

Times of Shrewsbury

October 2026

W.E. PIERCE AND A BIT OF NORTHAM HISTORY

Sit on the porch at Pierce's Store in quiet Northam today and let your mind wander back 150 years. What did the landscape look like? Certainly, there were not many trees in view. Gone are several houses, barns, carriage sheds and the blacksmith shop. Folks arrived at the store by horse and wagon to do their business. Rutland was a long slow day trip away.



schools in town (kids had to walk) and Northam, Cuttingsville, Russellville, Eastham and Cold River were small sustaining neighborhoods in and of themselves. Into such a setting

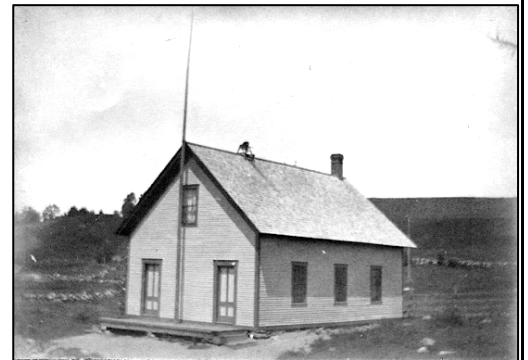
Willie E. Pierce was born on September 29, 1872, the same year future President Calvin Coolidge was born, and Ulysses S. Grant was elected as President that year (with 78% Vermont voter support).



Willie Pierce

Recently I ran across a short biography of Willie Pierce, written by his daughter Marjorie. Marjorie, a passionate historian, was determined to make sure the facts were correct and wrote obituaries for her family, long before they were needed. This amused her two brothers. So, let's look at Marjorie's father's life in Northam several generations ago.

Willie's parents were Edwin and Damaris (Aldrich) Pierce. He was the great grandson of Ephraim Pierce, one of Shrewsbury's first settlers, who arrived in 1788, bought a 100-acre lot at the end of the Tin Shanty Road, and built a house. He was also the great-great grandson of Ziba Aldrich, another first settler of Shrewsbury.



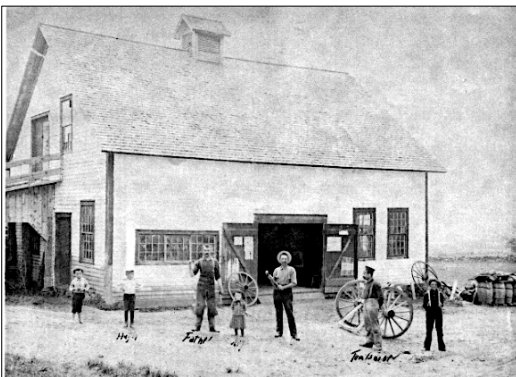
Northam School (now the Town Office)

highest. The 1881 Gazetteer of Rutland County lists all the residents of Shrewsbury, their occupation and how much land they owned. There were about 150 family farms here then. In addition, there were several cheesemakers, several sawmills, blacksmiths, carpenters, masons, teamsters, grist mill operators, tinsmiths, carriage makers, and a (grave) stone shop. There was also a broom maker, a shoemaker,

where local men would visit, talk and play cards. His schooling started in 1877, the first year the current



Bissell's Sawmill



Newell Green's Blacksmith Shop
(across from Pierces Store)

Shrewsbury's population 150 years ago was 1,235--near its highest. These occupations were necessary for a small rural community to function. There were also over a dozen

current Northam

Schoolhouse (now the Town Office) was built, replacing the "old red schoolhouse" which burned.

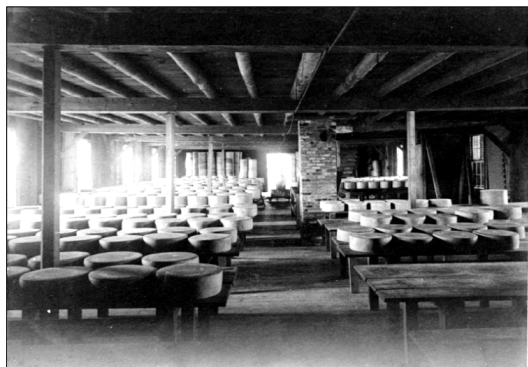
In 1878, when Willie was 6 years old, the Pierce family moved to a farm ½ mile up the CCC Road (currently Joe Orlick's house). Vermont was transitioning from sheep farming to dairy farming, and the landscape was void of forest. Ice

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refrigerated railcars allowed expanded markets for dairy products and cheesemaking was a growing enterprise. As a young boy, Willie worked on the family farm, with his father Edwin, and then worked winters at the Bissell sawmill further up the road. Bissell's was just one of several sawmills in town.

At 19, Willie learned cheesemaking from his uncle, Eugene Aldrich, at the Northam and Cuttingville cheese factories. His first year's pay was \$12 per month plus room and board.



Gleason Cheese Factory

produced 50,000 pounds of cheese annually. The Gleason Cheese factory, in the Center (now Smith Maplecrest Farm), received milk from 400 cows and made 112,000 pounds of cheese annually. In addition, there was the Bates Cheese factory in Cuttingville (250 cows/40,000 lbs/yr), the Cold River Cheese factory at the top of Wilmouth Hill and the Russell cheese factory in Russellville. That's over 100 tons of cheese annually from this little town! Much of the cheese left town by rail, from the Cuttingville depot, for markets far away.

In 1899, 27-year-old Willie married Gertrude Spaulding of West Bridgewater and went there to build houses and do general carpentry work, including the interior woodwork inside the Plymouth Notch Church, opposite the Calvin Coolidge homestead. For that work he was paid \$160 in gold.

Then he moved to Lynn, Massachusetts to make cheese for



*Newell Green's Blacksmith Shop
(across from Pierces Store)*

HP Hood & Sons, then clerked for a season at the W.E. Aldrich general store in Lake Placid (a relative), before returning to Shrewsbury to work on the family farm for his father for \$30/month. Marjorie reported that her industrious father also raised Christmas trees in town, with neighbor George Whitney, from 1908-1913, filling 75 railcars for down country markets.

In 1918, at 46 years old, Willie bought "Pierce's Store" from his great-great uncle Jasper Aldrich, while continuing to run the family farm. He and Gertrude provided groceries, shoes, clothing, farm tools, hardware and grain to local folks from the store. Marjorie recalled Northam men spending evenings playing checkers, cards and telling stories around the store's wood stove. She also recalled it took her father all day to go to Rutland for supplies, harnessing up the horse and wagon early in the morning and not getting back until late evening.

In 1964, at 92 years old, Willie still ran the store, open 10 hours a day, with the help of Marjorie and son, Glendon.

The Northam Cheese factory (now the Angstadt home) received milk from 300 area cows and



*Willie Pierce
oldest general store proprietor in Vermont*

Newspapers across Vermont ran articles about Shrewsbury's Willie Pierce being the oldest active storekeeper in the state. In those articles, Willie recounted that, "in the early days", everything they sold was in bulk, nothing was packaged and footwear and clothing were the big sellers, along with hardware and farm equipment.

Willie also held community positions as town auditor, overseer of the poor, selectman, trustee of The Northam and Laurel Glen Cemeteries, and was a life member of the Rutland County Agricultural Society. In 1912, he was also elected to the State Legislature, listed as a farmer and a Progressive Republican in the legislative record.

Willie passed away in 1965 at the age of 93. Shrewsbury's population had gone from its highest to its lowest during his lifetime. But the population would soon rebound and the store Willie purchased would continue to serve the growing community.

In Marjorie's obituary of her father, she wrote:

"As Shrewsbury's oldest citizen, Willie E. Pierce was one of the few remaining members of his generation, a man who exemplified the traditional Vermont qualities of industry, thrift, wit, common sense and integrity".

These are the qualities from which wonderful communities are built and to which we all should strive. When you walk into Pierce's Store, and that very same bell on the door tinkles with your arrival, think of Willie and Gertrude, the generations of Aldrich's and Pierce's who chatted with neighbors over those same floorboards and the gift Marjorie has left our town. No longer will you buy boots, grain and shovels at Pierce's, but I'll bet Willie would be amazed seeing the fresh seafood, pastries, local fruit and veggies, meats, beer and wine (Vermont was dry from 1852-1932), ice cream, avocados, bananas, and hats with his name, "**W.E. Pierce, Groceries**" on the brim.

~Article by Mark Younstrom

~Photos from Pierce's Historic Photo Collection

SHREWSBURY COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Sept 26	9am +	*Annual Book Sale under the tent at the Library (Duration 2 weeks)
Sept 26	4-6pm	Wine tasting and folk music by Roy & Jan Smith at Pierce's Store (rain date Sept 27)
Sept 27	7pm	*Science Book Club meets at the Library or via Zoom
Oct 1		*Deadline to submit telephone info & advertising forms for the 2027 Shrewsbury Phone Book
Oct 3	5-7pm	*Chili Cookoff at Pierce's Store
Oct 4	1-4pm	*Open House at Laurel Hall, Mausoleum Conservatory, and Historical Society Museum
Oct 4	4pm	*Writers' Group meets at the Library
Oct 7	6:30pm	*Local Hazard Mitigation plan meeting at the Town Office
Oct 9	5-6:30pm	*Pick up pre-ordered lasagna dinners at the Meeting House
Oct 9	7pm	*Taxes Due
Oct 10	7pm	*Community music jam at Russellville Schoolhouse sponsored by SAGE
Oct 11	2-5pm	*Reception to honor Joan Aleshire & Julianne Sharrow at the Historical Society Museum
Oct 17	4-6pm	*Wine tasting class (registration required)
Oct 18	4pm	*Famous Books Book Club meets at the Library or via Zoom TBD
Oct 24	2-6pm	*Shrewsbury Cider and Launch Party at Pierce's Store
Oct 25	10am-1pm	*Outing Club work - Bessenay Trails Fall Maintenance Day
Oct 25	3pm	*Shrewsbury Singers Concert, "Singing on a Sunday Afternoon" at the Russellville School House
Nov 1	2am	*Daylight Savings Time ends (Clocks fall back)
Nov 3	10am-7pm	*Election Day; Vote at the Shrewsbury Meeting House, 88 Lottery Road

*see elsewhere in newsletter for details

TIMES OF SHREWSBURY

Online at

www.shrewsburyhistoricalsociety.com

www.shsrewsburyvt.org



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

REGULAR MEETINGS and EVENTS

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 the Town Office 9823 Cold River Road
Shrewsbury Historical Society Museum	Open every Sunday 1-3pm July 5 to October 25; Appointments 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	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:	Deputy 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

SHREWSBURY DAY 2026 WAS CANCELLED

Greetings Shrewsberries,



It was with great regret that we cancelled Shrewsbury Day, which has been rescheduled to September 20. This decision was not made lightly. Due to weather and logistical challenges associated with Shrewsbury Day we are unable to bring Shrewsbury Day to fruition. Our venue does not support the rain forecasted for our outdoor luncheon, festivities and parade. We understand how much time, effort and anticipation you invested, and we apologize for any inconvenience.

We will return September 12, 2027 with the celebration we had planned for 2026. We will change some dates and take us back to what we had planned for this year's event along with some 2027 additions. Thank you for your support and understanding.

Your Shrewsbury Day Committee 2026

*Grace Brigham, Betsy Jesser, Linda Fontana,
Stacy Harshman, Lisa King, Chryl Martin,
Steven Nicholson, Debbie Schoch, Lisa Sharrow,
Liesbeth van der Heijden, and Sharon Winnicki,*



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

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



Vermont State Senators:

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

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

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

Vermont State House of Representative:

Kevin Winter: kwinter@leg.state.vt.us 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 9/23/2026

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 information 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.

6/20//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 SELECTBOARD MINUTES

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

September 2, 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).

Active Participants: Kevin Winters State House Representative. Sue Brown Member of the Public.

The meeting was convened at 6:36 PM.

Agenda: Motion made by A. Korzun to follow the agenda with no additions. Seconded by F. Wyatt. All in favor, motion approved.

Road Projects Update: Paving is complete on the main area of Lincoln Hill Road. The triangle at the center will be paved soon. The road crew has been working on other culverts on Spring Lake Road as well as road improvements on Upper Cold River Road. TH2 the Culvert project just south of Mountain School Road has been completed as well as the emergency culvert repair on Eastham Road (near Mt Holly Road).

Liquor License: A. Korzun made a motion to approve the outside consumption permit for Pierce's Store. Seconded by F. Wyatt. Approved.

New Business / Open to the Public: Sue Brown and her husband kindly try to pick up garbage around the Brown Bridge as often as they can. Recently they found a large amount of trash thrown over the bank near the bridge. They also found a discarded mattress, windows and other trash in the Brown Bridge Parking Lot. She is hoping as a town we can find a way to prevent this from happening. Town employees have looked through garbage in the past looking for identifying information as well as set up a deer camera in an attempt to identify those who are littering, those efforts have been unsuccessful to date.

Kevin Winter our State House Representative attended the meeting. He has offered his time to help the Selectboard in any way he can and encourages the board to reach out to him if they have questions or ideas that could improve our ability to accomplish projects needed in the town

Tyler Technologies is starting the reappraisal process. The Board wants to make sure that residents know to make an appointment through the QR code or call Mimi Burstein (Contract Assessor) to make an appointment. The Selectboard would like to make it clear that residents have the right to have Tyler Technologies enter their home and evaluate and we encourage residents to do so. The homeowner also has the right to refuse entry. Residents who have had their homes evaluated have reported the process is very simple.

Review Minutes: A. Korzun made a motion to accept the 8/19/2026 minutes. Seconded by M. Cimonetti. Approved.

Review Orders: M. Cimonetti made a motion to approve the Selectboard Orders #9 for a total of \$5,066.11 and Road Orders #9 for a total of \$48,796.22. Seconded by F. Wyatt. Approved.

Adjourned at 7:17pm.

Respectfully submitted, Alaina Cimonetti

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

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### September 16, 2026: Minutes of Selectboard Meeting

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

**Active Participants:** Eric McLellan Green Mountain Power. Todd Fillmore, Dee Fillmore Members of the Public.

The meeting was convened at 6:33 PM.

**Agenda:** Motion made by A. Korzun to follow the agenda with no additions. Seconded by M. Cimonetti. All in favor, motion approved.

### Green Mountain Power Easement (GMP) - Town Office:

GMP requested to locate overhead poles/guys/wires and buried underground wires onto town owned property for project #157058. This will make the power more resilient and not involve cutting into black top paving. This project will also feed a portion of CCC Road. A. Korzun made a motion to approve the easement, seconded by M. Cimonetti. Approved

### Solid Waste Alliance Communities (SWAC) Disaster

**Debris Plan:** SWAC would like all towns to have a lay down plan for debris that may accumulate from a natural disaster. Shrewsbury has no town property that could be used for a debris field for a large-scale event. The selectboard would like to have our administrative assistant contact Pam Clap (Rutland Country SWAC Representative) and ask for suggestions on would be an appropriate for the town's plans. Other towns and VLCT will be contacted as well for possible suggestions as well.

**New Business / Open to the Public:** Todd Fillmore brought up speed concerns on Lincoln Hill Road. He mentioned there is a new Vermont Law 23 VSA1033 and 1035 that regulates lane sizing. He would like to have a state representative or engineer to study the site and view how unsafe the road is at that location given the spacing between the guardrails may not meet the states own standards. He also suggested a permanent electric speed sign which the board is open to. A. Korzun is going to speak with the road commissioner and discuss the best way to address these concerns moving forward.

**Review Minutes:** A. Korzun made a motion to accept the 9/2/2026 minutes. Seconded by M. Cimonetti. Approved.

**Review Orders:** M. Cimonetti made a motion to approve the Selectboard Orders #9A for a total of \$27,895.69 of which \$16,377.00 was the balance of the electric upgrades and heat pumps installed at the town office and Road Orders #9A for a total of \$38,753.12. Seconded by F. Wyatt. Approved.

Adjourned at 7:38pm.

*Respectfully submitted, Marc Cimonetti*

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

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WARNING – VERMONT GENERAL ELECTION – NOVEMBER 3, 2026

A statewide General Election will be held on **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2026**,
to vote on two proposals of amendment to the Vermont Constitution and to vote for candidates for the following offices:

U.S. Representative
Governor
Lieutenant Governor
State Treasurer
Secretary of State

Auditor of Accounts
Attorney General
State Senator(s)
State Representative(s)
Probate Judge

Assistant Judge
State's Attorney
Sheriff
High Bailiff
Justice of the Peace

To see if the voters will vote to accept or reject the proposed articles of amendment to the Constitution of Vermont.

Proposal 3 To see if the voters will amend the Vermont Constitution by adding Article 23 to read:

"Article 23. [Right to collectively bargain] That employees have a right to organize or join a labor organization for the purpose of collectively bargaining with their employer through an exclusive representative of their choosing for the purpose of negotiating wages, hours, and working conditions and to protect their economic welfare and safety in the workplace. Therefore, no law shall be adopted that interferes with, negates, or diminishes the right of employees to collectively bargain with respect to wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment and workplace safety, or that prohibits the application or execution of an agreement between an employer and a labor organization representing the employer's employees that requires membership in the labor organization as a condition of employment."

Proposal 4 To see if the voters will amend the Vermont Constitution by adding Article 23 to read:

"Article 23. [Equality of rights] That the people are guaranteed equal protection under the law. The State shall not deny equal treatment under the law on account of a person's race, ethnicity, sex, religion, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or national origin. Nothing in this Article shall be interpreted or applied to prevent the adoption or implementation of measures intended to provide equality of treatment and opportunity for members of groups that have historically been subject to discrimination."

The polls will open at 10:00 a.m. and will close at 7:00 p.m. The polling place(s) is/are located at:

Shrewsbury Meeting House - 88 Lottery Road

Shrewsbury, Vermont


Town (or City) Clerk

VERMONT NOTICE TO VOTERS AND VERMONT VOTER RIGHTS

REGISTER TO VOTE: There is no deadline to register to vote. You can register to vote on Election Day. **Register early** at your town clerk's office or online at vote.vermont.gov.

IDENTIFICATION REQUIRED FOR FIRST-TIME REGISTRANTS BY MAIL: If you are registering to vote for the first time in Vermont by mail or online, you must provide a copy of identification along with your registration: current valid photo I.D., or a utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document showing your name and current address. If you do not provide I.D. or other documentation with your registration and do not have it when you come to the polls, you will have the opportunity to register in person. If you decline, you will be offered a provisional ballot.

SAMPLE BALLOTS POSTED: Wednesday, October 14, 2026.

EARLY or ABSENTEE BALLOTS: You can request absentee ballots at any time during the election year. The latest you can request a ballot in the town/city of Shrewsbury is 1:00 P.M. Monday November 2, 2026 (when the office closes before the election).

You or a family member can request early/absentee ballots in person, in writing, by telephone, or on the Vermont Voter Portal: vote.vermont.gov. An authorized person can request ballots for you in person or in writing.

EARLY or ABSENTEE VOTING: How to vote early or by absentee ballot once ballots are available at the end of September (at least 45 days before the election):

1. Vote in the town clerk's office before the election.
2. You may take your own ballots from the clerk's office and return them in the same manner as if you received the ballots by mail.
3. Have the ballot mailed to you and return it to clerk's office before Election Day or to your polling place by 7 p.m. on Election Day.
4. If you are in the military, live overseas, are ill or disabled, or in the Safe at Home address confidentiality program, you may receive your ballot electronically and utilize our accessible online ballot marking tool, but you must print your ballot and return it by mail.
5. If you are ill or disabled, ask the town clerk, on/before the deadline to request an absentee ballot, to have two justices of the peace bring a ballot to you at your home on any day before the day of the election (once ballots are ready) or the day of election.

CHECKLIST: Posted at the town clerk's office by Sunday, October 4, 2026. If your name is not on it, then you must register to vote.

If your name was dropped from the checklist in error or has not been added, even though you submitted an application: Explain the situation to your town clerk or presiding officer and ask that your name be added to the checklist. The town clerk or presiding officer will investigate the situation. They will then either have you complete a registration form and add your name to the checklist, or explain why you cannot be added.

If the town clerk or presiding officer and BCA members present cannot determine that you are entitled to be added to the checklist on Election Day, you may appeal to a superior court judge, who will give you a decision on Election Day. Or, you may vote a provisional ballot.

CASTING A PROVISIONAL BALLOT: If you accept the offer to vote a provisional ballot, you must complete a sworn affidavit on the provisional ballot envelope swearing that you are qualified to vote in Vermont and in the polling place where you are, and that you submitted an application to register to vote before the deadline. You will be given a card explaining how you can find out if your ballot was counted one week after the election by calling the Vermont Secretary of State's Office at 1-800-439-8683.

ASSISTANCE FOR VOTERS: Any voter who wants assistance for any reason may bring the person of their choice into the voting booth to help. Or, they may ask for assistance from two election officials.

Voters who cannot get from the car into the polling place may have a ballot brought to a car outside the polls by two election officials.

Any U.S. citizen and resident of a Vermont town or city who applied to register to vote on or before election day is entitled to vote regardless of race or physical ability.

THE LAW PROHIBITS THE FOLLOWING—DO NOT:

- Vote more than once per election, either in the same town or in different towns.
- Mislead the board of civil authority about your own or another person's eligibility to vote.
- Socialize in a manner that will disturb other voters.
- Offer a bribe, threaten, or intimidate a person to vote for a candidate.
- Hinder or interfere with the progress of a voter going into or out of a polling place. No campaigning inside a polling place. There is no specific distance from the polls that campaigners must be. The presiding officer sets reasonable rules for campaigners.

The Election Officials at the polling place are here to serve you. If you have any questions, or need assistance while voting, ask your town clerk or any election official for help.

If you believe a mistake has been made that has not been corrected, or you have a question that cannot be answered to your satisfaction at the polling place, call the Elections Division, Office of the Secretary of State at 1-800-439-VOTE (8683). (Accessible by TDD)

If you believe that any of your voting rights have been violated: Call the Elections Division at 1-800-439-8683. Or, file an Administrative Complaint with the Secretary of State's Office, 128 State St, Montpelier, VT 05633-1101.

If you believe you have witnessed efforts to commit any kind of fraud or corruption in the voting process, report this to your local U.S. Attorney's Office, the County State's Attorney, or VT Attorney General.

If you have witnessed actual or attempted intimidation, threat or coercion in order to cause a person to vote for or against a candidate or question, or obstruct a person from voting or a public official or employee from administering an election, you may report this to the VT Attorney General by e-mail at AGO.Info@Vermont.gov or by phone at 802-828-3171.

VOTING PROCESS—INSTRUCTIONS FOR VOTERS

- Go to the entrance checklist table, give your name to the election official in a loud voice. They might ask for your address, too.
- Wait until your name is repeated and checked off by the official.
- If you want to use the **accessible voting system**, tell the entrance checklist official at this time. An election official will take you to the accessible ballot marking device, enter a security code, and then leave you to mark and print your ballot privately. Read more about the accessible voting system online at: sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters/accessible-voting.
- Take the ballot from the election official and enter a voting booth. Once inside the voting booth, mark your ballot for each race.
- Fill in the oval to the right of a candidate's name to vote for them. **Do not vote for more candidates than the "Vote for not more than" number for each office. If you vote for more than that, your vote will not count for that race.**
- **WRITE-IN** candidate(s): To vote for someone whose name is not printed on the ballot, write the person's name, or place a sticker, on the blank "write-in" line on the ballot. Then, fill in the oval.
- **If you make a mistake or change your mind, DO NOT erase. Return your spoiled ballot to an election official. ASK for a replacement.** Each voter may get up to 3 ballots.
- To cast your voted ballot, insert your voted ballot into the tabulator machine, or, in a hand count town, put it into the ballot box.
- Go to the exit checklist table, if any, and state your name. Wait until your name is repeated and checked off by the official.
- Exit the voting area immediately by passing outside the guardrail.
- All voters in line at the polling place at 7 p.m. will be permitted to vote. No voter can enter the polling place to vote after 7 p.m.

OFFICIAL VERMONT GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT
NOVEMBER 3, 2026

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

- Use BLACK Pen to fill in the oval. **DO NOT USE PENCIL.**
- To vote for a person whose name is printed on the ballot, fill in the oval to the right of the name of that person.
- To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write the person's name in the blank space provided and fill in the oval to the right of the write-in line. Please use BLOCK letters and stay within the box provided for write-ins.
- Do not vote for more candidates than the "VOTE for NOT MORE THAN #" for an office.
- If you make a mistake, tear, or deface the ballot, return it to an election official and obtain another ballot. **DO NOT ERASE.**

OFFICIAL STATE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT BALLOT NOVEMBER 3, 2026 PROPOSAL 3 To see if the voters will amend the Vermont Constitution by adding Article 23 to read: Article 23. [Right to collectively bargain] That employees have a right to organize or join a labor organization for the purpose of collectively bargaining with their employer through an exclusive representative of their choosing for the purpose of negotiating wages, hours, and working conditions and to protect their economic welfare and safety in the workplace. Therefore, no law shall be adopted that interferes with, negates, or diminishes the right of employees to collectively bargain with respect to wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment and workplace safety, or that prohibits the application or execution of an agreement between an employer and a labor organization representing the employer's employees that requires membership in the labor organization as a condition of employment.	FOR REPRESENTATIVE TO CONGRESS Vote for not more than ONE PHOENIX K. ALTAIR INDEPENDENT ☐ BECCA BALINT BRATTLEBORO DEMOCRATIC ☐ GERALD MALLOY WEATHERSFIELD REPUBLICAN ☐ ADAM ORTIZ NEWPORT CITY INDEPENDENT ☐ SUZANNE "SUZ" SEYMOUR HIGHGATE INDEPENDENT ☐ RYAN P. WALTON RUTLAND CITY INDEPENDENT ☐ (Write-in) ☐	FOR AUDITOR OF ACCOUNTS Vote for not more than ONE TIM ASHE BURLINGTON DEMOCRATIC ☐ IVAR KRONICK FOUNTAIN REPUBLICAN ☐ (Write-in) ☐
	FOR GOVERNOR Vote for not more than ONE JUNE GOODBAND SPRINGFIELD PEACE AND JUSTICE ☐ AMANDA JANOO BURLINGTON DEMPROG ☐ BRIAN JUDD BARRE CITY INDEPENDENT ☐ DEAN ROY STOWE FREEDOM AND UNITY ☐ PHIL SCOTT BERLIN REPUBLICAN ☐ (Write-in) ☐	FOR STATE SENATOR Vote for not more than THREE BRIAN "BC" COLLAMORE RUTLAND TOWN REPDEM ☐ DAVID H. WEEKS PROCTOR REPDEM ☐ TERRY K. WILLIAMS POULNEY REPDEM ☐ DAVE WOLK RUTLAND TOWN INDEPENDENT ☐ (Write-in) ☐
YES ☐ NO ☐	FOR LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR Vote for not more than ONE MOLLY GRAY BURLINGTON DEMOCRATIC ☐ JOHN S. RODGERS GLOVER REPUBLICAN ☐ (Write-in) ☐	FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE Vote for not more than ONE PHOEBE TUCKER LUDLOW DEMOCRATIC ☐ KEVIN C. WINTER LUDLOW REPUBLICAN ☐ (Write-in) ☐
PROPOSAL 4 To see if the voters will amend the Vermont Constitution by adding Article 23 to read: Article 23. [Equality of rights] That the people are guaranteed equal protection under the law. The State shall not deny equal treatment under the law on account of a person's race, ethnicity, sex, religion, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or national origin. Nothing in this Article shall be interpreted or applied to prevent the adoption or implementation of measures intended to provide equality of treatment and opportunity for members of groups that have historically been subject to discrimination.	FOR STATE TREASURER Vote for not more than ONE ZACHARY HAMPL RUTLAND TOWN PROGRESSIVE ☐ LYNN LAFLEUR STOWE REPUBLICAN ☐ MIKE PIECIAK WINDSOR DEMOCRATIC ☐ (Write-in) ☐	FOR PROBATE JUDGE Vote for not more than ONE KARL C. ANDERSON LUDLOW REPDEM ☐ (Write-in) ☐
YES ☐ NO ☐	FOR SECRETARY OF STATE Vote for not more than ONE SARAH COPELAND HANZAS BRADFORD DEMOCRATIC ☐ H. BROOKE PAIGE WASHINGTON REPUBLICAN ☐ RACHEL SHAW BENNINGTON PROGRESSIVE ☐ (Write-in) ☐	FOR ASSISTANT JUDGE Vote for not more than TWO STEPHEN P. BENARD SR CLARENDON REPDEM ☐ KEVIN E. GENO RUTLAND CITY REPDEM ☐ (Write-in) ☐
	FOR STATE'S ATTORNEY Vote for not more than ONE IAN C. SULLIVAN PITTSFIELD DEM/REP ☐ (Write-in) ☐	

TURN BALLOT OVER AND CONTINUE VOTING

FOR SHERIFF Vote for not more than ONE DAVID J. FOX THIMMOUTH REPDEM ☐ (Write-in) ☐	FOR JUSTICE OF THE PEACE Vote for not more than SEVEN LUCY "LUDY" B. BIDDLE DEMOCRATIC ☐ ROBERT W. FERGUSON, SR REPUBLICAN ☐ ANN "LILY" FRENCH DEMOCRATIC ☐ JONATHAN C. GIBSON DEMOCRATIC ☐ BARRY E. GRIFFITH DEMOCRATIC ☐ BETSY J. JESSER INDEPENDENT ☐ ROBERT C. KNUDSEN REPUBLICAN ☐ PATRICIA "TRISH" A. NORTON DEMOCRATIC ☐ ADRIENNE L. RAYMOND DEMOCRATIC ☐ LAVINIA G. SEIDE REPUBLICAN ☐ JEAN MARIE WALKER DEMOCRATIC ☐ (Write-in) ☐ (Write-in) ☐ (Write-in) ☐ (Write-in) ☐ (Write-in) ☐ (Write-in) ☐
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NEWS FROM THE TOWN CLERK

The Town Office is currently gearing up for the
General Election

Tuesday, November 3, 2026

Shrewsbury Meeting House, 88 Lottery Road

The hours for voting will be from

10:00am to 7:00pm

The Warning for the Election, Sample Ballots and the current checklist are now posted at the Post Office, Pierce's Store and at the Town Office. Feel free to make sure you are on the checklist. If you are not, and feel that you should be on it, please contact me. The state is starting to send out ballots this week and will begin doing so over the next two weeks. If you have not received your ballot by early October, please let me know, and if need be, I can issue you a new ballot once you confirm that you never voted the first ballot.

Once you receive your ballot, you can vote at any time, either by mailing it back, leaving it in the drop box outside the Town Office, by bringing it into the Town Office. Or, you can bring it with you to the Town Meeting House on Election Day, November 3, from 10:00am to 7:00pm. If you cannot locate your ballot on election day, there will be additional ballots at the election, but you will need to sign an Affidavit confirming that you have not previously voted, prior to receiving a second ballot. When you vote, please make sure you turn over the ballot and vote on both sides of the ballot. That is where the Nominees for local Justice of the Peace are located. Two years ago, a significant number of folks did not complete this side of the ballot.

Although the time to renew dog licenses without paying a late fee has expired, if you have not registered your dog, please do so. At this time, the fee for licensing your dog is \$15.00 per neutered/spayed dogs and \$19.00 per unneutered/spayed dogs. 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.

This is a reminder that the CCC Road is still closed from the gate at Black Swamp Road to Route 100 in Plymouth. It is anticipated that it probably will not be reopened until the beginning of October. I will make sure to have the town website updated once I know when the road will reopen.

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.

~Rebecca A. Rice, Town Clerk

In Memory of Ruth Ann (Kosby) Winkler

Ruth Ann (Kosby) Winkler, 98, of Cuttingsville, VT., died on September 9, 2026 at Rutland Regional Medical Center. She was born February 8, 1928 in Hempstead, L.I., NY to parents Lawrence George, Sr. and Gertrude Cecilia (Spuhler) Kosby.

She graduated from Hempstead High School, N.Y. in June of 1945 and began a lifetime of stenography, beginning as a typist at Grumman Aircraft Engineering Corp. in Bethpage, L.I., NY.



She met and married her sweetheart, Conrad Kenneth Winkler, in 1951 just before the U.S. Army Signal Corp ordered he be sent to Germany to serve during the Korean War. She flew to Germany where she spent seven months in Heslach, near Stuttgart, to join her husband. When Conrad was discharged, they settled in Plainview, NY and raised their two children, Jennifer Jo and Brian Conrad.

Her husband became a co-owner and partner in the newspaper printing business in Freeport and in Westbury, L.I., NY and Ruth, still typing, became a typesetter. When grown, children Jennifer and Brian joined the personnel.

In 1984, they retired to their beautiful home which they designed in Cuttingsville, VT. Ruth took a part time job at the Post Office while Conrad prepared and planted a garden and an orchard. She joined the town's library staff and both joined the Shrewsbury Historical Society and enjoyed their volunteer work. Ruth became secretary for the Society and served for 29 years.

Ruth also pursued the art of calligraphy under the tutelage of Michael Sull, teacher of the Spencerian hand and enjoyed her spare time making greeting cards sporting flourished capitals for her family and friends.

Ruth and Conrad were communicants at St. Mary's Church in Mt. Holly, which unfortunately burned down on December 30, 2007. She loved with all her heart her family, friends, and all the creatures great and small who joined the family through the years, most recently the adoption of two kittens Precious and Elke.

Survivors include children Jennifer Jo (Winkler) Lauri and husband Joe of Plainview, NY; son Brian Conrad Winkler, Ruth's caregiver in recent years, who resides in Cuttingsville, VT; a grandson, Michael Conrad Lauri and wife Angie and baby, Eric Joseph, born on New Year's Day, 2023 and who live in Plainview, NY making Ruth a delighted great grandma.

She was preceded in death by her loving grandparents and parents; her beloved husband Conrad of 65 years in 2016; and two brothers: Lawrence G. Kosby, Jr. in 1992, and Richard A. Kosby in 2019; and cousins, nieces, nephews, and many lifelong friends.

Ruth will join her husband in the Shrewsbury Center Cemetery at a private graveside service.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Shrewsbury Historical Society, c/o treasurer, Shrewsbury, VT 05738 or to the Rutland Humane Society, 765 Stevens Road, Pittsford, VT 05763; or by planting a flower in your garden.

Arrangements are made by Tossing Funeral Home. As requested, there will be no viewing hours.

~Submitted by The Winkler Family

A Personal Remembrance

I feel immensely lucky and proud to call Ruth Winkler my grandmother. Her passion for life, dedication to her work, and love for her family, friends, and community were unlike anything I've ever known. She will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved her.

If you ever find yourself with some spare time and would like to learn more about Shrewsbury history, please visit the Shrewsbury Historical Society Museum—a place to which she devoted so much of her time and energy. I know she'd love it if you did. ~Michael Lauri (Ruth Winkler's Grandson)

Are You a New Landowner in Shrewsbury?



If so, The Shrewsbury Conservation Commission has a Welcome Bag for you filled with books, flyers, and information on all kinds of topics having to do with the management of your land, programs available to you, and access to friendly advice if you'd like it. The SCC, in cooperation with Vermont Coverts: Woodlands for Wildlife and funded in part by a grant, would love to share this welcoming gift.

To receive a Welcome Bag, email conservationcommission@Shrewsburyvt.org

LETTER TO THE EDITORS

Dear fellow Shrewsberries –

I'm writing to you to express my support for Phoebe Tucker to become our representative in the Vermont State House of Representatives. After learning that this young woman from Ludlow wanted to run for this position to represent the people of Mt Holly, Ludlow and Shrewsbury, I've experienced her deep commitment to this task.

Aside from the issues that we recognize as so important to us such as affordable and accessible healthcare, affordable housing, tax burdens, and more, Phoebe is addressing something really important. She wants to improve communication. Phoebe has pledged to keep us informed regularly of what is happening in the legislature in Montpelier. She also wants to be informed by us, her constituents. Phoebe has pledged to hold in-person tea-time/coffee-hours in our towns, to offer open office-hours, and she intends to write articles on legislative activities important to her constituents in each town. Phoebe intends to make her own voting choices transparent. Phoebe does not shrink away from speaking and listening to those with different opinions than her own. It's clear to me that she has a deep commitment to understanding the important process of making our government work as best as possible for all of us. Over the past few weeks, I've observed Phoebe diligently studying the challenges confronting we Vermonters. Moreover, I've also noted that she values and practices effective communication with attentive listening, and she recognizes how this benefits the representation of the people of Shrewsbury, Mt Holly, and Ludlow.

I urge you to take a look at her website, learn more about her, reach out to ask any questions, and come out to meet her at public events.

I believe Phoebe Tucker will make a positive impact on our engagement with Vermont's legislative process.

~Respectfully, Laura Black

TAXES DUE OCTOBER 9, 2026

Payments can be delivered to the town office, mailed, placed in the drop box at the town office (to the left of the front door), made by credit card online at www.officialpayment.com (Credit card deadline is October 7). If you plan to pay in cash, please deliver directly to the treasurer.

Town Treasurer regular hours are every Monday from 9am to 12noon.

Additional days/times available for payments:

Saturday, October 3 from 10am to 12noon

Thursday, October 8 from 12noon to 3pm

Friday, October 9 from 12noon to 7pm

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

State of Vermont Tax Information for contact is:

Phone: (802) 828-2865

Toll Free: (866) 828-2865

Email: tax.individualincome@vermont.gov

Fax: (802) 828-2720

Thank you,

and call or email if you have questions.

Linda McGuire, Treasurer

Town of Shrewsbury

9823 Cold River Rd, Shrewsbury, Vermont 05738

Shrewsburytreas@vermontel.net

Town Office 492-3558

Calling All Photographers!

The Shrewsbury Board of Auditors is soliciting recent photographs of Shrewsbury life for the town's 2026 Annual Report.



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

Submit your picture as a jpeg file and email it to auditshrewsbury@gmail.com no later than January 1, 2027. Don't forget to provide captions identifying people, places, and events. Also, be sure to identify the photographer so we can give them proper credit! The Board of Auditors will review the photos and select them based on applicability and space availability. Thank you for your help with our Town Report!

Shrewsbury Board of Auditors

PRESENTATION & PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

PRESENTATION

The final draft of the Shrewsbury **Local Hazard Mitigation Plan** will be presented to the Selectboard and available for public review on Oct 7, 2026.



WEDNESDAY
October 7



TIME
6:30 PM

PUBLIC COMMENTS

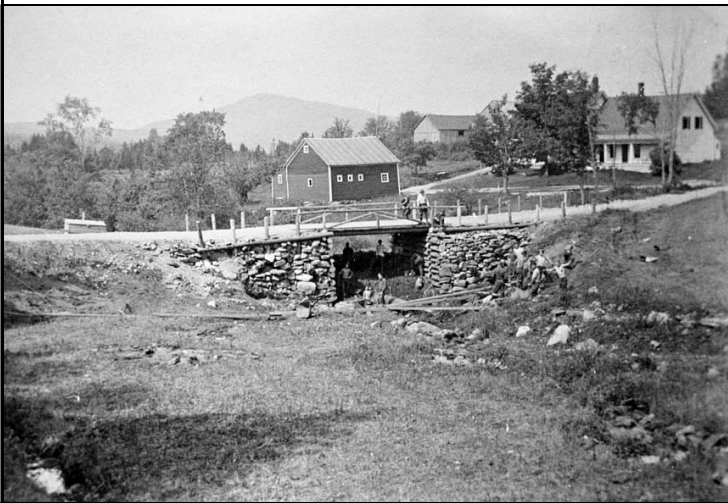
Accepting comments from Oct 7 to Oct 21, 2026.



PLACE
Town Office
9823 Cold River Rd

LOCAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE

View the draft Plan after Oct 7 at tinyurl.com/Shrewsbury-LHMP26



New Bridge Almost Completed

The photo (c. 1930's?) on the left is from the Pierce collection of photos and shows men working on the bridge leading to the CCC camp, where the school now sits. The stream is a tributary to the Cold River (or perhaps the headwater of the river itself). Note the barns associated with "the parsonage" farmhouse and the more open landscape. Herbie Carrara recalls the town storing its fire truck, for a time, in the small barn centered in the photo. Almost a century later the photo on the right is the new bridge currently being constructed. Between these times, a large steel culvert was placed under the first bridge and a dam constructed to create the pond. The pond and dam are now gone as part of this recent project, creating an unobstructed watercourse for fish and amphibian migration. Talking with the contractor's crew, they have regularly seen fish in the work area. ~Submitted by Mark Youngstrom



Shrewsbury Outing Club

Bessenay Trails Fall Maintenance Day

Sunday, October 25, 2026

10am—1pm

Meet at Plymouth Road parking lot.

We'll work on ditches, tree clipping, lopping & sawing.

Helpful tools to bring:

Saws (large and small), loppers, rakes, clippers.
Please also bring water, gloves and extra layers.

Contact Lana at lanafez@gmail.com with questions.

Rain date: November 8 from 10am-1pm

Per SOC bylaws, our purpose is to promote and encourage conservation of all natural resources.



2027 SHREWSBURY PHONE BOOK

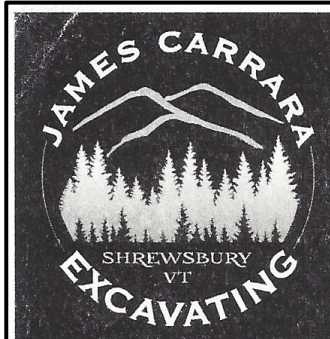
Individuals: If you are in the 2020 edition and wish to have the information remain the same, there is nothing you have to do. If you were not in the 2020 edition, need to make a change, or wish to be omitted, then complete the form by October 1.

Businesses: To advertise in the 2027 Shrewsbury Phone book, complete the form by October 1!

The Phone Book is being compiled by the Shrewsbury Library "Phone Book Committee"

Forms are available at the Library and online at
<https://www.shrewsburylibrary.org>

**Completed forms are due by
October 1, 2026**



**Excavating Road Grading
Snowplowing Trucking**

2544 Northam Road

Shrewsbury, VT 05738 - 9673

Home 802 - 492 - 6137

Cell 802 - 770 - 0807

freemanbrookroad@yahoo.com



Spring Lake Ranch therapeutic community

Cider Insider

Spring Lake Ranch has been making cider for over 40 years. It's a time-honored tradition that has passed several iterations over the years. Currently it's headed by Woods Crew, a rugged band responsible for maintaining trails, landscaping, and clearing downed trees, among many other duties.



Zoe Ciarametaro is Woods Crew Manager and is no stranger to making something sweet, as her crew also heads up making the maple syrup the Ranch

sells at the Rutland Farmers Market. The cider is not for sale but is nevertheless taken just as seriously because it is served at important events like Harvest Dinner and Thanksgiving. In fact, Zoe proudly confirmed that no outside cider was needed for our most recent Harvest Dinner. All 30 gallons were made by the Ranch.

To start the process, apples are collected from the trees around the property, sometimes using a special stick to shake them loose. Apples that are too bruised for a snack end up being perfect for cider because the browning means the starch of the apple has turned into sugar. Once the apples are harvested, they're brought into a building called the "Sugar House" for processing into cider. The Sugar House has earned its sweet name—Woods also produces maple syrup there.

In the Sugar House, the apples are washed, and any bugs or dirt removed from them. The apples are cut into pieces and—with the stems and the seeds included—go into one big contraption made by Shop using a garbage disposal device that turns the pieces into a finer mush. The mush becomes cakes which are placed over cheesecloth, then stacked in the cider press. Then a hydraulic press is used to apply the final amount of pressure, letting the cider flow out a hole in the bottom of the press.

Once as much liquid as possible is extracted, the cakes that remain are fed to the cows or pigs. The apple cider is then filtered through a finer cheesecloth to get any last sediment out. That filtered cider is heated up to pasteurization standard—160 degrees for at least ten minutes—before being cooled and packaged.

Zoe says about twenty trees on site are currently producing apples for cider. There is a dedicated apple orchard on the property, but it is ironically not producing as much as the other trees scattered around the Ranch. As is often the case at the Ranch, we are always ready to be flexible and make the most with what we've got. With that adaptability come all the sweet rewards of problem-solving and a job well done.

~Article by Madison Ford

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. Commemorative events will be taking place in Vermont and around the country.

America's 250th year has been marked by recalling our nation's founding documents and the Continental Army's battles with Great Britain.

But our history is so much more. We can also look back on the evolution of our country's civic society and culture that "We the People" have created over these two and a half centuries.

In American literature, for example, our writers and poets have described and helped define the American identity — Henry David Thoreau, Herman Melville, Emily Dickinson, Walt Whitman, Mark Twain, Scott Fitzgerald, Earnest Hemingway, William Faulkner, John Steinbeck, James Baldwin, Tony Morrison, Louise Erdrich.

Music of great diversity has accompanied us along the way: shape note hymns of the Shakers, spirituals and civil rights songs of both Black and White Americans, blues and jazz, old-time string band and bluegrass, folk, country, rock 'n roll, soul, hip-hop, Broadway, and classical.

Dance, theater, and film likewise enrich our lives. Observing and participating in sports are also central aspects of American life, from junior soccer to Olympic skiing, amateur and professional.

Part of being American is awareness of our country's great cultural institutions and our world leadership in research and innovation in science, medicine, and technology. Our universities and colleges foster further advances, while agencies like the National Institutes of Health, National Endowments for the Arts and for the Humanities, the Smithsonian and John F. Kennedy Center for the Arts promote and present these national achievements to the public. Museums, libraries, and art venues of all descriptions and sizes, from great cities to small towns, educate and inspire.

Government plays a role in our lives, but it is We the People who make America: civic leaders and educators, farmers and firefighters; people in the trades and services; business owners, mechanics, and police; nurses, doctors, and caregivers; hotel workers and highway crews; those who serve in churches, food shelves, our courts, and non-profit organizations.

This is the quilt of America of which we are all a part and together make a nation. As we mark our country's birthday, let us look at the tapestry of culture and institutions we've created from our different backgrounds, ethnicities, interests, tastes and talents, and at all we share and can celebrate as Americans.

~Submitted by Jonathan Gibson



LAUREL GLEN CEMETERY ASSOCIATION OF 1894

Gorgeous posters from the days of the Haunted Mansion Bookshop are available at the mansion or at Wally's Corner; thanks Hallie for supporting Laurel Glen! Each 12x16 full-color poster is \$20.00, and, thanks to the generosity of Adam at Green Mountain Sign and Graphics in Ludlow, all proceeds go to fixing our plumbing. The outlet pipe rotted, and the holding tank must be replaced. But imagine what we could do with a working bathroom...

We held cemetery tours on Sept 18. The weather was absolutely perfect; four groups of visitors heard colorful stories of Shrewsberries past. Infinity mirrors in the mausoleum were stunning by candlelight! It is easy to see why Bowman Mausoleum was called the "Taj Mahal of Vermont" when it was built. Thanks to volunteers Grace Brigham, Ed Sawyer, Tom Giffin, Barry Griffith, Alannah Severy, Jeff and Dash Monder, Crystal Addams, Kirsten Sargent, Colleen Kennedy, Ann Vanneman. So many hands made light work, and it was truly a great time! We set out artifacts and items related to the cemetery and the Bowmans. This addition entertained visitors as they waited for their departure times.

NEXT - On Sunday, October 4, Laurel Glen and Shrewsbury Historical Society will co-host an open house. The SHS museum, Laurel Hall, Bowman Mausoleum, and conservatory will be open to the public. Donations, please; this a fundraising event for the two organizations. There will be posters for sale AND a bake sale, so bring a baked good to donate, cash or checkbook, and good walking shoes. The buildings will be open and staffed 1:00 – 4:00pm. Park at the Olde Barn lot. No dogs, please. Dress for weather. Posters will be available.

email us: laurelglen.bowmanmansion@gmail.com

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram:

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

<https://www.instagram.com/bowmanmansion/>

Visit our website at bowmanmansion.org



Please make a tax-deductible donation to our GoFundMe or send a check payable to: Friends or Bowman Mansion, PO Box 416 Cuttingsville, VT 05738. Help us fix the WC! (All donations are tax-deductible.)

~Submitted by Freddie Monder

Laurel Glen Cemetery Association (Bowman Mansion)
and Shrewsbury Historical Society

Invite you to join us for



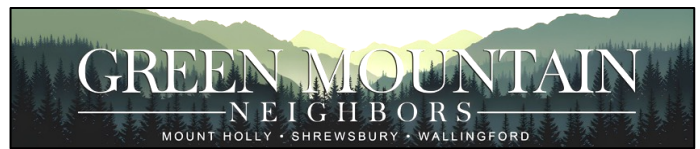
An Open House Day
Sunday, October 4 1:00-4:00pm

Visit the Mansion, mausoleum, conservatory and SHS museum.

Donations support these two community organizations.

Rain or shine. Bake Sale.

Haunted Mansion Bookshop poster for sale \$20, cash or check.



As our membership grows each year, so does our need for more volunteers. You don't even need to leave home! In particular, GMN is seeking a volunteer with technical skills to assist with software administration and setup to help manage the organization. Email tech@greenmountainneighbors.org with your skills and interests.

If you are interested in becoming 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 welcome participate in our efforts to help our seniors stay in the homes and towns they love as long as they are able.

Events:

- Bingo at Wallingford House, 1:30 - 3:30, on the third Monday of each month.
- Wednesday, September 22 at Noon: GMN Luncheon at Roots in Rutland on Please register at greenmountainneighbors.org

Future Events:

- Attorney Michelle Kenny will hold a session on Wills and Estates, date and time TBA @ Mt. Holly Community Center.
- Master Gardener Jim Corven will hold a session on Fall Gardening, date and time TBA @ Mt. Holly Community Center. ~Submitted by Lois Cavanaugh

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:

- Miscellaneous canes
- Wooden crutches
- Adjustable aluminum crutches
- Walkers & Wheelchairs
- Knee scooters
- Brace walking boots
- Gait belts
- Grab bars & Toilet safety bars
- Rollators
- Blood pressure cuff
- Shower seats
- Commodes
- Depends & bedpans
- Chuck pads
- Bed wedges

If you need equipment or have an item to donate, call Donna Swartz at 773-7403 or 802-345-6513 or Ann-Marie Moody 802-492-2091.

We expected that the first paragraph of this month's article would be about participating in Shrewsbury Day. Alas, Mother Nature had other ideas. We appreciate how much time and effort the wonderful Shrewsbury Day Committee puts into planning and conducting this event for all of us. We are already looking forward to next year's celebration.

You did not get to see our fire trucks in the Shrewsbury Day parade. However, if you were out and about in Northam on the evening of September 17, you would have seen a fire truck parade of a different sort. Chief Phil Severy made arrangements for a mutual aid drill with our neighboring fire departments in Clarendon, East Wallingford and Mt. Holly, which we will explain.

Suppression of a fully involved structure fire requires more water than fire trucks carry on board. Towns without municipal water systems must use tankers to fill up at a nearby water source and bring additional water to the fire scene. Neighboring departments are requested to assist with this "tanker shuttle" for as long as it takes to suppress the fire. A major fire can require 100 trips or more. The tanker shuttle must run efficiently to be effective. That takes practice. Hence this drill with our neighbors.

In 2007 Duane, Herb and Russ Carrara established a fire pond on the Upper Cold River Road in Northam. On drill night Captain Russ set up SVFD's Engine 2 to this water source. Using the pond's on site "dry hydrant," Russ pumped water into the empty tankers as they arrived for a refill. SVFD's Rescue 1 and a "portatank" were set up at the "fire scene" on Eastham Road. Use of the mini pumper gave members a chance to practice pumping water with our newest vehicle.

When the drill began, the first arriving tanker emptied its load into the portatank, allowing Rescue 1 to draw water from it to continue pumping water on the "fire." The empty tanker then proceeded to the water source for a refill, with the next tanker in line taking its turn to dump. And so on. This cycle continues until the fire is suppressed. In this case, when the Chief declared the drill a success. All participants were pleased with the opportunity to practice this important rural firefighting skill.

On September 20, instead of being in the Shrewsbury Day parade, SVFD were responding to a motor vehicle accident. The operator of a pickup truck coming down Lincoln Hill Road



SHREWSBURY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT



lost control, rolled over and ended up on its side in the northbound lane of Route 103. Witnesses travelling the highway in other vehicles immediately called 911. Good Samaritans were able to extricate the operator – the sole occupant -- through the broken windshield before our members arrived. Fortunately, the driver was not seriously injured. The vehicle did not catch fire or leak fluids. This accident could have been a lot worse. The operator was taken to the hospital, accompanied by family for observation. SVFD members established traffic control, allowing vehicles to pass the scene in the open lane for more than an hour, until the police investigation concluded and a wrecker removed the truck from the scene. Be careful out there!

Our members have also been "toned out" three other times so far in September -- up to the Times deadline. Clarendon Fire Department summoned us on September 14 after receiving a call about flames behind a residence on Sonia Lane. If the structure was ablaze a tanker shuttle could have been required to suppress it. Fortunately, the building was not involved, and CFD quickly put the fire out. On September 19 a citizen called 911 to report that a telephone pole was on fire on Lincoln Hill. Members responded and searched, but did not locate a problem. Rutland Ambulance Service called us on September 22 requesting "lift assist" help with a patient on Town Hill – another one of the many ways our volunteer members assist our community.

Fall has arrived. The days are shorter and cooler. Get ready. Make sure your chimneys are clean. Check your smoke detector batteries. **BE SMART AND STAY SAFE!**

~Submitted for SVFD by Barry Griffith

~Photos by Mark Stewart



BURN PERMITS

If you plan to burn brush you **MUST** call for a burning permit. Contact

**Deputy Fire Warden Kevin Brown 802-345-8668, or
Deputy 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.



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 for her to compile and submit to the *Times*.

Into the Water

by Paula Hawkins

★★★

Paula Hawkins is the author of *The Girl on the Train*, a very successful novel, published in 50 countries, 20 million copies sold, and made into a major movie. *Into the Water* is a suspenseful, spooky read about the grisly history of a town's womenfolk who are drawn to the river to drown, either by suicide or murder.

There are 13 main characters, and each has dedicated chapters. Its twists and turns present enjoyable reading. A nice book for the winter, perhaps. ~*Review by Marilyn Dalick*

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Donation Time

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

www.shrewsburyvt.org
and

www.shrewsburyhistorical society.com

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



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Shrewsbury Conservation Commission Trail Camera Picture of the month

Fall Feeding Frenzy!

Late summer/early fall is a busy time for wildlife as they harvest the last riches of the growing season and prepare for the lean winter months ahead. Many thanks to Paula Van Valkenburgh for her great photos from the second week of August of mama bear snacking in an apple tree and with her cub under the same tree.



~Bear photos by Paula Van Valkenburgh



And thanks to Larry Abelman for the footage he captured of a fisher browsing the forest floor for a scent that hopefully will lead to a meal.



~Submitted by Larry Abelman

The Conservation Commission's Wildlife Road Crossings Project recorded 52 instances of bear tracks, scat, and sightings over a five-year period, and 47 instances of fisher tracks, confirming the consistent presence of both species in Shrewsbury. For more information about these fascinating animals, visit VFWD's webpage devoted to bears and fishers:

<https://www.vtfishandwildlife.com/learn-more/vermont-critters/mammals/black-bear>

<https://www.vtfishandwildlife.com/learn-more/vermont-critters/mammals/fisher>



Thanks also to David Thar for his photo of a mature male moose browsing in the woods after dark.

If you'd like to see your wildlife photos in print in the Times of Shrewsbury, email them to Michelle Greene at michelle.a.greene247@gmail.com.

~~~~~



### The Roving Reporter asked:

What are your thoughts about trapping mice?

- "You gotta' get them before they reproduce in the **Spring** and before they move into the house in the **Fall!**" ~PM
- "You have to set a bunch of traps in a row...the mouse eats the peanut butter off the first trap...and then after the first trap he gets cocky and is more likely to trip subsequent traps." ~JM
- "I use a tootsie roll. They fit right in the trap, and they can't pull it off." ~JP
- "We set up a big bucket of water and put boards up on each side, we put peanut butter on the end of the board over the bucket, then they dive in and drown!" ~DP
- "No Have-A-Heart trap!" ~JT
- After my car was devastated by mice, I switched from traps to nontoxic pouches that contain peppermint oil, cloves, lemongrass oil, and rosemary oil. I change them up once a month, and they keep the mice away! I put one in my glove box, two under the seats, and one in the trunk. They're expensive...but so was the \$9,000 I paid to rid my car of them and repair the damage—they even ate both airbags! But now my car smells nice. ~MD
- "Cats....I have cat's...I don't have mice!!!" ~GG
- "We use chocolate chips now. The mice get in there but never get the chip...so we use the same chocolate chip over and over! We used to use peanut butter, but that's messy." ~JF
- "Give up...Mice always win! You're gonna' be dealing with it for your whole life...you just have to do it!" ~PG

~~~~~


A Teenage Raptor!

A bird of prey has taken up residence in our yard. For the last two weeks he has been perching very close to the house--on the roof of our garden shed, on the tractor and on the solar panels. It swooped down at our small dog four times. He didn't get him, but it was very alarming.

Yesterday (Sept 13) we drove in the driveway and he was perched on the wrought iron railing going up to our front door. He doesn't appear to be injured.



It does seem odd that he is so tame so we contacted VINS (Vermont Institute of Natural Science) and Raptor Biologist Anna Morris said "the bird is a young Red-tailed Hawk. She said "they can be quite audacious in this stage of life. During their teenage months when they are independent of their parents for the first time, they're really not that well versed in hunting or staying away from humans and dogs."



Anna said that any time they see the bird to "just scare it. Run at it yelling or clapping, or wave a trash bag at it which should cause the bird to move on immediately!"

~Submitted by Alice McGarey-Martin

HUMMER REPORTS....

Saying Goodbye to the Hummers

There has only been one pair of Hummers at my house this year, and the other day (~Aug 28) I was looking out my window when she was feeding on all my flowers. I moved my hand across the window, and she came right up to it, hovered, and looked at me. Then she went back to eating, and we repeated that probably four or five times. It was just amazing! Every time I moved my hand across the window, she would come over and hover! I think she was singing also maybe saying thank you for the food. ~Donna Swartz

Juvies tanking up!

I only have 2 or 3 juvenile Hummers remaining at my feeders (~Aug 29). The adult males flew away about four weeks ago, and the adult females all disappeared two weeks ago. Now remaining are these Juvies tanking up. They've really bulked out in the past seven days so I suspect they'll be migrating soon. It's been a treat watching them all summer!! ~Barb Griffith

Hummers left August 30

We had two to three pairs of hummers. The sweet peas were very fragrant, but the hummers couldn't get into them because the flowers are self-pollinators....so the birds were always with me when I was making a bouquet....the hummingbird moth was here also....they like phlox. The hummers left August 30, but I refilled the feeder for travelers that stop by. ~Julanne Sharrow



Weather Warning?

In the October 2015 Times, Julanne said the barn swallows left early which means we're going to have a "good" hurricane. Usually, the swallows leave about August 29-30 when there's cloud cover

This year (2026) the barn swallows left July 24 which was early! Now we get to wonder about the weather....the first time they left early Hurricane Katrina happened!!! ~Info from Julanne Sharrow

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In Memory of Ruth Winkler

Shrewsbury Historical Society

www.shrewsburyhistoricalsociety.com

On September 9 Ruth Winkler passed away at the age of 98. Ruth and her husband, Conrad, lived in a beautiful hillside house overlooking Cuttingsville built for them by Al Ridlon Sr. in 1978.

Soon after they retired from their work in NY, the Winklers became members of the Shrewsbury Historical Society. Con served as President several times, and in recent years their son Brian served as president. Ruth became the heart and soul of the Society, serving as Recording Secretary for many years. She set up meeting agendas and kept careful track of business meetings and activities. As corresponding secretary, she graciously responded to inquiries, and sent out countless personal messages, often handwritten in her delicate elaborate calligraphy. Back in the olden days, she sent reminder postcards before meetings.

Ruth and her daughter Jennifer Ann, Kim Ridlon, Fran Patten, and others created the current history file in the Museum. It has been maintained and added to for more than 30 years. SHS sends our condolences to Ruth's family, and we thank Ruth for so many things including the thought "History Never Sleeps!" ~by Grace Brigham



Friday, October 9

Take Out Lasagna Dinner! ~Lasagna, Salad & Roll~

**Pick up your Dinner
from 5pm-6:30 pm
Shrewsbury Meeting House**

Local Beef & Vegetarian Option Too!

**Call Lynette to order your dinner
802-683-0631**

Cost: Free Will Donation

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

Hosted by Shrewsbury Community Church

**Unable to pick up your dinner?
Let us know and we will
Deliver it to you!**

Everyone is invited to a
Reception at the

**Shrewsbury
Historical Society Museum
Sunday October 11, 2026
2-5pm**

Please join us as we honor two of
Shrewsbury's human treasures:

Julanne Sharrow
and
Joan Aleshire

Come and visit with Joan and Julianne to see
how both have been involved with the
Shrewsbury community, agriculture and the arts.

It's a time for sharing stories and getting acquainted,
or reacquainted with neighbors.

Light refreshments including cider & donuts!
Live music.
All ages invited.

The Shrewsbury Community Church



Compiled by Sue Ransom-Kelley

Our Faiths Intersect

I did the children's message this last Sunday at church on the Jewish high holy days as best I could. This incorporates the holidays of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. It's a time of reflection on one's life, the things that we have done, how we have treated others and how well we have conformed our lives to the will of God. It's a time of confession, repentance and reconciliation. A day, a time of atonement. Time to humble ourselves and ask for forgiveness and time to give forgiveness. It's an ongoing process of keeping our side of the street clean. Something that is good for each one of us to do.

It's a time for us Christians to remember our roots, where we come from, that Jesus was a Jew. That Hagar gave birth to Ishmael who became a patriarch of the Muslim faith. That we are one of the three Abrahamic faith traditions. We can look at the things that connect us or we can look at the things that drive us apart. We live in a world that gets so caught up in defending our boundaries and violating the boundaries of others.

May we just take a moment to reflect on the type of boundaries that keep us connected and yet unique. In the end it is important to remember that down in our hearts we are all loved by our one God.

~Be at peace, Pastor Karen Braeutigam

Shrewsbury Community Church Calendar

Fall is here and we're glad to be back worshipping at the center church!

Services are in the Center Church on the 2nd floor of the Meeting House.

- Sun, Oct 4, 10:30am Worship Service and Holy Communion led by Pastor Karen Braeutigam.
- Fri, Oct 9 Take Out Lasagna Dinner see ad in Times. Call and order your dinners!
- Sun, Oct 11 Worship Service led by Pastor Karen Braeutigam.
- Sun, Oct 18 Worship Service led by Pastor Karen Braeutigam.
- Sun, Oct 25 Worship Service led by Pastor Karen Braeutigam.
- Tues, Oct 27 Prayer Shawl Group. Upstairs in the Shrewsbury 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.

Friday, October 9 Take Out Lasagna Dinner!

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



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SHREWSBURY MOUNTAIN SCHOOL

Our students have been engaged in their learning, building relationships with their peers and having an awesome time learning and playing outdoors. Our garden has been giving us a bountiful harvest and we are already making plans for our annual harvest festival in the Fall!

Important Dates:

Oct 8 and Oct 9: Parent/Teacher Conferences
 Oct 12: No School - Indigenous People's Day
 Oct 19: Monday Half Day Release for Professional Development
 Oct 30: Trunk or Treat sponsored by our SMS PTO

Mountain School Road and traveling to SMS: I want to extend a HUGE thank you to our Shrewsbury Road Commissioner, Dan Cavoto, and our Shrewsbury Road Crew for their help and assistance with getting our families and students to and from our campus. They have been such a help keeping everyone safe! The project is wrapping up and we are now able to use Mountain School Road.

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

SMS PTO Request: Please save your bottles and cans over this winter! Our SMS PTO is having a **BOTTLE DRIVE** this Spring to support learning and special experiences at our school! Thank you for all your support!

Join the MRUUSD team! We are in need of bus drivers and para educators in our district.

Sustainability Mission: Our Grade 2 students and their



teacher, Ms. Rice, picked beautiful flowers from our school garden, arranged them in bouquets and delivered them to our educators the day before our "Back to School Night"

event. This was such a special moment for them delivering happiness to classrooms and making our school more welcoming for our families. Huge thanks to Ms. Rice and the 2nd Graders!

Science Experiments with Ms. Levins' Grade 3 & 4 Class:

Students in 3rd and 4th grade have been studying fossils and extinction in our "Animals Through Time" science unit. We have been learning to use traits from fossils to figure out which habitats these animals lived in and what they ate. We learned that the distance between footprints can determine how fast an animal is moving and had to put it to the test against the most famous extinct animals-



dinosaurs! Each student measured their stride and ran eight steps across the gym and marked their spot with a sticky note. When all of them had finished, we took out our

dinosaur footprints, with strides of up to 80 inches, and saw if their 8 steps could overtake ours. They did! We quickly learned that no, we cannot outrun dinosaurs, but we had fun trying!

I am always here to support our school families and community, please contact me at 802-786-3995 or at

kcimonetti@millriverschools.org if you have any questions or concerns. I hope that you enjoy the remaining days of summer and I look forward to seeing everyone soon!

~Kristin Cimonetti, Principal



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MILL RIVER SCHOOL DISTRICT FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Greetings from Mill River Unified Union School District. The '26-'27 school year has begun and teachers and staff are hard at work creating an exceptional learning environment for our young community members. With the start of the school season comes the start of the school district budgeting season, and we're once again creating a budget that supports our students while keeping our tax impact as low as we can.

Last year we created a budget with a modest 3.52% increase in the district's expenditure budget despite many external financial pressures.

The community also supported our ballot measure to transfer \$1 million of district surplus to the building sinking fund. These funds have made it possible to pave Wallingford and Mill River's parking lots, install a new gym floor for Mill River High School, resurface the Mill River main athletic field, and add much needed irrigation. All of these projects were highlighted as priorities by community members during our budget creation outreach last year.

This year, we will once again carry a district surplus into FY28. We will continue to whittle that surplus down and will be discussing surplus management at our next finance committee meeting.

Our last finance committee newsletter in February of this year projected tax rate percentage increases as follows. Tinmouth 2.04%, Shrewsbury 8.12%, Clarendon 8.68%, and Wallingford 11.03%.

With this past summer's "yield bill", the governor authorized a one-time General Fund transfer of approximately \$100 million to buy down the average property tax bill in FY27.

With the governor's property tax buy down, the actual property tax increases (or decreases) for our towns were, Tinmouth (-3.95%), Shrewsbury 1.78%, Clarendon 2.31%, and Wallingford 4.51%.

The challenge created by state level buy downs is their unpredictability. The year the state decides they aren't going to buy down taxes will seem like a huge increase has happened all at once from the district level.

At the district level, we have been employing a local buy down to the tax rate, using existing surplus funds that were largely created and carried forward each year since Covid. Our main two levers for surplus management are these tax rate buy downs and transferring funds to the Building sinking fund. Our intention is to get the surplus low enough year to year that it will all just be swept into the building sinking fund for deferred maintenance and emergency use.

Finally, we'd like to acknowledge the greater education funding landscape, and its role in budget planning and surplus management. Statewide, the big picture conversation often swirls around spiraling expenses, property taxes, mergers, and the shadow of school closure. The big picture view is useful in that it guides us to position our district for what we think the future is likely to hold in the next 2-3 years.

For instance, we believe it's likely a statewide foundation formula for district funding will be adopted in the next few years. This would give every district the same funding per weighted pupil and any spending over that amount would need to be proposed and voted on locally. Currently, our district is fairly close to the center of per pupil spending, and we believe this will give us a relatively easy transition when the foundation formula finally passes. The higher spenders will have big budget deficits and the lower spenders will have taxes rise to bring them up to the base level.

Two working groups that are separately studying different possible solutions to the state's education financing challenges are the Cooperative Educational Service Area (CESA) boards and the merger study groups. These are mandated working groups and MRUUSD has representation in each group. Both groups are just beginning to explore the financial impacts of greater shared services amongst districts or in district mergers. While these conversations don't play a direct role in FY28 budgeting at this time, we will share relevant information over the next few months of this newsletter.

Our next finance committee meeting will be on October 5 at 6:00pm. These meetings have a virtual meeting option and the public are welcome to attend. In this meeting we will identify initial budget ideas, including surplus management. We will hold community focus groups in the Mill River Library on October 13 at 3:30pm and October 22 at 6:00pm for public input on this year's budget creation. We will also circulate an online survey for those who cannot attend either of these conversations. Again, community participation is appreciated and encouraged. With these community inputs and inputs from our district staff, we will go over different budget scenarios during our meeting in early November.

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

You can find more information about MRUUSD, our board, and meeting agendas and minutes at <https://www.mruusd.org>.

~ Stephen Abatiell, Finance Committee Chairman

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Fungi and Mushrooms and Slime, Oh My!!!

The day to hunt for mushrooms couldn't have been better this year – lots of recent rain, a diverse tree population, and mushroom master Meg Madden



back to lead the way. Within minutes she was revealing fungi large and miniscule, and immediately located the very very rare Appalachian spindle where she discovered it two years ago and identified via DNA analysis. She also found a new-to-her mushroom, one that she had never seen before in over 1000 mushrooms identified in our area.

Meg explained that the mushrooms we see are actually the fruit of the fungi that lives below the soil. When it is ready to reproduce, it sends up fruits filled with spores, ready for the wind, insects, or animals to carry the pores to desired

destinations! Much of our time was spent examining diverse species with varying ways of dispersing their spores.

One fascinating discovery by Todd Frederick seemed like it could be a fungi but was not! Slime molds are not fungi, often appearing as colorful blobs on decaying wood. These creatures are not true fungi, plants, or animals, yet they possess characteristics that seem to borrow from all three kingdoms. Their name comes from their slimy appearance that can appear almost overnight on a forest floor or in mulch. Some types can produce a liter of slime in under 0.1 seconds, causing would-be predators to drown in a sea of mucus!!!

Like animals, slime molds can move and actively hunt their



'prey'. They do this by extending tendrils that are able to sense nearby food. They can expand outwards in all directions, leaving slimy trails to remember places they're already searched. Note the tiny "head" of the slime mold we found as it searched for microorganisms to eat! This brainless microorganism is able to escape from traps, find its way around mazes, and even create elaborate transport networks that are more efficient than our own. In 2010, researchers in Japan set up

an experiment where they placed porridge oats inside a petri dish containing a slime mold. These porridge oats represented railway stations and they were placed in a configuration that mirrored those around Tokyo. The slime mold was left to do its thing and soon created a copy of the Tokyo railway system, complete with all its branching routes. Since then, slime molds have mapped optimum transport networks for several cities, as well as a worldwide trade network. They've even been used to map dark matter throughout the universe and reveal connections in the vast cosmic web!

Lastly, Meg shared photography hints that work great when photographing mushrooms or small objects low to the ground with a phone camera. Use a 1.5 zoom level and then place the camera upside down at the base of the object to be photographed. Click. The image will automatically reverse to

be shown upright and give a more complete picture of the length of the object, and you won't have to lie on the ground level to get the shot! See my witches cap photo as an example! But to REALLY see some inspiring photos, go to spores.stories on Instagram for an incredible array of Meg's photographs! ~Submitted by Louise Duda

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Students are back at the mountain school and the garden is coming into peak harvest condition! Fall lettuce has been planted. Green beans are ready to start harvesting and will keep producing until frost. There are a few large cucumbers and zucchini, and the carrots look great. The lettuce should be ready in a couple weeks to start harvesting. Shoutout to Mr. Dave for weeding and mulching the fruit trees in the orchard. Classes will soon be preparing food for the annual harvest festival!

As early fall begins, a few simple preparations can help protect your home vegetable garden from an unexpected frost.

- First, know the forecast: Keep an eye on nighttime temperatures and be ready to act when frost is predicted.
- Second, protect tender crops: Cover tomatoes, peppers, beans, and other frost-sensitive plants with frost cloth, sheets, or lightweight row covers before sunset, making sure the material reaches the ground to trap warmth.
- Third, consider harvesting. Pick ripe and nearly ripe vegetables before a hard frost, and consider harvesting tender crops even if they're still growing.

A little preparation can help you make the most of the final weeks of the growing season.

Finally, as the growing season winds down, the music season is ramping up! Mark your calendar for October 10, when School House Jams come back to the Russellville School House at 7pm. Jams continue on the second Saturday of the month through April or May.

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

~Submitted Stephen Abatiell

Shrewsbury Agricultural Education and Arts Foundation

educate.sage@gmail.com

www.sagevt.wordpress.com

Bone Builders

Tuesdays and Thursdays

November-April: 10-11am

May-October: 9-10am

at the Meeting House on Lottery Road

Free weights and instruction!

Join this friendly group to improve your Bones, Balance, and Strength

More Info: Ginny Buckley (802) 492-3504



SNO-BIRD NEWS

Well, we are a little closer to building the big bridge. The State finally finished all the studies and gave us the OK to complete the project. Dave Fucci got the project to install 19 new culverts and over 3,000 feet of ditching on the upper part of the Clement Shelter Road and the road going north towards the old Poczobut Camp on corridor trails 4&7. It has been a bigger project and with all the ground work we may have to wait on building the bridge until next year for the ground to firm up. Scott Ryan was helping him along with others bringing in stone for the road. With these projects Mike Stewart has been a big help with the paperwork and site visits.

It rained pretty good yesterday which will keep it quite muddy, we will need a dry stretch to help us. The bridge is still good to use for this year so the trail will stay open either way which being the main corridor north and south and east and west in Rutland County is very important! We also have to get the debris clearing done so I hope the weather is good to us. If anyone wants to help check out our website or Facebook page as when the club wants to set dates I will post them.

We did finally get the estimate on the Tucker repairs. It was over \$35,000.00 so we are trying to get a capital repair grant to help with that. It turned out to need more than we could see here once they did a more in-depth inspection. I am waiting for VAST grant amount and I just got the OK to get the repairs started. We can't groom without it! Everything is expensive now a days, A new unit is around \$285,000.00 just to groom trails for possibly 16 weeks out of the year. We do like the way it works, with the drag that we have and the operators that help groom we can lay down a very nice trail if we get good snow.

Now is also the time to start thinking about

purchasing you early bird TMA to save money over the regular season TMA. They start selling TMAs on October 1. Early bird TMAs are on sale until December 15 after that the price goes up. Everyone needs to save money so buy the early bird TMA!

Our club is looking for a secretary if you are interested in helping the club we would like to hear from you. One nice perk is that you receive a volunteer TMA for your efforts plus the satisfaction of knowing you are helping the club!

Fall started today let's hope it is a nice fall!

~Article by Roy Arthur



A bridge on 407 that was repaired last year and was inspected this year to see if it was still good; It is good for another year!



**Shrewsbury Is Invited:
Cider Pressing and Launch Party
Pierce's Store**

Saturday, October 24, 2-6pm

A year ago, a crew from Watson Wheeler Cider, a farmstead cidery based in Shaftsbury, foraged over 50 bushels of apples from various Shrewsbury trees, which yielded over 100 gallons of cider. The apples were cleaned, mashed and pressed, then fermented using an innovative 'punchdown' technique which adds ground apples (pomace) to enhance flavor and tannins. This past March, after five months' fermentation, the Shrewsbury cider was filtered and bottled. For the last seven months, the cider has been bottle-aged, giving the cider its 'pet-nat' sparkle. And so finally, after a year's preparation, on Saturday, October 24 from 2pm to 6pm, the celebration begins!

The Celebration

The launch party, located at Pierce's Store, will feature free tastings of the new Shrewsbury hard cider along with other new Watson Wheeler offerings, all of which will be available for purchase by the bottle or by the drink.

The mystery name of the new cider will also be revealed. While the cider was fermenting, Shrewsbury residents proposed 30 different names for the new cider. Watson Wheeler has selected a name from those suggestions and designed artwork for the cider's label. The individual who suggested the winning name will receive a free bottle of the new cider.

For the launch party, Watson Wheeler will also set up a community cider pressing for fresh Shrewsbury cider. Shrewsbury residents are invited to bring foraged local apples. There will be tables for sorting and cleaning the apples, a grinder for creating pomace, and an apple press to squeeze fresh juice from the pomace. Bring containers so you can take fresh cider home for enjoyment. [Note: since apples will be foraged, it is recommended that the fresh cider be pasteurized by heating to 160 degrees for 10 seconds.]

The Back Story

Watson Wheeler's connection to Shrewsbury came through Pierce's Store. When the cidery's co-owner Bleeker Wheeler arrived at Pierce's to deliver cider, he was met by Lavinia Seide who showed him the heirloom apple trees surrounding the store. Bleeker was impressed: "I was very happy to discover Shrewsbury and Pierce's Store, and the APPLE TREES. Wow. It got me thinking - wouldn't it be cool if we came back and did some foraging? And wouldn't it be even cooler if we created a blend that would be entirely unique to Shrewsbury?"

Watson Wheeler Cider, founded during the pandemic by two Vermont cider makers, specializes in making natural cider with no additives, including sugars or sulfites. Much of their cider is made from wild-foraged apples in the Green Mountain National Forest and elsewhere. They also own a 10th generation orchard in Shaftsbury which contains unique apples confirmed through genetic testing to exist nowhere else.

So please join the community cider pressing and celebrate the release of the new Shrewsbury cider at Pierce's Store on Saturday, October 24 from 2pm to 6pm.

~Article by Sandy Bragg



Champlain philharmonic concert

The Champlain Philharmonic will perform its Fall Concert Series conducted by Matt LaRocca on Saturday, October 10, at 7:30pm, at the Vergennes Opera House and Sunday, October 11, at 4pm at Grace Congregational Church in Rutland. This community orchestra has several loyal Shrewsbury fans and includes two townspeople this season, Megan LaChance and Roxanne Ramah.

The concert will feature a diverse selection of works, including Ferde Grofé's, *Mississippi Suite*; a work by Vermont composer Katharina Mueller entitled *Cloud Palace*; Gerald Finzi's *Five Bagatelles* featuring clarinet soloist Margaret Barsumian; and Edward Elgar's *Enigma Variations*, including the most well-known and beloved "Nimrod" variation.

Tickets are \$20 for General Admission, \$15 for Seniors (60+), and \$10 for Students and are available for purchase in advance or at the door for both performances. Please bring cash or a check if purchasing tickets at the door for the Rutland performance. For more information or to purchase tickets in advance, visit www.champlainphilharmonic.org.

~Submitted by Roxanne Ramah

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**News from Rainbow Riding Center**

Three young ladies that didn't know each other when lessons started, soon became fast friends, as they learned to balance atop tall horses, use the reins to direct their horses, stop them and keep them in line at the same pace to complete an exercise. Quite an accomplishment for the three that are known at Rainbow as the "Gigggle Girls" because they are always finding something to laugh and giggle about during their lesson.

At Rainbow Riding Center we strive to meet the needs of every individual that participates in our programs, mounted or unmounted regardless of their ability to pay.

For more information about Rainbow Riding Center and our mission or to inquire about lessons please contact us at [programs@rainbowridingcenter.org](mailto:programs@rainbowridingcenter.org) or 802-236-2483 and follow us on Facebook or Instagram @rainbow\_riding\_center and LinkedIn! For information about opportunities to volunteer with us contact [janupton@comcast.net](mailto:janupton@comcast.net). ~Submitted by Janet Upton

## Phoebe Tucker Shares Core Values Behind Her Run for State Representative: a Platform Rooted in Community and Common Ground

***Third-generation Vermonter is running to make healthcare, housing, and food more affordable — and to bring neighbors together no matter their party.***

Phoebe Tucker, a lifelong Ludlow resident and third-generation Vermonter, has announced the core beliefs shaping her run for State Representative of Ludlow, Mount Holly, and Shrewsbury. Her message is simple: Vermonters are some of the most resourceful people around, and our state government should match that can-do spirit by working together, cutting through partisan noise, and getting things done for everyone who calls this state home.

"I'm running because I want us to reduce the partisan tug-of-war, and work more effectively on the issues we are all facing, together," said Tucker. "So many of us are juggling two or three jobs just to make it work here — I know I have been. I want to be a clear, honest bridge between our towns and the Statehouse, and I want to bring people together as we seek solutions."

### Leading with Heart

Tucker's campaign is built on three core values: compassion, social justice, and hope. She sees the role of State Representative as one of stewardship — listening closely to her neighbors, and carrying their voices to Montpelier with care and integrity.

"I believe that every voice deserves to be heard," Tucker said. "We need to move past fixating on what divides us, and instead celebrate what unites us — building resilient, vibrant communities where everyone feels welcomed, represented, and able to participate."

### What She's Fighting For

#### ***Healthcare: A Basic Right for Every Vermonter***

Tucker believes every person deserves access to preventative and acute healthcare. With efforts to expand access stalled in Washington, she believes Vermont needs to lead. Her plan:

- Support publicly funded, universal primary care for every Vermonter, funded through the Fair Share for Vermont tax proposal — reducing our reliance on unpredictable federal dollars (about a third of our state budget) while asking the wealthiest Vermonters to pay their fair share.
- Back Act 68 and Reference-Based Pricing, stopping hospitals from independently setting prices and curbing cost swings, price gouging, and putting savings back in Vermonters' pockets.

*Why it matters:* School staff health insurance is one of the biggest drivers of property taxes. Lower healthcare premiums mean lower, more stable property taxes — and a Vermont more of us can afford.

#### ***Housing: A Place for Everyone to Call Home***

Tucker believes safe, affordable housing is a basic right, not a privilege — including a Housing First approach for Vermonters experiencing homelessness, policies that let young families put down roots, and options for elders to age in place or in supportive community.

The trouble? Vacation homes sit empty across the state while working Vermonters get priced out by property costs, taxes, and cost of living. Her plan:

- Raise property taxes on non-primary-residence vacation, luxury, and investment properties owned by out-of-state residents, and reinvest those funds to lower property taxes for year-round Vermonters and expand affordable housing.
- Improve access to services for Vermonters experiencing homelessness, supporting the Housing and Homelessness Alliance of Vermont.
- Champion innovative models like housing cooperatives, cohousing, and intergenerational arrangements such as HomeShare VT.

*Why it matters:* Treating housing as a basic right and supporting our working communities means everyone gets a real chance to thrive — and to stay in Vermont.

#### ***Food Security & Agriculture: Good Food for Every Vermonter***

Tucker believes everyone deserves affordable, nutritious, locally grown, culturally relevant food — and that farmers deserve a viable income for growing it. Her plan:

- Renew legislative support for NOFA-VT's Crop Cash, Crop Cash Plus, and Farm Share programs, helping low-income Vermonters buy local food while paying farmers fairly.
- Keep advocating for funding of S.60, the Farm and Forestry Operations Security fund supporting working lands through climate disasters and crises.
- Continue backing the Vermont Farm to Plate Network, VT Farm to School, the Vermont Food Bank, and more.

*Why it matters:* Vermont is famous for its farms and food, but not everyone gets an equal seat at the table — due to cost, distance from grocery stores, or lacking transportation. Two out of five of our neighbors still face food insecurity in 2026, a failure of policy, not of our farms. This has to change.

**Stay connected with Phoebe Tucker** and her campaign:

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

On Instagram @phoebetuckerforvt

Via Facebook Page, Phoebe Tucker for VT State Rep. 2026

Election day is Tuesday, Nov. 3. Vermont voter resources, including information on absentee ballots, can be found at [sos.vermont.gov/elections](http://sos.vermont.gov/elections).

**Paid for by Friends of Phoebe Tucker for VT - 135 Spring Lake RD, Cuttingsville VT 05738**





## ***RE-ELECT RUTLAND COUNTY'S*** **WINNING TEAM**

**Senator Brian Collamore**  
**Senator Dave Weeks**  
**Senator Terry Williams**

LEFT TO RIGHT: SENATOR WEEKS, GOVERNOR SCOTT, SENATOR COLLAMORE,  
AND SENATOR WILLIAMS.

**VOTE BY**  
**NOV. 3<sup>TH</sup>**

**“I work closely with incumbent Senators Collamore, Weeks, and Williams, and I trust their leadership. They have served Rutland County exceptionally well, and we need them back in the Senate. Their experience makes them uniquely qualified to address Vermont’s most pressing challenges, including lowering taxes and improving our education system. Rutland County and Vermont need these three proven Senators re-elected.”**

**— Governor Phil Scott**

PAID FOR BY THE COLLAMORE FOR SENATE COMMITTEE, FRIENDS OF DAVE WEEKS, AND TERRY WILLIAMS FOR SENATE



**REGION** – Thank you for electing me to represent our Rutland-Windsor District of Mount Holly, Shrewsbury, and Ludlow over the past 2025-2026 legislative session. It has been a privilege and an honor.

With the historic addition of 17 House Republicans in the fall of 2024, including myself, our minority caucus grew to 56 members. With the added strength in numbers, there has been a strong push to find where and how we can bring tax relief and reduce spending relative to previous years' agendas.

There's a long way to go still, but we were able to accomplish some legislative gains. In the 2025 session, Act 71 was fought for and passed that provided military retirees, seniors on fixed incomes, and working families with some tax relief. The situation with Vermont's rising property taxes and education spending continues to be a burden that must be resolved. This spring, I voted with others to support the governor's plan to buy down the fiscal year 2026 property tax rate by transferring \$77.2M from the general fund and \$40.9 million surplus from last year into the education fund that held down predicted average property tax increases substantially. To address looming statewide issues, the Senate Republicans announced the "Vermont Promise" campaign this spring, outlining seven basic promises that they are making to Vermont voters if Republicans win a senate majority this November. Find more info at [www.vermontpromise.com](http://www.vermontpromise.com).



Rutland - Windsor District (Mount Holly-Shrewsbury-Ludlow)  
Representative Kevin Winter (L) with Governor Phil Scott

A shift happened in the State House this spring, as rural Vermonters (which is most Vermonters!) became aware of how bills passed in 2024 – Act 59, Act 121, and Act 181 – affect them and their properties, and how the majority party was not including them in the critical discussions. Act 59 legislated conservation of 30% of Vermont land by 2030, 50% by 2050. Act 121 expanded wetlands protection and mapping. Act 181 established the "Land Use Review Board" and designations of properties as Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3, along with the "road rule" regulations, limiting use of and construction on private properties. Prohibitive permitting, engineering costs, and fees were to come, and the state would have jurisdictional authority over privately owned land. Thankfully, we were able to reverse the road rule and Tier 3 provisions of Act 181 and add the Burt Amendment thanks to the groundswell of voiced opposition from across the state, largely through the efforts of the growing Rural Vermont Rising group.

From my vantage point, these are concerns needing to be addressed:

- Cost of living increasing due to over regulation: restrictive zoning (ACT 250); unrealistic environmental goals (e.g. most stringent PCB levels in U.S.A.); inflation due to lack of competition (i.e. healthcare, insurance, etc.); and ever-increasing taxation rather than cost reduction and prioritization of activities.
- Declining incentives to be a productive citizen (i.e., losing working families): loose financial "handouts" to people who can and should work; facilitation of bad behavior to appease/soothe rather than fix a bad habit (push for safe injection sites, push for decriminalizing illicit drug use); increased lawlessness due to lack of funding and will to enforce.
- Inefficient and less effective education for children: lack of will to consolidate and work with the law of "economy of scales"; and selfish legislation driven by larger population centers having too much leverage.
- Lack of common-sense legislation with logical, fundamentally sound, fact-based decisions.

I don't make promises. What I can say is that I will listen to all arguments presented in support of proposed legislation and strive to vote in such a way as to fix the root-cause problem(s) to move forward to solutions rather than band-aids.

Please call or text me at 802-245-4190 so we can discuss your view of improved legislation and/or change my mind as I pursue this legislative responsibility again.

Whatever you do – make sure you use our precious privilege and VOTE!

-Kevin C. Winter

**Paid Political Ad paid for by Sean DeLong on behalf of the Shrewsbury VT GOP Committee**



# SHREWSBURY SINGERS

*present*

## *Singing on a Sunday Afternoon*

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

~~~~~

October 25, 2026 @ 3:00pm

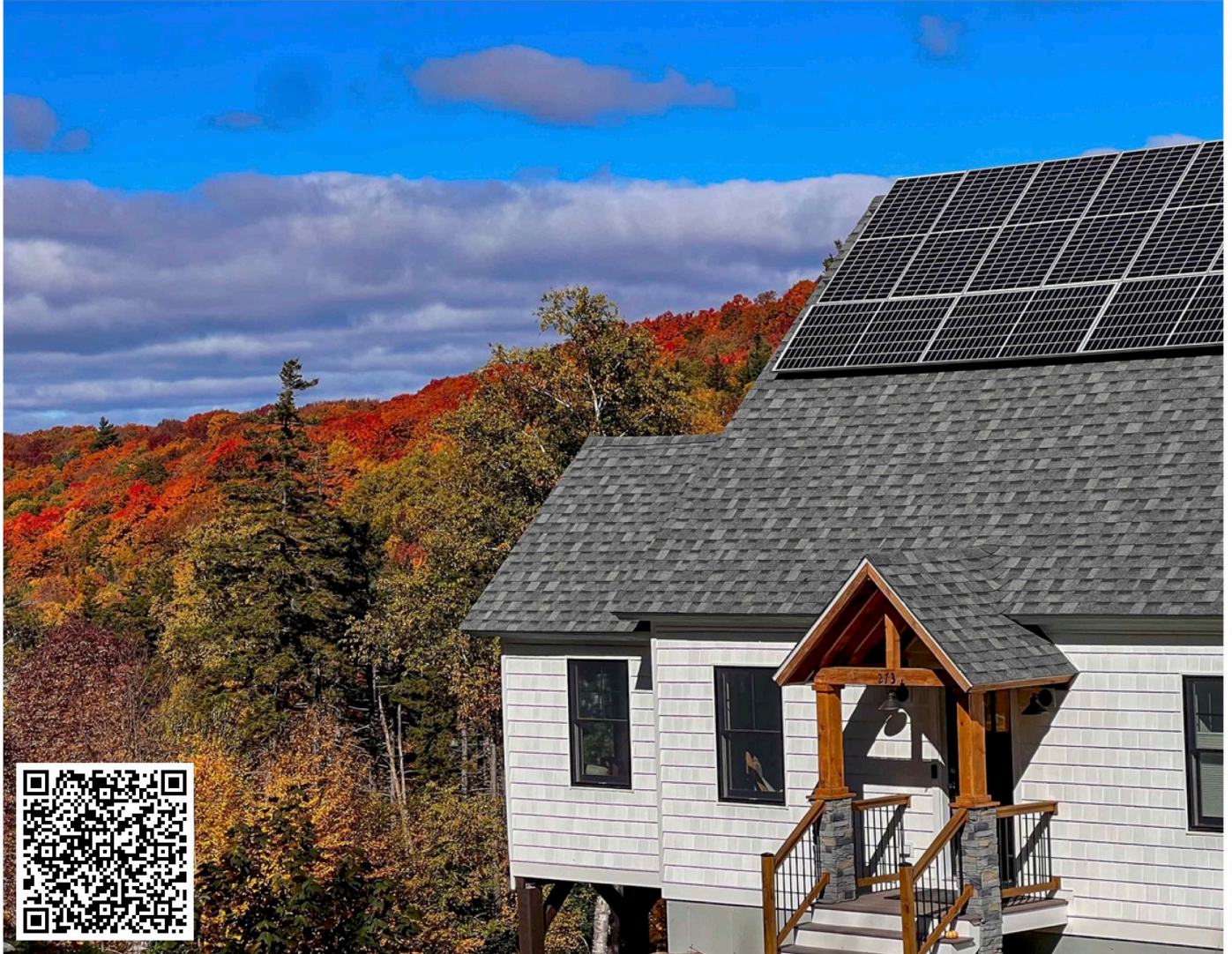
~Russellville Schoolhouse~

(18 Crown Point Road, Shrewsbury)

~Free Will Offering ~

**Collecting non-perishable food donations for the
Shrewsbury Food Shelf**

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



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**Pierces Store 5th Annual
Chili Cookoff
Saturday October 3, 2026
5:00PM until 7:00PM**



**At Pierce's Store
2658 Northam Road
Shrewsbury, Vermont**

Chefs and Tasters Welcome!!!

Chefs – Your fantastic Chili could be the winner!

All varieties of Chili are welcome!

The more the merrier!

Entry Fee – **FREE** (including tasting and voting)

Tasters – You will be the judges!!!

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

Entry Fee - \$10.00

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

Prizes – Bragging Rights, plus:

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

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

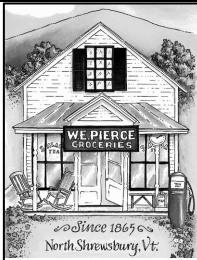
3rd Place prize - \$10 Pierce's Store Gift Certificate

To get Contest rules and registration, you can:

Visit Pierce's Store

Web: <http://www.piercesstore.com/2026-events.html>

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



PIERCE'S STORE

802-492-3326

www.piercesstore.com

Hours: 8am to 6pm

Closed Mondays

Sad News and Glad News!

It's been a busy month for Pierce's; We have some sad news and some glad news to report. The sad news is that Harry DiPrinzio and Elena Gleed are leaving the store after two years to work full time on their Chestnut Tree Farm. We wish them success on their new venture. The glad news is we have hired a new manager, Valerie Hannan. Valerie comes to us with significant experience managing country stores having run the Killington Market for many years. Val will be in the store beginning October 27 transitioning with Harry & Elena; She will assume responsibility for the store on November 1. Be sure to stop in to wish Harry & Elena the best, and to meet Valerie once she starts.

In other Pierce's news; we have added a new walk-in cooler to replace a much smaller unit in our storage room. Many thanks to Spring Lake Ranch for donating the cooler. Once the smaller cooler is moved out, we will have significantly more storage for both cold and dry goods.

New bulk online ordering

We're also proud to announce we have a new bulk ordering on line tool. The tool comes with an impressive visual menu of items. Note that the tool does not take payments; Items are ordered on line and paid for when you pick them up. If you haven't tried it, and you're interested in bulk ordering, give it a shot – there is a link to the tool on our website at piercesstore.com

Coming Events:

The year may be coming to an end but there are still some great events to attend. Take a look at our web page for more information on each, and if you're free, be sure to join us!

- Oct 3: Fourth annual Chili Cookoff with beer and wine for purchase
- Oct 17: Wine tasting class with Sandy
- Oct 24: Cider Pressing and Launch Party with Watson Wheeler Cider
- Nov 20: Wine Tasting with orchestral music, food, beer and wine for purchase

Annual Fundraising

On a final note, our annual fund-raising event is in the planning stage, and our team has some exciting new ideas. As in years past, Pierce's relies on your donations to keep the store healthy and strong. There is a bar code on our web page (in the daily news section) that allows you to easily make a tax-deductible donation to the store at any time.

Hope to see you at the store

~Submitted by Ed Sawyer, Pierce's Board President

New Wine Class:

What Makes A Wine Exceptional?

Saturday, October 17, from 4pm to 6pm

On Saturday, October 17, from 4pm to 6pm, Pierce's Store will be hosting a hands-on event investigating what's so special about fancy, high-priced wine. In this interactive session, which was rescheduled from the summer, we will compare no-frills table wines with their more upscale cousins to collectively answer the question: What exactly do we get when we pay extra bucks?

During the class, we will sample six different wines: two whites and four reds. Three will be everyday bottles (\$15 or less) and three will be special-occasion splurges (\$25 and up). We'll share our impressions as a group and compare our findings with the broader consensus of wine experts and online reviews.

To cover the cost of the wines, participation will be \$25 per person. Because of the compact space, the class will be limited to 35 people, and advance reservations are needed. You can sign up at Pierce's Store or online at Eventbrite.com. (search for "Exploring Wine Quality"). No advance payment is required – you can pay when you arrive at the class.

Each participant will receive a handout with information about wine quality and the tradeoff between quality and price. We'll also use the handouts to record our impressions of the wines we sample.

Whether you want to refine your palate or explore some high-end wines, please join us Saturday October 17 at 4pm for good wine and great fun! ~Sandy Bragg



GET YOUR HANDS DIRTY



ADULT HAND-BUILDING POTTERY CLASS

Choose from several projects and make them your own: Stand-Alone Vase, Holiday Trees, Snowmen, Holiday Ornaments and more!
No pottery experience necessary!

**\$50 FIRST PROJECT | \$35 EACH ADDITIONAL
MAKE AS MANY AS YOU CHOOSE DURING THE
4-HOUR SESSION!**

 **SUNDAY** 

OCTOBER 18 2-6 PM

SAGE Russellville School House, Shrewsbury
Limited spots available, reserve your spot now!
Call/Text Shannon @802-342-8992



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