



Times of Shrewsbury

December 2023



WHAT'S UP WITH THE GAS PUMP AT PIERCE'S STORE?

It is unclear when Pierce's Store started selling gasoline. 1920's? Jamie Carrara remembers a skinny green gas pump that existed before the current one. Herbie Carrara recalls that there was also a hand operated kerosene pump. Glendon Pierce told him the kerosene used to come from Rutland, pulled by mules. These memories are pretty good.

Certainly, it was convenient for folks in town to be able to buy fuel at Pierce's back then. There are photos of early snowmobilers filling up. However, in the 1980's, the Pierce's stopped selling gasoline and, in 1989, the old steel tanks were removed from under the driveway. All underground tanks in Vermont had to be replaced with new double wall tanks and obviously that was not in the budget for Pierce's.

All that was left was the current gas pump, neglected over time, the glass lenses broken and removed, and the works exposed to the weather. It looked forlorn next to the freshly painted porch, the planted flower boxes and the busy store. Often the store staff would get comments, such as "What are you going to do with that old pump?"

An inquiry to the Preservation Trust of Vermont resulted in approval to restore the pump, at their expense. Then began some investigation. Can we get the necessary parts? Sure enough, restoration of old gas pumps is a niche market and there are several places to buy new and used replacement parts for all models of old gas pumps. Soon boxes arrived from Minnesota and New York.

The current pump is a Gilbarco 1001 made in the late 1950's and early 1960's. Since Jamie recalls



the previous pump, perhaps the current pump was installed in the late 1960's or early 1970's. Gilbarco (*Gilbert & Barker Manufacturing Co.*) was created in 1870 and acquired by Standard Oil (*now Exxon*) in 1884. In 1910 Gilbert & Barker developed a hand operated gas pump to draw gasoline from an underground tank. Since that time, and up to the present, Gilbert & Barker has made gasoline and diesel dispensing pumps and marketed them worldwide.

A bit of research showed what the pump at Pierce's would look like restored. For Esso (Exxon) gas, which supplied Pierce's, a red top and white bottom indicated REGULAR gas. An all-red body indicated PREMIUM. If you had noticed before the recent repainting, Pierce's pump, for some reason, had the REGULAR color pattern on the front and the all-red PREMIUM color on the back. There is no indication that this pump ever had a globe on top (like the earlier one), but the current unit has a removable cap on the top for a globe to be mounted and many photos on-line of this same pump show a globe.

Exxon was the fuel last delivered to Pierce's, as that label was found on the pump window. The price was \$1.30 per gallon. The Esso logo chosen on the pump and globe might predate that pump model, but it has nicer look than the later bolder ESSO logo.

So, even though you can no longer fill up at the store, the pump is now restored. There is some discussion about switching the hose and nozzle for a cord and plug to charge an EV. Then you will be able to again "fill up" at Pierce's. I think Marjorie, Glendon and Gordon would have gotten a kick out of that!

~Article by Mark Youngstrom



This photo taken by Olaf Johnson (Shrewsbury's minister in the 1950's) shows the old pump and the kerosene pump right next to it. It's too bad that earlier pump wasn't saved.

Vermont State Senators:

Brian Collamore: bcollamore@leg.state.vt.us

Terry Williams: twilliams@leg.state.vt.us

David Weeks: dweeks@leg.state.vt.us

Vermont State House of Representative:

RepLoganNicoll@gmail.com

The Vermont General Assembly is in session January thru June. To view committee member-ships, bills that have been introduced, track each bill's progress, and review committee agendas go to www.leg.state.vt.us. During the week you can contact your legislator by leaving a message at the State House by calling 1-800-322-5616 or 828-2228 (the Sergeant-At-Arms' Office).

United States Senators:

Senator Peter Welch

www.welch.senate.gov

Vermont Office: (800) 642-3193

Washington D.C. Office: (202) 224-4242

Senator Bernie Sanders

www.sanders.senate.gov/contact

Vermont Office: (800) 339-9834

Washington D. C. Office: (202) 224-5141

United States House of Representative:

Representative Becca Balint

Vermont Office: 347-461-4982

Washington D. C. Office: (202) 225-4115

Revised 7/1/2023

Free Medical Equipment

Living In Place continues to provide, at no cost, medical assist equipment that has been donated by Shrewsbury residents who no longer need them. On hand right now are many wooden crutches, adjustable aluminum crutches, walkers, rollators, commodes, shower seats, bedpans, toilet safety bars, and a large wheelchair. If you need any of this equipment, call Jan O'Hara at 492-8687.

Shrewsbury Town Office
open ONLY by appointment
(802) 492-3511



No January 2024 Issue
It's Vacation Time!

The editors take a "vacation" so there is no January issue, but we'll be back with a February 2024 issue. Happy Holidays! ~~Chryl Martin & Rich Biziak

TIMES OF SHREWSBURY

The Times of Shrewsbury is published monthly from February through December, and compiled by volunteers from material submitted by residents with the goal of informing townspeople of what is happening in Shrewsbury. The views and opinions expressed in articles are solely those of the author and not necessarily those of the editors.

All submissions must be accompanied by the name of the submitting person and are printed at the editors' discretion subject to editing for length and clarity. Letters to the Editor exceeding 350 words will be subject to editing for length. Any information piece or informational political letters (without specific party or vote appeal) will be subject to the guidelines previously described.

A writer of a letter that names a Shrewsbury resident or organization in a critical manner must get copies to the resident or organization, and to the Times by the 10th of the month prior to publication or it will not run. If the named person or organization indicates in writing to the writer and to the Times that they choose not to respond, the letter will run. If the named entity responds, the response and initial letter will run in the same issue.

There is no charge for: jokes, poems, nature reports, family event announcements, or feature articles or letters that are not commercial.

Articles and Advertisements: Deadline for submission is 5pm on the 20th of the month prior to publication; exceptions will be announced in the prior month's Times.

Ads in the Times are for area businesses, local non-profit events, and local ballot election advertisements.

Best Formats: Articles: Word or as an email message with no formatting. Photos: jpeg. Ads: jpeg or Word document.

Monthly advertising fees and relative sizes:

Full page	\$100	(7.5"w x 9.5"h)
Half page	\$60	(7.5"w x 4.5"h or 3.5"w x 9.5"h)
Quarter page	\$12	(7.5"w x 2.5" h; or, 3.5"wx 4.5"h)
Business card	\$6	(3.5"w x 2"h)
Classified ad	\$3	(15 words or less)

Payment due by the 20th of the month prior to publication.

5/1/2023

Chryl Martin

~

Rich Biziak

Times of Shrewsbury, P. O. Box 373, Cuttingsville, VT 05738

Email: shrewsburytimes@gmail.com

Online: www.shrewsburyvt.org and

<http://www.shrewsburyhistoricalsociety.com>

SHREWSBURY COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Dec 1		*Return Library survey forms (survey in November issue of the <i>Times</i>)
Dec 2	7pm	*Silent Auction and Cookie Swap Event at the Library
Dec 5	10am	*Bone Builders begins winter hours at the Meeting House
Dec 9	7pm	*Program on the Total Solar Eclipse presented by Scott Garren at the Library
Dec 10	3:30pm	*Writer's Group at the Library
Dec 15	4-6:30pm	*Holiday Wine Tasting at Pierce's Store
Dec 16	10:30am	*Lindsay Courcelle will read and sign her new book at the Library
Dec 16	3-5pm	*Carols & Cookies on the Solstice at the Meeting House
Dec 24	7pm	*Candlelight Eve Service of carols at the Shrewsbury Community Church

Jan		*Vacation time for the Times of Shrewsbury—No January issue!
Jan 1		*Deadline to send photos for Town Annual Report
Jan 13	4pm	*"Adventure of a Lifetime" about the 2 nd Expedition to the Antarctic by Sally Deinzer at the Library
Jan 14	3:30pm	*Writer's Group at the Library
Jan 28		*Petition and "Consent of Candidate Form" for elected town office due to town clerk or selectmen
Jan 21	4pm	*Famous Books Book Club at the Library
Jan 23	noon	*Prayer Shawl Group – upstairs at the Meeting House
Jan 28	4pm	*Science Book Club at the Library

*see elsewhere in newsletter for details

TIMES OF SHREWSBURY

online at

www.shrewsburyhistoricalsociety.com

and

www.shrewsburyvt.org



Deadline for submission to *Times of Shrewsbury* is by 5:00pm on the 20th of each month.

REGULAR MEETINGS and EVENTS

Selectboard Meeting	1 st & 3 rd Wednesdays – 6:30pm at Town Office
Bone Builders	Tuesdays & Thursdays – Winter hours: 9am at Meeting House
Development Review Board	4 th Wed -7pm at Town Office; check town website for agenda
Library Trustees Meeting	2 nd Tuesday – 7pm at Shrewsbury Library
Mill River Unified Union School Board Mtg	1 st Wed 7pm @ MRHS & 3 rd Wed. 7pm at MRHS unless otherwise warned
Planning Commission	2 nd & 4 th Tuesdays 7pm at Town Office
Prayer Shawl Group	4 th Tuesday at 12noon upstairs at the Meeting House
Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)	Sundays – 10am via Zoom; contact wildernessfriends@gmail.com
Shrewsbury Community Church	Sundays – 10:30am - Worship service
Shrewsbury Conservation Commission	No meetings until February 6, 2024 at 5:15pm, location TBD.
Shrewsbury Historical Society	No meetings until Spring 2024
Shrewsbury Historical Society Museum	Closed for Winter. Appointments only
Shrewsbury Singers	Sundays 9-10:30am @ Russellville Schoolhouse (May, June, July)
Shrewsbury Sno-Birds	2 nd Tuesday – 7pm at Southside Steakhouse in Rutland
Shrewsbury Volunteer Fire Department	Thursdays – 7pm at the Cuttingsville Station

Shrewsbury Town Website: www.shrewsburyvt.org

Clerk's Office	492-3511	Town Office open ONLY by appointment
Town Garage	492-3656	(Follow prompts to report roadway blockage on non-work days)
Listers	492-2009	Available by appointment
Treasurer's Office	492-3558	Monday 9am-11am
Transfer Station	492-3867	Sunday 8am-4pm ~ Wednesday 12noon-6pm
Library	492-3410	Hours: Mon 10am-12noon; Tues 7-9pm; Wed 10am-5pm & 7-9pm; Thurs 7-9pm; Fri 10-12noon; Sat 10am-12noon
Meeting House	492-6050	Reservations: 492-3361 or julanne@vermontel.net
News Flash Email:	vtbenbeano@gmail.com or benbeano@vermontel.net	an email list for Urgent and reminder news information]

Cuttingsville Post Office 492-3585 Window Hours Mon–Fri 7:30am–10:30am and 11:30am–2:30pm; Sat 8am–11am
Lobby Hours Mon– Fri 7:30am–5:00pm and Sat 7:30am–11am

Burn Permit: Forest Fire Warden Kevin Brown 802-345-8668 or, Deputy Fire Warden Al Ridlon, Jr. 802-282-3642

Animal Control Officer: Adrienne Raymond 802-492-3578

1st Constable: Aaron Haupt 558-9980

Game Warden: Tim Carey 793-2776

Emergency Management Aaron Korzun 492-3362

Green Mountain Power outage 1-800-451-2877

Medical-Police-Fire Emergency Dial 911

Ambulance 773-1700

Rutland Hospital 775-7111

[Updated 11/1/2023]

SHREWSBURY SELECTBOARD MINUTES

The Selectboard meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 7pm at the Town Office.

Minutes of Selectboard Meeting October 18, 2023

Present at meeting: Selectboard members: Aaron Korzun, Marc Cimonetti, Road Commissioner: Jamie Carrara, Sandy Ladd (Charlebois Truck Sales)

The meeting was convened at 6:35 PM

Agenda: Motion made by Korzun to follow the agenda with the following addition: One addition, Curb Cut/work in right of way for Susan Zak, Cimonetti seconded, Approved

Lease options for New Town Truck: We discussed lease to own options for the next town truck as well as additional warranty information. We considered the quotes for the Western Star and the Freightliner. The Western Star has a better re-sale value at the end of the lease and a better maintenance record. Korzun made a motion to proceed with the purchase of the Western Star, Cimonetti Seconded, Approved

Building Maintenance: We discussed the hole in the foundation at the town office and the windows at the original town garage. We will proceed with these repairs as soon as possible.

FEMA Reporting Update: Marc Cimonetti met with several FEMA administrators. We are seeking approval for several upgrades to undersized culverts.

Work in Right of Way/Curb Cut: Korzun made a motion to approve the permit for the work in right of way for Susan Zak providing they follow the road commissioners recommendations. Cimonetti seconded. Approved.

New Business: None

Review Minutes: A. Korzun made a motion to accept the 10/4/2023 Selectboard meeting minutes. Seconded by M. Cimonetti. Approved.

Review Orders: Cimonetti made a motion to approve Selectboard Orders #10a for \$10,082.00 and Road Orders #10a for \$16,190.84. Seconded by Korzun. Approved.

Adjourned at 8:10 PM

Respectfully submitted, Marc Cimonetti

These minutes are unofficial until approved by the Selectboard at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Minutes of Selectboard Meeting November 1, 2023

Present at meeting: Selectboard members: Aaron Korzun, Marc Cimonetti, Francis Wyatt. Planning Commissioner & Interim Administrative Assistant: Laura Black.

The meeting was convened at 6:35 PM

Agenda: Motion made by Korzun to follow the agenda with the following addition: Contract with Brook Field Service. Cimonetti seconded. Approved.

Planning Commission-Applying for a Small Municipal Grant: Need to open a Shrewsbury account in order to apply

for municipal grants. F. Wyatt will work with Laura Black to open an account for future grants.

Land Records Digitizing Project Update: Laura Black reported that Cott Systems has scanned the unbound land records that they were contracted for. The system is now live, but images are not yet available. Images are planned to be available in approximately 3 weeks. Once the images are on the Cott Systems website, the Shrewsbury website will provide a link. The next step is to scan the bound books.

Work in Right of Way/Curb Cut on Shunpike Rd: A. Korzun made a motion to approve the permit for the work in right of way for Michael Lauri on Shunpike Road, providing they follow the Road Commissioner's recommendations. Cimonetti seconded. Approved.

Brook Field Service: A. Korzun made a motion to approve the Brook Field Service Program 1 annual maintenance contract for servicing the Town Office generator, for \$351. F. Wyatt seconded. Approved.

Building Maintenance: Nothing to report.

Speed Cart: The speed cart needs to be put away in storage for the winter soon.

New Business: None.

Review Minutes: A. Korzun made a motion to accept the 10/18/2023 Selectboard meeting minutes. Seconded by M. Cimonetti. Approved.

Review Orders: F. Wyatt made a motion to approve Selectboard Orders #11 for \$35,688.05 (\$15,400 for transfer station repairs) and Road Orders #11 for \$149,105.01 (\$126,106.35 for paving). Seconded by M. Cimonetti. Approved.

Adjourned at 8:28 PM

Respectfully submitted, Francis Wyatt

These minutes are unofficial until approved by the Selectboard at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Minutes of Selectboard Meeting November 15, 2023

Present at meeting: Selectboard members: Aaron Korzun, Marc Cimonetti, Francis Wyatt. Administrative Assistant: Megan White. Auditors: Rich Biziak, Michelle Greene

Members of the public: Bob & Snarski & Mike Stewart The meeting was convened at 6:40 PM

Agenda: Motion made by Korzun to follow the agenda with the following addition: Rutland Regional Emergency Management Committee, Shrewsbury Snowbirds Cimonetti seconded. Approved.

Work in ROW Permit – Copperas Hill Rd: A. Korzun made a motion to approve the permit for the work in right of way for

SHREWSBURY SELECTBOARD MINUTES

(Continued)

Robert Snarski on Copperas Hill Road, providing they follow the Road Commissioner's recommendations.
Cimonetti seconded. Approved.

School Board Vacancy: Sam Green has resigned from the Mill River School Board. The Mill River School Board has asked for the Shrewsbury Selectboard to suggest a replacement to serve until the next Town Meeting Day. They asked that the Selectboard provide a letter no later than November 17, 2023. Stephen Abatiell has expressed an interest in the position. Francis Wyatt made a motion to recommend Stephen Abatiell to fill the School Board vacancy. Cimonetti seconded. Approved.

Auditor's Report: Presented to Selectboard by Rich Biziak & Michelle Greene Discussed Shrewsbury Board of Auditors Report and schedule, Discussed Memorandum of Estimated Board expenses for 2024

Additional items: Michelle Greene asked the Selectboard if they remember taking action on approving Linda Shelvy as Conservation Committee Board Member. Selectboard noted they have not made a motion to approve Linda Shelby. Michelle Greene requests Board members to officially appoint Linda Shelby.

Motion made by Korzun to officially appoint Linda Shelby as Member of Conservation Committee as of April 1 2023 Francis Wyatt seconded it. Approved

Michelle Greene would like to officially confirm what the election vote totals were for the Justice of the Peace election 2022 and to have it officially recorded in the book. Nothing appears to have been recorded in the big red book. This appears to be an election procedure issue to be addressed moving forward.

Shrewsbury Snowbirds - Mike Stewart

Requesting permission to reroute the current trail from Groomer shed parking at Gary Arthur's place. Requesting to reroute the groomer trail from the shed on Upper Cold River Road through the property of Morgan Wood and Megan White then proceeding through Mandigo Meadows which will then come out to CCC Rd continuing on to the existing trail at end of Tin Shanty or continuing on to CCC Rd trail.

Second item is the placement of the Selectboard ordinance sign advising snowmobiles of town ordinance limiting snowmobile access to be moved approximately 100 yards to accommodate the rerouting of the trail through Mandigo Meadow.

Motion made by Korzun to approve the Shrewsbury Snowbirds temporary trail for the winter season of 2024 Cimonetti Seconded. Approved

Mike Stewart also brings up the need to raise funds for the Shrewsbury Snowbirds. They are in need of finding a place they can put a sponsor board. Mike Stewart requests placing this sponsor sign on Shrewsbury town land nestled in the Coolidge state forest off the end of Shelter road. The big question is: is there zoning issues/permits to be obtained in order to do so.

The sponsor board would measure 8ft by 8ft using two sheets of plywood placed and anchored with stakes just during the winter Season and will be removed at the end of the season. This Sponsor board for Shrewsbury Snowbirds will accommodate 24 sponsors. Mike will check in with Laura about zoning permits in order to place a sponsor board on town land. Mike will report back.

Rutland Regional Emergency Management Committee

Francis Wyatt made a motion to reappoint the two representatives Aaron Korzun Director of EMD and Jack Perry Fire Rep. Cimonetti Seconded it. All Approved

Budget 2024: Discussed budget and salaries New Business: None.

Review Minutes: A. Korzun made a motion to accept the 11/1/2023 Selectboard meeting minutes. Seconded by M. Cimonetti. Approved.

Review Orders: F. Wyatt made a motion to approve Selectboard Orders #11a for \$4,619.47 and Road Orders #11a for \$47,682.89. Seconded by M. Cimonetti. Approved.

Adjourned at 8:50 PM

Respectfully submitted, Marc Cimonetti

These minutes are unofficial until approved by the Selectboard at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Editor's Note: The minutes have been edited for brevity but not content. For complete minutes, go to the Town website www.shrewsburyvt.org



TIMES OF SHREWSBURY

ONLINE in COLOR all Year Long!

<http://www.shrewsburyhistoricalsociety.com>

AND

www.shrewsburyvt.org



Calling All Photographers

The Shrewsbury Board of Auditors is soliciting photographs of Shrewsbury life during the current year for the town's 2023 Annual Report.

If you would like your photograph to be part of the historical record of our town, please submit your picture to the Board of Auditors for consideration.

Pictures of our town should be in one of the following categories: Historic Town Buildings, Landscape and Environment, Agriculture, Town and Town Organization Events, Town Officers, and Kid's Events.



Submit your picture as a jpeg file and email it to auditshrewsbury@gmail.com no later than January 1, 2024. Don't forget to provide captions identifying people, places, and events. Also, be sure to identify the photographer so we can give proper credit! The Board of Auditors

will review the photos and select them based on applicability and space availability. Thank you for your help with our Town Report!

Shrewsbury Board of Auditors

Donation Time

The Times is mailed to all residents of Shrewsbury and is also available online on the Shrewsbury Town, and Shrewsbury Historical Society websites:

www.shrewsburyvt.org
and

www.shrewsburyhistorical society.com

The cost of printing and mailing is made possible through advertising and your donations. Donors are recognized for the remainder of the calendar year in which their donation is received. However, if you contribute between now and the end of this calendar year, you will be recognized for the remainder of this year and all of next year! You determine the amount--any and all donations are appreciated! *—The Editors*



Dog & Wolf-Hybrid Licenses

Animal Licenses are due on APRIL 1. Please license your dog/wolf-hybrid to avoid late fees. Be sure your dog wears the license tag as this helps with identification if the dog is found wandering.

Fees are as follows:

Spayed or neutered dogs \$9;
intact dogs \$13.

After April 1 fees are: spayed or neutered dogs \$13; intact dogs \$17. Licenses may be obtained by mail (9823 Cold River Rd), e-mail (above), or at the office during regular business hours. Be sure to provide a copy of any new rabies certificate.

Board of Civil Authority Notice

Are you willing to help our Town provide the services we all need? If you're a registered voter in Shrewsbury you can run for an elected office in our Town government. Town positions, some paid, some volunteer, are listed on our website: www.shrewsburyvt.org, and you can contact one of our Selectmen (Aaron Korzun, Francis Wyatt, Marc Cimonetti) for more information on what the positions involve.

Here is the procedure for getting your name on the ballot for the March 5, 2024 Town Meeting election:

- 1) Pick up forms at Pierce's Store or the Shrewsbury Library or from a Selectmen. These consist of a "Consent of Candidate" and a petition.
- 2) Ask 11 Shrewsbury voters to sign your petition. This shows there is support for having your name on the ballot. (This is 1% of the town's population.)
- 3) Submit both forms to the Town Clerk or Selectmen by January 18, 2024.

Our critical need right now is for a Town Clerk. This is a paid part-time position, with a competitive salary with the passing of the new town budget. This position consists of a combination of regular office hours, flexible hours, and remote hours. For more information please contact our Interim Town Clerk/Selectboard Member, Marc Cimonetti at shrewsburyclerk@vermontel.net.



TOWN CLERK NEEDED

Shrewsbury is in **serious** need of a permanent town clerk. While it is an elected office, an interested candidate can be appointed to serve and then stand for election at the next town meeting.

Among other duties as defined by statute, the town clerk:

- records land records, deeds and other real estate instruments,
- maintains and records town vital statistics and proceedings of town boards and commissions,
- registers voters and serves as the presiding officer for elections,
- disseminates information from state agencies to local constituencies,
- issues marriage licenses and certified copies of other records.

The clerk is compensated by a combination of salary and recording fees.

For more information regarding the position, please see the town clerk's report on page 30 of the 2022 Town of Shrewsbury Annual report, go to Vermont.gov Title 24: Municipal and County Government Chapter 35: Town Clerks, or email interim Town Clerk, Marc Cimonetti, at shrewsburyclerk@vermontel.net

~Rich Biziak, Board of Auditors



DECEMBER

JUNE



CAROLS & COOKIES ON THE WINTER SOLSTICE

SAT DEC. 16, 2023

SHREWSBURY MEETING HOUSE

3~5 PM

ALL AGES WELCOME.
HELP MAKE JOYFUL NOISE!
(SEASONAL COSTUMES ENCOURAGED)

ROXANN RAMAH
ON PIANO. INSTRUMENTS
AND COOKIES INVITED.
WE HAVE HOT CHOCOLATE
AND SONG WORDS.



WINTER SOLSTICE 1993

MORE INFO? CALL JANET 492-3814 OR GRACE 492-3458

Artwork by Grace Brigham

Gathering Together: Flu, RSV, and Covid

Mask before event -N95- in crowded indoor areas. Ventilation if hosting, get air moving.

Infectious Windows:

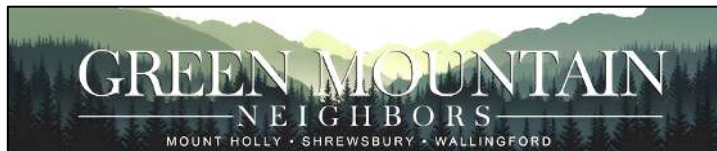
- **Flu:** symptoms after exposure 1-4 days; Contagious until 24 hours after fever.
- **RSV:** symptoms after exposure 4-6 days; Contagious 3-8 days after symptoms start.
- **Covid:** symptoms 2-14 days after exposure; Contagious 6-10 days after symptoms start.

--Vaccines for Flu, RSV and COVID all help prevent people from becoming severely ill.

--Get at-home COVID tests, free [COVIDTESTS.gov/](https://www.covidtests.gov/)

--More information can be found at [cdc.gov/respiratory-virus/index.html](https://www.cdc.gov/respiratory-virus/index.html)

~Kathy Felder, RN/Shrewsbury Health Officer



About 20 people joined Green Mountain Neighbors' board members at the Wallingford Town Hall for an information update on the progress being made toward being able to offer services and events to members 60+ in early 2024. The assembly also heard from Aaron Jones, Home Repair Coordinator with Neighborworks of Western Vermont.

A highlight of the session was the announcement that <https://greenmountainneighbors.org> is now a live website. You don't have to log in to see information about becoming a member and/or a volunteer, and there are applications for both. In the Volunteer Opportunities section, there's a short video about using the website. The site is evolving and new things will be added so keep coming back to it!

Aaron Jones spoke broadly about "Safety in the Home," using a slide show that described all the services Neighborworks offers. Speaking personally, I thought that I knew pretty much what the organization does, but I learned they do much more. Of particular interest are programs specifically targeted at those 62 and older, to assist in remaining in their homes comfortably and safely. Various grants and low interest loans are available depending on the project and financial situation. And there is a program to assist in the construction or renovation of an "Accessory Dwelling Unit" (a smaller, independent dwelling unit that is located on the same lot as an existing single-family home). Jones said that some folks have turned a garage into an ADU for a caregiver.

Finally, we heard about E-Safety, from board member Jordan Jankus of Wallingford. He prepared a handout of dos and don'ts regarding our electronic lives.

If you want more information, please contact either
Linda Fontana lafhaha_2000@yahoo.com
Sally Deinzer sjdad3@gmail.com
And don't forget to check out
<https://greenmountainneighbors.org>

TABITA SOUZA *Brazilian Cleaning Service*

10 + Years Experience
Exceptional Service to the Local Area

Rental and Residential Properties
References available upon request

Call 802-855-3830 or email
tabitacleaning@gmail.com



WREATHS FOR SALE **Decorated and Undecorated**

230 Town Hill Road
Cuttingsville

Starting late November

Call or stop in!
Ann Ridlon 802-492-2018
Emelie Ridlon 802-353-1227



SHREWSBURY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

The SVFD spent October and November focused upon three things. First, there was a feeling of gratitude for the fact that we've had no calls from October 8 to this writing. That is amazing and wonderful! It indicates that "Shrewsberries" are being vigilant about practicing fire safety and driving within the speed limits. The department thanks you for that.

Secondly, several members of the department went to the Mountain School on October 26 to present a fire safety awareness program to all students. The program involved a short assembly to show what firefighters do and a demonstration of protective gear, also known as PPG (Personal Protective Gear). Two students were selected to put on a set of PPG that firefighters would wear to a fire. They quickly learned that the gear necessary to fight a fire is very heavy, but would help to protect them from head to toe. Then three members of the department came into the assembly fully dressed not only in the PPG but wearing air packs. This demonstrated how firefighters would look and sound if they were in a burning structure.

After the PPG demonstration, all classes were given a tour of an engine and tanker by Chief Phil Severy. In addition, students were shown the tools carried aboard each of the trucks and told how they are used. The final event for the school was to hold a fire drill, which was monitored both inside and outside by the department. The faculty, staff and students were praised for their readiness and organization. The evacuation of the school was completed in one minute twenty-five seconds which was excellent.

The third department activity was on November 2. This event involved SVFD members traveling to the Rutland Town Fire Station located in Center Rutland to attend a class on the dangers of rechargeable lithium batteries. Instructors from the Vermont Fire Academy conducted a presentation on how these batteries, which power many everyday items such as cell phones, cordless power tools, electric bicycles, cars and trucks can be potential fire hazards. Firefighters were told that although batteries are generally safe, the cells transfer electrons across a separator. When those electrons are completely across the plastic barrier, a charger will reverse the polarity and send the electrons back to the other side, thus recharging the battery.

Should the barrier become compromised in some way, the battery will heat itself, producing hydrogen gas and oxygen. This can lead to an event called a "thermal runaway" within the lithium cell that is literally impossible to extinguish. In the case of a small fire, (such as a cell phone or power tool) the battery and the implement it runs should be brought outside, preferably on a shovel or similar carrier, and left to burn out in a safe place. Obviously, the battery should never be handled with bare hands or even gloved hands due to the extreme temperature. Electric bicycles or vehicles should always be charged outside as a fire in their batteries can be extremely dangerous. If such vehicles catch fire inside a building, 9-1-1 must be called immediately

and the building must be evacuated. In most cases, nothing can be done to extinguish the battery, and the department's focus would be trying to protect the rest of the structure. Again, these are rare instances, but we should all try to be cautious and aware. The SVFD will do their best to stay educated with the newest technologies and the potential hazards they may present.

Finally, as the holidays approach, the SVFD would like to wish each and every one a very happy and safe holiday season. Please be careful with your wood stoves, Christmas trees, electrical cords and holiday decorations. Always take the proper precautions to **STAY FIRE SAFE**.

Submitted by Bob Snarski, SVFD Safety Officer

THE SVFD NEEDS YOU!

We need new and younger members. The Shrewsbury Volunteer Fire Department (SVFD) can provide equipment, training, and support. Whether you've had prior experience as a first responder or have no experience at all! We need volunteers. Men or women who would like further information may call Bob Snarski at 492-3505, Barry Griffith at 492-3573, or Jack Perry at 773-3278. No commitment necessary.



BURN PERMITS

If you are plan to burn brush you **MUST** call for a burning permit. **Contact Forest Fire Warden Kevin Brown 802-345-8668 or Deputy Forest Fire Warden Al Ridlon, Jr 802-282-3642.** The landowner is responsible to control a brush fire, ensure you have proper tools, water supply, and people to assist in containing the fire.

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A Message of Thanks!

We wanted to take a moment to publicly thank so many who have helped us get to where we are today.

Starting with our baby shower in April. It was such a lovely surprise and got us really ready & excited to welcome our little bundle of joy. We use the gifts often and could not have asked for a warmer reception. We didn't know how to show our thanks to each individual person who participated, so we hope by sharing this photo; it's a nod of our appreciation for everyone who welcomed our mini Shrewsbury.

We also need to extend a HUGE thank you to those who helped us after the flood. It was such a trying time, but looking back over the last 4 months, there have been so many blessings that occurred. We honestly cannot believe how much was saved thanks to the volunteers who jumped into action & lent their time & energy to saving our remaining inventory & cleaning what they could. Those who donated, you gave us the opportunity to stop more damage from occurring to our building, so we could see what options we had. After much consideration, the remainder of the funds & additional grants we received were used to move to a new location, adding new signage and replacing lost inventory. We wouldn't be where we are today without the generosity and forward thinking of Alyssa and Elliott Stewart for suggesting that we move our location into The Old Barnyard. Wally's Corner is back and better than ever! Soon we will be expanding the storefront and we hope you stop by to see what you all had a hand in bringing back to life.

~ By Hallie & Bob Knudsen

The Human Ruminant - Thanksgiving Edition

The human ruminant "chews things over", absorbing useful information and ideas, occasionally spitting out a few thoughts of its own.

At this time of Thanksgiving celebrations, I am reminded that thanking people is as important as thanking the Creator. Some people are embarrassed and flustered when you thank them (me), others beam and gracefully accept - I think all are lifted.

Right now, I want to thank the people who work to maintain trails in our area. Thank You! This includes the snowmobile clubs that spend much time, effort and money to create lovely winter trails that are open to all to ski, walk, snowshoe. Just remember whose trails they are! Give those riders your respect and plenty of room to get by you. Definitely give the groomers some love !

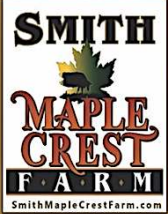
With Veteran's Day just passed, I want to say that I am grateful to be an American. If you have served your country in the military or worked in other ways to safeguard your country or your community, Thank You! You certainly have reason to feel pride, yet these arenas usually also instill feelings of humility in the grave face of war, disaster, suffering, the sheer enormity and complexity of the problems we share. I feel a very solemn appreciation for the men and women who have been or are on the frontlines of any of these.

I am grateful to the Ready, the Trained, the Prepared with machinery, equipment and skill to meet the challenges thrown our way. I am grateful to the Willing, willing to learn, willing to serve where needed. People can and do serve in many ways, not all calling for testosterone! It's okay to be sensitive and unique and gentle. Gumption, Drive, Integrity, Honesty, Kindness, Compassion, Creativity, Willingness - these are gender inclusive terms! Many thanks to teachers, health care providers, good neighbors, volunteers, artists, writers, engineers, scientists, architects, builders and all tradespeople, who work to make our world livable and beautiful. I'm sure I forgot some.

Thanksgiving Day, one day to think about all that we have, is loudly preceded and impatiently followed by the brouhaha of Black Friday. Commercial interests seem reluctant to allow us even that moment of peace when we might feel that we have enough. Giving thanks is one expression of gratitude but it is not the only one. If my cup is full, I can pour a cup for my friend, or for a stranger. If I've been given a gift, I can pass that on, pay it forward, use that gift to keep that ball of giving rolling.

Anyway, hope a Happy Thanksgiving was had by all, and that the leftovers were great.

Submitted by Pam Darrow



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Prayer Shawl Group

Got the winter blues? Would you like to get together with a small group of ladies to chat? Do you want to do something fun? The Shrewsbury Prayer Shawl Group, has been meeting again for the past 6 months after a long Covid break. We meet the 4th Tuesday of the month at 12noon (bring a bag lunch if you would like to), at the Shrewsbury Community Church (upstairs at the Meeting House, use back entrance). Dessert and coffee are provided. All are welcome to attend. If you knit or crochet, bring materials to get started on either a shawl, lap blanket, or baby blanket. If you don't know how, we will be glad to teach you! If you don't have materials we can provide them.

This group was formed by Fran Patten in 2010 and since then has given over 160 shawls and blankets to Shrewsbury residents and their loved ones as a way of providing comfort to those experiencing illness or loss, as well as in times of celebration such as the birth of a new baby. If you'd like more information, call Roxanne Ramah at 802-492-3675 or Sue Ransom Kelley at 802-779-4825.



Welcome to Brian McKearin

Brian McKearin has joined the Cuttingsville Post Office as the new postal route carrier. Brian previously worked in East Wallingford and Belmont for about 10 years, and he has also done substitute work in Mt Holly and Shrewsbury over the years. Now he is the route carrier for the 500+ rural mailboxes in Shrewsbury. He says he knows every number and that now he is "working on getting the names with the boxes! "

He knows the area well because his mom was raised on a farm on Frank Lord Road, and he has lots of stories from those years. Brian's mother had a horse on the farm named Flossy and "nobody could get that horse to rake hay like she could!" Brian worked with horses for many, many years and used to breed them.

Brian says he's "happy to be here and enjoying the route...just need to get the kinks out and all will be nice!" ~by Chryl Martin

Shrewsbury Library's

Holiday Celebration

Featuring our famous

Silent Auction and Cookie Swap

Saturday, December 2nd
starting at 7pm

**In the Great Room
enjoy wine, cheese and live
background music by
Shrewsbury's own Marcos Levy**

**Join us upstairs at the
Silent Auction
for the fun filled bidding wars**

**Bake a big batch of your favorite
cookie recipe to share.**

For more information please call Lisa at
802-492-3732 or e-mail the library at
slibrary@vermontel.net

SHREWSBURY LIBRARY

Library News Submitted by Joan Aleshire

LIBRARY & FOOD SHELF HOURS

Monday 10 am to 12 pm

Tuesday 7 pm to 9 pm

Wednesday 10 am to 5 pm & 7 pm to 9 pm

Thursday 7 pm to 9 pm

Friday 10 am to 12 pm

Saturday 10 am to 12 pm

Thank you for staying away if you're not feeling well, and for wearing a mask to protect yourself and others!

To search the Library catalog, put a hold on a book or DVD in our collection, and get the latest Library news, please go to our website: www.shrewsburylibrary.org

MANY THANKS to everyone who attended the reading of my new book, *Belfield, A Novel*, and even bought the few books available! A copy is now on the shelf for anyone who wants to check it out.

Coming Events:

Saturday, December 2 @ 7pm: HOLIDAY COOKIE SHARE & SILENT AUCTION: Back again after a long delay! Please see our ad in this issue of The Times, and join us for a great evening!

Saturday, December 9 @ 7pm: SCOTT GARREN will give a presentation on the TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE, coming in April 2024! Please see his ad in this issue of The Times.

Saturday, December 16 @ 10:30am: LINDSAY COURCELLE will read and sign her new picture book, *A Cup of Dreams: Chamomile*. Kids, parents, and grandparents all are invited to join her for this special treat!

Re-scheduled:

Saturday, January 13 @ 4 pm to 6 pm (SNOW DATE: JANUARY 20) SALLY DEINZER'S long-anticipated program about her father's work as a radio operator for Admiral Byrd's expedition to Antarctica! Please see her ad in this Times.

Continuing Programs:

Sunday, December 10 @ 3:30pm: WRITERS' GROUP: Poets, short story writers, memoirists, please join us to share our work. Please contact Penelope Weiss (pw@earthlink.com) or Joan Aleshire (joanaleshire@vermontel.net) for more info.

Sunday, January 14 @ 3:30pm: WRITERS' GROUP (see above).

Sunday, January 21 @ 4pm: FAMOUS BOOKS BOOK CLUB: Homer's *Iliad* in Emily Wilson's new translation: First discussion. Please e-mail Joan if you want another copy: joanaleshire@vermontel.net.

Sunday, January 28 @ 4 pm: SCIENCE BOOK CLUB. *An Immense World: How Animal Senses Reveal the Hidden Realms Around Us* by Ed Yong. Please contact Joan if you need a print copy of this marvelous book, or Margery Salmon if you want an e-book: salmonm@vermontel.net.

New Books include:

- *A Man of Two Faces: A Memoir, A History, a Memorial* by Viet Thanh Nguyen;
- *So Late in the Day: Stories of Women and Men* by the acclaimed Irish novelist Claire Keegan;
- *Crossings: How Road Ecology Is Shaping the Future of Our Planet* by Ben Goldfarb;
- *Mr. Texas: A novel* by Lawrence Wright: A timely political satire;
- *The House of Doors: A new historical novel set in India*, by Tan Twang Eng;
- *The Morse Code: Legacy of a Vermont Sportswriter* by Brendan Buckley;
- *A Shining*: A novel by the 2023 Nobel Prize winner, Jon Fosse;
- *Let Us Descend* by Jesmyn Ward: A new historical novel, set in the pre-Civil War South.
- *Belfield: A novel*: My new book that imagines the life of a Revolutionary War ancestor, and explores issues of ethics and inclusion.

New DVDs include:

The Master Gardener, directed by Paul Schrader, based on the John LeCarre novel.



Join one of the
Shrewsbury Library
Book Discussion Groups!



Here's what they read and discussed the past year:

2023 Famous Books Club Selections:

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| Feb | <i>Fathers and Children</i> by Ivan Turgenev |
| Mar-Jun | <i>GOETHE'S Faust, Parts 1 & 2</i> |
| Jul-Aug | <i>The House of the Seven Gables. Copies</i>
by Nathaniel Hawthorne |
| Oct-Nov | <i>The Iliad: A New Translation</i>
by Emily Wilson |

2023 Science Book Club Selections:

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| Feb | <i>Best Science & Nature Writing 2022</i> |
| Mar | <i>Your Inner Fish: A Journey Into the 3.5-Billion-Year History of the Human Body</i>
by Neil Shubin |
| Apr | <i>The Periodic Table</i> by Primo Levi |
| May-Jul | <i>The Code Breaker: Jennifer Doudna, Gene Editing, and the Future of the Human Race</i> by Walter Isaacson |
| Aug-Sept | <i>Owls of the Eastern Ice</i> |
| Oct | <i>Krakatoa</i> by Simon Winchester |

Tribute to Joan Aleshire and the Shrewsbury Library

On November 4, 2023, a friendly, attentive group of admirers of Joan Aleshire's poetry gathered at the Shrewsbury Library for a reading, by Joan herself, from Belfield, her first novel.

Joan read Chapter 1, which reveals the vivid and engaging characters, especially Charles Willson Peale, a portrait painter and gentleman farmer who was one of Joan's ancestors. Set near Philadelphia in the early 1800s, the book tells the story of Charles Willson Peale's efforts to run his farm with the help of his children and the advice of people such as Ben Franklin and Thomas Jefferson.



Belfield also recounts the story of a family of enslaved people (Scarborough, Lucy and Moses) who come to live on the farm. Charles Willson has accepted them after a neighbor, whose portrait he had painted, could not pay in cash. And Charles Willson takes in a young girl, Mag, who is left begging on the street when her family abandons her. These characters, as well as Charles Willson's sons Titian, Raphaëlle, Rubens, and Rembrandt, and his daughters Sophonisba and Angelica, are beautifully drawn.

In her introduction to the reading, Joan described some of the difficulties she encountered on the way to getting the book published, and how working with Penelope as her editor helped make it happen.

It was especially wonderful to be at the library that night because Joan was a prime mover in the creation of the Shrewsbury Library, which was started around 1975 by her and other dedicated people in our community.

For half a century, Joan has inspired and encouraged readers and writers of all ages. While writing her own poetry, Joan helped writers take college courses, join writers' workshops, and visit classes at the Mountain School. In the early years, Joan and other writers such as Dirk Thomas, Verandah Porche, Karen Lorentz, and Barry Lane all shared their work. Artist Judy Mitchell showed her drawings and told stories about illustration and working with publishers. These days, Joan has organized a writers' group that meets at the library once a month to discuss their work.

Over the years, the library has also hosted readings by other local artists and writers, including The Hungry Poets, a group of students at the Mountain School, and Stacy Harshman, who read from her book Crowning Glory.

Grace is honored that Joan invited her to make a drawing of the house at Belfield for the cover of the book. She's so glad she got to frost the cake of Joan's first novel.

~Article by Grace Brigham and Penelope Weiss

~Photo by Grace Brigham in the early 1990's



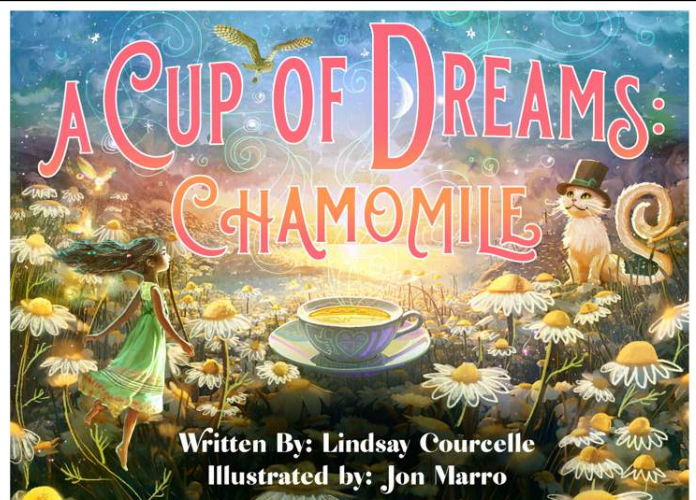
TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE, APRIL 2024 PROGRAM

**Presented by Scott Garren
Saturday, December 9 @ 7pm
at the Shrewsbury Library**

What, why, where and how

Total solar eclipses are stunning natural phenomena. They are also exceedingly rare. Vermont saw its last total solar eclipse in 1932, and it won't see another after 2024 until 2106. On Saturday, December 9 at 7 pm Scott Garren will give a presentation on the April, 2024 eclipse covering:

- what an eclipse is,
- why they are so rare,
- where to best view the April 2024 eclipse, and
- How to safely view it



I've published a children's book!

This is a bedtime adventure into a land of calming herbs, magical animals and flying faeries. An easy-to-read rhyme and beautiful illustrations by Rutland native Jon Marro.

Pre-order your copy at

www.Lindsaycourcellewrites.com.

Available to ship or for local pick up in early December.



BOOK REVIEWS

***** *Fantastic*
 ***** *Compelling page turner*
 *** *Enjoyable*
 ** *Just O.K.*
 * *Not recommended*

The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store
by James McBride

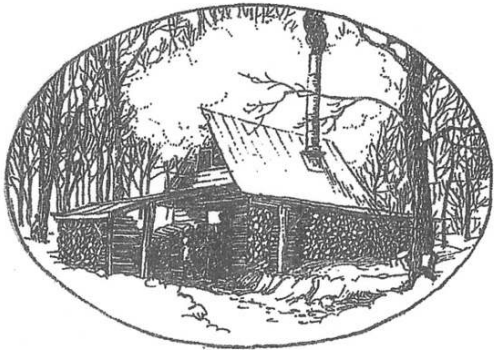
★★★★★

I have read most of McBride's other books*, but this one is by far THE best! It is chock-full of the most fantastical characters and story lines (many satisfying story lines) that I have ever come across! The inventiveness and deft touch of the author is spell-binding. It is safe to say that this will be like nothing you have ever read before. The book features the immigrant Blacks and Jews who live on "Chicken Hill" in Pottstown, Pennsylvania and their struggles to earn a living and stay alive while also having to survive White Christian America. As McBride takes us chapter to chapter, we are introduced to ever more incredible twists and turns, more satisfying than the last. It is simultaneously horrifying and fun. I absolutely loved it!

*McBride also wrote: The Color of Water, Miracle at St. Anna, Song Yet Sung, The Good Lord Bird, Kill 'Em and Leave, Five-Carat Soul, Deacon King Kong.


Reviewed by Marilyn Dalick

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In the fall of 1994, Joan Stewart, Superintendent and Trustee of the Laurel Glen Cemetery Assoc., and the Shrewsbury Historical Society began to make plans for a special event to be held in Laurel Hall as a Christmas event to show the recently restored rooms on the first floor, and a few on the second of John P. Bowman's Laurel Hall; the product of about two years' worth of effort. The dates chosen were Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 10 and 11, 1994 from 1 to 4pm. Proceeds from a \$2 donation fee would be divided between the two organizations.

The outside of the mansion was festooned with garlands of evergreens and wreaths. Upon entering the glittering halls, the first room on the right, called the Reception Room, was decorated by Nancy Spencer, which included a 10-foot Christmas tree which was lit by the elegant tiny Moravian lights. Underneath, Con Winkler placed his Lionel train set in motion. A small wooden cradle was filled with dolls, and next to it a miniature Schoenhut Circus. The mantel was decorated with various tiny toys and a stocking hung with candy canes.

On the opposite side of the Hall was the Sitting Room, furnished with period furniture and a setting for tea, a decorated fireplace and mantel, and a pictorial exhibit about Laurel Hall. The center hallway was decorated with a simple tree with white crocheted snowflake ornaments handmade by Ruth Winkler's mother. Two life-sized women statues were festooned with poinsettias.

The next room on the right was called the Library and was decorated with another tall tree filled with colorful ornaments. At the piano sat Heidi Mitchell playing Christmas carols accompanied by Paul Anthony on his cello. Joining in at times was Licia Gambino on her flute. On a side table was a crystal decanted bottle of wine and glasses. Here and there were colorful pillows and small figurines, all supplied by volunteers.

Across from the Library was the dining room which was decorated by Lois Butler and Ruth Winkler using some of Lois's own silver, furniture and collection of red glass on the mantel. The large table was set with a red topper on white lace and red candelabra, with two large punch bowls on either end. Two kinds of punch were featured along with many homemade goodies from the kitchens of the volunteers. Only real china and glasses were used to provide Victorian elegance, constantly being washed by the men who stood by the kitchen sink

Shrewsbury Historical Society

www.shrewsburyhistoricalsociety.com



1994 Laurel Hall Victorian Christmas Tour

washing and drying and replacing them in the butler's pantry. (A joyful job as they found the half empty bottle of "Christmas spirits" in a cabinet.) The crew included Sam Husselman, Con Winkler, Bud

Clark, George Brigham and B-J Stewart.

The grand staircase, decorated with a "kissing ball" overhead and evergreen bough twisted around the banister, featured a small candlelit Christmas tree on its landing. The late afternoon setting sun gleamed through the stained-glass windows casting a rainbow of colored light throughout the Hall.

On the second floor, several rooms and a bath were decorated and another room was left for all to see the work still required to completely restore this section of this beautiful home.

At 1 pm opening day, Richard Bettelli dressed up wearing white gloves, a vest and a bowler hat, and greeted approximately 500 guests for the two days. Strolling throughout the Hall, wearing her grandmother's wedding dress, Marjorie Pierce refused to sit. She wanted to chat with the guests. The refreshments were enjoyed by all and the Christmas music filled the Hall.

The following day, nearing the closing of the Tour, Dee Dee Erb presented a flaming Christmas Plum Pudding to everyone's delight, as they gathered round the dining room table.

After the doors closed at 4 pm, Historical Society Life Members Grace and Sam Husselman surprised all with a light supper and later Heidi played Christmas carols led in song by Edie Clark's wonderful voice. Two perfect days concluded with a pop of cork from champagne, offered by B-J and Joan with a special toast.

Here are more names of folks who helped: Fran Patten, Liesbeth van der Heijden, Fran Brigham, Jean Swain, Jill Suprin, and four little girls all dressed up in Victorian "best dresses" who enjoyed making little Christmas cards for the guests using an antique official seal of Laurel Glen Cemetery Association, 1884. They were: Kayla Suprin, Stephanie Clarke, Ashley Stewart and Emelie Ridlon.

The event was covered by the *Sunday Rutland Herald Times Argus*, the *Mill River Area Current*, and the *Times of Shrewsbury*. **On view in the museum is an album devoted to this wonderful tour and the people who helped make it happen. Be sure to look for it in next year's open season.**

New Officers for 2024: At the recent annual Society meeting the following officers were appointed to begin terms on January 1, 2024: President, Brian Winkler; Vice President, Grace Brigham; Treasurer, Julianne Sharrow; Secretary, Pam Monder. If you would like to become an annual paid-up member, please send a check for the following amount to our treasurer, **Julanne Sharrow, 1368 Lincoln Hill Road, Shrewsbury, VT 05738: \$10 for single; \$15 for family; \$30 for contributing; or \$125 for Life (couple/single).** Your membership begins in January to the following December. First meeting will be announced in spring.

A big thank you : We appreciate your response to our annual appeal for a donation to help with needed roof repairs, which will be worked on in the spring of 2024. It is our only fund raiser.

We are in need of new help with new ideas. We manage to create a museum with Shrewsbury artifacts and to invite our town residents to enjoy various events such as Shrewsbury Day and this year's talk by author Marty Podskoch about the CCC camp that was here in our town in the 30s. We work together with our school in teaching history of our town and present each year's graduating student with their own copy of our history book written by Dawn Hance. One of our committees is headed by Grace Brigham, a former teacher in the school, and Catherine Carrara work towards cooperation with the principal and teachers in teaching the history of their town and inviting the students and teachers to visit our museum. The museum's toy exhibit is a hit for children of all ages.

We wish you a very Merry Christmas and a safe and healthy new year. Submitted by Ruth Winkler



ADVENTURE OF A LIFETIME

I am sorry that I had to post pone this presentation that was scheduled for November 18, but the computer gremlins were working overtime at my house. I have been assured by my techy son that he has them under control at his house and I will be able to finish it up in December.

In case you missed the notice about the event in the November Times, it's repeated here:

My Dad Spent 18 months with Admiral Richard Byrd on his Second Expedition to the Antarctic

Come and Hear about this Adventure of a Lifetime

NEW DATE:

January 13, 2024 at 4:00 pm
(weather date is Jan. 20th)
at the Shrewsbury Library

Try to put yourself in my father's position when he was 22. He had just graduated from MIT in 1932 with a degree in electrical engineering and planned to go for an advanced degree.

Dad had a summer job working for an MIT-related gentleman on Cape Cod, setting up his ham radio shack. That gentleman knew Admiral Richard Byrd, who was planning his second expedition to the Antarctic and needed someone to operate the radio communications back to the "civilized world." Byrd was interested.

Dad had to make a choice. Graduate school or the unknown? What would you do? Come and find out what he did!

(Spoiler alert – there will be some movies and photos of lots of ice and snow, plus walruses, penguins, sled dogs, airplanes, skiing, and tons of equipment for surviving temperatures as low as -70 below.)

Sally Deinzer

Interesting link below:

Antarctic Explorers: Richard E. Byrd & the Second Byrd Antarctic Expedition (south-pole.com)

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The Shrewsbury Community Church



Compiled by Sue Ransom-Kelley

Open Invitation to the Community:



The community is cordially invited to attend our Candle Lite Community Christmas Eve Service at 7pm! The sanctuary will be decorated with fresh balsam wreaths, poinsettias, our nativity scene, and a glorious Christmas Tree! All are welcome!

Christmas Eve is a very special night. We will tell the Christmas Story through scripture readings, sing carols, light candles and we will have a special appearance by our Sunday Fun Day Kids!

You may recognize some of them in shepherds and angel costumes! It will be a delightful evening you don't want to miss!



Sunday Fun Day: every Sunday morning 10:30-11:30am we gather children at the church. We participate in crafts, stories, and sharing. We have been using the International Heifer Project Information to explain the needs of communities other than ours for water, food, and mostly the positive gifts animals bring to a needy area. This year we donated \$150 to Heifer International. We have an average of 6 children weekly with others joining us now and then. Some of the projects we have done this year so far are piggy banks, pottery planters, stepping stones, a fall banner, and candles. We will be making wooden Christmas Trees and painting wooden ornaments. We recently had fun decorating balsam wreaths! Please join us!

Community Sharing Project: We raise funds to allow us to help families with children during the holiday season. We host community dinners and a pancake breakfast. This brings enough money to help an average of 12 children and 16 families with Walmart Gift Cards and Grocery Cards for holiday meals.

Helping Hand: this is a year-round fund to help our community. We thank everyone who supported our lasagna dinner in October which raised money for this fund. This year we have helped several families with electric and fuel bills, and food.

Holiday Giving: We provide gift and grocery cards for folks in Shrewsbury during the holiday season. If you or a neighbor would like to be included, please call Sue at 802-492-3738 or 802-779-4825.

Food Shelves: we have a food shelf at the Library and seasonally at Pierce's Store. Shelves are filled weekly unless special requests are made. This past year, we provided more than \$2600 in food which does not include the many donations of food from other community members. Thank you to all who brought food items to the recent Shrewsbury Singers Concert! We accept donations year-round!

Church is for the community. Please consider participating to keep the church active.

Got the winter blues? Would you like to get together with a small group of ladies to chat? Do you want to do something fun? **The**

Shrewsbury Community Church Calendar

- Tuesday Nov 28, 12noon. Prayer Shawl Group Meets
- Sunday Dec 3 10:30am Fun Day Program for kids. Worship Service and Holy Communion led by Rev. Holly Ross.
- Sunday Dec 10, 10:30am Fun Day Program for kids. Worship Service led by Pastor Karen Braeutigam.
- Sunday Dec 17, 10:30-1130am Fun Day Program for kids. Community Carol Sing at the Meeting House in the sanctuary.
- Sunday Dec 24, 7pm Candlelight Community Christmas Eve Service of Carols. All are Invited!
- Sunday Dec 31 No Church Service. Happy New Year's Eve!
- Sunday Jan 7, 10:30am Fun Day Program for kids, Worship Service and Holy Communion.
- Sunday Jan 14, 10:30am Fun Day Program for kids. Worship Service led by Pastor John Hill.
- Sunday Jan 21, 10:30am Fun Day Program for kids. Worship Service.
- Tuesday Jan 23, 12 noon. Prayer Shawl Group
- Sunday Jan 28, 10:30am Fun Day Program for Kids. Worship Service.

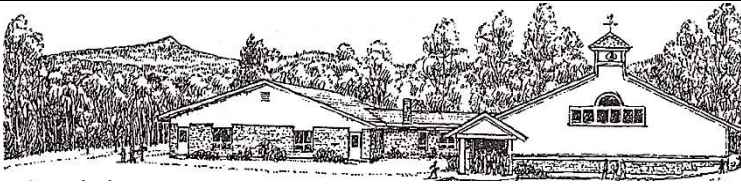
Community Food Shelf

Free Community Food Shelf at the Library in the front entry way. Those in need are welcome to help themselves any time the Library entryway is open. Limited hours are:
Mon 10am-12noon; Tues 7-9pm; Wed 10am-5pm and 7-9pm; Thurs 7-9pm; Fri 10am-12noon; and, Sat 10am-12noon.

Food Delivery and Assistance If you are unable to get to the Food Shelf at the library in Shrewsbury, we will deliver groceries to you. If you need items which are not available on the shelf we can provide grocery gift cards. Call Karen at 802-558-5991 or Sue at 802-779-4825 or 802-492-3738.

Community Needs

- Wedding, Funeral or Memorial Service Requests: Contact Donna Smith 802-492-3367; or Sue Kelley 802-492-3738, 802-779-4825
- Community Helping Hand Requests: Contact Donna Smith 802-492-3367; Sue Kelley 802-779-4825, 802-492-3738; or Karen Lorentz 802-558-5991. Shrewsbury residents experiencing financial hardship. Assistance can be given for basic needs (food, heating, gasoline, etc). If you or a neighbor are in need, please let us know!
- Pastoral Care, Home, Hospital Visitation, Outreach Requests: Contact Roxanne Ramah 802-492-3675 or Ruth Kinne 802- 775-5318.



Hello SMS Families and Community,

Important Dates:

12/7-12/15: Grade 2 Food Drive

12/18: ALL School Ice Skating Field Trip sponsored by the PTO

12/19: 6:30pm All School Winter Concert - every student performs in this music celebration!

Updates and information:

1. Ms. Rice's Grade 2 students are collecting non-perishable food items for the MRU National Honor Society Food Baskets. Please donate items at the school main office to contribute to



this great community service project! Service CHALLENGE: Ms. Cimonetti will donate one item for every five items that SMS students donate this year!

2. Ms. Cimonetti and the teachers planned an amazing all school assembly with the focus of being thankful. Each student



in a multi age small group was able to share what they were thankful for as well as coloring a maple leaf and listing an item they were thankful for to display under our school tree mural at our front entrance. Our students demonstrated kindness and collaboration as they experienced this special time together. Happy Thanksgiving!

3. On November 15, fifth and sixth grade students from Shrewsbury and Tinmouth Mountain Schools journeyed to Reading, Vermont to visit the Hall Art Foundation. Students enjoyed the docent-led tour of the Andy Warhol exhibit, learning more about the genre of Pop Art as well as history of the artist



and the works displayed. They also had a chance to explore the outdoor sculptures and installations, making connections to both science and books they are reading. As the final part of their trip, students viewed the works of Susan Rothenberg, selecting one piece and sharing the reason for their choice.

4. Our amazing custodian, Ms. Terri, will be retiring soon! We are so grateful for all of her hard work and dedication to our school. We will need to fill this role in December. Please visit <https://employer.schoolspring.com/employer/jobs/joblist.cfm?ts=1696427128137> for details about applying for a MRUUSD custodial position or contact Time Harte at tharte@millriversschools.org

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns at 802-786-3995 or at kcimonetti@millriversschools.org.

Take care,
Kristin Cimonetti

SEASONS'S GREETINGS SHREWSBURY COMMUNITY

Our Shrewsbury Yeti mug fundraiser has had great success throughout the year, thanks to so, so many of you! Only a few dozen silver mugs remain. It's not too late own one! Or to gift one for the holidays!

It excites us to share that, in addition to Pierce's Store, you can also find Shrewsbury Yeti mugs for sale at Wally's Corner. Pop in to see the array of fantastic, locally made gifts at both locations We very much appreciate these local businesses for their 100% support of the school.



Remember, by shopping Pierce's and Wally's Corner, you are contributing to the vibrancy of our town. Thank you, as always, for supporting our children and our school community! Happy Holidays - the SMS PTO

SNOWSHOES

(Adult & Children)

Available for checkout
at the
Shrewsbury Library

Borrow for 3 days



UPDATE FROM THE SMS PTO

The school year is off to a great start! At the beginning of October, we joined a large turnout at the Stewart "Tap to Table" event selling various items to raise funds to support school activities. At the end of the month, we hosted Trunk or Treat. The circle in front of the school was packed with parents' cars that were elaborately decorated. The kids paraded around the circle in fabulous costumes. One child was heard saying, "this is the best day ever!" Prior to the parade, the PTO provided snacks, and we marveled that every child said "please" and "thank you" as they got their food. This is a great group of kids.

In November we had a special Thanksgiving lunch for the kids in collaboration with Kim, our school cook.

In December we're sponsoring an all-school skating trip to Spartan Arena, and, we're already looking ahead to 2024 with a movie night at the school in January and a Spring Dance in April. Stay tuned for more details.

The PTO also sponsors a variety of fundraisers to support these events and the school. The last, Shrewsbury Yeti mugs will continue to be available at Pierce's and Wally's Corner this holiday season. Families had the opportunity to purchase from Halladay's Harvest Barn this fall and later this year organic seeds can be purchased from High Mowing Seeds. Send us a note if you'd like more info!

2024 also marks a big milestone at the school. Thirty years ago, the Pierce Playground was installed. Children have loved this playground so much! However, with each year has come the removal of another piece of the playground. The wonderful wood structure has started to rot and it's time to think about replacing it. In typical Shrewsbury style, we're hoping this can be a time where the community comes together to support the kids here!

We're in the initial planning phases and we will update folks as we have more concrete details to share. However, one thing we know for sure is that we will need help raising funds to make this come to fruition.

Please consider making a donation toward our new Playground. We greatly appreciate any amount!

All contributions made are tax deductible. THANK YOU for supporting our kids!

Check info:

Mail to:
Playground Donation
c/o Angie Sharrow, PTO Treasurer
1449 Lincoln Hill
Shrewsbury, VT 05738

Payable to: SMS PTO

Please include "playground" in the memo line and we will keep these funds restricted for that purpose.

*Submitted by Ingrid Wisell & Kristen Aines
on behalf of SMS PTO*

ingridcwisell@gmail.com / kristenaines2427@gmail.com



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Marinades & Spices	Briskets & Sausages	

OPEN: WED THRU MON 10 AM - 5 PM

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

2450 Lincoln Hill Road, Shrewsbury VT. 05738
SmithMapleCrestFarm.com 802-492-2151 maplecrest.info@gmail.com
We ship syrup all over the USA Support your local community



Pierce's Store Benefit Cooking Class!

We visited Mexico for this year's Cooking Class to benefit Pierce's store! The menu included Guacamole, Fried Plantains, Gorditas stuffed with beef, Chicken Enchiladas Verde, Beans & Rice, and a Tres Leche Cake. The eight students (*above left to right*) were: Pam Grace, Chryl Martin, Sally Deinzer, Heather Shay (*standing and left*), Jo Fretz, Ronnie Bowers, Jean Marie Walker, Sandy Bragg, and Ed Sawyer. Heather played at being Top Chef! A great time was had by all - helped along with the Margaritas and Wine Tasting by Sandy. A total of \$280 was contributed to Pierce's.

~Submitted by Heather Shay

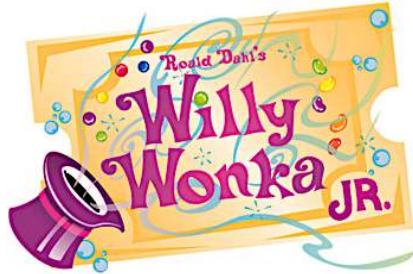


I don't know

I just don't know
what I am
what am I supposed to think or feel
feel or say about this
this latest bout of humans being inhumane
inhumane about us
about us wantonly killing each other
others seemingly for sport
seeking support
support from one side or another
I don't know who's right
right? who's wrong
wrong? surely we can defend ourselves
from harm
harm but where does that stop
stop where the horrors perpetuated
and determined to be enough
enough killing
enough hate
enough destruction
enough is enough
what side do I take
why would I even consider a side
other than the only one side there is
that is our side
humanity

by Thomas Hartigan

Rutland Youth Theatre presents



WILLY WONKA JR.

Friday, December 8 at 7pm

Saturday, December 9 at 2pm and 7pm

Paramount Theatre Stage

Rutland Youth Theatre to Present Magical Musical based on the Award-Winning Book Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl



Bone Builders

10am - 11am

Every Tuesday and Thursday
at the Meeting House on Lottery Road
Free weights and Instruction

Join us to improve your
Bones, Balance, and Strength

Please note:

Bone Builders will switch to winter hours on **December 5**. It will be from 1011am at the Meeting House

FOR SALE



Two ceiling fans with light
\$50 for both, or separately, \$25 each.



Plow: four feet end to end
\$60 OBO

Please call Nancy at 802-492-3038

Branch Brook Excavating LLC

Want to start out by thanking all our customers for a great first year! As the 2023 season is coming to an end, we are now focusing on our 2024 season.

With that being said, we have decided to make December our Customer Appreciation Month! Beginning December 1st through the end of the year, any quotes given for work for the 2024 season will be honored even if the cost of material goes up!

You do not want to miss this great opportunity to possibly get some big savings!

Book with us now!

802-770-8964

BranchBrookExcavating@Gmail.Com



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Benjamin Turco

1269 Branch Brook Rd

Mount Holly, VT 05758

(802)770-8964

We look forward to hearing from you.



Bears and Right of Way Habitat

The Shrewsbury Conservation Commission's recent Walk and Talk on the VELCO right of way aimed to accomplish two things. First, the SCC wanted to examine the transmission poles to see if they showed signs of bear. This would help us continue collecting data on where wildlife crosses Route 103, since the power line parallels that road. And find signs we did! Project leader Linda Shelvey helped attendees to determine whether bite marks and scratches were made by a large bear or a cub and how recently they were made. She demonstrated exactly how bears use the poles to mark their territory, but unfortunately the TIMES doesn't print videos!



Secondly, we spent much of our time with VELCO forester Devon Synder learning about how the trees next to and under the transmission lines are managed. Since the whole Eastern seaboard had a power outage in 2003 caused by a tree in Ohio, federal laws have changed to severely fine utilities for vegetation-caused outages -- over 1 million dollars a day. Since then, national standards are much stricter. VELCO manages the vegetation under the

transmission lines in 4-year cycles, using methods that either mechanically (mowing or chainsaws) or chemically (targeted herbicides) keep control of height. They also spray invasive plants that impede access for the crews as long as the landowner agrees to treatment.

VELCO practices Integrated Vegetation Management, which is a national standard of managing right-of-way vegetation in a site- and-species specific manner. The end goal with proper management is to have a relatively stable plant community made up of species that are compatible with transmission lines. They desire to use herbicides on targeted species because it is effective, has low impact on surrounding vegetation, and they are able to manipulate plant diversity so it is more wildlife friendly. The goal with herbicide use is to apply less and less each year because, since the root system of the plant is killed, less active management is needed, and other species are allowed to flourish. They also are required with all methods to avoid impacting endangered species.

We were able to observe land managed for many years with herbicides and next to it land managed by cutting, so we could readily see the resulting differences. The areas where landowners had requested that herbicides not be used had very little grasses and berries but was mostly covered with thickets of thickly sprouting aspen and beech. That is because these trees do not die when cut but just keep sprouting more growth. The areas managed by a mixed herbicide and mechanical approach looked dramatically different. There seemed to be more diverse plants and shrubs, with many berries, and it was easier to walk through. Shrub willows had been encouraged to proliferate (great pollinators). Both areas had emerging spruce and fir. These are cut as they do not respond well to herbicide applications.

Shrewsbury will be seeing VELCO foresters and contractors in 2024 because the 4-year management cycle is due. Foresters will be reaching out later this year and in early 2024 to notify landowners prior to work being completed. If you have land under the VELCO transmission lines and would like more information on how your land will be managed, contact VELCO at <https://www.velco.com/contact> or (802) 773-9161.

~Article by Louise Duda

SCC Wildlife Road Crossing Project Off to a New Season

Experienced trackers and new to the group joined together for a luncheon and work session on Saturday Nov 4 at the Meeting House. Linda Shelvey, Leader of the Project, had gathered together the data collected during last winter which was



compiled by Michelle Greene into a notebook and illustrated on a map showing density of tracks gathered in 16 different locations throughout town. Added to the map were also marking where bears recently had left their markings on utility poles. Volunteers were given high visibility vests to wear when out tracking this winter and we got to test our tracking skills by trying to identify tricky photos of tracks in the snow.

The goal of the Project is to identify wildlife road crossings in our town, to create data about the number and variety of animals whose travel corridors intersect our roadways. This will be with an eye towards educating landowners and town management on ways to conserve and protect these areas and understand the importance of conserving forested land on each side of the roadway.

If you would like to learn how to identify animal tracks and/or would also like to join this Project, contact Linda Shelvey at 802 236-4515 or Lpurdyschel@gmail.com

~Submitted by Louise Duda



While Vermont Fish and Wildlife generally recommends people only put bird feeders out from December 1 through March 31, variable winter weather can sometimes dictate that birdfeeders should be removed even during this period. A good rule of thumb is that if it's generally "wintery" out for an extended period of time, with consistent snow on the ground and temperatures at or below freezing, you can keep your birdfeeder out.



Shrewsbury Conservation Commission Trail Camera Picture of the month



The allure of Shrewsbury apples enjoyed by white-tailed deer.
Sent in by Bill and Peggy Wilson!



A colorful gray fox and a bobcat surveying the beaver pond
from the top of the beaver lodge from Linda Shelvey.



Submitted by Linda Shelvey

Next Meeting: The next Shrewsbury Conservation Meeting
will be February 6, 2024 at 5:15pm; Location TBD



SNO-BIRD NEWS



We are less than one month to opening day at this time. We have seen some snow but nothing that has lasted. That is good in a way as with all the water we have had, the ground and standing water needs to freeze well or we will have a muddy mess. The club has and will continue to prep for the season. I ordered more signs because we had to do a temporary reroute on the upper end of the trail coming out of the groomer shed for this year. We did the tread work already and put in sign posts to keep people on the trail. When the signs come, we will get them up and should be all set for December 15, snow permitting. We received a new GPS unit for the Tucker to track our mileage, that is how VAST pays for grooming if they work well. The last units did not work well at all. I will say that when the old units did work, I could track it on the computer at work so I knew where Dad was and that he was still moving. Let's hope that we get the cold temps and a reasonable amount of snow so we can have a good season. With the waterbars that the state put in snow is going to be really needed early to fill them in! Hope to see you on the trails! **Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone!** ~Submitted by Roy Arthur



Expressing Our Gratitude

As we move from Thanksgiving toward the end of the year, we at Pierce's want to express our gratitude to the members, volunteers, and staff of our co-op and to the members of the Shrewsbury community for their efforts to keep our little store going. As everyone knows, it is not easy to keep a small co-op going in this era of high inflation and fierce competition from large-scale non-local retailers. Nevertheless, we believe in the value of a true community co-op, not just as a place to buy what we need, but also as a place around which our community can find common ground.

In 2024, you will see lots of changes at Pierce's, including new foods and new faces. We are proud of the progress we've made in bringing Pierce's safely through the COVID pandemic, and now are focused on creating a bright and sustainable future. We wish everyone a joyous holiday season and we look forward to seeing you at Pierce's! ~Submitted by Paul Titterton,



This month we had a chance to get back into the Mountain School and cook! Ms. Rice's 2nd graders tried their hand at making pumpkin pancakes, and the result was a warm and yummy snack for all present and a few lucky teachers as well. We are happy to help SMS students get to know local produce and kitchen utensils while exploring culinary creativity!



SMS 2nd graders mixing up pumpkin pancakes!

Speaking about creativity, SAGE is in the midst of starting a local Artist Group! Winter is an excellent time for working on art projects, and we want to support that in the Shrewsbury community. We plan to facilitate a community artist group that will help people stay personally accountable to their art work path, provide space for critique discussions, and create space for artist collaborations. Our first meet up will be on December 15th, at the Russellville Schoolhouse at 7PM.

SAGE and VFFC are putting out a 5-part Root Words podcast mini-series, and the first three episodes are out now! In Episode 2 we explore the idea of a community food web as a more localized response to a big global system.

Ellen Kahler, Executive Director with Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund, and member of the Governor's Commission on the Future of Vermont Agriculture, where she helped create Vermont Farm to Plate, the state's food systems development plan, spoke with us on how the Covid-19 pandemic caused major disruptions in the fragile global food system, and how that was felt here in Vermont.

"Many of us were sounding the alarm for many, many years about the consolidation happening in the food system and the over reliance on a small number of distributors, a small number of retail outlets, and that our food supply chain was at risk, that it was vulnerable to climate and health related shocks... Many of us have been talking about it for a very long time but it wasn't until the pandemic, especially those first few months, when we

really all experienced what it meant when a supply chain breaks..."

To hear more from Ellen, as well as other compelling guests, please find "Root Words" on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, or wherever you get your podcasts.

SAGE, Shrewsbury Agricultural Education & Arts Foundation, has a mission to support and promote sustainable farming and other arts that nourish community life. For more information about SAGE: contact Stephen Abatiell at educate.sage@gmail.com, Joan Aleshire at 492-3550 or visit www.sagevt.wordpress.com. Follow us on Facebook for up to date event details at ShrewsburySAGE and find our sustainability and arts videos at www.youtube.com/@sagefoundation.

~Submitted by Stephen Abatiell



Watching it snow outside, makes me extremely glad that everything is buttoned up at Rainbow Riding Center located at Stone Wall Farm in Belmont after another very successful year. With the Holidays knocking on the door, it's time to highlight all the things we are thankful for that contributed to a great season. Rainbow has horses, a very skilled horsemanship instructor and several very involved Board members, but without our core of exceptional volunteers the program would be at a standstill. So, here's to a group of ladies and gents that help week after week with horses, riders, and many other tasks. They hail from many towns, near and far, and are always on time with smiles on their faces. And they are always quick to join in promoting Rainbow at community functions, like Cider Days. Shrewsbury volunteers include Jerry Parker, and Board members Lynn McDermott, Becca Rice, Stacey Synott, and Lee Wilson. THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS and BOARD MEMERS!

At Rainbow Riding we strive to meet the needs of every individual that participates in our programs, mounted or unmounted. For more about Rainbow Riding Center and our mission, check out our website: rainbowridingcenter.org and follow us on Facebook or Instagram @rainbow_riding_center. Contact us at programs@rainbowridingcenter.org or 802-236-2483 to ask about our programs and lessons. For opportunities to volunteer contact: janetupton@rainbowridingcenter.org.

~Submitted by Janet Upton

Join us for the 3rd Annual Elves on Main Street Scavenger Hunt!

November 24th - December 19th

Search for our elusive elves hidden in many of the local shops on Main Street in Ludlow.

Enter at each location for a chance to win a gift from that shop.

Find them all for a chance to win the Grand Prize - Two 1-day passes to Okemo Mountain!

How to Play:

Explore each store to spot the mischievous elves.

Fill out an entry slip for each elf discovered.

Drop your completed slips into the designated collection box.

Winners Announced on December 21st



For rules and participation:



Presented by:

ENGEL & VÖLKERS





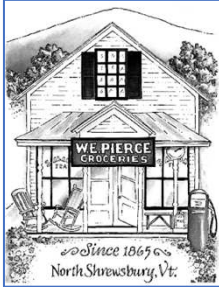
THANKS TO THE CONTRIBUTING JOURNALISTS, PHOTOGRAPHERS & ARTISTS!!

The *Times* is grateful to the contributors of 2023 who provided articles, poetry, stories, drawings, general information, photos, and letters to the editors. Their submissions help to make the *Times* more interesting and informative....and useful for us all! Thanks~ ~The Editors

Stephen Abetelli	Sally Deinzer	Sue Kelley	Doris Perry	Anna Sutton
Kristin Aines	Louise Duda	Julia Kimmig	Jack Perry	Donna Swartz
Joan Aleshire	Mother Earth	Bob Knudsen	Jess Purks	Amy Thomas
Marti Anderson	Nancy Ellery	Hallie Knudsen	Roxanne Ramah	David Tibbs
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Sandy Bragg	Lily French	Taffy Maynard	Lavinia Seide	Lana Vannuchi
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Catherine Carrara	Jonathan Gibson	Jeff Monder	Lisa Sharrow	Ruth Winkler
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Mark Cimonetti	Michelle Greene	Logan Nicoll	Linda Shelvey	Ingrid Wisell
Carrie Clancy	Barry Griffith	Trish Norton	Bob Snarski	Francis Wyatt
Chris Clark	Thomas Hartigan	Jan O'Hara	Alyssa Stewart	Mark Youngstrom
Marilyn Dalick	Daphne Hemmer	Fran Patten	Gina Stewart	Connie Youngstrom
Pam Darrow	Betsy Jesser	Doug Patton	Tim Stout	



Artwork by Grace Brigham



NEWS FROM PIERCE'S STORE 802-492-3326

Bob Knudsen, Manager

Merry Christmas, Chag Chanukah Sameach, Blessed Yuletide, and just a general Happy Holidays to all our friends and neighbors this December!

Additional food options...Join in to help out!

We have been slowly adding additional food options into the rotation, and we now have a heating cabinet for hot breakfast sandwiches and other offerings! While we are still working on our consistency and making these foods available on a more regular basis, we are hopeful that the new equipment and new staffing are going to help increase regular food service once more. We also have a group of volunteers who have been providing weekly options in the store. If you would like to join or help out in any of these efforts, please let us know!

New Manager hunt:

We are also still on the hunt to find a new manager to help out at the store. If you are itching to help out in your community or just have a love for retail and food, let us know. Ideally, we would like somebody with a knack for food service and who wants to try their hand and helping to rebuild that aspect of the business. This job is a great way to meet neighbors in the community and is ideal for people who are passionate about both food and people.

SPECIAL ORDERS AND REQUESTS

Many items in our store are available in larger quantities at a discount if you order in bulk!

That goes for everything from rice and flour to meats and ice cream to beer and wine and everything in between. And don't forget to get on the weekly fish email list to get some of the highest quality fresh fish in the entire state for killer prices. We do fish ordering most weeks, with pickup dates on Fridays.

Trying out new beers and non-alcoholic options

We are also in the process of trying out some new beers and phasing out some other ones that have proven to be a bit less popular, so if you have any suggestions or preferences on either conventional beers or craft and local beers, please let us know! We are going to continue to partner with our friends at Mount Holly Beer Company to bring the best selection of local beers, but we are always on the hunt for more options. For the teetotalers out there, we are also expanding our nonalcoholic options for the new year, so if you are looking for a New Year's Resolution, we are happy to help!

Thanks for supporting local co-ops and businesses and we hope to see you in the store! ~Bob

HOLIDAY HOURS

In order to allow our staff and volunteers the opportunity to spend more time with their friends and families, we will be

Closed on Christmas Day

Closed on New Year's Day

for an inventory count, so be sure to come up the day before each holiday to stock up on your needs!



Holiday Wine Tasting December 15

Please join us for a holiday tasting at Pierce's Store from 4pm to 6.30pm on Friday, December 15 when we will be sampling some sparkling wines and classic reds we got on sale. We'll feature two rosé sparklers, a delicious Pinot from Willamette Valley and a Napa Cab, both obtained at a discount at a recent trade show. ~Sandy Bragg



**Shop for stocking stuffers & gifts at
Pierce's Store!**

The Times of Shrewsbury
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Donors are recognized for the remainder of the calendar year in which their donation is received. The *Times* is mailed to all residents of Shrewsbury and is also available online. The cost of printing and mailing is made possible through advertising and donations and are very much appreciated, but are not tax deductible. Donations can be made to: *Times of Shrewsbury*, P.O. Box 373, Cuttingsville, VT 05738. **THANK YOU!**

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Raymond & Cheryl Noble
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Roxanne Ramah
Ed & Adrienne Raymond
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Reinbow Riding
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Thomas & Donna Ryan
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Shrewsbury
Conservation Commission
Cooperative at Pierce's Store
Historical Society
Library
Mountain School PTO
Outing Club
Volunteer Fire Department
Sirjane Family
Donna Smith
Bob & Sally Snarski
Spring Lake Ranch
Wendy Stewart
Tim & Nancy Stout
Paul & Sarah Titterton
Jess & Ariane Torres
Beau & Cady Tudzarov
Liesbeth van der Heijden
Anne Vaneman
Lana Vanucchi
Howard & Deborah Weaver
Michael & Phyllis Wells
Nancy West
Christel Wiedmann
Lee Wilson
William & Peggy Wilson
Winkler Family
Mark & Connie Youngstrom

