontHomeGardener.com](#)

Hall Rental in Belmont

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



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Merging School Districts Act 73

Act 73 established a commission to make recommendations to the legislature regarding merging school districts or supervisory unions, increasing their size where practical to between 4000 and 8000 students. Getting to that size for our district would require us to join with 3 other supervisory unions, for example, Springfield, Windsor/Ascutney and Bellows Falls or Woodstock.

One basic decision is whether to merge supervisory unions while retaining local control of our school districts or to merge districts into a supervisory district that a single board would control and make decisions about which schools to remain open. See the discussion below.

At its August meeting the Ludlow Mount Holly Unified Union School District unanimously adopted the following resolution, asking that our district be maintained and that any merger be with supervisory unions. I ask that the select board consider a similar resolution. Dave Martin

LMHUUSD Resolution

Whereas local control of schools increases citizen involvement with our schools and results in better student outcomes and

Whereas any savings or improved outcomes that could result from merging school districts can also be achieved by merging supervisory unions,

The Ludlow Mount Holly Unified Union School District moves to remain within a Supervisory Union which may be enlarged under the terms of Act 73 if a larger supervisory union can provide at least the same level of services to our schools at a lower cost.



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Robert Beardmore, Jr. 5256 VT-155
beardmoreexc@gmail.com Belmont, Vermont 05730

the school board. This will be decided by the “ward taskforce” which has not yet begun work. School boards in supervisory districts will be voted on in wards. As the ward taskforce has yet to begun, it is unknown what the wards, based on population, will look like regionally. Towns will not necessarily be individually represented on a board. All existing school boards will be dissolved along with all existing articles of agreement between merged districts. The new districts will operate under a charter. A draft charter has not yet been developed. We don’t know if this will be a standardized charter statewide or a charter which can be added to with locally developed agreements. The redistricting taskforce will complete their work prior to the resolution of these issues.

Supervisory unions (SUs) are made up of school districts that operate as single town school districts or small groups of like-operating merged districts. School boards for these districts collaborate to achieve cost reductions, efficiencies, and effective education opportunities within the supervisory union. The SU shares a single superintendent, central office and a board with representation from each district in the union, while also retaining local boards. Existing school boards will move into the new larger districts as they currently exist, unless they choose voluntarily to merge with other districts prior to the formation of the new SU. Existing articles of agreement will stay in place. The SU model provides a balance between the financial benefits of shared and collaborative services and the community-centered benefits of local and responsive school boards. Supervisory unions have transparent costs that can be calculated per member district. Statewide data shows that currently SUs are more cost effective statewide than SDs.

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Firewood – Cut, Split & Delivered

Our purpose is to optimize cost-savings and efficiencies where possible while maintaining local democratic engagement, oversight and accountability in order to achieve excellent educational outcomes for our communities’ children and youth at a cost Vermonters can afford.

Comparison of Supervisory districts and Supervisory unions

The scale of the new districts will be very different from the current scale of central offices in rural Vermont. While we are familiar with the terms “Supervisory District” and “Supervisory Union,” how these structures will operate on the scale required of 4,000-8,000 students will be different from how they currently operate.

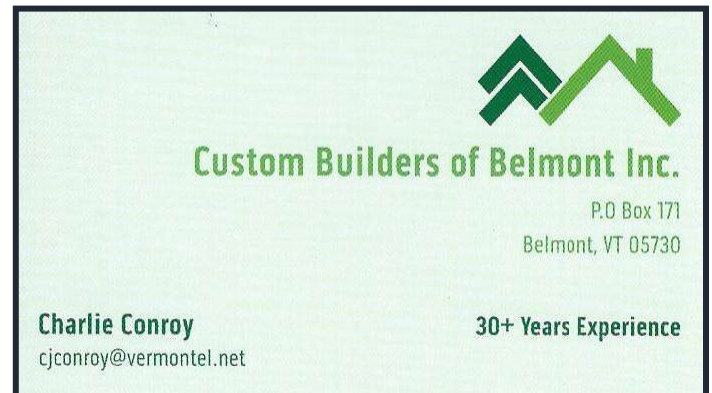
Supervisory districts (SDs) are regional districts in a geographic area with a single superintendent, central office and school board. At this time, we do not know how many school board members will be on



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Charlie Conroy
cjconroy@vermontel.net

30+ Years Experience



MOUNT HOLLY TOWN LIBRARY NEWS OCTOBER 2025

Here's what's happening at the Mount Holly Library. The annual Manhattan Short Film Festival is here! One of the finalists you all enjoyed at our 2024 show, "I Am Not A Robot" won the Academy Award for best short film of 2024. You have 3 opportunities to see all 10, 2025 candidates:

Thursday 9/25 @ 7 pm (opening night) - Saturday 9/27 @ 7 pm Saturday 10/4 @ 7
OCTOBER 11-12 CIDER DAYS

The Cider Days library book sale takes place
Saturday Oct. 11 from 10 AM - 3 PM Oct. 12 from 12 Noon - 3 PM.

Fill a bag with books for a
\$5.00 donation on Oct 12
beginning at 2 PM

OCTOBER 25TH 7 PM
Movie: "Men in Black" with
Will Smith and Tommy Lee
Jones

The library is not taking book
donations at this time.

We will begin accepting book
donations again in May 2026

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

mthollylibrary@gmail.com www.mthollytownlibrary.org



NOTICE

Mount Holly Board of Listers Will be
conducting the annual Drive around town
to check on construction progress of
buildings or other new buildings During
the month of October, 2025

FRESH PRESSED CIDER FROM A CENTURY OLD CIDER PRESS

CIDER DAYS



Indigenous Peoples' Day Weekend

Saturday, October 11 • 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
Sunday, October 12 • Noon - 4:00 pm

ON THE BELMONT GREEN

Directions: Turn At The Blinking Light At Vermont 103. Cross The Railroad Tracks
Go Straight For 2 1/2 Miles To The Green
USE OF GREEN COURTESY OF THE VILLAGE BAPTIST CHURCH

SPONSORED BY THE MOUNT HOLLY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

FARM FRESH FOOD • ICE CREAM • CROWLEY CHEESE • PHOTO CONTEST

CRAFTS • LOCAL ARTISTS • LIVE MUSIC • APPLE PIE & CRISP • BOOK SALE



Itching to get in some voting practice?

...your chance is coming
during the Cider Days
weekend, Oct. 11 & 12.

...that's when you will be able to
cast your votes for the 16 photos
you would like to see in the next
world famous*

Mount Holly Calendar.

All the exciting** action will be
taking place in the Community
Room beneath the building that
looks like a church, but don't be
fooled, is really a library.

*delusions of grandeur **could be true
mthollyphotos@gmail.com.



Open Wed-Sun: 11am-6pm (802) 772-0507
The Olde Barn, 5444 VT 103 Hello@wallyscorner.com
Cuttingsville, VT 05738 www.wallyscorner.com

Upcoming Events & Announcements

October 5th 10a-4pm: Tap to Table 🍁

We cannot wait for this year's festival! Meet us at
the barn for FREE face painting & a tasting table
before you step into the shop.

October 19th 4pm-7pm: Sips & Seasonings 🍷🍷

Join us for this FREE tasting to pair wine & brines
featuring spice blends from Clean Brine Co &
Pickling Solutions.

Your one stop shop
for all things local
and handmade:

- MAPLE SYRUP
- CRAFT FOOD
- CIDER & BEER
- ANTIQUES
- & MORE!

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Mount St. Joseph Academy...

- ✓ ...more than 95% of graduates go on to College
- ✓ ...Advanced Placement Courses along with Early College & Dual Enrollment options
- ✓ ... generous scholarships awarded to defray the cost of tuition
- ✓ ...offers Traditional Grading & Class Rankings

MSJ... A PLACE TO BELONG

**Accepting Applications for
the 2025-26 & 2026-27
School Years**

To Apply: please visit

<https://www.msjvermont.org/admissions-process>

**Ludlow's
41st Annual
Harvest Fair**

SATURDAY OCT 4, 2025

FOOD TRUCKS 45+ VENDORS FAMILY FRIENDLY

FREE ADMISSION 10AM - 4pm

Support the Ludlow PTG

45 Main St, Ludlow VT

<https://www.facebook.com/LUDLOWVTHARVESTFAIR>

News from MHCA

Fall in the Greens is a spectacular place to be. Although this is mostly true, this year things seem a bit muted as colors have begun emerging. The draught clearly has a hand in the current palate of maples, birches and oaks. It's hard not to like the beautiful weather - but it leaves one to wonder "can you love and not like the same thing simultaneously?" This thought led to a Google search about drought.... "We need rain, we need rain" excerpt from The Drought Song by John Erikson - check it out ... It's a fun little song that will surprisingly stick with you. Maybe if we sing it and pray to the universe, the rain gods will shower us with blessings (one can have hope).

Thinking of blessings, we want to extend our appreciation to....

♥□ Alex Fila, Joe Solomon, and Bob Arthurs for their wonderful performance at Cabaret last month. We are very lucky to have such accomplished musicians who call Mount Holly home and include their friends in an opportunity to treat folks to a night of jazz. Thank you for volunteering your time, energy, and talent with us! Thank you Madeleine Fay and her team of volunteers who helped make this event enjoyable.

♥□ MHCA's own grill maestro Kevin Hollebeck, & his sidekick Jim Fitzgerald, for our Mount Holly Day (rain day) cookout for the last Music on the Green concert. Boy did we have a turn out! People showed up with side dishes to share, there was a line for burgers and dogs with friends and neighbors chatting away and enjoying a glorious summer evening. It was such a success folks kept commenting on how we should do this every year. It truly was a lovely community gathering in the village that felt like humanity still exists amidst a divided nation. BTW - there was a lone gray cephalon silicon long handled serving spoon that was left behind post clean up (email mhcavt@gmail.com if it was yours).

Upcoming Events:



Cow Plop: Holy cow, Miss Katniss is a comin'. Yes, folks it's that time of year where we pay homage to a special little heifer who stars in the famous Mount Holly Cow Plop during Cider Days. Miss Katniss has big hooves to fill following her predecessors Miss Sherpa and, God rest her heifer heart, Miss Liberty who was not always the most compliant cow plop participant but we loved her, nevertheless. Miss Katniss is an award winning lil girl, (Jr Reserve Champion at the Rutland Fair) who made her 4H handler, Carter Bruce, very proud.

You still have time to get your cow plop square to help support MHCA's window restoration project for the library windows. \$10.00 a square with three chances to win a gift basket and CASH CASH CASH! Stop in at the Belmont General Store or catch us at the transfer station to participate. You can see Miss Katniss, along with her furry friends, on Saturday October 11th between 11-3 across from the Fire Station Barn on Church St.

Cider Days

Rated as one of Vermont's top ten fall events, Cider Days are happening on October 11 (10-4pm) & 12 (noon-4pm). We have many many vendors this year sharing all things Vermont from

artisans, crafters, and live music, to the library book sale, Souper Kids and Karma Sanctuary - Mount Holly's own animal rescue/petting zoo. We will also have a number of food vendors offering a variety of cuisines. Of course, **the featured event** is our own cider pressing with the best cider crew ever. There's nothing like fresh pressed cider that indicates fall has arrived. Come celebrate the season with us Indigenous Peoples weekend on the Village Baptist Church Green!

Mount Holly Calendar Photo Contest: A locally driven special project, coordinated by the very witty Craig Thomkinson that highlights the beauty of our community. The photo contest allows everyone to vote on their favorite pictures, during Cider Days that will comprise the 2027 Mount Holly Calendar. If you miss Cider Days, don't fret the exhibit will stay up through

Halloween: MHCA will join the PTG's Halloween celebration on Thursday October 30th. Come find your board members with holiday goodies at Trunk or Treat! Stay tuned to the PTG's announcement on time and location.

Merchandise

2026 Mount Holly Calendars On sale near you are the beautiful and very local Mount Holly Calendars. Stop by the Town Office, Plew Farm, and the Belmont General Store to pick one up. We can also mail you one, reach out to mhcavt@gmail.com and we will happily make arrangements with you.



T-Shirts (long sleeve), canvas bags, and hot/cold 16 oz tumblers Yep, we got these too with the cherry red apple design. You can purchase these at Cider Days, through a MHCA board member or by contacting us at mhcavt@gmail.com

And there you have it, news from your MHCA with lots of fun & exciting events happening this month and ruminations about the weather. We hope to see you enjoying the fall festivities. Leaving you with a consideration about kindness, "Paying it forward is

an expense we all can afford and one that humanity can't afford to live without" – Anonymous By Jennifer Burrow & Linda Miller

Wayne Jones Metal

All Metals

Sheet - Plate - Structural - Fabrication

CNC Plasma - Oxy Fuel Burn Table

Equipment Repair

Light Machining

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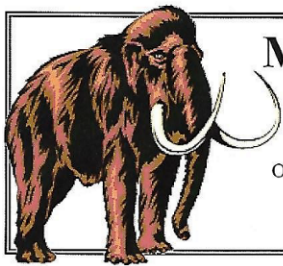
Polishing

www.waynejonesmetal.com

Wayne Jones

1759 RT 103 N

East Wallingford VT 802-259-2521



MOUNT HOLLY COMMUNITY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

PO Box 17 Belmont, VT 05730

Our mission is to enlighten our community with an understanding of our past to
promote an objective vision of the future.

Home of the Vermont State Terrestrial Fossil

The Museum Board would like to extend our gratitude to the community for making our Labor Day Ham Dinner evening a successful event. We saw many Mount Holly neighbors as well as visitors from away: Rutland, Mount Tabor, Chippenhook and Tinmouth. Our Ham Dinner on

September 1 set a busy fundraising season in motion: Cider Days October 11 and 12; November we will be gathering items for the auction; and December The Festival of Lights celebration on Saturday, December 6 at 5:00PM.

PROGRESS on BLACKSMITH SHOP FUNDRAISING

Just over 8 weeks ago we embarked on a fundraising campaign to restore the Blacksmith Shop Museum. We had a goal of raising \$150,000 to address the much needed repairs in order to save the building and the rich history contained within its walls. A small group of dedicated volunteers met, discussed the challenge and dared to dream that Mount Holly can raise the funds to save the building!

Thanks to the incredible generosity of all of YOU, our supporters, our neighbors and friends, 100 donors have contributed \$30,000. This is a testament to the power of our community! Every dollar donated brings us closer to realizing our restoration goal.

Although we have a long way to go, we want to be transparent about the difficulties in securing grant funding. In the last six months we submitted two foundation applications. Both applications were denied. The experience was a learning opportunity. We will reapply and continue to research different funding sources. Also we will reach out to more targeted corporate sponsorships.

We need your support now! Monthly we will report our progress. Your contributions today ensures future generations will walk the floors and connect with the stories we are working to preserve. The Blacksmith Shop Museum relates the history of how our predecessors worked and earned a living; our Perkins House Museum not only houses the Vermont State Terrestrial Fossil, The Woolly Mammoth, but also invites the visitor into exploring how life was lived in Mount Holly the last 150 years.

Thank you for making the future possible!

CIDER DAYS - Saturday, October 11, 10:00AM-4:00PM and Sunday, October 12, 12:00PM-4:00PM

Cider Days bring great activity to our Community Historical Museums. Both Museums will be open several hours each day with Board Members present to point out exhibits and answer questions. We encourage all visitors to view the two Museums.

Outside the Perkins House there will be several tables to explore:

— A **photo presentation** of the critical state of the Blacksmith Shop along with materials for making a donation.

— **Museum Merchandise** for sale: Sweatshirts of various colors, tee shirts, short and long sleeve SPF shirts, mugs, ball caps, mammoth puzzles, fuzzy stuffed mammoths, small ornaments and postcards.

— A **Special Christmas Sale Surprise**: Thanks to a recent gift from a Mount Holly resident, we have a large international collection of Christmas decorations (including wreaths) for sale. Children and adults alike will be delighted to choose some new and unique Christmas treasures.

We look forward to celebrating Cider Days with you!

SAVE the DATE: FESTIVAL of LIGHTS EVENING and LIVE AUCTION

Saturday, December 6, 2025, Odd Fellows Hall, 5:00 PM

The Mount Holly Community Historical Museum welcomes Community members and neighbors from nearby cities and villages to gather with us for our fundraising live auction and an evening of community social enjoyment, goodies and libations. We hope last year's exuberance and generous support will continue as we share the evening together.

Like last year, we will have items from three Vermont counties, Rutland, Windsor and Bennington. And like last year, we would like to ask the Mount Holly Community to contribute some of your treasures for the auction. However, we ask that careful consideration be given to your contribution. If you have an item in workable condition or a treasure without chips or dents, something you would comfortably display in your own home, we would be grateful to receive your item and happy to include it in our auction fundraiser. Please, no big items. Please be aware your donations are tax deductible.

At a later date we will announce the date, location and a time for delivering. In the meantime, if you would like to talk to someone about your item, you can call: Sue Covalla 802 259 2042 Carol Serravezza 802 259 2785

Looking forward to another festive evening with you!

Coming in 2026: Shape Note Singing

The Mount Holly Historical Museum is part of the Vermont Early Music Project, featured in a special exhibit at the Vermont History Museum in Montpelier: **Vermont's Tunebook Traditions: Composers, Compilers & Singers of Psalmology (1790-2025)**. Hezekiah Moors lived and farmed in Mount Holly from about 1790 to 1812 and was one of seven Vermont composers and compilers of tunes during that time. The exhibit runs through December, so head to Montpelier to see it and this lovely museum. Moors composed tunes in the shape note tradition, sung in churches, taverns or other places people gathered. Two of his tunes are in the Sacred Harp book. The exhibit includes a video and an audio component via your cell phone that plays tunes by the composers. Sacred Harp has been revived throughout the U.S. and in Europe, and there is information on line. Groups around Vermont gather monthly to sing these tunes (Vermont Shape Note Singers.html). The emphasis is on community and harmony, both important in our time! The Mount Holly Museum plans to keep the project going and try this singing in the future in our area. More information will be coming, so stay tuned. Phil Leonard



GREEN MOUNTAIN SIGN & GRAPHICS

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16 Pond Street Ludlow (802) 856-5612

CUSTOMVTSIGNS.COM



Introduction to AI

Date: Friday, October 10th
Time: 1PM
Location: Fletcher Memorial Library

Curious about AI? Want to know more about Chat GPT? We will introduce some of the basic ideas around artificial intelligence. We'll talk about how AI is being used today, what its current limitations are, and how it will shape the future!

Brought to you by the Black River Good Neighbor Services & Fletcher Memorial Library w/support from Godnick Adult Center & Vermont Community Foundation.

Call: BRGNS 802-228-3663 or FML 802-228-8921

OATS OLDER ADULTS
TECHNOLOGY
SERVICES

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 \$1.00 for return mail.

Name _____

Address _____

_____ Stickers @ \$3.00 each = \$ _____

Postage/handling \$ _____ 1.00

Total Enclosed \$ _____

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

Take Out Lasagna Dinner!



Friday October 10th

Pick up your Dinner from
5:00 pm-6:30 pm

Shrewsbury Meeting House
Lasagna, Salad & Roll
Local Beef & Vegetarian Option Too!

Call Lynette to Order your Dinners
802-683-0631

Cost: Free Will Donation

Proceeds to benefit Shrewsbury Community Sharing Project which supports Shrewsbury Families with gift and grocery cards during the holiday season.

Hosted by Shrewsbury Community Church
Unable to pick up your dinner?
Let us know and we will Deliver it to you!



Itching to get in some voting practice?

...your chance is coming
during the Cider Days
weekend, Oct. 11 & 12.

...that's when you will be able to
cast your votes for the 16 photos
you would like to see in the next
world famous*

Mount Holly Calendar.

All the exciting** action will be
taking place in the Community
Room beneath the building that
looks like a church, but don't be
fooled, is really a library.

*delusions of grandeur **could be true
mthollyphotos@gmail.com.

Baked Ham Supper



Saturday October 11th

Starting at 5:00 pm

Benefit Colfax Lodge #21

Odd Fellows Hall, Belmont

Baked Ham Supper

Baked Potato, Vegetables, Rolls
And Home Baked Pies

All You Can Eat - Home Style
Take Outs Available



Adults \$15.00
Children Under 12 \$8.00
Children 5 and Under no Charge

More Info Call 259-2460

**Personal
PREPAREDNESS
TRAINING**

UPPER VALLEY MEDICAL
RESERVE CORPS

**MONDAY
SEPTEMBER 29TH
5:30PM**

FLETCHER MEMORIAL LIBRARY
Be Ready Before Disaster Strikes!

Learn how to -

- ✓ Build a go-bag for your household (pets included!)
- ✓ Create evacuation and shelter-in-place plans
- ✓ Stay connected with loved ones during an emergency

Whether it's a power outage, flood, or storm, having a plan makes all the difference. Come away with practical tips to keep yourself, your family, and your community safer.

For more info on the library and programming visit our website
www.fmlnews.org

Fletcher Memorial Library 88 Main St Ludlow, VT 05149



Out for a foliage drive ?
Stop, sample & pickup a bit of our VT Maple Syrup for you, or for gifts.
We can also ship your gift of VT Maple for you!
Looking to stock your freezer ? Check out our Farm Store for:

Maple Candies	Locally Sourced	Ground Beef
Maple Cookies	Pork (cuts)	Grilling Steaks
Maple Spices, Marinades	Chicken (cuts)	Ribs, Roasts Briskets
Sugar and Snacks	& Eggs	Sausages & More

Gift bags of Vermont Goodies and Meat Freezer Boxes Available

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VT MAPLE SYRUP & GRASSFED BEEF

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SmithMapleCrestFarm.com 802-492-2151 maplecrest.info@gmail.com
We ship syrup all over the USA

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

To The Editor, Chit Chat

I'm writing about the "anonymous report" submitted to the Town Clerk and Planning Commission (page 16, September Chit Chat)

I do not believe that an "anonymous report" should receive any consideration by the Town Clerk or Planning Commission. The acceptance of an anonymous report does not allow for the ability to check on the source's credibility, motives or qualification as a resident of Mount Holly. There is also no opportunity for the public to have a direct discourse with the author's views.

I believe the town should only accept reports or comments if the author(s) is willing to provide their name(s). Anonymous reports and comments should not be considered or acted on by the town. Kathleen Leber, Mount Holly



Cider Days Bioblitz 2025! Help us identify every species of wild plant, animal, or fungi found in Mount Holly between October 1-11.

Prizes for top observers! Entry will open online on Oct. 1 at

<https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/mount-holly-bioblitz-2025>.

New to iNaturalist? Download the free app to your smartphone or go to www.inaturalist.org and sign up.

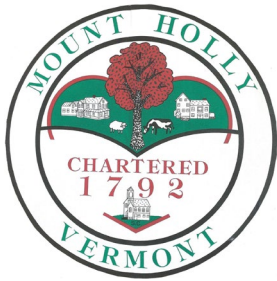
All entries will add to the **Mount Holly Biodiversity Project** sponsored by the Mount Holly Conservation Trust & Mount Holly Conservation Commission.



**Country Antiques
for the Home and Garden**

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

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



Mount Holly Town News

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

**Select Board Special Meeting Mount Holly Town Office
September 2nd 2025 4.30 pm**

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.

MINUTES

Attendance: Mark Turco, Jeff Chase, Diana Garrow, Faith Tempest, Clinton Woolley, David Johnson

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

1. **Call to Order 4.30pm**
2. **Consideration of any changes and/or additions to the agenda:** Mark Turco asked to add an item on curbing at Belmont General Store as item 3d.
3. **Old Business**

- a. **RFP Stream Stabilization Rte 155: bid opening.** Five bids were received, Markowski - \$32,295, Hallstrom Excavating \$29,175, Mountainview Earthworks \$41,200, Hawkins Excavating \$12,830, K T Hathaway \$24,000. Jeff Chase made a motion to accept the bid from Hawkins Excavating; seconded by Mark Turco, approved unanimously.
- b. **ACO Position - Contract with Rutland County Sheriff.** Following an animal control incident during the last week Mark Turco noted the difficulties of the enforcement aspect of this role. Jeff Chase had spoken to the Rutland County Sheriff's department who are willing to add on ACO services to the proposed traffic enforcement contract. The cost is \$10,363 for the rest of the fiscal year, with 16 hours a month of coverage. They would receive calls and respond either urgently or during their regular hours in the town. Mark Turco made a motion to contract with RCS for the remainder of the fiscal year, Jeff Chase seconded, approved unanimously.
- c. **Town office Electrical issues: quotes for repairs:** Two quotes have been received, one for \$1440 from Rob Stubbins Electrical to conduct an assessment (with remedy at additional cost), and one from Wirenuts Electrical with a price maximum of \$2000 to remedy the existing problems. Jeff Chase moved to contract Wirenuts at maximum price of \$2000 to undertake the work, Diana Garrow seconded, approved unanimously.
- d. **Rte 155 Speed restriction request: letter for signature.** Mark Knoll has collected signatures of support for the letter to be signed and submitted by the Select Board to the Traffic Committee.
- e. **Belmont General Store curbing:** Mark Turco and Clinton Woolley discussed with Dave Tilly proposals to add curbing in front of the Belmont Post Office entrance along with a ramp for wheelchair access, and the implications for plowing and parking. Additional work will remove the boardwalk in front of the Store. Clinton Woolley noted that with the right design there should not be a plowing issue. Mark Turco noted that the removal of the boardwalk may allow additional parking. Jeff Chase requested full drawings to ensure that AOT standards are met and which can be used for a formal agreement with the Town (which owns the land concerned). Mark Turco will ask Dave Tilly to provide drawings. Mark Turco asked that VLCT be consulted regarding an agreement and that the issue should be discussed further at the Regular Select Board meeting.
- f. **Clinton Woolley raised a question regarding a Town Right of Way question related to a property on Syria Road.** Jeff Chase proposed this should be discussed at the Regular Meeting following clarification of whether this is Town or State RoW, and consultation with VLCT on the implications.

CLOSED
Mount Holly Town Office
Monday October 13th
Indigenous Peoples Day

Abatemarco wrote to the Select Board requesting information on the decision to end the trial of a Highway Crew member driving the School bus. **The Select Board drafted a response outlining the issues behind the decision:**

The decision to no longer allow Dennis Cointreau to continue with driving the morning bus was based on concerns about safety and productivity of the 3 person road crew. A typical day with this split role (road crew member driving the bus) went as follows and presented some challenges for the crew.

The road crew start their day at 6:00 am and leave the garage to work on roadway maintenance by 6:30 am. The bus driver needs to start the bus by 6:45 am to do its first pickup at Frost Hill at 7:00 am and comes back to the school by 7:55 am. By the time the bus driver parks the bus and is available to work on the road crew it is 8:15 am. Theoretically it will take another 15 minutes for the bus

October 2025 Mount Holly Chit Chat Inc

TOWN OF MOUNT HOLLY

A Permit Is REQUIRED for OutDoor BURNING

BURN PERMITS

May be obtained form
THE MOUNT HOLLY FIRE WARDEN

Jim Seward

Pager: 802-786-3408

Home: 802-259-2211

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

SAFETY FIRST ALWAYS

Mount Holly Transfer Station

FALL / WINTER HOURS

Begin

SATURDAYS, 8 am to 2 pm

SUNDAY, 9 am to 12 Noon

Last Wednesday is October 1st

First Sunday is October 5th

REMINDER: STICKERS REQUIRED, NO CASH

driver to get to where the crew is working and join in for productive work. The driver is missing ~ 2 hours of work in the morning which they are to make up at the end of the day after the other workers leave. The other workers leave at 2 pm. The road crew member that is driving the bus would have to stay till 4 pm and be a productive member of the crew, but they would be working by themselves, which is unsafe. The road crew does high risk work and if there was an accident there would be no one to help the crew member. Also on the afternoon bus run the bus driver needs to start the bus at 2:45 pm to pick up the students at the school at 3:00 pm, leaving the last ~1 hour of the road crew member's work day having to be made up after the driver has already left his road crew position 2 times, working alone which is unsafe.

Animal Control

All Animal Control issues will be handled by the Rutland County Sheriff's Department. They will handle all calls concerning domesticated and farm animals, including Animal Cruelty concerns. For more information or to make a report please call 802-775-8002.

with school aged kids and hope either Dennis is able to find another job that can pair well with bus driving or that the school is able to advertise and find someone to fill the role if Dennis leaves the bus driver position. We regretfully accepted his resignation and are in the process of finding a replacement with the same skill set, which is hard in the current employee marketplace.

b. **Declaration of Inclusion:** Don Eatmon wrote requesting that the Select Board consider the implications of the Declaration before adopting it. The Declaration is on the agenda of the next Regular Meeting.

5. **Adjourned:** 5.15 pm Respectfully Submitted By Faith Tempest

Select Board Meeting Mount Holly Town Office September 9th, 2025 6:00 pm MINUTES

Attendance: Mark Turco, Jeff Chase, Diana Garrow, Faith Tempest, Clinton Woolley, Liz Karle, David Johnson, Carol Garrow-Woolley, Dennis Devereux, Christine Pratt, James Seward, Donna Seward, June Capron, Stephen Michel, Zena Gates, Robert Herbst, Kevin Winter, David Martin, Kevin Hollobeck, Ron Goldwyn, Ken Saccardo, Craig Fortier, Kevin Plew, Stanton Scott, Norman Cohen, Ron Unterman (via Zoom), Amy Turco.

1. **Call to Order** 6.02 pm

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

3. **Consideration of any changes and/or additions to the agenda:** Mark Turco proposed addition of a Fire Department update from Clinton Woolley (item 5 d) and the Mount Holly Beer Liquor license application as item 6f.

4. **Approval of August 12th, August 18th, September 2nd meeting minutes:** Diana Garrow moved to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Mark Turco, approved unanimously.

5. **Reports**

a. **Highway and Transfer Station Update - Clinton Woolley:** Paving is complete on Hortonville Road though there is still some work to be completed on the intersection. The advertisements for a new Highway Maintenance worker are out. The Highway Department will look for an alternative provider for plowing road locations previously plowed by Shrewsbury Farm and Property Management. Winter sand is now almost all delivered. The Transfer station will switch to winter hours in October, with the last Wednesday opening on October 1st, and first Sunday opening on October 5th.

b. **Town Treasurer Update - Elizabeth Karle:** 82.2% of total tax income, approximately \$5.35m, has been collected and as of now there are no delinquent taxes. While the bank balance is high, most of the funds are for the schools. The Town has been earning interest income on funds for Beaver Meadow culvert repairs, all but \$500 must be sent back to the Federal Government. August Grants in aid expenses will be submitted for payment shortly.

c. **Conservation Commission Update - David Martin:** The current focus is Star Lake, with 3 bottom barriers installed and a plan to install 4 next year. The Commission is working on a permit from the State for mechanical harvesting in areas around the dock and also looking into more improvements to the recreation area, including grants to fund equipment. The Commission is also working with private landowners to identify walking paths. The terms of two members of the Commission are expiring, and they have expressed interest in reappointment. The Commission recommends this is for 3 years to align rotation of Commission members.

d. **Fire department - Clinton Woolley:** The Fire Department would like to hold a coin drop on Saturday 10th Oct from 10 am to 4 pm on Belmont Road by the cemetery. Select Board members were happy to allow this as long as all appropriate signage is in



NOTICE

MOUNT HOLLY TAXPAYERS

2025 Real Estate Property Taxes are due
Monday November 3, 2025

After November 3, 2025 an 8% Penalty and
1% per month Interest will be added.

Partial Payments are allowed.

Payments must be received at the Town Office or
be postmarked Nov. 3, 2025 (or earlier) to be
considered timely paid.

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.

place. The Department will move the Connex box from the Belmont Station to the Mound Holly Station to repurpose it for training. Select Board members confirmed they are happy with this. Completion of painting of Mount Holly Fire Station this weekend.

6. New Business

a. **Appointments to the Conservation Commission:** Letters of interest were received from both David Martin and Peter Smith to be reappointed to the Conservation Commission. Jeff Chase moved to reappoint them both to a three year term, seconded by Diana Garrow, approved unanimously.

b. **MHCA request for road closure for Cider Days:** Kevin Hollobeck requested closure of Maple Hill Road from 10 to 4 on 11th Oct, 9am-12pm Sunday. Mark Turco moved to accept with the same conditions as in previous years, seconded by Diana Garrow, approved unanimously.

c. **Act 73 - School District/Supervisory Union changes:** David Martin noted that Act 73 introduces a question as to whether to merge Supervisory Unions (which are support organizations) and maintain local control of School Districts or merge School Districts. LMHUSD has resolved to keep the same school district, but merge SU if services can be provided at lower cost. A State appointed Commission will make recommendations in December with the legislature to act later. LMHUSD would like the Select Board to pass a similar resolution. Mark Turco noted the separation between the Town and School District, making it unclear what impact a Select Board resolution will have. Dennis Deveraux noted that students from Mount Holly attend Mill River and Shrewsbury schools so why not consider a different configuration of the District, irrespective of mergers of SUs. Stephen Michel expanded on this, asking if there is a way to consider a school district going north (Shrewsbury, Mill River) rather than only east (Windsor, Bellows Falls). Liz Karle asked if the resolution will sustain a local school? David Martin responded that it will support local control of the decision about future Districts. Amy Turco asked how many Mount Holly students attend Mill River vs Green

Mountain? David Martin responded that there is no detailed information on this, but the choice is open. Mark Turco recommended that David Martin report back to the school board on the discussion, and tabled the motion.

d. **Boundary Line issue: Syria Road:** Following consultation with VTrans, it has been clarified that the RoW is the State's, but the road is the Town's. The clerk has asked for more guidance from the State on next steps.

e. **Belmont General Store curbing proposals:** Mark Turco noted that Dave Tilly has provided a sketch of proposals for additional curbing in front of the Store. This is expected to reduce traffic speed and allow for installation of a stop sign. Dennis Devereux supported the idea of a 4 way stop. Stephen Michel asked if a stop light rather

than stop sign be installed since parked cars may affect sight lines. Mark Turco proposed starting with a stop sign. Jeff Chase noted the need to clarify the details on site to ensure that head on parking does not reduce visibility, and that there will not be a reduction in parking; he also noted that enclosing the catch basin on the other side of the street would allow more parking. Bob Herbst requested that parking spaces be painted. Jeff Chase asked who would install the curbing. Mark Turco responded that it would be the Town.

f. **Mount Holly Beer Special Events Liquor License:** an application has been received for beer sales at Cider Days, following the same conditions as before. Kevin Plew asked why this was added late to the agenda and not properly warned. Jeff Chase responded that this is technically not a Select Board responsibility. Mark Turco tabled the application until a special meeting is called. Kevin Plew suggested that Mark Turco has a conflict of interest in this matter since he does business with the Belmont Store.

7. Old Business

a. **Beaver Meadow Culvert Repair: Granting access:** Jeff Chase made a motion to grant temporary easement access to VTrans for the culvert repair, seconded by Diana Garrow, approved unanimously.

b. **Vermont Declaration of Inclusion:** One message of support was received from Conor McKenzie, and one letter from Don Eatmon questioning the financial implications of the declaration on policies, programs and training. Diana Garrow also questioned the implications based on a review of the website for the Declaration. Stephen Michel noted that this is a statement of support for this philosophy, and is already included in the Town's personnel policy. Norman Cohen stated that all towns are different but implementation is about ensuring the principle is known, to spread the word. Jeff Chase, noting that he did not see any draw back, made a motion to adopt the declaration. Ken Saccardo asked why adoption is necessary if the Town is already following these principles? Peter van Gorder noted that the declaration is not for the Town, it is



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- Short Ribs	- Ground Pork
- Ground Beef	- Ham Steaks
- Ribeyes	- Chicken Breasts
- Briskets	- Whole Chickens
- Sausages	

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for people who may be looking to move here. Norman Cohen supported this, noting that the declaration is a public statement of who the Town is which speaks to others. Dennis Devereux suggested that the question should be put to Town residents at Town meeting. Jeff Chase rescinded his motion, and proposed to put the question of adoption on the declaration to Town Meeting in March, seconded by Diana Garrow, approved unanimously.

c. **Land Records System:** Carol Garrow Woolley reported that she was unable to get NEMRC to attend, but is meeting with Cotts to clarify how the complete records can be transferred.

8. **Citizen Comments:** Commenting regarding Act 73, Ken Saccardo said he wants to see the elementary school stay open, school choice to

remain, and wants the School Board to retain its decision making role. Recalling the discussion at the previous meeting regarding excess donation for the Veteran's Memorial, Dennis Devereux noted that the maintenance was the first for 60 year, and so he again requested that the excess funds be used for a flag pole. Mark Turco agreed that this would be more appropriate. Speaking on his own behalf as a resident of the Town, Mark Turco noted that while he does have business with the Belmont General Store he has no affiliation with Mount Holly Beer and so no conflict in regards to the liquor License application. Craig Fortier thanked the Highway Department for repairing the culvert in front of his driveway. Stephen Michel asked Representative Kevin Winter if he could explain why the school portion of property taxes went up 25%? Mr Winter responded no.

9. **Announcements:** Town Office closed for Indigenous People's Day, Monday October 13th.

10. **Review & Sign Orders**

11. **Executive Session: Title 1 V.S.A. S313(a)(3)-personnel.** Mark Turco moved to go into executive session, seconded by Diana Garrow, Approve unanimously.

12. **Adjourn**

Town of Mount Holly Seeks Highway Maintenance Worker

Looking for a full time Highway Maintenance Worker with a positive attitude and strong work ethic. Will work under the guidance of Highway Foreman.

Responsibilities includes plowing and sanding roads, repairing roads and drainage systems, roadside mowing, brush and tree removal, sign install and flagging. Expected to perform daily safety inspections, maintenance and repairs on equipment.

Qualifications, must have high school diploma or GED. Looking for a minimum of 2 years of relevant experience. Must have a valid CDL A or B driver's license and clean driving record.

Physical and Mental Demands include frequently lifting of 50-100 lbs. Must be able to drive equipment for prolonged periods of time that include darkness and challenging weather conditions. Must adhere to all federal drug and alcohol testing requirements.

Work Environment involves overtime during winter months and emergencies. Work schedule will vary with weather and will include nights and weekends. Normal work hour 6:30 am to 3:00 pm M-F.

The Town of Mount Holly is an equal opportunity employer. Benefits include paid time off, health and dental ins., uniforms, and VMERS pension eligibility. Applications due August 31, 2025.

Contact Town of Mount Holly Selectboard at 802-259-2391 or mounthollyselectboard@gmail.com Full job description and application available at Town Office 50 School St., Mount Holly, VT 05758 or www.mounthollyvt.org/announcements-bulletin-board/



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

Tuesday, August 19th, 2025, 6.30P.M.

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

Also present: Faith Tempest, Charlie Baker, Savannah Baker

1. Chair called the meeting to order at 6.32 pm
2. Changes to agenda: none
3. Approval of minutes of meeting of June 17th and July 15th. Chair moved to approve the minutes from June 17th, seconded by Commissioner Schulz, approved unanimously. For the minutes from July 15th, Commissioner Schulz requested two changes and with those moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Jim Seward, approved unanimously.

4. Reports & Announcements

a. Administrative Officer:

i. BCRs received from

Coldwell, Tiffany Road: shed and porch extension **Farrar, Bowlsville**

Road: 18'x26' house

ii. Several property owners have asked about subdivision, with at least two applications expected shortly. Commissioner Schulz asked about an earlier message from the Wagners on Lake Ninevah Road regarding a subdivision but the AO had not received the application. AO will follow up.

iii. **Belmont General Store:** a formal request for a Judicial Opinion on whether the developments at the Store trigger act 250 has been made.

iv. **Blue Spruce Inn:** Mr and Mrs Baker reported that they have no plan as yet regarding development of the property and would like to get Kyle Medash, District Flood Plain Manager, to make a site visit and advice on options for the parcel. The AO reiterated to the Bakers the need to establish a Base Flood Elevation through a survey; without this, Mr Medash is unlikely to be able to give any advice. Mr Baker agreed to get a survey done.

b. Planning Commission Chair:

i. RRPC has circulated the revised Regional Plan which now in the main adopts the Mount Holly Town Plan but did not expand the Mount Holly Village Center to Hortonville, as requested. Commissioner Schultz noted that the plan is difficult to interpret. Commissioner Michel noted some confusion around the delineation around E911 addresses – the Chair responded that the 300' boundary is potentially around the relevant E911 structure.

5. Correspondence

a. The T-mobile application to the PUC to extend the antenna on Stewart Road South has now reached the consultation stage. Chair noted the comments earlier made regarding limiting the height of the antenna to ensure it does not require a light and ensuring that the extension uses similar camouflage to the lower section. Chair made a motion to send these comments to the PUC, seconded by Commissioner Schulz, approved unanimously. Chair asked the AO to submit the comments online.

a. Subdivision proposals

i. **Siegordner subdivision permit amendment for PC-2021-03.** Tabled to next meeting given absence of the Siegordners. Chair proposed that if they are unable to attend the next meeting the public hearing can be scheduled for October 21st. Chair asked the AO to confirm with the applicants that this would work.

b. **Email/Other:** none

6. New Business: none

7. Unfinished Business

a. **Subdivision regulations revision process:** Chair is still waiting for Cavendish to share their draft subdivision regulations in an editable format. The final draft is available in pdf format on the Cavendish Town website. There is no word yet from Rutland Regional PC regarding their ability to provide assistance.

8. Public Comments: None

9. Upcoming meetings

a. **Regular meeting:** September 16th 2025 at 6.30 pm

10. Meeting adjourned 7.21pm. For the Commission, Faith Tempest, Planning Commission Clerk

In draft form until approved on September 16th 2025

GREEN MOUNTAIN NEIGHBORS

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Experience mindful, chair-based yoga - safe for all levels. Gentle, full-body stretches and simple breathing techniques improve posture, balance, flexibility, strength, and concentration, while reducing stress and tension. Classes are held Wednesdays at 9:30AM.

Fee: \$5 for Green Mountain Neighbors members and volunteers; \$10 for others. Wear comfortable clothing and soft shoes or slippers; bring exercise straps and foam blocks if available.

Community Lunch

Ludlow Community Center
37 Main St, Ludlow

Thursday, October 2
Serving at Noon

A welcoming, homemade meal of:
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BINGO follows the meal!

All are welcome, free of charge

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Notes From the Mount Holly Conservation Commission

In accordance with the Town Plan, and in preparation for improving the beach and recreation area at Star Lake, the MHCC is talking with the town about removing some dead and dying trees in the current space. This will enlarge the land available for recreation activities, such as a playground, possible bocce court and even a fire pit. And, though it may seem counter-intuitive with tree removal, with a different configuration we will also be able to increase the available shade. Adding native plants will act as a buffer against run off into the Lake

To those ends, there is also the matter of the small and varied watercraft that seem to have taken up permanent dockage at Star Lake. While it is clear that some are well tended and used regularly, others seem to have been there since the first Bush administration and are showing their age. So, if you are the owner of such a no longer sea worthy vessel please contact us at mounthollyvcc@gmail.com

Plans to make the lake and recreation area more accessible and ADA compliant continue to evolve. We are now exploring the idea of creating a walk way lined with ShurPak.

In non-lake news, trails at the Old Syria Farm on the Shunpike and a map to guide visitors are very close to completion. When finished the trails will loop around beaver ponds, (see the accompanying picture), through an overgrown orchard, and under a stately stand of hemlocks. When completed the trails will provide hikes of a half a mile to two and a half miles.

Our next meeting will be on Tues., Oct 7, 6pm at the Town Office. Zoom contact information will be posted at the two post offices.

And please look for us at Cider Days. We hope to have printed materials explaining our mission, and the status of various projects, as well as real live humans ready to talk about MHCC, Star Lake, and other conservation issues.

See you there!! By Susan Presson

Letter to Editor

Deliver Us...

Did the video of 23-yr-old, Iryna Zarutskia, seating herself on a Charlotte light rail train with her head buried in her phone make you wince? Yeah. Me too. There she was innocently doing what so many do to fight boredom, totally unaware of her surroundings and the potential danger lurking there.

The story goes that young Galileo (1564-1642), bored during a church service in the cathedral of Pisa, noticed the swaying of a lamp suspended from the ceiling and wondered whether its oscillations would be the same for small, medium and large arcs. Using his own pulse to time the movements, he concluded that a pendulum can be used to measure time, and went on to make scientific breakthroughs in the regularity of natural laws. If he had been bent over his cellphone it never would've happened. The needful conditions of boredom for generating creativity would've been absent.

The smartphone has given us a constant stream of information that would astonish Galileo. One thing it hasn't provided is boredom. Could that be a costly bargain? What if it turns out that downtime from that fire hose of infinite data is necessary for awareness, creativity, good thinking and a good life?

God said to the prophet Daniel regarding "the last days" that it will be a time "when many will rush here and there, and knowledge will increase." But why is it we assume that this will be good *quality* knowledge, and that the running to and fro is an improvement?

Observing folks in a public place all siloed in their own space, heads bowed, staring at screens brings up the images in *the Matrix* (1999). Remember the harvesting of imprisoned human bodies hooked up like so many batteries to supply energy for invisible masters. In place of real lives, the unsuspecting power sources are kept benumbed in a computer-generated dreamworld, unaware of their true condition. Isn't it the social media titans who benefit from our screen infatuation, causing us to think we're customers when in reality we're the product. Who is the casualty? Your brain. Alterations in the wiring. Losses in memory and cognitive capacity. Just as sleep is crucial to any living organism, though we understand not how, so interludes of quietness of mind are relinquished at our great peril. *"Be still and know that I am God"*.

Isn't it interesting that AA's first step is admitting the problem: *"We admitted that we were powerless over alcohol (name your bondage)-- that our lives had become unmanageable."* Having taken that "baby step" the next is: *"We came to be aware that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity."*

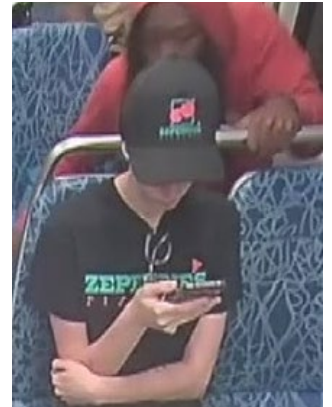
That power of Christ is available 24/7 to help us intentionally set up our own guidelines – banish the "beast" from the bedside, keep the phone in the pocket at the playground; maybe even do a cleansing fast for 24 hours. Do it not just for *your* sake but for your family's.

In a recent article by John Stonestreet we are reminded that a clear correlation exists between the use of digital technologies and mental illness, anxiety, identity confusion, loneliness and depression in kids and teens. So much so, that many schools are banning phones. In fact, all of them probably should.

But, guess what? The biggest hold outs are not the students. It's the *parents*, many of whom are either fearful of not being able to contact their kids in an emergency or can't control the smartphone at home. It has been established that even a small amount of time on social media or any type of interactive screen is highly addictive to the brain with a dopamine drop as soon as the device goes away. The effect has been likened to the brain images of drug addicts.

Dr. Victoria Dunckley has been noticing kids coming in with mood issues: decreased focus and attention span, behavioral issues, irritability and tantrums. Her suggestion to take away screens has seen symptoms reduced or eliminated. Parents who thought their child had ADHD or autism are relieved and amazed at what a 30 day detox accomplished. Even when parents are vigilant to bad content the design of the technology itself is harmful even in small amounts. Why not help your kids or grandkids exit. They may not thank you now, but they probably will later on. Who knows the freedom you may find in your own resolve. As St. Paul said, *"All things are permissible for me, but I will not be controlled by anything."* Put it away. It might just save your life.

Pastor Glenn



WESTON THEATER COMPANY PRESENTS THE PREMIERE OF THE TWELFTH NIGHT SHOW

Shakespeare like you've never heard it before. Weston Theater Company proudly invites audiences to *The Twelfth Night Show*, a genre-blending, music-filled reimaging of the Bard's classic comedy running from **September 26 to October 12** at Walker Farm.

Born out of Weston's own Writers' Retreat in 2022 and created by alumni **Megumi Nakamura** and **Jacob Brandt**, *The Twelfth Night Show* turns a band's last-chance effort to save their beloved theater into a hilarious and heartwarming adventure. Mistaken identities, tangled love lives, and original music collide as four musicians are thrust into the spotlight. This wildly entertaining and joyous new comedy proves that the show must — and will — go on.

Megumi Nakamura (Broadway: *Mary Jane*; NYC directing credits: *Sulfur Bottom*, *Anne Frank in Mt. Vernon, OH*) also directs the show. Says Nakamura, "It has been a gift to work on a show that focuses on education, for all ages, through the lenses of joy and comedy - all things which we can use more of right now. *The Twelfth Night Show* truly has something for everyone, and we can't wait to invite audiences to laugh with us, tap their toes, and experience a brand new story about the delights and challenges of keeping a classic play alive."

The cast features a vibrant ensemble of actor-musicians, many of them returning Weston favorites: **Jacob Brandt** (at Weston: *Hair*, *Once*, *Ring of Fire*, with other credits including Lincoln Center, Shakespeare Theatre Company, and The Huntington) as Jacob; **Eileen Doan** (select credits include *The Lord of the Rings: A Musical Tale* at Chicago Shakespeare Theatre and Civic Theatre Auckland, and *Once* at Coachella Valley Repertoire) as Eileen; **Seth Eliser** (at Weston: *Ring of Fire*, *Once*, and *Pump Boys and Dinettes*. Off-Broadway: *The Jonathon Larson Project* and *Beau: The Musical*) as Seth; and **Allie Seibold** (at Weston: *Jersey Boys* and *The Music Man*. National and International Tours of *Disney on Classic* and *The Lightning Thief*) as Allie.

Behind the scenes, a dynamic creative team brings *The Twelfth Night Show* to life. Scenic design is by **Daniel Prosky** (Irish Repertory Theatre, Atlantic Theater Company), costumes by **Roger Teng** (*Sulfur Bottom*, Signature Theatre's *Someone Spectacular*), lighting by **Colleen Doherty** (*Machinal*, *Ghost of John McCain*, and an associate credit on Broadway's *The Great Gatsby*), and sound by **Megumi Katayama** (off-Broadway: *Wonderful Town*, *Titanic*, *Jelly's Last Jam*). **Jacob Brandt** also serves as Music Director in addition to his role as composer, co-creator, and cast member. **Danielle Zandri** (at Weston: *Once*, *Million Dollar Quartet*, *Ring of Fire*, is the Production Stage Manager. Casting is by **Michael Cassara**, CSA.

Discounts are available for Vermont residents. Tickets are available online at westontheater.org or by calling the Weston Box Office at 802-824-5288. While *The Twelfth Night Show* caps off Season 89, stay tuned for Winter events!

NATURAL FABRIC DYEING AND CYANOTYPE WORKSHOP

Come help make a community quilt map!

On Saturday, November 8 from 1-4 pm, the Rural Rivers Project research team will host a free natural dye workshop with native plants and cyanotypes for residents of the greater Ludlow and Cavendish area at Create Together at Fletcher Farm.

This event is part of a larger research project on flood response, recovery, and mitigation in the Black and White River Valleys and is hosted by the Rural Rivers research team based at Dartmouth College. We will teach you how to use natural fabric dyes and sunlight to print patterns and words onto fabric. We welcome you to contribute your new art into the community quilt map that showcases local stories about flooding, and you can also take it home if you prefer.

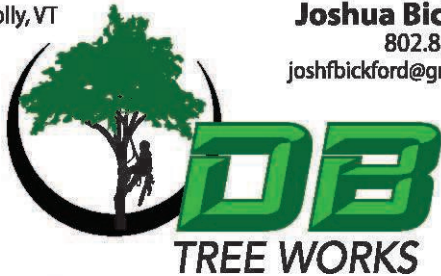
We will explore art techniques at two stations while discussing flooding and rivers: learn the process of dyeing fabric from

native floodplain plants including oak leaves, acorns, birch, willow, goldenrod, and Japanese knotweed, and create fabric cyanotypes with text or natural materials. All ages and abilities are welcome!

While this is a free event, registering would be much appreciated, as we will provide materials, snacks, and refreshments. To do so, please use this Google form to RSVP: <https://tinyurl.com/naturaldyeefloods> or email charis.fm.boke@dartmouth.edu. Walk-ins are also welcome! Just come on down to Create Together at Fletcher Farm, 611 VT-103, Ludlow, VT 05149, on November 8, 1-4pm for snacks, artmaking, storytelling, and community.

Mount Holly, VT

Joshua Bickford
802.855.3216
joshfbickford@gmail.com



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SENIOR PLANET COMES TO TOWN!

Technology Empowerment

Black River Good Neighbor Services and Fletcher Memorial Library, have recently partnered as Senior Planet Trainers under the umbrella of the Godnick Adult Center, to provide programming that supports community interests in the greater Ludlow community.

Senior Planet, a program of Older Adults Technology Services (OATS) from AARP, has been created to enable and empower older adults to use technology so they can learn, work, create, and thrive in the digital age. Its mission is built on the philosophy of "Aging with Attitude".

Senior Planet programs are designed around five impact areas: financial security, social engagement, creative expression, health and wellness and civic

participation. All five areas represent opportunities where technology can have a transformative effect.

Through online and in-person classes, Senior Planet helps adults learn new digital skills to improve their lives. The five key areas include:

- **FINANCIAL SECURITY:** Classes cover topics such as online banking and finding money-saving programs.
- **SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT:** Programs help combat isolation by using digital tools to connect with friends, family, and community.
- **CREATIVE EXPRESSION:** Older adults learn to use technology for storytelling, photography, and other creative projects.
- **HEALTH AND WELLNESS:** Offerings range from virtual exercise sessions to classes on digital health tools and telemedicine.
- **CIVIC PARTICIPATION:** Programs help seniors stay engaged in civic life and use technology for advocacy.

Classes are delivered by lectures, workshops, courses and virtual classes, are free to all adults regardless of age, and are hosted by local licensed organizations: Black River Good Neighbor Services and Fletcher Memorial Library under the umbrella of the Godnick Adult Center, Rutland.

Classes will begin this Fall and class schedules will be available soon. By Krey Kellington

26th Annual Duck Race Features Over 650 Ducks Seeking Victory

This past Saturday, over 650 ducks (rubber ducks to be certain) raced from the Depot Street bridge to Walker Bridge as the Ludlow Rotary Club (LRC) conducted its 26th annual race down the Black River.

According to the Head Duck, Sharon Bixby, the course was difficult for both the ducks and the Rotarians and friends helping them traverse the shallow and rocky waters of the river. Nonetheless, most of the ducks managed to cross the Walker Bridge finish line.

The first ducks crossing the line rewarded their owners who had "rented" them with financial awards. They were:

Duck #1 – awarded \$200, owner, Anonymous
 Duck #2 – awarded \$100, owner, Theresa Southworth
 Duck #3 – awarded \$50, owner, Suzanne Theroux
 Corporate Duck winner – awarded "bragging rights", owner, The Book Nook

And last (but not least) The last duck to make it across the finish line, awarded \$25 and owned by Virginia Ward

The proceeds from this year's race will go to the Mt. Holly Fire Department so they can purchase new hoses.

Sharon Bixby, expressed her thanks to the various groups that assisted in the event, especially the businesses and those who purchased Duck tickets.

While some of the river guidance staff are still trying to dry out their shoes, Sharon indicated that the LRC is busy planning next year's "river exercise". The first objective will be to identify an area non-profit group to benefit from the 2026 duck race. For information, contact Sharon at 802-228-8823.

Pictured are Ludlow Rotarians and members of the Mt Holly Fire Department as they assist the more than 650 ducks across the finish line in the Ludlow Rotary Club's 26th annual River Race at Walker Bridge. As is clearly evident, the river was running low causing the ducks to need guidance to the finish line. By Ralph Pace





Ludlow Rotary Club 34th Annual Chili Cook-off

The Ludlow Area Rotary Club is sponsoring the 34th Annual Chili Cook-off on Saturday, October 11 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The cook-off will be located at the traffic light on Depot Street. Proceeds to benefit The Ludlow Area Rotary Charitable Fund that services Ludlow, Cavendish, Mount Holly, and Plymouth. Admission is \$15.00 for adults, \$5 for under 12, and \$35 for 2 adults and 2 children. It includes chili, bread, ice cream and cider.

Chili entries are welcome from individuals, clubs, and businesses. Entry fee of \$10.00 will include a table space and sterno. Participants are responsible for arriving between 10:30 – 10:45 the day of the cook-off. Cash prizes will be awarded in the “People’s Choice” category. Awards will be given to the chili entry with the most votes in the “Judges’ Choice”, “Spiciest”, and “Team Spirit” categories. Chili entrants are asked to provide five (5) gallons of chili for this event and we can help with servers if needed.

Please mail your name, address and phone number along with chili entry fee of \$10.00 to: Ludlow Rotary Club, PO Box 216, Ludlow, VT 05149. For more info, contact Kevin Barnes 802 558 0479.

Pictured from last year's Chili-Cook-off are many of the hundreds of visitors who received “taste checks” from the more than 25 different chili concoctions prepared by area businesses, groups, and individuals. The chilis varied from well-seasoned Tex-Mex versions to a vegetarian one with a variety of dishes in between. To enable each participant to fully enjoy the taste of each chili, cider was available to clean the palate with ice cream at the conclusion.

We hope to see you there – come join the fun! By Ralph Pace

Ludlow Rotary Celebrates Literacy Week Continuing over 30 Years of Promoting It

For the past 30 years, the Ludlow Rotary Club (LRC) has participated in a variety of programs stressing the value and importance of literacy. Its efforts were primarily aimed at providing children with the means and tools to foster this objective. Rotary International (RI) long has concentrated on this program.

In reviewing the accomplishments of these programs, Kevin Barnes, LRC President, noted, “While our club has been involved in many projects to help, none has been as consistent and rewarding as our literacy programs.”

Barnes further indicated, “These programs have long been a source of great pride in the club as we continue making books available to all the children in our service area of Ludlow, Mt Holly, Cavendish, and Plymouth.”

In conjunction with the Dolly Parton “Imagination Library”, LRC has provided appropriate reading material to children from very young to five years. Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library is a book gifting program that mails free, high-quality books to children from birth until they begin school, no matter their family’s income.

The signature book of the Imagination Library, “The Little Engine That Could”, is recognized by most parents. The books are addressed and mailed directly to the children, much to their delight. To register your pre-school child or children for this program is to visit the children’s section of Ludlow’s Fletcher Memorial Library or registration cards can also be obtained from the Ludlow Rotary, PO Box 216, Ludlow, VT 05149. The privacy of the children is strictly honored.

LRC has a continuing program of supplying books to elementary school students in the four towns in its area.

LRC has created books, personalized with each student’s name, for many years to the elementary schools in its service area as part of its Literacy Improvement Project. Interestingly, one teacher even commented that “I still have the ones created for my children more than 20 years ago and still enjoy giving them a read now and again!”

An important part of this program is the continuing program of awarding scholarships to eligible graduating residents who live in LRC’s service area. LRC funds \$9,000 to \$12,000 in awards each year. The LRC has previously awarded \$280,000 in scholarships through this program. The principal source of this funding is the annual Penny Sale.

Applications for these awards are available through the school Guidance Officer. Awards are presented at the school’s annual award night program.

In summarizing the LRC’s dedication to providing these books, Barnes said, “It is the long-range goal of Rotary and our club to ensure that every student and child in our area are served with the educational and learning tools for a successful career in whatever avenue they select.”

“Providing books to young students is a very rewarding experience”, commented Rotarian George Thomson as he presents books to students at the Cavendish Town Elementary School. Based on the students’ expressions, they seem to feel it’s a good experience as well. By Ralph Pace



Mount Holly Conservation Trust Update

The Mount Holly Conservation Trust (MHCT) has received a \$5,000 challenge grant for the Breton acquisition. Of the \$110,000 needed to safeguard this land a donor will match donations up to \$5,000 received between now and November 1.

The Trust is enrolling the new 49-acre parcel of land near the end of Greendale Road, surrounded by the Green Mountain National Forest, in the VT Current Use program. The parcel, known as the Breton Parcel, for its prior owners, was on the market and at risk of purchase for development. In order to protect the high-quality wildlife habitat on the parcel, MHCT used our reserves to get the property off the market quickly. Now we need to restore our reserves to be in a position to act quickly the next time an important parcel is on the market. The long-term hope is that it will become part of the Green Mountain national Forest.

The parcel has beautiful woods and wetlands including habitat for beaver, moose, deer, bear and many other species. Our goal in purchasing it is to preserve it for its natural beauty while still allowing public access activities including hunting, fishing, birding, hiking, cross country skiing and snowshoeing.

How You Can Help Your tax-deductible contribution-larger or small-will help preserve this special place. Thank you to all those who have already contributed.

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

Donate Online: Visit mounthollyconservationtrust.org/donate/

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

Learn More or to ask about conserving your land: Contact us at info@mounthollyconservationtrust.org or call Brigid at (802) 259-2274 Interested in getting involved? Contact us!!



Fall in Love with Okemo Valley - Scenic Route 100 Byway

This autumn, take the scenic route—literally. Vermont's Scenic Route 100 Byway stretches 146 miles along the eastern edge of the Green Mountains, winding through the Okemo Valley and offering one of the most breathtaking foliage experiences in New England. Recognized by Yankee Magazine as one of "the most scenic drives in New England," this route is your gateway to vibrant colors, rich history, and unforgettable local experiences.

We invite you to explore this magical aspect of the region—where every turn reveals a new vista, and every village welcomes you with charm and character.

Why Foliage Happens: Nature's Annual Masterpiece

Fall foliage is triggered by shorter daylight hours and cooler temperatures, which signal deciduous trees to stop producing chlorophyll (the green pigment). As chlorophyll fades, other pigments emerge:

Carotenoids: yellows and oranges (found in birch, beech, and aspen)

Anthocyanins: reds and purples (especially in sugar maples and red oaks)

Tannins: browns (common in oaks)

Vermont's crisp nights and sunny days create ideal conditions for vibrant color contrast, especially in the Green Mountains.

Keep an eye on the [Vermont Foliage Report](#) to catch peak color and plan your perfect fall getaway.

Best Places to See Foliage in Okemo Valley

The Route 100 Byway is a leaf-peeper's dream. Here are some standout stops:

- [Camp Plymouth State Park](#) (Plymouth): Vista Trail offers sweeping views
- [Lowell Lake](#) (Londonderry): A serene loop trail with mirror-like reflections
- [Echo Lake & Lake Rescue](#): Sparkling waters surrounded by fiery maples
- [Slack Hill at Coolidge State Park](#): A quiet, elevated perch for panoramic views

See our foliage up close and personal on one of our hiking trails [HERE](#).

When to Visit for Peak Foliage

- Late September to mid-October is typically peak season in Okemo Valley
- First two weeks of October offer the most dramatic color, especially in higher elevations

Points of Interest (North to South)

- [Plymouth Artisan Cheese](#) – Historic, handcrafted cheeses made on the Coolidge homestead
- [President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site](#) – A beautifully preserved early 20th-century hill town and presidential birthplace
- [Camp Plymouth State Park](#) – Lakeside serenity perfect for leaf-peeping and picnicking
- [Clear Lake Furniture](#) – Custom wood furniture crafted with Vermont pride
- [Fletcher Farm School for the Arts and Crafts](#) – The oldest arts and crafts school in the U.S.
- [Weston Playhouse Theater Company](#) – Vermont's oldest professional theater, offering world-class performances
- [Okemo Mountain Resort](#) – A four-season destination with scenic chairlift rides, hiking trails, and mountaintop views
- [Magic Mountain Ski Resort](#) – A local favorite with rustic charm and stunning fall vistas
- [The Vermont Country Store](#) – A beloved destination for nostalgic goods, local treats, and timeless Vermont charm
- [Green Mountain National Forest](#) – Endless trails for hiking, biking, and soaking in the fall splendor
- [Londonderry Village Market](#) – Provisions for every kind of traveler, all in one friendly stop

See our foliage up close and personal on one of our hiking trails [HERE](#).

Businesses to Explore

- Lodging: Stay at welcoming inns like [Echo Lake Inn](#), [Blue Gentian Lodge](#) and [The Inn at Waters Edge](#).
- Dining: Enjoy seasonal menus at [Mildred's Table at the Vermont Country Store](#), [Mojo Cafe](#), [HUB at Weston](#), and [Calcuttas Sports Bar & Restaurant](#).
- Shopping: Browse handcrafted goods at [The Wine & Cheese Depot](#), [Depot Street Gallery](#), [Green Mountain Sugar House](#), and [The Vermont Country Store](#).
- Outdoor Outfitters: Gear up with [Tygart Mountain Sports](#), [Singletons General Store](#), and [The Boot Pro Ski & Bike](#).
- Wellness & Relaxation: Treat yourself at [The Castle Hill Resort & Spa](#), and [Spring House Pool & Fitness Center](#).

Whether you're chasing peak foliage, sipping cider, or strolling through historic villages, Scenic Route 100 Byway offers a vibrant tapestry of experiences. Support local, explore deeply, and let the Okemo Valley show you why fall in Vermont is simply unforgettable.

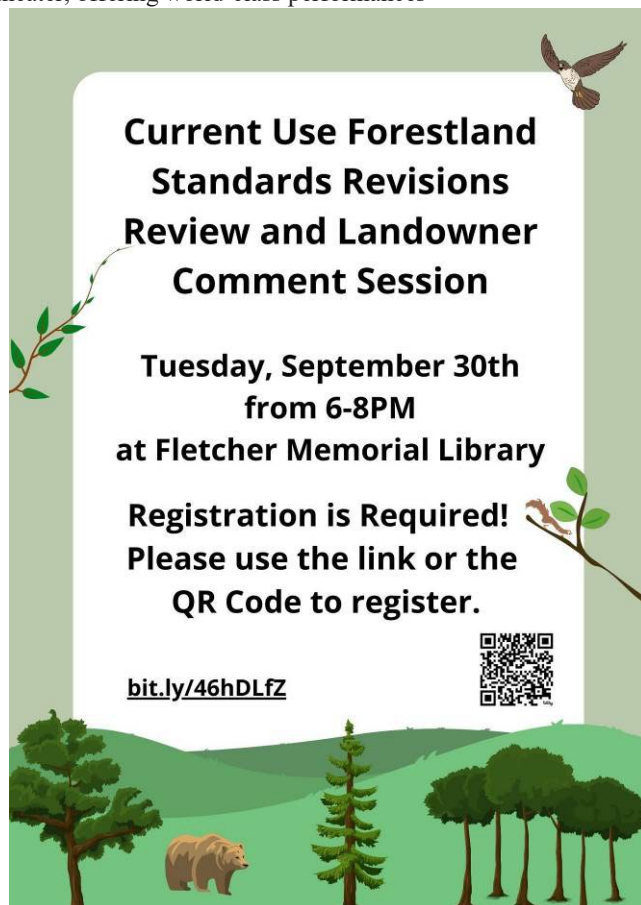


Current Use Forestland Standards Revisions Review and Landowner Comment Session

**Tuesday, September 30th
from 6-8PM
at Fletcher Memorial Library**

**Registration is Required!
Please use the link or the
QR Code to register.**

bit.ly/46hDLfZ



Dear Diana,

Thank you for the opportunity to make Irving Energy your neighborhood propane supplier.

With a strong history of quality service dating back to 1924, our customers are always top of mind. As your partner, we will provide your neighborhood with a worry-free transition to our reliable fuel supply and equipment. You'll also receive automatic deliveries with special pricing. The more homes that sign on as new customers, the more opportunities you have to save!

Why choose Irving Energy? We offer our customers:

- A 24-7 team of experts and friendly customer service representatives
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 - Online residential billing and payment
 - Free site survey
 - Exclusive member pricing, including the ability to earn fuel discounts at Irving Oil gas stations
- On the following page, we've provided additional information for you, including your discount and how to sign up.

Warm regards, Jeffrey Dillion, Residential Partner Manager

Jeffrey Dillion



We're pleased to extend a fixed discount off the Irving Street Price and Price Protection Plans

Mt Holly Oil and Gas Group	Discount Amount
Propane	\$.75 per gallon
Heating oil	\$0.30 per gallon

Ready to start saving? Here's how your members can sign up:

Members wishing to participate in this pricing and supply agreement must be residential customers residing in the community of the member group below. Members must be or must become Irving Energy residential account holders in good standing and execute individual yearly pricing agreements. Irving Energy will require a one-year exclusive supply agreement.

To learn more about Protection Plan options and benefits, visit irvingoil.com/irvingprotect. Ready to sign up? Visit "My Account Info" and select "Price Protection" to select your option.

Call 1.888.310.1924 and follow the prompts for new customer. **When you speak with the customer care specialist, please provide the information below:**

Member group: Mt Holly Oil and Gas Group

Member code: 6216

The terms of this agreement end on May 31, 2026

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SAVE even more!

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Land Clearing / Driveway Installations

KEITH Hawkins
president




Mount Holly, Vermont
802 558.3082



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3237 Sugar Hill Road, East Wallingford, VT 05742

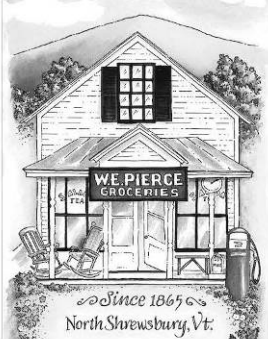
***YARD**
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October 10, 11, & 12
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LOCAL CRAFTS VT PRODUCTS
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DIRECTIONS:
 From Mount Holly follow Rt. 103 west to Cuttingsville.
 Take a right on Town Hill Rd. and follow for 2 miles.
 Go right on Lincoln Hill Rd. (changes to Northam Rd.)
 Follow 3 miles to the store.
 2658 Northam Rd., Shrewsbury, Vt.
 (802)492-3366



Select a Subscription Option Below

- ☐ \$60 Insured Household
☐ \$120 Uninsured Household

The Information Below Must Be Filled Out

Principal Member:

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

E-Mail: _____

Household Occupants to be Included

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

If needed, please attach a list to add more names.

About Us



The Ludlow Ambulance Service is operated by the Town of Ludlow and is a full-time paid department that responds to over 900 emergencies per year. We have been recognized as a HeartSafe Community and a Pediatric Safe Community by the state of Vermont. We also provide ongoing CPR and First Aid classes. Ludlow Ambulance is the only critical care-licensed service in the district.

Subscription Program Agreement

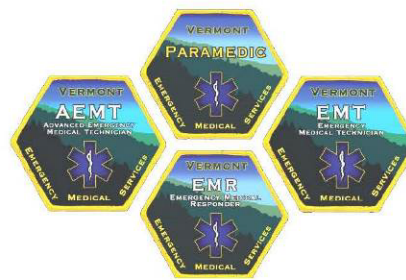
By signing up for this subscription you agree to pay \$60 annually for households with medical insurance and \$120 for households where not every member has medical insurance. Participation in the subscription program permits Ludlow Ambulance Service to collect funds directly from any third-party agency (insurance, etc.) for whatever benefits may offset the cost of service at no charge to the patient. The subscription program is non-refundable and nontransferable. Subscriptions include the principal member, their partner/spouse, and immediate descendants. One household may obtain more than one subscription as required.

continues on rear

Subscription Program Agreement Continued

- Subscription fees are not prorated.
- Medicaid patients with full coverage are exempt from this service.
- All household members must have full name and date of birth listed on the application to be included.
- Patients will be transported to the closest appropriate facility per Vermont EMS protocols.
- Program includes 911 transports only and does not include interfacility transfers.
- We do not provide subscription plans to businesses any checks received from a business will be considered a donation.

For more information call (802) 228-2880 or email EMS Deputy Chief Grover at sgrover@ludlow.vt.us



Ludlow Ambulance Service

2026 Subscription Program



Proudly Serving the Communities of

Ludlow

Cavendish

Mount Holly

Plymouth

Save on Expensive Copays!

Did you know that the cost for paramedic treatment and transport by ambulance can exceed \$1,200? And that many insurance plans require the member to pay a portion of that cost?

For an annual fee of just **\$60 for insured households and \$120 for uninsured households**, Ludlow Ambulance Service will cover any expenses incurred by members of your household for our services.

****Ludlow Ambulance reserves the right to bill any third-party insurance company****



Please complete the
backside of the form and
return with payment to:
Ludlow Ambulance Service
PO Box 359
Ludlow, VT 05149

Help Us Help You!

In addition, I would like to support Ludlow Ambulance with an additional one-time donation of:

\$50 \$100 \$200 Other: _____

**Credit cards
will be charged
a 2.5% fee*



Ludlow Ambulance Service Subscription
January 1, 2026 - December 31, 2026

Please include cash or checks made payable to Ludlow Ambulance Service or by credit card*

Credit Cards can be processed online at ludlowambulancevt.org or by scanning the QR Code below.

Community Health Receives Gold for Heart Health Quality

Community Health has been recognized for its leadership in heart health initiatives by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). Heart disease affects 42,000 Vermonters each year and is a leading cause of death in Vermont and overall in the U.S. In Rutland County, heart disease deaths occur at a rate higher than the [statewide average](https://www.healthvermont.gov/stats/data-reporting-topic/cardiovascular-disease-data) <https://www.healthvermont.gov/stats/data-reporting-topic/cardiovascular-disease-data> supporting Community Health's focus on heart health prevention.

Having met or exceeded three target goals set in 2024 among primary care patients, the Community Health Quality Recognition Heart Health badge recognizes notable achievements in the areas of access, quality, health information technology, and health outcomes. Data gathered annually is used to evaluate targeted goals and programs that address heart health and cardiovascular disease prevention.

The three areas of achievement by Community Health include:

- Tobacco-use screening and cessation intervention
- Ischemic Vascular Disease (IVD) use of aspirin or other antiplatelet
- Statin therapy for the prevention and treatment of cardiovascular disease

"I am proud of our health prevention efforts, especially in regard to heart disease and caring for our community," said Mike Gardner, CEO.

[Heart disease is preventable,](https://www.healthvermont.gov/wellness/heart-disease)

<https://www.healthvermont.gov/wellness/heart-disease> but according to statewide data, Vermonters are more likely to die from a largely preventable disease, like heart disease, than an infectious disease. The 3-4-50 initiative <https://www.healthvermont.gov/wellness/3-4-50-prevent-chronic-disease> is a simple concept that can lead to understanding heart disease and prevention – 3 health behaviors lead

to 4 chronic diseases that claim the lives of more than 50% of Vermonters.

The Health Center Program requires that Community Health and other Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) report a core

set of measures each year. Federal regulators use Uniform Data System (UDS) data to assess the impact and performance of the Health Center Program. This data-driven quality improvement recognizes outstanding performance and outcomes.

About Community Health

[Community Health](https://www.chcrr.org/) <https://www.chcrr.org/> is Vermont's largest Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), providing comprehensive primary care, pediatrics, behavioral health, dental, eye care, and pharmacy services. We serve patients in Rutland, Brandon, Castleton, Shoreham, and West Pawlet, with specialized services available at

additional locations: dental care in Rutland and Shoreham, pediatrics and eye care in Rutland, and pharmacies in Rutland and Brandon. Our [Express Care](https://www.chcrr.org/service/express-care/) <https://www.chcrr.org/service/express-care/> centers in Rutland and Castleton are open seven days a week.

Learn more about services, locations, hours, and career opportunities at [CHCRR.org](https://www.chcrr.org) or call Patient Access at 802-779-9169.



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4 Bedroom / 3 Bath / 10± ac
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Thinking of buying or selling? Let's talk.

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susan.starr-adams@cxprcalty.com
linktr.ee/sue.starr.adams

exp REALTY

642 Route 103, Chester, VT.
1 Bath / 1.75± ac
\$390,000

1277 Notchbrook, unit 14AB,
Stowe, VT.
2 Bedroom / 2 Bath
\$632,500



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



Who is Your PCP?

Your primary care provider (PCP) is your healthcare coach and health advocate, someone you and your family trust and turn to for health or wellness concerns, questions, and medical needs. A PCP knows your medical and family history, your personal preferences and how to coordinate the continuous preventive care you need to lead a healthy life.

Community Health's primary care network serves the needs of our community with offices in Rutland, West Pawlet, Castleton, Shoreham, and Brandon. We are open to, and welcome, new patients at all of our practices.

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

Flanders.excavating@gmail.com



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www.calmmomentsmassage.com

- Cover your nose when you cough and sneeze.
- Stay hydrated and drink plenty of fluids.

Flu is especially dangerous for babies and older adults. Check with your primary care provider or pediatrician to find out where flu vaccines are available.

For more information call your Community Health primary care provider or call our Patient Access Center at 802-779-9169.

What's New in Rutland at Community Health? We are welcoming **New Patients** in Rutland! Community Health has added dedicated providers to the Rutland practice. For more information and appointments call our Patient Access Center at 802-779-9169.

In addition, we've opened **Community Pharmacy** in the heart of Rutland at 62 Woodstock Ave. We're friendly, we're local and we are here to serve you 8am-6pm Monday-Friday and 9am-noon on Saturday. For more information, check our website <https://www.chcrr.org/location/community-pharmacy-rutland/> or call 802-775-4321.

A full range of **Eye Care Services** are now part of Community Health's primary care network. Conveniently located in Rutland at 71 Allen St., Suite 403, the new clinic offers comprehensive eye exams, diagnostics, treatment for common and complex eye conditions, surgical consultations and eyewear. Advanced diagnostic technology and a patient-centered approach ensures that everyone receives personalized care. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 802-773-2020.

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

For more information about Community Health's primary care network of services, check our website chcrr.org or call our Patient Access Center at 802-779-9169.

Stay Healthy During Flu Season

The best way to avoid getting the flu is to get a flu vaccination. Flu shots are available for everyone six months and older and especially for those in high risk groups like those with chronic conditions.

You can also stop the flu virus and **prevent the spread of germs** by remembering these simple things:

- Pay special attention to good hygiene. Wash your hands often with soap and water.
- Avoid contact with sick individuals.
- Stay home if you are sick.



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



127 Pleasant Street | Cavendish
Lovingly restored 1928 Craftsman style home in the village



Gill Terrace | Ludlow
13.94+/- Acre wooded lot with direct view of Okemo Ski Trails



2 Lacava Lane | Ludlow
Meticulous Turn-key Home above Ludlow Village.



9 Stryhas Trailer Court | Ludlow
Well-maintained manufactured home on leased lot in 55+ community



60 Stone Ridge Drive | Rutland
Four Bedroom, 2 bath Home with many recent improvements!



520 Route 140 | Wallingford
Home for ALL SEASONS overlooks Elfin Lake



When it's Time to Buy or Sell...Choose Kelley Real Estate
Visit www.KelleyRealEstate.com to learn more about these listings and other properties for sale in the Okemo Valley
72-B Pond Street | Ludlow | 802-228-5333



1204 Bailey Road, Shrewsbury, VT

Salt Ash Farm, A Secluded Vermont Treasure

\$1,950,000



Gail Beardmore
Broker | Owner
Gail.Beardmore@EVrealestate.com



Geralyn Donohue
Listing Agent
Geralyn.Donohue@EVrealestate.com

126 Main Street, Ludlow, VT 05149 | +1 802-975-0338 | okemo.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

Champlain Timber Craft Michael@champlaintimbercraft.com 802-779-6138

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 11 am Prayer Meeting Wed 7 pm
Pastor Dave Bentley 802-446-2020

Lighthouse Independent Baptist Church, Rutland SS 11 am & 3 pm
Until May 11 am & 6 pm 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 Flanders.excavating@gmail.com 802-259-2147

Hawkins Excavation Driveways, Ditching, Septic, Ponds, Etc 802-558-3082

Farm Fresh Products

Fourteenth Star Farms Raw Milk 802-236-7007
Plew Farm (meat, eggs, maple) www.plewfarm.com 802-259-2250

1966 Healdville Rd, Mt. Holly
Smith Maple Crest Farm LLC, Grassfed Beef & VT Maple 802-492-2151

2450 Lincoln Hill Rd, Shrewsbury, VT 05738 www.Smithmaplecrestfarm.com
Sugar Hill Berry Farm www.sugarhillberryfarm.com 802-259-2155

Fire Warden

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

Firewood

Flanders Firewood Cut Split Delivered 802-259-2147

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.cherr.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.Beardmore@evusa.com (Mobile) 802-236-5431

eXp Realty Sue Starr-Adams susan.starr-adams@exprealty.com 802-236-8028

Kelley Real Estate, Don Eatmon, Owner/Broker Office 802-228-5333

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

Gabrielle Turco Gabrielle.n.Turco@gmail.com Call or Text 802-353-0106

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

Tree Removal

DB Tree Works joshbickford@gmail.com Fully Insured 802-855-3216

Volunteer Services

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

Woodworking, Cabinets & Furniture

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

