



Times of Shrewsbury



October 2025



Spring Lake Ranch
therapeutic community

WHAT ARE THOSE NEW BUILDINGS ON SPRING LAKE ROAD?

There's truly nothing better than a dip in Spring Lake on a hot summer day. If you did some swimming this year, you may have driven past four new buildings under construction at Spring Lake Ranch. We wanted to provide more information on our new Transitional Living Program (TLP), in case you missed our announcement this past winter.



Ranch property. This way, residents who are ready for more independence but not yet ready to discharge can stay within our healing community longer term at a more affordable price point. The TLP will include specialized care like vocational counseling, independent skills training, and health & wellness coaching.

A few years ago, we started working with a donor to address the critical need for longer-term mental health care options nationwide, but especially for our residents who really thrive "on the hill." In addition to our core Therapeutic Work Program combining clinical treatment with purposeful Ranch experiences, we have a wonderful, on-site aftercare Elliot Program. In Elliot, up to seven residents who are ready for more responsibilities can manage their own medications, self-transport, work a part-time job, and so on. We also have Independent Apartment Living (IAL) for residents who discharge into their own Rutland-area apartments but still want access to certain staff care and guidance.

With the new TLP, we will expand and enhance our aftercare programming within a mini-community right at the heart of our

After both a market research and feasibility study, and with generous support from the donor who partnered with us to see this vision through, we launched a Capital Campaign in 2024 and went public with it this past February. Our goal is to raise \$18MM by the end of 2026 to pay not only for the TLP but a Main House renovation and expansion, gym refurbishment, and brand-new Farm Program buildings. Thanks to 78 donors from across the country, we currently have just \$3MM left to raise.

Because of these early donations, we were able to break ground on the TLP last year, which is what you might have seen on your way to the lake. The campus includes three buildings with apartments and suites. The apartments have their own kitchens and living rooms, while the suites have shared spaces. Each unit has its own balcony with beautiful mountain views. The fourth and largest building is a new community center where residents can hold meetings, host gatherings, and enjoy a roaring, floor-to-ceiling stone fireplace. The community center also includes offices for staff and a "resi-mercial" kitchen for events.

The whole project will provide much-needed improvements, enabling us to meet a growing need for comprehensive, long-term mental health care. We will be refreshed and ready for the next one hundred years while still staying true to our mission and values. To learn more about the full scope of our Capital Campaign and planned updates, visit springlakeranch.org/capitalcampaign.

~Article by Anna Sutton

~Photos by Ben DeFlorio



Vermont State Senators:

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

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

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

Vermont State House of Representative:

Kcwinter5783@gmail.com or 802-245-4190

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

United States Senators:

Senator Peter Welch

www.welch.senate.gov

Vermont Office: (800) 642-3193

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

Senator Bernie Sanders

www.sanders.senate.gov/contact

Vermont Office: (800) 339-9834

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

United States House of Representative:

Representative Becca Balint

Vermont Office: 347-461-4982

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

Revised 2/1/25

TAXES DUE OCTOBER 3, 2025

Payments can be delivered to the town office, mailed, placed in the drop box at the town office (to the left of the front door), made by credit card online at www.officialpayment.com (Credit card deadline is October 1). If you plan to pay in cash, please deliver directly to the treasurer.

Town Treasurer regular hours are every Monday from 9 am to noon.

Additional days/times available for payments:

Saturday, September 27 from 10:00am to 12:00pm

Thursday, October 2 from 12:00pm to 3:00pm

Friday, October 3 from 12:00pm to 7:00pm

If you have not filed your Homestead Declaration, the state website at www.tax.vermont.gov/property-owners will direct you to the proper form and the Property Tax Adjustment form is also available, if you qualify.

State of Vermont Tax Information for contact is:

Phone: (802) 828-2865

Toll Free: (866) 828-2865

Email: tax.individualincome@vermont.gov

Thank you, and call or email if you have questions.

Linda McGuire, Treasurer

Town of Shrewsbury

9823 Cold River Rd, Shrewsbury, Vermont 05738

Shrewsburytreas@vermontel.net

Town Office 492-3558

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 directly 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, feature articles, or letters that are not commercial. Also, there is no charge for appropriate notices of free items.

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	\$110	(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	\$15	(7.5"w x 2.5" h; or, 3.5"wx 4.5"h)
Business card	\$10	(3.5"w x 2"h)
Classified ad	\$5	(15 words or less)

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

1/18/25

Chryl Martin

~

Rich Biziak

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

Email: shrewsburytimes@gmail.com

Online: www.shrewsburyvt.org

and <http://www.shrewsburyhistoricalsociety.com>

SHREWSBURY COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Sept 26	4-6pm	*Wine Tasting at Pierce's
Sept 27	2pm	*Screening of "Far Out: Life On & After the Commune" at the Shrewsbury Library
Sept 27	9am--	*Book Sale under the tent at the Library; ongoing until October 8
Sept 28	7pm	Science Book Club meets at the Library
Oct 3		*Taxes due
Oct 4	8am-noon	*Shrewsbury "Center" Cemetery Clean Up Day
Oct 5		*Shrewsbury Historical Society Museum open during Tap to Table
Oct 5	Noon-3pm	*Laurel Glen will be open for tours
Oct 5	4pm	*Writer's Group meets at the Library
Oct 6	3pm	* Shrewsbury Historical Society annual mtg. and election of officers
Oct 10	5-6:30pm	*Take Out Lasagna Dinner at the Meeting House, 88 Lottery Rd. Call 802-683-0631 to order.
Oct 17	7pm	*Program and photos from 1930's and 1940's at Shrewsbury Library
Oct 18	5-7pm	*Chili Cook Off at Pierce's
Oct 18	2-4pm	*Exploratory walk on Jockey Hill Farm sponsored by Conservation Commission
Oct 19	4pm	*Famous Book Club meets at the Library
Oct 26	2pm	* "Singing on a Sunday Afternoon" at the Russellville School House by the Shrewsbury Singers
Oct 26	4pm	*Science Book Clun meets at the Library
Oct 28	12noon	*Prayer Shawl group meet upstairs at the Meeting House
Oct 30	5:30-7pm	*Halloween Party at the Library

*see elsewhere in newsletter for details

TIMES OF SHREWSBURY

Online at
www.shrewsburyhistoricalsociety.com
www.shsrewsburyvt.org



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

REGULAR MEETINGS and EVENTS

Selectboard Meeting	1 st & 3 rd Wednesdays – 6:30pm at Town Office
Development Review Board	4 th Wed -7pm at Town Office; check town website for agenda
Library Trustees Meeting	2 nd Tuesday – 7pm at Shrewsbury Library
Mill River Unified Union School Board Mtg	1 st Wed 7pm @ MRHS & 3 rd Wed. 7pm at MRHS unless otherwise warned
Planning Commission	2 nd & 4 th Tuesdays 7pm at Town Office; No meeting July & August
Prayer Shawl Group	4 th Tuesday at 12noon upstairs at the Meeting House
Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)	Sundays – 10am via Zoom; contact wildernessfriends@gmail.com
Shrewsbury Community Church	Sundays – 10:30am - Worship service
Shrewsbury Conservation Commission	1 st Tuesday @ 5:15pm at 450 Frank Lord Rd
Shrewsbury Historical Society	1 st Monday- 3pm at the Museum
Shrewsbury Historical Society Museum	Open 1-3pm Sundays only from July 6 to October 26, 2025
Shrewsbury Sno-Birds	2 nd Tuesday – 7pm at Southside Steakhouse in Rutland
Shrewsbury Volunteer Fire Department	Thursdays – 7pm at the Cuttingsville Station

Shrewsbury Town Website: www.shrewsburyvt.org

Clerk's Office	492-3511	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-12noon
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 1-802-230-1996 Window Hours: Mon-Fri 7:30am-10:30am and 11:30am-2:30pm; Sat 8am-11am. Lobby Hours Mon- Fri 7:30am-5:00pm and Sat 7:30am-11am

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

Animal Control Officer: Adrienne Raymond 802-492-3578

1st Constable: Aaron Haupt 558-9980

Game Warden: Tim Carey 793-2776

Emergency Management Aaron Korzun 492-3362

Green Mountain Power outage 1-800-451-2877

Medical-Police-Fire Emergency Dial 911

Ambulance 773-1700

Rutland Hospital 775-7111

[Updated 9/20/2025]

SHREWSBURY SELECTBOARD MINUTES

The Selectboard meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 6:30pm at the Town Office.

September 3, 2025: Minutes of Selectboard Meeting

Present at meeting: *Selectboard members:* Aaron Korzun, Francis Wyatt, Marc Cimonetti. *Town Clerk:* Rebecca Rice. *Admin Assistant:* Alaina Cimonetti (Remotely). *Planning Commission:* Laura Black.

Members of the public: Rita Gyls. Carmine Iannace. Rich Biziak. Greg Over. Paul Stewart.
The meeting was convened at 6:30 PM.

Agenda: Motion made by A. Korzun to follow the agenda with the following additions: Liquor licenses: three special catering permits for Split Stills, Inc., Liambro Ale Co., LLC., and Vermont Hard Seltzer Company, LLC. One Excess weight permit for Resource Management, Inc. One grant agreement form. Two work and right of way permits, for Chad Sharrow and Nathan Porter. F. Wyatt seconded. All in favor, motion approved.

Error and Omissions Report 2025: First error: Yarwood, Barry and Hannah. Old value \$240,200, new value \$90,300. Second error: Ann Lilian and Eldred French. Descriptive value: Acreage changed from 12.5 acres to 8.49 acres. A. Korzun made a motion to accept the Error and Emissions Report for 2025. F. Wyatt seconded. Approved.

Town Road Reclassifications: The Selectboard has decided to not pursue reclassifying TH #31 (Hinkley Road). There is strong evidence showing it is still needed as a town highway and will remain as such. The Selectboard will be reevaluating how to move forward with this process including listing road names and TH #. The town will be pursuing TH #46 (School Street) for the next reclassification. Laura Black will contact the landowners about that process.

Amended Sheriff's Contract - Animal Control Officer: A contract with Rutland Sheriff's department was pursued to become the Animal Control Officer for the town. ACO calls will be forwarded to their department and pursued within 24 hours. The new point of contact will be (802) – 775 – 8002. A. Korzun made a motion to approve the Rutland Sheriff's Department to fill the position of ACO. M. Cimonetti seconded. Approved.

A. Cimonetti will be pursuing an amendment to the Dog and Wolf-Hybrid Ordinance for the new arrangement with the Rutland Sheriff's Department.

Vicious Dog Update: M. Cimonetti made a motion to rescind the order of euthanasia of the dog "Baby Girl" and to leave the decision of next steps to the ACO the Rutland Sheriff's Departments. A. Korzun seconded. Approved (2-1).

Grant Form: \$24,000 standard grant and aid for roads/culverts for fiscal year 2026. A. Korzun made a motion accept the grant agreement for fiscal year 2026. M. Cimonetti seconded. Approved.

Excess Weight Permit: A. Korzun made a motion to approve the excess weight permit for Resource Management, Inc. F. Wyatt seconded. Approved.

Liquor License: A. Korzun made a motion to approve three special catering permits for Split Stills, Inc., Liambro Ale Co., LLC. and Vermont Hard Seltzer Company, LLC. for the Tap to Table event on 10/5/25. M. Cimonetti seconded. Approved.

Work in Right of Way Permits (ROW): A. Korzun made a motion to approve the Work in the Right of Away Permit for Chad Sharrow on Mitchel Road for the installation of a new culvert. F. Wyatt seconded. Approved. A. Korzun made a motion to approve the Work in the Right of Away Permit for Nathan Porter for Kiefer Road for a new culvert and stone drainage. F. Wyatt seconded. Approved.

New Business/Open to the Public: The data for the traffic study on Shunpike Road was lost. The RRPC will now be conducting a new traffic study. Paul Stewart is concerned that the study markers are not in the right location and isn't accounting for the full traffic load on Shunpike. Greg Over is concerned that the parcel of land that has been split has not been surveyed which is preventing the work he would like to do on the property. It was warned and no one filed a petition against it so it will be surveyed and on the agenda for the next meeting on 9/17/25 to be approved. The speed cart will be out more often next summer. Rebecca Rice says she has been getting emails about the Vermont Opioid Settlements and was wondering if the Selectboard will authorize her to work to receive that money. This request was granted.

Review Minutes: A. Korzun made a motion to accept the 8/20/2025 Selectboard meeting minutes. Seconded by M. Cimonetti. Approved.

Review Orders: F. Wyatt made a motion to approve Selectboard Orders #9 for a total of \$7065.76 and Road Orders #9 for a total of \$16,921.64. Seconded by M. Cimonetti. Approved.

Adjourned at 8:19 PM

Respectfully submitted, Alaina Cimonetti

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

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### September 17, 2025: Minutes of Selectboard Meeting

**Present at meeting:** *Selectboard members:* Aaron Korzun, Francis Wyatt, Marc Cimonetti. *Town Clerk:* Rebecca Rice. *Admin Assistant:* Alaina Cimonetti (Remotely). *Planning Commission:* Laura Black. *Road Commissioner:* Dan Cavoto.

**Members of the public:** Ethan Pepin (RRPC). Katie Stiles (NRCD). Paul Stewart. Greg Over.  
The meeting was convened at 6:30 PM.

**Agenda:** Motion made by A. Korzun to follow the agenda with the following addition: Liquor license: one special catering Golden Rule Brewery. F. Wyatt seconded. All in favor, motion approved.

**Town Property – Lincoln Hill Road:** Due to all the steps being completed we will be moving forward with transferring the ownership of the town property on Lincoln Hill Road. A.



## SHREWSBURY SELECTBOARD MINUTES

(continued)

Korzun made a motion to transfer the portion of town property 004-0-0167 on Lincoln Hill Road to Greg Over pending a survey to determine specific property lines. F. Wyatt seconded. Approved.

**Shunpike Road - Traffic Study:** Ethan Pepin reported on the traffic study on Shunpike Road. Good compliance with speed limits, remaining at 25-35 mph. Three reports over 45 mph. Selectboard is requesting help finding an engineer to aid in plans to improve the safety of the road. E. Pepin will give initial engineering suggestions and then will direct the board find a contract.

**Northam Road Culverts/Dam Removal:** Katie Stiles discussed the culverts and dam projects currently being pursued that have the appropriate funding. K. Stiles asked if the project is still feasible for this summer. K. Stiles is currently working to get funding for the Russellville Road culvert and is in preliminary design. Crown Point culvert is also in the process of getting funding for design. Northam and Cold River are also in the process of getting funding for the designs, implementation funding is under discussion. M. Cimonetti made a motion to authorize Dan Cavoto (Road Commissioner) to sign permits and applications for dam removal and culvert projects. A. Korzun seconded. Approved.

**Road Commissioner's Report:** Dan Cavoto is viewing the GMP project on the Crown Point Road as it continues. Progress is being made on the project. We are going to upsize culverts that need to be replaced during the project and improve ditches. Possible grant opportunity for a salt shed D. Cavoto is pursuing with help from A. Cimonetti. Mill River Bussing Coordinator inquired about School Bus Stop Ahead Signs for 4635 Cold River Road. D. Cavoto is pursuing this request and will install them when they are delivered. The Selectboard/Road Commissioner will be pursuing language on the permit application requiring more information of the specifics of the ROW Permits. More information at the next Selectboard meeting 10/1.

**Work in the ROW Permit:** Dave Catellier will be trimming back trees and brush near Town Hill Road adding entrance and culvert to his property. A. Korzun made a motion to approve the Work in the Right of Way Permit for Dave Catellier for Town Hill Road. F. Wyatt seconded. Approved.

**Dog and Wolf-Hybrid Ordinance Amendment:** A. Cimonetti presented the amended version of the ordinance. The Selectboard has decided to not amend the current ordinance. The contact for the new Animal Control Officer (ACO) (Rutland Sheriff's Department) is on the website and will be published in the Times of Shrewsbury.

**Town Road Reclassifications:** A. Korzun made a motion to discontinue the 0.10-mile Class 4 section of TH #46 also known as Dodge Road, owned on both sides by Stewarts Enterprises LLC. F. Wyatt seconded. Approved. The warning will be posted. Public Hearing will be on November 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm. The Selectboard is proposing to discontinue Town Highway #41, which is beyond Robinson Road, for the next

reclassification. Laura Black will contact the landowners about that process.

**Liquor License:** A. Korzun made a motion to approve a special catering permit for Golden Rule Brewery for the Tap to Table event on 10/5/25. F. Wyatt seconded. Approved.

**New Business/ Open to the Public:** None

**Review Minutes:** A. Korzun made a motion to accept the 9/3/2025 Selectboard meeting minutes. Seconded by F. Wyatt. Approved.

**Review Orders:** F. Wyatt made a motion to approve Selectboard Orders #9A for a total of \$24,722.66, of which \$20,068.50 is the Town Garage Bond payment, and Road Orders #9A for a total of \$20,806.45 of which \$12,664.47 was for crushed stone. Selectboard Orders 9 is corrected from \$7,065.76 to \$6,104.51. Seconded by M. Cimonetti. Approved.

**Adjourned at 8:25 PM**

*Respectfully submitted, Alaina Cimonetti*

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

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NEWS FROM THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

Fall is in the air! I am glad I had the good sense to harvest what tomatoes, peppers and basil left in my garden last night as everything was covered in frost this morning. (These are the only things I grow since the goats don't like them.)

It seems strange not getting ready for an election in November.

If you need an E911 sign for your home, please contact me and I will order one for you. They are really handy for emergency responders to locate your property in the event you ever need them.

This is a reminder that land postings are only good for one year. If you posted your land last year and want to have it continued to be posted, please come to the town office so the posting stays in place.

Also, although dog licenses were due by April 1, 2025, you can still obtain them. There is a town fine if you have a dog who is not registered. Also, if your dog goes missing and does not have an identification tag, the first place folks check is with the town they are located. My two dogs disappeared two years ago and ended up in Plymouth. They did not have their own identification tags. However, they did have town tags on so the constable could contact the town clerk who gave him my number so I could get them back. Also, if they go missing and end up at the humane society, if they are registered the humane society will know they are current on their rabies shots.

Some COVID tests are still available at the Town Office.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at 802-492-3511, 9823 Cold River Road, Shrewsbury, VT 05738, or shrewsburyclerk@vermontel.net.

~Submitted by Rebecca A. Rice, Town Clerk

MRUUS

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Greetings from Mill River Unified Union School District. The '25-'26 school year has begun and teachers and staff are hard at work creating an exceptional learning environment for our young community members. With the start of the school season comes the start of the school district budgeting season, and the MRUUSD board and staff are once again creating a budget that works to keep our tax impact as low as we believe we can, while first supporting our students.

Last year we created a budget with a modest 3.32% increase in the district's expenditure budget despite many external financial pressures including rising health care rates and general inflation. This budget has many strategic cuts to spending with an important addition of two math interventionists that are now hired and being shared among the elementary schools.

Other additions to the budget include, a high school special education social worker position, funding for high school summer programs, an upgraded registered nurse position (previously a nurse aide position), and the purchase of a new bus. This year we will build a budget with the same guiding principle of fiscal responsibility.

With this summer's "yield bill", the governor authorized a one-time General Fund transfer of \$77.2 million and \$41 million of Education Fund surplus to buy down the average property tax bill in FY26. The buy down of tax bills in FY26 will create a \$118.2 million hole in the Education Fund, thereby impacting school district budgets in FY27 (the budget we are working on now.) We are working to understand these potential impacts as well as other statewide education changes and will be communicating with the public through finance committee meetings and these newsletters.

Our next finance committee meeting will be on October 6 at 6:00pm. These meetings have a virtual meeting option and the public are welcome to attend. In this meeting we will identify initial budget ideas, including surplus management. We will hold community focus groups in mid-October for public input. Again, community participation is appreciated and encouraged. With these community inputs and inputs from our district staff, we will go over different budget scenarios during our following meeting in late October.

We hope to see you at this budget season's finance meetings, and hope to see your support for the district budget we ultimately pass this winter.

You can find more information about Mill River Unified Union School District, our board, and meeting agendas and minutes at <https://www.mruusd.org>.

MRUUSD community budget conversations in the Mill River library: Oct 14 at 3:30pm and October 23 at 6pm.

~Submitted by Stephen Abatiell

NOTICE OF EXAMINATION OF PREMISES AND PUBLIC HEARING FOR DISCONTINUANCE OF THE RIGHT-OF-WAY FOR THE CLASS 4 PORTION OF TOWN HIGHWAY #46

Pursuant to its petition and motion approved September 17, 2025, and the requirements of Title 19, Chapter 7 of the Vermont Statutes Annotated, the Town of Shrewsbury Selectboard will conduct an examination of the premises and public hearing on November 5, 2025, to consider the discontinuance of the +/-0.10 mile Class 4 portion of the right-of-way for Town Highway #46.

All interested parties shall meet for the following:

1. **An inspection of the premises at 5:30pm on November 5, 2025**, for the discontinuance of the +/-0.10-mile Class 4 portion of the right-of-way for Town Highway #46, at the parking lot at address 5244 Rt 103, Shrewsbury, Vermont.

The Class 4 portion of the right-of-way for Town Highway #46 extends +/-0.10 miles southerly from the end of the Class 3 Town Highway #46 (aka Dodge Rd.) which starts at Rt 103. The parcel where this right-of-way is located, is owned on both sides by Stewart Enterprises LLC.

2. **A public hearing at 6:30PM on November 5, 2025** at the Shrewsbury Town Office, 9823 Cold River Rd, Shrewsbury, VT 05738, to receive testimony from all persons abutting, owning or interested in the matter of discontinuing the +/-0.10 mile right-of-way of the Class 4 Town Highway #46. Persons wishing to comment, provide testimony or give evidence regarding the proposal may do so in person during the hearing, or by filing their comments, in writing, prior to the hearing.

After examining the premises and hearing from all interested persons, if the Selectboard judges that the public good, necessity and convenience of the inhabitants of the Town of Shrewsbury warrants discontinuing the aforesaid Class 4 town highway right-of-way of Town Highway #46, it will be so ordered.

~Submitted by the Town of Shrewsbury Selectboard
Posted Sept 19, 2025



Freezer Stock-Up Time!
VT Maple Syrup & Maple Treats
Grassfed Beef & More

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

Fall in love with shopping local at our small Farm Store!!

The Shrewsbury Planning Commission presents the Community Values Maps!

Hey! Remember the fun mapping event that we held last year? Over 40 townspeople from all over Shrewsbury came to the Community Meeting House on April 27th to mark their favorite and important places on the map of Shrewsbury. Well, we finally have digitized the data gathered from the markups.

Maps are available to view at the Town Office (in October). The 11x17 maps show the areas of each "value," and a large map shows all the layers together. Come take a look!

As well, the maps can be seen on the Shrewsbury Planning Commission page of the Shrewsbury website - <https://www.shrewsburyvt.org/planning-commission/>

The Planning Commission held this event to gather the community's input on where the geographical places in town are that are most important to townspeople and why. The maps describe the community's most valued places and allow us to compare these places with regional ecological priorities while developing our Town Plan.

~ submitted by Laura Black, Chair of the Shrewsbury Planning Commission

Calling All Photographers!

The Shrewsbury Board of Auditors is soliciting recent photographs of Shrewsbury life for the town's 2025 Annual Report.



We particularly value photos of Town officers and Town Events (such as Shrewsbury Day, concerts, school activities, etc.), but also welcome scenic pictures from in and around Shrewsbury.

Submit your picture as a jpeg file and email it to auditshrewsbury@gmail.com no later than January 1, 2026. Don't forget to provide captions identifying people, places, and events. Also, be sure to identify the photographer so we can give proper credit! The Board of Auditors will review the photos and select them based on applicability and space availability. Thank you for your help with our Town Report!

Shrewsbury Board of Auditors

Donation Time

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

www.shrewsburyvt.org
and

www.shrewsburyhistoricalsociety.com

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

Shrewsbury "Center" Cemetery

Clean-up Day

October 4 from 8am – 12pm

Volunteers Needed

Come enjoy the fall weather and help us wash headstones and clean-up the grounds for winter. Bring a rake, your work gloves or just you and the willingness to help. We have a job for everyone!

VT Old Cemetery Assoc will be back helping to repair some old broken head stones as well.

Thank you in advance for any help you can give.

Shrewsbury Cemetery Assoc, Inc.
Cemetery Rd | Shrewsbury VT 05738
Got questions call 802-492-2151

**Beardmore
Excavating**

(802) 342-3507

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

COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL

DRIVEWAYS

C.N. WEBSTER

EXCAVATING
47 RAILROAD DRIVE
N. CLARENDON, VT 05759
(802) 558-3275

COMPLETE SITE WORK

SEPTIC SYSTEMS

Free Medical Equipment

Remember, various pieces of medical assist equipment have been donated by Shrewsbury residents who no longer need them. These are available at no cost on a loaner basis. On hand right now are many wooden crutches, adjustable aluminum crutches, walkers, rollators, commodes, shower seats, bedpans, toilet safety bars, a large wheelchair, and more. If you need any equipment or have any items to donate, call Donna Swartz at 773-7403 or AnnMarie Moody at 492-2091.



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LAUREL GLEN CEMETERY ASSOCIATION OF 1894

We held a wonderful open house on Sept 6. So many curious visitors came to talk about architecture, learn Mr. Bowman's life story, or peek into dark corners for ghosts. A million thanks to our volunteers Alannah Severy, Ed Sawyer, Jeff and Dash Monder, Ann Vanneman, Barry Griffith, and Jodie Brileya, who joined as a docent for the first time! The docent handbook evolves a little more each month, and it now includes a robust section on the history of the cemetery!

Mr. Bowman died on Sept 18, 1891. While this year didn't really mark a milestone anniversary, we thought it would be fitting to commemorate his passing with this season's first evening cemetery tour. Docents Ed Sawyer, Grace Brigham, Jeff Monder, Tom Giffin, Alannah Severy, Patricia Lambert, and Barry Griffith joined me to set up, lead tours of Laurel Glen Cemetery, and help with clean up. This year's tour included a stop at the graves of BJ and Joan Stewart who were Trustees of Laurel Glen for many, many years. Visitors also learned where the public restrooms (probably nothing fancier than outhouses) were located when the cemetery was renovated in the 1880s. The mausoleum was lit by candle lanterns, and there is nothing more beautiful to behold than the infinity mirrors lit by flickering candlelight.

Events held at Laurel Glen are fundraisers. Our immediate goal is to repair the indoor plumbing, so we can hold larger events where we can raise money to repair the cemetery wall and wallpaper. The wall is in critical condition, and it will cost more than \$100,000 to repair it. The Friends of Bowman Mansion need your help to make this happen.

Thanks: to Evelyn Tully Costa for the stately rocker that now resides on the upstairs landing. It is a lovely chair that adds to the atmosphere of the mansion.



LG will be open for Tap to Table on Oct 5. Docents will be on hand 12:00 – 3:00pm. Joining us are Ripley Camp #4 Sons of Union Veterans. Donations welcome!

Did you know? When the cemetery welcomed its first guests in 1880, there were two public restrooms on site. Next time you visit, ask a docent to point out where they were!

Like us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/426580458623737>

Check out our website www.bomanmansion.org

Email at laurelglen.bowmanmansion@gmail.com

All donations to Friends of Bowman Mansion (P.O. Box 416, Cuttingsville, VT 05738) are tax deductible.

~Submitted by Freddie Monder

Bone Builders

Tuesdays and Thursdays

November-April: 10-11am

May-October: 9-10am

at the Meeting House on Lottery Road

Free weights and instruction!

Join this friendly group to improve your

Bones, Balance, and Strength

More Info: Ginny Buckley (802) 492-3504



Take Out Lasagna Dinner! Lasagna, Salad & Roll

Friday, October 10

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

at the Shrewsbury Meeting House

Local Beef & Vegetarian Option Too!

Call Lynette to Order your Dinners

802-683-0631

Cost: Free Will Donation

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

Hosted by Shrewsbury Community Church

Unable to pick up your dinner?

Let us know and we will

Deliver it to you!

Mount Holly, VT

Joshua Bickford

802.855.3216

joshfbickford@gmail.com



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It is again time for your Shrewsbury Volunteer Fire Department to report on the past month, and to look ahead. The biggest fire-related news this month has to be the severe drought which Shrewsbury -- and Vermont generally -- is currently experiencing. Farms, gardens and lawns are suffering. Wells are going dry. As firefighters we are particularly concerned. We know that in these conditions, a small grass or brush fire can quickly spread and cause great damage. SVFD Deputy Chief and Forest Fire Warden Kevin Brown says DO NOT BURN. No permits will be issued until further notice. Help us and your neighbors by cooperating. Let's all BE FIRE SAFE!



SHREWSBURY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT



BURN PERMITS

DUE TO THE SEVERE DROUGHT

**NO BURN PERMITS WILL BE ISSUED
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!**

Your Fire Department volunteers have been called out twice since our **Times** article last month. On Thursday morning, August 21, while on his way to Ludlow, our Chief Phil Severy came across a dump truck on fire on Mount Holly Road. Phil immediately called 911, directing SVFD's fire engines to the scene. The blaze -- caused by a switch that had shorted out -- was quickly extinguished.

Members were called again on September 9 at 9:25pm to respond to an activated carbon monoxide alarm at a residence on Tin Shanty Road. Captain Russ Carrara was the first to arrive on the scene -- just moments later -- with the fire engine from Northam Station. In this case, it turned out to be a false alarm. However, we are always glad to know that homeowners have these monitors installed -- they can save lives.

Chief Phil is intent on getting our fire trucks and members out for monthly drills, each led by a different officer. On Thursday evening, August 21, Lieutenant Paul Stewart organized and conducted a successful training session at his property, involving a simulated car accident with entrapment. This was an opportunity for our members to get out and use the extraction tools which SVFD carries on its engines. It seems that we are called upon to use these every year, so it is good to practice and be ready.

Lieutenant Jamie Carrara took charge of the September 18 training -- a chimney fire drill at his home. This is timely, as folks will soon be starting up their wood stoves and fireplaces. A quick response and successful suppression can keep a chimney fire from extending into the house itself -- something none of us want. Be sure to keep your chimneys clean in the months ahead.

Your Fire Department was pleased to participate in the Shrewsbury Day parade and festivities again this year. What a wonderful event! Thanks to the volunteers who put in long hours of planning and preparation for this day, when we can gather with neighbors and celebrate our town.

October is Fire Prevention Month. SVFD Safety Officer Bob Snarski is coordinating with Mountain School Principal Kristin Cimonetti for our annual safety presentation, to be followed by a fire drill. Bob -- a retired elementary school teacher and principal -- always does a great job talking to the assembled students. Chief Phil and our members also enjoy giving the students (and teachers) a tour of our fire trucks at the event. Perhaps

there will be a photograph or two in a future edition of the **Times**. Until then, enjoy the fall foliage and: **Be smart. Stay safe.**

Submitted by Barry Griffith



Shrewsbury Historical Society

www.shrewsburyhistoricalsociety.com

Shrewsbury Historical Society Museum

The museum will close its doors for the season on Sunday, October 26. You still have Sundays left to visit, from 1 to 3pm. Bring your children and visitors. I have a feeling there will be a treat for them. The museum will be open during Tap to Table. Come to visit then.

Membership

We respectfully request your consideration in becoming a paid-up active member of the Historical Society. It would make it lots easier for us old folks to have young people help us out. Our membership now is slowly disappearing due to a senior's ability to carry the load. It all started with a vision of young folks willing to start our town's Historical Society back in the early 1970s. Many have now passed away or moved. The membership has decreased, and our population has increased.

The Society will be holding its annual meeting and election of officers on Monday, October 6, at 3pm in the museum. We invite you to come to see what we are all about. There are many committees to choose from and perhaps you may want to join. We sure would like someone to be secretary now.

Our dues are still the same. You have to be a paid member to join in with voting rights on issues that may occur. The dues are: Single, \$10; Family, \$15; Contributing, \$30; and Life, \$125, (a single or a couple).

SHS history

Listed here are some of the projects our active members volunteered for:

The Society was formed in 1971. Dawn Hance wrote the history book, *Shrewsbury, Vermont, Our Town As It Was* (still available); first located above now library, then moved to historic church building next to Laurel Glen Cemetery; maintained by House chair John Elwert; set up a file system which is helpful to many searching "roots", and kept up to date by Ann Ridlon; attached plaques to existing once-upon a-time one-room schoolhouses, with owners' approval; interviewed and taped conversations with seniors; acquired TV tape of visit of Robert Frost visiting Shrewsbury in 1957 and showing it to our residents, many of whom were actually in the film, at the Town Hall in 1993.

Also, our Society participated in the History Expos held in Tunbridge on the fairgrounds. It was a two-day event with our display and also Bill Tabor attended with his oxen team. We were there for all the years History Expos were held; had

WE NEED HELP

The Shrewsbury Historical Society needs new, active, young members to help fill the workforce of the Society. We need to have at least 7 members attend meetings to be official. Two meetings this year became unofficial. For more information, please read the SHS column.

plant and bake sales with help of Gloria's Kitchen, plus many non-members' help too; prepared and displayed feature about the Pierce family at the VT Historical Society Museum in Montpelier; had tag sales, quilt shows, designed and printed annual calendars for fundraising. You were recently gifted with a 2026 calendar, through the graces of Liesbeth van der Heijden and Ahmet Baycu.

The Historical Society became the first host for Shrewsbury Day, which was held in 2018, thanks to Life members Dick Rohe and Betsy Jesser for their ideas and help.

Recently some members volunteered as docents in Bowman's Laurel Hall for their openings. Also, lent a hand with the Vermont Old Cemetery Association (VOCA) to help clean the Laurel Glen Cemetery. and provided beverages and snacks. Opened our museum to entertain Mountain School students plus an entertaining tour of the cemetery, with Grace Brigham in charge.

The outside of the museum is carefully mowed with our thanks to Paul Stewart, and snow shoveled in winter by those members who need access. The members celebrated Life and founding member Nancy Spencer by dedicating the museum to her. There would be no museum without dedicated folks like Nancy and Arthur Patten.

I especially like to see that during Christmas week, the museum windows are lighted by battery-operated candles, and two wreaths on the front door. Brightens the village.

More about the fun days of what the Society enjoyed in the next issue. ~Submitted by Ruth Winkler

In Memoriam of Marguerite Ponton

It was with great sadness to learn of the passing of Marguerite Ponton on September 2, 2025. Marguerite was President of the Shrewsbury Historical Society for three years and Vice President for nine years. She retired as a teacher and became a devoted member of the Society. Rest in Peace, dear Marguerite. ~Members of the Historical Society

"What Happened To Levi?"

Published in The Vermont Journal
July 30. 1816

A Man missing.--On Tuesday evening, the 9th inst. a man put up at the inn^of Salmon Curtis, Hampton village, N. Y. The next morning he was missing—a general search was made by the inhabitants, but the man was not found. He left a horse waggon, horse and harness. In the waggon were left a grave stone not lettered, an old great coat and a bag maked L. C. By the best information from travellers, his name is Levi Cummins of Shrewsbury, Vt.

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

Thanks!

I want to thank everyone who wished us well on our move to Tennessee. Our new address is 1284 Powder Branch Road, Johnson City, Tennessee 37601. Thanks. ~Gloria Benson

~~~~~

### Greetings Shrewsberries,

Once again Shrewsbury Day was blessed with an incredibly beautiful day. Our S.D. Committee works hard for months to make each event a homespun creation. Every group is unique, with the Shrewsbury Mountain School and the MRU student bands leading off giving their own beat to each step. Each group chooses their own music, makes their own attire and design their own props. The S.D. Committee chooses a theme and we are rewarded with a Parade that showcases how truly interesting and diverse our community is. The students in the parade take their roles very seriously. As our event grows so does our excitement when May rolls around.

We are so fortunate to have DJ Brett entertaining throughout the day. Brett donates his services and has been joined by the Terry Martin Truck Band, who plays during lunch, also donating his time. Brett and Evening Song Farm, with their delicious greens have been our #1 donors over the years. Pat Norton of Southside Restaurant donates his culinary talents and a hot chili delivery service to the Meeting House doors. Susan Kelly and the Church Ladies always step up to serve you a wonderful lunch with Dany and Greg on the grills. McGown Landscape prepares the property and transport chairs, lions and anything else we need. Andrea and Chris Myers open their garage for us to keep our props and create dressing areas for the kids to costume. Donna Smith donates the electric hook up for DJ Brett and Jeff and Mary Smith provide parking to the Shriners. Shrewsbury's Tim Hewitt donated the luxurious Preferred Restrooms and the Sparkle Barn's Sparkling Stacy Harshman donated the many games and activities the kids enjoy on the hill.

The SD activities members were joined by a MRU student contingent, led by Cora Rudisol and Ady Cimonetti, who helped with all the activities and games. And many thanks to Lisa King for the fabulous S.D. photos and to Grace Brigham and Alicen Wilson for their creative SD art work in the Times. Thank you to our Shrewsbury Select Board members Aaron Korzun and Marc Cimonetti and road commissioner Dan Cavuto for all their services along with Vicki Arthur and Aaron Snyder for traffic control. Lastly, to our Fire Department for the tent donation that kept the volunteers shaded and happy.

We have successfully created a Historical Event for the town. A history and tradition we gifted to the younger generations. Memories of a day they were part of and the importance of traditions they will someday share with their own families.

We thank you, our community, for your supportive roles as participants and audience on S.D. We could not do it without you. Shrewsbury Day Belongs to You.

*Shrewsbury Day Committee Members;*

*Linda Fontana, Stacy Harshman, Lisa King, Chryl Martin,  
Steven Nicholson, Liesbeth Van der Heijden,  
Ann Vannerman, Sharon Winnicki,  
Grace Brigham and Betsy Jesser  
~Submitted by Betsy Jesser*

### Another splendid Shrewsbury Day!

Vickie Gillhouse is totally responsible for the amazing beautifying of the Terry Martin's truck....that was a LOT of work to decorate it with flowers. Just beautiful.



Also, I saw many folks wearing their Shrewsbury Vermont tee shirts--another example of pride in our lovely town, and we have Ali Wilson to thank for bringing them into existence! Really, everybody put so much thought into their parade showing. Just amazing. (Photo of Ali Wilson, Victoria Arthur, and Paul Sgalia) ~Submitted by Victoria Arthur

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# SHREWSBURY DAY

SEPTEMBER 14  
2025





# SHREWSBURY DAY 2025











# SHREWSBURY DAY 2025



Collage and Photos and by Lisa King; Also photos by Lisa Sharrow and Catherine Carrara



# SHREWSBURY LIBRARY

Library News Submitted by Joan Aleshire  
**CELEBRATING 50 YEARS & COUNTING**

**Monday 10am to 12pm**  
**Tuesday 7pm to 9pm**  
**Wednesday 10am to 5pm & 7pm to 9pm**  
**Thursday 7pm to 9pm**  
**Friday 10am to 12pm**  
**Saturday 10am to 12pm**

Wonder if the Library has a particular book or DVD? Want to put a hold on an item or renew one you've borrowed? Please visit [www.shrewsburylibrary.org](http://www.shrewsburylibrary.org).

To suggest a book to add to our collection, please contact DONNA SWARTZ for Children's and Young Adult titles ([donnaswartz44@aol.com](mailto:donnaswartz44@aol.com)) and JOAN ALESHIRE for Adult Fiction and Non-Fiction ([joanaleshire@vermontel.net](mailto:joanaleshire@vermontel.net)).

We can request books on Inter-Library Loan, if the cut in federal funding allows. We will buy books depending on our budget and our collection's needs.

The BOOK SALE is ON! Starting at 9 a.m. on SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27! Please bring BOOKS and DVDs in GOOD CONDITION (NO magazines, textbooks, encyclopedias) any time between NOW and OCTOBER 4, and buy some new-to-you treasures on the honor system!

SHREWSBURY DAY was a glorious celebration of our Town, and of our library, which is 50 years old and counting! Congratulations to SD organizers BETSY JESSER and GRACE BRIGHAM and their committee, and to the Library Paraders: LISA SHARROW ANISSA PARK and Family, JENNY WELLENUS and Family, DONNA SWARTZ, GAIL HARTIGAN, TRISH NORTON, LISA KING, ED RAYMOND, BEN ALESHIRE, and THOMAS HARTIGAN as Charles Willson Peale! If I've left anyone out, please let me know!

MANY THANKS to ANN MARIE MOODY & FAITH for coming to the library for the first of what we hope will be many "Reading with Faith" Story Times. Watch *The Times of Shrewsbury* for updates!

## COMING EVENTS:

Friday, October 17 @ 7pm: MARK YOUNGSTROM presents *Olaf Johnson's Photographs of Shrewsbury in the 1930's and 1940's*: A selection from over 800 images in the Shrewsbury Historical Society's collection.

## CONTINUING PROGRAMS:

Sunday, October 5 @ 4pm: WRITERS' GROUP: If you have poems or short prose pieces (stories, personal history) to share with our supportive, friendly group, please join us. For information, contact: Penelope Weiss ([pw9@earthlink.com](mailto:pw9@earthlink.com)) or Joan Aleshire ([joanaleshire@vermontel.net](mailto:joanaleshire@vermontel.net)).

Sunday, October 19 @ 4pm: FAMOUS BOOKS BOOK CLUB: *Mrs. Dalloway* by Virginia Woolf. Reprint copies of the original 1925 edition are available at the library. Please contact Joan if you need another copy.

Sunday, October 26 @ 4pm: SCIENCE BOOK CLUB: *What if We Get It Right? Visions of Climate Futures* by Ayana Elizabeth Johnson. Print and e-books are available. Please contact Margery Salmon to get a copy: [salmonm@vermontel.net](mailto:salmonm@vermontel.net).

## New Books include:

- *The Secret of Secrets*, a new novel by Dan Brown, author of *The DaVinci Code*.
- Bill McKibben: *Here Comes the Sun: A Last Chance for the Climate and a Fresh Chance for Civilization*. A brief for solar power by the noted environmentalist.
- *Everything Is Tuberculosis: The History and Persistence of Our Deadliest Infection* by John Green, the popular YA author.
- Mick Herron: *Clown Town*: The latest in the *Slow Horses* series of spy novels.
- *Looking at Women Looking at War: A War and Justice Diary* by Victoria Amelina, the Ukrainian journalist who was killed in 2023.
- *The Salt Stones: Seasons of a Shepherd's Life* by Helen Whybrow; A luminous memoir of sheep farming in Vermont, on the Long List for the National Book Award!

## Olof Johnson's Photographs of Shrewsbury in the 1930's and 1940's

**Shrewsbury Library**  
**Friday, October 17**  
**at 7:00pm**



What did Shrewsbury look like in the 1930's and 40's? You will be amazed. Olaf Johnson was a minister in town and his collection of 800 local photos ended up in the archives of the Vermont Historical Society (unknown to anyone in Shrewsbury). Recently discovered and digitally scanned, these offer a look back at life in our town when the population was just 500 folks. A selected sample of this collection will be shown. Also included will be a few from the Pierce photo collection offering the same look back in time.

~Mark Youngstrom





#### BOOK REVIEWS

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

Please share your book reviews. Send them to Marilyn Dalick [maplesugar@comcast.net](mailto:maplesugar@comcast.net) for her to compile and submit to the *Times*.

#### **North Woods** by Daniel Mason

★★★★★

Daniel Mason's novel was on the NY Times Book Reviews list of the 10 best books of 2023, and it was also a finalist for a Pulitzer Prize. The Guardian pronounced that "to read it is to travel to the limits of what the novel can do." This heady praise is deserved, I think.

Right from the start, this book took me by surprise. I had never read anything like it. I found myself in strange territory, off-guard, unsettled, and downright spooked.

The story is about a cabin in the woods that becomes the home of a succession of human--and non-human--inhabitants. First is an English soldier who leaves the battlefield for his passion for growing apples. Then, twin spinster sisters, a crime reporter, a painter, a con man, a stalking panther (the first non-human inhabitant), and then two lusty beetles whose sexual encounter, scientifically described in detail, will leave you stunned.

This time-spanning story offers a way of looking at the world that asks: How do we live on, even after we've gone? *North Woods* is an eccentric and stimulating novel. I loved it. I'd give it more than 5 stars if I could!

~Reviewed by Marilyn Dalick

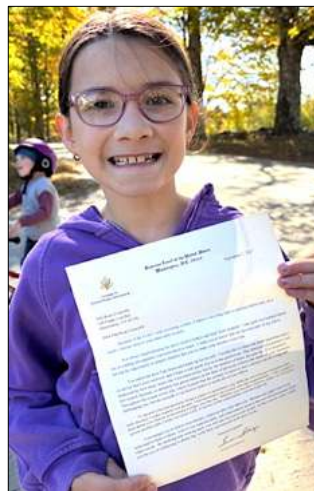


Faith and Ann Marie read books at Storytime at the Shrewsbury Library.

Photo by Jenny Wellenius

#### **Ella got a letter from a Supreme Court Judge!**

Ella Courcelle says she learned about Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor in her 3rd grade class at Shrewsbury Mountain School. She thought she was "really cool." So, she looked



her up online to see how to write a letter to the Supreme Court Justice. When she recently received a response, Ella said "I was so excited!"

In her letter to Ella, Justice Sotomayor wrote "You asked me how I am brave and stand up for myself. I would like to share the most important piece of advice that I ever received, and I hope it will guide you as it has guided

me: The character of a person is not measured by how many times she is knocked down, but by the number of times she gets up. It is normal to feel scared, hesitant, or defeated, but perseverance in the face of adversity reflects the depth of your character.

To answer your last question, being a justice is sometimes very difficult, but I always remember that each decision I make impacts real people. I feel honored to be trusted with that responsibility."

Justice Sotomayor also wrote "I hope you choose a life of service to the communities you are a part of." And, Ella has done just that by sharing her correspondence with the Shrewsbury community.

## SHREWSBURY SINGERS

*present*

### *Singing on a Sunday Afternoon*

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

~~~~~

October 26, 2025 @ 2:00pm

~Russellville Schoolhouse~

(18 Crown Point Road, Shrewsbury)

~Free Will Offering ~

For more information: Licia Gambino
 (802) 492-3792 hamgam@vermontel.net

The Shrewsbury Community Church



Compiled by Sue Ransom-Kelley

Whoever has ears to hear...

When we go about our day what do we pay attention to? What sounds do we hear? What do we ponder on that we have heard? Just this morning as I was outside doing Tai Chi with my classmates the teacher was cuing us on the poses of the routine. She cued us to go into the "rooster" pose. At the exact same time the next-door rooster crowed. We laughed. Chance. Synchronicity. God laughing. Name it what you will. We all laughed and learned to not take ourselves too seriously.

What sounds did we hear on Shrewsbury Day? I heard a lot of joyous laughter, people sharing stories, commenting on the state of the beautiful day, clapping for people in the parade, music of many kinds, the sticking sound of a ball being thrown at a Velcro target and being ripped off (one of many game challenges), etc. I learned that it is important to just come together as a community, share food, music, and activities. It is the glue that shapes a community. We learn about our neighbors. We learn to let go and dance a few steps to the music. We learn that it is important to applaud each other's efforts. We learn that it is important as adults to nurture the child within (who doesn't want to drive one of the small cars?). I heard the clamor of setting up, serving, and cleaning up. Of people each doing their part and working together to get the job done. Teamwork in the community. May we pay close attention to the sounds around us and listen anew to the old familiar ones. It takes a focus to just be in the moment to hear old things afresh and like new. What are the sayings that you heard from the generation before you that you still remember and may even repeat to the generation after us? Just some food for thought. ~Peace be with you, Pastor Karen



The Sunday Fun Day Program for kids is back in session! We meet from 10:30-11:30 am at the Shrewsbury Center Church in the children's room upstairs at the Meeting House. All are welcome to join us. We welcome parent participation. We gather at the church. We participate in crafts, stories, and sharing. We have an average of six children weekly with others joining us now and then. We participate in supporting community and world service projects. Please join us! Call Cortney 802-683-7852, Anissa 802-779-2248, or Lynette 802-683-0631 if you have questions.

Community Food Shelf

Free Community Food Shelf at the Library in the front entry way. Those in need are welcome to help themselves any time the Library entryway is open. Limited hours are:

Mon 10am-12noon; Tues 7-9pm; Wed 10am-5pm and 7-9pm; Thurs 7-9pm; Fri 10am-12noon; and, Sat 10am-12noon.

Food Delivery and Assistance If you are unable to get to the Food Shelf at the library in Shrewsbury, we will deliver groceries to you. If you need items which are not available on the shelf we can provide grocery gift cards. Call Karen at 802-558-5991 or Sue at 802-779-4360 or 802-492-3738.

Community Needs

- Wedding, Funeral or Memorial Service Requests: Contact Donna Smith 802-492-3367; or Sue Kelley 802-492-3738, 802-779-4360
- Community Helping Hand Requests: Contact Donna Smith 802-492-3367; Sue Kelley 802-779-4360, 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:

Sun, Oct 5 @ 10:30am Fun Day Program for kids. Worship Service and Holy Communion led by Pastor Karen Braeutigam at the Center Church.

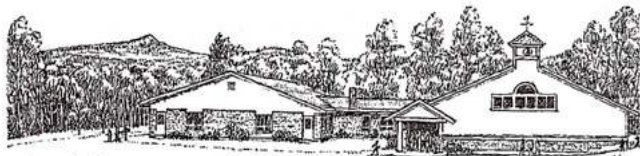
Fri, Oct 10 @ 5pm-6:30pm Lasagna Dinners to go beef or vegetarian at the Shrewsbury Meeting House. Order Dinners by Oct 3rd call Lynette 802-683-0631. Free will donation. We will deliver if needed!

Sun, Oct 12 @ 10:30am Fun Day Program for kids. Worship Service at the Center Church.

Sun, Oct 19 @ 10:30am Fun Day Program for kids. Worship Service led by Pastor Karen Braeutigam at the Center Church.

Sun, Oct 26 @ 10:30am Fun Day Program for kids. Worship Service led by Pastor Karen Braeutigam at the Center Church.

Tues, Oct 28 @ 12noon Prayer Shawl Group. Upstairs at the Meeting House. All are welcome! Dessert, 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.



SHREWSBURY MOUNTAIN SCHOOL

It has been an absolutely beautiful start of the school year at Shrewsbury Mountain School! The students have been enjoying playing on our new playground, reading books, solving math problems, singing, playing band instruments, running and walking on our walking path, playing soccer on the field, as well as exploring and learning in the garden. We are loving all the sunshine each day!

Important Dates:

10/2: SMS PTO Meeting 6:30pm
 10/13: No School - Indigenous People's Day
 10/20: Half Day Release
 10/31: Trunk or Treat

Back to School Night! On Tuesday, our school families gathered together to enjoy a pizza potluck in our multipurpose room. School Board member, Stephen Abatiell, and the Superintendent, Cheryl Gonzalez also joined in on the fun. I gave a presentation on Title 1 funding and our amazing PTO talked about the wonderful plans to support students this year. Our families then visited their child's classroom to conclude the evening. We are so grateful for our strong educator team and supportive community!

SMS Garden: We have had a wonderful time exploring and learning in our abundant and colorful school garden this month. Students have been able to taste test different tomato varieties, cut flowers to make bouquets, and so much more! We are grateful for the plant donations, time and expertise of our community partners SAGE and Evening Song Farm.

Shrewsbury Day: On Sunday, September 14, our whole community gathered together to celebrate our town and specifically the 50th birthday of the Shrewsbury Library. SMS students marched together in the parade as a school group, but we also had students participate with costumes and props for the library portion of the parade. We also had over 20 MRU student musicians join the parade with their bucket and percussion drum line as well as support the games and activities for the children. The tunes by DJ Brett and the yummy picnic lunch were also outstanding! We are so grateful that the Shrewsbury Day Planning Committee invites us each year and our beautiful community takes the time to celebrate together.

Support our School! We need volunteers to help with our Four Winds Program, our Winter Sports Program and our PTO! If you are able to volunteer, please send me an email or call the school. We would love to have you and the students would greatly appreciate your support!

I hope you enjoy the leaves turning and our transition into the Fall season! If you have any questions or concerns, contact me at 802-786-3995 or at kcimonetti@millriverschools.org.

~Kristin Cimonetti, Principal



Enjoying flowers and food in the SMS Garden





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EXPLORE. DISCOVER. THRIVE.

Mill River
Unified Union School District

Dear Mill River Unified Union School District Residents,

September, 2025

On July 1st, Governor Scott signed into law Act 73, *An Act Relating to Transforming Vermont's Education Governance, Quality, and Finance Systems*. The law is fundamentally changing the state's education system by restructuring funding and governance. We're providing this summary of the law so that interested residents can stay informed.

Chronological summary of Act 73 by effective date:

- **School Choice & Independent Schools:** Tuition to approved independent schools will be limited to those located in Vermont, among other new requirements. This section requires districts to continue to pay tuition on behalf of resident students enrolled for the 2024–2025 school year and those who have been accepted by approved independent schools for the 2025–2026 school year, until they graduate from those schools. This took effect on July 1, 2025.
- **Class Size Minimums:** The law creates minimum class size requirements (starting with the 2026–2027 school year) that vary by grade level. For grades 1–8, class size minimums are 10–15 students. Currently, class sizes in grades 1–8 range from 3 to 24.. For grades 9–12 class size minimum is 18 students. Currently, class sizes in MRUHS range from 2 to 25
- **School District Consolidation:** A significant reduction in the number of school districts from the current 100+ school districts and 50+ supervisory unions/districts will occur. A task force will suggest up to three new district maps by December 1, 2025 for lawmakers to review in January 2026. Each new district will serve 4,000–8,000 PreK–12 students. The MRUUSD currently has 779 students enrolled. Clarendon, Shrewsbury, Wallingford and Tinmouth residents will no longer vote for school directors for the MRUSD once it's been dissolved. New district operations will start on July 1, 2028.
- **Property Tax Reform:** Act 73 replaces the current statewide education property tax credit with a homestead property tax exemption based on income. Homeowners with an annual household income of \$115,000 or less will be allowed to exempt a portion, 90% to 10%, of their housesite value—up to \$425,000—from their property taxes. A new property tax classification, “non-homestead residential”, is meant to ensure that second homes are taxed at a higher rate than businesses and apartment rentals. The section takes effect on July 1, 2028.
- **Education Funding:** The law transitions education funding to a foundation formula. The state will provide districts a base amount per student, adjusted annually for inflation, with additional weights for special education, English language learners, economically disadvantaged, etc. Town Meeting Day 2027 will be the last time Clarendon, Shrewsbury, Wallingford and Tinmouth residents will vote on a school budget. This section takes effect on July 1, 2028, provided that new school districts approved by the legislature in 2026 have begun operating.

We know these changes are big, and we've highlighted above only a few of the major ones. If you have any questions or want to learn more, please don't hesitate to reach out. We'll continue to share updates as they become available. Staying informed helps all of us navigate these changes together.

SHREWSBURYBOARD MEMBER CONTACT INFORMATION:

Stephen Abatiell (sabatiell@millriverschools.org)

Kimberly Williams (kwilliams@millriverschools.org)



Shrewsbury Conservation Commission

Trail Camera Picture of the month



"Vermont's bear population seems to be growing, and researchers want to know why."

In a [Vermont Public](#) report, published September 8, 2025, Adiah Gholston, explains the details of a black bear research project started by Vt. Fish and Wildlife this spring. A total of 18 females of varying ages were fitted with GPS collars. Nine bears were released in the Connecticut River Valley and nine in the Southern Green Mt. area.

Of those nine bears, released in the Southern Green Mts., three different individuals have appeared in photos and videos on my trail cameras here in Shrewsbury! The bear's size and collar differences identify the individual bears. It's interesting that these bears have stayed our area all summer. I'm hoping the bear's GPS data locations can be added to our Shrewsbury Wildlife Road Crossings Project in the future. The bear's travels will help to confirm the location of the wildlife corridors we've been mapping here in town over the last five years. If you'd like to read the whole story about this interesting research project, go to Vermont Public's website, and under search, type in Adiah Gholston, Bear Population. Submitted by Linda Shelvey.

If you have a wildlife picture to share, please send it to Linda at lpurdyshe@gmail.com



To Bee or Not to Bee

Perhaps you have noticed a mysterious, undulating, raised patch of ground, alongside the stream just north of Pierce's Store. What could it be? It is a future garden meant to support bees and other pollinators such as butterflies, moths, hummingbirds, and even some flies!



This pollinator garden to bee is a collaborative project of your Conservation Commission and the area's Extension Master Gardeners, ably spearheaded by one such MG, Rita Gyls. Under her direction, an area was laid out, then covered with old hay, cardboard, and well composted horse manure. This creates a "lasagna" of materials that will smother the underlying grass and cook together to form a ready planting bed by next Spring.

But, you say, aren't there enough gardens in Shrewsbury already? Can't the pollinators be content with those? Well, this one will have a profusion of plants native to Vermont. This is important! Although many bees will visit any ol' flower, our beautiful butterflies and moths first have to live as caterpillars, and those guys need native plants to feed on. They simply can't or won't dine on plants they have not evolved with.

No caterpillars = no butterflies! Birds also suffer when caterpillars are scarce, as many depend on those larvae to feed their young.

The purpose of our Pollinator Garden is to demonstrate and showcase the beauty and utility of native flowering plants, to educate the populace, and to encourage all gardeners to incorporate some natives into their plantings.

Shrewsberries came together and made it happen! Tractor and dump truck drivers, shovelers and rakers, phone callers, horse farmers, hay balers and hay bale hefters all came to help in the initial phase. The Master Gardeners' minds are Abuzz with creativity and design, looking forward already to Spring! Watch This Space! ~submitted by Pamela Darrow



Second Sunday in March: Spring Forward,
The U.S. begins daylight savings at 2am



First Sunday in November: Fall Back--
The U.S. ends daylight savings at 2am





A Luxurious Loo

Just in case you missed this upscale version (complete with flower arrangement) of a "necessary" part of Shrewsbury Day . . . Here it is! ~CYM



Trail Clean Up Day

Shrewsbury Outing Club will hold a Plymouth trails cleanup day on Sunday, November 2, from 10am to 1:00pm. Come help out! ~Submitted by Lana Vanucchi



The Shrewsbury Conservation Commission invites you to come join in an Exploratory Walk through the trails at

**Jockey Hill Farm,
Saturday, October 18 ~~ 2-4pm**



Connie Youngstrom and Pam Darrow will take you on a search for Autumn Treasures ending with roasting marshmallows and making S'mores to top off this fall stroll. Park at the end of Coldham Road. Suitable for all ages.

For more info contact:
conservationcommission@shrewsburyvt.org
or (802) 558-5519

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Upcoming Events & Announcements

October 5th 10a-4pm: Tap to Table 🍁

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

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

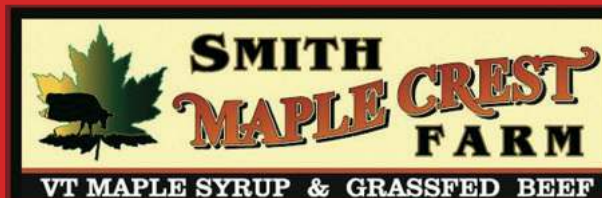
Join us for this FREE tasting to pair wine & brines featuring spice blends from Clean Brine Co & Pickling Solutions.

Out for a foliage drive ?

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

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





Mountain School students are back and the garden is buzzing with activity again! Each class has had visits to the garden over the first month of school, including an all-school tomato taste test! Tomatoes were sampled, data was collected, and red cherries came down with a narrow win as the 2025 SMS favorite!

Beyond the tomatoes the garden is overflowing with peppers, potatoes, herbs, and brussel sprouts, and the SMS teachers are preparing to utilize these veggies in cooking programs with their students. The annual Harvest Fest will kick off the cooking in early October with cuisines from around the world, and passports to stamp with each culinary visit.

Have an auditory visit with some creative chefs with our newest Root Words podcast episodes. We have three new episodes out in October and more on the way. We're focusing on the market vendors of Rutland, Vermont's Farmers' Market. We hope you enjoy this series from Root Words. Find it where you get your podcasts.

Finally, mark your calendar for November 8, when School House Jams come back to the Russellville School House at 7pm. They'll continue on the second Saturday of the month through the cold season ahead.

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

Champlain Philharmonic

The Champlain Philharmonic and Arc Benders Circus Opera will join forces for the orchestra's Fall Concert Series for a magical and awe-inspiring performance of Mozart's opera, The Magic Flute. The concerts will be on Saturday, October 11 at 7:30pm at the Town Hall Theater in Middlebury and Sunday, October 12 at 4:00pm at Grace Congregational Church in Rutland. The performance will feature Elizabeth Wohl who will sing while suspended in the air by aerial silks. She will be joined by acrobat Eliana Perlmutter, and tenor James Anderson. The program will also feature a composition by Vermont's own Jerome (Jerry) Shedd and Stravinsky's Suite No. 2 for Small Orchestra.

Tickets are \$15 General Admission, \$10 Seniors (60+), \$5 Students and will be available in advance and at the door for both performances. If purchasing tickets at the door for the Rutland performance, please bring cash or check only. For more info, visit www.champlainphilharmonic.org.

~Submitted by Roxanne Ramah



SNO-BIRDS NEWS

Well, as you all know, it is really dry out there; we desperately need water. Our club members have been out doing some trail and bridge inspections. John has been doing some de-brushing around gate and bridges and road crossings. We will be doing more as we get closer to December, and we have to be careful in the woods so we do not start a fire with the dry conditions.

Dave and Mike headed up the 50' bridge project. With a few members helping the project was finished and it looks great. Leonard Page hauled the I-beams in with a skidder and Jay Young helped set the beams in the cement blocks that Dave designed to lock the beams in place. Thank you to J.P. Carrara for giving us a really good deal on the blocks! We then welded cross braces in 9 places between the beams to stiffen it. Dave and Jay did a nice job on the dirt work. Scott Ryan cut the old bridge apart and took it to the scrap yard. I want to thank all of the members that helped in any way with that project. The photo is of the finished project. Most of the members that helped are retired or semi-retired which helps when the projects are done mid-week.



We are replacing a pole bridge on 407 also. We hope to have that done by the end of Sept. It is 30+ feet long and it will get it up higher out of the water, we did the same with the 50' bridge. Lastly, we will be doing maintenance on the Tucker to get it ready for the season. I would like it done in early October. ~Submitted by Roy Arthur

Barred Owl Nesting Boxes Installed!



On the advice of the USDA and the Audubon Society and with the help of Eldred French, we have put up two Barred Owl nesting boxes built with specific dimensions: 30 feet off the ground, at the forest/pasture edge, and a half mile away from each other. Eldred and his partner Rob, who have 107 years tree experience between the two of them, had never installed owl boxes before. It was quite an undertaking,

but it's DONE! Now we leave things to the owls and hope! If you look carefully, you can see Eldred up in the tree with the owl box. ~Submitted by Ludy Biddle



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Hours: 8am to 6pm

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The leaves are changing in muted tones so far. Days are still warm, but there's a nip in the evening air; hopefully we'll get some much-needed rain soon. As the fall settles in, I start to look forward to soups and stews. Lucky for all of us, Pierce's will be serving up an amazing variety of prepared hot foods!

Speaking of soups and stews, on October 18 we'll be hosting Pierce's 4th Annual Chili Cookoff. If you like chili, this is a don't miss event. Every year has been a spicy good time, and the competition has been hot! Want to be a judge? For the \$10 admission fee, you get to taste all the chilis, and everyone who comes gets to vote on their favorites. Want to compete? Brush off your favorite chili recipe and bring your crockpot to the party. New this year – the chili you bring to compete gets you a free admission so you can taste and vote on the competition. Pierce's will also be serving up soft drinks, beer, and wine. Rules are posted in the Events section of the Pierce's website, as well as on the counter in the store. Please let us know in advance that you are bringing a chili, so that we can make sure that the tasting stations are set up for you. It's an adage that many hands make light work – if you're interested in volunteering to help with setup and logistics the night of the event, your assistance would certainly be appreciated.

Pierce's Store events are wonderful opportunities to gather with community to enjoy company and the bounty of wonderful products that the store has to offer. Among my favorite events are the wine tastings that Sandy Bragg organizes. Everyone has been a fantastic learning experience. They are often accompanied by opportunities to sit in the Pierce's Garage and enjoy glasses and fine snacks in great company. More tastings are coming – the next one is September 26 the Plumb Bobs will be performing in the garage and we'll be serving up wine and appetizers. On November 22, Sandy will be hosting another tasting just in time to savor wines that will pair well with your holiday feasts.

What else? With the holidays ahead, Pierce's makes it easy to find the coolest and most unique gift ideas. From beautiful turned wooden bowls, to fine pottery and glassware, the store has an amazing selection of hand-crafted items. We also have a selection of specialty items sporting the Pierce's Store logo, including hats, tee-shirts, and coffee mugs.

~Jeff Monder, Board Member



Pierces Store 4th Annual Chili Cookoff October 18, 2025 5:00PM until 7:00PM



At Pierce's Store
2658 Northam Road
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Chefs and Tasters Welcome!!!

Chefs – Your fantastic Chili could be the winner!

All varieties of Chili are welcome!

Entry Fee – \$10.00 per Chili

To get Contest rules and registration, you can:

Visit Pierce's Store

Web: <http://www.piercesstore.com/2025-events.html>

Or, request by e-mail to: Pierceschilicookoff@gmail.com

Tasters – You will be the judges!!!

Taste the wonderful variety of chilis and vote for your favorite!

Entry Fee - \$10.00

Prizes – Bragging Rights, plus:

1st Place Prize - \$25 Pierce's Store Gift Certificate

2nd Place Prize - \$15 Pierce's Store Gift Certificate

3rd Place prize - \$10 Pierce's Store Gift Certificate

Pierce's Store will be selling soft drinks, beer, and wine

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



On the Shelf at Pierce's

Put some pazazz in your luncheon meat sandwich with FOX Sweet and Spicy MUSTARD ...It's Made in Vermont and on the shelf at Pierce's Store!

Shopping tip from the Roving Reporter

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