



# Times of Shrewsbury



April 2026

## SHREWSBURY: THE TROUT CAPITAL OF VERMONT

Few people in Shrewsbury realize that the town hosts the largest state-certified private fishery in Vermont, which maintains over 150,000 rainbow, brown and brook trout ranging from tiny fry less than an inch long to 20-inch trophy fish. Danaher Fishery, run by Matt and Lori Danaher, is a sophisticated operation with a network of holding ponds, rearing tanks, filtration systems and pumping stations.

The fish raised by the Danahers end up in some of Vermont's finest restaurants, as well as stocking private ponds and streams. Danaher Fishery trout also starred in a pivotal scene in Maggie Gyllenhaal's *The Bride!*, which opened in U.S. theaters earlier this month. A gasping Shrewsbury rainbow trout fascinates the Bride immediately after she is brought back to life.

Dr. John Brawley, marine scientist and an assistant professor at UVM's Gund Institute for the Environment, praised the Danahers' operation after a visit last year: "The layout is impressive: a network of flowing water feeds outdoor ponds and a series of six greenhouses terraced down a hill. The farm's integration with the surrounding ecosystem is a testament to its sustainable aquaculture practices."

Each spring brings a new crop of fish. A hatchery incubates eggs harvested from nearby brooder ponds and sourced from state fisheries. Freshly hatched babies are called "sac fry" which live off a sac attached to their bodies for about a month. The growing fry are then transferred to holding tanks where they grow in controlled environments.

Greenhouses are fitted with recirculating aquaculture systems (RAS). Holding tanks are connected to the RAS, cycling water through a drum filter to remove solids before moving to a biofilter. The biofilter contains naturally occurring



*Matt Danaher tending his watercress, a tasty component of the farm's filtration system*



*Fish are sorted by size: smaller fish slip through the gaps separating them from larger fish to reduce attrition*

nitrifying bacteria that convert toxic ammonia—produced by fish metabolism—into the harmless compound nitrate. Continuous filtration maintains water quality and ensures a healthy environment for the fish. The fishery also incorporates aquaponics, using plants to absorb fish waste. Lush stands of peppery watercress clean the water as it flows through their roots.

As the young trout put on weight, they are graded by size. Four- to six-inch trout are the optimal size for the private pond stocking market. The larger the fish, the more expensive they are per unit. The largest trout, weighing up to 8 pounds and 20" in length, take two years or more to raise. Trophy trout supply upscale restaurants and private trout fishing clubs such as Bridgewater's Meccawe Club.

A recent visit to Danaher Fishery from Vermont's Secretary of Agriculture, Anson Tebbitts, was part of an effort by state officials to increase awareness and support for aquaculture. There is growing interest in integrating aquaculture into broader agricultural support systems, ensuring access to resources and funding. However,

Danaher Fishery is not the result of state largesse. Building one of the state's largest and most successful fish farms was the result of Yankee ingenuity and a scrappy knack for repurposing equipment to new uses.

Much of the farm's equipment consists of recycled construction materials gathered from far-flung locales such as Johnson State College and Spaulding High School in Barre. "All those piles out there? My wife calls them junk. But I know where everything is and have a plan for it all," says Matt. Nearby sit greenhouse ribs, 1,000-gallon steel and plastic tanks, pressure treated timbers and PVC drainage pipes.

*Continued on next page*

*Continued from front page*

In 1983 Matt and Lori bought a 43-acre former dairy farm on Eastham Road. Leveraging excellent spring water from nearby Saltash Mountain, Matt began to terrace the gently sloping land, excavating 11 ponds, laying in water pipe and building six greenhouses mainly with recycled materials or bought second-hand from farms and reconstructed on site. By 1991, he had created a fish farm. "I had a steep learning curve and didn't make any money till year 15. No one believed it would work. But I stuck with it," said Matt.

Matt grew up in Colchester and comes from four generations of dairy farmers. He remembers milking at 4am and haying in the summers. What motivated him to try fish farming? "When my kids were small, they played in a little fish pond I had dug. My daughter was absolutely fascinated so I started to culture fish with her and I guess you could say I got hooked ..."

However, aquaculture is not an easy business. Trout require lots of space and large supplies of fresh water. Electricity is needed to power the integrated valve and pump systems regulating water recyclers, aerators and oxygen purification machinery. That leads to another necessity: redundant back-up systems, including generators. All of this represents capital, and another outlay is needed for transporting the fish. Danaher accomplishes this with three trucks and a hauling trailer set up with oxygen tanks. This peripheral equipment allows him to ship up to 1,200 trout at a time.



Feeding rainbow trout

Even if all goes well with labor, management and monetary resources, the economics for trout farming are challenging. In the two years it takes to grow a 12" to 14" trout, a beef cow achieves a market weight of 1,200 to 1,400 pounds. The fish farm only turns a profit by stocking recreational ponds, selling pond maintenance materials, and providing consulting to pond owners. Lori runs the couple's floor finishing business, Danaher Floor Restoration, which also demands much of Matt's time.

Fish need to be fed twice a day and regularly sorted into holding tanks with similar-sized fish to reduce attrition. A broken pipe or clogged filter can create flooding and water loss that endangers the entire inter-connected system. Four years ago, the fish were infected by a pathogen that required the destruction of the fishery's entire stock and sanitization of all the equipment. Experts expected the fishery to be out of commission for over a year, but the Danahers were operational after only 8 months.

Matt's advice to future aquaculturists? "If you want to go into the fish business, be prepared to spend a boatload of money and work till you're 90. I started when I was in my early 30s and I am just hitting my stride."

*~Article by Sandy Bragg*

**Note:** Danaher Fishery is wholesale only and open to the public by appointment only. The fishery welcomes school tours and specializes in hosting special needs students.

### **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 10<sup>th</sup> 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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 elections. Event ads must include the sponsor's name and contact information. Political ads must focus on Shrewsbury ballot initiatives or candidates wishing to represent Shrewsbury.

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 20<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to publication.

12/1/2025

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

Mar 24	12noon	*Prayer Shawl group meets upstairs in the Meeting House
Mar 28	2pm	*Film presentation by filmmaker George Woodard at the Library
Apr 1		*Deadline to apply for, or renew, dog licenses without paying a late fee.
Apr 4	10am	*3 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Easter Egg Hunt at Pierce's Store
Apr 7	6pm	*Free Yoga session at the Meeting House
Apr 11	7pm	*School House Jam at the Russellville School House
Apr 18	4pm	*Wine Tasting at Pierce's Store
Apr 19	4pm	*Famous Book Club meets at the Library
Apr 26	4pm	*Science Book Club meets at the Library
Apr 28	12noon	*Prayer Shawl group meets upstairs in the Meeting House
May 2		<b>Green Up Day</b>
May 3	4pm	*Writers' Group meets at the library

\*see elsewhere in newsletter for details

**TIMES OF SHREWSBURY**  
Online at  
[www.shrewsburyhistoricalsociety.com](http://www.shrewsburyhistoricalsociety.com)  
[www.shsrewsburyvt.org](http://www.shsrewsburyvt.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
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; No meeting July & August
Prayer Shawl Group	4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday at 12noon upstairs at the Meeting House
Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)	Sundays @ 10am Shrewsbury Library & via Zoom wildernessfriends@gmail. com
Shrewsbury Community Church	Sundays – 10:30am - Worship service
Shrewsbury Conservation Commission	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday (Feb – May) - 5:15pm at 1049 Upper Cold River Road
Shrewsbury Historical Society Museum	Closed for the season; For appointment call 802-712-7373
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-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 <a href="mailto:julanne@vermontel.net">julanne@vermontel.net</a>
News Flash Email:	<a href="mailto:vtbenbeano@gmail.com">vtbenbeano@gmail.com</a> or <a href="mailto:benbeano@vermontel.net">benbeano@vermontel.net</a>	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: Rutland County Sherriff Dept 1-802-775-8002

1<sup>st</sup> Constable: Robert Littman 802-774-8835, 2<sup>nd</sup> Constable: Steve Walsh 802-492-3572

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 3/20/2026]

## SHREWSBURY SELECTBOARD MINUTES

*The Selectboard meets the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday at 6:30pm at the Town Office.*

### March 4, 2026: Minutes of Selectboard Meeting

**Present at meeting:** Selectboard Members: Aaron Korzun, Marc Cimonetti. Francis Wyatt. Town Clerk: Rebecca Rice.

**Admin Assistant:** Alaina Cimonetti (Remotely).

Members of the public: Robert Littmann.

The meeting was convened at 6:35 PM.

**Agenda:** Motion made by A. Korzun to follow the agenda with the following additions: Change Order for the Northam Road Culvert Project. Seconded by M. Cimonetti. All in favor, motion approved.

Francis Wyatt was sworn in for a new term as Selectboard member.

**Selection of Chair:** Marc Cimonetti nominated Aaron Korzun to be the Selectboard Chair. F. Wyatt seconded. Approved.

**Organization:** A. Korzun made a motion that the time & place of Selectboard meetings be the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month at 6:30 PM at the Town Office. The newspapers of record be Times of Shrewsbury and Rutland Herald. The places of posting be Shrewsbury Town Office, Cuttingsville Post Office, Pierces Store, Shrewsbury Meeting House, Shrewsbury Transfer Station. M. Cimonetti seconded. Approved.

**Appointments:** A. Korzun made a motion to appoint Danial Cavoto for Road Commissioner, Aaron Korzun for Emergency Management Director, Marc Cimonetti for Emergency Management Coordinator, Davis Terrell for Energy Coordinator, Gerry Martin for Rutland Regional Ambulance Representative, Connie Youngstrom for Green-up Coordinator, Bert Potter for Transfer Station Admin., Steven Nicholson, Bert Potter, and Adrienne Raymond Fence Viewers, Greg Miller for Weigher of Coal, Eldred French for Tree Warden, Bob Kundsen for Rutland Regional Planning Commission Transportation Representative, Health Officer is vacant, Jack Perry and Aaron Korzun for Regional Emergency Management Committee.

A. Korzun made a motion to appoint Laura Black and Connor Self for Shrewsbury Planning Commission, Mark Youngstrom for the Meetinghouse Trustee position, Library Board Trustee position will be revisited next meeting and Three Development Review Board positions are vacant. M. Cimonetti seconded. Approved.

**Election Results:** Had a total of 184 voters. All Shrewsbury articles passed. School budget passed. Discussed the various people elected on Town Meeting Day. Eldred French Moderator. Francis Wyatt Selectboard. Mchelle Greene for 3-year Auditor, George Brigham 1-year Cemetery Commissioner.

**Vacant Positions:** Health Officer. Three DRB Positions are vacant. 2-year Auditor. Library Board Trustee.

1st Constable Position: A. Korzun made a motion to appoint Robert Littmann for 1st Constable. F. Wyatt seconded. Approved.

**Excess Weight Permits:** A. Korzun made a motion to approve excess weight permits for the following: Mike Johnson Logging, Inc., Markowski Excavating, Inc. and VELCO. Seconded by M. Cimonetti. Approved.

**Change Order for the Northam Road Culvert Project:** A. Korzun made a motion to sign the updated contract clarifying project timing and payment dates. M. Cimonetti seconded. Approved.

**New Business/ Open to the Public:** No new business.

**Review Minutes:** A. Korzun made a motion to accept the 2/18/2026 Selectboard meeting minutes. Seconded by F. Wyatt. Approved.

**Review Orders:** M. Cimonetti made a motion to approve the Selectboard Orders #3 for a total of \$7,993.49 and Road Orders #3 for a total of \$32,039.05. Seconded by F. Wyatt. Approved.

Adjourned at 8:00pm.

*Respectfully submitted, Alaina Cimonetti  
These minutes are unofficial until approved by the  
Selectboard at the next regularly scheduled meeting.*

### March 18, 2026: Minutes of Selectboard Meeting

**Present at meeting:** *Selectboard Members:* Aaron Korzun, Marc Cimonetti. Francis Wyatt. *Town Clerk:* Rebecca Rice. *Admin Assistant:* Alaina Cimonetti (Remotely). *Road Commissioner:* Dan Cavoto. *Contract Assessor:* Mimi Burstein.

**Members of the public:** No members of the public. The meeting was convened at 6:35 PM.

**Agenda:** Motion made by A. Korzun to follow the agenda with the following additions: Excess weight permits for Allard Lumber Company, Connecticut Valley Trucking, Fabian Earthmoving, Cota & Cota, JP Carrara & Sons, PVF Services, LLC, R.K. Miles., AmeriGas and Feed Commodities. Pierces store historic marker and Annual Financial Plan – Town Highways. Seconded by F. Wyatt. All in favor, motion approved.

**Contract Assessors - Tax Mapping and Technology Upgrades:** The Contract Assessor is seeking approval to move ahead with purchasing the budgeted software that will allow the tax maps to be digitized. The Selectboard approved the contract with CAI Technologies

**Appointments:** A. Korzun made a motion to appoint Greg McGown for 3 years and Ryan Fitzbeauchamp for one year on DRB. Elija LaChance will be the Library Board Trustee. Laura Black will be the Otter Creek Communications Union District (OCCUD) Rep. Bert Potter will be the SWAC Rep.

## SHREWSBURY SELECTBOARD MINUTES

(continued)

and Linda McGuire will be the Alt. SWAC Rep. F. Wyatt seconded it. Approved.

Three vacant positions: A three-year DRB Position, the Health Officer Position, and an Auditor Positions (will be discussed at the next meeting).

**Excess Weight Permits:** A. Korzun made a motion to approve all the following excess weight permits: Allard Lumber Company, Connecticut Valley Trucking, Fabian Earthmoving, Cota & Cota, JP Carrara & Sons, PVF Services, LLC, R.K. Miles., AmeriGas and Feed Commodities. M. Cimonetti seconded. Approved.

**Annual Financial Plan – Town Highways:** For the fiscal year July 2026.

**Pierce's Store Historical Marker:** The Preservation Trust of Vermont by the Board of the SCPS (Pierce's General Store) is applying for a historical marker at Pierce's Store. The Selectboard approves this and will be involved along with the Road Commissioner to determine the final location at a later date.

**2026 Local Emergency Management Plan (LEMP):** A. Cimonetti will be working on this item; it will be revisited at the next meeting.

**New Business/ Open to the Public:** Dan Cavoto is requesting uniforms for the road crew. The Selectboard approves of this idea. D. Cavoto is also looking to rent a street sweeper due to the excess of sand used this winter.

The Selectboard had a brief discussion about Act 181. While this act is not under the direct jurisdiction of the Selectboard we would encourage our residents to review the implications of the Act, especially regarding its effects on rural communities -- such as Shrewsbury.

The Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) Committee has had their first meeting and RRPC has begun collecting data. The committee is committed to providing an opportunity for community input and transparency about the process. The project's landing page will be kept up to date with public involvement opportunities and can be reached at <https://tinyurl.com/shrewsbury-lhmp26>. The online survey for feedback is on the website, and you can find it directly at <https://tinyurl.com/shrewsbury-lhmp26-survey>.

**Review Minutes:** A. Korzun made a motion to accept the 3/4/2026 Selectboard meeting minutes. Seconded by F. Wyatt. Approved.

**Review Orders:** M. Cimonetti made a motion to approve the Selectboard Orders #3A for a total of \$13,216.52 and Road Orders #3A for a total of \$13,542.15. Correcting Selectboard Orders #2A to \$7,010.68 and Road Orders #2A to \$16,223.73. Seconded by F. Wyatt. Approved.

Adjourned at 7:45pm.

*Respectfully submitted, Alaina Cimonetti  
These minutes are unofficial until approved by the Selectboard at the next regularly scheduled meeting.*

## HELP WANTED SUBSTITUTE TRANSFER STATION ATTENDANT

We're looking for someone that can fill in for the current transfer station attendants when they are unable to work due to vacation, sickness, or other circumstances. This position will perform the same duties as the current attendants: punching dump cards, operating equipment at the transfer station, keeping the transfer station clean and well organized, and answering questions.

Work Hours would be: Wednesdays, Noon – 6pm and Sundays, 8am - 4pm on an as needed basis.

Pay will be \$23/hour.

**If interested, please contact Bert Potter, Transfer Station Administrator at 802-236-9153**



### Words and Events that Shaped our Nation

2026 marks the 250th year, the Semi-quincentennial, of the birth of our nation with the signing of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. Commemorative events will be taking place in Vermont and around the country.

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From May into September, 1787, delegates gathered in Philadelphia for a Constitutional Convention. The document established a governing structure for the new nation and then had to be sent out and ratified by 9 of the 13 states. Only six states did so, others wanting changes in the proposed Constitution before they approved it, specifically a less powerful Federal government and enumeration of certain rights that it would ensure.

The compromise was to agree that if the objecting states would approve the Constitution, it could be amended later. So our Constitution was finally ratified in June 1788 with the well-known Preamble:

*"We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.*

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For more information on Vermont events, go to:  
<https://www.vermonthumanities.org/programs/attend/vermont-250th/> ~Submitted by Jonathan Gibson

## SHREWSBURY ELECTION RESULTS - ANNUAL MEETING 2026

1. To elect all town officers as required by law  
 One Moderator, 1-year term - Eldred French  
 One Selectboard Member , 3-year term - Francis Wyat  
 One Auditor, 3-year term - Michelle Greene  
 One Auditor, 2-year term - No candidate received the requisite number of votes  
 One 1st Constable, 1-year term - No candidate received requisite number of votes  
 One 2nd Constable, 1 year term - Steve Walsh  
 One Cemetery Commissioner, 3-year term - George Brigham
2. Shall the Town approve a total general fund expenditure of **\$2,425,623** of which up to **\$1,184,680** shall be raised by taxes and **\$1,240,943** by non-property tax revenues and surplus funds and reserve funds?  

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>37</b>
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3. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$5,000** for the Town Office Reserve Fund?  

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>32</b>
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4. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$5,000** for the Town Garage Reserve Fund?  

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>22</b>
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5. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$1,000** for the Town Office Equipment Reserve Fund?  

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>26</b>
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6. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$85,000** for the Town Road Equipment Fund?  

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>25</b>
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7. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$1,000** for the Town Records Restoration Reserve Fund?  

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>31</b>
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8. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$75,000** for the Shrewsbury Volunteer Fire Department Equipment Reserve Fund?  

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>34</b>
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9. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$19,000** for the Shrewsbury Community Meeting House?  

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>35</b>
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10. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$35,000** for the Shrewsbury Volunteer Fire Department Operating Fund?  

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>27</b>
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11. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$7,500** for the Shrewsbury Library?  

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>40</b>
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12. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$3,000** for the Shrewsbury Historical Society?  

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>37</b>
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13. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$250** to help support the Rutland Natural Resources Conservation District?  

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>48</b>
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14. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$2,526** to help support VNA & Hospice of the Southwest Region?  

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>22</b>
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15. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$150** to help support the Green Up Vermont organization?  

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>32</b>
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16. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$130** to help support the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)?  

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>34</b>
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17. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$700** to help support the Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging?  

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>36</b>
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18. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$1,192** to help support Rutland Mental Health Services?  

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>42</b>
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19. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$150** to help support NewStory (formally the Rutland County Women's Network and Shelter)?  

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>32</b>
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20. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$600** to help support BROCC-Community Action in Southwestern Vermont?  

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>50</b>
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21. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$400** to help support the Rutland County Parent Child Center?  

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>44</b>
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22. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$250** to help support the Vermont Family Network?  

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>48</b>
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23. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$150** to help support the Rutland County Humane Society?  

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>26</b>
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24. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$170** to help support the Vermont Center for Independent Living?  

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>44</b>
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25. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$400** to help support the Child First Advocacy Center?  

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>42</b>
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26. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$500** to help support the American Red Cross of NH/VT?  

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>39</b>
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27. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$500** to help support Vermont Adult Learning?  

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>45</b>
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28. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$500** to help support Vermont Farmers Food Center?  

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>39</b>
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29. Shall the taxes be postmarked on or before, or in the hands of the Treasurer no later than 7:00 P.M., Friday, October 9, 2026.  

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>12</b>
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*Certified by Rebecca Rice, Shrewsbury Town Clerk*

## NEWS FROM THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

Town Meeting has come and gone. There were no contested races for office. Eldred French was elected moderator, Francis Wyatt was re-elected to the Selectboard, Michelle Greene was re-elected as an Auditor and George Brigham was re-elected as a Cemetery Commissioner. Steve Walsh was elected as Second Constable. All the budget articles passed as did the budget articles for the Mill River Unified Union School District. There were insufficient write-in votes for the election of an Auditor for two years or for the First Constable.

Robert Littmann offered to be appointed as First Constable at the Selectboard Meeting on March 4 and was appointed by the Selectboard that evening. For the first time in several years, Shrewsbury now has two constables.

The Town still needs to appoint a Health Officer and more members are needed for the Development Review Board and there are vacancies on the Planning Commission if anyone is interested. If you are interested in any of these positions, please let me know.

If anyone is interested in reading Kevin Winter's input at the Informational Meeting held on February 28, 2026, it is currently on the Town website under Documents, Uncategorized.

The Town has started working with the Rutland Regional Planning Commission to put together a current Local Emergency Hazard Mitigation Plan. We are looking for feedback from the Town on what it should include. There are surveys available at Pierce's Store and at the Town Office as well as on a link on the Town Website.

Time to renew dog licenses without paying a late fee is running out. The license fee is still \$11.00 per neutered/spayed dogs and \$15.00 per unneutered/spayed dogs. After April 1, there is an additional late fee of \$4.00 per dog. Dog licenses are required by State Law and the Town can fine any owner of an unlicensed dog.

The Town Office still has a supply of free COVID Tests for those in town needing them.

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*



### **FREE Yoga** at the Shrewsbury Meeting House, 88 Lottery Road Tuesday, April 7, from 6 to 7pm

Must bring a yoga mat and towel for extra cushion. All levels yoga class to allow for greater awareness of the breath, focus on longer holds to harness strength and balance, followed by deep stretching. Chairs available if needed.'

Katie McNamara is new resident of Shrewsbury. She taught yoga full time in Washington D.C. over the past three years, and has over 1,000 hours of yoga training certifications ranging from Hatha and Ashtanga to Kids yoga! She offers a variety of modifications or variations to postures depending on the different abilities of each class setting.



Come join in a celebration  
of a life well lived for  
**Orville Woods**  
at the Shrewsbury Community  
Meeting House  
on Saturday, April 25, 2026  
from 1PM-3PM

#### **Vermont State Senators:**

Brian Collamore: [bcollamore@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:bcollamore@leg.state.vt.us)

Terry Williams: [twilliams@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:twilliams@leg.state.vt.us)

David Weeks: [dweeks@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:dweeks@leg.state.vt.us)

#### **Vermont State House of Representative:**

[Kcwinter5783@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://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](http://www.welch.senate.gov)

Vermont Office: (800) 642-3193

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

##### **Senator Bernie Sanders**

[www.sanders.senate.gov/contact](http://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: (802) 652-2450

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

*Revised 3/1/2026*

# What These Mean for Shrewsbury:

Regional Plan Future Land Use Map

Act 181

Tier 3 Rules

Road Rule

As the Chair of the Board of Commissioners (and the Shrewsbury representative) to the Rutland Regional Planning Commission, I opened the first public hearing for the 2026 Draft Rutland Regional Plan which was held this past week. What became evident during the hearing was that there is a lot of confusion between the Regional Plan including its Future Land Use map, and the proposed Tier 3 areas, the associated Tier 3 rules and the proposed 'Road Rules.'

## **Rutland Regional Plan and Future Land Use Map:**

There is a current Rutland Regional Plan and Future Land Use Map which was adopted in 2018. The current draft 2026 Future Land Use Map shows five different areas in Shrewsbury. These are Village Centers (Cuttingsville and Northam), Village Area (around Northam), Rural General, Rural Agriculture & Forestry, and Conservation. The criterion for the areas is now the same for all Vermont regional plans and future land use maps. In terms of how a Shrewsbury landowner wants to develop their land, these area designations have no jurisdiction at either the state or local level. All the land in all these areas are still subject to the same local land use regulations and the same State regulations.

## **Act 181:**

Act 181 was the legislation that passed and was signed into law in 2024. One of its main drivers was the enormous need for housing to be developed in Vermont, thus the enacted bill was intended to allow more dense housing to be developed in appropriate growth areas while removing some of the regulatory "hoops" of Act 250 in those areas. Act 181 also directs the governor to appoint members of a Land Use Review Board to develop rules that follow the statute of Act 181 to direct development while protecting natural resources.

## **Tier 3 and Road Rule:**

What many landowners in rural areas are concerned about are the Tier 3 areas and the "Road Rule." Notably, both the Tier 3 rules as well as the final Road Rule have yet to be finally developed by the Land Use Review Board. In fact, legislation S.325, has recently been passed by the Senate and is currently in committee before it heads to the House. Essentially, S.325 would give these rules an extended due date (June 2028 for Tier 3 rules; Jan 2030 for the Road Rules), as well as bring Act 181 back to the legislature for amendment.

## **Tier 2 and Tier 3 Relationship to Act 250:**

Tier 2 and Tier 3 are areas that define where Act 250 has jurisdiction. These will be defined by the Land Use Review Board (this is a separate issue, and separate map from the Rutland Regional Plan's Future Land Use Map).

Tier 3 was established for areas with critical natural resources. All development in these areas would be under Act 250 jurisdiction. Again, the rules/criterion for these areas has yet to be finalized. There are some preliminary maps that can be found on the Land Use Review Board's website that shows where these areas are proposed in Shrewsbury (but these mapped areas may change). All other areas of Shrewsbury outside of the Village Centers and the Village area) would be designated as Tier 2.

## **Road Rule:**

Act 250 jurisdiction will remain the same as it always has in the Tier 2 area, with the added 'Road Rule' that specifies that any development which includes a road over 800 feet long and/or a road and driveway(s) over 2000 feet long will be under Act 250 jurisdiction. Note that there are many details, not covered here, such as exclusions and exceptions for various uses.

Please contact me if you have questions. I'll try to answer them and/or I can direct you to the right person for further information.

*~ Laura Black, Chair and Shrewsbury Representative  
on the Rutland Regional Planning Commission Board of Commissioners*



## SHREWSBURY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

The March 20 submission date for this Times article coincides with the vernal equinox. Happy spring! The final weeks of winter (as usual) featured snowy roads, icy roads, muddy roads – in no particular order. Shrewsbury’s roads were slippery on Town Meeting Day, March 3. Around 4pm that day, our volunteers were called out for two separate motor vehicle accidents in different parts of town. The fire engine from Northam Station and members responded to Eastham Road (not far from member Shawn Danaher’s house) for an accident involving a tow truck (heading to Shawn’s) and an oncoming vehicle. In Cuttingsville, Rescue 1 and members responded to a collision involving two trucks on Route 103, near the Bowman Mansion. No one was injured in either crash, but it took time to clear the roadway of debris in each case. That was particularly an issue on Route 103, where traffic on the busy highway was backed up and limited to one lane until the pavement was cleared. Be careful out there! Members also responded on March 8 to a fire alarm on Bailey Road (likely a faulty sensor), and on March 1 to a request for mutual aid from Clarendon (smoke in a residence).

Chief Phil Severy keeps our Fire Department ready to respond to calls like these and more. SVFD relies on “dry hydrants” for water in many parts of town, which need regular flushing to keep them in working order. Our volunteers spent one evening recently on hydrant cleaning, getting ready for the season ahead. The air bottles for our Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) – required for interior firefighting--are being tested and refilled this month. Members have also spent time getting our new vehicle Rescue 1 completely outfitted for future calls. There is always something to do.

Speaking of dry hydrants: The Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force offers grants of up to \$10,000 to homeowners for

the installation of these vital water sources. Could your property have a site that might qualify? Contact SVFD if you want more information. Having such a water source on the property greatly benefits a homeowner, as well as others in the neighborhood.

Speaking of Town Meeting Day: As always, we thank the voters of Shrewsbury for their support. Last year our Fire Department operating expenses were \$85,000. Just \$35,000 of that amount was paid by tax dollars; SVFD’s fundraising efforts paid the balance. 2026 marks the twelfth year that SVFD’s request for assistance from the Town for our operations has been “level funded” at \$35,000. You may not realize what a bargain that is. By way of comparison: This year our neighboring Fire Department in Mt. Holly will receive \$94,700 from its taxpayers – an increase of \$7K from last year. Clarendon approved \$90,000 for its Fire Department’s 2026 operating budget -- \$8K more than last year. As Shrewsbury residents we do not just have a great fire department – the price we pay for fire protection is a relative bargain.

These savings for Shrewsbury taxpayers have been made possible by generous tax-deductible donations to SVFD. We are also grateful for the support of Greg and Donna Ganzer, who sell break open tickets benefitting SVFD at the Rustic Rooster – thank you! Last but not least: be thankful for the numerous hours spent on fundraising by our volunteers. Past Chief “Red” Brigham used to say: The best damn fire department in the State! We hope you agree. Enjoy the longer days and remember:

**BE SMART AND STAY SAFE.**

*~Submitted by Barry Griffith*

### THE SVFD NEEDS YOU!

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



### BURN PERMITS

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

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bbates@vermontel.net

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802-353-4376



### Channeling Our Inner Michael

Longtime Shrewsbury Michael Wells passed away in mid-March. A man of kindness and conviction, Michael first came to the area from England in 1957. He accepted a job as a house advisor at Spring Lake Ranch (SLR) and thought it might be a temporary stop on the road to what was next in life. As it turned out, he spent more than three decades at the helm of the Ranch as its longest-running executive director. For 69 years, he was a role model in our community. Here's how we remember him:

Linda Berryhill, former SLR employee: "We knew him as a boss, a friend, and neighbor. We never knew him to be anything less than ethical, caring, knowledgeable, and wise, and so humane in every role. What a privilege it has been to know him. It is just hard to imagine this corner of Vermont without him."

Rachel Stark, SLR Executive Director: "I have had the opportunity to read some of Michael's journal entries from his time as the executive director and have taken great comfort (and had a few chuckles) seeing that the trials and tribulations he faced as ED are remarkably similar to those that I face today. I know that I too can handle things well, so long as I do so with care and mindfulness. Channel my inner Michael—curious, patient and compassionate."



John Berryhill, former SLR employee: "I met Michael back in the 70's and I just thought he was a miracle man! He was very soft-spoken, but when he spoke, we all listened. In his quiet, unassuming way, he totally had things under control. He was there for

us. The door to his office was always open. When I saw him, I thought, there's somebody I'll remember forever, because I respected him so much, because he lived what he spoke. I thought, wow, if I'm ever a boss, I want to be like Michael. He was such a rudder in the life of the Ranch. And these past years, I felt that Shrewsbury had a moral compass, and it was Michael Wells."

Brenda Anastasio, SLR Board President: "For many of us, Michael's impact was far more personal than his title of Director could capture. My family lived and worked at the

Ranch for many years. Like many families, ours had its share of challenges. Through it all, Michael remained steady, kind, patient, and deeply compassionate. With the continued support and guidance of Michael and Phyllis, I now hold the role of Spring Lake Ranch Board President. Michael's legacy lives not only in the community he shaped, but in the countless individuals and families he supported with quiet strength and compassion, including my own. His leadership was human, grounded, and enduring. He will be deeply missed."

Lynn Pilcher, SLR Quality Assurance Director: "Michael was a gem, and to know him was to love him. He cared deeply about the mission of the Ranch, its unique approach, and about every person he met who came through its doors. With quiet humility, a strong sense of purpose, and a healthy dose of charm, he led an important effort of setting the state standards for therapeutic community residences, and starting ARTA, the American Residential Therapeutic Association, ensuring nontraditional approaches to mental health care gained recognition. Although he retired from the Ranch years ago, his and Phyllis' warm embrace and hospitality for each succeeding generation of Ranchers has left its mark on the care and spirit of the place. I have fond memories of many gatherings at the Wells' home where Michael held captive the next generation of Ranchers with his storytelling and humor. We will miss him, and yet he is not gone. His legacy will be felt for generations to come."

The family has asked that, in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Michael Wells Vermont Residency Scholarship Fund at SLR, which will help subsidize the cost of care for a local Vermonter. For more information, visit [springlakeranch.org/michaelwells](http://springlakeranch.org/michaelwells).

~ Article by Anna Sutton  
~Photo of Michael Wells circa 1970's

### Michael Wells

January 12, 1933 – March 12, 2026

Michael left this life in just the way he always wished to go-- In our home designed by him and built by his close friend, Peter Erb, supported by family and friends. On the last evenings we watched the home movies he had made of our family adventures and listened to his beloved classical music. He was at peace knowing he was ready to leave the place he loved, his home near Spring Lake Ranch nestled in the Shrewsbury Community.

Our family is thankful for all the visits and kind notes Michael received before he died and those that came after.

We will celebrate Michael's life later in the spring or early summer. ~Phyllis Wells

### "I Fell In Love With America"

...That was a statement I heard several times over the years from Michael Wells, a dear friend, long-time Cuttingsville resident and retired Director of Spring Lake Ranch. And it was sincere, as everything else was about Michael.

Michael's youth, like many children from London, was interrupted by being sent to relatives outside of the city as it was being bombed during WW2. After the war, as a teenager, Michael developed a passion for working on sports cars (a couple of classmates evolved into professional international drivers) and travel to the continent. After high school and military service, his eyes turned across the Atlantic after he realized that his first "real job", in an office, was not what he wanted. While visiting his sister in England, Anne Sarka (a friend of his sister) suggested he write to her father in Shrewsbury, Vermont who had recently started a place called Spring Lake Ranch. So, he sent out a telegram. The response: "\$10 per week plus room and board, if you have a driving license". He quit his job and got on a boat to America, to a place called Vermont.

Settled in at the Ranch, doing odd jobs as needed, Michael soon asked for time off to explore his new country. The Sarka's agreed and Michael put what little money he had in his pocket and then put his thumb out on the highway. Thus, the discovery of his new country began. Michael recalled that trip to me on January 3, 2026.

Hitchhiking took him from Vermont to Georgia, through the south, the west, up the California coast, across Canada, and back to Shrewsbury. He recalled the dozens of kind folks who picked him up, many of whom took him home with them for a meal and overnight stay. Several times that stay lasted a week as "these wonderful people let me share their lives". Several drivers, too tired to drive much longer, gave him the wheel as they slept. He went wherever they were headed, one time far beyond where his host intended to stop because the guy slept so long and Michael had no idea where he was. He was picked up by folks of different income brackets, ethnicities and backgrounds, and treasured the conversations with each. He recalled falling asleep at one house, after a long day, and waking to find all his clothes laundered, ironed and folded by the hosts whom he had just met."

He remarked over and over how kind people were, how they went out of their way to help him, to feed him, to give him a bed and watch that he had safe travel ahead. He summarized it all by saying "I fell in love with America"

The Ranch is where he met the love of his life, Phyllis, together raising three kids, and where he became a treasured Director of that important place which continues to help people refocus and repair their lives. Those earlier kindnesses Michael experienced from strangers across the country reinforced his belief in the goodness and value of each and every person, regardless of their struggles or challenges. Michael fell in love with America, and in turn so many people in America (and beyond) fell in love with Michael. He will be dearly missed as a friend and guiding light. ~Submitted by Mark Youngstrom




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### Upcoming Events & Announcements

#### Two Holidays & a Baby!

 **Easter Sunday** - 4/5/26 - We've got baskets, décor & all the little things to welcome spring.

Shop will be **closed** Easter Sunday.

 **Mother's Day** - 5/10/26 - Plenty of thoughtful gifts for the mamas in your life—and we're always happy to wrap them up for you with a complimentary gift wrap.

 **Baby #2** - Due 5/8/26 - We'll have extra helping hands in the shop starting late April, so no closures expected. I'll be out May-June, back for July 4th weekend.

Can't wait to introduce Little Girl Knudsen this summer 

### Herbal Support for Optimal Health

I have been immersed in the study and practice of herbal medicine for the past 20 years. In 2024, I completed a three-year clinical herbal training with Emily French of Sweetgrass Herbals, whose depth of knowledge and reverence for the plants deeply resonated with my own way of working with plants and helped shape both my clinical foundation and my approach to herbalism.

I have continued my education through courses with well-respected herbal schools and practitioners, including the School of Evolutionary Herbalism (Sajah Popham), Commonwealth Herbs (Katja Swift and Ryn Midura), and Herb Craft (Jim McDonald).

I am excited to share the wisdom I've gained with our wider community. If you're interested in how the time-tested healing power of plants could help you feel your best please reach out.

**Scott Courcelle**

*Herbal Medicine consultations  
Fruit Tree Grafting + Pruning Garden  
Consultations*

**alchemygardens@gmail.com**  
(802) 492-2087



# SHREWSBURY LIBRARY

Library News Submitted by Joan Aleshire

## CELEBRATING 50 YEARS & COUNTING

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

Want to know 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.

**WINTER/SPRING WEATHER ADVISORY:** Patrons: If the weather's bad, please call the library before coming out, to see if we're open: (802) 492-3410. Staffers: If you're worried about getting there, don't worry about opening the library. Others will probably be staying home too!

MANY THANKS to MICHELLE GREENE and the SHREWSBURY CONSERVATION COMMISSION for bringing *The Invisible Mammal*, a program about bats, and *Living with Bears* to the Library.

### Coming Events:

Saturday, March 28 @ 2pm: Vermont Farmer/Filmmaker GEORGE WOODARD presents "FARMING: THE GREATEST ADVENTURE NO ONE KNOWS ABOUT: An illustration of the ways his farming influenced the filming of his first feature film "The Summer of Walter Hacks." (See our ad elsewhere in this Times.)

### Continuing Programs:

**WRITERS' GROUP:** Most first Sundays of every month, but skipping Sunday, April 5, Easter Sunday! We plan to meet: Sunday, May 3 @ 4pm: If you have poems or short prose pieces (stories, personal histories) 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, April 19 @ 4pm: FAMOUS BOOKS BOOK CLUB: Our next book is the gripping VT Reads Book for 2026, *The Light Pirate* by Lily Brooks-Dalton. Books are available at the Library, thanks to the VT Humanities and to CARRIE

CLANCY, who wrote the grant application that awarded us the books. Please contact Joan if you have questions: [joanaleshire@vermontel.net](mailto:joanaleshire@vermontel.net).

Sunday, April 26 @ 4pm SCIENCE BOOK CLUB: *Spying on Whales* by Nick Pyenson. For more information or to obtain a copy of the book please contact Margery Salmon: [salmonm@vermontel.net](mailto:salmonm@vermontel.net).

### New Books include:

- \* *A World Appears: A Journey Into Consciousness* by Michael Pollan, author of *This Is Your Mind on Plants* and *In Defense of Food*.
- \* *Crucible* by John Sayles, a novel about Henry Ford and the labor struggles of the 1920s, by the author of *The Shawshank Redemption*.
- \* *Strangers: A Memoir of Marriage* by Belle Burden: A riveting personal history, told with candor, restraint and generosity.
- \* *American Struggle: Democracy, Dissent, and the Pursuit of a More Perfect Union: An Anthology* by Jon Meacham. Historical speeches, letters and essays with Meacham's commentary.
- \* *Kin*, by Tayari Jones: An Oprah's Book Club novel.
- \* *Brawler* by Lauren Groff: Short stories by the author of the novels *Fates and Furies* and *Matrix*.

## Farming:

**The Greatest Adventure  
No One Has Ever Heard Of:**

**A 4-Year Film Course in 45 Minutes!**

Vermont Farmer/Filmmaker George Woodard will present what he calls "a four-year film course in 45 minutes," showing how dairy farming influenced his filmmaking.

He'll show clips of his first film, "The Summer of Walter Hacks," and tell how he was "always back for milking" after days of filming. The Program will give an insight into Woodard's filmmaking, and describe how one Vermonter has made art from his daily work.

**At the SHREWSBURY LIBRARY**

**SATURDAY,  
MARCH 28 at 2 p.m.**



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Robert Beardmore, Jr. 5256 VT-155  
[beardmoreexc@gmail.com](mailto:beardmoreexc@gmail.com) Belmont, Vermont 05730



### 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*.

#### Decision-Making in the Age of Plastics

(Removes the angst and injects fun into buying decisions!)

*Written and illustrated by Rachael Zoe Miller*

★★★★★

This 230-page paperback is perfect for teachers, parents, and the rest of us --who, in varying degrees of dedication-- have been making extraordinary, everyday decisions that can potentially slow down or hasten the death of our home, the Earth, and all the life upon it.

On a daily, unrelenting pace, decisions have to be made: What kind of toilet paper should we buy? What kind of laundry detergent? How should we store our left-overs? What kind of car should we drive? What kind of clothes should we wear? My cozy "fleece" jacket is actually made of what?? It emits what harmful things into the atmosphere?!! For years now, my fleece jacket has been relegated to working in the wood shed, unlaundered and unloved. I have long given up my fantasy of its origins in wild Patagonia.

I recycle, I don't use plastic straws anymore. I feel guilty that I'm not doing enough. It's exhausting. This book relieves our exhaustion without discounting our responsibilities. It employs an interactive, scientific process to make choices. I laundered my fleece jacket this weekend. Yes.

The author's bio is on page 230. It is extensive, and I've pared it down for you almost verbatim. Rachel Zoe Miller is a National Geographic Explorer and inventor. She is the founder of Rozalia Project for a Clean Ocean, a non-profit addressing marine debris, co-inventor of the Cora Ball, the world's first microfiber-catching laundry ball and creator of CSI for the Ocean, a global citizen science microplastic mapping and monitoring program. Rachel captained the 60' sailing research vessel, American Promise, trained Navy SEALS to use underwater robots and is an ambassador for the Scottish Seabird Centre. She grew up in the lakes and rivers of Upstate New York, **lives in Vermont** and loves human and wind-powered water sports.

Great book, 5 stars. Green CanPress. [greencanpress.com](http://greencanpress.com)  
~Reviewed by Marilyn Dalick

## FREE Medical Equipment

Medical assist equipment donated by Shrewsbury residents who no longer need them are available at no cost on a loaner basis. Including many wooden crutches, adjustable aluminum crutches, walkers, rollators, commodes, shower seats, bedpans, toilet safety bars, wheelchair, and more. If you need equipment or have an items to donate, call Donna Swart at 773-7403.



*Want fresh veggies every week?*

Free choice vegetable CSA shares are available from March through December, to pick out right here in Shrewsbury.

*Are you a gardener?*

Pre-order starter plants by April 15th for your own spring and summer garden: veggies, herbs, flowers, and some native shrubs.



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

[eveningsongcsa@gmail.com](mailto:eveningsongcsa@gmail.com)

(802) 342-4304

## GREEN UP DAY

Saturday, May 2, 2026



88 Lottery Rd Shrewsbury VT

### 2026 SHREWSBURY MEETING HOUSE SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

#### The Hill Are Alive With the Sound of Music in Shrewsbury

Mark your summertime calendars! Now in its 7<sup>th</sup> season, the Meeting House will once again become a community hub for the 2026 concert series, with exceptional music, food vendors, and neighbors enjoying a summer evening together. Attendance is by Free Will contribution. All proceeds go to the musicians and the historic Shrewsbury Meeting House.

All concerts are on Fridays at 6 pm  
(Indoors if raining)

- |                |                               |
|----------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>June 12</b> | <b>Swing Noire</b>            |
| <b>June 26</b> | <b>Mojo Birds</b>             |
| <b>July 10</b> | <b>Tony's Polka Band</b>      |
| <b>July 24</b> | <b>Rustie Bus</b>             |
| <b>Aug 7</b>   | <b>Jonathan Lorentz Group</b> |

# Shrewsbury Historical Society

www.shrewsburyhistoricalsociety.com

The Memories of Yesteryear calendar marks April 8th as National Banjo Day. What's that, you wonder? Luckily, we have someone living in Shrewsbury who is a widely respected authority on banjos right here in Northam! Ahmet Baycu is a luthier who has been restoring vintage musical instruments since 1979, as well as building his own models based on the antique banjos.

Shrewsbury Historical Society consulted with Ahmet. This is what he wrote:

*Banjo like instruments most likely came from Africa with slaves but it was not until the earlier part of the 1800's that it evolved into a five string banjo, which became uniquely American. These early banjos were skin headed and without frets for marking the position of the notes. What is now referred as the neck of a banjo was called an arm.*



*Frets were developed in the 1870's or so and the old-timers who did not like change often would file the frets down as it gave them more control of the intonation and dynamics. They claimed that these new "raised wire" banjos in fact were more difficult to play than a fretless banjo.*

*The heyday of the vintage banjo makers was during the late 1800's. Master craftsmen who had learned their trade in Europe often were the luthiers. The instruments from this era are still copied and cherished today. These banjos would be built from the finest hardwoods and regally ornamented with rich carving and pearl and abalone inlays, much more so than most other stringed musical instruments.*

*By 1900, the five-string craze was replaced by a mandolin era, then the ukulele, and followed by the four string tenor banjos of the 1920's. By wartime a new style emerged for the five-string banjo with louder resonator backs to amplify the sound, and a faster and exciting finger picking technique, which became to be known as bluegrass, and greatly popularized by*

*Earl Scruggs. The movie "Deliverance" in 1972 brought the sparkling banjo style to a greater audience with the rendition of "Dueling Banjos".*

*Today, the predominant style of playing banjo is the bluegrass style but the earlier styles of banjo playing (frailing, clawhammer, down picking) were in existence for over one hundred years prior to bluegrass. Most dances, kitchen junkets, local events, store openings, fairs, etc would have had banjos and fiddlers long before guitars came into use.*

Wouldn't it be wonderful see these antique banjos and hear some of their music and stories? Perhaps this summer we can arrange such an event! Stay tuned! ~Grace Brigham, Shrewsbury Historical Society



Sears & Roebuck c.1900

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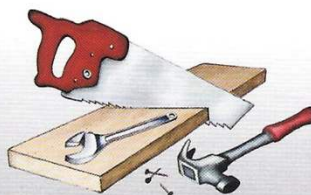
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## LAUREL GLEN CEMETERY ASSOCIATION OF 1894

Unlike modern cemeteries, Victorian cemeteries were public areas where the living went for reflection and recreation. Laurel Glen was no exception. Its well-known Grecian mausoleum ignited interest among the curious. While Victorian cemeteries reflected a dignified fascination with death, people also engaged in popular social outings for activities like strolling, lawn games, and picnicking among the manicured greenery. Tourists appreciated the beautiful memorials, fountains, and calm found in Laurel Glen's lush, park-like landscape. Visitors shared picnics and took guided tours to learn about history, symbolism, architecture, and



groundskeeper and usher, was touted in the Rutland Daily Herald as a genius in the greenhouse. The Cemetery was an Eden where flowers grew year-round.

Curious locals came on day trips by carriage or horse. Many visitors came from nearby health retreats where the wealthy rejuvenated, the sick convalesced, and newly minted believers in hydrotherapy drank the waters and took in good Vermont air. In 1868, in the midst of the popular age of hydrotherapy, a flood struck Middletown Springs. When the water subsided, A.W. Gray discovered springs. Newspapers touted the therapeutic waters, claiming they could cure many maladies. The influx of tourists made a hotel necessary. Completed in 1871, the \$100,000 Montvert Hotel featured three-and-a-half stories with 137 rooms for 250 guests, first-class dining, and plenty of activities. Patrons imbibed the water and engaged in carriage tours (some to Laurel Glen), hikes, croquet, and lawn tennis. A small hotel operated in Clarendon Springs, where mineral springs were discovered in 1776. A larger brick hotel with a three-story veranda, Clarendon House, was built in 1835. The Rutland



and Whitehall Railroad, established in 1850, brought visitors to the resort and helped fuel its popularity.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Newspapers reported that young people crammed into carriages to come to Laurel Glen for picnics, flirting, and fun. Boys raced along the cemetery lanes, hoping to impress girls who sat in the sun and read poetry. While it may seem macabre to the 21st century mind that the living

found joy and love in a cemetery, beautiful Laurel Glen certainly encouraged both.



Support the Laurel Glen Cemetery Association of 1894 and Friends of Bowman Mansion: send your tax-deductible donations to Friends of Bowman Mansion, P. O. Box 416 Cuttingsville, VT 05738. Or use our GoFundMe link. Like us on Facebook:

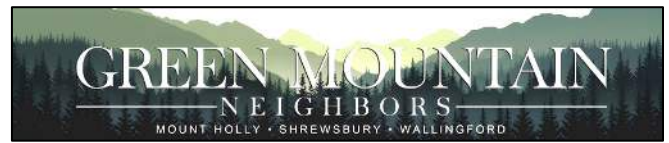
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/426580458623737>

Check out our website [www.bomanmansion.org](http://www.bomanmansion.org)

Email at [laurelglen.bowmanmansion@gmail.com](mailto:laurelglen.bowmanmansion@gmail.com)

~Submitted by Freddie Monder

~~~~~



Good things continue to happen with Green Mountain Neighbors! We have new volunteers who can help with small jobs around the house.

We have the following ongoing events: Chair Yoga held each Wednesday at 9:30 at the Mount Holly Community Center and Bingo at Wallingford House, 1:30 - 3:30, on the third Monday of each month. Our luncheon this month will be held on Wednesday, March 25, at 12:00 noon at Sugar and Spice.

On Friday, March 20, from 10:30 to 12:00, we will host the coordinator from AARP Vermont Fraud Watch at the Mt. Holly Community Center for a presentation titled "Frauds, Scams, & Con-Artists: Coming to a Computer Near You!" Space is limited, so please call the number below or register on our website if you are interested in attending.

As our membership grows each year, so does our need for more volunteers! If you are interested in becoming a member, a supporting member, or exploring volunteering with GMN, please check out our website at [greenmountainneighbors.org](http://greenmountainneighbors.org). You can also call 802-417-2292 and listen to the prompts. We are a 501-C3 organization run entirely by volunteers. We would love to have you participate in our efforts to help our seniors stay in the homes and towns they love as long as they are able.

Member Stephanie Stouffer says that "membership in GMN has made all the difference in my quality of life now that I'm in my 80's. I am more optimistic that I can continue to 'age in place' in spite of compromising health issues. With the support and help of wonderful volunteers, many small but essential needs can be met with a simple request. It is so comforting to know this, and gives meaning to the expression 'it takes a village'. GMN helps those of us of a certain age to remain within our homes and the village community...to enjoy safer and fuller lives." ~Submitted by Lois Castonguay

# The Shrewsbury Community Church



Compiled by Sue Ransom-Kelley

## Balance in our lives

People come to the Shrewsbury Town Hall to attend Bone Builders. Why? To build up our muscles! As we age our risk of breaking a bone is greater. Being done in a group adds the side benefit of companionship and camaraderie. This helps prevent isolation, especially in the long winter months. Personally, I attend tai chi class and yoga. All are different ways to be attuned to our bodies, to focus on the breath as an important part of any workout. They all increase our balance and our general sense of wellbeing. All harness the inner energy that we have within us. Many of these practices are very close to spiritual practices and can be used to cultivate a sense of inner peace and calm.

We often hear the words grounded, centered, focus, and breathwork as part of these practices. We are called to use our bodies to embody God's love. We can hold a sense of being at peace with ourselves and the world that is contagious. We can do things with a sense of gentleness and calm that can be healing for those we interact with. If we are grounded in love it is easier to minister to a friend who is upset, to volunteer to sit with an elderly person in a nursing home, to love our neighbor as ourself.

Are each of us cultivating this inner calm that helps us weather relational conflicts, the news, which is ramped up with scenes of war, bombings, razed neighborhoods, and offsets our inner fears? Please pay attention as the positive energy does counteract the negative energy that is out there. Peace and Blessings. ~ Pastor Karen Braeutigam



Please join us for worship any Sunday as we celebrate Easter and welcome spring!

Special Thanks! Thank you to Mary and Jeff Smith from Maple Crest Farm for their generous donations of Delicious Maple Syrup and Pancake Mix! Thank you to everyone who came out to eat pancakes! We appreciate your support! Our community sharing project exists because of support like this and our awesome volunteers!

## Shrewsbury Community Church Calendar

Thurs, April 2, 7pm: Maundy Thursday Celebration of Tenebrae

Sun, April 5, 10:30am: Fun Day Program for kids. Easter Worship Service and Holy Communion led by Pastor Karen Braeutigam

Sun, April 12, 10:30am: Fun Day Program for kids. Worship Service led by Pastor Karen Braeutigam.

Sun, April 19, 10:30am: Fun Day Program for kids. Worship Service led by Pastor Karen Braeutigam.

Sun, April 26, 10:30am: Fun Day Program for kids. Worship Service led by Pastor Karen Braeutigam.

Tues, April 28 @ 12noon: Prayer Shawl Group. Upstairs in Meeting House. All are welcome! Dessert, coffee, and tea served. Bring a bag lunch if you like. Come and we will teach you to knit or crochet! For info call Roxanne 802-492-3675.



## 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:

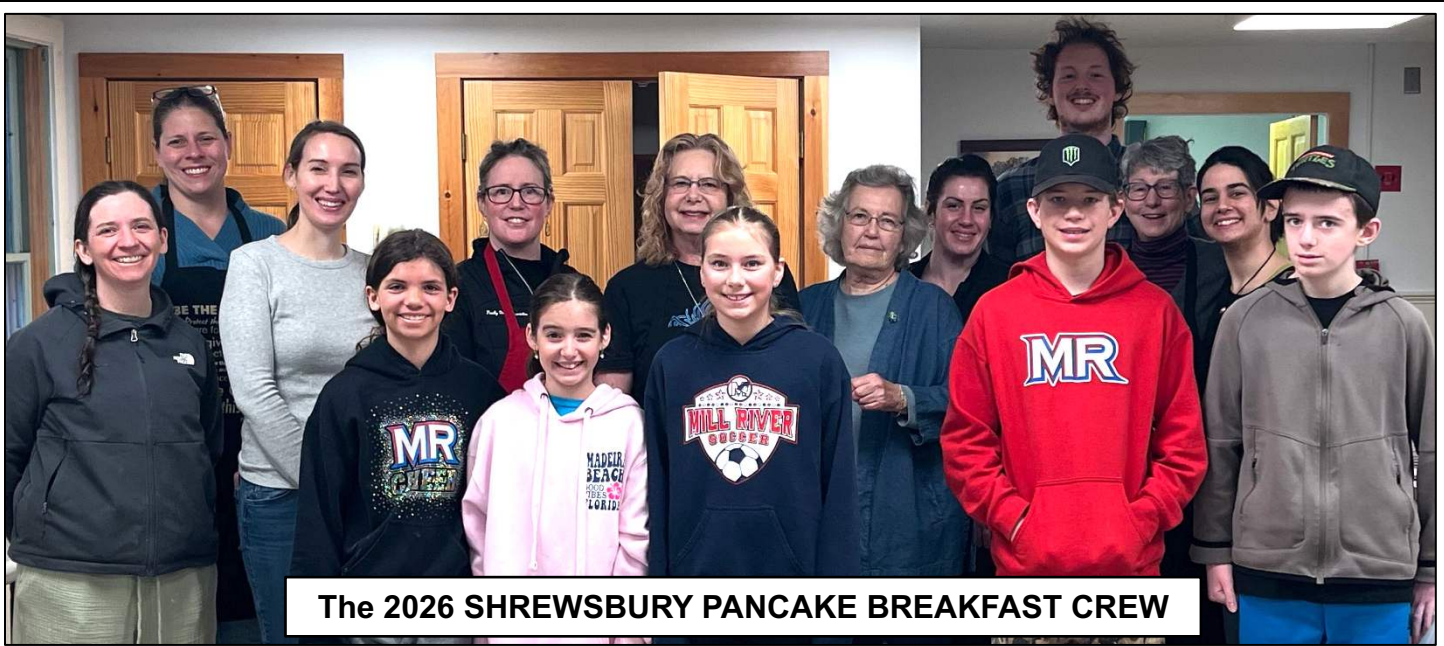
Mon 10am-12noon; Tues 7-9pm; Wed 10am-5pm and 7-9pm; Thurs 7-9pm; Fri 10am-12noon; and, Sat 10am-12noon.

Food Delivery and Assistance If you are unable to get to the Food Shelf at the Shrewsbury Library, we will deliver groceries to you. If you need items 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 Julianne Sharrow 802-492-3361, or Sue Kelley 802-492-3738, 802-779-4360
- Community Helping Hand Requests: Contact 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.

Revised 3/1/2026



**The 2026 SHREWSBURY PANCAKE BREAKFAST CREW**

**Vernal Equinox**  
 10:46, 03/20/26

Overcast  
 We still sing on  
 Equinox  
 A spring song  
 The peepers  
 The birds  
 Magical sounds  
 Haven't you heard  
 There is still  
 Magic in the world  
 Imagine  
 If humans' own  
 Were fully unfurled

*By Thomas Hartigan*

**History Often Rhymes**

Will we always remember  
 This time  
 These events  
 The trauma & horror  
 The fear  
 Will each memory sear  
 Into our minds  
 Forever  
 Never to be lost  
 Always to be learned from  
 Or does humanity  
 Always eventually forget  
 Allowing history to rhyme?

*By Thomas Hartigan*

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**Waiting For His Friend**

Since the New Year's party this little fella has enjoyed exploring the Meeting House, but now he's looking out the window for his special friend to come take him back home. Do you know where his friend lives? ~The Roving Reporter

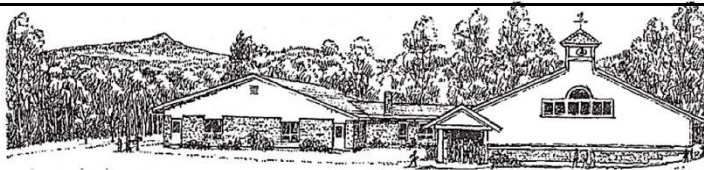
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## SHREWSBURY MOUNTAIN SCHOOL

### Important Dates:

**April 3: School Family Dance 6:30-8pm with DJ Brett**

**April 5 - May 30: 2026 Hannaford Helps Schools**

School families and community members - this is a great way to support Shrewsbury Mountain School!!!

We are excited to participate in the Hannaford Helps Schools program! This easy fundraising opportunity allows our school to earn money for educational resources simply through everyday grocery shopping. Between April 5 and May 30, for every four qualifying items you buy, you'll earn 3 School Dollars!

When shopping in-store, look for products marked with the Hannaford Helps Schools shelf tag. At checkout you will receive a School Dollar printout to be redeemed online.

When shopping online using Hannaford To-Go, look for products with a red apple icon. After shopping you will receive an email with the School Dollar redemption code.

To redeem, simply scan the QR code on your printout or visit the Hannaford Helps Schools website, enter your school dollar code and select Shrewsbury Mountain School as the recipient!

Thank you for your support! SMS PTO



**Music in Our Schools March 3:** Our annual "Music in Our Schools" celebration this year was a HUGE SUCCESS! Our district elementary and middle school band and chorus students came together and rehearsed and then performed two identical concerts at 10:30am and 12:30pm. The music they created was so beautiful! The MRU Cantiamo and Vivace Honors Vocal Ensembles and the MRU Jazz Lab Ensemble performed as well, giving the students an opportunity to see and experience the classes that will be available to them when they come to MRU as 7th graders. We had a great turn out of caregivers and community members along with all our K-6 elementary students in the audience. We are very grateful for the support our community gives our fine arts programming in our school district!



**Pre-K Registration for 2026-2027:** We are accepting new registrations for the SMS PreK program. Please reach out to Sarah Bolster, PreK MRUUSD Coordinator, at [sbolster@millriverschools.org](mailto:sbolster@millriverschools.org) for additional info.

MRUUSD School Board now has a facebook page. Please follow us to find announcements about future meetings and links to information from your school board. Find us at Mill River Board <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61581888142135> I am always available to support our school families and connect with community members. Please contact me at 802-786-3995 or at [kcimonetti@millriverschools.org](mailto:kcimonetti@millriverschools.org) if you have any questions or concerns.

~Kristin Cimonetti, Principal

## What Happened To Levi?

*A Man missing.*—On Tuesday evening, the 9th inst. a man put up at the inn<sup>o</sup>f 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.

On August 5, 1816, *The Vermont Journal* (Windsor, VT) published this announcement of a strange event. Levi Cummins of Shrewsbury is not listed in the 1800 town census, but genealogical records show there was such a person born in 1786 in the "Republic of Vermont" and dying in Erie, NY, in 1863. No other information could be found.

However, if that is the same Levi Cummins of Shrewsbury, he left all his stuff in Hampton when he was 30 years old and must have been found, since he lived to be 77. Whichever Levi it was, it's a mystery why he left his horse, wagon and an unmarked gravestone at the inn in Hampton, NY.

Did he ever retrieve his belongings? Did he ever come back to Shrewsbury? Could be the makings of a good novel. ~Submitted by Mark Youngstrom

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Unified Union School District

## Preschool and Pre-k Registration 2026 - 2027 School Year

Registration is open for families that reside in the Mill River School District towns of Clarendon, Shrewsbury, Tinmouth, and Wallingford with a child 3 - 4 years of age. Our Registration Day is a chance for you and your child to visit our program and begin the registration process. Enrollment is available on a limited basis.

- Preschool child must turn three years old on or before August 31, 2026
- Pre-K child must turn four years old on or before August 31, 2026

For More Information and To Schedule An Appointment



Sarah Bolster, Pre-K Coordinator  
[sbolster@millriverschools.org](mailto:sbolster@millriverschools.org)  
802.786.3998 ext 218

### Registration Days

(By Appointment Only)

#### Clarendon Elementary

May 8, 2026

#### Shrewsbury Mountain

May 15, 2026

#### Tinmouth Mountain

May 4, 2026

#### Wallingford Elementary

May 11, 2026

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LOCAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

2026

For more information visit:  
[tinyurl.com/shrewsbury-lhmp26](https://tinyurl.com/shrewsbury-lhmp26)

*Help Make Shrewsbury More Resilient!*

## Shrewsbury Launching our Hazard Mitigation Planning Process

Every five years, municipalities update their Local Hazard Mitigation Plans, or LHMPs. Ours is due to be updated. We do an LHMP for a few reasons:

- It qualifies us for a higher rate of reimbursement for work we do after declared disasters.
- It makes us eligible for a variety of State and Federal grant programs.
- Most importantly, it helps us focus Town time and investments on the hazards that are most likely to occur, and most likely to have economic and public-safety impacts.

The Rutland Regional Planning Commission will guide us through the renewal of our LHMP, thanks to funding from a Municipal Planning Grant administered by the Vermont Department of Housing & Community Development. The Town's planning team includes: Aaron Korzun, Selectboard Chair & Emergency Management Director; Marc Cimonetti, Emergency Management Coordinator; Alaina Cimonetti, Administrative Assistant; Rebecca Rice, Town Clerk; Dan Cavoto, Road Commissioner; and Jack Perry, Shrewsbury Fire Department representative.

Throughout the planning process, we have targeted opportunities for community input. As we get the plan update underway in April, we'll be completing a risk assessment and identifying the natural hazards that are of greatest concern. We want to hear from our residents about what natural hazards you are most concerned about! Share your feedback by taking our online survey: [tinyurl.com/shrewsbury-lhmp26-survey](https://tinyurl.com/shrewsbury-lhmp26-survey). The survey will remain open until **April 17, 2026**. You may also visit us at the Shrewsbury Transfer Station on April 26 or May 10 to let us know your priorities with colorful stickers!

**For more information visit: [tinyurl.com/shrewsbury-lhmp26](https://tinyurl.com/shrewsbury-lhmp26)**





## SNO-BIRD NEWS

Well, we were doing so good and on track to groom and ride to April 15, but Mother Nature said differently.

The warm up in early March really stopped the grooming and on March 16 we had to close the trails due to snow conditions getting dangerous for the riders. The club to the north was already closed, and the one to the south had reopened but was closing again. With those two clubs closed we also did not have any parking areas open for riders. The Groomer Shed Parking Lot was getting soft. There were muddy areas on the Arthur Trail, and the snow bridges were breaking up. The Tin Shanty Road was really bare and soft so the parking was not good there either.

We did groom 60% of what our contract was for, so in 3+ months we groomed 943.6 miles. That is about 170 miles more than last year, so I guess that is a good way to look at it. The trails were very nice when we had the snow because it was really cold. It was easier to keep the trails smooth with regular grooming two to three times a week. The grooming team picked up another groomer operator, Paul Racine. Paul and John were out a couple of times together so Paul could get to know our trails and learn how we groom the trails under different conditions. He was a groomer operator for Chittenden and used a Tucker like we have. We have a great team with Dave, Scott, John, and Paul helping me with keeping the trails great in the winter, and if we have a break down they all pitch in to help fix the issue so we do not have down time.



Riders on March 15 at the groomer shed parking lot after their last ride before we closed the trails. They said some trails were still good, but a lot were breaking up or slim snow conditions and some muddy areas.

At this time, I really think we are done, the gates are getting closed to keep the wheeled vehicles off the soft trails. I hope everyone got a chance to get out and enjoy our trail system this winter. Let's hope that next winter is at least as good as this season and maybe last the full 16 weeks! Now to get the paper work done so VAST reimburses for our final payment and start summer paper work. We have projects in the works for this summer.

We have two more meeting for this season. They are on the second Tuesday of the month with the last for this season in May. The meeting starts @ 7pm at the Southside Steakhouse in Rutland. Anyone is welcome to join us! ~by Roy Arthur



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**Shrewsbury Conservation Commission**  
**Trail Camera Picture of the month**



**Trail Cameras—The Luck Factor**

You can't plan for it! However, sometimes your camera is in the right place at the right time. And when you check your SD card, that's the moment you almost fall out of your chair and can't believe your good fortune!

This is one of my favorite lucky moment captures! Mama moose and her calf settled in right in front of my camera! It's been fun sharing my wildlife moments with you! I hope you've enjoyed them!

Stay tuned next month! Michelle Greene will be sharing the visitors to her trail cameras! If you have a wildlife photo or track to share, please send them to Michelle Greene. michelle.a.greene247@gmail.com

*Happy Tracking! Linda Shelvey*



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

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November-April: 10-11am

May-October: 9-10am

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 Bones, Balance, and Strength

More Info: Ginny Buckley (802) 492-3504





# SAGE

SHREWSBURY AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION  
+ ARTS FOUNDATION

April 11 @7pm School House Jam at the Russellville School House

Early spring is the perfect time to prepare your home garden for a productive season ahead. Take time to test and amend your soil with compost or organic matter, ensuring it's rich, well-draining, and full of life. Repair raised beds, and mulch your garden rows. Map out your planting plan, considering crop rotation and companion planting, and gather seeds and supplies so you're ready when temperatures rise in May. A bit of thoughtful preparation now will make planting smoother and set the foundation for a healthy, abundant, and less-hassle garden this season!

After a bit of care from Ms. Levin's 3rd and 4th graders and SAGE, the Mountain School orchard is off to a good start for this growing season. Students have been able to see how last year's pruning has encouraged new healthy growth!

Ms. McDonough's 5th and 6th grade class continues to steward the compost and collect the data to monitor its health. So far it has reached a high temperature of 114 degrees in March.

Back down the hill at the Russellville Schoolhouse, we continue to jam. Come join us on the second Saturday of the month and lend your voice, your ear, or an instrument to the jam! Our next music share will be on April 11.

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 ShrewsburySAGE and find our sustainability and arts videos at [www.youtube.com/@sagefoundation](http://www.youtube.com/@sagefoundation).

~Submitted by Stephen Abatiell



Pussy Willows



Rambles



Fiddlehead Ferns

Three Spring plants to look for sure signs of SPRING!

**Pancakes for Ponies!**  
April 12th, 2026



Prepay using the QR Code!




Please join us for a fundraiser benefitting the Reinbow Riding Center at the Mount Holly Community Center

Adults \$20/ Kids under 16 \$10  
8:30 AM-11 AM  
Food, Fun, & Prizes!

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# Pierce's 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual EASTER EGG HUNT

~~~ For children ages 1 month to 12 years~~~

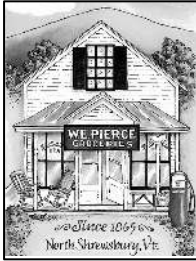
**\*\*NEW\*\*** A special Egg Garden for 6 years & younger

**Saturday, April 4 @ 10am**  
**at Pierce's Store**

Meet in Pierce's Store garage driveway

**125 Eggs stuffed with prizes**  
**2 "Golden" Eggs**

Enjoy complimentary hot chocolate and hot  
cider donated by Brown's Cider in Castleton  
See you there!



**PIERCE'S STORE**  
**802-492-3326**  
 www.piercesstore.com  
**Hours: 8am to 6pm**  
*Closed Mondays*

**Wine Tasting on April 18**



In our quest for quality wines at reasonable prices, please join us for the first wine tasting of the year at Pierce's Store Saturday April 18 from 4pm to 6pm. We'll be sampling 4 wines (two whites and two reds) which are significantly less expensive than wines of similar quality." ~Sandy Bragg



**Pierce's Store**  
*"Your local grocery store"*

Pierce's Store is not just a quaint historic general store. With over 2400 different items for sale, baked goods, local meats and veggies, soups, sandwiches, dairy products, canned goods, snacks, cleaning supplies, beer and beverages and a fantastic selection of wines, Pierce's has more variety than many roadside convenience stores. And certainly, better quality.

**Did you know a 1/2 gallon of Monument Farm milk is just \$2.69 at Pierce's? That's almost \$1 less than Hannaford's price!**

Bins of onions, potatoes, carrots, bulk grains greet you as you enter the door on one side, as fresh baked goods tempt you on the other. Since 1865, serving the folks of Shrewsbury. And the door still "dings", just like it always has when you enter this wonderful place.



Shop local, Support your community. Pierce's is convenient, easy and a great place to meet folks and visit with neighbors and friends. See you at the store! ~Submitted by Mark Youngstrom



**PIERCE'S STORE 50/50 RAFFLE**

**Going, going, but not gone**

Spring is officially here! Say the calendar anyway. The snow pile in front of the porch is shrinking but, when will it be gone? If you can guess what day the last bit of snow disappears from this spot you will receive up to half of the donations received.

**\$3/guess    2 guesses for \$5**

**Hurry! Due to the continuing cold weather, donations are accepted through Easter Sunday, April 5.** The store staff will log in your dates and contact info. If you have a pre-buy, you don't even have to open your wallet. Proceeds will be split evenly between people selecting the same date. If the snow disappears overnight, the following day will be the official first day of spring in Northam. Closest to the date wins!

**Spring**

As the grass waves, and the rain falls  
 As the water rushes, and the wind calls.  
 I step outside and enjoy the views,  
 Before this beauty  
 All slips through

*By Sky Fitzbeauchamp*

The Times of Shrewsbury  
PO Box 373  
Cuttingsville, VT 05738

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

Joan Aleshire  
Craig & Peggy Angtadt  
Gary Arthur  
Roy & Cindy Arthur  
Steve Banik & Virginia Gundersen  
Bob Beardmore  
Gloria & Mike Benson  
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**Shrewsbury**  
Cooperative at Pierce's Store  
Library  
Mountain School PTO  
Spring Lake Ranch  
John C. Stewart  
Wendy Stewart  
Christopher & Lisa Stout  
Nan & Tim Stout  
Jess & Ariane Torres  
Liesbeth van der Heijden  
Ann Vanneman  
Lana Vanucchi  
Reesa Watson  
Phyllis & Michael Wells  
Jay Webster  
Nancy West  
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Mark & Connie Youngstrom  
Susan Zak & Andrew Campbell

