



# Times of Shrewsbury



May 2024

## The Roving Reporter (RR) asked: " Tell me about your solar eclipse experience."

*Some of us are still limping our way out of Covid...including the Roving Reporter. This is the first RR venture since Covid began. Hopefully it signals the scenario of "I don't know where I'm going, but it's good to at least get started!"*

### ~~~From Total Eclipsers~~~

As the totality approached, the light dimmed and we quietly celebrated the oddly timed evening gloaming; birds chirping their bedtime songs in the mid-afternoon; a 360° sunset; and the appearance of Jupiter and Venus. A cloud of mosquitos rose from their slumber to remind us that we are all a part of nature. And then, exactly at the predicted time, the moon fully occluded the sun, which became a glowing corona festooned with diamonds and petals of light surrounding a deep black hole – our happy gathering burst into cheers and expletives; tears were shed; people hugged. In this state of bliss and awe, time seemed to stop—for exactly one minute and eight seconds. As the moon and earth continued on their dance of celestial clockwork, the shadow moved on and the edge of the sun glimmered and lighted our world as if nothing had happened. We will carry it in our hearts and memories for all time. ~JM

▪ I was far enough north to be well within the zone of totality. When the moment of totality arrived, there was a profound and sudden darkening accompanied by a rapid drop in temperature. It initially felt ominous. But looking up during the three minutes of moon blocking sun revealed an amazing ring of light set in blackness. To look to the heavens and see a celestial event unlike anything I had ever experienced in my 74 years on earth filled me with childlike wonder and awe. ~LW

▪ We viewed the eclipse in Dallas, Texas, while visiting family there. The morning started cloudy but had some clearing as the eclipse time approached. The clouds drifting across the sun made it interesting and a little suspenseful to an otherwise slow event. ~SG

▪ As the sun's rays slid behind the moons shadow, a loud collective gasp was heard followed by a roar of cheers, hoots and whistles. This solar eclipse was awe inspiring, magical and wonderous for those of us at Dead Creek Wildlife Management area in Addison. We were from all walks of life, regions around the



country, and across the world. It was extraordinary! The sudden drop in temperature (more than 10°), the surreal lighting, the cacophony of early peepers, an odd 360° sunset as 'night' fell far too early, the appearance of Jupiter and Venus in the middle of the afternoon, and nightlights emerging far across Lake Champlain was almost other worldly. We waited for an hour for the sun to return to normal and then reluctantly left to head home. On Route 22

there were houses with deckchairs lining the road as if we were the latest town parade, were waving and laughing and enjoying the slower pace! We are hopeful this collective, positive and unifying energy that was so much larger than our individual selves survives our troubled times. ~SW and DS

### ~~~From Partial Eclipsers~~~

▪ The eclipse was an event so wonderful and profound that one could forget, at least for a day, all the uncertainty and tumult in our world. All the news stories about people driving to Vermont in huge numbers to watch the eclipse in totality greatly added to the excitement. I watched from my big "observation deck," with a good friend. The sky was blue, the sun shone bright, the birds were singing and chirping happily. It was a beautiful day. About 2pm, we went out to the deck with cocktails and a cheese plate and waited. It started slowly, like a tiny mouse nibbling away at the bottom edge. Very subtle. We used our eclipse glasses from the moment it started and watched, mesmerized, at the spectacle. Although we did not experience totality, there were eerie shadows cast on our snow-filled woods, and the birdsong seemed to change a bit. Maybe I imagined that. We were out there, rapt, for two hours! It is a happy memory for me. A peaceful day for countless humans sharing the same planet. ~MD

▪ The eclipse was a reminder that the ancients got it right: the sun as procreator. As the sunlight became fainter and fainter, as if on a dimmer switch, everyone reached for the jackets and sweaters. The balmy day suddenly got cold even as the sun continued to shine. The light became eerie: still sharp shadows while the highlights paled. There we were in Shrewsbury, growing colder, our vision muted, getting goose bumps. Let this be a lesson to you, said the sun god. And for a brief time, we all became sun worshippers. ~SB



~Photos: Top--MY; Bottom--SW

**CORRECTIONS:**

I am embarrassed by two errors I made in my article on Civil War Bounties in the April 2024 issue of the *Times of Shrewsbury* on pages 14 & 15.

**First:** Pvt. Edwin Pierce did indeed fight in the Battle of Gettysburg before he returned home to Shrewsbury. The battle occurred from July 1-3, 1863. Pierce mustered out of the 14th Vermont shortly thereafter on July 30. Historian Howard Coffin recalls, from conversations he had with Marjorie Pierce, that Edwin, exhausted from war, got off the train in Cuttingsville and walked all the way home to Northam, collapsing at the front door. His best friend had been killed beside him during that horrendous battle.

**Second:** in Footnote #1, it was not Henry Gleason (who lived in the Smith farmhouse across the road from the Meeting House) who donated the pipe organ in the Meeting House, it was Henry Smith, ancestor to Julianne (Smith) Sharrow and the current Pine Valley Farm.

Many apologies. I try to double check everything with documentation. Contact me if you wish corrected copies of this article.

~Submitted by Mark Youngstrom



**Bone Builders**

9-10am

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

Join us to improve your  
Bones, Balance, and Strength



EXPLORE. DISCOVER. THRIVE.  
**Mill River**  
Unified Union School District

**PRESCHOOL AND PRE-K**

**REGISTRATION FOR**

**2024 - 2025 SCHOOL YEAR**

**What is it?**

A chance for you and your child to visit our pre-k program and begin registration.

**Who is this for?**

Any family that resides in the Mill River School District towns of Clarendon, Shrewsbury, Tinmouth, and Wallingford with a child 3 - 4 years of age.

Preschool child must turn three years old on or before August 31, 2024

Pre-K child must turn four years old on or before August 31, 2024

Enrollment is available on a limited basis

**When?**

(By appointment only)

Clarendon Elementary

May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Shrewsbury Mountain

May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Tinmouth Elementary

May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Wallingford Elementary

May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**Contact?**

Please call Sarah Bolster, Pre-K Coordinator at (802)786-3998 x218 for more information and to schedule an appointment.

<http://mruusd.org>

**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](mailto:shrewsburytimes@gmail.com)

Online: [www.shrewsburyvt.org](http://www.shrewsburyvt.org) and <http://www.shrewsburyhistoricalsociety.com>

## SHREWSBURY COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Apr 26	4-6pm	*Wine tasting at Pierce's Store
Apr 27	8:30-12:30pm	*Household Hazardous Waste event at Rutland Town Transfer Station
Apr 27	3-5pm	*"Make your Mark" on the most valued places in Shrewsbury at the Meeting House
Apr 28	4pm	* Science Book Club discussion group at the Library
Apr 29	6pm	*Laurel Glen Association meets at the mansion
May 4	8am-Noon	* <b>GREEN UP DAY</b> (8-10am Breakfast at Meeting House; 10am-12noon Transfer Station open)
May 5	3:30pm	*Writer's Group meets at the Shrewsbury Library
May 10	7pm	*Resilience of Vermont Forests talk by Tim Stout at the Library
May 17	7pm	*Share experiences about the Great American Eclipse with Scott Garren at the Library
May 19	12-2pm	*Introduction to Laurel Glen Mansion followed by Open House
May 19	3pm	Shrewsbury Historical Society meeting at the Museum
May 19	3pm	*Shrewsbury Singers Concert at the Meeting House
May 19	4pm	*Famous Book Club meets at the Library
May 23	1pm	*Ramp It Up Run sponsored by Spring Lake Ranch (Rain date May 24; see article)
May 23	6:30pm	*Pierce's Store Long-Range Planning Meeting at the Meeting House
May 25	9am – 1pm	*Sale on the Green at Pierce's Store
May 25	5-7pm	*Max and Beer Fest at Pierce's Store
May 25-26	10am-5pm	Vermont Crafts Council Open Studio Weekend

\*see elsewhere in newsletter for details

### TIMES OF SHREWSBURY

online at  
[www.shrewsburyhistoricalsociety.com](http://www.shrewsburyhistoricalsociety.com)  
 and  
[www.shrewsburyvt.org](http://www.shrewsburyvt.org)



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

### REGULAR MEETINGS and EVENTS

Selectboard Meeting	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays – 6:30pm at Town Office
Bone Builders	Tuesdays & Thursdays--May-Oct: 9-10am; Nov-Apr: 10-11am at Meeting House
Development Review Board	4 <sup>th</sup> Wed -7pm at Town Office; check town website for agenda
Library Trustees Meeting	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday – 7pm at Shrewsbury Library
Mill River Unified Union School Board Mtg	1 <sup>st</sup> Wed 7pm @ MRHS & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed. 7pm at MRHS unless otherwise warned
Planning Commission	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesdays 7pm at Town Office
Prayer Shawl Group	4 <sup>th</sup> 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	Next meeting on May 7, 5:15pm, at the Meeting House and by Google Meets.
Shrewsbury Historical Society Museum	Open 1-3pm Sundays only from July 7 to October 27, 2024
Shrewsbury Singers	Sundays 9-10:20am and Wed 6:30-8:00pm @ Meeting House
Shrewsbury Sno-Birds	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday – 7pm at Southside Steakhouse in Rutland
Shrewsbury Volunteer Fire Department	Thursdays – 7pm at the Cuttingsville Station

### Shrewsbury Town Website: [www.shrewsburyvt.org](http://www.shrewsburyvt.org)

Clerk's Office	492-3511	Mondays & Thursdays 8:30am-1pm; Wednesdays 1pm-6pm (Fax 802-492-3383)
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

1<sup>st</sup> 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 1/31/24]

## SHREWSBURY SELECTBOARD MINUTES

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

### March 20, 2024: Minutes of Selectboard Meeting

**Present at meeting:** Selectboard members: Aaron Korzun, Marc Cimonetti. Town Clerk: Rebecca Rice. Linda McGuire, Treasurer.

**Members of the Public:** Laura Black, Sally Deinzer  
The meeting was convened at 6:45 PM

**Agenda:** Motion made by A. Korzun to follow the agenda with the addition of five additional excess weight permits:

**Resolution for ARPA Allocation.** Recommendation that we allocate all funds by March 31, 2024. We discussed the proper distribution of the additional money. A. Korzun made a motion to approve the resolution to obligate and expend SLFRF funds in the amount of \$238,295.87 for purpose of municipal workforce retention. The itemizing of these funds are as follows: Digitizing town records: 12,579.20. Highway Department New Bed for Dump Truck: 32,000.00. Lease payment for 2025 Western Star Plow Truck: 66,554.59. Ford F-550 plow truck: 105,000.00. Salaries: 22,162.08. M Cimonetti seconded. Approved

**Appointments:** A. Korzun made a motion to appoint. George Brigham Jr. Cemetery Commissioner from March 20, 2024, to March 5, 2025. Eric Carrara Cemetery Commissioner from March 20, 2024 to March 5, 2025. B. Carrara was elected by write in vote to be Cemetery Commissioner for a three-year term March 20, 2024, to March 2, 2027. M. Cimonetti seconded. Approved.

**Liquor License:** A motion was made to by A. Korzun to approve a liquor license for the Rustic Rooster. M. Cimonetti seconded. Approved

**Excess weight permits:** Fees paid and insurance in order. A. Korzun made a motion to approve excess weight permits for Keyser Energy, Consolidated Communications, New England Quality Service, Champlain Valley Plumbing and Heating, Camp Precast Concrete, M. Cimonetti seconded. Approved.

**New Business:** Sally Deinzer attended the meeting to discuss Green Mountain Neighbors. Which is a volunteer led service to help residents with needs such a wellness calls, local transportation, grocery pickup, etc. This will be an important service for the residents of Shrewsbury and surrounding towns. More information can be viewed at [www.greenmountainneighbors.org](http://www.greenmountainneighbors.org)

**Review Minutes:** A. Korzun made a motion to accept the 3/06/2024 Selectboard meeting minutes. Seconded by M. Cimonetti. Approved.

**Review Orders:** A. Korzun made a motion to approve Selectboard Orders #3A for \$17,091.01 and Road Orders #3A for \$19,030.70. Seconded by M. Cimonetti. Approved. The selectboard approved Rebecca Rice to be added to the town credit card. The Select Board authorizes the transfer of FY24 equalization to town reappraisal account in the amount of 701.00.

**Adjourned** at 8:00pm

*Respectfully submitted, Marc Cimonetti*

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

### April 3, 2024: Selectboard Meeting canceled due to inclement weather

### April 17, 2024: Minutes of Selectboard Meeting

**Present at meeting:** Selectboard members: Aaron Korzun, Francis Wyatt, Marc Cimonetti. Town Clerk: Rebecca Rice. Road Commissioner: James Carrara. Listers: Clara Kruger, Scott Ryan. Contract Assessor: Lisa Wright. RRPC: Greg Poelker.

**Members of the public:** Sally Deinzer, Martha Sirjane.

The meeting was convened at 6:30 PM

**Agenda:** Motion made by A. Korzun to follow the agenda with the additions of the following: Lister certificate for a No-Appeal or Suit Pending for the grand list. Tobacco License for Pierce's Store. Excess weight permits. M. Cimonetti seconded. All in favor, motion approved.

**OCCUD (Otter Creek Communications District) Re-Appointments:** A. Korzun made a motion to re-appoint Laura Black to the OCCUD board. F Wyatt Seconded. All in favor, motion approved.

**RRPC (Rutland Regional Planning Commission)- Municipal Technical Assistance Program:** Greg Poelker from the RRPC explained the program and how the funding request format is changing. Greg will submit a request for a grant on Shrewsbury's behalf to help cover costs of a box culvert.

**Listers:** Discussion concerning reappraisal: Shrewsbury has not been reappraised in fourteen years. CLA 78.4% COD 19.83%. The state requires a reappraisal above a COD of 20%. We also discussed the reappraisal software upgrades. Lisa Wright recommended we seek bids for reappraising the town. A. Korzun made a motion to have the Listers seek bids for a town wide reappraisal. F. Wyatt Seconded. Approved

**MERP Assessment:** Municipal Energy Resilience Program Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) A. Korzun made a motion to accept the MOA. F. Wyatt Seconded. Approved

**Certificate of Compliance- Town Road and Bridge Standards and Network Inventory/Roads-Annual Financial Plan:**

A. Korzun made a motion to approve the certification of compliance with the town road and bridge standards and the annual road financial plan for town highways. F. Wyatt Seconded. Approved

**Green Mountain Neighbors- Letter of Support:** The Selectboard signed a letter of support for the Green Mountain Neighbors.

**Conservation Commission Request:** F. Wyatt made motion to support the request from Conservation Commission foGreen-Up Day prizes consisting of two \$10 dump punch cards and one \$20 dump punch card. A. Korzun Seconded. Approved

**Lister Certificate for a No-Appeal or Suit Pending for the Grand List:** A. Korzun made a motion to sign the Lister

## SHREWSBURY SELECTBOARD MINUTES

(continued)

Certificate for a No-Appeal or Suit Pending for the 2023 Grand List. F. Wyatt seconded, approved.

**Tobacco License for Pierce's Store.** A. Korzun made a motion to approve the tobacco permit for Pierce's Store: F. Wyatt seconded. Approved.

**Excess weight permits:** With Fees paid and insurance in order A. Korzun made a motion to approve seven excess weight permits: Feed Commodities International, AmeriGas, James Carrara Excavating LLC, Structural Wood Corporation, Cardinal Logistics, Casella Construction, PVF services LLC. F. Wyatt seconded. Approved.

**2024 LEMP:** A. Korzun made motion to adopt the NIMS (National Incident Management System) and approve the 2024 LEMP (Local Emergency Management Plan) for the Town of Shrewsbury. M. Cimonetti seconded. Approved.

### New Business/Open to the Public:

**Review Minutes:** A. Korzun made a motion to accept the 3/20/2024 Selectboard meeting minutes. Seconded by M. Cimonetti. Approved.

**Review Orders:** F. Wyatt made a motion to approve Selectboard Orders #4 and Road Orders #4 and Selectboard Orders #4A for \$5952.07 and Road Orders #4A for \$20274.38. Seconded by M. Cimonetti. Approved.

**Adjourned** at 8:30 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](http://www.shrewsburyvt.org)*

## NEWS FROM THE TOWN CLERK

I am thoroughly enjoying my new position and look forward to meeting those of you in town I have not yet met, and seeing friends from town again. I am moving my law practice from Rutland to my home in Shrewsbury in the beginning of May and am really looking forward to not making the commute to Rutland almost every day as I have for the last 38 years. I will be practicing out of my home but will be spending some time working from the Town Office in addition to the regular office hours. If you see a small silver car in the parking lot, even if it is not during office hours, I would be glad to assist you.

The index to the Shrewsbury Land Records is now up and online, and soon the documents themselves will be available online. We also have a large box of COVID tests at the office which are available for free to anyone who would like some.

I look forward to seeing you at the Town Office. If you need to call, the telephone number is 804-492-3511 and the email for the Town Office is [Shrewsburyclerk@vermontel.net](mailto:Shrewsburyclerk@vermontel.net).

*~Submitted by Rebecca Rice, Shrewsbury Town Clerk*



## WE KNOW YOU HAVE A GREAT STORY TO SHARE!!!

### SHREWSBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY INVITES YOU TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE SHREWSBURY MOUNTAIN SCHOOL 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION ANTHOLOGY!

SUBMIT AN ORIGINAL ESSAY, STORY, OR POEM, (MAX. 200 WORDS), PHOTO, DRAWING, SONG... ABOUT HAPPY MEMORIES, POSITIVE IMPRESSIONS, OR HOPES RELATED TO THE MOUNTAIN SCHOOL. A GRAPHIC DESIGN WILL BE CHOSEN AS THE COVER OF THE ANTHOLOGY, SO WE REALLY NEED SOME FANTASTIC ARTWORK!

#### CELEBRATE THE SCHOOL WE LOVE!

TOP 3 WORKS CREATED BY **CURRENT SMS** STUDENTS WILL BE READ AT A STORYTELLING EVENT IN THE FALL (DATE TBD) & PUBLISHED IN THE JULY TIMES. PRIZES AWARDED.

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS MAY 15!** SEND ALL WORK AS PDF FILES TO: [FREDDIE.MONDER@GMAIL.COM](mailto:FREDDIE.MONDER@GMAIL.COM)  
OR MAIL A HARD COPY TO: **GRACE BRIGHAM 262 SHUNPIKE RD IN CUTTINGSVILLE**

ANTHOLOGIES TO BE SOLD AS A FUNDRAISER FOR HISTORICAL SOCIETY ROOF REPAIR.

INFORMATION ON PURCHASE OF ANTHOLOGIES WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE SEPT TIMES.



WHAT  
SHREWSBURY PLACES  
DO YOU LOVE?

SAT. APRIL 27

3~5 PM

SHREWSBURY MEETING HOUSE  
★ MAKE YOUR MARK!  
Community Values Mapping

HOSTED BY SHREWSBURY PLANNING COM.

We want to know what is important  
to YOU as we prepare to update  
our TOWN PLAN. Come help mark  
our MAPS!

★ SNACKS ★

**Saturday April 27**

3-5 PM

Shrewsbury Community Meeting House

**MAKE YOUR MARK!!**

at the

**COMMUNITY VALUES MAPPING EVENT**

*What places in Shrewsbury do you love?*

*What do you value about these places?*

REMINDER! – Join us at the Community Meeting House to identify your most valued places in Shrewsbury. We will provide large paper maps, and color markers. We need you to make your marks on the Shrewsbury map!

The results from the information gathered will be compiled digitally. The resulting maps will present a visual picture of what areas in Town are valued and why. When we overlap the digital images, the maps can show us where our most important places coincide and are complimentary and where they coincide and are conflicting. The information gathered will allow the priorities of the community to inform our future Town Plan.

This event is hosted by the Shrewsbury Planning Commission. For more information, email - [shrewsburyvtpc@gmail.com](mailto:shrewsburyvtpc@gmail.com), or contact a Planning Commissioner.



## SHREWSBURY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

It was a wild end to March! A couple of significant snow falls, wind, and then finally sunshine. The snow banks are almost gone and spring cleaning has begun. The ground is still wet, but those conditions will change rapidly. If you intend to burn brush you must call for a burn permit.



### 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.

The SVFD responded to four calls. Two calls for mutual aid to Mt. Holly, a structure fire and an assist for a lost hiker. We responded to a carbon monoxide alarm on Upper Cold River Road and a motor vehicle accident on Upper Cold River Road. We were able to identify the source of the carbon monoxide and clear the problem. This event proved the value of CO and smoke detectors and the homeowner responded appropriately by calling 911 immediately.

Spring is a good time to change your battery in these devices and check the age of your detectors. The detector will have a manufacturer's date on the back and should be replaced every 10 years. If there is no date on your detector, you should replace it.

The winter months created some obstacles for SVFD. Several of the calls came during challenging weather events. Access to your property and the ability to identify your location are extremely important. Although the snow is hopefully behind us for a while, this is a reminder to review the accessibility of your property. Is the driveway wide enough for emergency vehicles to gain access? Can the vehicles turn around? Consider purchasing the appropriate 911 address sign identifying your property and placing the signs in a visible spot. Many properties do have numbers on the mailbox though some are incomplete, blocked, too small or unreadable. You can save valuable time by having your number in a visible location. More information will follow next month on how to obtain the 911 address signs.

Mark Goodwin shared the following: The Southern Vermont Regional Fire School recently held its annual training sessions on April 13 & 14 at Mill River High School. Three SVFD members attended; Lee Martin, Mark Goodwin and Keith Patterson. In addition, SVFD supported the regional training weekend by supplying apparatus and man power over the course of the weekend; Hal Niblack, Jeff Dayton and Phil Severy represented SVFD during each of the two days. A range of courses are offered at the Fire School that include standard

review and updating of basic firefighting and emergency response operations techniques, highway safety, pumper and fire scene decision making operations as well as leadership skills in addressing crisis situations with minimum manpower, and personnel dynamics. Instructors are gathered from various departments throughout the state of Vermont and Canada. During opening remarks, it was estimated that there was an estimated 500 years of experience amongst all the instructors. Departments from Springfield, Shaftsbury and Weston to Fair Haven and Brandon took part in the weekend training as well.

Enjoy the spring weather and remember  
**STAY FIRE SAFE!!**

*~Submitted by Jack Perry*

## SHREWSBURY SINGERS

*present*

### *Singing on a Sunday Afternoon*

*Sharing songs we love to sing,  
old & new, from near & far*

~~~~~

May 19, 2024 @ 3:00pm  
*Shrewsbury Meeting House*

*~ Free Will Offering ~*

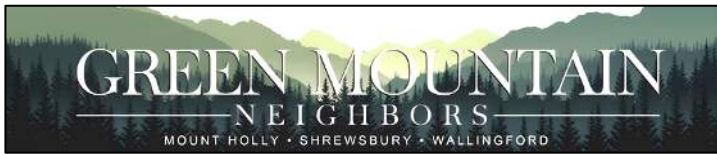
*Collecting FOOD ITEMS for the Shrewsbury Food Shelf*

~~~~~

Information: Licia Gambino  
(802) 492-3792 [hamgam@vermontel.net](mailto:hamgam@vermontel.net)

### Maple Syrup Tally

In last month's Fire Department article, we noted that the sap was flowing and posed the question: **How many gallons of maple syrup will our members make this season?** The answer seems to be a whopping **48,650 gallons** -- the combined estimated total of firefighter sugar makers Stewart Maple (40,000), Severy Family Maple (6,650) and Ridlon Farm (2,000). We were also able to gather these figures from other Shrewsbury producers: PVF Maple (10,000), Smith Maple Crest Farm (4,500), Spring Lake Ranch (510), Terry Martin and Friends (15). Our little town of Shrewsbury therefore produced at least **63,675 gallons** of the sweet stuff this past season. Impressive! *~Submitted by Barry Griffith*



**Help us now, so we can help you later!**

We provide our members (primarily aged 60+) with a range of non-medical, volunteer-delivered supports that will help them stay in their homes and communities as their needs change.

We've grown so much since our start in 2023 and we hope to continue expanding our base of members, volunteers, and services. Now is the time to get involved with our volunteer-led organization. **Join today to ensure the quality of your tomorrows!**

We provide:

- Wellness Calls
- Local Transportation for appointments and errands
- Grocery pickup
- Community social and educational events

**We've held more than ten social and educational events since the Fall of 2023** that include talks about "Safety in the Home," "E Safety: Staying Safe in the Modern World," along with regularly scheduled Gaming Afternoons and Bingo Afternoons across our three towns.



*Recent Bingo game in the Mount Holly Community Center*

Green Mountain Neighbors' upcoming events!

Schedule of board and bingo games, all from 1 to 3 pm:

**Board Games**

- May 13 – Mount Holly Community Center
- June 24 – Shrewsbury Library
- July 22 – Wallingford Library

**Bingo**

- May 9 – Shrewsbury Library
- June 13 – Wallingford Library
- July 11 – Mount Holly Community Center

It would be a good idea to check our website at <https://greenmountainneighbors.org> for any last-minute changes. We will also post changes on the various town message boards. You can also call one of us listed below.

Linda Fontana at [shrewsbury@greenmountainneighbors.org](mailto:shrewsbury@greenmountainneighbors.org)  
Sally Deinzer at [sally@greenmountainneighbors.org](mailto:sally@greenmountainneighbors.org)

**We're open and ready to serve you! Contact Us Today!**

*~Submitted by Sally Deinzer*

**Household Hazard Waste Events**

Residents of Shrewsbury can dispose (without charge) household hazardous waste items at the following collection events. Any SWAC resident (*Benson, Chittenden, Fair Haven, Pawlet, Rutland Town, Tinmouth, Middletown Springs, Shrewsbury, Sudbury, and West Haven*) can take their HHW to any of the collection events listed.

Used waste oil will be accepted at the Rutland and Fair Haven designated collection areas during the events. Several local businesses also accept it for free. Please give your waste oil to transfer station attendant. [www.rutlandcountyswac.org](http://www.rutlandcountyswac.org).

- Saturday, April 27, 2024: 8:30am -12:30pm at Rutland Town Transfer Station off Post Road, Rutland, VT
- Saturday, October 5, 2024: 8:30am -12:30pm on Fair Haven Avenue off West Street, Fair Haven, VT

SWAC residents may also purchase a non-district permit to utilize the Rutland County Solid Waste (RCSWD) Gleason Road facility and drop off household hazardous waste and trash at current rates, and access to recycling drop-offs. For more information, visit: [www.rcswd.com](http://www.rcswd.com). The SWAC newsletter is: <https://rutlandcountyswac.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/2024-SWAC-Newsletter-3.pdf>

**Notice of Democratic Caucus**

The Shrewsbury Democratic Town Committee will be hosting a caucus at 5:45pm on Thursday, April 25 at the Community Meeting House in Shrewsbury Center

**Purpose: to Elect a Town Delegate to the Vermont Democratic Convention**

The State Convention will be held in Burlington, VT on Saturday, May 18 to select 11 District Delegates to the 2024 Democratic National Convention which will take place in Chicago on August 19-22.

Please join us if you took a Democratic ballot in the March 5 Primary and would like to participate in this next step in preparation for the November 5 Presidential Election.

For more information about this caucus, call Jonathan Gibson at 492-3665

Paid Advertisement



**MAY 27, 2024**





# Spring Lake Ranch

therapeutic community

## Ramping It Up in May

Each May, Spring Lake Ranch hosts an annual run to celebrate the onset of spring. Although timing isn't always perfect, we try to coincide with the emergence of wild ramps—just one of the heralds of the green awakening from a long winter.

The run, called "Ramp it Up!", is not only an opportunity to enjoy a beautiful day but, more importantly, it's a way to give back to our local community! SLR residents vote each year on a charity to support. This year they, once again, chose the Farmacy Project, a farm-share program through Vermont Farmers Food Center that serves Rutland County.



The Farmacy Project sits at the intersection of agriculture, public health, and economic development. Members benefit from 10-12lbs of local, nutrient-dense and -

diverse, fresh produce, for fifteen weeks during the growing season and monthly for the rest of the year. Farm shares are supplemented with nutrition and cooking education, community dinners, workshops, and cultural events. The Farmacy Project partners with economically challenged new and emerging local farms, primary health care providers, and educators to ensure those who need it have access to good food. Spring Lake Ranchers often volunteer for the project and are excited to be supporting the Farmacy Project through Ramp It Up!

We invite the town of Shrewsbury to join us on May 23 at 1:00 pm (Rain Date: May 24). You are welcome to walk or run at your own pace following a 5k course created by Ranchers that ends at pristine Spring Lake. Runners are encouraged to make a donation of any amount to support the residents' elected charity, the Farmacy Project. Ranchers also designed a special t-shirt, the proceeds from which will go toward the Farmacy Project as well. T-shirts can be ordered ahead of time at [springlakeranch.org/rampitup](http://springlakeranch.org/rampitup), or you can place an order at the registration table on run day.

For those of you who have visited the Ranch in the past, you might notice something else...well...ramping up! We are beginning a major renovation of the Main House, which holds our kitchens, dining room, communal spaces, offices, and even a few residences. Thanks to a generous donor, we are finally able to make some necessary upgrades to continue serving our growing community. If you see construction trucks turning onto Spring Lake Road, know that they are a part of Spring Lake Ranch's mission to provide a safe, beautiful environment within which our residents can heal and grow.

For questions about Ramp It Up!, call Rose McCracken at 802-772-8342. ~Article by Anna Sutton and Rose McCracken

## NATURE'S TURN, LLC Gerry Martin

Artistic & Functional Wooden Bowls



### Vermont Crafts Council Open Studio Weekend

Saturday & Sunday

**MAY 25 & 26, 2024**

**10am – 5pm**

998 Lincoln Hill Road,  
Shrewsbury, VT 05738  
(802) 492-2244

Find us at: The Olde Barnayrd  
5444 VT Route 103, Cuttingsville VT 05738



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# 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

As always, we 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](http://www.shrewsburylibrary.org).

If you borrowed a pair of eclipse-watching glasses, please return them to the Library so that we can send them to the appropriate place for re-cycling.

We regret to announce that SARAH TITTERTON has resigned from the Library Board of Trustees. During her tenure on the Board, SARAH worked hard to establish the ROKU streaming option for our Library patrons. THANK YOU, SARAH; we hope to see you and your family often at the library!

THANK YOU to the LIBRARY WRITERS' GROUP and FRIENDS, who celebrated National Poetry Month with a well-attended poetry reading in the Meeting Room on April 14. With THOMAS HARTIGAN doubling as M.C., the LWG poets reading from their own work included: BEN ALESHIRE, JOAN ALESHIRE, ELANA LEVIN, and PENELOPE WEISS.

The LIBRARY'S ANNUAL MEETING for the election of officers, and of trustees whose terms are expiring will be held on Tuesday, May 14 @ 7pm.

With Sarah's resignation, we have an opening on our 13-member Board of Trustees. If you love books and reading, enjoy working with others in a small non-profit organization; can staff during Library hours at least twice a month; can serve on a committee; and help at fund-raisers, contact a member of our Nominating Committee:

Gail Hartigan ([scgthartigan@vermontel.net](mailto:scgthartigan@vermontel.net));

Trish Norton ([knsh@vermontel.net](mailto:knsh@vermontel.net));

Ed Sawyer ([esawyer151@gmail.com](mailto:esawyer151@gmail.com)).

## Coming Events:

Friday, May 10 @ 7 pm: TIM STOUT presents a program on The Resilience of Vermont Forests, based on intensive, innovative research and his observations on his own property. THANK YOU, TIM for sharing this crucial information. Please see Tim's ad in this edition of *The Times*.

Friday, May 17 @ 7pm: SCOTT GARREN presents an OVERVIEW of THE TOTAL ECLIPSE: a follow-up to his program last December, sharing photos and impressions of this extraordinary event. Please see SCOTT'S ad in this *Times*.

**SAVE THE DATE: SUNDAY, JUNE 23 @ 2pm: TECH OPEN HOUSE**

## Continuing Programs:

Sunday, April 28 @ 4pm: SCIENCE BOOK CLUB: TBA

Sunday, May 5 @ 3:30pm: WRITERS' GROUP: **Please note date change from May 12 (Mother's Day)!** Poets, short-story writers, memoirists, if you're writing pieces you'd like to share, please contact Penelope Weiss ([pw9@earthlink.com](mailto:pw9@earthlink.com)) or Joan Aleshire ([joanaleshire@vermontel.net](mailto:joanaleshire@vermontel.net)).

Sunday, May 19 @ 4pm FAMOUS BOOKS BOOK CLUB: We will discuss the VT READS selection, *Last Night at the Telegraph Club* by Malinda Lo. Books are available at the library, thanks to CARRIE CLANCY, who wrote the grant to the VT Humanities Council!

STORY HOUR: PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS, DIDS, and CAREGIVERS: please let us know if and when you would like us to offer this service, and especially, if you would like to be a reader! Please contact Pam Grace [pamgrace@vermontel.net](mailto:pamgrace@vermontel.net) or Joan Aleshire [joanaleshire@vermontel.net](mailto:joanaleshire@vermontel.net).

## New books include:

- \* *The Wide Wide Sea: Imperial Ambition, First Contact and the Fateful Final Voyage of Captain James Cook* by Hampton Sides.
- \* *Table for Two* by Amor Towles: A new book of stories by the popular author of *A Gentleman in Moscow*.
- \* *The Survivors of the Clotilda: The Lost Stories of the Last Captives of the American Slave Trade* by Hannah Durkin.
- \* *The Hunter* by Tana French: The latest mystery novel by the popular Irish writer.
- \* *Reading the Constitution: Why I Chose Pragmatism, Not Textualism* by former Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer.



## Recycle Eclipse Glasses

The Shrewsbury Library is collecting your used and extra eclipse glasses for recycling! There is a drop off box in the front hall of the library. They will be sent to Astronomers Without Borders, an organization that inspects them and sends them on for use in other countries

## NEEDED

Someone to help organize and put home in order.

Vaughan Griffin  
Upper Cold River Rd.  
802-773-7513



### BOOK REVIEWS

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

**The Best American  
Science & Nature Writing: 2023**  
*Editor, Carl Zimmer*

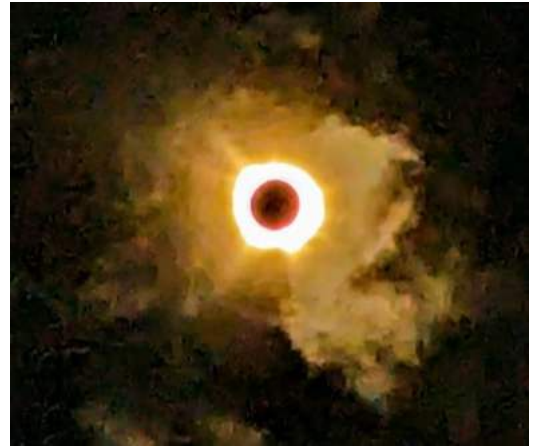
★★★★★

The Shrewsbury science book group always looks forward to this compilation of the best of the best, and this time was no exception. Included in this volume was a varied collection, many of them centered on the lousy job we are doing as stewards of our planet. My favorite, True Grit, was the best of the lot. It is the story of the feral cows on Cedar Island, North Carolina, and their amazing battle during Hurricane Dorian, on September 6, 2019. This four-mile-long island is about 40 miles from the more famous Cape Hatteras area, 76 miles from Ocracoke. There are 350 year-round residents on Cedar Island, which is described as having a shifting, amphibious nature. It also home to the famous wild horses that tourists scramble to see. The wild horses all have names. Each foal born to the local herd of mustangs is named after the oldest living resident who hasn't already had a horse named for them. The feral cows on the island do not have names. They do their own thing on the island, cared for by no one and preferring it that way. They graze and survive where other animals cannot. Of course, when a hurricane threatens the island, humans make no move to protect these wild creatures. They had survived many hurricanes before, moving to higher ground on the dunes. The ferocity of this hurricane is detailed fully. It is frightening beyond belief. The writing is as vivid and scary as what was written about Krakatoa before the wave of water devastated that island.

No one will ever know what the horses or cows on Cedar Island endured as they were swept out to sea. Seventy-five horses drowned, and so did some calves, but a small herd of cows survived. Alfredo Aretxabaleta, an oceanographer, who studied this event, said the cows were swimming in the open Atlantic from 28.5 to nearly 40 miles. That's greater than the distance across the English Channel and more than ten times what human swimmers complete in an Ironman triathlon. The shortest period a cow would have been in the water is 7.5 hours; the longest is 25 hours. "We see cows as stupid, physically awkward, mildly comical brutes, not heroic fighters." (page 116) The people on Cedar Island don't look at cows in the same way now. I urge you to read this compelling story in its entirety. This brief review does it no justice. FIVE STARS!

~Reviewed by Marilyn Dalick

## SHARE YOUR GREAT AMERICAN ECLIPSE EXPERIENCE!



Let's get together and share our experiences of the Great American Eclipse

**at the Shrewsbury Library  
Friday, May 17 at 7pm.**

What did you see? What did science discover? Here is one of my photos. Send some of yours to [eclipse@2scott.com](mailto:eclipse@2scott.com) and I'll set them, up to show on the projector. ~Scott Garren

## DASILVA'S KARATE

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10:00am Karate  
10:20am Jiu Jitsu  
10:40am Q&A with our instructors  
11:00am Karate  
11:20am Jiu Jitsu  
11:40am Q&A with our instructors



WHEN:  
Saturday, May 4, 2024  
10:00am-12:00pm  
WHERE:  
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Rutland, VT 05701  
Third floor of the Dana Center!

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**Free  
Covid tests  
available at the  
Shrewsbury  
Library**

# Shrewsbury Historical Society

www.shrewsburyhistoricalsociety.com

## Look up at the sky --- Near the total Eclipse

Thanks to the Library for giving out the eclipse eyewear. And weren't we lucky to be so close to the path of totality and to see it happen! I played it safe by watching it all happen on TV.

I can remember my Dad telling me all about his watching Haley's Comet pass by in 1910, and the happiness I felt while watching Haley's Comet pass by here in Vermont at the top of our road in 1986. Another historical story was my dad attending the taking off of the Spirit of St. Louis airplane, piloted by Charles Lindbergh, from Roosevelt Field on Long Island in May of 1927. My uncle was there helping hold back the crowd as he was a motorcycle cop.

Many of my family were workers of Grumman Aircraft Engineering Corp. on Long Island during and after World War II and am proud to tell my story of my older brother, Larry Kosby, who was part of a very important group working on the LEM (the moon landing vehicle) in Bethpage, L.I. All the members of this group signed a special tribute which now is resting on the moon's surface, left by Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin, while Michael Collins piloted the Command module on July 21, 1963. Our Society's president, Brian Winkler, met with and had a conversation with Buzz Aldrin while visiting the Cradle of Aviation Museum in Garden City, N.Y.

I graduated high school in 1945 and two weeks later was employed by Grumman as a typist in the Aerodynamics dept. in Plant 5. The test pilot division was on the same floor and one day we typists were invited to take a ride in the Grumman Goose, a seaplane, during our lunch break. What fun to land and take off from water in the inlet near the Atlantic Ocean off southern Long Island. It was fun and scary at the same time. Down to earth

The Historical Society will be holding its first meeting for this year in May. Date to be announced on page 3 of this issue. Welcome to all Shrewsbury folks, especially our new neighbors. Come to see what the Society is all about, and how we preserve artifacts from Shrewsbury's past.

**Museum Hours:** The museum will open Sunday, July 7 from 1 to 3pm, and continuing on Sundays until October 27, 2024.

**Membership Dues:** Dues are annual (with the exception of Life members) from January to December. Only dues paid members have voting rights.

\$10 Single      \$15 Family      \$30 Contributing  
\$125 Life Member (Single or a Couple)

Dues can be mailed to Julianne Sharrow, Treasurer, 1368 Lincoln Hill Road, Shrewsbury, VT 05738 or at taken to the Society's meetings.

**Welcoming your help:** The Society is an all-volunteer organization, and we welcome your help which might include helping to clean the museum, volunteering as a Sunday host, or joining a committee. The Acquisition Committee requests that only papers for filing and photos (we can make a copy and return original) at this time due to lack of storage space for larger items. Here's to a new season with new exhibits to come Hope to have your help. ~ Submitted by Ruth Winkler

## LAUREL GLEN ASSOCIATION (LGA) REPORT



**Saturday, May 18:** We are excited to partner with Cindy Cameron, Town Historian from Stony Creek, NY, Mr. Bowman's other home. On Sat, May 18, Stony Creek will offer an "Other Side of the Creek" event, free to the public, 11am-3pm. There will be tours of the sites of the tannery and other significant places. The John P. Bowman hand pumper (firefighting equipment) will make an appearance!

**Sunday, May 19:** Cindy and members of the Warren County Historical Society visit Laurel Glen on Sunday, May 19 from 12noon to 2pm. Members of the Board of Trustees will give an introduction to the Mansion and Mr. Bowman's time in Cuttingsville. This is followed by an open house and tour of the cemetery. This event is free and open to the public.

Contact Freddie Monder to carpool on May 18 to Stony Creek. (freddie.monder@gmail.com)


**Monday, April 29:** A clean-up crew will meet at the Mansion on May 11 to do some serious spring cleaning! And a meeting of the LGA is scheduled for Monday, April 29 at 6pm at the Mansion. If you'd like to join in the fun, contact Freddie.

Speaking of Open Houses: a group of nine folks met on April 14 to discuss activities and events at Laurel Glen this coming spring and summer. More details as these events take shape.

Finally, a "Friends of Laurel Glen" group is taking shape! Want to get involved? Let us know!

DID YOU KNOW?? Originally from Clarendon, John Bowman first wanted to build the magnificent mausoleum in the cemetery near the modern-day airport. His plans were rejected by the town, so he decided to build in Cuttingsville where one of his tanneries had been.

~Submitted by Pam Monder



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**Welcome New Shrewsberries**

Over the years our family has had many adventures, including living and traveling cross country in a school bus we converted into an RV. We chose Shrewsbury as our home because of the community here. In our short time here, we feel so welcomed by neighbors, the church, and all the families and children we've met through the activities our kids have been a part of.

We moved to Shrewsbury this past November from California where we ran a karate school before Covid. It's finally the right time and place and we are excited to have this opportunity to re-open DaSilva's Karate, a full-service martial arts school In Rutland. Will is the instructor and with the involvement of our children, It's a real family focus.

In the past three years, our children have all won championship titles. Liam and Crosby each won the New England IPPONE Championship in Sparring for their age group. And, this past year Grace was the New England IPPONE Double Crown Champion in Sparring and Kata. This year they are currently working to defend those titles.

We've always homeschooled, but next year our children are excited to attend Shrewsbury Mountain School and Mill River. As homeschoolers, we've learned the value of building your community and we have a tendency to dive right in! Will is an experienced emergency department nurse, and he is working at Rutland Regional Medical Center. Alyssa homeschools the kids, runs the karate school, and works in property management.

In addition to martial arts, our kids thrive in sports and other activities - and they have enjoyed being a part of the basketball teams and cheer teams through Mill River, and our oldest is counting the days until football starts!

As a family, we love to ski, hike, and spend time outdoors - all of which drew us to Vermont, and especially to Shrewsbury, which we feel lucky to call home! ~Article by Alyssa DaSilva



**MOTHER'S DAY**  
**May 12, 2024**



**Shrewsbury Mountain School PTO  
 Basket raffle and silent auction**

**Sunday, May 11**

Doors open at 1pm  
 Drawing starts at 3pm

Must be present to win

Shrewsbury Meeting House  
 88 Lottery Rd, Shrewsbury VT  
 Light concessions will be available

***All proceeds from this event will be used toward  
 playground renovations at the school. We hope you'll  
 come and win some great prizes!***

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**[riverwoodlawncare@gmail.com](mailto:riverwoodlawncare@gmail.com)**

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## The Remarkable Resilience of Our Vermont Forests in a Rapidly Changing Climate

Talk at the Shrewsbury Library  
Friday, May 10, at 7pm

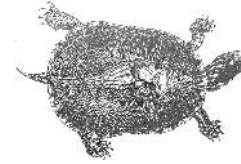
sponsored by the Shrewsbury Library  
and the Shrewsbury Conservation Commission.

Please join us for a talk by Tim Stout from Jockey Hill Farm about the resilience of our forests across Vermont and their ability to recover and adapt to an ever-changing environment. Consider that in the late 1700s, forests covered about 85% of Vermont. By the late 1800s, this percentage dropped to 40% as these forests were cleared for agriculture and pasture. These forests have rebounded spectacularly to the point where today, over 78% of the state is again covered by forest. This recovery provides a wide range of benefits including amazing wildlife habitat, clean water, clean air, abundant wood products, enhanced forest carbon sequestration and storage, improved watershed management and of course personal enjoyment.

Regardless of where you are in Shrewsbury, you're almost always surrounded by glorious forest as far as you can see, providing proof of the resilience of trees. But here's the wrinkle. These forests now face the growing threat of climate change, the impacts of which are abundant from invasive plants, insects and diseases, flooding and erosion to strong winds, less snowfall and ever warming temperatures. These threats can seem humbling. Yet, there are numerous reasons to have abundant hope for our beloved forests. First, consider their natural, proven ability to adapt to new threats. Second, we have decades of experience successfully managing our forests at the private, State, and Federal level. Third, we are blessed with a highly experienced forestry community in Vermont and across New England that is working together to identify how best to adapt to and mitigate the impacts of climate change. And finally, massive increases in financial investments in forest research in the last few years under the Inflation Reduction Act and other legislation have given a huge boost to forest preservation and active management.

To bring this all home, Tim will also talk briefly about his experience applying a broad range of forest management practices at his family farm, Jockey Hill Farm, under the guidance of other Shrewsbury residents, the University of Vermont, Vermont Land Trust, The Nature Conservancy, and the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources among other organizations. Throughout the summer, in coordination with Vermont Coverts, Vermont Woodlands Association and the Shrewsbury Conservation Commission, Tim will be hosting several field trips and other events with experts from across the State on the topics related to the above.

~Submitted by Michelle Greene



### It's the Shrewsbury Outing Club's 69th year!

The Shrewsbury Outing Club (SOC) is a volunteer nonprofit organization open to residents and landowners of Shrewsbury who choose to become members. We lease a small piece of Spring Lake waterfront for members' use. We also have occasional outings, have historically provided swimming lessons, work with lake shore owners on monitoring loons and water quality, and help maintain trails in the wilds of Northam.

An SOC Family Membership is available to any Shrewsbury resident, or landowner, who has submitted the 2024 membership form, waiver, paid the annual fee and has been added to the membership list. A Shrewsbury family is defined as a family or individual residing, or owning property, at one address in Shrewsbury. Family members living at another address are considered guests and must be accompanied by an SOC member to use the SOC waterfront area.

If you wish to join as a new member for the upcoming season, contact us at [ShrewsburyOutingClub@gmail.com](mailto:ShrewsburyOutingClub@gmail.com) for the forms. Last years' members will be emailed forms around April 30. Be sure to add the SOC email address to your address book so that it will not go to spam. The completed 2024 Membership form, waiver, and membership dues of \$55 payable to the Shrewsbury Outing Club, should be mailed to:

Shrewsbury Outing Club  
c/o Chris Clarke, Treasurer  
4431 VT Route 103  
Shrewsbury, VT 05738.

2024 Membership Forms and Waivers will also be available at the Shrewsbury Town Office. A membership lasts from June 1 to May 31 of the following year. Your name will be added to the membership list posted at the lake and given to the security guard. After June 1, membership lists will be updated at the end of each week. You may be asked to leave if your name is not on the list. At this point we have not found a swimming teacher for this summer. If you are aware of anyone who might be interested, please let us know. ~Turiya Levy, Shrewsbury Outing Club

Mount Holly, VT

**Joshua Bickford**  
802.855.3216  
[joshfbickford@gmail.com](mailto:joshfbickford@gmail.com)



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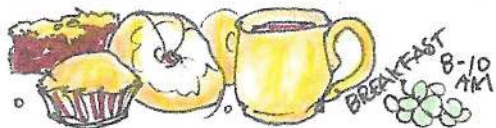
# GREEN UP DAY 2024

① 8-10 AM MEETING HOUSE BREAKFAST

- A. CHOOSE YOUR ROAD
- B. TAKE BAGS
- C. GET A RAFFLE TICKET

② **GREEN UP!** PLEASE PUT RECYCABLES IN ONE BAG, TRASH IN ANOTHER  
PLEASE WEAR GLOVES

③ 10 AM - NOON BRING COLLECTIONS TO: TRANSFER STATION



BREAKFAST 8-10 AM



SHREWSBURY CONSERVATION COMMISSION

WE HAVE DONE THIS FOR YEARS, AND WE DO IT WELL TOO.

IN THE SPRINGTIME WE GATHER THE STUFF SOMEONE THREW BY OUR ROADSIDES AND RIVERS AND "CONVENIENT" PLACES.

CAUSES Pepéle Shrew TO MAKE TERRIBLE FACES!

COME, HELP US **MAY 4<sup>th</sup>** PLEASE, AND ALL THE YEAR THRU **OUR TOWN** CAN BE TRASH FREE MORE BEAUTIFUL, TOO.





~Photo by Brian Winkler

### The Burning Bush!

Exciting name! Indeed, this shrub flames pinkish red in the fall, joining the foliage-season festival of leaves. It is a plant native to northeastern Asia and China but not to New England. Widely planted here as an ornamental in years past, it is now widely recognized as highly invasive and undesirable for that reason. All New England states list it as invasive, while Maine, Mass. and NH actually prohibit the sale of the plant. We have added it to the growing list of plants we are actively removing from Shrewsbury's landscape, as we see them and as time allows.

Small stems can be pulled out of the ground with modest effort. Larger shrubs can be cut back a number of times until the plant is weakened to where it can also be pulled. There are some delightful tools on the market that leverage one's effort amazingly. They sport such names as Extractigator, Uprooter, Pullerbear, to name a few.



Any landowner wishing to self-manage woody invasives will do well to have one of these tools, as they are also great for removing honeysuckle, buckthorn and barberry, even blackberry!

By the time you read this, Garlic Mustard will be pushing its green rosettes up to greet the Spring sun, pushing native wildflowers

out, and pushing one butterfly towards extinction. The West Virginia White is a lovely butterfly of moist woodlands. Its larvae feed on Toothwort, a common spring flower with pretty pink or white blooms. Garlic Mustard is replacing Toothwort in many areas of forest understory. Because both plants are members of the mustard family, the butterfly will lay eggs on the Garlic Mustard. When they hatch, the caterpillars will be poisoned by toxins in the leaves and stems. These toxins also inhibit the germination and growth of other plants and change the microbiota of the soil (to favor Garlic Mustard!).

So get that stuff! Push back! Use a tool to loosen the soil, then pull the whole root out. Let pulled plants dry in the sun. Any with developing seeds should be bagged and disposed of. Those seeds are little time bombs! ~Submitted by Pamela Darrow



### Big Bird!

Twice a day (at 5am and 5pm) a flock of turkeys visit Taffy Maynard's yard. She says they just wander around in a circle" and this one is "becoming a friend!"

~Photo by Taffy Maynard

# MOUNT HOLLY ENERGY FAIR

Saturday, June 15 - 1:00 Until 5:00 pm  
Mount Holly Community Center

26 Maple Street • Belmont, VT

Learn about the opportunities, equipment and services available for savings on home energy use and costs, along with available rebates on energy efficient home appliances, weatherization, and technologies.

- Free Admission
- Raffle for gift cards from Aubuchon Hardware and energy saving kit
- Free dinner tickets at the Mount Holly Volunteer Fire Department's community dinner at the Odd Fellows Hall. (5 pm)
- Free LED bulbs from Efficiency Vermont



- Exhibitors:**
- Efficiency Vermont
  - Green Mountain Power
  - Drive Electric
  - NeighborWorks – Heat Squad
  - Same Sun Solar
  - Net Zero Renewable Resources
  - Bensons Chevrolet
  - Master Plumbing & Heating,
  - Rutland County Solid Waste District
  - Renewable Energy Vermont and more...

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

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## The Shrewsbury Community Church



Compiled by Sue Ransom-Kelley

Special Thanks to Pastor John Hill for leading several worship services for us this winter and spring! We wish Pastor Hill well as he answers his call at the Congregational Union Church of South Wallingford. His fellowship, support, kindness, and guidance has been a wonderful addition to our Shrewsbury Community!

**Sunday Fun Day:** The kids recently hunted for eggs in the sanctuary, read the benediction, and baked delicious cinnamon and sugar toasts for refreshments for our Easter Service. We are a group for young people aged 2 years and up. We meet at the Shrewsbury Community Church Sundays at 10:30. We do activities, work with the Heifer Project, learn about our community and how to be good people. We plan and learn inside and out! Parents and community members work with us. Projects are nature based and many are made with recycled items. All are welcome and we would love your attendance! We are getting ready to put together disaster kits for Church World Service distribution and will be making special gifts for Mother's Day!

PLEASE COME AND JOIN US ANY SUNDAY! Call with questions: Cortney 802-683-7852, Anissa 802-779-2248, or Lynette 802-683-0631.



### 2024 Pancake Breakfast

Thanks to everyone who came out to support our pancake breakfast! With your support we were able to raise funds to support our Community Sharing Project which provides gift cards for children in the community during the holiday season. Gift cards are used for basic necessities such as warm winter clothing and boots. It also provides grocery cards for families for holiday meals. Special thanks to Mary and Jeff Smith from Maple Crest Farm for providing Delicious Maple Syrup and pancake mix! We had a wonderful crew this year!

(Standing L - R) Steven Nicholson, Julanne Sharrow, Sue Ransom-Kelley, Anissa Park, Tiffany Dayton, Abbie Dayton, Alyssa DaSilva, Roxanne Ramah, (Seated) Cortney Allard and Crystal Kelley. Missing from Photo are loyal crew members Earl Sharrow, Phillippe Ducrot, and Shrewsbury Pastor Karen Braeutigam.

### 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.

We have our additional Summer Food Shelf on the side porch at Pierces Store in North Shrewsbury. Those in need are welcome to help themselves.

**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.

### Shrewsbury Community Church Calendar

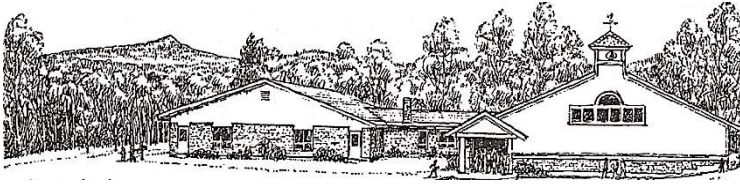
Sunday, May 5 at 10:30am--Worship Service and Holy Communion lead by Pastor Karen Braeutigam. Fun Day Program for kids.

Sunday, May 12 at 10:30am---Worship Service lead by Pastor Karen Braeutigam. Fun Day Program for kids. Happy Mother's Day!

Sunday, May 19 at 10:30am--Worship Service lead by Pastor Karen Braeutigam. Fun Day Program for kids.

Sunday, May 26 at 10:30am--Worship Service lead by Pastor Karen Braeutigam. Fun Day Program for kids.

Tuesday, May 28 at 12noon--Prayer Shawl Group. Upstairs at the Meeting House. All are welcome! Desert, coffee, and tea will be served. Bring a bag lunch if you would like to. Don't know how to knit or crochet? Come and we will teach you! Call Roxanne for information 802-492-3675 or 802-770-3938



## SHREWSBURY MOUNTAIN SCHOOL

### Important Dates:

4/26: SMS Family Dance 6pm with DJ Brett

5/1: Community Resource Fair at Mill River Union High School

### Updates and information:

- April 26, 6-8pm: SMS Spring Fling FAMILY Dance with DJ Brett! All students must be accompanied by a supervising adult. Please bring your own water bottle, wear comfy shoes and get ready to dance the night away!
- Save the Date! PTO Basket Raffle at the Shrewsbury Town Hall 5/11! Please reach out to the PTO if you could volunteer or donate a basket!
- SMS Field Day on May 31 (Rain Date June 7)
- SMS 6th Grade Graduation, Step Up Night and Music Concert is Thursday, June 6 at 6:30pm.

### Updates and information:

1. The Shrewsbury Historical Society generously gave an all-school assembly presentation on the history of the mountain school as well as presented an amazing painting by Grace Brigham of a moose on Johnson Pond to the students. Students were able to ask questions and touch a HUGE antler. We are so grateful for this amazing learning experience and very special gift for our school's 50th birthday. Thank you to the entire society and especially the following members who were with us for the presentation: Grace Brigham, Betsy and Jack Jesser, Earl and Julianne Sharrow, Taffy Maynard, Leisbeth Van der Heijden, John Elwert and President, Brian Winkler.

2. There are many plans for improving our outdoor classrooms and campus. Our teachers enjoy engaging our students in outdoor learning experiences and our Four Winds program has been going strong this year. We are grateful for our amazing teaching staff and our Four Winds volunteers! The Four Winds is looking for more volunteers to help with the program. Please reach out to me and I can connect you with them if you are interested in volunteering!

3. MRUUSD Theater Event! The elementary students of our district are invited to view the Stage 20 production performed by MRUHS middle school students. Students will travel by bus to the MRU Auditorium where they will see the play "Strega Nona" and then have a question-and-answer time with the actors. We are excited for our students to have this opportunity to experience theater and see the program that is available to them when they go to MRU someday!

4. The 6th grade transition program continues to have amazing activities to build relationships with students across four campuses and prepare students for their transition to Mill River Union High School.

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns at 802-786-3995 or at [kcimonetti@millriverschools.org](mailto:kcimonetti@millriverschools.org).

~Kristin Cimonetti, Principal



### **Moose Painting Presented to SMS**

On March 28, 2024, the Shrewsbury Historical Society presented a painting of a moose by Grace Brigham to the Shrewsbury Mountain School in honor of the school's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The school's mascot is the moose as evidenced by the weathervane high atop the school. Shown above, (left to right) are the artist Grace Brigham, Jack Jesser, and Kristin Cimonetti, Principal.

### **More on the Moose Painting**

In 1996 the time had come for another CircusSmirkus residency at Shrewsbury Mountain School. As you might recall, the first of many Circus adventures began in 1989 when CircusSmirkus was new. It had set forth from Craftsbury as a travelling youth circus in 1987, and is still going strong!

As a fundraiser, Shrewsbury teachers, parents, and friends with Sally O'Doherty, Principal, transformed the multi-purpose room into an art gallery, complete with artful lighting and potted plants. Elegantly attired teachers guided folks among art works by students and several adult artists who donated original artwork and prints for display.

The art show was a success and the Mountain School had a delightful time with clown-juggler-unicyclist, etc. Brent McCoy. But that's a story for another time.

A painting of a moose standing on the ice of Johnson Pond, being larger than anything in the gallery, was displayed in the hallway. It was raffled off and Rene Lincoln had the winning ticket. Ashley, Torie and Chris Lincoln all attended the Mountain School. The moose went home with them and watched the kids grow up.

Sadly, Rene passed away several years ago and when her husband Rip left Shrewsbury, he gave the moose to the Historical Society in her memory. The Society voted to give it to the school where Rene had been such an active parent.

The moose painting now hangs in the hallway, at kids' eye level, where it began nearly 30 years ago.

~Submitted by Grace Brigham

SAVE THE DATE!!!!



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## In Praise of Chickadees

I'll go out on a limb and argue that Chickadees are the smartest birds outside of crows and ravens. Why do I say that? Well, for one thing they've figured out how to survive dire conditions, unlike all the cushy migrants that head to warmer climes during the winter.



In contrast to most other winter birds, they eat just about anything.

Chickadees happily gobble not only the seeds from your birdfeeder but also insects (seeking out eggs and pupae in the winter), snails, berries, small fruit. They are also curious. They have figured out where my bird seed is stored, and they patrol around the container for spilled seeds. Chickadees also feast on the fat of dead animals (as well as the suet you put out). If our dogs leave any marrow in a bone, the birds will flit down and find it.

Chickadees have decided that neither I nor the dogs are anything to worry about. They will swoop to feeders as I reach out to fill them or while the dogs are grazing on dropped seeds below. Perhaps they remember faces. In early April, as I was snowshoeing nearby, a Chickadee couple peered out from a bush an arm's length away, unmoving. 'Oh, it's the sunflower seed fellow – I wonder if he's got any with him.' Sadly, no.

They have good memories. According to naturalist Susan Shea, a Chickadee will store several hundred seeds or bits of fat from carcasses in bark crevasses or lichen. To accurately relocate hiding places, Colin Saldanha of Lehigh University discovered that the chickadee's hippocampus, the part of the brain responsible for spatial memory, expands by a third in the fall (then shrinks back down in spring when its memory is needed less). Would that I could expand my memory on demand!

Like us, they tend to mate for life. They are sociable, especially in the winter. Like crows and ravens, flocks have a defined hierarchy, with the top birds getting first dibs on food. They also use Ghandi-like passive resistance to ward off predators. Christopher Templeton of the University of Washington studied Chickadee mobbing behavior. When they spot small hawks or owls, the 'chick-a-dee-dee' call recruits other chickadees to join the chorus. Chickadees add five, ten, or fifteen more 'dee' notes to their call to signal the urgency of the threat. Mobbing harasses the predator, lets it know it has been discovered, and drives it from the area.

Chickadees can live just about anywhere. They thrive throughout this continent from Mexico to the arctic regions of Canada. Members of their same genus – all with similar behavior and sporting black caps and chins—are found in China, Tibet, Iran, and most of Europe (where they are called tits). Their family (also called tits) spans all of North America and Europe and most of Asia and Africa.

So, give some respect to Chickadees as you see them zipping around. They are little birds with big brains.

~Article by Sandy Bragg

## YOU CAN HELP PROTECT NESTING BIRDS -PLEASE READ

- Please DO NOT offer yarn, string or human hair for birds to build nests!
- Every year wildlife rehabilitation centers receive wild birds, both babes and adults, with this material wrapped around their feet. It can sometimes result in the bird losing its foot or entire leg from the yarn/string/hair slowly tightening and cutting off circulation.
- DO NOT offer laundry dryer lint either. The lint collected in your dryer fitter may seem like ideal nesting material, but it isn't. It will soak up water and may be steeped with chemicals unhealthy for birds, such as remnants of detergent and softener.

Also, a warning about offering pet fur. If your pets are treated with flea/tick/lice treatments which stay on the fur, this can be harmful to birds collecting it for nesting material. DO NOT offer pet hair that has been exposed to any chemicals.

Birds have plenty of natural materials for nest building: twigs, dried leaves, grass and flower stems, pine straw, shed snake skins, Spanish moss, lichen, etc.


The best way to help wildlife is by:

1. Planting native plants that attract the native insects they eat;
2. Not using chemical pesticides that actually poison their food supply; and
3. Keeping your cats inside, especially during this baby season.

Thank you for caring about wildlife!

~Credit: Wildlife Rescue Nests; Submitted by Nancy Bell

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From: Cuttingsville: Just 2,1 miles up Town Hill Rd, right on Lincoln Hill Red Barn on right

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## Shrewsbury Conservation Commission Trail Camera Picture of the month



An adult male turkey is called a gobbler. A young male is a jake. I watched this gobbler display around a group of hens. He was magnificent. The hens ignored him and continued eating!



Strutting gobblers move with their wings dragging on the ground. I found these tracks in the snow. A beautiful capture of the graceful movement of a strutting gobbler.



I am always thrilled to find a bobcat picture on my trail camera SD card. And to catch one during daylight is an extra treat! If you have a track or wildlife picture to share, please send to Linda Shelvey. Lpurdyshe@gmail.com

*Photos by Linda Shelvey*

### Amphibian Lovers Gather

Amphibian lovers gathered at dusk on Friday, April 12, for an opportunity to view spotted salamanders in action. Friday was a warm day in Shrewsbury, with temperatures reaching almost 70, along with heavy rain at times.

We walked through snow and some bare spots to a beautiful vernal pool just off Crown Point Road. Many thanks to the owners of this property for permission to access this lovely spot!

Unfortunately, no spotted salamanders were found. However, we were serenaded by an ethereal winter wren and Connie heard the first hermit thrush of the year. Connie and Oliver, a fifth grader, waded into the pool for a closer inspection, just in case salamanders were in the leaves or under logs! No luck!

Our luck changed on our return walk. In the leaf litter was a orange Northern Spring Salamander shown here in the photo! Although the same color as the Red Eft, this is a larger salamander.

Wood frogs croaked as we approached the pool and then were silent while we were there. Spring peepers were heard as we drove down the hill, so amphibian lovers left happy!

On warm, rainy, spring nights, keep an eye out as you drive past wetlands. You may see salamanders crossing the road. Pull over and escort them if you can do so safely!!

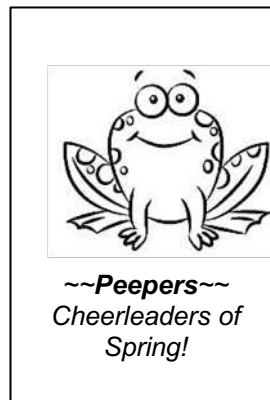
*~Article and photos by Linda Shelvey*



*Front: Pam Darrow, Connie & Mark Youngstrom  
Back: Jessica and Oliver Smith*



*Northern Spring Salamander*



*~~Peepers~~  
Cheerleaders of Spring!*



*Watch for fiddle-head ferns in late April.*



On Saturday April 6 we hosted Scott Bolotin of Morning Star Perennials Nursery in Rockingham, VT. Scott led a workshop on grafting apple trees. About a dozen folks turned out for the workshop. Participants learned a few grafting techniques and were able to graft 3-4 trees of their own from scion wood that Scott brought, or that they brought in themselves. It was a very enjoyable hands-on experience and SAGE will be happy to host Scott again!

On Saturday April 20 Scott Courcelle led a workshop called Nutrient Dense Growing Techniques 101/ Weed, Pest and Disease Management. Folks were treated to question-and-answer time to get at their own unique garden questions and situations. Scott is committed to helping anyone that wants to get deeper into their gardening practice find success and joy. If you have any garden questions, please contact Scott Courcelle at [alchemygardens@gmail.com](mailto:alchemygardens@gmail.com).

Finally, this month SAGE and the Vermont Farmers Food Center (VFFC) will release our 5th and final Root Words Podcast episode from our relocalizing the food system mini-series. If you haven't given it a listen, it's a great way to learn about some of the negative impacts of our global food system and some ways we can work to create healthier, more resilient communities. 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](mailto:educate.sage@gmail.com), Joan Aleshire at 492-3550 or visit [www.sagevt.wordpress.com](http://www.sagevt.wordpress.com). Follow us on Facebook for up-to-date event details at Shrewsbury SAGE and find our sustainability and arts videos at [www.youtube.com/@sagefoundation](http://www.youtube.com/@sagefoundation).

~Submitted by Stephen Abatiell

### Rutland Youth Theatre

Rutland Youth Theatre presents: Moana Jr on May 10 & 11, 2024 at the Paramount Theatre in Rutland. There will be three Shows: Friday, May 10 @ 7pm; Saturday May 11 @ 2pm and 7pm. Adults: \$15 + tax/fees; Children under 18/Seniors over 65: \$10 + tax/fees

This is a thrilling and heartwarming stage adaptation of the coming-of-age tale of Moana as she sets sail across the Pacific to save her village and discover the truth about her heritage. She and the demigod Maui embark on an epic journey of self-discovery and camaraderie as she learns to harness the power that lies within. A musical adapted for young performers. With its empowering message of bravery, Moana JR. is sure to awaken your inner hero! For more info & ticketing: 802-775-0570 x201; or <https://www.paramountvt.org/events-calendar/list/>

### Rotary Club Events

The Wallingford Rotary Club meets in that village, but Shrewsbury is part of the community it serves. The Club is sponsoring two free upcoming events for children and families from our community.

- **Saturday May 11 Bicycle Safety Day** will be held at Wallingford Elementary School on— particulars are provided elsewhere (see ad below).
- **Saturday June 1** with a free **Fishing Clinic** at a stocked pond on West Hill Road in Wallingford, with more free hot dogs and prizes.

Details about that event will appear in next month's edition of the *Times*. For more information contact local Rotarians Barry Griffith, 802 492 3573, or Randell Barclay, 917 498 7933.

### Tinmouth Old Firehouse Concert Series

Concerts start at 7:30pm at the Firehouse on The9 Mountain View Road, Tinmouth. \$15 suggested donation.

May 3 The Sky Blue Boys

June 7 Extra Stout



## Bicycle Safety Day

**sponsored by Wallingford Rotary & GE**






## Come Join The Fun!

**Helmet Giveaway & Fitting for Children from Wallingford, Shrewsbury, Tinmouth & Clarendon**

- Fun Filled Morning
- Free Helmets with Fitting
- Bike Safety Course & Inspection
- Free Hotdogs & Ice Cream
- Raffle Prizes
- Wallingford Fire Dept. & Rescue



**When:** Saturday May 11, 2024

**Time:** 9:30-12:30

**Where:** Wallingford Elementary School  
126 School St., Wallingford, Vt



### THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS!

To Celebrate Our Volunteers during Volunteer Appreciation Week, April 24, Rainbow Riding Center dedicates this poem to all past, present and future Volunteers. Without their assistance we could not provide an oasis of calm and learning to the individuals that come to Rainbow bringing with them many different challenges—what went before.

If you would like to volunteer and experience the joy and satisfaction helping to make a child's day better, please join us Saturday, May 11, for our Volunteer Orientation Clinic beginning at 10:00am at Stone Wall Farm, 892 Tarbelville Rd. in Belmont. website: [rainbowridingcenter.org](http://rainbowridingcenter.org) or email: [janetupton@rainbowridingcenter.org](mailto:janetupton@rainbowridingcenter.org) for more info.

Hannaford Supermarkets are assisting us with fundraising. Please see the ad elsewhere in this issue for more information.

~Submitted by Janet Upton

#### **The Volunteer and The Child**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Poem by Janet Upton

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#### Happy Spring!

I found a honey bee collecting pollen in the crocuses after they recovered from being buried under two feet of melted snow. It's a nice picture too! ~Lavinia Seide



### PVF Services LLC

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## SNO-BIRDS NEWS



The Snowmobile season officially closed this week but Mother Nature closed it before that. We did get some really nice storms in March but it had been too warm for too long for it to be of much help. It would snow and then warm back up and the water spots could not freeze. The roads up high were good right up into early April but VAST did not pay for any grooming so we did not go out. Mount Holly did not reopen their trails and the parking lot at the groomer shed was too soft to plow and use so we did not reopen our trails after the first of April. Scott Ryan and I were out all night on March 25 and packed a lot of the trails. That time of the year you have to do most of the grooming at night because the sun warms things up too much during the day. All in all, the season was not that good but there was some nice riding for different periods as the weather permitted.



We now are thinking of summer projects and getting our sponsor boards set up to have them on the trail next winter. We hope to have two, 4'X8' boards with 16"X24" spots for businesses to display their Logo and information. We really want to do a nice-looking job on this, like we did with our trail signs and posts that were put up last year. We are also thinking of solar lights on them as we all know it gets dark early in the winter. We are looking for people to advertise and if you are interested contact me (rarthurs604@aol.com) or any club member for more info. These boards will be on our main trails: 4&7 in Wheelerville, and will be up for the snowmobile season for all to see that use this heavily used trail. If interested, get your spot before they are all gone!

You may see us out picking up our signs and posts. While we are out doing this, we also pick up trash on the trails to keep them clean. We are fortunate as we really do not find a lot but there are always a few that don't take out what they carried in, that is the polite way of putting it!

Lastly, we cannot stress enough how much we want to thank the landowners that let us use their lands for our enjoyment. If it was not for them, we would not have the very nice trail system that we have! Thank You Again!

The photo was the sunset as Scott and I were out the last time this year, March 25. Thank you, Scott for helping!

*Submitted by Roy Arthur*



Remember  
*That Snow Dragon*  
?

Grace Brigham remembers when the students at Shrewsbury Mountain School spontaneously built this Snow Dragon "a long time ago!"







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2024

## Shrewsbury Meeting House Concert Series Announced

Live music returns to Shrewsbury for the 5th year in a row! All concerts will take place on Fridays at 6 pm, Rain or Shine. For our 2024 series, we'll be moving into the Meetinghouse if it's too rainy.

Vendors will be at each concert with delicious food to purchase. There are no tickets sold and all contributions go directly to the musicians, so please be as generous as you can.

Everyone deserves the joy of a summer evening filled with the sounds of topnotch musicians, so please come and bring your friends and family, and share the good news.

June 14	Billy Wilder
June 28	Silas Hamilton and Friends
July 12	Phil Henry and The Newsfeed
July 26	REF Exions
August 9	Noah Harley/The Roots and Shoos Music

For more info and to receive updates, please call Vicky Arthur at 802 558 2708, email [singtolive57@gmail.com](mailto:singtolive57@gmail.com) or find us on Facebook: Shrewsbury Meeting House Concert Series

*~Submitted by Victoria Arthur*

## Pierce's Store Beer Tasting

Featuring  
Mount Holly  
Brewing Company



Saturday, May 25, 2024  
5:00PM until 7:00PM

We will be selling fresh-made delicious Mexican Fare from  
Victoria's Authentic Mexican Food Catering  
Enchiladas – Rice and Beans – Chips with Salsa  
Bring your appetite!

At Pierce's Store  
2658 Northam Road  
Shrewsbury, Vermont  
802-492-3326



Pierce's Store will be selling soft drinks and non-alcoholic beverages as well.  
The store will be open during the event.

This event is a fund-raiser for the Shrewsbury Co-Op at Pierce's Store



### Successful Easter Egg Hunt!

Pierce's store ended the month of March with a chilly yet fun Easter egg hunt at the store. Thank you to all of our wonderful participants and parents for coming! 99 eggs were found that were full of candy and money. The **100th Golden Egg** with a \$25 Pierce's gift certificate was found by Makayla Hutt Vater. Please view Makayla's video catch on the Pierces website. Thank you for returning every single plastic egg so we can recycle them for years to come.



## PIERCE'S STORE

802-492-3326

[www.piercesstore.com](http://www.piercesstore.com)

Hours: 8am to 6pm

Rob Jaimes, Manager

There is a lot to be excited about this month at Pierce's! Prices are continuing to drop on select items and new products are appearing every week.

Have you noticed our new look? Our Assistant Manager Martha has really spruced up the place with seasonal displays and her attention to detail. If you haven't been in recently, come see how things are changing.

With Spring temps finally setting in, we will soon be offering a lot more local produce. Evening Song and Stone's Throw will continue to keep us stocked this year.

People are talking about our new milk! Roger's Farmstead Organic Cream Top Jersey Milk is now available in half gallons. Roger's Farmstead is in Berlin, Vermont and they pride themselves on offering a superior tasting Jersey Milk. Feedback I have received so far has been extremely positive.

### Activities:

**April 26 (4-6pm)** is a wine tasting with Sandy. Enjoy tastes from all over the world with Sandy's curated selections.

**May 25 (9am-1pm)** is our **Sale on The Green**. Some people are calling it a yard sale, some people are calling it a block party. Sellers pre-register at Pierce's Store, pay \$10 for a space, and provide a tent/table. We hope local artists and community members share their goods and talents. Live music too! Bring your sense of adventure and appetite for fun.

**May 25 from 5-7pm:** After the Sale on The Green, we have a Beer Fest with Mt Holly Beer. Food will be provided by Victoria's Mexican Food. Victoria sold out last time so come early!

Please visit our website [www.piercesstore.com](http://www.piercesstore.com) and click on **2024 Events** to see our full calendar of events for this year.

I'd like to thank all of you that emailed in feedback recently. I'm diligently working on making changes and bringing in the products you have requested. Please keep the feedback coming to: [pierces.store@gmail.com](mailto:pierces.store@gmail.com).

*~Submitted by Rob at Pierce's*

## NEWS FROM PIERCE'S BOARD

### Long Range Planning Meeting

The Board for the Shrewsbury Cooperative at Pierce's Store (SCPS) has scheduled a Long-Range Planning Meeting for May 23, 2024 at 6:30 pm at the Shrewsbury Meeting House. This planning exercise takes place approximately every five years and provides an opportunity for the membership of the cooperative to implement a strategic plan for the future of our business. We hope you can join us for the evening. Ben Doyle of the Vermont Preservation Trust will facilitate the meeting. Hope to see you there!

### Dispelling Myths!

It has come to the attention of the Pierce's Board that a myth about the Store and its finances is circulating in the community. We thought it best to address that myth transparently. So here goes:

**Myth** - The business, the Shrewsbury Cooperative at Pierce's Store, received millions of dollars from the Pierce family endowment, mismanaged it, and now has to ask for donations from the community to continue operations.

**Fact** - When she died, Marjorie Pierce willed the house, store and property to the Preservation Trust of Vermont (PTV) with explicit instructions that they find an entity or person willing to reopen a grocery store to serve the needs of the Shrewsbury community. In addition, she placed an endowment with the Vermont Community Foundation (VCF) specifically to fund the necessary improvements to the property, such as septic, roofing, wiring, interior renovations and upgrades, and public bathroom that would be needed to meet current public building requirements. In accordance with the provisions of the bequests, the Preservation Trust of Vermont assumed ownership, responsibility and control of the house and store buildings. Under the lease between SCPS and PTV, SCPS pays 3% of annual revenues above a certain level. These lease payments go into a fund held by PTV for use as needed on periodic physical property needs, repairs, or maintenance (e.g.: storm windows, building repairs, etc.).

This partnership with the Trust has been invaluable to our struggling Cooperative and we are very grateful to the Pierce family for their foresight. To be clear, however, the day-to-day business operations of SCPS are separate from the Trust and receive no funds in support of our business from PTV. The Cooperative belongs to the members and they are its primary supporters. Donations are still a critical component of the store's operations, particularly in these post-Covid years. We hope to stand financially on our own someday, but donations will always allow Pierce's to better serve the community. Despite our struggles, the community has expressed clearly that they wish to keep the store open, as it serves such a critical role for gathering with neighbors, providing essential items, showcasing local products, and encouraging general fun. It is a place to have your spirits lifted in an age of isolation. Come in and share a smile with your neighbors. It really helps!

*~Submitted by Lily French, SCPS President*

### Pierce's Is a Gem!

I feel so lucky to have our little gem of Pierce's Store with its diverse selection of foods, essentials and gift ideas that support local businesses, farmers and artists. While Pierce's Co-op has certainly faced some challenges over the years, thanks to the perseverance, creativity, generosity and pure tenacity of the Shrewsbury community, we are making our way soup by soup, donut by donut, and event by event. Thank you for your support and see you at the store.

*~Submitted by Lana Vanucchi, Board of Directors*

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