

Times of Shrewsbury

March 2013



*Tin hydrometer
sugar tester from
bygone days*

Tap Time

When Al Ridlon Sr. was a boy he collected some sugar taps and put them in a box. He remembers that there were wooden ones, some “right rusty” ones, and one with a bent end. Years later when his house was moved across the road to its present location he came across that box once again.

Now those taps from his childhood are part of a larger collection prominently and proudly displayed on the walls of his sugar house. There are over 90 taps visible, but he says there are many more in his collection. They represent the history of tapping sap and some even have dates on them. Al says he’s been collecting taps all his life and that the earliest ones he has are from about 1875 “which is as far back as I can remember” he adds with a chuckle!

The original taps were pipe-like and made of wood. They were about 8” to 10” long with a hole in one end and a groove along the length to channel the sap. Many of these were made from sumac because of its soft center. One of the oldest taps on display is a slender piece of wood that looks like a long cigar. Al thinks that it’s like the taps used by the early settlers who learned to tap maple trees from the native American Indians. The tap stuck out from the tree and sap dropped from it into a bucket that sat on the ground underneath.

Eventually a metal hook was added to the wood tap which allowed the bucket to be hung on the tree. Then came forged steel, tin, and now plastic taps. Another change over the years has been the size of the tap hole in the tree. When Al “was a kid” they only made 7/16” taps, but today’s taps can be found as small as 3/32” (see photo).

Not only can the changes in materials and shapes be observed, but also the change in color over the years. The older taps are all some shade of brown or black since they were made of natural materials. The newer ones are plastic and are white, blue, black, and sometimes green. All the lines are plastic too and lighter colors are best for that because they don’t absorb sunlight which heats up the lines.

With the older taps, air could get into the tree constantly, which isn’t good for the tree. Nowadays the spouts are healthier for the trees because they have a ball that locks out the air when the sap stops running. It makes an airtight hole, and that way no air gets into the tree.

It’s not a museum, it’s a sugar house—but when you enter Al Ridlon’s sugar house you know there’s immense interest in the history, preservation, and presentation of this industry that means so much to Vermont. There are objects, but there are many more memories ready to be shared and relived through the telling of stories not only at Al’s Sugar Shack but at many other sugar houses in Shrewsbury and throughout Vermont. Visit one of them on Vermont Maple Open House Weekend, March 23–24.

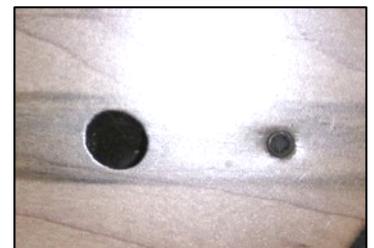
—C. Martin



*Left: Two of Al’s sugar
tap displays*

Above: Early wood tap

*Right: Old and newer
tap holes*



Letters to the Editors

Appreciation for a Good Neighbor Community

Last Monday, January 28, in a snow storm, three of us were headed from CCC Road with goal of making it to Springfield, MA. Well, we slid into a snow bank near Harry's Café on Route 103. We shoveled and tried to extract the car for some time without success. Then along came the Josselyn Bros. Construction truck with two young fellas. With their generous help, we were unstuck within a minute.

How many times we have had a road incident and a Vermonter has helped us, I don't know. But the Cuttingsville/Ludlow community area always comes to the rescue. Thanks to the Josselyn fellas and the good neighbor community!

Pam Smith & Mel Cohen

Drive Safely

It is still winter here, even though the sunrise is earlier and it's later at sunset revealing that spring is the next season, and safe driving remains a concern.

I remind drivers that even with a large swathe of sand icy and snowy conditions it can be slippery on the roads. It can even be a problem on nice days where the sun does not shine and where there is black ice all of a sudden. At night our roads are darker than in the city as there are no street lights here, so drive with caution and keep an eye on the ditches for jumping deer and other large animals like moose or black bear! So here it is, "Slow down when driving. You may arrive alive!!!"

Lavinia Seide

Hello Shrewsbury!

I lived in your fine town a thousand years ago (or back in the late 1980s). Worked at the herb farm, and lived with Bill and Donna Smith before moving down to Adams Rd. I left to go to graduate school in Arizona but I'm back in Vermont now. I've been looking to buy a house to rejoin you in Shrewsbury—to my way of thinking the finest Vermont town anyone could hope to live in. I well remember the community spirit there, and that's why I'm emailing.

I founded and run a non-profit dog rescue based in Rutland. We pull dogs from death row in GA, TN, SC and other southern states and bring them to Vermont for adoption. We rely on temporary foster homes to house the dogs, and we have the need for foster homes. We pay for vet care, provide food, all the foster family needs to do is provide a safe and loving place for a dog to stay. It usually is for no more than a few weeks. We are also looking for inexpensive heated space that we might be able to rent to set up kennels to house dogs. Given the dog-loving nature of your community, it seemed like people might be willing to help if they knew there was a need.

If you could help with our rescue we would be very grateful. Thank you! And I hope to be living there with you all again one day!

Virginia Philo, Three Divas Dog Rescue
ThreeDivasDogRescue@comcast.net

Letters to the Editors continued on page 4

The Times of Shrewsbury

The *Times of Shrewsbury* is published monthly February through December. It is compiled by volunteers from material submitted by residents with the goal being to keep townspeople informed 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 and phone number of the submitting person. All items submitted for publication are subject to editing for length and clarity. If Letters to the Editor exceed 350 words, they will be subject to editing for length. Any opinion piece will be deemed to be a Letter to the Editor subject to this policy. All items including letters are printed at the editors' discretion. A letter writer of any letter that names a Shrewsbury resident or organization in a critical manner must get copies to that resident or organization and to the *Times* by the 10th of the month prior to publication or it will

not run. If the named individual or organization indicates in writing to the writer and to the *Times* that they choose not to respond, the letter will run. If the named entity responds, the response and initial letter will run in the same issue.

There is no charge for: jokes, poems, essays, nature reports, family event announcements, or feature articles or letters that are non-political and non-commercial.

Articles and Advertisements: Deadline for submission is the 20th of the month prior to publication; exceptions will be announced in the prior month's *Times*. If you have any questions, please email or call Sandra Korinchak at 773-8930 ext. 223 or Chryl Martin at 492-2244.

Best Formats: *Articles:* Word or in an email message with no formatting. *Photos:* JPG. *Ads:* PDF file or Word document.

Monthly Advertisement Fees: Full page \$40; 1/2 page \$20; 1/4 page \$10; Business card \$5; Classified ad (15 words) \$2. Payment is due by the 20th of the month prior to publication.

Co-editors: Sandra Korinchak & Chryl Martin

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

Email: shrewsburytimes@gmail.com

Online: www.shrewsburyvt.org and www.rutlandrpc.org/townnewsletters.ph

SHREWSBURY COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Mar 4	5:30pm	*School portion followed by Town Informational Meeting at Community Meeting House
Mar 5	10am-7pm	*Annual Town Election at Community Meeting House on Lottery Road
Mar 5	7-9pm	*Computer Help sessions at the Library
Mar 8	5-7pm	*Pierce's Store free wine tasting
Mar 12	12noon	Shrewsbury Seniors lunch at Table 24. Please call Sally Deinzer 492-2041 no later than Friday, March 8 if you want to join the group.
Mar 15	7:30pm	*Program on Habitat for Humanity in Nepal at the Library
Mar 16	6pm	*St Patrick's Day Supper at Shrewsbury Community Church
Mar 17	4pm	*Book Discussion group at the Library
Mar 20	12noon	Prayer Shawl group at home of Fran Patten 492-3706
Mar 23-24		Vermont Maple Open House Weekend (visit a local sugar house!)
Mar 24	5pm	Pierce's Store Annual Membership Meeting and potluck dinner at the Meeting House
Mar 26	7-9pm	*Computer Help sessions at the Library
Apr 15		*Deadline to file Vermont Homestead Declaration Form HS-122
Apr 15		*Deadline for applications for Hurricane Relief Funds (see page 8)

* See elsewhere in newsletter for details



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

REGULAR MEETINGS and EVENTS

Board of Selectmen Meeting	1st & 3 rd Wednesdays—7:00pm at Town Office
Bone Builders	Tuesdays & Thursdays—9:00am at Meeting House
Library Trustees' Meeting	2 nd Tuesday—7:00pm at Shrewsbury Library
Mill River Union School Board Mtg	1 st & 3 rd Wednesdays—7:00pm at Mill River Union High School
Pierce's Store Take-Out Meals	Friday nights
Planning Commission	1 st & 3 rd Mondays—7:30pm at Town Office
Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)	Sundays—10:00am at Shrewsbury Library, upstairs
Shrewsbury Community Church Worship	Sundays—see listings on church information
Shrewsbury Historical Society Museum	Open July thru October on Sundays 1:00-3:00pm Closed Nov-Jun; for appointments call 492-3324
Shrewsbury School District Board Mtg	2 nd & 4 th Mondays—6:30pm at Mountain School
Shrewsbury Sno-Birds	2 nd Tuesdays—7:00pm at South Station Restaurant
Shrewsbury Volunteer Fire Dept.	Thursdays—7:00pm at Cuttingsville Station
Conservation Commission	1 ST Monday—5pm at Town Office

Shrewsbury Town Website: www.shrewsburyvt.org

Town Clerk's Office 492-3511
Mon-Thurs 9am-3pm; Closed Friday

Town Treasurer's Office
492-3558 or 492-3487
Wed 5pm-7pm

Transfer Station
Sun 8am-4pm & Wed 1pm-7pm

Shrewsbury Town Library 492-3410
Mon, Fri & Sat 10am-Noon
Tues & Thurs 7pm-9pm
Wed 10am-5pm AND 7pm-9pm

Cuttingsville Post Office 492-3585
Mon-Fri Counter 8am-11am & 12:30pm-4:30pm,
Lobby 7:30am-5:00pm
Saturday Counter 8am-10:30am; Lobby 7:30am-10:30am

Meeting House 492-6050 (Reservations: 492-3649)
Dog Warden Matt Danaher 492-3442
Shrewsbury Constables Matt Danaher 492-3442
and Pete Lajoie 492-3671

Emergency Management Irene Gordon 492-8282
Ambulance 773-1700
CVPS power outage 1-800-451-2877
Medical—Fire—Police Emergency Dial 911
Rutland Hospital 775-7111

(Letters to the Editors, Continued)

A Thank You to Departing Town Officers

As Mike Stewart has decided to not run for another term on the Selectboard, I would like to offer a public Thank You for the time and effort that Mike has provided to the residents of Shrewsbury in service as a Selectman. Over his many years on the Selectboard, Mike remained an excellent representative of the interests for all Shrewsbury residents. Always willing to take the time for a phone call or a conversation at the garage or around town, Mike was consistently diligent in his consideration of issues and concerns of Shrewsbury residents. Mike's watchful eye over the financial matters of the town ensured the most appropriate allocation of our hard earned tax dollars. I was honored with the opportunity to serve with him on the Selectboard and enjoyed the time spent working with him. I wish Mike and his family the best for the future. So if you see Mike around town in the coming months, take a moment and say thanks. He'll probably try to sell you a vehicle, but that should be expected.

I would also like to say Thank You to Betsy Jesser for her years of service to the town as a Lister. Serving as a Lister is to say the least a challenging job. Betsy performed her work in a respectful and detailed manner, making the process of maintaining our town's property values as smooth and seamless as possible. Her calm demeanor will always be appreciated.

Betsy was also instrumental in keeping the business of the town functioning during the difficult transition after Anne Haley's passing. Betsy's efforts during this period were tremendous, as she fulfilled to duties of the Town Clerk while mourning the loss of a good friend. So again, thank you Betsy for your service to the town, and best wishes for the future with all those grandkids running about.

Steven Spatz

Shrewsberries,

I would like to acknowledge your votes in November that allowed me to be elected to the office of Justice of the Peace. It has been my pleasure to have served the town as Lister since 2002. In my many years of service I have been impressed with the integrity of the people in this town as a whole. Thanks to each and every one of you for who you are and for your trust and respect in allowing me in your homes. And for the live and let live attitude that prevailed when our differences were settled. I can tell you from a wealth of experience, Shrewsbury is one special place on earth. Thank you.

Respectfully, Betsy Jesser

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*Town of
Shrewsbury, Vermont*



*2012
Annual Report*

Town of Shrewsbury — 2012 Annual Report

The Annual Report has been mailed to all Shrewsbury residents and is also available online at the Town website www.Shrewsburyvt.org.

Included in the report you will find:

- Warned items to be voted on March 5
- Town and school financial information
- Reports from Town organizations and officers
- Contact information, photos, and dedication

Bring your Report to the Town Informational Meeting on Monday, March 4.

Shrewsbury Board of Auditors

Vote “YES” to discontinue Australian ballot

Please vote YES on March 5 for Shrewsbury to discontinue Australian ballot and start having a traditional Town Meeting again like 90% of Vermont towns do!

The following is an excerpt from “*A Final Word on Town Meeting*” by Paul Gillies on the Vermont Secretary of State’s website (quoted with permission). It expresses for me what we gave up 20 years ago when Shrewsbury decided to give up traditional Town Meeting and started using Australian ballot for Town and School business.

“Town Meeting is the whole point of being a Vermonter. No other event so purely defines our independence or connects us to our history and tradition as the first Tuesday in March, the day the people rule.

Only at Town Meeting does the Town come fully to, facing the stage, and engaged in discussions of articles, the Town speaks. Sure, individual voters get up and talk, but as the meeting progresses you begin to hear one voice—the voice of the majority—and understand what makes the community work.

How could anyone stay away from Town Meeting? ... It’s the best opportunity you have to participate in making law, without having to run for public office. For one day, you are a legislator, fully vested with the authority to speak and vote on the subjects that come before you.

We have our private lives, family lives, work lives, but this is town life, and it too has its obligations. One meeting a year is just enough. There the Town sits down and reasons together, not as a representative assembly, like the Legislature or Congress, but as people ruling themselves, deciding ... how much to spend on highways and how much to pay in property taxes.

Town Meeting brings out the best of us. A young person stands up for the first time to talk about a proposal. A citizen of full years reminds the meeting how things used to be. People who never speak in public stand up and show us their compassion, wisdom, and good humor. It’s a continuing revelation. ... It’s the shareholder’s meeting. It’s the community, present and voting, in one room, article by article.

...Listening closely, you can take the vital signs of the Town. What are people worried about? What makes them angry or frustrated? What do they wish the Town to do in the future? The best part of Town Meeting is when people open up and say what’s on their minds. Some people wait all year to say it. Others surprise themselves saying it once they stand up. All of it is sincere and important.

At Town Meeting you can measure a Town’s heart. You can gauge this in the way it respects its orneriest citizen, its tolerance for the oddball idea, its appreciation of a good joke, and the way it responds to a good argument.

...Treasure Town Meeting. Go and participate. This is the reason you live in Vermont.”

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Submitted by Trish Norton

IMPORTANT MUNICIPAL CALENDAR DATES

ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION

Monday March 4, 2013

Informational Meeting

**Shrewsbury Community Meeting House
88 Lottery Rd**

School portion will begin at **5:30pm**
Town portion will commence after completion
of the School portion.

Shrewsbury Mountain School will be serving re-
freshments during intermission for a fund raising
campaign.

Tuesday March 5, 2013

Annual Town Election

**Polls open 10:00am to 7:00pm
Shrewsbury Community Meeting House
88 Lottery Rd**

You can vote Early or by Absentee Ballot up until
March 5th.

**Volunteers to count ballots on Election night
are welcome!!**

2013 Dog Licenses

Dog Licenses **are now available** at the Town Office
or by mail. A current rabies certificate must be on
file prior to obtaining a license. Vermont Law indi-
cates that all dogs or wolf-hybrids older than six
months old shall annually on or before April 1 be
registered. 20 V.S. A. §3581

Fees — \$8 spayed / neutered or \$12 female / male.
After April 1 additional \$4 late fee.

Submitted by Mark Goodwin, Town Clerk

**Homestead Declaration
Mandatory Again in 2013**

An important Legislative Change for 2013 will be
that filing Homestead Declarations annually will
once again become mandatory in 2013. If you are
a Vermont resident and own and occupy a Vermont
dwelling as your principal residence on April 1,
2013, you must file a Homestead Declaration, Form
HS-122 by April 15, 2013.

Submitted by Linda McGuire, Town Treasurer

Paid Political Advertisement

As a proud member of this community, I would like
to thank the town people of Shrewsbury for their
continuing support of the Shrewsbury Mountain
School. I have served as a board member for the
Shrewsbury Mountain School for the past 6 years
and would be honored to serve the community for
another term. As newcomers to the Town of
Shrewsbury eight years ago, I understood the value
of serving in the community where my skills were
best put to use. My husband and I now have chil-
dren of our own, with the oldest now attending pre-
school at the Mountain School. With a background
in education and leadership I believe that I offer a
perspective to the Board and community with the
best interest and outcomes for the young children
of our community, offering the best for our children
with a keen eye to affordability. I am proud of our
school and its accomplishments, the breadth of
learning that is afforded to students. With a strong
belief and support for public education, please con-
sider voting for me on election day. Wishing you all
a year full of peace, joy and happiness.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Bolster, 492-2159

Vote "NO"

Friends,

I ask you to Vote "NO" to Town Meeting.
It takes away all modern day voting and
puts neighbor against neighbor. You
have a right to vote in "private."

A lady in town had an article in the *Rut-
land Herald* saying Town Meetings have
worked for 200 years! "So did Out
Houses, and guess what?"

*Thank you,
Larry Carrara*

Vote “Yes” to restore traditional Town Meeting

On March 5 you will have a chance to vote on whether we restore traditional Vermont-style Town Meeting here in Shrewsbury. Ballots for both the Town of Shrewsbury and the Shrewsbury School District include articles that, if approved, will allow us to make decisions on town and local school business at a Saturday Town Meeting, beginning in March, 2014.

The following Q&A's will, hopefully, answer any questions on what a “Yes” vote will mean on School Articles 6, 7, and 8 and Town Articles 29, 30, and 31 this March 5.

1) What will happen if we vote “Yes” to discontinue the use of Australian ballot?

If we discontinue Australian balloting, we will return to an open public meeting at which townspeople will gather in person to discuss and vote on budgets and public issues. The Australian ballot procedure (voting by pre-printed paper ballots) was adopted in 1988 (School) and in 1992 (Town) to replace the floor-style Town Meeting by which these decisions had always been made previously. The six articles were placed on this year's ballots by petition to allow voters to consider returning to traditional Town Meeting. We will continue to use Australian ballot for electing town and school officials.

2) What are three good reasons for Shrewsbury to return to the traditional Vermont-style Town meeting?

- * We can openly discuss, amend, and improve any budget item before voting on whether to approve it.
- * We will be more knowledgeable about and involved in the conduct of our town's affairs and about the town and school services we are taxed to provide.
- * We will interact with our neighbors, getting to know and respect one another better, share our different points of view, and make decisions as a community.

3) Why change Town Meeting to the Saturday before the first Tuesday in March?

One reason for moving to Australian ballot originally was that a good number of people could not take time away from work to participate in a meeting that affected their property taxes. Moving Town and School District meetings to Saturday will allow most people who want to participate to do so. Lunch will be served, providing a chance to meet new people, reconnect with neighbors, and contribute to the local organization that prepares lunch as a fundraiser.

4) Will a “Yes” vote change the way we elect Town and School officers?

No, none of the articles will change the manner in which our Selectboard, our Town Officers, and our School Board are elected. Officers will continue to be elected by written ballot from 10 AM to 7 PM on the first Tuesday in March. Likewise, a “Yes” vote will NOT change the way we vote in state and national elections. These will always be by secret ballot on the first Tuesday in November.

5) Wouldn't it be a lot easier just to continue with the Australian ballot process?

Yes, it probably is easier to stop by the polling place, have your name checked off, vote on the 30 to 40 items (Town plus School), and leave. But democracy works best when we're knowledgeable about what we are voting on, and good citizenship requires a certain level of personal effort. At this year's Town and School District meetings, Shrewsbury voters will be asked to approve budgets and spending articles totaling over \$3.4 million. In future years, isn't it worth taking a few hours to meet together, discuss, and possibly improve by amendment these budgets before deciding how to vote? If you agree, please vote YES on School Articles 6, 7, and 8 and Town Articles 29, 30, and 31 to restore traditional Town Meeting to Shrewsbury.

*Submitted by the Community Forum Committee on
Town Meeting. Participants include Joan Aleshire, David Fretz,
Jonathan Gibson, Trish Norton, Arthur Krueger, Adrienne Raymond,
Dirk Thomas, Michael and Phyllis Wells, and Mark Youngstrom*

***Was your home damaged last year during Irene?
Then read on!***

Shrewsbury Hurricane Relief Fund Ready to Award Grants

It has been over a year since tropical storm Irene hit Vermont and our town of Shrewsbury in such a devastating way. At that time, townspeople here gathered together to form volunteer crews to help dig muck from cellars and clear debris from yards and a special fund was formed designated the Shrewsbury Hurricane Relief Fund. Folks both from in town and out of state sent money to offset town costs generated by the storm and to help give some relief to storm victims.

The committee overseeing the fund has not been sitting idly. Some donations had named recipients and those funds were immediately disbursed. The committee then focused on funding improvements to the town's communication system, as it was clear that in a disaster like Irene, it was vital that emergency responders, road crew, and town officials all needed to be able to communicate. Due to Shrewsbury's winding, mountainous topography and our aging radios and equipment, our current system was not doing the job. Two grants were received from The Vermont Community Foundation and two more from Homeland Security that have enabled us to buy more two-way radios, upgrade older models to broadband, and purchase a repeater tower powered by solar and wind power that is currently being installed on the top of Kinsman Hill. As soon as this is completed, communication will be possible in all parts of town. The Department of Homeland Security grants totaling \$17,725 funded this project.

The committee is now ready to disperse the remainder of the funds, mostly from the Vermont Community Foundation, to those residents in town affected by the storm, almost \$12,000. **It will be accepting applications until April 15, 2013.** At that time, all funds will be awarded and the account closed. If you were one of the residents who has accrued expenses not covered by insurance, FEMA, or other assistance and would like a piece of the pie, fill out an application and turn it in to the town office or mail it to:

Shrewsbury Hurricane Relief Fund,
9823 Cold River Road
Shrewsbury, VT 05738

Applications can be:

downloaded from the town website
<http://www.shrewsburyvt.org>
or picked up at the town office.

Submitted by Louise Duda

Don't Know What You've Got 'Til It's Gone

As I sit here, home bound from hip replacement surgery, I'm reminded of a line from a great Joni Mitchell song of years ago and the site of a huge billboard sitting in a field over in New York State. Although the song focused on paving parking lots (exhausting our natural resources) and the billboard, a very nice forest scene, invites us to enjoy the forest (get outside), both together contain a larger message about how we view the term "live."

Joni Mitchell pointed out the problem of paving paradise and putting up a parking lot and as a forester that was a worry over a good deal of my working life—loss of natural resources. But there is a more important line from that song (see title above) that has been the focus of my life since early January. What happens when YOU are taken away from the resource you love: the outside world of Shrewsbury. When your life is suddenly limited to observing the world from the windows of your house one realizes just how wonderful our ability to see the world by being in it is. The view has included snow falling (not much), some wonderful sunrises and sunsets with too little light in between, a visit from a barred owl and the constant movements of chickadees and red squirrels. However, viewing our outside world from a window is not much different than watching television or a computer screen—it is a single sensory experience limited pretty much to what I can see. We can live life interpreted through what we see but it limits our ability to truly enjoy the life we have been given when the experience of living does not include using all of our senses.

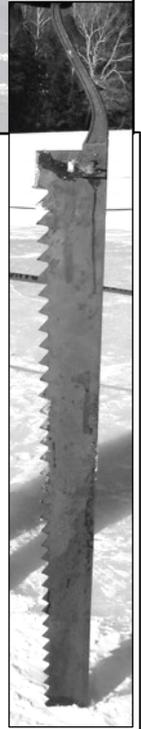
The intrusive billboard, between Whitehall and Fort Ann, invites us to enjoy the forest by getting out in it. But with my window now a windshield and my view now a forest scene on a billboard it also points out the difference between the world of watching and experiencing. Experiencing is really a multi-sensory way of looking at things; living in the moment if you will. The view of the forest outside my window is much greater when I can add hearing the wind in the trees, smelling the spruce and fir foliage (or a little exposed soil on a sunny warm day), and be actually touched by falling snow flakes. Watching is not the same as experiencing and when forced to view our world from a window or a windshield this difference serves as a constant reminder to continue physical therapy leading back to experiencing the outside world that we are all a part of. With any luck both spring and my mobility will return at the same time this year so I can get back to experiencing life again; a feeling so strong I can almost taste it.

—Gary Salmon



Cutting Ice on Spring Lake

In the early days Spring Lake Ranch didn't have electricity or refrigeration, so Ray Sirjane (who according to Peter Grace was a jack of all trades) started collecting ice cutting equipment from auctions and other places. Peter has worked with the crews for about 35 years and says that cutting ice is "good solid work." The ice thickens slowly when the lake is covered with snow. When that insulating layer is removed, the ice thickens quicker which makes handling it more difficult. A wooden 12" x 16" template is laid on the frozen lake for guidance when the ice is ideally 14" to 16" thick (or minimum 12"). Then a fierce looking 4' long saw (5' with the handle) with 1" teeth is used to cut about 250 blocks over a period of days. The crew then slides the blocks up a wood plank ramp onto the truck and takes them to the Ranch's ice house where they are buried in sawdust. The ice house is about 6' deep with a stone floor, and sometimes the ice can stay for a year or more...although it does reduce in size. Nowadays the ice can't be in contact with food so it is supplied to area locations where it is used just for cooling.



The Roving Reporter (on a tip from Grace Brigham)



Thanks for the Outdoors!

I just finished another magnificent snowshoe today—the sun shining, freshly fallen snow, and with it fresh animal tracks to interpret and explore. During this trek, I am reminded of how thankful I am to live in a town and in an area where many of us can walk out our back door into the woods and have access to lands owned by many of our neighbors. Over the years, these open lands have provided me with healthy exercise, opportunities to explore the outdoors and learn about nature, and, periodically, a local, free-ranging source of protein (i.e., venison) for my family's freezer. None of this would be so readily available to me, and others in town as well, if it not were for the generosity of the many landowners that allow public access to their lands.

We are all too familiar with the negative consequences landowners often deal with when others recreate on their lands—litter, driving onto their fields, and maybe even rude or disrespectful users. These are serious violations of an outdoor ethic that most of us

aspire to apply on someone else's land. I am truly sorry if any landowner has had to put up with these behaviors.

However; we are less familiar, I believe, with the benefits that open lands offer to a community. The rural character of this town will only be conserved if its residents maintain a sense of familiarity with our environment. The less we are able to hike in the woods, humble ourselves in pursuit of that old buck, or piece together the story from the prints in the snow left by a barred owl's wings, the less we will care about this land. For me, these can't be replaced by Facebook, video games, and watching nature shows on television.

I'll close with a big thank you to those Shrewsbury landowners who open their lands to all of us to hike, explore, gather a side dish of edible plants, and hunt game. You are the foundation to maintaining the rural character of this town—perhaps the greatest gift of all.

*Thanks,
Scott Darling*

SHREWSBURY LIBRARY

COMING EVENTS

Friday, March 15 @ 7:30pm: STAN and WEEZIE DUDA present "HABITAT for HUMANITY NEPAL," the latest in their helpful and instructive adventures around the world. With the Dudas, we travel to places we've never been, may never go, and are shown much more about how people live than we could ever see as tourists. Please join us!

Friday, April 12 @ 7:30pm: Poet BEN ALESHIRE and friends read from their new books.

CONTINUING PROGRAMS

Tuesday, March 5 and 26: 7–9pm: COMPUTER HELP: Office Hours with Marcos Levy. All you wanted to know about Social Media and more!

Sunday, March 17 @ 4pm: BOOK DISCUSSION. Shakespeare's "MACBETH": Session 1. Call Joan for more books: 492-3550.

WRITERS' GROUP: Alternate Thursdays 7–9pm. Please contact Martha Izzi (mhizzi@yahoo.com or 492-3346) or Penelope Weiss (492-3345) for details.

QUILTING GROUP: Some Mondays 7–9pm. Please contact Judith Thomas for details: 492-3549.

THANKS to the CONSERVATION COMMISSION again for the weatherization grant! We are working with Bob and John Reuter of Vermont EnergyWorks to insulate the foundation and/or floor, and fill second-floor gaps with insulation. Thanks to their consideration, work should proceed with no disruption to regular Library hours. **THANKS** as well to Bob and John for their generous donation of replacement lights in the Meeting Room.

THANKS too to TABITA de SOUZA and ANNA ARTHUR-SGALIA for cleaning the Library, not an easy job anytime, but especially in mud, grit and snow season!



NEW BOOKS include:

Standing in Another Man's Grave by Ian Rankin: a new John Rebus mystery set in Scotland

The River Swimmer by Jim Harrison: 3 short novels

The Rebellious Life of Mrs. Rosa Parks by Jeanne Theoharis: a new biography

NEW DVDs include:

Downton Abbey: Season 3

The Office: Series 1 Original, BBC version

The Complete James Dean Collection: *Rebel without a Cause; East of Eden; Giant*

The Perks of Being a Wallflower



SHREWSBURY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

On January 19, your neighbors on the Fire Department sprang from bed to suppress a fire at the Vermont Industries building on Route 103. We called in mutual aid from neighboring Departments to keep the structure fire from extending and causing even more damage. Three days later, it was our turn to provide mutual aid at a house fire in Mount Holly. Both fires required much manpower and many man hours, volunteered without complaint.

On the morning of February 16, SVFD responded to the fourth motor vehicle accident of the winter on Route 103—this one by the new home of Gloria's Pantry. The vehicle left the highway, narrowly missed a tree, overturned, and ended up nearly in Mill River. Happily, the occupants escaped serious injury. As we have said before—be careful out there!

Our Fire Department tries to be ready for any emergency. Our equipment includes automated external defibrillators (AEDs), and we provide training to our members in cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and AED use. Fourteen of us recently recertified after taking a mandated Red Cross refresher course led by instructor Wendy Loomis of our Regional Ambulance Service.

Don't forget to vote on Town Meeting Day, March 5. Warnings relating to the Fire Department are "level funded" again this year—thanks to the fundraising efforts of our volunteers, and your generous contributions to the same. We appreciate your support, which allows our volunteers to be ready when you call. **BE FIRE SAFE!**

Submitted by Barry Griffith

**From the Library—
Shrewsbury's REVIEW OF BOOKS**

This is a selection of reviews from our "Readers' Pick" journal kept at the Library.

Thanks to all the contributors!

★★★★★	Fantastic!
★★★★	Compelling, page-turner
★★★	Enjoyable
★★	Just O.K.
★	Not recommended

**Wild
by Cheryl Strayed
★★★★★**

After her mother's death, the dissolution of her family, and her divorce, the author decides that hiking the Pacific Crest Trail might provide some insights. As it turns out, she has very little time to ponder her troubled life. Instead, she is forced to deal with blisters, encounters with wildlife, dangerous people, and the rigors of the trail. As anyone who has hiked in the wilderness for long periods of time can attest, it is an unmatched and profoundly moving experience. By the end of her journey, she is healed. This book was touching, funny, and extremely well written.

Reviewed by Marilyn Dalick

**Life of Pi
by Yana
★★★★★**

It was rather long but well-told in a story-like presence of the life of Piscine Moliter Patel, who is named after an Indian pool. The first part is about his life as a Christian, Muslim, and Hindu, and his life as a zookeeper's son. When his family decides to move to Canada, his life changes as he finds himself adrift in the Pacific in a lifeboat with a Royal Bengal tiger for company. The enchanting story ends with a surprising and sad confession made during an interview with Japanese officers of Pi's ship, Tsimtson. I loved this book because it was well done, with tight dialogue and wonderful metaphors. I recommend it to anyone who's up to an adventure of a lifetime to read this book.

Reviewed by Roberta Hemmer

**Into Thin Air
by Jon Krakauer
★★★★★**

Even though I knew how it would end, I didn't put this one down. Interesting, exciting, good story telling!

Reviewed by Pam Monder

**The Devil All the Time
by Donald Ray Pollock
★★★**

Very gritty, well-written with a great sense of place—but not for the squeamish. Pollack, a retired mill worker, is probably Elmore Leonard's spiritual evil twin.

Reviewed by Dirk Thomas

**Hypocrite in a White Puffy Dress
by Susan Gilman
★★★**

A fun read...really funny accounts of childhood events right up through marriage. Grape juice and humiliation at the beginning of the book I found to be the funniest. It portrays a child's view of her "hippie parents" and her Spanglish lifestyle while living, I think, in Queens (?). A book to make you laugh out loud and read excerpts to your children.

Reviewed by Karen Lorentzon

**Always Looking Up
by Michael J. Fox
★★★★**

I couldn't put it down—fascinating and funny and inspiring and informative about M.S.

Reviewed by an Anonymous Reviewer

Book Reviews Compiled by Marilyn Dalick

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Shrewsbury Historical Society

www.shrewsburyhistoricalsociety.com

First Day of Spring, March 20th

Ladies, can you imagine yourself back in the years 1881–1882?

Spring is approaching and it is time to think about a spring bonnet, and perhaps a new dress for Easter. According to the Gazetteer & Business Directory of Rutland County, Vermont published at that time, Cuttingsville contained about 20 dwellings, one church, one hotel, two stores, one grist and saw mill, 2 blacksmith shops, one harness shop, one shoe shop, two milliners and one dressmaker's shop. The ladies in the 1880s would have to hop onto their hitched-to-a-horse buggy and saunter down the hill to the hamlet of Cuttingsville.

While perhaps gentlemen who needed a horse shod, a new harness, or a new pair of work clothes, a bag of grain or a pair of shoes could shop in Cuttingsville as well. Another enterprise was Story and Foster, manufacturers of sleighs, light and heavy wagons and carriages. Blacksmith shops also repaired and manufactured tools and kitchen utensils, forged nails and other hardware. At these shops men often discussed business and the latest news. Advertisements and probate notices were posted at the blacksmith's shop. One of the blacksmith shops was converted into a tin shop where utensils and stoves were sold.

Another option would be to take the train into the big city of Rutland for a day of shopping. There was also a store very near the depot (across from the fire station in Cuttingsville), which accommodated railroad travelers. Edgar Ridlon, who lived near the railroad station, was quoted in the history book *Shrewsbury, Vermont: Our Town As It Was*, that he remembered the remains of a building on this site on the east side of Town Hill Road, just south of the railroad tracks.

The history book mentioned above contains the following paragraph: "Mechanization and rapid transit brought an end to nearly all of Shrewsbury's industries. Factories in Massachusetts produced inexpensive shoes and automobiles put the blacksmiths out of business. The big flour companies could easily process grain into the bleached, fine flour preferred by the homemakers. The sawmill industry moved on when the men had harvested the best of the forests."

Robert Frost

In the January 30, 2013 issue of *Rutland Daily Herald* an article was printed to mark the 50th anniversary of Frost's death on Jan. 29, 1963 in Boston, at

age 88. Six years earlier, in March of 1957, the NBC TV program "Wide Wide World" hosted by Dave Garroway featured Frost when he visited Shrewsbury Center. Frost recited poetry, visited the Smith's sugar house, went to a square dance in the Community Center and walked along Lottery Road. At one point he stopped to point out the signs on the road, and said "That's what I like about Vermont, a fella always knows where he's at."

The SHS tried for many years to obtain a copy of that TV program for our archives. Finally, on August 28, 1993, the Historical Society was proud to show the video rebroadcast of that program upstairs in the Community Meeting House. Many residents who were originally featured in the TV program were happy to relive that special time. Members of the Fire Dept. helped the Society to set a large TV screen up on the podium with a good sound system created by Tom Mitchell. It was surreal to see Robert Frost on the TV screen reciting poetry on the podium, and the large TV screen set up at the exact same place. Refreshments were served, a complimentary reproduction of a promotional post card about the event were given out, and lighted luminaries highlighted the outside porch and steps as the audience left the Center. This video or DVD can be borrowed from our Museum during the summer months so that you, too, can enjoy watching Robert Frost when he visited Shrewsbury in 1957.

Happy 96th Birthday to Life Member Ed Cook from the Historical Society. Ed and Irene live at The Maples in Rutland, and they celebrated Ed's birthday on January 26, 2013.

Submitted by Ruth Winkler



The Shrewsbury Community Church



The first Sunday of every month we participate in Service of Communion in accordance with Jesus' instruction at the last supper. What a gift to be refreshed, strengthening our faith, increasing our love for one another, giving us the energy to serve in the world with courage! All are welcome to participate. If you would like to be served communion and you aren't able to get out to come to church, communion can be brought to you. If you or a neighbor would like to be served communion at home please call Pastor Rita 775-2578.

The church continues to collect and deliver non-perishable food and toiletry items. If you would like to contribute, items can be brought to the church or call a church member for pickup.

February Fun Winter Outing Snow Shoeing and Cross Country Skiing in Shrewsbury! On Sunday, February 19, members of Shrewsbury Community Church were joined by members of the Grace Congregational Church for a winter fun day. It was reportedly cold outside. It was fun snowshoeing to a cabin to hang out, visit and indulge in hot chocolate and cookies. What fun! Thank you to Hull and Taffy Maynard for hosting this wonderful event.

Church news submitted by Sue Ransom-Kelley

Easter Love

*On Easter we celebrate love,
love coming down from heaven,
love blanketing the earth
in a transforming embrace;
unique and infinite love,
giving more than we can imagine
for us, to cleanse our sin,
a perfect sacrifice, Lamb of God,
the walking, talking Word.
He is teacher, role model, friend,
this God in human form,
dying, then rising from the dead,
proving all who believe
will also rise
to have eternal life, with Him,
Lord of all.
Oh, Happy, Happy Easter!
by Joanna Fuchs*

**Community Supper
March 16 at 6:00pm
Town Hall
Come One! Come All!**



Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with friends and neighbors. Corned beef and cabbage, Irish music, fun! Free and open to the community. To help us plan please call Earl @ 492-3361 to leave a message letting us know how many are coming. However, calling is not required, all walk-ins are welcome!

Community Church Calendar

March 3 @ 10:30am: Worship Service led by Rev. Bob Boutwell.

March 10 @ 10:30am: Worship Circle led by Pastor Rita Lane.

March 16 @ 6pm: Community Supper - Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with friends and neighbors. Corned beef and cabbage, Irish music, fun! Free and open to the community.

March 17 @ 10:30am: Worship Service led by Rev. Skip Dickinson.

March 20 @ 12noon: Prayer Shawl Meeting @ the home of Fran Patten. Bring a bag lunch & enjoy the fellowship & the mission. All are welcome! Don't know how to knit or crochet? We will teach you. Call Fran 492-3706 or Roxanne 492-3675.

March 24 @ 10:30am: Palm Sunday Devotional Study led by Pastor Rita Lane, followed by lunch provided by the church.

March 28 @ 7pm: Maundy Thursday Service led by Rev. Bob Boutwell

March 31 @ 10:30am: Easter Worship Service led by Rev. Cindy Yee.

Community Needs

Wedding, Funeral or Memorial Service Requests:
Contact Sue Ransom-Kelley 492-3738, 779-5241 or Donna Smith 492-3367

Community Helping Hand Requests: Contact Donna Smith 492-3367 or Rita Lane 775-2578

Pastoral Care, Home or Hospital Visitation, Outreach Requests: Contact Rita Lane 775-2578



MARDI GRAS 2013

It's that time again, and we're looking forward to another successful MARDI GRAS. We're also looking forward to lots of help and lots of fun! The MARDI GRAS is scheduled for

Saturday, April 27, 2013

7pm to ??

at Town Hall

Admission only \$8.00 for adults

Children under 10 admitted free.

Music by

The Shrewsbury Community Blues Band

We are looking for volunteers to help with:

CALLERS to ask local folks to bring food items for attendees to eat

DECORATORS to decorate Town Hall in festive MARDI GRAS style

COLLECTORS of admission money

KITCHEN/CLEANER UPPERS to serve food and drinks and help clean up after

FACE PAINTER for the kids--young or old!

FORTUNE TELLER in your own little grotto

SOLICITORS request and/or pick up donations from grocery stores, etc.

A KING who will appoint a Queen of the MARDI GRAS

MASK SELLER masks will be on hand for sale

This is an event that we've had for a few years sponsored by the Shrewsbury Community Church's Helping Hand Fund which supports local families in need. The entire proceeds from the MARDI GRAS go into this fund. We have provided food, gas, and financial aid to many, many local families.

WEAR YOUR FAVORITE COSTUME, BRING A NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEM FOR THE FOOD SHELF AND HAVE FUN!

Please call Fran Patten, 492-3706 or Roxanne Ramah, 492-3675 to volunteer.

Thank you!!

Pierce's Store Friday Night Dinners for March

March 1: Chef Rob McKain will prepare Pork Loin Roast served with oven fried apples, cider beans, cole slaw & corn bread.

March 8: Guest Chef Ludy Biddle will prepare rolled Flank Steak made from locally produced Beaver Meadows grass fed beef rolled with spinach & bleu cheese served with roasted potatoes & a small tossed salad.

March 15: Guest Chef Sally Deinzer will prepare Cassoulet, a classic dish from Southern France—a hearty blend of chicken, sausage, beans, onions, herbs & spices served with a small tossed salad & a chunk of Rob's French bread.

March 22: Guest Chef Becca Rice will prepare Chicken Enchiladas with a green tomatillo sauce served with rice, beans, guacamole & a small tossed salad.

March 29: to be announced the week of March 25

Meals will be available warm on Fridays 5:00 to 7:00pm...and on Saturday until they run out. It's best to call ahead and reserve your order!

492-3326

Affordable Housing Options for Seniors

Several types of convenient and affordable housing are available for Vermont Seniors. Most common is Senior Subsidized Housing where rent is not more than 1/3 of the household monthly income. To qualify for an apartment, one must be either disabled or age 62+, and have an income that does not exceed certain limits. Income limits vary from one apartment complex to another, based on regulations.

There is no limit on savings or money made from selling a home, but interest income is counted as part of monthly income. There are often waiting lists of six months to 2 years for Senior Subsidized Housing. In order to increase one's chances of finding an opening, it is recommended that folks apply early and to several different complexes.

Other types of apartments for Seniors have either market rents or 'affordable' rents, with different or no income or age requirements. For more information and a list of subsidized and other Senior housing in Rutland or Bennington counties, call the Senior Help-Line at 786-5991 or 1-800-642-5119. The Senior HelpLine is a free service.

Submitted by Kelly Giancola

NEWS FROM MILL RIVER UNION HIGH SCHOOL

"It was one of those March days when the sun shines hot and the wind blows cold: when it is summer in the light and winter in the shade." —from *Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens, Chapter 54.

Although we are still experiencing the shade of winter weather, Mill River sees summer in the light each day as our students participate in the many academic and extracurricular activities that showcase their many talents. We continue to be proud of the many accomplishments of our young people.

This year's one-act play will be presented in the school theatre on Thursday, March 21, at 7:30pm. There is a \$5.00 general admission. The competition piece this year is *The Police (Policja)* by Polish dramatist and writer Slawomir Mrozek. The play is written in the style of Theatre of the Absurd and satirizes the totalitarian state and the suppression of individual freedoms. There are six student actors and five student technicians involved in this production. We hope that community members will come and enjoy a live performance in our refurbished theatre.

There are still fifteen seats in the theatre that may be donated for a contribution of \$100. each. Eleven brass plates still need to be engraved for additional seats that have already been donated. If you wish to donate a seat and/or need to let Marge Congdon know your preference for engraving, please contact her by e-mail at mcongdon@rssu.org, or call her at 775-3451, Ext. 275.

The Regional One-Act Play Competition will be held at MSJ on Saturday, March 23.

On Saturday, February 2, the Mill River Mathcounts team competed at the 2013 Southwest Vermont Mathcounts Chapter Competition at Castleton State College. Over 80 sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students from several area schools competed, testing their mathematical problem solving abilities. Gabe Clapp-Clark, John Graves, Macy Lewis, and Emerson Rondinone, the Mill River team of record, placed 2nd overall in the team competition, qualifying for the State Mathcounts Competition to be held on Saturday, March 16, at Vermont Technical College. John Graves and Gabe Clapp-Clark also received individual honors by placing 4th and 5th respectively overall in the competition. In addition, Gabe took home a trophy for 3rd place in the Record Countdown Round. The Mill River alternate team of Dylan Beebe, Shannah Hier, Ryan Ward, and Nate Whipple also did well with Nate and Ryan placing 4th and

5th respectively in the 6th and 7th Grade Countdown Round. Congratulations to our talented Mill River mathletes!

Mill River Union High School's Winter Sports Award Program will be held on Tuesday, March 12, in the school auditorium. (Snow date: Wed, March 13).

The meeting to register for high school and middle school spring sports will be held at 7:00 P.M. on Tuesday, March 19, in the school cafeteria. Paper work will be completed at that time.

Tryouts for spring sports will be on Monday, March 25, for the high school. Middle school spring sports will begin on Monday, April 8.

In the November issue of *The Times*, we wrote about the board's commitment to improve security on campus. During the week of February 18-22, the following installations will take place:

- a video monitor and "buzzer" system for the front door

- four cameras on the front of the building
- two new keyless entry systems

In addition, new speakers for the intercom system will be put in place so that announcements may be clearly heard throughout the building.

From Andy...

As I anticipate what will be my last task as one of the town's two Mill River School Board members, I want to thank the Shrewsbury voters for allowing me to serve our great town for the past nine years. I appreciate the support that you have shown toward Mill River over the years. While the board has faced a variety of challenges, the school is now on a steady course of improvement. I am confident that MRUHS will continue to be both an asset to our three town district and recognized throughout the region for its excellence. Thank you.

Andy Richards-Peelle 492-3648

Sally-Anne Snarski 492-3505

Stan and Louise Duda
present

"Habitat for Humanity: Nepal"

Friday, March 15
7:30pm

Shrewsbury Library

Gloria's Pantry



St. Patrick's Day

Irish Soda Bread
Shamrock Cookies

~~~~~



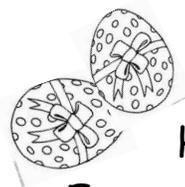
March 23-24

Come sample  
Maple Products



Also, we will have Maple treats  
for sale and Maple Soft Serve

~~~~~



Easter

Hot Cross Buns

Easter Cookies and Treats



Open early with
coffee, danishes, muffins
and homemade cinnamon rolls.

Open 7:30am – 5:00pm

Phone 492-8700

Shrewsbury Residents in Theatre Production



The Dining Room will be performed at The Brick Box (in Rutland next to the Paramount Theatre) and will feature Shrewsbury residents Dianne Barclay and Thomas Hartigan on-stage, and backstage will be Randell Barclay as Stage Manager and Nancy Ellery assisting with costumes. Performances will be March 1, 2, 7, 8, & 9 at 7:30pm, and matinee performance on March 3 at 2:00pm. Find more info at: www.actorsrepvt.org

MARCH: Area Lecture/Discussion Programs

March 3 @ 4pm: Science Pub @ Iron Lantern Restaurant, Castleton. Topic: "Electric Cars that Give and Take" (No Fee)

March 6 @ 7pm: Vermont Humanities 1st Wednesday Program @ Rutland Free Library. Topic: Novelist Chris Bohjalian talks about his most recent novel. (No Fee)

Each Friday in March @ 1:30pm: Osher Lecture Series @ Godnick Center in Rutland (Fee)

High School Scholarship Opportunity

PEGTV, Rutland County's public access television station, will again award a scholarship of \$1,000 to a Rutland County high school senior who has exhibited a high level of proficiency and interest in the video arts and intends to pursue studies in the communications field at an accredited college, university or trade school. Applications are due by May 1, 2013. Anyone interested in receiving an application may contact their high school guidance office or call Chris McCormack, Channel 20 program coordinator, at PEGTV at (802) 747-0151.

Submitted by Stacy Kent

Music Events at Mill River Union High School

March 6 @ 4:30pm: Auditions for Friends of Music Talent Show. All welcome to audition.

April 12: Talent show

April 26-27: Bistro

Award Presented to Karen Lorentzon



Karen Lorentzon received recognition for her peer outreach work at the Vermont Association for Mental Health and Addiction Recovery Conference this fall. She was awarded the annual Knight Leadership Award for exemplary leadership in the addictions and mental health field. Kudos to Karen!

Submitted by Sue Kelley



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Save your children's gently used clothing and books!

The Shrewsbury Mountain School PTO
will be hosting a

Clothing and Book Swap

at the end of April

More info will follow in the next issue of The Times...

If you would be interested in volunteering for the event or
if you would like additional information,
contact Sarah Bolster at 492-2159

GOT NEWS?

We'd like to express our appreciation to those who regularly submit articles and information for the *Times*. And we are particularly appreciative of the unsolicited articles and letters to the editor that we have received this month.

In the future we're hopeful the *Times* will receive more articles and tidbits you would like to share: birth announcements, anniversaries, travel, special events. We no longer have a Marjorie Pierce to write "Personals" so looks like we'll each need to do our part. It can be short for which there is no minimum or longer for which there is a maximum! Hope to hear from you!

Cheryl & Sandra



Time for the
Snowdrops!

Yoga Workshops & Classes

Thrive Center is offering eight different yoga instructors, on Sundays: 3/3, 3/10, 3/17, and on Saturday, 3/23. For further detailed information and to register call 802-446-2499 or email: uthrive@vermontel.net.

Grocery Bingo

March 15. To benefit Clarendon Vol. Fire Dept Auxiliary. The doors open at 6:00pm, Games start at 7:00pm at the Clarendon Elementary School. The price is \$4 for one strip \$12 for four strips. Refreshments will be available.

GRASS FED GROUND LAMB FOR SALE

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CAIRO SHRINERS MAPLE OPEN HOUSE WEEKEND



PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Sat. March 23 • 8AM-11AM

Shrewsbury Town Hall
Adults \$8, Kids 6-10 \$6, Under 6 FREE

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Tinmouth Contra Dances

Contra dances with live music by the Cold River Band at Tinmouth Community Center will be Friday March 22 from 8pm-11pm. Please bring clean, non-marring shoes. Admission is \$9, \$7 for teens and free for children 12 and under. Refreshments will be available. Call 235-2718 or www.Tinmouthvt.org for directions. Future dances will be held on 4/26 and 5/24.

Submitted by Cathy Reynolds

RAVNAH Foot Clinic Schedule

Date	Town	Site	Time
3/6/13	Wallingford	Wallingford House	10:30am
3/7/13	Rutland	Parker House	10am
3/13/13	Rutland	Templewood Court	10am
3/20/13	Rutland	Sheldon Towers	9am
3/20/13	Rutland	Linden Terrace	11am
3/21/13	Rutland	Maple Village	10am
3/27/13	Rutland	Godnick Center	12:30pm
3/28/13	Clarendon	Community center	12:30pm

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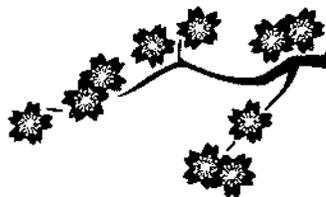
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Attention Raw Milk Producers!

Through the end of March, Rural Vermont will host several regional raw milk meetings to help raw milk producers prepare for inspection by the Vermont Agency of Agriculture. The meetings will also be an opportunity for farmers and homesteaders to voice their opinions about ways in which the raw milk law could be improved, and to network and share a meal with other raw dairy farmers. These meetings are made possible by the generous sponsorship of Bob White Systems, Organic Pastures, and the Weston A. Price Foundation.

Rural Vermont has been informed by the Vermont Agency of Agriculture's Dairy Section and Animal Health Division that they will be resuming inspections of farms selling raw milk direct to consumers. The agency's stated purpose is "to ensure that they are in compliance with the statutes enacted several years ago" when the Raw Milk Law (Act 62) was passed in 2009.

The final two meetings of this five part series will be held in Poultney (Rutland county) on Wednesday March 13 and Saturday March 23 in Townshend (southeastern VT), both from 11am – 3pm. For exact location and lunch details, RSVP to shelby@ruralvermont.org or call (802) 223-7222. More info available at www.ruralvermont.org, or find us on Facebook.

At the same time Rural Vermont is hosting raw milk meetings, they are also surveying Vermont's raw milk producers to develop the 2012-2013 Rural Raw Milk Report to the Vermont Legislature. The survey includes questions about 2012 raw milk sales and other issues related to the sales of raw milk. In order to provide a complete and accurate picture of Vermont's raw milk market, Rural Vermont is seeking input from all farmers and homesteaders who have sold any quantity of raw milk in 2012. All identifying information will remain confidential. The Raw Milk Survey is available on line at www.ruralvermont.org, or farmers can request a copy from Robb Kidd at 802-223-7222 or robb@ruralvermont.org.

Rural Vermont is a nonprofit advocacy group founded by farmers in 1985 that advocates, activates, and educates for living soils, thriving farms, and healthy communities. As the lead advocate in advancing farmers' legal rights to sell raw milk, Rural Vermont seeks to engage Vermont farmers and policy leaders to improve current raw milk regulations. For more info or to be added to the mailing list, call (802) 223-7222 or visit www.ruralvermont.org.

Submitted by Shelby Girard



BIRTHDAY CONGRATULATIONS



Martyn visiting the museum in 2009.

Long time member of the Shrewsbury Historical Society Edna Martyn celebrated her 100th birthday on January 24, 2013. We congratulate Edna and send our best wishes to her. She is residing in the Springfield Rehabilitation Center in Springfield, VT



Edna and husband Steve Martyn at the Meeting House Rock Service in 1965 (photo by Aldo Merusi of the Rutland Daily Herald).

Submitted by Ruth Winkler



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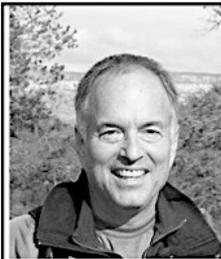
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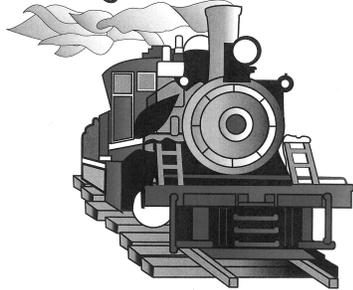
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Celebrating St. Patrick's Day Weekend



Saturday, March 16: Corned Beef, Potatoes, Cabbage & Carrots

Sunday, March 17: Corned Beef Hash Omelet

Breakfast and Lunch Served Daily

Tuesday thru Sunday

6:30am - 2:00pm

Closed Mondays



NEWS FROM PIERCE'S STORE

Monday-Saturday 7am-7pm
Sunday 8am-5pm

ANOTHER TAKE-OUT MEAL! Chili & Cornbread Mondays have been a real hit, making it another popular take-out meal. Not to miss a beat, we're going to try another night. Starting at the end of the month we'll be offering Pulled Pork Thursdays! Rob will prepare slow roasted pulled pork and fresh buns to serve it on. It will be available and in the crockpot all day Thursdays. A Pulled Pork sandwich with a bag of chips will be perfect for lunch or dinner! This will be the 4th take-out meal available, so we hope you will enjoy it as much as the others: Monday is Chili & Cornbread, Wednesday Night is Pizza Take-Out, Thursday is Pulled Pork Sandwiches, Friday Night is Take-Out Meals. Hmmmm, I'll bet we can come up with a Taco Tuesday before too long...stay tuned!

WINE OF THE MONTH: Each month we feature a wine on special discount and have a free wine tasting to sample it. March's tasting and sale will be on **Friday March 8 from 5-7pm**. Stop in and try the two different style Chardonnays on sale this month: **Ass Kisser** from Rocland Estate Winery in Australia and **Dynamite Vineyards**, a Coastal California wine. Both on sale for the rest of the month. Maybe you'll find a new favorite, or at the very least a good deal to go with a great take-out meal!



SEAFOOD WEDNESDAYS: Have you taken advantage of our fresh Fish and Seafood? Each week, we offer fresh fish and seafood available as a pre-buy order. The seafood is coming from our distributor, Black River Produce, one of the regional suppliers to all the best restaurants in the area. Place your order by Monday for delivery on Wednesday. Each week we've had filets of Cod, Haddock and Pollack available as well as scallops, shrimp, and mussels. Additionally, we offer sustainably farmed Tilapia and Shrimp from Tropical Aquaculture and seasonal specials, like Salmon, Ahi tuna and even Lobster as availability permits. Pre-orders must be completed by Monday at 7:00pm, call the store for details and availability. Or join our email list to receive the weekly availability sheet.

NEW ITEMS: If you haven't been in the store yet this winter, come take a look at the new (refurbished) woodstove. It's a real beauty of an antique that our friend Terry Martin polished up for us. It will hearken you back to the days of the Pierce's themselves. While you're here, you can enjoy some Cabot, Crowley, or Cabot Clothbound cheese cut to order, because we also have a new (antique) cheese case featuring a wheel of the above-mentioned cheeses.

BULK ORDERING: Many members take advantage of bulk ordering through the store. To give you ideas and inspirations I've tracked the Top Bulk Orders during winter. And here are the results...

- Five-pound bags of Vermont Coffee Company Coffee. These continue to be the most requested item...11 orders during the last 3 months.
- Cases of Beverages; Rice Milk, Polar Seltzer Waters, Cases of Beer & Cases of Wine.
- Misty Knoll Chicken. 10lb bulk bags of Legs & Thighs, Boneless Skinless Breasts, and Turkeys.
- Fruit cases: Apples, Grapefruit, Oranges, Bananas.
- Staples: 10, 25, & 50 lb bags of Flour, Sugar, Oats, Wheat and Rye Berries. Organic and Conventional.
- Cases of grocery items; Peanut Butter, Chips, Salsa.
- Household items; Cases of Toilet Paper, Sponges, etc.
- Candy; Full boxes of candy for the holidays.
- Ice Cream!

Bulk purchases don't have to be items that we carry in the store. If you have a specific request, please ask to look at any of our catalogues or talk to K.P. to see if we can get the product you want. Many times, he's willing to split a case of something too, so we can try out new products without having to purchase an entire case for the store. Bulk purchases are a great deal—as we give you the wholesale price with a small markup that is roughly about half our regular markup for most products! Bulk purchasing is only available to our members, so consider membership too! It's only \$20.00 annually.

STAY CONNECTED: If you're a member, you're already receiving our updates and announcements of take out meals, sales, and specials. If you're not, you should join our email list. Sign Up at the store. You can also "Like Us" on Facebook or follow us on Twitter and get updates that way!

K.P. Whaley, Store Manager

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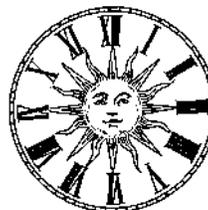
Donors are recognized for the remainder of the calendar year in which their donation is received. The Times is mailed to all residents of Shrewsbury and is also available online at the Town website. The cost of printing and mailing is made possible through advertising and your donations which are very much appreciated! Donations can be mailed to: Times of Shrewsbury, P.O. Box 373, Cuttingsville, VT 05738.

THANK YOU!

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**Sunday, March 10
Daylight Saving
Time Begins**