



Times of Shrewsbury



June 2026

LOONS AND SPRING LAKE

An Update from the Vermont Center for Ecostudies (VCE) and a current loon tender.

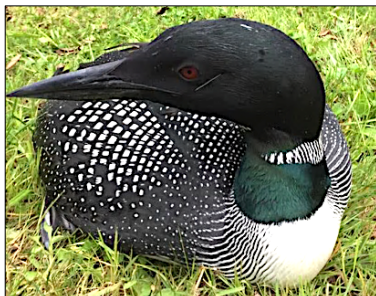
Great news! The VCE is proud to say that the number of nesting loons in Vermont has risen dramatically from seven pairs when their recovery efforts began 40 years ago, to more than 400 adult loons today. In 1987 the Common Loon was listed as endangered in the state of Vermont. In 2005, it was removed from the Vermont Endangered Species List.

Now, in their most recent

2025 season, VCE volunteers and biologists documented several record highs: 115 nesting pairs with an 80% nest success rate, more chicks hatched with a 76% chick survival rate and over 350 state-wide volunteers. Currently, most lakes and ponds in Vermont have loon activity, if not territorial pairs.

Floating Nesting Rafts have been a major management tool of conservation efforts. In 2025, 88% percent of the 43 raft nests were successful, 82% of 34 island nests were successful, 28 marsh nests were successful, and only 3 of 10 shore nests were successful.

Spring Lake has been participating in active loon conservation since 2001, when it had its first documented territorial pair (documented by Connie & Mark Youngstrom and Eliza & Jonathan Gibson). In 2002, a floating nesting raft was placed by VCE at the far end of the lake to encourage nesting further away from human activity. This nesting raft has been utilized by the loons 20 out of 23 seasons since. From year to year, Eric Hanson, VCE's loon biologist,



*The loon in the August 2017
Times of Shrewsbury.
~Photo by Lily French*



*Loons on Spring Lake in the August 2019
Times of Shrewsbury. ~Photo by R. Mortenson*

supports faithful loon tenders and monitors in keeping an eye on our resident pair. Usually in April, the nesting raft is evaluated for any needed revegetation, which includes providing an optimal nest bowl and proper coverage from predators. When loons take to the nest with their eggs, a floating sign is put out to

protect the nesting area until chicks hatch. It's a joy for all lake lovers to witness the wide variety of loon activity throughout the season.

Summer of 2026... Letting Nature Take Its Course

Viewing this upcoming season from a regional population standpoint, and with regard to long-term sustainability, VCE would like to reduce some of the active management

activities to promote natural (unassisted) nesting. They feel that it would be better to have chick numbers stabilize where they are, or even go down slightly, therefore, the nesting raft in Spring Lake has been pulled ashore.

VCE understands that it is difficult to observe 'your' pair fail or lose their chicks. But it is nature and it is normal to have years of no nesting, failed nests, and lost chicks.

There are several natural and ecologically-sound factors that affect low chick numbers:

- Competition between loons causes years of no nesting, failed nests, and lost chicks.
- Bald Eagles take eggs and chicks.
- New pairs nesting in marginal habitat tend to be less successful.

In short, it is good to let the loons figure it out themselves. VCE plans on removing a few nesting rafts each year over the next decade to promote natural nesting. Some of these pairs will find natural sites, and others might not. But we can always use more rafts again if we start seeing major declines in the population.

As our loons choose a natural nesting site, it will take greater observation to discover its location. In the past, they have built a shore nest in the cove half way up the lake on the west side. The marshy area at the end of the lake also has potential. **Please contact Ali Wilson at 802-492-9126 (I'm in the Shrewsbury phone book) if you have information regarding this year's nest location so that the floating sign can be set out, thereby decreasing human traffic in that area during their nesting period.**

Let's wish the best for our resident pair in having a successful hatch this season! ~Article by Ali Wilson

2026
SHREWSBURY GRADUATES



Iris Brigham
Wilder Brooks
Conner Myhre
Aubrey Pitts
Trenton Webster



Noah Dake
Norah Bradbury

Congratulations!

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: (802) 652-2450
Washington D. C. Office: (202) 225-4115

Revised 3/1/2026

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, clarity, and general community appeal. All others will be printed when space allows. Letters to the Editor exceeding 350 words will be subject to editing for length. Any informational piece or informational political letters (without specific party or vote appeal) will be subject to these guidelines.

A submission that is critical of a named entity (individual or organization) must be sent to the named entity and the Times, along with a copy of this policy, by the 10th day of the month. The named entity's reply in writing to the submitter and to the Times is due by the 20th of the same month at which time both the submission with reply or the submission alone (if no reply is received) will be considered for publication in the next issue at the discretion of the editors.

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 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 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. Any informational piece with specific party or vote appeal will be considered an advertisement.

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.

5/1/2026

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

May 26	12noon	*Prayer Shawl group upstairs in the Meeting House
May 27	6:30pm	*Why Did the Lynx Pick Shrewsbury?" program at the Meeting House; sponsored by SCC
June 1		*2026 Shrewsbury Outing Club Membership Forms, Waiver and Fees are due
June 3	6:30pm	*Shrewsbury Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Draft Assessment review at the Town Office
June 6	4-6pm	*Wine tasting at Pierce's Store
June 7	4pm	*Writers' Group meets at the Library
June 12	6pm	*Summer Concert Series with Swing Noire at the Shrewsbury Meeting House
June 21	4pm	*Famous Books Book Club meets via Zoom
June 23	12noon	*Prayer Shawl group upstairs in the Meeting House
June 24	7pm	*Northam Cemetery Association Annual Meeting at the Northam Fire Station
June 26	6pm	*Summer Concert Series at the Shrewsbury Meeting House with Mojo Birds
June 28	7pm	*Science Book Club meets at the Library
July 10	6pm	*Summer Concert Series at the Shrewsbury Meeting House with Tony's Polka Band
July 12		Man With A Plan with Filmmaker John O'Brien

*see elsewhere in newsletter for details

TIMES OF SHREWSBURY
Online at
www.shrewsburyhistoricalsociety.com
www.shsrewardsburyvt.org



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

REGULAR MEETINGS and EVENTS

Bone Builders	Tuesdays & Thursdays--May-Oct: 9-10am; Nov-Apr: 10-11am at Meeting House
Development Review Board	4 th Wed -7pm at Town Office; check town website for agenda
Library Trustees Meeting	2 nd Tuesday – 7pm at Shrewsbury Library
Mill River Unified Union School Board Mtg	1 st Wed 7pm @ MRHS & 3 rd Wed. 7pm at MRHS unless otherwise warned
Planning Commission	2 nd & 4 th Tuesdays 7pm at Town Office; No meeting July & August
Prayer Shawl Group	4 th Tuesday at 12noon upstairs at the Meeting House
Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)	Sundays @ 10am Shrewsbury Library & via Zoom wildernessfriends@gmail.com
Selectboard Meetings	1 st & 3 rd Wednesdays – 6:30pm at Town Office
Shrewsbury Community Church	Sundays – 10:30am - Worship service
Shrewsbury Conservation Commission	1 st Tuesday - 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 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--2noon; Sat 10am-12noon
Meeting House	492-6050	Reservations: 492-3361 or julanne@vermontel.net
News Flash Email:	vtbenbeano@gmail.com or benbeano@vermontel.net	(email list for Urgent and reminder news)
Cuttingsville Post Office:	802-230-1996	<u>Window Hours:</u> Mon-Fri 7:30am-10:30am and 11:30am-2:30pm; Sat 8am-11am <u>Lobby Hours:</u> 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	
Health Officer:	Catherine Schneider 802-774-8024	
Animal Control Officer:	Rutland County Sherriff Dept 1-802-775-8002	
1 st Constable:	Robert Littmann 802-774-8835, 2 nd 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 4/20/2026]

SHREWSBURY SELECTBOARD MINUTES

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

May 6, 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 Cavato. *Health Officer:* Catherine Schneider (Remotely). *Planning Commission:* Laura Black. *RRPC:* Devon Neary

Members of the public: Louise & Stan Duda. Jeff & Mary Smith. Mark Goodwin. Adreinne Raymond. Jack Facey (Remotely). Cynthia Thornton. Rich Bizjack. Michelle Suker. Melissa Reichert. Amy & Tim Brusco. Sun Lim. Roger & Sharron Winnicki.

The meeting was convened at 6:30 PM.

Agenda: Motion made by A. Korzun to follow the agenda with the following additions: Excess Weight Permits for Normandin Transit Inc. and a Line of Credit. Seconded by F. Wyatt. All in favor, motion approved.

Road Commissioner's Report: The Town has received preliminary approval for a grant, which is a step towards receiving full funding for paving. They are also working on repairing roads and preparing for culvert projects.

Regional Plan Discussion: Devon Neary is here from the Rutland Regional Planning Commission (RRPC) to discuss the town's questions and concerns:

The Board discussed concerns regarding the changing regional plan maps and the amount of land being categorized within Tier 2 and Tier 3 areas. M. Cimonetti questioned the ongoing map changes and expressed concern about how these designations could impact landowners. Devon, Executive Director of the Rutland Regional Planning Commission (RRPC), explained that regional plans and mapping systems have existed for many years and that Act 181 is intended to standardize mapping methodologies across the state. He clarified that the maps are planning tools, not regulatory maps, and do not directly govern land use under Act 250. Their purpose is to identify areas that may qualify for Act 181 land use considerations.

Devon explained that Tier 1B areas, generally shown in pink and purple, are locations where towns may choose to opt in to partial Act 250 exemptions for housing and mixed-use development within designated growth areas. All remaining areas currently fall under Tier 2, which maintains the existing Act 250 "status quo." He noted that the classifications could continue to change as the process evolves. Devon also shared that map revisions resulted from feedback received through the Land Use Review Board process and public hearings, where many residents expressed opposition to large amounts of land being categorized as rural conservation.

It was emphasized that being placed within a certain color category does not automatically change a landowner's rights or ability to use their property. Any participation in Tier 1B exemptions would require towns to formally opt in, and the

system is intended to encourage thoughtful land use and development within Vermont. Discussion also included Senate Bill 325, which is currently being considered and would repeal Tier 2 and Tier 3 regulations, including the "road rule," creating one larger tier system instead.

A. Korzun asked Devon to further explain his role and the relationship between the regional planning process and the State. Devon responded that Act 181 is a legislative mandate and that regional planning commissions are required by law to assist with planning efforts and related responsibilities. He stated that there is limited direct coordination between the State and local groups such as VAPDA. Devon also clarified that the regional plan maps are separate from the official Act 181/Land Use Review Board maps, which has been a major source of public confusion throughout the process.

*Attached is a common questions and answers page provided by Devon and he encourages residents to also look at the RRPC website for more information on updated maps.

Excess Weight Permit: A. Korzun made a motion to approve the following Excess Weight Permit for Normandin Transit Inc. F. Wyatt seconded. Approved.

Line of Credit: The Treasurer has acquired a line of credit from Community Bank for a total of \$500,000.00 at an interest rate of 4.75% annually. A. Korzun made a motion to accept the line of credit. F. Wyatt seconded. Approved.

New Business/ Open to the Public: There was a question about the overflow from the culverts, D. Cavato assured work will be done to the area of concern. Another question was asked about a speeding on Lincon Hill roads was asked, it was recommended to put out the speed cart to deter this. The Selectboard is working on granting this request. There was further discussion on the speed of drivers in the town.

Easement for Northam Road Culvert: Jack Facey created a draft easement document. Jeff and Tiffany Dayton will need to sign the document. J. Facey will be contacting them to proceed. A. Korzun made a motion that the town provide \$5,000 for the easement on Town Hill Road. F. Wyatt seconded. Approved.

Review Minutes: A. Korzun made a motion to accept the 4/15/2026 Selectboard meeting minutes with the correction of Cynthia Thornton's name. Seconded by F. Wyatt. Approved.

Review Orders: M. Cimonetti made a motion to approve the Selectboard Orders #5 for a total of \$11,000.60 and Road Orders #5 for a total of \$31,924.61. Seconded by F. Wyatt. Approved.

Adjourned at 8:23pm.

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

NEWS FROM MONTPELIER

I wish I could tell you as I write this on May 20 that we are close to a resolution to the educational reform that has become the most important issue this year. But I cannot.

The education reform debate has appeared to have become even more intense on multiple fronts as the Senate worked to produce its version on the House's version (H 955) before we run out of time. It is on the Action Calendar for this week on the Senate floor. The latest amended version reflects many of the House proposals, keeping the CESA's which are Cooperative Educational Services Areas, voluntary merger study committees, reduced Average Daily Membership thresholds to 1,500 instead of 2,000 and the so-called foundation formula pushed out to not take effect immediately. The guess is now that if there are not enough votes to either sustain or override a veto, it will almost certainly proceed on to a three-way negotiation with the Governor. The other option is that this whole topic will be sent to a conference committee which will delay anything happening until probably the end of May. And the Governor has made it very clear that he will not sign any educational reform bill or the State budget until he is satisfied.

Couple that with continued disagreement between the two chambers on the taxing proposals and it does not look very likely that by the time you read this that we will have adjourned. Just for information purposes, inside the already passed Act 73, are excess spending levels for school districts. In House bill H 949, which is this year's property tax bill there was testimony including hearing from the Joint Fiscal Committee. JFO presented two options for aligning the ESA (Excess spending adjustment) threshold with the [Act 73](#) foundation formula base amount: either adjust the current multiplier from 118% to approximately 114.2%, or replace the formula entirely with the statutory base amount (inflated annually). Both approaches pretty much do the same thing. But the more contentious issue is what the Senate did with it. The Senate-passed version drops the current multiplier to 112% (a more aggressive constraint) but then adds broad exemptions, including construction debt service plus exemptions for flat spending, flat per-pupil spending, and administrative appeals to the Secretary of Education. Some House members were concerned that these carveouts could effectively neutralize the ESA's intended fiscal discipline.

This is a crucial design question for the future of the Education Fund. The ESA is the primary cost-containment tool in the current system (particularly if the foundation formula continues to get delayed). The Committee repeatedly emphasized predictability for school boards and equity for high-poverty districts that face legitimate cost pressures (special education, mental health services, workforce shortages) that the ESA doesn't distinguish from discretionary spending growth.

Another issue that has yet to be resolved as I write this is the Act 181 situation. S.325, which the Senate drafted to include the repeal of the Tier 3 designation, and the Road Rule is now in a conference committee with the House. That

conference committee will determine final jurisdiction and planning provisions related to Act 181.

There is also new iteration of the Bottle Bill. According to the Vermont Chamber of Commerce: "Following changes adopted by the Senate Natural Resources Committee, the Senate Finance Committee took testimony this week on [H.915](#), which would restructure Vermont's bottle redemption system through a Producer Responsibility Organization model. The proposal would add an additional one cent per container at checkout for consumers and impose an estimated \$2 million in new costs on beverage manufacturers." However, a recent letter to the Rutland Herald on behalf of one of our local redemption centers has asked for support for the bill. It would allow redemption centers to keep the increase in the handling fee for beverage containers. I plan to vote in support of the bill.

H.944, the Transportation Bill, is now in a Committee of Conference. The underlying problem is serious. According to the Agency of Transportation, the Transportation Fund revenues missed forecast by \$7.4 million in FY2025, construction costs are up 62% since 2020, and fuel tax receipts are falling as vehicles grow more efficient. The Agency of Transportation has already cut 62 positions. Current appropriations to the Fund for FY 27 covers repaving of just 46 miles of interstate and 56 miles of state highway, leaving roughly a third of state highways in poor or very poor condition. Without structural change, 60% of Vermont roads will be in very poor condition by decade's end. The bill's most significant policy change: starting January 1, 2027, EV owners will pay \$0.014 per mile, capped at \$178 annually, replacing the current \$89 flat fee. Hybrids and plug-in hybrids follow in 2029. An earlier proposal to extend the mileage fee to all light-duty vehicles by 2031 was dropped.

H 942 which is a House Agriculture bill returned to Senate Finance on Tuesday. The bill exempts convenience stores under 7,000 square feet from unit pricing requirements and creates a new sales tax exemption for forestry equipment — skidders, forwarders, log loaders, firewood processors, and related gear — along with repair parts used in timber operations. There is no indication what the final decision will be in Senate Finance on those provisions.

If you have questions or concerns, please let me know. My home phone is 773-1365 and you can leave a voicemail. My address here is bcollamore@leg.state.vt.us

~Senator Brian Collamore, Rutland County District



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Office 802 492 3364	sharrowmaple@gmail.com

**Carol Goodwin
Memorial Service**
May 30, 2026 @ 2:30pm
Shrewsbury Community Church
Reception following at Goodwin home
3180 Upper Cold River Rd

**Celebration of Life
for
Michael Wells**
1/1/1933 - 3/12/2026
Saturday, June 20
1:30 - 3:30pm
at the Banks Community Center,
Spring Lake Ranch (near the upper barn)
Kindly carpool when possible

Celebration of Life for
Carl Buffum
(11/20/1940- 2/1/2026)
teacher, potter, father, grandfather and friend.
Please join family and friends on Sunday, June 28, at
the Shrewsbury Meeting House at 1:00pm for a
Quaker Memorial Service, a time for sharing
memories. Afterwards there will be a simple meal and
opportunity for visiting together.
~Ann Buffum and family

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

Gilbert Dillon Jr.

Sincere condolences to the Dillon/Butler families on the passing of Gilbert Dillon Jr. on April 29, 2026. "Gil" was chef for the former Shrewsbury Inn (ca. 1980) located in the 100+ year-old brick house on Route 103, Cuttingsville, VT, that was destroyed by fire in 2022.

*Submitted by Ruth Winkler for the
Shrewsbury Historical Society*



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250 AMERICA'S ANNIVERSARY

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 VT and around the country.

At the time of our country's founding, the meaning of "freedom" was much debated. Should the 13 colonies not only be free from British rule, but all people residing therein also be free? Some states limited slavery, Vermont being the first while still a republic in 1777. Ending the slave trade was proposed, but not included in the Constitution.

In 1807, importation of slaves was prohibited, but the practice of slavery continued despite an increasing Abolitionist movement. Fearing Abraham Lincoln would end slavery after his election in 1860, 11 southern states seceded from the Union and formed the Confederate States of America; the Civil War began in April 1861.

At dedication of the Gettysburg National Cemetery in November 1863, Lincoln honored those who had died. He cited the Declaration of Independence affirmation that all men are created equal and in ten memorable words defined the democratic republic which our Constitution established.

"... we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain, that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom, and that **government of the people, by the people, for the people**, shall not perish from the earth."

After the Civil War ended and the Union was restored, Congress in 1884-1885 passed three Amendments to the Constitution: the 13th ending slavery, the 14th declaring that anyone born or naturalized in the US is a citizen, and the 15th guaranteeing all citizens the right to vote, thus enshrining these civil rights for the formerly enslaved and for all Americans

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

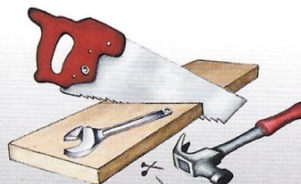
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SHREWSBURY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Summer is approaching fast! The spring rains have turned the forest and lawns green! We welcome warmer and sunny days.

The SVFD responded to three calls since last month.

- The first call was for a possible propane leak on Upper Cold River Rd. A propane alarm indicator on the heating device was checked. No propane leak was found and the propane supplier was notified.
- The second call was for a downed power line creating a small brush fire on Eastham Road, the fire burned itself out. A large pine tree snapped off during a high wind event bringing the power line to the ground causing the brush fire. The downed wires were in the woods and laying across the road. We blocked the road off and routed traffic around the damaged area. The town constables responded to ensure the scene was kept safe until Green Mountain Power arrived and repaired the damaged line. These are delicate situations as we have to be cautious to stay away from the energized wires until the power company arrives and isolates the problem.
- The last call was to Russellville Road for an automated IPHONE crash detection text which was sent to state dispatch. SVFD was enroute when a sheriff reported no incident in the area where the message originated from. These automated calls have happened a few times in the last couple of years. A couple of these automated calls were actual accidents.

We participated in the May Loyalty Day parade in Rutland with Rescue 1 and Engine 2.

Tanker 2 was stored off site for the winter so we returned Tanker 2 to service. Rescue 1 studded tires were changed over to its summer tires. Engine 1 and Engine 2 had an extensive pump service and maintenance was performed. Several members did a portable pump drill and practiced with the pre-connected pump on Tanker 1.

We had a monthly business meeting to review the previous month activities. The SVFD officers met to discuss upcoming training and future equipment and facility needs of the department.

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.

As noted above, we had to store Tanker 2 off-site for the winter due to facility constraints. We are considering future expansion of the Northam and/or Cuttingsville stations. We need to upgrade these facilities, increase energy efficiency, meet current regulatory requirements and increase security of these valuable assets. More information will be available as we develop the scope and options.

We were fortunate last month to have one reported brush fire. The state had ordered a burn ban for much of the month. The day that we responded to our only brush fire, several surrounding towns were battling significant brush fires. As we've seen on the news recently, these small fires increase in size quickly. The high winds made stopping these fires difficult. One of the latest fires in California was started by a farmer mowing a field that struck a rock, created a spark, and the winds fanned the fire into a large fire. We've experienced trains creating sparks, downed power lines, backyard burn pits, and other accidental sources of ignition.



If you are considering burning brush or other clean yard debris, you must call Forest Fire Warden Kevin Brown (802-345-8668) or Deputy Forest Fire Warden Al Ridlon (802-282-3642) for a burn permit.

Thanks for your continued support, enjoy the summer and remember: **Stay Fire Safe!!** ~Article by Jack Perry

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Vermont Aviation Community News

Airport leaders, pilots, aviation businesses, educators, students, and community partners from across Vermont gathered at the State House in Montpelier recently for Aviation Day, a statewide effort to share information and build awareness around the role aviation plays in communities throughout Vermont.

Participants from airports across the state spent the day meeting with legislators, offering presentations, and engaging in informal conversations about how aviation supports a range of everyday needs. Discussions included topics such as emergency response, medical transport, education and workforce development, tourism, and general transportation access.

The event was designed as an opportunity for policymakers to hear directly from those involved in Vermont's aviation system and to better understand how airports function as part of the state's broader transportation infrastructure. Organizers emphasized that Vermont's airports serve a wide variety of communities and functions, particularly in rural areas where geography and distance can present unique challenges.

In addition to operational and community-focused discussions, the day included participation from education and workforce programs, youth organizations, and industry partners, including BETA Technologies.

According to Vermont's 2021 Airport Economic Impact Assessment, airports across the state support more than 3,400 jobs and contribute significantly to economic activity and visitor spending.

Organizers described the event as a positive opportunity to highlight the many ways aviation supports Vermont communities and to continue building constructive dialogue with state leaders and partners, including the Vermont Agency of Transportation.

Aviation Day participants expressed appreciation for the time and engagement of legislators and staff, and indicated interest in continuing similar conversations in the future.

Bob Knudsen, Shrewsbury Representative, and Vice Chair, Rutland Southern Vermont Regional Airport

Annual Meeting of Northam Cemetery Association

Will be held at 7pm
Wednesday June 24, 2026
Northam Fire Station

Questions call Catherine Carrara 802-492-6137

Concerns Related to Hantavirus

Recently I was at a gathering at the library; when others began talking about their concerns related to the Hantavirus. Since I have a family background in pest management, I told them why I thought it might not be a problem in Shrewsbury, and they thought I should share the information. While the Hantavirus is part of the larger Ortho hantavirus family, it's important to clarify its presence and risk in our specific region. Cases of Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome (HPS), the strain commonly associated with this virus, are historically rare. Here are the Reasons why:

- **Climate:** The high humidity and moist air typical of our weather patterns are not conducive to the proliferation of the virus. Hantavirus thrives in dry conditions where it can become airborne as dust and be inhaled.
- **Rodent Resources:** The availability of resources for rodents that can carry and spread the virus is also limited in our area, hindering their ability to prosper in large numbers.

The primary carriers are mice, which typically harbor the virus as an asymptomatic chronic infection that doesn't affect them. In Shrewsbury, the White-footed Mouse and the Deer Mouse are the species most commonly affected. However, due to their generally low level of contact with humans, the risk of exposure from these local rodent populations are low. Other strains exist can be associated with different rodent species. For example, the Andes virus, carried by the Long-tailed Pygmy Rice Rat is associated with recent cases linked to a cruise ship. This strain and rodent are not typically found in Shrewsbury.

Shrewsbury's Health Officer, Catherine Schneider, suggests residents visit the following websites regarding this issue:

<https://www.healthvermont.gov/disease-control/zoonotic-diseases/hantavirus>

<https://www.cdc.gov/hantavirus/about/index.html>

~Article by Hillary Wolfe

Mount Holly, VT



Joshua Bickford

802.855.3216

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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.



LAUREL GLEN CEMETERY ASSOCIATION OF 1894

The exterior kitchen stairs were collapsing. Many winters had taken their toll, and the bottom riser and stringer base were spongy and, frankly, a little treacherous to climb. A wonderful recommendation led us to Stafford Tech and a fantastic crew of students who came to examine the stairs. The team made measurements and discussed various repair options. A student pulled off the bottom riser to discover that the newel post was not original. It had been replaced, along with the treads, at some point; we just don't know when.

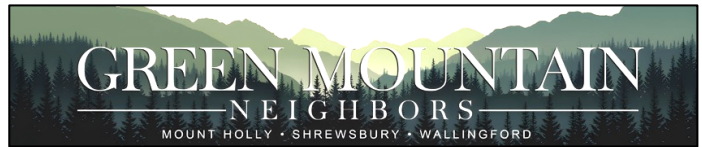
On May 15, phase 1 began, and the new stringers and treads went in! It is exciting that about half of the original staircase can be incorporated into the new stairs. The team was professional and engaged. Before they worked on the stairs, we took a tour of the mansion and mausoleum. Their interest and enthusiasm were high and their questions so insightful that we spent over two hours walking around the property and talking about the amazing architecture of Laurel Glen. I even managed to slip in a few tidbits of the Bowman love story, and they didn't seem to mind at all.

I reached out to Friends of Bowman Mansion to let them know about the stair project, and they responded with generosity that has touched me deeply! The money to fix the stairs was raised in a few days, and the Board of Trustees is so appreciative! Now on to the next project. It will be a series of baby steps, but we are determined to move forward to make the mansion available for community events, educational programming, and cultural events.

We hope to raise funds to repair the plumbing in the mansion as our next project. Why the plumbing, you may ask? We need facilities! If we can hold events in the building, we can concentrate on larger fundraising efforts, such as repairs to the cemetery wall. Baby steps...

We received a donation of some amazing furniture, including an expanding table like the one used by Mr. Bowman for weddings at Laurel Hall. Mary Lord, presently of Tinmouth, gave some wonderful pieces to the mansion, and they look great! A crew in CT, from where the furniture was moved, helped load, and a team in VT met the truck upon its arrival! Thanks to all who helped! It couldn't have happened without help! Email if you'd like to help with future projects.

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 Email at laurelglen.bowmanmansion@gmail.com



Neighbors Helping Neighbors! Volunteers: As our membership grows each year, so does our need for more volunteers. You don't even need to leave home! We are particularly interested in finding someone who could provide technical administration volunteer help.

To become a member, a supporting member, or exploring volunteering with GMN, please check out our website at 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.

- Chair Yoga is on hiatus until the end of June.
- Bingo at Wallingford House on the third Monday of each month 1:30-3:30.
- May 28 (Thurs) at 12noon: Luncheon at Sweet Caroline's in West Rutland
- June 24 (Wed) 1:30-3:30pm at Gilbert Hall Library in Wallingford: Vermont Visiting Nurse Association present "Start the Conversation: Planning Ahead for Your Healthcare Decisions"

Future events for the summer include a session on Estate Planning as well as Blueberry Picking and Nature Walks.

"We can't thank you enough for driving Carl to paint class, shoveling our stairs and driveway and picking up a prescription in Ludlow. We appreciate everything your volunteers have done. When I tell friends in other states or even in Vermont that a service like this exists, they are amazed and tell us how lucky we are. They are so right! Lucky us!" – Carl and Kathy Mitchell

~Article submitted by Lois Castonguay

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**2026
SHREWSBURY
MEETING HOUSE
SUMMER CONCERT
SERIES**

**The Hills Are Alive With the
Sound of Music in Shrewsbury**

Mark your summertime calendars! Now in its 7th 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.

Food vendors and food available starting at 5:30pm
All concerts are on Fridays at 6:00pm
(Indoors if raining)

- June 12 Swing Noire**
- June 26 Mojo Birds**
- July 10 Tony's Polka Band**
- July 24 Rustie Bus**
- Aug 7 Jonathan Lorentz Group**

For additional info: (802) 492.3649
singtolive57@gmail.com

**SHREWSBURY MEETING HOUSE
SUMMER CONCERT SERIES**



SWING NOIRE

Friday, June 12 @ 6 pm.

Swing Noire invokes the energy of a swingin' jazz club, transporting audiences back to the early days of jazz with their unique take on Hot Swing, making music that will entrance and surprise you. Great energy, soul, sophistication, and improvisation are the hallmarks of a Swing Noire performance. Their music channels the sounds of 1930's Paris ... that smoky, kinetic mix of jazz, blues, and Gypsy fire - with their own distinct edge.

Violinist David Gusakov, guitarist Rob McCuen, guitarist Jared Volpe, and double bassist Jim McCuen makes up Vermont's hottest Gypsy jazz quartet. Swing Noire has performed at the Burlington Discover Jazz Festival, the Stowe Jazz Festival, Burlington's First Night Celebration, The Town Hall Theater, Chandler Center for the Arts, and countless other venues throughout Vermont and New England.

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MOJO BIRDS

Friday, June 26 @ 6 PM

Mojo Birds formed their funky flock in Durango, Colorado, bringing together musicians from across the country and around the world, and notably...Shrewsbury's own Silas Hamilton on bass and vocals. Joining Silas are Brian Aherne - slide guitar, mandolin, vocals; Alexi Leon-Harootunian - percussion and vocals; Jay Harootunian (hailing from Plymouth, VT) - guitar and vocals; Ted Moore - drums, percussion, vocals; and Alex Taub - organ, piano, Wurlitzer, vocals.

The result is a tight-knit, groove-first sound built for celebration—rootsy, soulful, feel-good, with a little Afro-Peruvian spice. They'll migrate back to our concert series once again, bringing joy to our audience as they have before.

SHREWSBURY LIBRARY

Library News Submitted by Joan Aleshire
CELEBRATING 50 YEARS & COUNTING

Monday 10am to 12pm
Tuesday 7pm to 9pm
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.

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

*ANNUAL MEETING REPORT: At the Library's Annual
Meeting on May 12, the following officers were re-elected:

- Co-Presidents: TRISH NORTON & LISA SHARROW
- Vice-President: JOAN ALESHIRE
- Secretary: GAIL HARTIGAN
- Treasurer: LISA SHARROW

The following trustees were re-elected to new, Three-Year
Terms: JOAN ALESHIRE, ED SAWYER, DIRK THOMAS,
and JENNY WELLENIUS

Thank you, everyone, for serving the library!

Coming Events: SAVE THESE DATES!

Sunday, July 12:
Man With A Plan with Filmmaker John O'Brien

Saturday, August 1:
SANDGLASS THEATER: Puppet Crimes

Saturday, August 29:
Dinner & Street Dance

Continuing Programs:

Sunday, June 7 @ 4pm: WRITERS' GROUP: 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
or Joan Aleshire: joanaleshire@vermontel.net.

Sunday, June 21 @ 4pm: via Zoom: FAMOUS BOOKS
BOOK CLUB: Second discussion of Shakespeare's *Julius
Caesar*: appropriate for these turbulent times! Please contact

Joan for the Zoom link, if you need another copy of the play,
or have questions: joanaleshire@vermontel.net.

Sunday, June 28 @ 7 p.m. In-person & via Zoom: SCIENCE
BOOK CLUB: *Hyperspace* by Michio Kaku. Print copies are
available in the library. Please contact Margery Salmon for
the Zoom link and to get a copy: salmonm@vermontel.net.

New Books include:

- * *The Things We Never Say* by Elizabeth Strout, a new
novel by the author of *Olive Kitteridge*.
- * *American Rambler: Walking the Trail of Johnny
Appleseed* by Isaac Fitzgerald.
- * *Transcription* by Ben Lerner: A new novel by the noted
poet and fiction writer in which a young man interviews an
important mentor.
- * *This Vast Enterprise: A New History of Lewis and Clark's
Expedition* by Craig Fehrman. (Thanks to Mark
Youngstrom for the suggestion!)
- * *The Return of the Oystercatcher: Saving Birds to Save the
Planet* by Scott Weidensauls: Reasons for hope by an
experienced naturalist.
- * *John of John* by Douglas Stuart: An Oprah's Book Club
pick by a Booker Prize-winning Scottish novelist set on an
island in the Outer Hebrides.

DVDs: Two film versions of *Julius Caesar*: One with Marlon
Brando, from 1953, and one from 2002, with Christopher
Walken, Jeremy Sisto, and Richard Harris.



Can you name it?...Now we Can!

Becky Bates got several responses to her query in the
May 2026 issue of the Times of Shrewsbury about the
"mystery" item she found in the woods on her property.
It's 14 1/2" in diameter. Photo on left is looking down into
it, and photo on the right is the other side.

Margaret Burnor suggested that it was either a
phonograph amplifier or a hearing amplifier for the hard
of hearing, but Becki thinks it's too heavy and
awkwardly shaped for a hearing devise.

Thomas Hartigan and Mark Goodwin said they think
that the "horn-like thing" is most likely the sound
amplifying horn of an old Victrola gramophone. Having
never seen one of those, Becki said the online photos
were considerably fancier than hers, but Mark said he
worked for RCA, and they did make fancy ones as well
as plain ones.



Getting ready for summer at spring lake!

On May 17 a group of Shrewsbury kids paddled a dock from its Winter storage to the main Shrewsbury Outing Club dock area. ~Photo by Gretchen Gould

Shrewsbury Outing Club (SOC) News

If you wish to join as a new member for the upcoming season at Spring Lake and other SOC activities, please contact us at ShrewsburyOutingClub@gmail.com for the forms. 2026 Membership Forms and Waivers are also available at the Shrewsbury Town Office. Last year's members should have received their forms by email. Please be sure to add the SOC to your email contacts so that these forms do not go to spam.

The completed 2026 Membership form, signed waiver, and membership dues of \$55 payable to the Shrewsbury Outing Club, should be mailed to:

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

This year's membership is valid from June 1, 2026 to April 31, 2027. Your name will be added to the membership list posted at the lake and given to the security guard. After June 1, membership requests will be processed and added to the membership list only on Fridays. You may be asked to leave if your name is not on the list.

Shrewsbury Historical Society

www.shrewsburyhistoricalsociety.com

Greetings for a glorious Summer! This year is the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, when the feisty citizens of the 13 English colonies broke away from the mother country. Our founding fathers created a constitution to guide the new government. It was designed to share control among three branches, to balance power and responsibility.

After the Revolutionary War the new nation had 13 states. In 1791 Vermont joined them as the 14th. From then on new states were formed as settlement continued westward all the way to the Pacific Ocean.

Did you know that even before the land between Lake Champlain and the Connecticut River was named Vermont, our town of Shrewsbury existed on the map of New England? It's true. In 1761 Benning Wentworth, Royal Governor of the colony of New Hampshire granted 24,000 acres of land to

Samuel Ashley and his 63 associates. King George encouraged immediate settlement and development of industry. This was to make the wilderness productive for England. Since Shrewsbury's earliest homesteaders our rugged landscape has been home to families from surrounding states, provinces, and around the world.

By 1790, 72 families lived in settlements (hamlets) in every section of the town. Think of Eastham, Northam, Cold River, Center Shrewsbury, Russellville, Cuttingsville

They came to farm the stony soil, build sawmills, and cheese factories, a copperas mine, a granite quarry, etc. They built inns, stores, blacksmith and wagon shops, schools, churches, and more.

Our town's precious natural and human resources have experienced many changes since 1761. Historian Elise Guyette's book Vermont A Cultural Patchwork offers a concept: A community like Shrewsbury is a treasure chest containing shining individuals and groups who make it a great place to live and grow.

The Historical Society has honored several departed and treasured Shrewsbury citizens. This season we will start a new tradition by celebrating two current, treasured individuals.

We appreciate Shrewsbury voters' support on Town Meeting Day. Thank you.

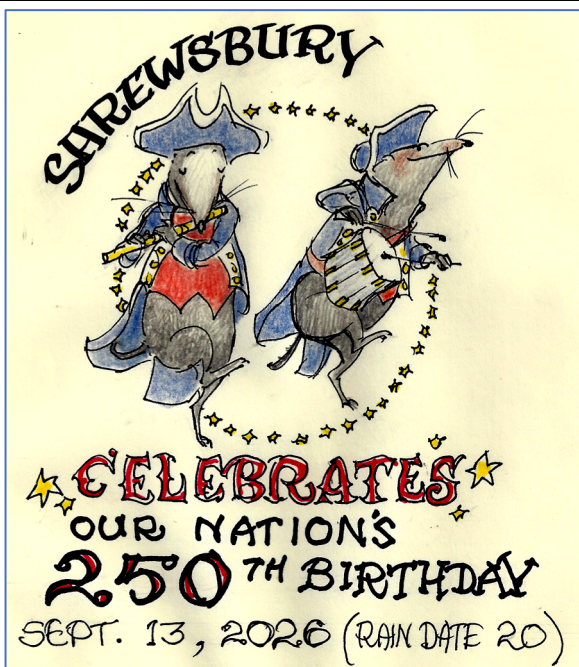
Come visit our Museum's new exhibits!

The Shrewsbury Historical Society welcomes visitors from 1:00pm to 3:00pm on Sundays July through October ... or by appointment.

For more info contact Brian Winkler (802) 492-3324; Grace Brigham (802) 492-3458; Julianne Sharrow at julanne@vermontel.net Also, please visit our website at shrewsburyhistoricalsociety.com

MUSEUM GRAND OPENING JULY 5, 2026

~Article submitted by Grace Brigham



Greetings from your 2026 Shrewsbury Day Committee!

We would like to invite you back to this year's S.D. as we celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Mill River Union High School and the 250th Anniversary of our country.

We are requesting a confirmation from our community members that participate annually.

We would also like to reach out to any new person, group, business or organization that wishes to participate in the parade or join our team as we bring S.D. to life.

Please respond back to benbeano@vermontel.net with your interest in joining us on Sunday, September 13, 2026. (Rain date Sunday, September 20, 2026)

~Your Shrewsbury Day Team



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Buying locally grown plants helps to ensure your seedlings are suitable for our region, allows you to get growing tips and supports local agriculture. We only use organic potting soil.

Thank You Friends!

Despite the chilly, drizzly, less-than-inspiring weather, close to 90 townsfolk graciously turned out for Green Up 2026.

Muck boot and glove clad volunteers gathered at the Town Hall for alimentary fortification before heading out to a selected route for the joyous activity of picking up soggy roadside garbage. Pierce's cooked up frittata and muffins, while Jones' provided the frosted and sprinkled doughnuts. (The decorated ones go fast!) The Town Hall echoed with lively conversation between returning participants and new. We were especially heartened by the number of youth who stepped up this year. (Y'all earned your 802 Bars!)

Special appreciation goes to the local businesses and artisans that offered raffle prizes. Todd Frederick made a sturdy bat house and blue bird boxes. There was Brigham honey, Maple Crest Farm candy, and Wally's Corner gift certificates. Evening Song Farm and Stones Throw Farm generously offered gift certificates. Thank you sponsors!

Many hands at the transfer station made the garbage management tolerable. After separating out recyclable and returnable items, 110 bags were tossed into the hopper! Jeremiah and crew were awesome, as usual.

On behalf of the Conservation Commission, thank you so much for donating your time and energy on Shrewsbury's behalf. Is it too soon to say: hope to see you next year?

*Submitted by Cynthia Thornton
Shrewsbury Conservation Commission*



Thank you, Conservation Commission!

Green up Day in Shrewsbury is always a highlight of Spring. It is so fun to wake up early and gather at the meeting house to select your road. The quiche and donuts are a delicious treat while you visit with familiar faces before heading out with a green bag. Eliza (left) and Isabelle (right) were determined to find every piece of trash and filled an entire bag. *~Submitted by Angie Sharrow*



Pre-Green Up nourishment of the rainbow sprinkle kind.

~Photo by Mark Youngstrom



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The Roving Reporter asked:

What did you do with your wedding dress?



- "What happened to it? ...umm, I don't know. I have no idea. It was a white one." ~JS
- "I gave it to my daughter-in-law; she probably used it for Halloween!" ~AR
- "It got torn at my wedding...but then we made a scarecrow with it for our daughter's wedding. At least It stayed in the family!" ~LF
- "I think I gave it to the Mission...what else are you going to do with it?!" ~KB
- "It's in my closet; not a chance that I could get into it. It's way above my knees; my mother made it." ~PG
- "I wore my mother's designer wedding dress, and she took it to the cleaners after my wedding...but she never went back to pick it up. So, I've spent most of the last 35 years looking for it on Ebay!" ~NM
- "We got married in December, and it was a velvet dress with long sleeves, long train with a short veil...and a longer trailing veil. My daughter wore it too...and I still have the dress!" ~DS
- "My sister-in-law had it altered, and she wore it at her wedding. It was nice to have someone you love wear it. It's in the closet somewhere now." ~AM
- "One day I tried it on after 30 years to see if I could get into it. I had to use a coat hanger to pull up the zipper in the back, but the metal pull broke off, and I couldn't unzip it to get the dress off. I was home alone and had to go to work, so I just got a pair of scissors and cut it off!" ~PM
- "I don't have a clue where the dress is...but I have a picture of it!" ~BJ

Barn Raising Jamboree

Spring Lake Ranch will be back at the Shrewsbury Meeting House Concert Series on July 10 alongside Tony's Polka

Band. We're particularly excited because this year, all meal proceeds will support something extra special – new barns for Farm Crew!

You or someone you know may have spent time with our Farm Crew as an employee, former resident, or part of our extended Ranch family. Maybe you came to the Ranch for an event, bought SLR eggs at Pierce's, or perhaps you enjoyed the pulled pork at last year's Meeting House Concert. For nearly one hundred years, we've been a part of Shrewsbury. Now we're raising funds to sustain the Ranch for the next 100.



Spring Lake Ranch
therapeutic community

complex. We're hoping Shrewsbury will help us "Raise the Barn."

The project is about creating a space where our time-tested and effective farm-based therapy can continue into SLR's next century, where residents can interact with animals daily and learn new skills, and where the authentic, "Ranchy" ethos of our community still thrives.

"We're still going to use square bales, still manure by hand," Facilities Director and Work Program Manager Nathan Hewitt promises. "But we're thinking about the future, too, like having a big enough roof to support solar panels someday." "This model works. Generations of residents and families have told us SLR made the difference when other treatment centers didn't. It's imperative our property can sustain programming for future generations," says Rose McCracken, Development & Communications Director.

SLR has engaged UVM's Farm Viability Program and animal housing expert John Porter to create a consolidated farm complex on the old baseball field next to Beaver Pond and Farm Crew's forested shiitake field. Bringing all the animals together means less time driving across campus to get from barn to barn, and more time doing the things that have the most impact on our residents' self-esteem and self-efficacy. "I met some of my best friends and had the most life-changing experiences," a former resident says about Farm Crew. "For example, I assisted in three piglet births as someone from a city who had only seen farm animals from a distance."

We hope you'll join us July 10 for a barn raising jamboree at the Shrewsbury Meeting House Concert Series. We'll serve SLR sausage & peppers (and Beyond vegetable sausage) on a pretzel bun, German potato salad and SLR salad. We'll also offer soft pretzels with homemade cheese sauce.

If you can't attend, donations can be made any time at <https://springlakeranch.org/raisethebarn>.

Naming opportunities are available. For questions, contact Rose McCracken: rosem@springlakeranch.org, (802) 772-8342.

~Article by Anna Sutton and Rose McCracken
~ Drawing by Olivia Mancivalano



Our beloved Farm Crew has outgrown the dilapidated buildings that house its programming and the Ranch's cows, chickens, pigs, and sheep. It's time to build something new. As part of our ongoing Capital Campaign (which ends this December!), we're raising \$1.5MM to build a new farm

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- Pork Sausages
- Pork Chops
- Ground Pork
- Ham Steaks
- Chicken Breasts
- Whole Chickens

Fall in love with shopping local at our small farm store!

The Shrewsbury Community Church



Compiled by Sue Ransom-Kelley



The kids had fun planting flowers and making Mother's Day Cards for their moms!

Special thanks to Julanne for putting together beautiful nosegay bouquets of carnations for all of the ladies in church on Mother's Day!



Mother's Day was a very special day for the church. The surprise of the wonderful handmade bouquets gave me pause to just stand still; to feel blessed and grateful; thinking of the thought, care and love that went into the kind act of putting them together; the way the colors came together and the natural handpicked greens to accent them. It reminds

me of the small acts of kindness that can truly be healing and holy. God is in everything and is everywhere. It was so nice to see so many faces that we haven't seen in a while. I don't know the details but there were people working behind the scenes to pull the people in, to get the supplies and to be with the youth as they filled containers with spring flowers for the mothers/women in the church. Mine sits on my side steps! ~Pastor Karen Braeutigam

Food Shelf News: Special Thanks to Abby and Obar Lopez from Two Jacks Farm for supplying the food shelf refrigerator at the library all spring with fresh eggs! What a blessing for folks to have fresh eggs!

The food shelf is supported by the Church Helping Hand Fund. There has been a great need for food this year! Please remember you can help support your neighbors by dropping off non-expired food items to the food shelf in the front of the library or the back room on the 2nd floor of the Meeting House. You can also make monetary donations in any amount to the Shrewsbury Community Church with Helping Hand Fund or Food Shelf in the memo.

Shrewsbury Community Church Calendar

Sun, June 7, 10:30am Worship Service and Holy Communion led by Pastor Karen Braeutigam

Sun, June 14, 10:30am Worship Service led by Pastor Karen Braeutigam.

Sun, June 21, 10:30am Worship Service led by Pastor Karen Braeutigam.

Tues, June 23, 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.

Sun, June 28 Worship Service led by Pastor Karen Braeutigam.

Community Food Shelf

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

Limited hours are:

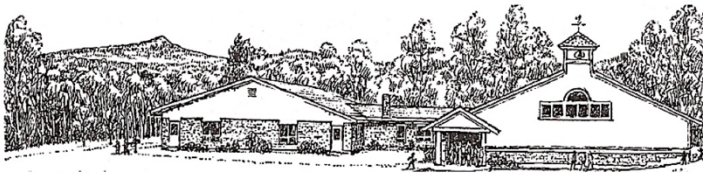
Mon 10am-12noon; Tues 7-9pm; Wed 10am-5pm and 7-9pm; Thurs 7-9pm; Fri 10am-12noon; and, Sat 10am-12noon.

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 Julanne 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



SHREWSBURY MOUNTAIN SCHOOL

Important Dates:

June 5: Field Day (Rain Date June 8)

June 9 at 6:30pm: All School Music Concert and 6th Grade Graduation

HUGE Thank you to our SMS PTO who showered our educators with treats and gifts during Teacher Appreciation Week! We are so grateful for our outstanding educator team and how supportive our school families, the SMS PTO and our community are to our special mountain school.



Moool!!!! Our school is so amazing we had some cows show up to learn and play on the playground! What a great example of how special our small rural community is!

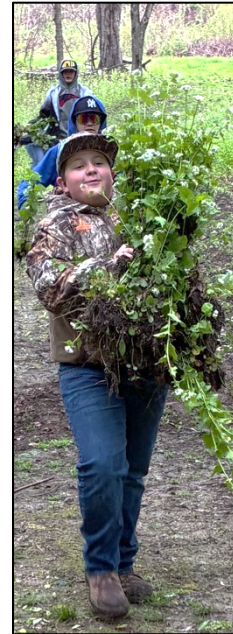


Memorial Day Flags: Continuing a long-standing tradition at Shrewsbury Mountain School, the second-grade class proudly placed 62 flags at Northam Cemetery in honor of Memorial Day. As part of this meaningful experience, students

learn about the history and significance of Memorial Day before walking together to the cemetery to carry on this tradition for the community.



Mock Trial Field Trip: Our Grade 5 students traveled to the Rutland City Superior Courthouse to experience the Mock Trial Event. Three of our students had the opportunity to serve as jurors. Thank you, Ms. McDonough for this learning opportunity.



Grade 5 and 6 Field

Trip with Ms. McDonough: As an extension of their study of human impacts on the environment, our 5th & 6th grade class traveled to Lake St. Catherine State Park to pull garlic mustard. Working with forestry and parks representatives, students learned more about this invasive plant and its effects on our local environment as well as being able to make a positive impact.

Four Winds Learning Experiences: Our students LOVE this program! We are looking for more volunteers to lead our students in learning about nature and exploring the outdoors. Please reach out to me or Gretchen Gould at dtvermont@hotmail.com

Meeting House Summer Concert Series: Friday, June 12 the SMS PTO will be selling desserts at the concert to raise funds for Shrewsbury Mountain School. Please come out and enjoy some wonderful music, connect with our community, and indulge in a sweet treat! We hope to see you there! I am always available to support our school families and connect with community members. Please contact me at 802-786-3995 or at kcimonetti@millriversschools.org if you have any questions or concerns.

~Kristin Cimonetti, Principal



June 21, 2016



It's the start of next school year's garden! All the Mountain School students will get a chance to get their hands dirty planting out the school garden on our annual garden blitz day in June! Ms. Bonafine and volunteers will care for the garden over the summer and the students will come back to a verdant vegetative paradise.

The SMS Garden has a solid management plan, how about you? Last month we focused on some easy home garden mulching techniques, this month let's focus on getting our plants in the ground! Here are some early-season tips and considerations for a thriving home garden:

1. Harden Off Indoor Seedlings

Seedlings started indoors need time to adjust to outdoor conditions. Gradually expose them to sunlight, wind, and cooler temperatures over a few days to reduce transplant shock.

2. Plant at the Proper Depth

Different plants have different needs. Tomatoes benefit from deep planting to encourage strong root systems, while many seedlings should be planted at the same depth they were growing in containers.

3. Space Plants for Airflow and Growth

It's tempting to squeeze in extra plants early in the season, but proper spacing improves airflow, reduces disease risk, and allows plants to reach full size without competition.

4. Water Gently and Consistently

Newly planted seeds and transplants need steady moisture to establish roots. Water deeply after planting and avoid letting the soil dry out completely during the first few weeks.

5. Mulch Early to Reduce Weeds

Once the soil warms slightly, apply straw, shredded leaves, or cardboard mulch around transplants to conserve moisture and suppress weeds before they take hold.

6. Protect Young Plants from Temperature Swings

Spring weather can be unpredictable. Keep row covers or lightweight fabric on hand to shield tender plants from sudden cold snaps or heavy winds.

7. Leave Room for Succession Planting

Plan ahead for continuous harvests by leaving space to reseed fast-growing crops like lettuce, radishes, and beans throughout the season.

A little extra care during planting time helps gardens establish strong roots, resist stress, and produce abundantly all season long.

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



SNOW-BIRD NEWS

We have been working on the big bridge project paper work and Mike brought it to me to fill out the construction grant in aid paperwork. I have done the construction course already and Scott Ryan said he might take it also. I will also put in a debrising grant so Dave can go out and with his excavator and brush head clear some of the trails that way. He usually has some one or two other members go in an UTV with a chain saw to help with big blow downs. Other areas will be cleared with hand brush cutters which that part is done by volunteer labor.

John Hogan and I washed the tucker and put it up on jack stands and loosened the tracks last weekend. There are a couple of issues we found and I will call Tucker and see what they think.

We had to replace the lock on the gate on the Clement Shelter Road because someone cut it off. The road is closed from April 15 to September 15 to keep the long trail and shelter safer and try to stop parties that bother the hikers.

John also installed some more No Wheeled Vehicle signs at 7 of our bridges because UTV's now a days are getting bigger and heavier. Wheeled vehicles are really damaging the tread around the North end of the Jeffords State Forest where they go around the gate. Mike Stewart was going up and take down the Sponsor Signs off the board today so they do not get destroyed in the off season. I went up to the sponsor board and cleaned up the garbage and took it out with the garbage can also. There was not much there at all which is good as we always say if you pack it in, pack it out also.



It is really not our responsibility to clean up their garbage but it is our responsibility to help keep the landowner's property clean as possible from VAST members enjoying the winter sport. The photo is John Hogan helping to power wash the Tucker. Enjoy the warm temps! ~Article by Roy Arthur

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
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More Info: Ginny Buckley (802) 492-3504




PRESENTATION & PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

The draft Risk Assessment of the Shrewsbury **Local Hazard Mitigation Plan** will be presented to the Selectboard and available for public review on June 3, 2026.

PRESENTATION

 **WEDNESDAY**
June 3

 **TIME**
6:30 PM

 **PLACE**
Town Office
9823 Cold River Rd

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Accepting comments from June 3 to 17, 2026. Email: maggie@rutlandrpc.org

LOCAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE

View the draft Plan at: tinyurl.com/shrewsbury-lhmp26



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SEPTIC SYSTEMS

Herbal Support for Optimal Health

We often think of health as black and white — either you're well or you're sick. In reality, health exists on a spectrum — you might feel strong and capable in many ways, but still struggle with digestion under stress, or notice your energy and immunity aren't quite what they used to be.

Herbal medicine can act in both powerful and subtle ways. 40% of modern pharmaceuticals are derived from plants long used by people, including many of the top-selling drugs in the United States. Statins for cholesterol (originally derived from fungi) and digitalis for treating heart disease (from foxglove) are well-known examples — highlighting the potency of plant medicine. Where herbs truly excel is in gently supporting the body's underlying processes, helping restore balance and moving us toward greater health over time, often reducing the need for stronger interventions.

Each person's health story is unique. I take the time to listen and craft individualized plans using herbs and simple lifestyle approaches to support the body's natural healing process. My intention is to help people rediscover trust in their body's innate intelligence and in the quiet, generous medicine of the plants.

If you're interested in how herbal medicine might support your health, please reach out.

Scott Courcelle

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Sampling the Wines of Southern Italy



Pierce's wine tasting on Saturday, June 6 from 4pm to 6pm will explore the Puglia region of Italy, which is becoming the next big thing in the wine world. The incomparable Steve Spensley, a long-time Saltash Serenader as well as a charter member of The Turkey Mountain Window Smashers, The Muddy Rhodes Blues Band and The Salt River Revue, will be performing in Pierce's Garage along with his wife Kim.

The free wine samples will focus on six wines from Puglia, the 'heel' of the Italian boot. Puglia is becoming a trendy wine region, reflecting a new appreciation for its ancient indigenous grapes, its coastal terroir, and the region's shift away from bulk production toward artisanal, low-intervention winemaking. Best of all, Puglia's wines are still super affordable, representing fantastic value for their price (a key theme of Pierce's wine selections).

Each of the featured wines will also be offered next door in Pierce's Garage for purchase by the glass, accompanied by the traditional and original music performed by Steve and Kim Spensley. Appetizers from master chef Heather Shay will also be available. ~Sandy Bragg

Need electrical work?

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Go to www.wirenutselectrical.net and check out our new website!



Shrewsbury Cemetery In the Center

While our country celebrates a 250th anniversary, let us not forget those who gave their lives serving.

While visiting family who have passed take a moment to look around and see what history is in our back yards, and share the stories because they are truly great ?

If you have a family plot here and plan to bring your loved one home to rest please be sure to give us a call.

Cemetery Rd ~ Shrewsbury, VT 05738
Donna Smith 802-492-3367

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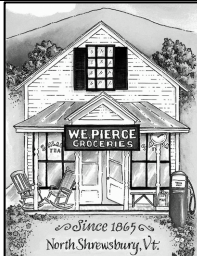


Learn
More!



"My daughter is excited to return to BBC each summer because of the personal connections she has made there with peers and staff." - Camper Mom

camp@bethanybirches.org [@bethanybirchescamp](https://www.instagram.com/bethanybirchescamp) [Bethany Birches Camp](https://www.facebook.com/BethanyBirchesCamp)



PIERCE'S STORE

802-492-3326

www.piercesstore.com

Hours: 8am to 6pm

Closed Mondays

Here at Pierce's May was a busy month. On Saturday the 9th we held a Beer Tasting with Burgers on the grill. The beer was provided by Foley Brothers out of Brandon VT and the Burgers were Grilled by Dave Tibbs. Beans and Cole Slaw were prepared by Lavinia Seide. It was a rainy day so we had tarps set up just in case, but the rain actually stopped while we were cooking the burgers. It was a good turnout despite the rain - Burgers and Beer did the trick.

On Sunday the 17th we held a historical review of Marjorie Pierce's life. Following an oral history by Mark Youngstrom, a video was shown of Marjorie's life beginning as a young girl and taking us through to her senior years. This amazing video, accompanied by some of the actual recorded music she loved (and sung herself), was put together by Ahmet Baycu. The event ended with live music and vocals by Sarah Gibson, Anna Peele and Silas Hamilton. This popular event attracted a very large crowd of over 60 participants with ages ranging from young kids to somewhat older folks. Many thanks to Mark Youngstrom for organizing the event and to Sandy Bragg for loaning us the AV equipment.

The next couple of months are looking good too. We have a wine tasting planned for Saturday June 6 (always popular) starting at 4pm with our own local wine expert Sandy Bragg. There will be music by Steve and Kim Spensley and, of course, Food and Beverages for purchase. In July (though the dates are not finalized) we will hold our Blueberry Fest, our second annual Art Show, and Heather Shay is planning her ever popular cooking class. Also in July, Sandy is planning a special wine class. The core of this class will be tasting and comparing sets of similar wines, for example a table wine vs a higher quality wine of the same type.

Be sure to check our website at piercesstore.com for specifics and changes, we try to update it at least twice a week. You can also find information on sales, baked goods and other items on the site. And - we are still looking for volunteers to help behind the counter.

~Ed Sawyer, Pierce's Board



If you're not on the "Fish Email Order List"....you should be! Sign up at Orders@piercesstore.com. Helen Richards-Peele sends out the fish list each Monday and orders must be placed by 4pm on Wednesday for pickup at the store on Fridays.



Summer and Fall Cooking Classes!

Spring Class--Philippines: We will first visit the Philippines, where Heather served in the Peace Corps, with Lumpia (Filipino fresh spring rolls), Chicken & Pork Adobo, Pancit (Filipino Lo Mein) and Flan for dessert. A mixture of Chinese and Spanish cuisines, this meal is gluten free! The date will be determined by the availability of potential students.

Fall Class--France: This Fall we'll travel to France - more on the menu later. It will not be gluten free. So, if you're interested, email heather@garrenshay.com or call at 802-492-2284.

Class fee is \$35 with
100% of the proceeds going to Pierce's Store!

Don't miss this Pierce's event!

June 6, 2026

4-6 p.m.

Wine tasting

with wine connoisseur, Sandy Bragg, in the
store

Guest musicians

Steve and Kim Spensley, in Pierce's garage

Food, wine and beer for purchase in the garage



Steve has been making music in Vermont since 1977 while also working as a teacher, woodcutter & buildings and grounds keeper. Playing guitar and fiddle, he draws inspiration from a wide variety of genres performing traditional, contemporary and original music. He has been a longtime member of The Saltash Serenaders as well as a charter member of The Turkey Mountain Window Smashers, The Muddy Rhodes Blues Band and The Salt River Revue.

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